

East Belfast Area Working Group

Thursday, 30th March, 2023

HYBRID MEETING OF EAST BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: Councillor Long (Chairperson);
Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor M. Kelly;
Aldermen Copeland, Dorrian and Rodgers;
Councillors Douglas, Flynn, Hussey, Maghie,
McMullan, Newton and Smyth.

In attendance: Ms. S. Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes;
Ms. K. Watters, Neighbourhood Integration Manager; and
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Aldermen Haire and Sandford and Councillor Howard.

Minutes

The Working Group agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 12th and 31st January were an accurate record of proceedings.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

Physical Programme Update

The Director of Physical Programmes reminded the Working Group that the Levelling Up bid for the Strand Arts Centre, which had been led by the Council, had been successful and as a result there was the potential for reallocation of some of the £1.8m which had been committed to the project under the Belfast Investment Fund. She advised the Group of the current overall project costs along with a breakdown of the proposed funding sources.

She highlighted that, as part of the overall funding package, funding was being sought from the Department for Communities and the National Lottery Heritage Fund but that this was not yet committed. In light of this, she advised that £250k of the BIF funding could be reallocated by the Working Group at this stage but highlighted that this figure would be subject to change in the future dependent on the allocation of other funding to the project.

She advised that further updates on the project and any further reallocation of funding would be brought to the Working Group in due course.

The Working Group agreed to recommend the following reallocations to projects which already had in principle allocations agreed by the Area Working Group, namely:

- additional £215k to be allocated to Bloomfield Community Association (BIF13); and
- additional £35k to be allocated to storage facilities for sports clubs (ELIF031) (Tullycarnet, Cregagh Wanderers, Nettlefield Multi-Sports and Bredagh GAC).

The Working Group also noted that a request had been received from the Sanctuary Theatre regarding support from the East Area Working Group and it was agreed that the Physical Programmes Department would undertake a visit and report back to the next Area Working Group.

Orangefield Pavilion Artwork

The Working Group was provided with an update on the Orangefield Pavilion Artwork which included an illustration of the final design which had been designed with Adam Woods' family and various local groups. The Neighbourhood Integration Manager thanked the Members of the Working Group that had attended the co-design sessions with the group of young men and local artist.

She advised that the artwork would commence on 17th April and that the launch event would take place on 27th April from 6pm and welcomed the Working Group to attend.

She highlighted that the officers would continue to engage in youth work in the area.

Noted.

Chairperson