

REPORT FROM: LEGAL SERVICES MANAGER

TO: NELSON, BRIERFIELD & REEDLEY COMMITTEE

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AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2025/26

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update members on the Committee's budget.

RECOMMENDATION

- (1) That members note the budget as committed (see appendix 1).
- (2) That members note the financial requirements stipulated in paragraph 4.
- (3) That members consider funding the bid detailed in paragraph 6 via the Marsden and Southfield Ward Projects allocation (scheme 13).

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To enable the budget to be allocated effectively and in line with financial regulations.

ISSUE

Unspent funding carried forward from previous year

1. £63,161

Budget for 2025/26

2. £78,270

Total funds for 2025/26

3. £141,431 (£63,161 + £78,270)

Year-end

- 4. The budget carry forward is capped at a maximum of 1 year's budget i.e. £78,270.** If the committee has more than £78,270 unspent at the end of the year, it will need to use the following year's budget to make good the difference. See Financial Implications below.

Current Schemes

- 5.** See Appendix 1

New/deferred bids

- 6.** PBC Bid £5,000 – Marsden Park Pond Restoration (appendix 2).
It is requested that this is funded via the Marsden and Southfield Ward Projects allocation (scheme 13).

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: The budget is required to be allocated and managed in accordance with the Council's policies and procedures.

Financial: At the Council meeting on 29 September 2022, councillors resolved to move the area committee capital programme budgets to revenue.

- The budget allocations for each committee remain the same.
- Applications no longer require signing off by Financial Services in order to proceed.
- Awards can be made for schemes which are either revenue or capital in nature so capital schemes can still be funded.
- Capital schemes may incur additional charges for internal services, e.g. Engineers' costs in delivering the scheme.
- Wherever possible, all payments should be made in the year of the budget award by 31 March.
- The cap on budget slippage still applies and any slippage will need to be agreed by the Council in line with Financial Regulations.
- No more than one year's worth of budget can be rolled forward into future years.

A list of good practice has been proposed by the Chief Finance Officer to assist members when considering the allocation of the budget. The list is as follows:

1. Allocate reasonable amounts to projects early to allow for effective planning and implementation.
2. Look for opportunities to maximise the effectiveness of the allocation through match funding.
3. Consider allowing some contingency for projects that may be presented during the year.
4. Try to avoid allocation of funds at the end of the financial year.

5. Consider the revenue consequences of capital schemes in terms of ongoing cost.

Legal: There are legal implications for several of the proposals listed above in terms of necessary permissions, agreements and possible long-term liabilities and responsibilities.

Risk Management: The proper management of the budget is intended to minimise any exposure to unnecessary risk associated with the budget and the individual schemes within it.

Health and Safety: The implementation of the budget has associated risks in terms of health and safety. The Council is required to meet all relevant legal requirements for the effective management of health and safety risk and has policies and procedures in place to ensure health and safety standards are maintained.

Climate Change: Some of the schemes identified will encourage the reduction of carbon emissions, such as traffic calming schemes and cycle facility provision.

Community Safety: Several of the approved schemes have implications in terms of community safety. Wherever possible, the projects are managed in a way that enhances community safety.

Equality and Diversity: The budget is required to be allocated and managed in accordance with the Council's policies and procedures, including those relating to equality and diversity.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Commitments 2025/26

Appendix 2: PBC Bid

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee Commitments 2025/26

Appendix 1

(Shaded schemes are completed)

Sch. No.	Scheme Details	Lead Officer/ Service Area	c/f from previous Years	Allocated 2025/26	Total Allocation	In-Year Spend	Remaining	Status of Scheme/Remarks
2	Nelson Cenotaph	S Whalley (EG)	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	
3	Brunswick Street - Public Realm Improvements	S Whalley (EG)	5,500	0	5,500	0	5,500	
4	06/05/25 - £1,000 Litter and Dog Bins	J Lord (OS)	138	1,000	1,138	0	1,138	The spend may not be up to date. Operational Services report fully on this.
6	03/04/25 - £15,000 Premises Improvement Grants	D McCarthy (EG)	9,100	15,000	24,100	3,000	21,100	The spend may not be up to date. Economic Growth report fully on this.
8	Refurbishment of Street Furniture at Nelson Town Centre	S Whalley (EG)	1,500	0	1,500	0	1,500	
9	Gully Works to Unadopted Back Streets	S Whalley (EG)	1,816	0	1,816	0	1,816	
10	06/05/25 - £12,900 Bradley - Ward Projects		9,130	12,900	22,030	1,000	21,030	£1,000 spent - Pendle United
11	06/05/25 - £12,900 Brierfield East and Clover Hill - Ward Projects		9,130	12,900	22,030	0	22,030	
12	06/05/25 - £8,590 Brierfield West and Reedley – Ward Projects		6,087	8,590	14,677	0	14,677	

Sch. No.	Scheme Details	Lead Officer/ Service Area	c/f from previous Years	Allocated 2025/26	Total Allocation	In-Year Spend	Remaining	Status of Scheme/Remarks
13	06/05/25 - £12,900 Marsden and Southfield – Ward Projects		9,130	12,900	22,030	0	22,030	
14	06/05/25 - £12,900 Whitefield and Walverden – Ward Projects		9,130	12,900	22,030	0	22,030	
15	06/05/25 - £80 FOVP – PL Insurance for events	R Oliver (FOVP)	0	80	80	0	80	
16	06/05/25 - £2,000 Pendle Cricket Tournament		0	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	Completed
	Subtotal		£63,161	£78,270	£141,431	£6,000	£135,431	
	Un-allocated Funds		£0	£0	£0	-	£0	
	Total Funds Available 2025/26		£63,161	£78,270	£141,431	£6,000	£135,431	

**BID FOR FUNDING FROM AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET
PRO FORMA**

- A. Project title:** Marsden Park Pond Restoration
- B. Bid submitted by:** Phil Riley
- C. On behalf of (please include contact details):**
Pendle Borough council, Operational Services
- D. Amount requested:** £5000
- E. Is there match funding for the project from elsewhere?**
If so, please give details:
£5000 Bid to Nelson town Council, £5000 via Nelson Town Deal funding, £2000 internal revenue budgets
- F. Brief details of project:**
To excavate build up of silt and sludge from the pond and relandscape on Marsden Golf course. Clear inflows and silt traps. Install Duck island and plant water lilies or similar
- G. Main outcomes to be achieved:**
To reduce flood risk to the park due to the inlets being almost full of silt/debris, To provide adequate depth for aquatic life, to restore a key feature of the site to good aesthetic values for residents and visitors
- H. When will project be implemented?**
Start Date: September – October 2025
Expected Completion Date: October – November 2025
- I. Who will undertake the project works?**
Colin Braithwaite excavators
- J. Are there long-term revenue consequences and how will these be funded?**
None directly, but these works reduce the risk of flooding which could in turn result in flood risk and costly damage to infrastructure as well as being a health and safety risk if waters were to rise.