

# West Belfast Area Working Group

Monday, 30th April, 2012

## MEETING OF WEST BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: Councillors Attwood, Austin, Corr, Garrett, Hartley, Keenan, McVeigh and Mac Giolla Mhin

Also attended: Alderman Stoker

In attendance: Mr. R. Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources  
Mr. G. Millar, Director of Property and Projects;  
Mr. J. Huish  
Mr. G. Quinn, Senior Democratic Services Officer;  
Ms C. Wilson, Project Officer; and  
Mrs. P. Scarborough, Democratic Services Section

### **Apology**

Apologies were reported from Councillors Groves and O'Neill.

### **Welcome and Introduction**

The Director of Property and Projects welcomed the Members to the first meeting of the South Belfast Area Working Group.

Alderman Stoker explained that he was in attendance at the meeting to remind the Working Group of a project at Suffolk which is almost ready to proceed and which would require funding from the Local Investment Fund.

Councillor McVeigh stressed the need to ensure that all constituent parts of the West of the City were included. He therefore undertook to ensure that the above-mentioned project was included within the list for further consideration.

Alderman Stoker then left the meeting.

Councillor Attwood reaffirmed the need to ensure balance across the West of the City and across the City as a whole. He emphasised the need for greater community engagement to ensure that as many groups as possible would be aware of the availability of and the application process for the funding.

### **Overview of Governance Arrangements**

The Director of Finance and Resources referred to the report of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 25 April 2012.

The Working Group noted the information and agreed to the format proposed.

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**Overview of Local Investment Fund**

The Director of Finance and Resources referred to the report of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 25 April 2012.

The Working Group noted the report, a copy of which had previously been circulated.

**Prioritisation Framework**

The Director of Property and Projects advised the Working Group that there were approximately two hundred possible projects which had been captured to date which would be divided between the City Investment and Local Investment Funds. .

After discussion on the scoring matrix and match funding possibilities, the Working Group noted the information which had been provided and agreed to the proposed prioritisation framework.

**Overview of Identified Projects and Initial Sift**

The Director of Property and Projects circulated a list of Capital, City Investment, Local Investment and Revenue projects in the West of the City. Some of the projects lacked specific detail currently and he advised that a team of staff had been established which would be contacting each of the project information sources in the near future to ascertain further details. Any approach which was made by any particular group for funding would be directed to its local elected representative.

Councillor McVeigh supplied a list of additional projects, together with indicative amounts of funding, for inclusion in the prioritisation list.

Councillor Attwood advised the Working Group that his Party would report back to a future meeting with a list of priority projects on behalf of their constituents.

**Next steps and date of next meeting**

The Director of Property and Projects advised the Working Group that information should be forwarded to Democratic Services on any additional projects for inclusion on the prioritisation list in advance of the next meeting. He requested that the Parties provide also appropriate contact information for lead people within each of the groups/organisations.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the West Belfast Area Working Group would take place on Monday 28 May 2012 at 12.00 noon, in the First Floor North Conference Room, The Cecil Ward Building, to consider the prioritisation of the projects which had been identified.