

**REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE**



<b>DATE</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> May 2008</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>Customer Access and Community Engagement/Resources</b>
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**Additional Budgets For Work To Build Community Cohesion**

**PURPOSE**

1. To seek agreement to amend the budget of the Community Engagement and Cohesion Unit for 2008/2009 to incorporate three allocations of central government funding made available for specific purposes from the Department for Communities and Local Government.

**RECOMMENDATION**

2. That the Community Engagement and Cohesion Unit budget for 2008/2009 be amended to incorporate an allocation of £116,000 for general community cohesion work; an allocation of £105,000 work for to address the government’s agenda on Preventing Violent Extremism; and an allocation of £25,000 for project work.
3. That responsibility for determining the detailed use of these budgets is delegated to the Head of Community Engagement and Cohesion, acting in consultation with the Executive Member for Community Access and Community Engagement, and the Executive Member for Resources.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

4. During March 2008, three sums were allocated to Burnley Borough Council by the Department for Communities and Local Government, for work on community cohesion in 2008/2009, outside of and in addition to the process of setting the overall Council budget. Two of these sums are categorised as Area-Based Grant – £116,000 for community cohesion work; and £105,000 for work on preventing violent extremism. The Department for Communities and Local Government have given an indication that they intend to make further Area-Based Grant allocations for these areas of work in 2009/2010 and 2010/2011. The third allocation is a one-off allocation of £25,000 for project work, which is a grant to Burnley of funds that were unused in a central Department for Communities and Local Government pot for project work.
5. Specific proposals for the use of the funds are being drawn up by the Head of Community Engagement and Cohesion, and it is proposed to determine the detailed use of these funds in consultation with the Executive Member for Community Access

and Community Engagement, and the Executive Member for Resources.

### **SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS**

6. The work on cohesion will include £50,000 that is already assumed as grant income in the Council's agreed budget. Other elements of cohesion work will include support for sports development work; the community festival; and allocations to community based organisations.
7. The work on Preventing Violent Extremism will proceed through a commissioning approach, building on the successes of the pilot work carried out during 2007/2008.
8. Project work will be carried out in line with the proposal to the Department for Communities and Local Government that led to the £25,000 allocation being made to Burnley.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION**

9. These allocations will increase the budgets of the Community Engagement and Cohesion Unit accordingly. All activity will be funded by grants from the Department of Communities and Local Government.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

10. The work that will be funded through these allocations is in line with the existing policies of the Council, and supports the delivery of the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

### **DETAILS OF CONSULTATION**

11. Management Team.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

12. Draft proposals on community cohesion work; Preventing Violent Extremism work; project work.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

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