

Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting

Wednesday 11 March 2026

7.00 pm

Christ Church, 263 Barry Road, London SE22 0JT

Membership

Councillor Andy Simmons (Chair)
Councillor Richard Leeming (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor Catherine Rose

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information

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Contact

Beverley Olamijulo on 020 7525 7234 or email: Beverley.olamijulo@southwark.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Althea Loderick

Chief Executive

Date: 3 March 2026



Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting

Wednesday 11 March 2026
7.00 pm
Christ Church, 263 Barry Road, London SE22 0JT

Order of Business

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1.	INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME	
2.	APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence.	
3.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT The chair to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.	
4.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS Members to declare any personal interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
5.	DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS (IF ANY) The chair to advise on any deputations or petitions received at this meeting. These must relate to a subject matter on this agenda only.	
6.	CLEANER GREENER SAFER (CGS) 2026-27: CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION - DULWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD Note: This is an executive function for decision by the Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting. To approve a reallocation and the allocation of funds for the Cleaner Greener Safer capital programme.	1 - 10

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| 7. | ALLOCATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD GRANTS 2026-27 (NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND)) | 11 - 50 |
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Note: This is an executive function for decision by the Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood Neighbourhood Community Meeting.

To approve the allocation of funds for the 2026-27 Neighbourhoods Fund in the Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood neighbourhood area from the list of applications outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

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| 8. | DEVOLVED HIGHWAYS BUDGET 2026-27: CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION (DULWICH VILLAGE AND DULWICH WOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD) | 51 - 60 |
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Note: This is an executive function for decision by the Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting.

To approve a reallocation and the allocation of funds for the Devolved Highways Budget Programme.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following motion should be moved, seconded and approved if the sub-committee wishes to exclude the press and public to deal with reports revealing exempt information:

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1-7, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.”

Meeting Name:	Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting
Date:	11 March 2026
Report title:	Cleaner Greener Safer 2026-27: Capital Funding Allocation (Dulwich Neighbourhood)
Ward(s) or groups affected:	Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	N/A
From:	Head of Highways & Sustainable Transport Policy

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting:

1. Approves the reallocation of £4,650 comprising of underspent funds carried forward from previous years, current-year programme underspend and project cancellations within the current programme to the 2026-27 Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) budget for Dulwich Neighbourhood;
2. Approves the allocation of £85,200 for the 2026-27 CGS programme from the programmed capital expenditure for the ten-year period 2019-20 - 2028-29, together with the funds reallocated under (1), to the list of applications set out in Appendix 1 to this report within the Dulwich Neighbourhood ("Funded Projects");
3. Notes the total available funds for allocation by the Dulwich Neighbourhood in the 2026-27 financial year is £89,850.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4. Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting has the authority to approve the allocation of funds for the CGS programme to projects within the Dulwich Neighbourhood area using the resources and criteria identified by Cabinet, pursuant to Part 3H of the council's constitution.
5. The Dulwich Neighbourhood area is made up of Dulwich Village ward and Dulwich Wood ward.
6. The council's CGS programme funds project ideas from local organisations and individuals who live or work in Southwark, which improve their local area and has been running since 2003.¹
7. Funding is allocated to Neighbourhood areas based on a per councillor

¹ [The Cleaner, Greener, Safer Capital Programme report dated 20 May 2003.](#)

calculation.²

8. In 2019, the total programmed capital expenditure over the ten-year period 2019-20 to 2028-29 was updated leading to a capital budget variation of £9.4m (£1.88m per annum) and this was approved at the Cabinet meeting on 17 September 2019.³ The CGS programme allocates £1.88 million every year for capital projects within the borough so this amount is available for allocation in the 2026-27 financial year.
9. Funding for the CGS programme can only be spent on capital improvements, which means permanent, physical changes and projects. Examples of the types of projects that have been funded include:
 - Parks, community gardens, landscaping, tree planting, and wildlife areas;
 - Children's playgrounds, youth facilities, ball courts, and cycle tracks;
 - Lighting, security measures, pavements, streets, and tackling 'grot spots;' and Grants to local groups to self-deliver projects.
10. The CGS programme is one of three programmes where funding is allocated through the Neighbourhood Community Meetings.
11. The additional programmes are the Neighbourhoods Fund which supports revenue-funded community activity and the Devolved Highways Budget which can only be used to deliver projects on the adopted highway.
12. The application process for funding was revised this year so that a single application form for was used for all three programmes. Once applications were received, officers reviewed and allocated them to the appropriate programme.
13. This combined process is known as the Neighbourhood Grants.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

14. There is £85,200 available for the 2026-27 CGS programme for new projects in the Dulwich Neighbourhood area.
15. There is £4,650 in additional funding from previous years' underspend, current programme underspend and current programme project cancellations.
16. Eligible proposals must bring about permanent improvement and make an area cleaner, greener or safer. Proposals with revenue costs, including salaries, costs for events, festivals, workshops or other one-off events are not eligible for CGS programme funding. CCTV proposals and internal improvements to housing, property and works on schools where there is no access to the public are also not eligible. Works on private property are not eligible unless there is a long-term guarantee of public access or a demonstrable public benefit.

² [IDM report – 20 December 2018 Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport Management and Air Quality](#)

³ [Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019-20 \(month 4\) dated 17 September 2019](#)

17. The application form for CGS programme funding invited expressions of interest for the applicants to deliver projects themselves. Officers have undertaken a due diligence exercise to ensure that this is both practical and realistic as part of the feasibility process. Where an applicant is approved to deliver the project directly, the council will give the funding allocation to the applicant as a capital grant, issued with appropriate conditions attached.

Policy framework implications

18. The CGS programme is fully aligned with the council's policies around sustainability, regeneration and community engagement as detailed in "Fairer Greener Safer – Southwark Council Delivery Plan 2022-2026 and the Streets for People Strategy 2023-2030 which further outlines the council's ongoing commitment to, and ambition for, healthier neighbourhoods, cleaner air, thriving town centres and safer roads.
19. Specific examples where the projects funded through the CGS programme support the commitments made by the Delivery Plan and Streets for People Strategy include the provision of new and improved playgrounds, increasing the number of secure cycle parking spaces, creating new and improving existing green spaces, improving estate lighting and providing access to food growing and gardening opportunities.
20. The CGS programme also enables community engagement as part of the application process, including pitching meetings where applicants can advise why their proposal should be considered.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

Community impact statement

21. The roles and functions of the Neighbourhood Community areas include the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process to take decisions about local matters. The application process supports this because the local community can propose project ideas to be funded by the CGS programme.
22. An explicit objective within Neighbourhood Community areas is that they are used to actively engage as widely as possible with, and bring together, Southwark's diverse local communities on issues of shared or mutual interest. The CGS programme is an important tool in achieving community participation.
23. The programme is promoted widely across the borough to as many residents and community groups as possible using the council's main marketing team and via other teams across the council, including Resident Services, Community Engagement and Parks and Leisure services.
24. Officers also try to use external resources such as Community Southwark to increase the outreach of the programme across the borough

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

25. The Public Sector Equality Duty ("PSED") is set out at section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and requires the council to have due regard, in the exercise of its functions (including decision making), to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct;
 - b. Advance of equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristics and those who do not share it;
 - c. Foster good relations between those who share a relevant characteristic and those that do not share it.
26. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
27. Ideas for CGS projects come from the local community, the majority via a simple project nomination form available in electronic format. This simple process enables individuals and groups to nominate projects that have a direct impact on their community and meet the needs of those that make up that community.
28. Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps which need to be addressed by specific targeted outreach.
29. Decisions on funding are agreed by ward councillors with specific consideration given to the needs of individual wards and feedback from the community. Funding for CGS projects is equal across all wards ensuring that the opportunity is the same for all parts of the borough.
30. At this stage, no specific projects have been funded so the allocation of funds for the CGS Programme is not considered to have any adverse effects, including socio-economic or health impacts, on those with protected characteristics. Officers will consider the equalities impacts and the council's PSED for each of the Funded Projects as they progress through the detailed design and decision-making stages.
31. Officers will also look at the range of areas where grants are allocated, gather information for analysis where possible and look at how the council can improve allocation in relation to specific needs across the borough.
32. A process of continuous improvement is in place to ensure that officers improve data collection and analysis in the future and use this to reach groups identified as missing or hard to reach.

Health impact statement

33. There are no direct health implications as a result of the allocation of funds for the CGS programme. However, the following health benefits are expected from the Funded Projects based on the types of projects normally funded via the CGS Programme.

34. An increase in community assets in the public realm – providing more places for people to spend time in their local community. This has the potential to have a positive impact on social and mental wellbeing, by creating connected and cohesive communities.
35. Increased ownership over community public realm – this helps people within the community join together around a project, supporting connected and cohesive communities.
36. Project examples such as parks, community gardens, landscaping, tree planting and wildlife areas may have the following impacts:
 - a. Improve mental wellbeing by increasing access to the outdoors and nature
 - b. Improved access to affordable healthy food, supporting people to be less food-insecure
 - c. Tree planting and green spaces may help to reduce or disperse air pollution, supporting people's physical health.
37. Projects such as children's playgrounds, youth facilities, ball courts and cycle tracks encourage physical activity that has a huge number of health benefits including supporting people to achieve a healthy weight.
38. Projects such as lighting, security measures, pavements, streets, and tackling "grot spots" support community safety.

Climate change implications

39. The allocation of funds for the CGS programme does not have any direct climate change implications. However, the Funded Projects will support the council's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030 and align with the themes set out within the Climate Action Plan which was adopted in September 2025.
40. Specific actions addressed by projects funded via the CGS programme include:
 - a. Action 11: Encourage sustainable transport options to reduce emissions from vehicles
 - b. Action 14: Plant and maintain more trees
 - c. Action 15: Enhance our streets and green spaces to increase biodiversity
 - d. Action 21: Work with residents, local groups and partners to support climate friendly behaviours.
 - e. Action 24: Collaborate with our communities and partners to take climate action and improve resilience.
41. By allocating the funds to the Funded Projects, the council is investing in

community-led projects that reduce carbon emissions and promote biodiversity. For example, the development of community gardens, wildlife areas and additional tree planting all aid in the protection of local flora, fauna and wildlife.

42. Additionally, the projects involving lighting upgrades will look to improve energy efficiency and the development of cycle tracks through this scheme will help residents' transition towards active travel, reducing their reliance on motor vehicles.
43. These types of projects are common across all Neighbourhood areas.
44. With all CGS spending decisions, potential carbon impact is considered as part of the allocation process and where possible, officers will attempt to monitor and evaluate potential carbon emissions from individual schemes.

Resource implications

45. There are no additional staffing implications, as provision is made from the Highways Division to deliver the recommendations included in this report.

Financial implications

46. CGS projects must be completed within two years of award of funding. Projects that are unlikely to be completed within two years will be reported to the relevant Ward councillors and available budgets may be reallocated to other projects. Revenue costs not covered by maintenance or the contractual liability period will fall on the asset owner. The department will be notified of the likely costs before the schemes proceed, to secure permission to implement the scheme.
47. After the defects and liability period, or three-year maintenance period in the case of planting works, all future maintenance is assumed by the asset owner, for example Housing, Parks, Highways, or in some cases external asset owners. Therefore, there are no revenue implications for the Highways division as a result of approving the proposed allocation.
48. The total expenditure and sources of funding for the scheme will be monitored and reported on as part of the overall Capital Programme.
49. Value for money will be ensured when the contract is procured by following the council's contract standing orders.

Legal implications

50. See supplementary advice given by the Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance in paragraphs 52-55 of this report.

Consultation

51. No consultation has taken place and will not take place in the future.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance (CM 02.02.2026)

52. The Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting is being asked to approve various allocation and reallocations of monies as recommended by officers in paragraphs 1 to 3 of this report. The decision maker has the authority to make these decisions in accordance with paragraph 2, Part 3H of the council's constitution.
53. Officers have had due regard to the PSED under section 149 of the 2010 Act at paragraphs 25 to 32 of this report and have concluded that, at this stage, the allocation of funds for the 2026-27 CGS programme including previous years underspend is not considered to have any adverse impacts on persons with protected characteristics.
54. The Human Rights Act 1998 imposes a duty on the council as a public authority to apply the European Convention on Human Rights; as a result the council must not act in a way which is incompatible with these rights. The relevant rights for highway and traffic purposes are Article 8 (respect for homes); and Article 1 of the First Protocol (peaceful enjoyment of property). The allocation of funds for the 2026-27 CGS programme including previous years underspend is not anticipated to engage or breach the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.
55. Council Assembly on 14 July 2021 approved a change to the council's Constitution to confirm that all decisions made by the council will consider the climate and equality (including socio-economic disadvantage and health inequality) consequences of taking that decision. This has been considered at paragraphs 39 to 44 above.

Strategic Director of Resources (ESL25/135)

56. This report seeks approval for the allocation of **£89,850** of funds (**£85,200 new allocation + £4,650 reallocated**) for the 2026–27 Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) programme in the Dulwich Neighbourhood area from the list of applications set out in Appendix 1.
57. The Strategic Director of Resources notes the resource implications in the report and confirms that the proposed allocations will be contained within the CGS element of the council's capital programme.
58. It is also noted that officers' time and any other costs connected with this recommendation will be contained within existing departmental revenue budgets.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
The Cleaner, Greener, Safer Capital Programme	Neighbourhoods and Growth / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Craig Dove Tel: 020 7525 0955
Link: https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/Data/Executive/20030520/Agenda/Item%20267%20-%20The%20Cleaner,Greener,%20Safer%20Capital%20Programme.pdf		
IDM report – 20 December 2018 Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport Management and Air Quality	Neighbourhoods and Growth / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Craig Dove Tel: 020 7525 0955
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=50018979&Opt=0		
Cabinet Meeting Minutes 17 September 2019	Neighbourhoods and Growth / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Craig Dove Tel: 020 7525 0955
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/g6415/Agenda%20frontsheet%20Tuesday%2017-Sep-2019%2016.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=0		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	All Dulwich Neighbourhood Applications 2026-27

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Polyvios Polyviou, Head of Highways & Sustainable Transport Policy		
Report Author	Craig Dove, Senior Project Manager		
Version	Final		
Dated	2 February 2026		
Key Decision?	Yes		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance		Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Resources		Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member		No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			13 February 2026

CGS 2026-27**APPENDIX 1**

Request ID	Ward	Request Title
2316	Dulwich Village	Dulwich Picture Gallery Garden Project
2396	Dulwich Village	Dulwich Village Improvements
2485	Dulwich Village	Sunray Gardens flower beds and planting
2675	Dulwich Village	St Thomas More Youth Club Equipment
2755	Dulwich Village	Cargo Parking area
2779	Dulwich Village	Public bike pump and bike tool station outside Bell House
2780	Dulwich Village	Bell House Repair Hub tools
2933	Dulwich Village	Retaining wall
2968	Dulwich Village	Dropped Kerbs at Delawyk
3013	Dulwich Village	casino avenue street map project
2316	Dulwich Village	Tend the Park 2026/27
3136	Dulwich Village	Early Years Biodiverse Boundary
3254	Dulwich Village	Dulwich Park Playground
3255	Dulwich Village	Planting and TLC in parks
3548	Dulwich Village	Expanding Access to Youth and School Off-Road Cycling in Southwark - capital items
3612	Dulwich Village	Pollinator Pitstop - Creating a wildflower garden at the roundabout of Dulwich Village and Burbage Rd - information board (CGS)
2273	Dulwich Wood	Crystal and Princess Court play area
2274	Dulwich Wood	Kingswood estate Atwood House play area
2276	Dulwich Wood	Lordship Lane estate children's play area repairs
2522	Dulwich Wood	Scouts get out!
3192	Dulwich Wood	Bike Hangers on Kingswood Estate
3235	Dulwich Wood	New Leaf Educational Gardens Path of Natural Knowledge 2026-27
3240	Dulwich Wood	Dulwich Wood cycle hangars

Meeting Name:	Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting
Date:	11 March 2026
Report title:	Allocation of Neighbourhood Grants 2026-27 (Neighbourhoods Fund)
Ward(s) or groups affected:	Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	Not Applicable
From:	Director of Stronger Neighbourhoods

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting allocates a total of £40,000 of the Neighbourhoods Fund 2026-27 to the list of applications outlined in Appendix 1, subject to this funding being approved in the 2026-27 budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The Neighbourhoods Grant is now part of Southwark Council's new Neighbourhoods Programme, which aims to give local communities more direct influence over funding and local decision-making. Neighbourhoods Fund (NsF) is the revenue element of the pot.
3. The NsF has a borough-wide funding budget of £630,000 with an allocation of £10,000 per Councillor, for each ward. This is subject to annual budget setting process.
4. The purpose of introducing the Neighbourhoods Grant was to give local areas decision making powers over significant amounts of funding, that they could allocate to meet locally determined priorities.
5. Under Part 3H of the Council's Constitution, Neighbourhoods have delegated authority to allocate funding to eligible projects within their areas.
6. The Dulwich Neighbourhood comprises the Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood wards.
7. The Neighbourhoods Fund is a revenue fund designed to support small-scale, community-led activities, including events, workshops, training, outreach, community development, and other non-capital project delivery.
8. The programme supports activities that directly benefit local communities,

strengthen neighbourhood identity, and encourage participation and cohesion across Southwark.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

9. Each ward will have £10,000 per Councillor of revenue grants to allocate and it is proposed that any unallocated funds from the previous rounds (years) are to be carried forward and added to the financial year commencing 1 April 2026.
10. The Neighbourhood Community Meeting will use the criteria set out below for the allocation of this funding:
 - a. Creating opportunities for people from different backgrounds to get on well together; (e.g. community cohesion)
 - b. Establishing projects which treat each other with respect and consideration (e.g. being a good neighbour, inter-generational contacts)
 - c. Encouraging residents to be responsible for their own neighbourhood (e.g. community clean-ups; volunteering initiatives)
 - d. Specific measures to enhance a neighbourhood's environment (e.g. increased cleaning).
11. A Neighbourhood may choose to allocate some of their revenue resources to their capital allocations.
12. Subject to the availability of resources, the revenue fund may be used to 'buy' services from the council.
13. As with any executive decision taken by Neighbourhood meetings, this is subject to the council's existing scrutiny arrangements.

Policy framework implications

14. The Neighbourhoods Fund contributes to delivery of the Fairer, Greener, Safer Southwark Council Delivery Plan 2022–2026, particularly commitments relating to community wellbeing, equality, participation and strengthening neighbourhoods.
15. It also supports the aims of the Neighbourhoods Programme to build more empowered, connected and active communities.
16. The programme enhances local democratic participation through community-informed decision making.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

Community impact statement

17. The roles and functions of Neighbourhoods programme include the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process. Neighbourhood Community Meetings take decisions on local matters including environmental improvement and community safety as well as consultation on a wide range of policies and strategies that affect the area.
18. The Neighbourhoods Fund enables residents and community groups to shape local priorities, strengthening civic participation.
19. The allocation of the 2026-27 Dulwich Neighbourhood NsF budget will in the main, affect the people living in the Dulwich Area. However, in making the area a better place to live and improving life chances for local people, the Dulwich Neighbourhood area NsF activities will have an impact on the whole of Southwark.
20. The NsF is an important tool in achieving community participation and cohesion. Having a strong, vibrant and engaged community is a key part of creating a fairer and just society through enabling volunteering, participation, inclusion and well-being at a borough wide and neighbourhood level.
21. The application process encourages involvement from both established and emerging community organisations, including those historically underrepresented.

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

22. In fulfilling the above objectives that Neighbourhood Community Meetings have of bringing together and involving Southwark's diverse local communities, consideration has also been given to the council's duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 which requires the council to have due regard when taking decisions to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct
 - b. Advance of equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it
 - c. Foster good relations between those who share a relevant characteristic and those that do not share it.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

23. Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant characteristic and those who do not share it is further defined in s.149 as having due regard to the need to:

- Remove or minimise disadvantages connected with a relevant protected characteristic.
- Take steps to meet the different needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic. Applications for NsF projects come from the local community via a simple online form. This simple process enables individuals and groups to apply for projects that have a direct impact on their community and meet the needs of those that make up that community.
- Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or any other activity in which they are under-represented. The programme is promoted widely across the borough to as many residents and community groups as possible using the council's main marketing team and via other teams across the council including Resident Services, Community Engagement and via Community Southwark and other community networks.
- Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps that need to be addressed by specific targeted outreach.

24. When undertaking the duties under section 149 the council must ensure:

- The duty must be fulfilled before the decision in question is enacted;

25. The duty must be exercised in substance with 'rigour and an open mind'; it is not a matter of 'ticking boxes'; and the duty is continuing; it does not end with the completion of any equality impact assessment and due regard must be had as policy evolves and is implemented.

26. Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps that need to be addressed by specific targeted outreach. The open application process enables residents with protected characteristics to facilitate events that are relevant to them, and equality monitoring is required which will assist the council in continuous compliance with the public sector equality duty.

27. At this stage, the allocation of revenue funding is not anticipated to have any negative impacts on persons with protected characteristics.

Health impact statement

28. While the allocation itself has no direct health implications, funded activities commonly:

- Improve mental wellbeing through social connection
- Support physical activity through community sports and workshops
- Enhance community safety through positive local engagement
- Build skills and confidence through training and volunteer opportunities

Climate change implications

29. The Neighbourhoods Fund is a revenue programme and does not directly support capital infrastructure.
30. However, many community activities funded may deliver indirect environmental benefits, including environmental education, community gardening activities, or low-carbon local events.
31. Applicants are encouraged to consider environmentally sustainable approaches to project delivery.

Resource implications

32. There are no resource implications.

Legal implications

33. All approved applicants will need to comply with all relevant council grant approval requirements.

Financial implications

34. The Dulwich Neighbourhood NsF has been allocated a total of £40,000, for 2026-27. In addition to this, funds totaling £0 remain unallocated from previous years' allocations and thus are also available for allocation.
35. It is recommended that Dulwich Neighbourhood set aside some unallocated funds from previous years in order to prevent an over allocation of funds, as well as to act as a contingency from which urgent or incidental requests can be funded throughout the year.

Consultation

36. The NsF projects may require consultation with stakeholders, including the project applicant, local residents and tenants and residents associations where applicable.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Assurance) (NBC/20260218)

37. This report is recommending that the Neighbourhood Meeting approve the allocation of monies from the NsF 2026-27 for the Dulwich Neighbourhood as specified at Appendix 1.
38. The Local Government Act 2000 ("the 2000 Act") gives the Leader the power to delegate any executive function to area committees. The Neighbourhood Community Meetings are 'area committees' within the meaning of the 2000 Act. The allocation of the neighbourhood fund is an executive function.
39. The delegation can be found in Part 3H of the Constitution, which enables

Neighbourhood Community Meetings to approve “the allocation of neighbourhood funds, using the resources and criteria identified by the cabinet”. This is therefore a decision that the Neighbourhood Community Meetings is empowered to take. The neighbourhood fund was established in December 2014 by amalgamating the Area Committee Fund and the Cleaner Greener Safer revenue scheme

40. The Localism Act 2011 gives councils a general power of competence whereby they have power to do anything that individuals generally may do. This power can be used even if legislation already exists that allows a local authority to do the same thing. However, the general power of competence does not enable a local authority to do anything which it was restricted or prevented from doing under the previous legislation.
41. The general power of competence includes the power to:
 - (a) incur expenditure
 - (b) give financial assistance to any person
 - (c) enter into arrangements or agreements with any person
 - (d) co-operate with or facilitate or co-ordinate the activities of any person
 - (e) exercise on behalf of any person any functions of that person; and
 - (f) provide staff, goods, services or accommodation to any person.
42. The provision of funding under the NSF falls within the scope of the kind of activities the council can undertake under the general power of competence as this includes the power to give financial assistance to any person.
43. In allocating funding under the NSF Neighbourhood Community Meetings must have regard to the council’s equality duties set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The report author has demonstrated how those duties have been considered in the body of the report

Strategic Director of Resources (ESL25/171)

44. The 2026-27 budget allocation for the Neighbourhoods Fund will be agreed by council assembly as part of the budget setting process. The report notes the allocation is £10,000 per councillor by ward and thus £40,000 should be awarded to the Dulwich Neighbourhood.
45. Paragraph 35 notes the need to maintain a contingency element from the funding available for urgent or incidental requests. This is a prudent measure to assist in the effective running of the Neighbourhoods Fund.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Neighbourhoods Fund 2026/27 – Funding information	Environment, Sustainability & Leisure, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH (attach web link)	Fitzroy Lewis, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator 0207 525 3084
Link: https://www.southwark.gov.uk/community-engagement/grants-and-funding/neighbourhood-grants		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Dulwich Neighbourhood NSF Applications 2026-27

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Forid Ahmed, Neighbourhoods Manager		
Report Author	Fitzroy Lewis, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator		
Version	Final		
Dated	25 February 2026		
Key Decision	Yes		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included	
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	Yes	Yes	
Strategic Director of Resources	Yes	Yes	
Strategic Director of Environment, Sustainability & Leisure	No	No	
Cabinet member	No	No	
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		26 February 2026	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

(Dulwich Village Ward)

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
2040	BELL HOUSE DULWICH	Bell House Dyslexia Fair 2026	The Bell House Dyslexia Fair is a key Southwark event bringing together families, educators, and the wider dyslexia community to share knowledge, celebrate neurodiversity, and promote practical support for individuals with dyslexia. With one in five people in the UK affected, the Fair provides a vital, inclusive space for both children and adults, transforming awareness into action through expert guidance and community connection. Each year, Bell House curates a dynamic programme of talks and workshops. Experts present on assistive technology, reading fluency, study skills, and dyslexia in adults, alongside co-occurring challenges such as ADHD and dyspraxia. In 2025, we welcomed headline speakers Susana Gonzalez and Carol Allen, both internationally recognised voices in dyslexia education and inclusion. Our programme of talks encouraged dialogue between students, parents, and educators. The Fair's creative engagement makes learning hands-on and inspiring. Volunteers illustrate talks live, lead sessions showing parents how to create simple learning tools at home and run letterpress workshops where families print custom bags and resources. One-to-one advice clinics with local dyslexia specialists, now offered weekly, extend the Fair's impact year-round. In 2026 we plan to expand with workshops on study skills, CV writing, relaxation and multisensory spelling strategies, alongside creative sessions such as drama, vision boards, and rhythm workshops. The event also welcomes local and national exhibitors,	£ 3,565

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Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			connecting attendees to the latest resources and technologies. In 2025, over 630 people registered, including parents, teachers, and adults with dyslexia. Feedback highlighted the value of expert advice, creative learning, and peer connection. The Fair informs Bell House's year-round dyslexia programme, ensuring it meets community needs. Funding will support speakers, materials, accessibility, and outreach, helping Bell House continue to empower families, promote inclusion, and celebrate the strengths of neurodiverse learners.	
2335	SOUTHWARK HINDU CENTRE	Diwali (Festival of Lights) Celebration	Diwali, popularly known as Festival of Lights and is one of the most important festival of the year and is celebrated by Indian community with all religions around the world. The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. By organising this activity, which includes musical evening followed by Indian traditional dinner, we are going to achieve -community cohesion by bringing other communities of different religion and faith together -Also to make awareness of Indian culture and festival among different communities specially for younger generation -Further to make people understand the message of Diwali festival.	£ 2,000

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Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
2370	Friends of Dulwich Square	Events in The Square	To hold events in the Square to give a sense of a live community using the Square as a hub, particularly at times such as Christmas and the Dulwich Festival.	£ 2,000
2465	My First 1000 Days	Intergenerational Yoga Workshops	My First 1000 Days is planning to host a series of yoga workshops for all community members, from children to the elderly, residing in the housing estates surrounding Dulwich Park. This will be fun-filled weekends of yoga, meditation, and mindfulness during the month of June 2026 Our organization was founded in London in 2015 with the goal of fostering mindfulness and peace within the community. We offer various approaches to achieve and maintain the physical and mental well-being of participants, providing a healing and friendly environment to facilitate social inclusion. We run projects that improve the mental and physical well-being of families, children, women, carers, and individuals with caring responsibilities. Our support services and well-being activities are specifically designed for vulnerable community members who have caring responsibilities and include advice, exercise, dance, yoga, meditation, and mindfulness. The benefits of our activities include: * Reducing stress, anxiety, and depression rates among project participants. * Increasing participation in sports and promoting healthy habits, active lifestyles, and overall physical and mental well-being. * Reducing isolation among Southwark residents by helping them create a sense of belonging to a group.	£ 3,900

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			* Boosting participants' self-esteem by learning new skills, engaging in outdoor activities, and meeting new people with whom they can share experiences and participate in other activities.	
2516	Wheels for Wellbeing	Wheels for Wellbeing – Enjoying Dulwich (& beyond) on Wheels	We will run 10 instructor-led, off-road rides from the Herne Hill Velodrome for Disabled and older residents and their families/carers. Offering access to trikes, handcycles, tandems and side-by-side tandems, as well as bicycles, and trained instructors, these sessions build confidence, fitness and road-readiness in a safe, fully accessible space. Each ride supports 10–12 participants and prioritises Southwark residents, with referrals from local community groups and social prescribers. We expect around 20 residents to benefit across the programme, and our monitoring shows most people attend more than one session. Rides are paced and co-designed around participants' needs, with one-to-one support where required; carers are encouraged to join so families / friend groups can ride together. Every session includes a short skills warm-up, a progressive led ride, and time for social connection, supported by volunteers for sign-in, cycle fitting and friendly natters. The project will provide a gentle, accessible and safe way for those least likely to cycle to enjoy the streets of Dulwich as well as Dulwich Park, etc. Participants will experience improved wellbeing, reduced isolation and increased cycling skills. We will also signpost participants into our regular inclusive sessions (if riding on local roads feels too ambitious to start with) and our free short-term cycle loan offer (so those who have enjoyed our local rides can keep riding after the project ends). Simple feedback at each session will track confidence, enjoyment and intention to continue cycling, and will shape future community rides.	£ 5,000

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
2674	Dulwich Cricket Club (Dulwich Sports Club)	The Dulwich CC Diversity and Inclusion projects - "The Snow Leopards Project"	The project aims to make club cricket at Dulwich CC accessible to players from a broad range of cultural, racial and socio-economic backgrounds. We approach participants from different backgrounds to join us, male and female, through a variety of channels (including the networks of existing participants, Surrey cricket foundation and local schools), and have also had players referred to us by youth support workers in different London boroughs. Several participants have now been involved in our programmes who were referred to us by these channels. The project is not restricted to a particular ethnic group, although as the name suggests, in practice we have a high proportion of Afghanistani young people, many of whom are refugees. This is partly because we have built on our existing group of players and the commitment, we had made to them.	£ 3,000
2802	HERNE HILL VELODROME TRUST	Expanding Access to Youth and School Off-Road Cycling in Southwark - revenue items	Revenue items application - £3,800. See separate app #3548 for capital items (20 x bikes £12,000) Herne Hill Velodrome (HHV) seeks £15,800 from the Southwark Neighbourhoods Fund to buy 20 new mountain bikes to expand school and youth cycling sessions, as well as activity funds to ensure that Southwark-based groups have free access to the trails at HHV for safe and accessible cycling. Herne Hill Velodrome, established in 1891, is one of the oldest cycling tracks in the world and a cherished part of South London's heritage. It is run by the Herne Hill Velodrome Trust, a charity that exists to make cycling accessible, affordable, and enjoyable for everyone. Bouncing back from almost-closure just over a decade ago, the site now welcomes over 35,000 participants annually, from toddlers on balance bikes to pensioners rediscovering cycling later in life. In recent years, HHV has expanded its off-road activities, enabling more people to enjoy	£ 3,800

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			the off-road trails tucked into the corner of the site, however the limited number of suitable bikes restricts how many children can take part, and we can't run a session for an entire school class. The new bikes will double the number of children who can participate in safe, structured, off-road cycling in school holidays and in popular early-evening weekday slots. Sessions will serve Southwark schools, youth clubs, and community groups, prioritising those supporting low-income and under-represented young people. This project promotes youth wellbeing, inclusion, and physical activity, while sustaining one of the borough's most iconic community sports venues. It's a practical investment with long-term benefits — creating access, confidence, and healthier lifestyles for local children. Many Southwark children have no access to a bike or a safe place to ride. Urban streets and limited green space restrict opportunities for active play, and families often can't afford bikes or equipment. Herne Hill Velodrome provides a secure, car-free environment where children can ride safely. Our off-road trails are unique in South London: offering space to enjoy being amongst trees and riding over dirt tracks, which teaches young people who have grown up in the city a vital connection with nature and the freedom of movement that the trails offer. Demand from schools and youth organisations to use this part of our site has grown sharply in the past couple of years, yet HHV currently has too few bikes to meet requests, especially during busy periods such as school holidays.	

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Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Currently, HHV's limited mountain bikes mean that community youth groups must share equipment in the summer, and we are currently in a position of having to turn down requests from organisations to bring children from disadvantaged backgrounds to HHV for school holiday sessions due to the lack of off-road bikes. Purchasing 20 new mountain bikes will eliminate these limits, allowing community organisations to run sessions simultaneously with our holiday club sessions, as well as being able to reliably run school sessions for whole classes throughout the year. This directly supports: Southwark's priorities for health, wellbeing, and equality Schools seeking outdoor PE options Youth inclusion and diversionary activity The new fleet will ensure that every child — regardless of background — can experience cycling in a safe, inspiring environment. Who Will Benefit Herne Hill Velodrome is committed to cycling for everyone. The project targets children and young people aged 8–18 from across Southwark, especially those from less advantaged areas or without access to safe outdoor recreation.	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			As part of this project, we are also seeking funds to pay for an additional project co-ordinator to forge and enhance links with Southwark-based groups and schools, ensuring that access to the trails and bikes is shared amongst the most participants possible.. The budget covers 10 days for the project co-ordinator, as well as 20 x 1.5h free offroad group sessions for up to 20 young people at a time, ensuring that no one is excluded because of cost. Beneficiaries include: Pupils from local primary and secondary schools Young people referred through youth clubs and community charities Low-income families Girls' groups Inclusive programmes Scouts SEN groups Charities working with refugees and asylum seekers Benefits include: Physical health: through regular exercise outdoors Mental wellbeing: improved confidence and teamwork Community cohesion: shared activity across backgrounds Environmental awareness: promoting active travel, and recreation in a safe, green and biodiverse space. By lowering practical and social barriers, the project will give hundreds of Southwark's	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			young residents the chance to ride, learn, and thrive. Each new bike increases opportunities for learning, friendship, and self-belief — creating positive habits that last well beyond the project. The site is fully accessible, and coaches are trained to work with children with additional needs as well as across a wide range of abilities. The new bikes will include a mix of frame sizes to suit a broad range of riders. Additionally, these bikes will enable HHV to offer high-quality affordable adult learn to cycle sessions, encouraging more adults to see active travel and healthy lifestyles as a viable option. Sustainability and Legacy The new bikes will be maintained by Herne Hill Velodrome's existing mechanic team. A small fee for people to rent these bikes outside of the project's sessions, and fundraising, will cover any future upkeep, ensuring the bikes are kept in good condition and last as long as possible. The real legacy is cultural — embedding cycling within Southwark's schools and youth networks and raising awareness of the cycling opportunities at HHV and on the trails in a concrete-free environment. This project will inspire new habits of active travel, improve health outcomes, and strengthen community bonds.	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
3103	THE DULWICH PARK FRIENDS	The Giant Teddy Bears' Picnic 2026/27	To provide a free event for families showcasing local dance groups, choirs, bands and entertainment such Kidz Fun Fair, martial arts etc. There will be children's craft stalls, charity stalls, face painting and a variety of food and drink options. The event will end with a Giant teddy bears parade with prizes for the 'best dressed' bear. The event will be run entirely by volunteers and aims to foster a sense of pride and ownership of the Park.	£ 2,000
3108	THE DULWICH PARK FRIENDS	Concert Bands 2026/27	A free concert beside the cafe to show case the talent of local concert bands, inspire other musicians and enhance the community spirit and pride in Dulwich Park.	£ 1,350
3249	Love Your Doorstep (Cllr proposal)	Community Safety projects	Support for community safety group Love Your Doorstep Leaflets on keeping safe	£ 2,500
3275	Dulwich Square events (Cllr proposal)	Dulwich Square events	Funding for community events at Dulwich Square	£ 3,000
3340	Dulwich Festival	Dulwich Festival 2026 - Dulwich Village	Dulwich Festival is a 10 day arts and culture festival celebrating our local neighbourhoods and their history while platforming incredible spaces, businesses and arts activities which take place locally. It provides opportunities for creative and cultural exchange and learning, introducing new audiences to local artists of all types, and	£ 2,000

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			signposting local people to try new activities. The festival is a huge placemaking and social capital building period for our local communities and supports the income of hundreds of local creatives and small businesses. Our aim is to develop the festival and its audiences, rather than to expand, and as such we are working on more participative and cultural training opportunities in 2026 than ever before. Dulwich Village is the ward with most activity in the festival. Last year it housed 24 Artists Open House venues and 12 event venues. We know that traditionally a large portion of our audience come from this ward, and it is our aim to make accessible the incredible facilities on offer in this neighbourhood with people from neighbouring wards, and those resident and working in the Village who are unfamiliar with the cultural gems on their doorstep. We hope to deliver a good portion of free activity in the village this year alongside Dulwich Park Friends, Dulwich Estates, Dulwich Picture Gallery and many others. Including schools programming, family events and talks. Dulwich Festival is a charity, a CIO, and largely led and run by volunteers. The total funding request from across the 4 wards covers less than 8% of our budget, but is vital in contributing to core funds for free programming, volunteer honorariums and marketing and operational costs.	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

(Dulwich Wood Ward)

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
2122	Guardians UK	Woods on Wheels: a forest network initiative for Southwark	We are Guardians UK, a branch of Guardians Worldwide, registered as a charity in Southwark. Based at the Tree Rescue Hub, a one-acre site on Sydenham Hill, we provide a community space for outdoor learning, wellbeing, and environmental action. At the Hub, we maintain a living seed bank from Southwark's oldest oaks — including the Wood Vale boundary oaks, the Coppice Oak at One Tree Hill, and the Toilet Oak in Dulwich Park — preserving their unique genetic heritage. Around 3,000 saplings, grown from these historic trees and rescued from roadsides, allotments and gardens, are currently thriving on site. Our first generation of four-year-old trees is now ready to be planted. We seek Southwark Council's support to transport and plant approximately 100 young oaks across at least five local schools and community spaces, as well as at two partner restoration sites: Old Beard's Wood (West Sussex) and Pencoedtop Wood (Ceredigion, Wales). Through this initiative, we are building a Neighbourhood Forest Network — connecting Southwark's communities through shared stewardship of native trees. Within the borough, planting will prioritise areas lacking green space. With permissions from the Dulwich Estate and guidance from Southwark Council's Environmental Officer, we'll identify sites that maximise ecological benefit such as shade, flood mitigation and air-quality improvement. Confirmed local partners include Dulwich Hamlet Village School, Rosemead School, and DUCKS. The project also highlights a unique ecological relationship between Southwark's Great	£ 5,000

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			North Wood and Wales's Celtic Rainforests. Both are dominated by sessile oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>) — an uncommon species in southeast England but native to upland regions such as Wales and Ireland. The Norwood Ridge, where our Hub is based, represents one of the few high-altitude sessile oak habitats in the Southeast. Our collaboration with Welsh land guardians builds on this natural kinship, sharing expertise in forest restoration, soil protection, and woodland ecology. The exchange links two ecosystems through a shared species and a shared ethos of care. The Neighbourhood Forest Network is designed to regenerate both ecosystems and neighbourhoods. By planting locally grown oaks, we aim to restore native biodiversity while also strengthening the social fabric of our communities. Each planting becomes a gathering point — where residents, students, and volunteers come together in shared purpose. As roots take hold in the soil, new human connections take hold in the community. The forest becomes a social mycelium, weaving relationships of care, solidarity, and belonging between people and places. The project will culminate in an interactive digital map documenting each site and its community story, allowing people to see themselves as part of a connected network of care across Southwark and beyond. In this way, the Neighbourhood Forest Network transforms tree planting into an act of civic regeneration — growing both woodland and the bonds that make neighbourhoods thrive. Finally, we will document the Woods on Wheels processing. We will transport the trees in our Guardians Worldwide pick up truck. The process of carrying trees around the Borough and beyond will also be shared as a story of connection, community building, and a fun way to promote key environmental ideas such as carbon offsetting (i.e. planting trees to compensate for long-distance driving).	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			The stories of the Woods on Wheels project will be disseminated via a new webpage on our website. We will also promote the project via our bespoke radio slot on Resonance FM (104.4), also featured on our website. These platforms will document the planting process, community participation, tree transportation journeys and the personal stories that emerge from collective environmental action, helping to inspire further neighbourhood involvement. Beyond the planting, the project includes a clear plan for long-term maintenance. Our volunteers, school partners, and local residents will take part in seasonal care — watering, mulching, and monitoring the young trees — supported by the Tree Rescue Hub volunteer team led by Susana Castro and Simeon Willis. This ensures that the trees remain healthy, the partnerships continue, and the spirit of collaboration endures beyond the initial planting phase. In this way, the Neighbourhood Forest Network extends far beyond ecology. It regenerates the social landscape — growing a living web of relationships, shared care, and local pride. Each tree becomes a point of connection, strengthening neighbourhood bonds and weaving the kind of community resilience that sustains both people and planet. Together, these roots of participation and care will form a lasting legacy — a living woodland and a network of human relationships that continue to grow long after the project's completion.	
2480	Friends of Gipsy Hill	Gipsy Hill Village Fete 2026	About the project: A biennial community event focusing on the concept of 'village fete' uniting diverse local residents and businesses, held on Long Meadow, a key open green space in the cross border community of Gipsy Hill within easy walking range for many.	£ 9,000

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Objectives: Bring the local community together. Provide a family fun day for all ages. Enrich local knowledge with what's on offer with local support networks. Provide small scale entertainment. Promote local business. Who was involved in identifying the need: Friends of Gipsy Hill (est. 2018) is a local community group formed by local residents. Through consultation, local residents and businesses expressed a desire to have a local community neighbourhood event that was accessible to all. The event was developed as a pilot in 2019 and then successfully run again 2022 and 2024, bringing the community around Gipsy Hill together. How our project differs and adds value from other events: In Crystal Palace Park (across five boroughs), the Crystal Palace Festival used to provide a largescale event, There is now a larger Festival Republic run pan-London music festival; the Kingswood Estate including Kingswood Arts host small scale community events. The Gipsy Hill Village Fete is the only large community event in the area that uses Long Meadow as a venue and meeting point, providing enrichment through family craft activities, factfinding tasks about the locality and information on sustainable greening projects. It appeals to a wider local demographic within easy walking distance. It forms a	

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			natural focal point for this community, on a local scale, with an opportunity for traditional fun and games appealing to all ages, a place to meet and interact with neighbours, a showcase for local creative talent at a small scale, a dog show for regular users of Long Meadow, a community tents showcasing local endeavours/opportunities.	
2597	BNMS Empire Limited	Tuition Lab Literacy Boost	Tuition Lab Literacy Boost (Online) is a community education project offering free weekly online reading and writing support for primary school pupils in Southwark who would not normally be able to access private tuition. The project will provide a 10-week literacy programme delivered live via Google Meet, helping children in Years 4–6 (ages 8–11) improve reading comprehension, vocabulary, and creative writing skills. Each online session will be interactive, small-group, and led by qualified tutors from Tuition Lab — trading under BNMS Empire Ltd. By providing accessible, high-quality online tutoring, the project will remove barriers such as travel costs and scheduling difficulties while directly supporting children from low-income households to build confidence and achieve literacy success. The Need for the Project Across Southwark, there is a growing need for targeted literacy support for children from disadvantaged families. Many primary pupils are struggling to meet age-related expectations in reading and writing, often due to limited access to one-to-one or small-group learning. Private tutoring can make a huge difference, but many families simply cannot afford it. Even community programmes that take place in person can be inaccessible for working parents, single carers, or those with limited transport options.	£ 6,000

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Online learning provides an inclusive solution. It allows children to take part safely from home, using any internet-connected device, while still benefiting from expert teaching, personalised feedback, and real-time interaction. Tuition Lab has already seen excellent results through its existing online tutoring programmes, helping children build confidence, vocabulary, and writing stamina. This project builds on that proven model to ensure that no child in Southwark is left behind simply because of circumstance. Project Aims and Objectives The overall aim is to reduce educational inequality by providing free, high-quality literacy support to children in Southwark who are at risk of falling behind in reading and writing. Specific objectives include: Delivering a 10-week online literacy course for 30 pupils aged 8–11 from low-income backgrounds. Improving children’s reading fluency, comprehension, and writing confidence through structured online lessons. Empowering parents to support literacy at home through short, optional “Parent Power”	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			sessions online. Creating a sense of community pride and achievement in learning through family engagement and celebration events. How the Project Will Work Format: 10-week online literacy course via Google Meet Frequency: 1 session per week (1 hour each) Group size: Up to 10 pupils per group (3 groups maximum) Teaching staff: Qualified English and primary tutors Platform: Google Classroom + Google Meet (secure, free, accessible) Each session will include: A “Do Now” warm-up activity to boost vocabulary Reading comprehension using engaging short texts Writing tasks (creative or non-fiction) with feedback A closing reflection activity where children celebrate what they’ve learned	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

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			Additional elements: Two optional Parent Power Workshops via Google Meet to help parents learn how to support reading and writing at home. Weekly digital resources and home practice activities shared through Google Classroom. Certificates of completion and celebration showcase in the final week. Community Benefits Educational Inclusion The project provides free, high-quality literacy support to children who would otherwise be excluded due to cost or accessibility barriers. Accessible Learning for All Online delivery removes geographical and scheduling barriers, making it possible for families across Southwark to take part — including single parents, those with limited transport, or those with younger siblings at home. Family Empowerment Through “Parent Power” mini-sessions, carers learn simple techniques to help with reading and writing at home, increasing confidence and engagement.	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Long-Term Impact Improved literacy strengthens school performance, self-esteem, and future opportunities. By tackling literacy challenges early, this project creates lasting benefits for children, families, and the wider community. Community Pride and Connection Even though sessions are online, group learning creates social connection. Pupils will meet other children from across Southwark and work collaboratively, celebrating progress together. Who Will Benefit Primary pupils (Years 4–6) from Southwark schools who are eligible for free school meals or from low-income households. Parents and carers who will gain new skills and confidence in supporting literacy at home. Local community, as improved literacy and engagement in education build long-term social capital. Partnerships and Support Tuition Lab has established experience running online educational programmes and will	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			work with: Local schools to identify pupils who would benefit most. Southwark Council community networks to share the opportunity with families in need. Parents already connected to Tuition Lab who have expressed strong interest in online literacy support for their children. We are also exploring collaboration with Southwark Libraries and community digital inclusion initiatives to ensure that families without stable internet or devices can still participate (through support with data vouchers or access to community computers). Monitoring and Evaluation We will measure success through: Baseline and post-programme literacy assessments Pupil self-confidence surveys Parent feedback forms Tutor observations and attendance tracking Completion of home activities and class engagement	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Success will be defined by measurable improvements in reading comprehension and writing fluency, as well as increased confidence and enjoyment in learning. At the end of the 10-week cycle, we will produce a short impact summary report with anonymised data, success stories, and testimonials to share with Southwark Council and partners. Sustainability After this pilot phase, Tuition Lab aims to: Run additional online literacy cycles throughout the year for new groups. Train local volunteers or older students to assist in reading sessions. Develop a digital library of resources for ongoing community use. Use this first grant as evidence to apply for Culture Together or Southwark Pride funding for future expansion. Because the model is online, it's low-cost, scalable, and environmentally friendly — making it ideal for sustainable long-term delivery.	
3062	Ms Elizabeth Smith	Community Vegetable Patch and Skills Workshops	Project Summary We are applying for funding to support the development and running of a community vegetable patch that provides residents and tenants of Countisbury House with opportunities to learn about sustainable food growing, share skills, and connect with their neighbours. This community project assists in reducing levels of flytipping and anti-social	£ 1,391

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

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			behaviour in the block and surrounding areas. The project will include six hands-on workshop sessions led by horticulture educator Ben Pierson, covering topics such as soil preparation, seed sowing, natural pest control, composting, and harvesting. Participants will gain practical experience in maintaining a productive and environmentally-friendly vegetable garden. Community Benefit The project aims to: - Bring people together from diverse backgrounds through shared outdoor activity. - Promote sustainable living by teaching plastic-free and chemical-free gardening techniques. - Improve local wellbeing by providing a green, welcoming space that encourages physical activity and mental relaxation. - Increase local food resilience and understanding of where our food comes from. - Support community cohesion through intergenerational engagement — open to all ages and abilities. - Workshops and volunteering sessions will be free and open to residents of Countisbury House, with outreach through local community networks, the building noticeboard and social media. Ongoing Benefits and Future Development The community vegetable patch has already created lasting benefits for existing residents who took part in previous workshop sessions, many of whom continue to maintain and enjoy the space. However, there is a knowledge gap for new residents who have joined the project, which is why securing funding for workshops will be crucial to the future sustainability of the garden. A mix of tenants and residents, the group covers a wide age range including families	

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2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			with young children and older people. Some have been attending every year since the growing space was established in 2022. We have continually welcomed new members to the group as people have moved out and into the block, including this summer. Functioning as a social space as well as growing project, the space provides a focus for community support and friendship and is helping to build an active community sharing and working to solve issues facing the building in general. Building on this success, the next phase of workshops will ensure the long-term sustainability of the project by both upskilling new residents and deepening the horticultural knowledge of existing participants, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the project. The vegetable patch and its surrounding green spaces have also had a significant positive impact on the local environment, successfully reducing fly-tipping and deterring antisocial behaviour by turning previously neglected areas into well-cared-for, welcoming spaces. However, the need for ongoing maintenance and community involvement is clear to keep these spaces thriving and to preserve the improvements achieved so far. By providing structured learning opportunities over the next growing season, we will strengthen local expertise and committed engagement, encourage shared stewardship of the garden, and ensure the project remains an active, inclusive, and healthy community asset for years to come. Project Delivery Plan Workshop Sessions (facilitated by Ben Pierson) - Tools and growing equipment purchased on receiving funding. - 6 x 2-hour sessions, held monthly for 6 months. - Each session will focus on a key stage of the growing season. - Participants will receive hands-on training and resources to continue caring for the garden between workshops.	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Equipment & Sustainability The budget covers shared tools and growing equipment: this project will use plastic-free and reusable materials wherever possible. Tools will be shared and stored onsite for continued use beyond the funding period, enabling new growers to join without financial barriers. A new hose spray gun will enable better control of flow of water, encouraging sustainable water use. The garden will be maintained by community volunteers to ensure longevity and minimal waste. Budget Breakdown - Workshop facilitation (Ben Pierson), 6 sessions @ £160 = £960 - Materials for workshops £100 - Plastic-free veg netting £129 - Netting hoops £89.99 - Hose multi-spray gun (with fittings) £20 - Hand tools (mini hoes) £40 - Strong garden scissors £20 Total budget £1,391.49 Monitoring and Evaluation We will track: - Number of participants per workshop & in interim meetups. - Feedback forms after each workshop. - Photos and logs of planting and harvest progress. - Testimonials from participants about new skills and community connections. These outcomes can be shared with Southwark Council and local partners to demonstrate the project's impact.	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Legacy The project will enable a community-managed allotment area that continues to grow food and host learning events in future years. The skills gained will empower residents to engage with similar initiatives across Southwark, helping to create greener, cleaner, and more connected neighbourhoods. By engaging participants with sustainable practices (seed saving, compost making) and in wider growing communities, the project will maintain the space as free to access for all participants, removing financial barriers to taking part. Delivery The project is a mix of activity and physical project (workshops and purchase of tools). As it is a mix, this application is made under the basis of project funding to be managed by the Southwark team, not by the applicant, in accordance with the Neighbourhood Funding guidance. The veg group is not currently set up to make purchases or receive grants.	
3092	PAXTON GREEN TIME BANK	celebrating our skills	We will showcase and celebrate the skills in our time bank and in our community through events, skills exchanges and community celebrations. Members will lead a programme of events and workshops, which will be free and open to all local residents. These will include various crafts, wellbeing activities, and more. We will also run sessions to encourage local people to identify and share their own skills, and to connect with each other through the time bank to achieve their goals. Showcase events will be themed, such as food skills, an art exhibition, and culturally specific such as dress, music, storytelling etc.	£10,000

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
3176	Holistic Well Women	Community Leaders Rest and Wellbeing Project	The aim of the Community Rest and Wellness project is to support and improve the wellbeing of volunteers and community leaders in the London Borough of Southwark. Currently Southwark has a unique and diverse range of over 1,000 voluntarily groups and volunteers who are serving Southwark communities with passion and real empathy despite the challenges they face. Community Rest and Wellness project wants to address and support the mental health and wellbeing of grassroots community leaders and introduce them to a wellbeing practice, community rest support and enhance their health and wellbeing. Keeping Southwark volunteer sector services healthy is vital to keeping Southwark Residents Happy and Healthy. Out comes Community Rest and Resilience Reduce burnout and improve wellbeing Social Connection Offer opportunities to build relations and combat social isolation Practical Support Provide practical assistance, support, and creative health activities Skills Building equip grassroot community leaders with confidence and skills to support their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of the communities they serve Our activities are aimed to connect, restore, build resilience and develop wellbeing practice for themselves, volunteers support one another through peer learning creativity and building resilience for grassroots women volunteer led organisations in Southwark. We are offering a range of creative Health workshops, Health Living Workshops, wellbeing coaching and social and chill out lounge and pop-up wellbeing cafe. Rest and	£ 5,000

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Wellness Away Day/Weekend outside London. Out and about in nature. We will also develop Wellbeing toolkit for Community leaders. All activities are for women groups led groups in Southwark. We would like to focus on small/micro /medium groups has research has revealed that they are under resourced and over worked and need support and are facing real challenges with deliver vital service need in the community due to lack of resources and funding. We will also offer the opportunity volunteers/trustee/or directors to get involved and share skills that promote Health and Wellbeing through peer learning and support. We will also train wellbeing community ambassadors to support the project The Health and Wellbeing Southwark volunteer led organisation is our goal. Community Rest and Well Being project has been developed to address the issues of over worked and burnout and isolation within community leaders and volunteer groups in Southwark. We aim to connect and collaborate and support each other and groups in Southwark.	
3184	Miss Patrycja Borecka	Kingswood House Garden Revival - Growing Community, Sustainability, and Wellbeing	PROJECT SUMMARY: Kingswood Estate is located in a remote part of Southwark, where access to fresh fruit and vegetables is extremely limited. The area is considered a food desert. This proposal seeks funding to revive and sustain the Kingswood House Garden - a young but thriving green space created just two years ago to support community wellbeing, food education, and environmental learning. As a former employee of Kingswood Arts House, I was involved in the garden's development and used its produce to support a council-funded community kitchen. With Kingswood Arts now going into administration, this project aims to protect and re-activate the garden for public benefit, aligning with Southwark Council's priorities around inclusion, sustainability, community resilience, and its Sustainable Food Strategy.	£ 9,480

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE: Located in the heart of the Kingswood Estate, the garden provides a much-needed green refuge. It has quickly become a hub for connection, learning, and nourishment. This project will ensure that the garden continues to serve as a welcoming, inclusive space for residents of all ages and backgrounds. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN: The project will engage residents from Kingswood Estate and surrounding wards through: - weekly volunteer gardening sessions - seasonal food-growing workshops - intergenerational planting days - co-designed signage and storytelling about the garden's purpose and impact - cooking workshops in collaboration with Paxton Green Time Bank, teaching residents how to grow food and prepare healthy meals on a budget; Local volunteers will be recruited and supported to become trained garden stewards, ensuring long-term care and community ownership.	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION: The garden will incorporate: - rainwater harvesting system to reduce mains water use - solar-powered irrigation system to enable an efficient way to water the garden - composting and soil health workshops to promote sustainable practices - cooking workshops in collaboration with Paxton Green Time Bank, teaching residents how to grow food and prepare healthy meals on a budget; These features will be showcased during workshops and open day, inspiring residents to adopt sustainable practices at home. LEARNING AND COLLABORATION In partnership with Paxton Green Time Bank, project will deliver: - gardening session with soil and compost experts - cooking workshops using garden produce and surplus food from Paxton Green Time Bank - seed-saving and propagation sessions to build local food resilience;	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			These activities will be free and open to all, with targeted outreach to low-income and isolated residents. INCLUSION AND WELLBEING The garden will be accessible to residents of all ages and abilities: - raised beds for wheelchair users - quiet zone for neurodiverse visitors - volunteers/visitors seating area for rest and reflection - a welcoming volunteer culture rooted in care and respect - there is an ongoing conversation with Southwark Disability Hub to ensure the garden welcomes neurodiverse and autistic visitors with appropriate sensory and social support. Gardening has proven benefits for mental health, confidence, and social connection - especially for those facing economic or emotional hardship. EVALUATION PLAN I will measure success through: - number of active volunteers and trained garden stewards	

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			- attendance at workshops and open days - biodiversity increase (plant and pollinator counts) - resident feedback and wellbeing surveys - Reduction in water usage (tracked via rainwater system) Regular updates will be shared with Southwark Council and community partners. BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY The Kingswood House Garden project will deliver multiple benefits to the local community. It will improve access to fresh fruit and vegetables in a recognised food desert, helping residents eat healthier. It will provide free gardening and cooking workshops - run in collaboration with Paxton Green Time Bank - that teach people how to prepare nutritious meals on a budget. The installation of a solar-powered irrigation system and rainwater harvesting will promote sustainable practices and reduce environmental impact. Biodiversity will be boosted through wildflower planting and composting education, enriching the local ecosystem. The garden will offer inclusive wellbeing opportunities, with accessible seating and raised beds, and will welcome neurodiverse and autistic visitors through collaboration with Southwark Disability Hub. Finally, the project will build community ownership by training local volunteers as garden stewards, fostering pride, confidence, and long-term care.	
3366	Dulwich Festival	Dulwich Festival 2026 - Dulwich Wood	Dulwich Festival is a 10 day arts and culture festival celebrating our local neighbourhoods and their history while platforming incredible spaces, businesses and arts activities which take place locally. It provides opportunities for creative and cultural	£ 1,250

Dulwich Neighbourhood

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			exchange and learning, introducing new audiences to local artists of all types, and signposting local people to try new activities. The festival is a huge placemaking and social capital building period for our local communities and supports the income of hundreds of local creatives and small businesses. Our aim is to develop the festival and its audiences, rather than to expand, and as such we are working on more participative and cultural training opportunities in 2026 than ever before. Dulwich Wood is the ward we have most developed activity in the past few years. Last year it housed 12 Artists Open House venues and 3 event venues. We know that traditionally a good portion of our audience come from this ward, but it is our aim to encourage these residents to feel welcome at the festival and that we are providing activities for the most financially vulnerable members of this ward. We hope to deliver a good portion of free activity here this year at Kingswood Arts and with other groups. We aim to deliver a lot of our schools programming here and have built a relationship with Dulwich Wood, successfully delivering free workshops last year. Dulwich Festival is a charity, a CIO, and largely led and run by volunteers. The total funding request from across the 4 wards covers less than 8% of our budget, but is vital in contributing to core funds for free programming, volunteer honorariums and marketing and operational costs.	

Meeting Name:	Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting
Date:	11 March 2026
Report title:	Devolved Highways Budget 2026-27: Capital Funding Allocation (Dulwich Neighbourhood)
Ward(s) or groups affected:	Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	N/A
From:	Head of Highways & Sustainable Transport Policy

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting:

1. Approves the allocation of £50,792 for the 2026-27 Devolved Highways Budget (“DHB”) programme from the programmed capital expenditure over the ten-year period 2019-20 to 2028-29, as well as the funds reallocated under (1), to the list of applications set out in Appendix 1 of this report within the Dulwich Neighbourhood (“Funded Projects”);
2. Notes the total available funds for allocation by the Dulwich Neighbourhood in the 2026-27 financial year is £50,792.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting has the authority to approve the allocation of funds for the DHB programme to projects within the Dulwich Neighbourhood area using the resources and criteria identified by Cabinet, pursuant to Part 3H of the council’s constitution.
4. The Dulwich Neighbourhood area is made up of Dulwich Village ward and Dulwich Wood ward.
5. The council’s non-principal road investment programme prioritises works on non-principal roads on a borough-wide basis and this investment forms the largest part of the annual investment programme.
6. Funding is allocated to Neighbourhood areas based on a per councillor calculation.¹
7. The DHB programme is allocated £800,000 each year from the total annual non-principal road investment programme to be spent by Neighbourhood

¹ [In accordance with the decision dated 7 January 2019 for the Allocation of funds to wards via Cleaner Greener Safer and Devolved Highways programmes](#)

areas on their priorities for highway renewal and maintenance that may not be prioritised as part of the borough-wide programme.

8. The scope of the DHB programme permits the full range of minor traffic and highway capital schemes rather than solely like-for-like repair and replacement. Examples of the types of works which can now be funded include:
 - Footway and carriageway resurfacing
 - Traffic calming
 - Localised repairs
 - Accessibility improvements
 - Footway buildouts
 - Cycle hangars.
9. The DHB programme is one of three programmes where funding is allocated through the Neighbourhood Community Meetings.
10. The additional programmes are the Neighbourhoods Fund which funds revenue activity and the Cleaner, Greener, Safer programme which funds project ideas from local organisations and individuals who live or work in Southwark, which improve their local area.
11. The application process for funding was revised this year so that a single application form was used for all three programmes. Once applications were received, officers reviewed and allocated them to the appropriate programme.
12. This combined process is known as the Neighbourhood Grants.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

13. There is £50,792 available for the 2026-27 DHB programme for new projects in the Dulwich Neighbourhood area.
14. There is £0 in additional funding from previous years' underspend, current programme underspend and current programme project cancellations.

Policy framework implications

15. The DHB programme is fully aligned with the council's policies around sustainability, regeneration and community engagement as detailed in "Fairer Greener Safer – Southwark Council Delivery Plan 2022-2026" because the Funded Projects support active modes of transport and will provide improvements to road safety so all road users are prioritised. The programme also enables community engagement as part of the application process including pitching meetings where applicants are able to advise why their proposal should be considered.
16. The council's Streets for People strategy outlines the council's ongoing commitment to, and ambition for, healthier neighbourhoods, cleaner air, thriving town centres and safer roads as part of the "Our Pledges" listed on page 7 of the strategy. The Funded Projects include the introduction of cycle

parking, traffic calming, and footway and junction improvements at the relevant areas which will create a more pleasant environment for pedestrians and cyclists by reducing motor vehicle dominance, and will create a safer road network for all road users.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

Community impact statement

17. As part of the application process the local community is able to propose ideas for projects to be funded by the DHB programme. This has a positive impact in terms of the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process.
18. An explicit objective within Neighbourhood Community areas is that they are used to actively engage as widely as possible with, and bring together, Southwark's diverse local communities on issues of shared or mutual interest. The DHB programme is an important tool in achieving community participation.
19. The programme is promoted widely across the borough to as many residents and community groups as possible using the council's main marketing team and via other teams across the council, including Resident Services, Community Engagement and Parks and Leisure services.
20. Officers also try to use external resources such as Community Southwark to increase the outreach of the programme across the borough

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

21. The Public Sector Equality Duty ("PSED") is set out at section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and requires the council to have due regard, in the exercise of its functions (including decision making), to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct;
 - b. Advance of equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristics and those who do not share it;
 - c. Foster good relations between those who share a relevant characteristic and those that do not share it.
22. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
23. Ideas for DHB projects come from the local community, the majority via a simple project nomination form available in electronic format. This simple process enables individuals and groups to nominate projects that have a direct impact on their community and meet the needs of those that make up that community.
24. Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps which need to be

addressed by specific targeted outreach.

25. Decisions on funding are agreed by ward councillors with specific consideration given to the needs of individual wards and feedback from the community. Funding for DHB projects is equal across all wards ensuring that the opportunity is the same for all parts of the borough.
26. At this stage, no specific projects have been funded so the allocation of funds for the DHB Programme is not considered to have any adverse effects, including socio-economic or health impacts, on those with protected characteristics. Officers will consider the equalities impacts and the council's PSED for each of the Funded Projects as they progress through the detailed design and decision-making stages.
27. Officers will also look at the range of areas where grants are allocated, gather information for analysis where possible and look at how the council can improve allocation in relation to specific needs across the borough.
28. A process of continuous improvement is in place to ensure that officers improve data collection and analysis in the future and use this to reach groups identified as missing or hard to reach.

Health impact statement

29. There are no direct health implications as a result of the allocation of funds for the DHB programme. However, the following health benefits are expected from the Funded Projects based on the types of projects normally funded via the DHB Programme.
30. An increase in community assets in the public realm – providing more places for people to spend time in their local community. This has the potential to have a positive impact on social and mental wellbeing, by creating connected and cohesive communities.
31. Increased ownership over community public realm – this helps people within the community join together around a project, supporting connected and cohesive communities.
32. Project examples such as tree planting, street lighting, landscaping, traffic calming, junction improvements, pedestrian crossings, cycle parking and cycling infrastructure may have the following impacts:
 1. improve mental wellbeing by increasing access to the outdoors and nature, improve mental and physical wellbeing by improving street space and encouraging active travel;
 2. improved access to affordable and secure cycle parking which should contribute to less congestion and air pollution locally;
 3. tree planting and green spaces may help to reduce or disperse air pollution, supporting people's physical health; and
 4. improved street lighting can improve safety and reduce the chances of crime or anti-social behaviour.

Climate change implications

33. The allocation of funds for the DHB programme does not have any direct climate change implications. However, the Funded Projects will support the council's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030 and align with the themes set out within the Climate Action Plan which was adopted in September 2025.
34. Specific actions addressed by projects funded via the DHB programme include:
 - Action 11: Encourage sustainable transport options to reduce emissions from vehicles
 - Action 14: Plant and maintain more trees
 - Action 15: Enhance our streets and green spaces to increase biodiversity
 - Action 21: Work with residents, local groups and partners to support climate friendly behaviours.
 - Action 24: Collaborate with our communities and partners to take climate action and improve resilience
35. By allocating the funds to the Funded Projects, the council is investing in community-led projects that reduce carbon emissions and promote biodiversity. For example, the development of community gardens, wildlife areas and additional tree planting all aid in the protection of local flora, fauna and wildlife.
36. Additionally, the projects involving lighting upgrades will look to improve energy efficiency and the development of cycle facilities through this scheme will help residents' transition towards active travel, reducing their reliance on motor vehicles.
37. These types of projects are common across all Neighbourhood areas.
38. With all DHB spending decisions, potential carbon impact is considered as part of the allocation process and where possible, officers will attempt to monitor and evaluate potential carbon emissions from individual schemes.

Resource implications

39. There are no additional staffing implications, as provision is made from the Highways Division to deliver the recommendations included in this report.

Financial implications

40. On 7 April 2020, Cabinet approved the capital bid of £12.6 million to allow current spend on highway planned maintenance for the following 10 years

thereby approving the funding for the 2025-26 DHB programme.²

41. All professional fees related to the project are also treated as the capital costs of the project.
42. The total expenditure and sources of funding for the scheme will be monitored and reported as part of the overall Capital Programme.

Consultation

43. No consultation has taken place and will not take place in the future.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance (CM 24.02.26)

44. Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting has the delegated authority to approve the allocation of funds for the DHB programme to projects within the Dulwich Neighbourhood under Part 3H of the council's constitution.
45. The Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting will need to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between people with protected characteristics and others in accordance with the public sector equality duty in section 149 Equality Act 2010. Reference is made to this in the "Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts" section above. At this stage, no specific projects are being funded so the allocation of funds for the DHB Programme is not considered by the report author to have any adverse effects.
46. Council Assembly on 14 July 2021 approved a change to the council's Constitution to confirm that all decisions made by the council will consider the climate and equality (including socio-economic disadvantage and health inequality) consequences of taking that decision. This has been considered at climate change implications section above.

Strategic Director of Resources (CAP25/100)

47. The Strategic Director of Resources (SDR) notes the recommendation to the Dulwich Neighbourhood Community Meeting to approve £50,792 from the programmed capital expenditure within the council's ten-year capital programme (2019–20 to 2028–29) for the 2026–27 Devolved Highways Budget (DHB) for the Dulwich Neighbourhood.
48. The SDR further notes that there is no additional funding available from previous years' underspend, current programme underspend or project cancellations for reallocation to the 2026–27 programme.
49. The SDR confirms that the total funding available for allocation by the Dulwich Neighbourhood in 2026–27 is £50,792, and that this funding is contained within the existing approved capital programme.

² [Policy and Resource Strategy Capital Monitoring Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019- 20 \(month 9\)](#)

50. Officers' time and any associated costs required to implement these recommendations will be managed within existing departmental budgets and do not create additional revenue pressures.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Policy and Resource Strategy Capital Monitoring Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019-20 (month 9)	Environment, Sustainability and Leisure / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Tobias Allen 020 7525 3197
Link: Issue details - Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019-20 - Southwark Council		
Allocation of funds to wards via Cleaner Greener Safer and Devolved Highways Programmes 2018	Environment, Sustainability and Leisure / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Tobias Allen 020 7525 3197
Link: Issue details - Allocation of funds to wards via Cleaner Greener Safer and Devolved Highways programmes - Southwark Council		
Streets for People strategy 2023	Environment, Sustainability and Leisure / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Tobias Allen 020 7525 3197
Link: Streets for People strategy 2023-30 by Southwark Council - Issue		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	All Dulwich Neighbourhood Applications 2026-27
Appendix 2	Dulwich Neighbourhood funding

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Dr Polyvios Polyviou, Head of Highways and Sustainable Transport Policy		
Report Author	Tobias Allen, Transport Projects Engineer		
Version	Final		
Dated	25 February 2026		
Key Decision?	Yes		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance		Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Resources		Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member		No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			25 February 2026

APPENDIX 1

Dulwich Neighbourhood Area

Devolved Highways Capital Investment programme 2026/27: Applications

Reference	Proposal Name	Ward	Programme
2435	Pollinator Pitstop - Creating a wildflower garden at the roundabout of Dulwich Village and Burbage Rd	Dulwich Village	Highways
2527	The Dulwich Wildflower Verge Project	Dulwich Village	Highways
2944	Court Lane Raised Beds	Dulwich Village	Highways
3243	White posts and chains	Dulwich Village	Highways
3251	Green spaces and public realm planting	Dulwich Village	Highways
3257	Benches	Dulwich Village	Highways
3263	Maintenance of and Repairs to the White Posts and Chains in Dulwich Village plus adjacent grass verges	Dulwich Village	Highways
3272	Dulwich Fingerposts	Dulwich Village	Highways
2277	Kingswood Drive speed reduction	Dulwich Wood	Highways
2361	Historic bus stop repairs	Dulwich Wood	Highways
2430	SLOW CHILDREN PLAYING Sign	Dulwich Wood	Highways
2710	Segregated cycle track improvement	Dulwich Wood	Highways
3239	Dulwich Wood overnight coach parking ban signage	Dulwich Wood	Highways
3241	Dulwich Wood safer streets	Dulwich Wood	Highways

APPENDIX 2

**Unallocated 2026/27 Devolved Highways Funding
Dulwich Neighbourhood**

Ward	Unallocated Funding
Dulwich Village	£0
Dulwich Wood	£0
Total	£0

**DULWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY MEETING
AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2026-27**

NOTE: Original held by Constitutional Team all amendments/queries to
Beverley.olamijulo@southwark.gov.uk

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
To all Members of the neighbourhood community area			
(Members receiving electronic copies only)			
Councillor Andy Simmons (Chair)	1	Total:	10
Councillor Richard Leeming (Vice-Chair)	1		
Councillor Margy Newens	1	Dated: 3 March 2026	
Councillor Catherine Rose	1		
Officers			
Tobias Allen, Transport Projects Engineer (Devolved Highways Budget 2026-27)	E-copies		
Craig Dove, Senior Project Manager (Cleaner Greener Safer 2026-27)			
Fitzroy Lewis, Neighbourhood Coordinator (Allocation of Neighbourhood Grants 2026-27)			
Beverley Olamijulo Constitutional Officer	1		