



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy & Resources Committee
Subject:	Social Investment Fund – update
Date:	19 October 2012
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources
Contact Officers:	Caroline Wilson, Programme Manager

1.0	Relevant Background Information
1.1	<p>The Executive has published revised guidance on the implementation of the programme in June 2012. It outlines that:</p> <p><i>“The aim of the programme is to reduce poverty, unemployment and physical deterioration through strategic areas based interventions of significant scale. The fund will encourage communities, statutory agencies, business and local political representatives to work together in a co-ordinated way, reducing duplication, sharing best practice and enhancing existing provision for the benefits of those communities most in need.”</i></p> <p>A total funding of £80m (£40m for programmes and £40m in respect of capital programmes) will be provided during the life of the programme to end in March 2015.</p>
1.2	<p>The 4 strategic objectives of the Fund are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Build Pathways to Employment by tackling educational under achievement and barriers to employment; tackling skills deficits and promoting jobs brokerage, widening access to the labour market, promoting business start up and increasing sustainability through social enterprise; – Tackling the systemic issues linked to deprivation including poor mental and physical health, young unsupported parents, substance abuse, children and young people at risk, and enhancing community capacity, confidence and partnership working to help reduce deprivation; – Increase community physical resources – by regenerating and refurbishing existing facilities and providing play facilities and environmental improvements. – Address dereliction – and promoting investment in the physical regeneration of deprived areas.

1.3	<p>The Steering Group within each zone will be tasked with managing the design, delivery and development of an Area Plan. OFMDFM has defined the criteria for allocating resources as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Areas within the top 10% most deprived super output areas on the Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010; – Areas within the top 20% most deprived Super Output Areas on the key domains of income, employment, education and health; – Areas with independently verified and robust evidence of objective need which can include data at Census Output Area level.
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2.0	Key Issues
2.1	<p>Zones</p> <p>The membership of each Steering Group has now been published. The membership of all Belfast groups is attached.</p> <p>There is a Belfast Councillor on each Steering Group and will be a useful opportunity for Members to strategically align the work of the Council, including the Area Working Groups, to inform and influence the emerging Zone action plans.</p> <p>Twinbrook and Lagmore are the only 2 areas which are set to transfer to Belfast under the new local government boundaries which are not included in the Belfast zones. They are zoned within South East zone. It will be important to ensure that the Council has sight of their plans.</p>
2.2	<p>Workshop – 17/18 October</p> <p>OFMDFM convened an introductory workshop for all the Steering Groups. The workshop was an opportunity for members to come together to discuss the area planning process, outline the role of Steering Groups and identify priorities for a work plan.</p>
2.3	<p>Steering Group</p> <p>There will be up to 14 people per Steering Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Political x 4 representatives (Political parties, in proportion determined by D’Hondt, nominated MLAs, councillors or non-elected reps) – Statutory x 4 representatives (senior level with authority to make decisions) – Voluntary and Community x 4 reps (Applications from the voluntary and community sector) – Business x 2 representatives (Key business organisations to nominate reps.) <p>The Council is currently the only named statutory representative on each group. In</p>

	<p>addition to this, a group of ‘floating’ statutory reps will be established. They will be called to join Steering Groups on the basis of the focus of the emerging action plan.</p> <p>There is an ongoing process to identify the business representatives.</p>
2.4	<p>Working with neighbouring Councils</p> <p>Consequent to the decision of Committee at its meeting on 7 September, it has been agreed with Castlereagh Borough Council that the Belfast City Council nominees for the Belfast South and Belfast East zones will rotate with the Castlereagh representative.</p> <p>In the interests of inclusiveness, all Castlereagh and Belfast officers were invited to attend the Steering Groups’ induction workshop and they will rotate thereafter.</p> <p>Regarding a sub-group to support the effective co-ordination and communication between the Councils, officers are developing the terms of reference for this group and will present this to Committee in due course for their consideration.</p>
2.5	<p>Technical assistance</p> <p>OFMDFM completed a tender exercise to identify service contractors to assist the Steering Groups in each zone in developing strategic area plans. These have now been appointed and will attend the workshop also. Copius Consulting has been confirmed as supporting consultant for all 4 areas of Belfast.</p>

3.0	Resource Implications
	<p>Financial: none</p> <p>Human: officer time</p> <p>Assets: none at present</p>

4.0	Equality Implications
	OFMDFM is responsible for screening the Steering Group action plans.

5.0	Recommendations
5.1	Members are asked to note the above information.

Belfast North (*BCC reps highlighted*)

Name	Sector
David Gilliland	voluntary/ community
Manus Maguire	voluntary/ community
Paul Roberts	voluntary/ community
Wilson Lambe	voluntary/ community
Cllr Conor Maskey	political
Cllr Lee Reynolds	political
Cllr Thomas Hogg	political
Gerry Kelly MLA	political
Gerry Millar	Council

Belfast South

Dr Garnet Busby	voluntary/ community
Joy Poots	voluntary/ community
Keith Hamilton	voluntary/ community
Ronan McKenna	voluntary/ community
Cllr Kate Mullan	political
Michael McGimpsey MLA	political
Paula Bradshaw	political
Vicky Nelson	political
Andrew Hassard / Joan McCoy	Council

Belfast East

Name	Sector
Bernadette McConnell	voluntary/ community
Michael Briggs	voluntary/ community
Samuel White	voluntary/ community
Steven Irwin	voluntary/ community
Chris Lyttle MLA	political
Jim Wilson	political
Robin Newton MLA	political
Sharon Skillen	political
Joan McCoy / John McGrillen	Council

Belfast West

Geraldine McAteer	voluntary/ community
Gerry McConville	voluntary/ community
Jackie Redpath	voluntary/ community
Jim Donnelly	voluntary/ community
Cllr Brian Kingston	political
Cllr Jim McVeigh	political
Cllr Stephen Corr	political
Rosie McCorley MLA	political
Suzanne Wylie	Council