

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference**

**E3166**

**Ward Councillor Empowerment Fund**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	Cllr Dine Romero, Leader
<b>The Issue</b>	The decision is based on a report which sets out proposals for the introduction of a Ward Councillor Empowerment Fund, including purpose, terms and conditions, application process and timeframe for the initiative.
<b>Decision Date</b>	On or after 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
<b>The decision</b>	<p>The Cabinet Member agrees to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Approve the introduction of the Ward Councillor Empowerment Fund as set out in the report</li><li>(2) Agree a one-off sum of £118,000 for the initiative from the council's one-off budget allocation for 2019/20</li><li>(3) Agree to the scheme details as set out in the Guidance Note for the delivery of the scheme set out in Appendix 2 of the report, with the exception that the phrase "Each application must be a minimum of £500" in 5 of the Guidance Note be replaced by "Each application must be a minimum of £200".</li><li>(4) Agree the application process and timeframe for delivery set out in 3.4 of the report</li><li>(5) Delegate to the Director of Partnerships and Corporate Services decisions relating to individual projects within the framework set out in this report and appendices</li></ol>
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	<p>The decision has been made to help and empower Bath &amp; North East Somerset elected members support projects that address the concerns and needs of their local communities. It will do this by providing funding of £2000 for each elected member for them to allocate to fund such projects, either in a single ward or across multiple wards if agreed by the relevant local members.</p> <p>The decision differs from the recommendation in that the minimum amount for each separate application is to be set at £200 rather than £500. This particular aspect of the decision has been taken following consideration by the decision-taker that this reduction in the minimum amount will allow for greater flexibility for ward members across the</p>

	area to support smaller local initiatives which benefit their local communities.
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	<p>1.1 The total amount of £118,000 is to be drawn down from the council's one-off budget allocation for 2019/20.</p> <p>1.2 Any outstanding funds not allocated will be redistributed to other projects</p>
<b>Issues considered</b>	Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation);
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Cabinet colleagues; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	An earlier draft of this proposal was circulated
<b>Other options considered</b>	Consideration was given to this report being presented to full Cabinet but it is considered appropriate that it be a single member decision.
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted:</b>	None
<b>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	None

<b>Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s</b>	<b>Cllr Dine Romero</b>
<b>Date of Signature</b>	

**Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision**