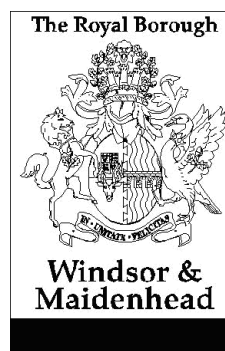


Report for: ACTION



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	NO - Part I
Title	RBWM Participatory Budgeting Programme for 2016/17
Responsible Officer(s)	Russell O'Keefe, Strategic Director of Corporate and Community Services
Contact officer, job title and phone number	David Scott, Head of Governance, Partnerships, Performance & Policy 01628 796748
Member reporting	Cllr Claire Stretton, Principal Member for Culture and Communities
For Consideration By	Cabinet Participatory Budgeting Sub Committee (CPBSC)
Date to be Considered	20 April 2016
Implementation Date if Not Called In	Immediately
Affected Wards	All

REPORT SUMMARY

1. The report asks Members to confirm the amounts of capital money they wish to allocate to each of the Participatory Budgeting (PB) Schemes for 2016/2017 from a capital pot of £465,000 set aside for this programme.
2. These recommendations are being made to ensure the Council delivers on its PB commitments.

If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?

Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
Participatory Budgeting allows residents to directly influence and participate in £465,000 worth of capital expenditure.	Immediately

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION: That the Participatory Budgeting capital budget for 2016/17 be allocated as follows:

- **Borough Wide and Area Member Budgets - £225,000 (split between £100,000 for the Borough wide scheme and £50,000 for Maidenhead, £50,000 for Windsor and Eton and £25,000 for Ascot and the Sunnings)**
- **Schools Participatory Budget - £100,000**
- **Member Budgets - £42,750 (allowing for £750 per Member).**
- **Neighbourhood Participatory Budgeting - £32,250.**

- **Youth Participatory Budgets - £20,000**
- **Greenredeem - £25,000.**
- **The remaining £20,000 be retained and allocated to specific projects within the PB portfolio as the need arises, with Members' approval.**

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 For the 2015/16 Council PB programme Members allocated the following amounts to the various elements of the programme:

- Borough Wide and Area Member Budgets - £225,000 (split between £100,000 for the Borough wide scheme and £50,000 for Maidenhead, £50,000 for Windsor and Eton and £25,000 for Ascot and the Sunnings)
- Member Budgets - £42,750, which allowed for a budget of £750 per Member.
- Neighbourhood Participatory Budgeting - £32,250. (N.B: no match funding was allocated)
- Youth Participatory Budgets - £20,000
- Greenredeem - £25,000.

2.2 For the past few years £345,000 has been allocated to the various PB schemes with £20,000 retained to support PB projects during the year as the need arises. For example, in 2013/14 an additional £10,000 was allocated to support the Greenredeem PB Scheme and in 2014/15 the £20,000 was allocated to match fund the purchase of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) by Members - using their Member Budget to purchase this device for the use in a community facility. It is therefore proposed that £20,000 be retained this year to be allocated to support specific projects within the PB portfolio as required.

2.3 In addition, a further £100,000 has been allocated to fund the new School Participatory Budgeting Scheme, which will commence at the beginning of the 2016 Summer School Term. The Schools PB scheme is open to all state funded schools within the borough and offers them an opportunity to put forward specific projects to obtain funding through a public vote.

Option	Comments
<p>1. Do not allocate capital expenditure to the Council's Participatory Budgeting Programme.</p> <p>This is not Recommended</p>	<p>The PB programme has been a key part of the Council's Big Society offer since it inception in 2010. The Council has promoted PB as a way for residents to become involved in local decision making. If the Council decided not to pursue the PB scheme in 2016/17 this may weaken the Council's Big Society/Civic Society offer.</p>
<p>2. Allocate all the £465,000 capital money included in the 2016/17 budget for Participatory Budgeting.</p> <p>This is the recommended option.</p>	<p>Participatory budgeting enhances the democratic process by allowing residents to directly decide how to allocate part of a municipal or public budget to the benefit of the local community. The Council's PB programme has now been running for 6 years and has been expanded during this time to include a number of different</p>

Option	Comments
	elements including Neighbourhood PB, the Greenredeem scheme, Member budgets, a PB scheme involving young people and this year a Schools PB scheme. The programme has been successful, with a high number of residents engaging in the process.
3. Spend a proportion of the £465,000 allocated to Participatory Budgeting. This is not recommended	An option does exist to spend part of the money allocated in the 2016/17 budget on PB rather than the full amount. However, a sum of £465,000 has been made available for the PB exercise and this has become, due to the Council's reporting process, a public commitment. Failure to spend the entire amount may be interpreted by some residents as a lack of commitment to the programme.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
% of funding from the £465,000 allocated to provide a programme of PB schemes	<100%	100%	N/A	N/A	March 31st 2017

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS

Financial impact on the budget

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	Capital £465,000	Capital £465,000	Capital £465,000
allocated	£5,254	-	-

The £465k budget was approved at the February 2016 Council meeting.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The powers of the Cabinet Participatory Budgeting Sub Committee are set out in the Constitution. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. VALUE FOR MONEY

- 6.1 All the Participatory Budgeting schemes that make up the Council's Participatory Budgeting programme have been designed to ensure the infrastructure needed to

run them is relatively light and therefore the costs associated holding such events are relatively modest.

- 6.2 Participatory Budgeting allows residents to influence how funding is allocated; ensuring the budget is spent to benefit their local communities in areas and on issues which are important to them.

7. SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT APPRAISAL

- 7.1 This recommendation has no direct impact on sustainability issues.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
1. The Council runs a Participatory Budgeting Programme which residents do not engage with.	Medium	The experience of running previous PB schemes in past years has demonstrated that marketing and promotion is key in terms of stimulating both the number of projects and programmes put forward to be included in the PB offer and also encouraging residents to take part in terms of voting on that offer. In addition, it has proved valuable to publicise the results of PB exercises so residents can see what impact their vote has had in the overall scheme. Any schemes run during the 2016/17 financial year are to be promoted, publicised and reported on in a similar manner.	Low
2. A single issue or Pressure group mobilises support and dominates voting for a cause which is directly in opposition to a particular manifesto commitment.	Medium	One of the strengths of Participatory Budgeting is that it allows residents to democratically vote on where specific sums of money are spent. This represents a key part of Localism and Civic Society agenda that the Council is promoting. The budgetary amounts awarded in the Participatory Budgeting schemes are relatively small. Members have the	Low

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
		ultimate decision as to what public money is awarded to which particular schemes.	

9. LINKS TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

9.1 If adopted, these recommendations will support the following strategic objectives:

Residents First

- Support Children and Young People
- Encourage Healthy People and Lifestyles
- Improve the Environment, Economy and Transport
- Work for safer and stronger communities

Value for Money

- Deliver Economic Services
- Invest in the future

Delivering Together

- Enhanced Customer Services
- Deliver Effective Services
- Strengthen Partnerships

Equipping Ourselves for the Future

- Changing Our Culture

10. EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY COHESION

10.1 Participatory Budgeting is open to all. There is nothing contained within this recommendation which will impact upon Equalities, Human Rights or Community Cohesion.

11. STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None

12. PROPERTY AND ASSETS

12.1 None

13. ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS

13.1 None

14. CONSULTATION

14.1 Participatory budgeting is a means of consulting residents on an element of the Council's expenditure.

15. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Date	Details
20/04/2016	Programme starts to be implemented – depending on the various elements that have been agreed by Members.

16. APPENDICES

16.1 None

17. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

17.1 None

18. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Russell O,Keefe	Strategic Director of Corporate & Community Services	07/04/16	08/04/16	
David Burbage	Leader of the Council	08/04/16	08/04/16	
Cllr Claire Stretton	Principal Member for Culture and Communities	07/04/16	08/04/16	2.3
Richard Bunn	Head of Finance	07/04/16	08/04/16	2.3
Michaela Rizou	Cabinet Policy Assistant	07/04/16	08/04/16	Throughout the report

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	Urgency item?
Non-key decision	No

Full name of report author	Job title	Full contact no:
Andrew Scott	Interim Performance Manager	01628 796028