



	Cabinet Member Report
Date:	4th October 2021
Subject:	Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Knightsbridge and Belgravia
1. Summary	
1.1 This report seeks approval for the expenditure of £50,000.00 from the Knightsbridge and Belgravia Ward Budget in order to commission:	
(a) Enforcement Officer for Knightsbridge and Belgravia Ward.	
Recommendation	
That the Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration approves the release of funds in the amount of £50,000.00 in respect of the above proposal, from the ward members of Knightsbridge and Belgravia, as detailed in the report.	



City of Westminster

Cabinet Member Report

Cabinet Member:	Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration
Date:	4th October 2021
Classification:	For General Release
Title of Report:	Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Knightsbridge and Belgravia
Report of:	Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison
Wards involved:	Knightsbridge and Belgravia
Policy context:	Ward Budget Programme
Financial summary:	The proposed expenditure of £50,000.00 from the Knightsbridge and Belgravia Ward Budget leaves £58,313.01 remaining for allocation in the current financial year.
Report Author:	Naimah Khatun, Councillor and Governance Support Officer
Contact details	This matter is being handled by: Naimah Khatun, Councillor and Governance Support Officer, 07986743994, nkhatun@westminster.gov.uk

1. Background Information

- 1.1 Ward budgets were established under the City Council's Neighbourhood Programme agreed by the Cabinet in November 2007.
- 1.2 The programme enables ward members to fund projects in the local area which benefit residents of that area and/or meet local priorities.
- 1.3 £46,000 is provided to each ward in each financial year of a 4-year electoral cycle. Monies not spent in year roll-over to the next until the end of the cycle.
- 1.4 Budget provision for the financial years 2018 to 2022 equates to £184,000 per ward
- 1.5 All decisions on projects to be funded are made by the ward members from the wards concerned, to support their local priorities.

2. Proposed Projects

- 2.1 £50,000.00 will fund the Enforcement Officer Project.

The Enforcement Officer will be employed by Westminster City Council and managed by a WCC Planning Enforcement Area Team Leader (Roald Piper). The Enforcement Officer will be dedicated to dealing with issues within the Knightsbridge and Belgravia ward.

The Officer will be available to liaise with ward councillors, neighbourhood forums and other community groups on a regular basis to ensure an ongoing dialogue to raise any issues of concern that arise within the K&B Ward to monitor current construction work in the K&B area. This will also ensure that all construction work taking place will adhere to the relevant regulations.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 Expenditure and approvals in process from the Knightsbridge and Belgravia budget to date total £75,686.99 leaving **£108,313.01** to be allocated.
- 3.2 The proposals for expenditure in this report amount to **£50,000.00** and leaves **£58,313.01** available for future allocation.
- 3.3 This report approves the release of the above funding from the ward budget(s) as listed above. The individual decisions taken on the projects being funded are made by the ward members for the ward(s) involved.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 Section 1 of the Localism Act, aka “the general power of competence” enables authorities “to do anything that individuals generally may do”. The proposals within this report are consistent with the Council exercising this power.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 The proposals have been approved by all Councillors, or a majority of Councillors from all wards involved
- 5.2 The proposal for Enforcement Officer has been drawn up by the Councillor and Governance Support Officer with the Planning Enforcement Team, the financial and legal aspects of the funding have been verified by the Council’s Finance and Legal Services Departments.

If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect one of the background papers please contact Naimah Khatun on 07986743994, email nkhatun@westminster.gov.uk

For completion by the Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

Declaration of Interest

- I have no interest to declare in respect of this report

Signed Date
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

- I have to declare an interest

State nature of interest:
.....

Signed Date
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and
Regeneration

(N.B: If you have an interest you should seek advice as to whether it is appropriate to make a decision in relation to this matter.)

For the reasons set out above, I agree the recommendation(s) in the report entitled **Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Knightsbridge and Belgravia** and reject any alternative options which are referred to but not recommended.

Signed
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

Date

For Ward Specific Reports Only

In reaching this decision I have given due regard to any representations made by relevant Ward Members.

Signed
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

Date

If you have any additional comment which you would want actioned in connection with your decision you should discuss this with the report author and then set out your comment below before the report and this pro-forma is returned to the Secretariat for processing.

Additional comment:
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NOTE: If you do not wish to approve the recommendations, or wish to make an alternative decision, it is important that you consult the report author, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Director of Finance and Performance and, if there are staffing implications, the Director of Resources (or their representatives) so that (1) you can be made aware of any further relevant considerations that you should take into account before making the decision and (2) your reasons for the decision can be properly identified and recorded, as required by law.

Note to Cabinet Member: Your decision will now be published and copied to the Members of the relevant Policy & Scrutiny Committee. If the decision falls within the criteria for call-in, it will not be implemented until five working days have elapsed for any call-in request to be received.