

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 11 September 2012	<b>Decision Maker:</b> Cabinet Member for Transport, Environment and Recycling
<b>Report title:</b>		Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) Capital Allocations and Launch for 2013/14	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Environment & Leisure	

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Transport, Environment, and Recycling:

1. Notes the allocation of the Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) capital programme funds as agreed by Council Assembly for 2013/14 and agrees that the funding be allocated to Community Councils (CCs) as per Table 1 found at paragraph 8;
2. Agrees the integrated launch and applications process for the CGS capital and revenue programmes;
3. Agrees the timetable and decision-making process to launch the programme and allocate funds to individual projects;
4. Agrees that all directly related project management and implementation costs will be recovered from the overall CGS capital allocation and that a time limit will be placed on the projects of completion within two years of award of funding.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

5. The Council's Cleaner Greener Safer capital programme has been running since 2003. The Cabinet Member for Transport, Environment and Recycling has the power under Part 3D paragraph 2 of the Constitution to agree significant programmes. The decision on allocation to individual projects is delegated to the CCs.
6. In the first 10 years of the CGS programme £26,630,000 has been allocated to CCs leading to 1467 projects being approved and 1240 being implemented. The programme has proved very popular with CCs and the general public enabling a wide range of improvement projects to be delivered in partnership with the local community.

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'

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

### Allocation of funding to community council's

7. Council Assembly at its meeting on 6 July 2011 agreed a revised annual allocation for the CGS programme of £1,880,000 for years 2012/13 onwards, however due to the changes in Community Council (CC) boundaries from 2012/13; there is a need to revisit the way that the funding is allocated between CCs.
8. It is recommended that, for 2013/14, the funding is allocated to CCs based on an equal division per ward, aggregated up for each CC area. The proposed allocations are detailed in table 1 below. This ensures that all areas of the borough are equally able to access the funds; it also ensures consistency with CGS Revenue funding that is allocated equally by ward as well. On this basis, each ward will receive £89,524.

Table 1. Allocation of CGS Capital to CCs

Bermondsey & Rotherhithe	£492,381
Borough, Bankside & Walworth	£447,619
Camberwell	£268,571
Dulwich	£268,571
Peckham and Nunhead	£402,857
	£1,880,000

Note – Livesey Ward allocation has been split half/half between Bermondsey and Rotherhithe and Peckham and Nunhead CCs.

9. As in 2012/13, all direct project management and implementation costs need to be contained within the budgeted amounts shown in table 1 above. Officers will include estimates of such costs in feasibility work when drawing up recommendations for CCs to allocate funds to individual projects.

### Integration with CGS revenue funding

10. Since the introduction of the CGS (revenue) funding programme in 2012/13, officers have consulted the Chairs and Vice-chairs of CCs about the proposed new timetable and process for 2013/14. Feedback from these Members is that it would be much easier for the public to understand if the CGS capital and revenue processes were aligned into a single application process and similar decision making timetables.
11. It is therefore proposed that for 2013/14, there would be a single application form and process for both funds. Applicants would not need to state whether their proposal was capital or revenue, this would be determined by officers during the technical assessment of submissions.
12. It should be noted that responsibility for CGS revenue funding lies with the Cabinet Member for Communities and Economic Development.

### Timetable and process

13. In order to ensure that all CCs have allocated their funds for 2013/14 as close as

possible to the start of the financial year, and thus to ensure as far as possible that they are delivered in that year, it is proposed to have a launch/applications and allocation process similar to that for 2012/13, including a public applications round. However, because of the new cycle of CC meetings, the process will now take approximately 8 months. The proposed timetable is summarised in the table below:

September 2012	Public launch including announcements at CC meetings in September/October round
30 November 2012	Closing date for nominations
Dec-Mar 2012	Feasibility/scoping/shortlisting by officers
April 2013	CCs allocate funds to successful projects

14. Applicants will be encouraged to apply online; hard copies of the application will be sent on request to individual applicants and will be available at public venues including libraries, one stop shops and schools.
15. The initial screening by officers of applications will include a 'policy test' to ensure that any application that is short-listed will deliver a project that makes the borough either Cleaner, Greener, or Safer, and that projects do not contradict overall council policy.
16. A range of publicity will be used, in addition to presentations at all CCs, to engage with, as wide a cross-section of the population as possible during the launch process and thus encourage a wide range of applications. Officers will meet with CC chairs and ward councillors in February to review and shortlist applications for final decisions to be announced at the March CC. It is anticipated that each CC will, by the end of April 2013, allocate its full allocation to projects. Officers will, periodically through the year, seek approval from CCs as appropriate to deal with any under-spend, overspend or changes in scope.
17. Proposed publicity material and application form details are contained in Appendices 1 and 2.
18. As in 2012/13, the option will be open to applicants to seek funding in the form of a grant, to enable them to deliver the project themselves, rather than as a Council-delivered project. If the applicant requests this, then as part of the feasibility and short-listing process, officers will undertake a due diligence exercise to ensure that this is both practical and realistic. In such cases, the council would, instead of delivering the projects, give the funding allocation to the applicant in the form of a capital grant, with appropriate conditions attached to give the council confidence that the project would be delivered appropriately.
19. In 2012/13, a total of 378 applications were received for CGS funding. 141 of the 378 indicated they would like to be considered for a grant payment. This equates to 37% of all applications. All applications were considered by councillors at short-listing meetings and those shortlisted were then assessed before the final report to CCs for decision on funding. At the feasibility stage, grant applicants were sent a simple form to complete to enable officers to assess eligibility to manage a grant. At this stage some applicants requested their proposal continue to be considered but did not wish to receive a grant if successful. 41 of the 182

projects have been awarded as grants - 23% of all awards

Total funding 2012/13 CGS	£1,880,000	100%
Value of grants awarded	£259,701	14%
Average value of grant award	£6334	

20. The grants range in value from £400 awarded to the CAB to improve their shop windows up to £21,600 to Team London Bridge to run a community gardening and sculpture project on Whites and Tyres estate, Bermondsey.

### **Policy implications**

21. The Cleaner Green Safer programme is fully aligned with the Council's Plan and Fairer Future principles of protecting the most vulnerable; by looking after every penny as if it was our own; by working with local people, communities and businesses to innovate, improve and transform public services.

### **Community impact statement**

22. The roles and functions of CCs include the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process and taking decision-making closer to local people. CCs 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.
23. An explicit objective within CCs is that they be 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 Cleaner Greener Safer programme is an important tool in achieving community participation.
24. All ideas for CGS projects come directly from the local community via a simple project nomination form. Specific schemes will then be agreed at CCs and will reflect local needs and priorities.

### **Resource implications**

25. The total cost of the proposal of £1,880,000 including fees, as set out in Table 1, equals the funds allocated for CGS in the Council's latest approved Capital Programme for 2013/14. The actual expenditure against the allocations will be monitored and reported on as part of the overall Capital Programme.
26. The launch, short listing and allocations process will be contained within existing revenue budgets. All direct project management and implementation costs will be capitalised as part of the project costs.

### **Consultation**

27. Consultation will be an integral part of the process to identify schemes through CCs following extensive publicity. No further consultation is deemed necessary for this decision although consultation will be part of the work undertaken to develop scheme ideas and determine the viability of individual schemes.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

### **Director of Legal Services (SY/09/12)**

28. This report recommends that the Cabinet Member notes the allocation of Cleaner Greener Safer funds as well as determining how the funds will be split amongst the eight CC areas. It is also recommended that the Cabinet Member approves the timetable and decision-making process to launch the programme and agrees the simplified funding application process. The Cabinet Member's authority for these functions derives from Part 3D, paragraph 2 of the Constitution which states that the Cabinet Member has the power to agree significant programmes, and the Cleaner Greener Safer project would fall within that criterion.
29. Part 3H paragraph 11 of the Council Constitution gives specific authority to CCs to approve the allocation of funds to Cleaner Greener Safer capital programmes of a local nature, which will be the next stage in this process.
30. The recommendations in this report comply with the Council's Constitution.

### **Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services (NR/FCS/3/9/12)**

31. This report recommends that the Cabinet Member for Transport, Environment, and Recycling approves various allocations of Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) capital programme funds to be made to individual CCs for 2013/14. The report further recommends that the Cabinet Member for Transport, Environment, and Recycling agrees the timetable and decision-making process to launch the programme and allocate funds to individual projects, agrees to the integrated launch and applications process for the CGS capital and revenue programmes and agrees to recover all directly related project management and implementation costs from the overall CGS capital allocation and to a time limit being placed on the projects of completion within two years of award of funding.
32. The strategic director notes the resource implications contained within the report. Officer time to effect the recommendations will be contained within existing budgeted revenue resources.

### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Capital Programme Report Council Assembly 6 July 2011	160 Tooley Street London SE1	Matthew Hill 020 7525 3541

### **APPENDICES**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	Proposed Application Form
2	Proposed Poster

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Deborah Collins, Strategic Director of Environment and Leisure	
<b>Report Author</b>	Des Waters, Head of Public Realm,	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	11 September 2012	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Director of Legal Services	Yes	Yes
Director of Finance and Corporate Services	Yes	Yes
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	11 September 2012	