

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

PROPOSED OPTION – Community Investment Plans

The Community Investment Plan will consist of four themes guiding spending of local CIL in a ward, three of those themes will come from the Social Regeneration Charter which covers the area, and through consultations, each ward area will be able to develop an additional theme to guide key areas of need within the ward. The plan will be refreshed every three years; applications will be submitted and matched against the following criteria;

- a) Meets one of the proposed themes of the community investment plan
- b) Is a one-off scheme that does not require additional revenue funding in its delivery or subsequent operation.
- c) Relates to a council plan commitment
- d) Identifies how any revenue funding will be met – offering value for money
- e) They should address the impact of new development
- f) Should explain who will benefit the local community and how it tackles inequalities.

Once the priorities are agreed, community organisations, residents and businesses are invited to submit proposals on an agreed application form. Training workshops to assist people in submitting bids could be run by Community Southwark.

Applications will be invited once a year and Ward Forums will be able to rank and make recommendation for Cabinet sign-off. This could also incorporate platforms like Spacehive or proposed organisations such as Southwark Giving.

To address the geographical imbalance of local CIL it is proposed that there will be a cap on the amount spent in each ward. A number of options have been investigated and compared with the practice of other London boroughs where there is a geographical imbalance of development – for instance Brent and Wembley Park, Tower Hamlets and Canary Wharf.

What is proposed is similar to that in Brent where if any ward maintains an average of over £250,000 in any three year rolling period then the “excess” would be made available to adjacent wards within the Opportunity Area, Area Action Plan Area or Neighbourhood Plan Area. In this proposal Borough and Bankside would exceed it by approximately £119,000 and Newington by £153,000. These sums could be reallocated within the Bankside, Borough and London Bridge Opportunity Area or the Elephant and Castle Opportunity Area. This reallocation would be negotiated between the adjacent wards with cabinet ratifying any proposals.

The advantage of this proposal is that it allows for larger scale projects, vital to support growth as a result of development within an area to be supported and would also tie in with the cycle proposed for Community Investment plans.