

Report to Middleton Township Committee



Date of Meeting	15 July 2021
Portfolio	Communities & Co-operation
Report Author	Sharron Worrall
Public/Private Document	Public

Middleton Township Funds Review**1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report reviews the revenue and capital expenditure during 2020/21 and provides options for the allocation of funds in 2021/22.
- 1.2 Members are asked to approve Middleton Township Funds allocation to funding streams, terms and conditions, and agree delegation arrangements concerning funding decisions.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Members note the expenditure, commitments and balances for Middleton Township revenue and capital funds at financial year end 2020/21 (Appendix 1 and 2).
- 2.2 Members note the findings of the review of Township Funds 2020/21 (Appendix 3) and evaluations received to date for funded projects (Appendix 4).
- 2.3 Members approve the allocation of Middleton Township Funds to funding streams in 2021/22 (Appendix 5).
- 2.4 Members approve the terms and conditions for Middleton Township revenue and capital funds for 2021/22 (Appendix 6).
- 2.5 Members agree to the delegation arrangements for Middleton Township Funds 2021/22 as detailed at 4.6 of this report.

3. Reason for Recommendation

- 3.1 Management of the Middleton Township Fund is delegated to the Middleton Township Devolved Funding & Devolved Services Sub Committee.

- 3.2 Middleton Township Funds are allocated to projects that benefit the Township's community and environment, and realise the Township priorities.
- 3.3 To enable committee to monitor and review the use of the Middleton Township Funds to ensure continued efficient and effective use of the funds.

4. Key Points for Consideration
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- 4.1 Members note expenditure, commitments and balances for Middleton Township revenue and capital funds 2020/21 (Appendix 1 and 2). The final outturn for financial year 2020/21 as agreed with Accountancy will be reported to the next scheduled funding committee.
- 4.2 A review of Middleton Township revenue and capital funds has been undertaken (Appendix 3). Findings have influenced funding streams suggestions, the terms and conditions of the funds and the administration procedures for grant applications for 2021/22.
- 4.3 Evaluation of projects provides useful information to the Township relating to identifying the effectiveness of the application process and management of grants; whether projects deliver value for money; applicants achieve their objectives and evidence their successes, and ensure that the completed projects funded complied with the terms and conditions of the Middleton Township Fund. Grants awarded and projects funded have made a difference to the local community with improvements to local facilities, increased social interaction and delivery of solutions to address local needs. All successful applicants are informed that it is a condition of the grant that they complete a project evaluation form. Members are asked to note the summaries of evaluation information received on projects which have been funded as detailed in Appendix 4.
- 4.4 Township Officers have analysed the findings from the review of Township Funds 2020/21 and recommend that Members approve the allocation of Township Funds to funding streams in 2021/22 (Appendix 5).
- 4.5 Terms and conditions for Middleton Township revenue and capital funds have been updated. Members are asked to approve the terms and conditions for 2021/22 (Appendix 6).
- 4.6 Members are asked to agree the delegation arrangements for Middleton Township Funds 2021/22 as follows:
 - a) Townships and Communities Manager, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Middleton Township Committee, may make decisions on the allocation of funds to all projects for £5,000 and under. Any disputes concerning allocation of funds will be referred to the next Middleton Township Devolved Funding & Devolved Services Sub Committee for decision.
 - b) Middleton Township Office will refer projects over £5,000 to the next Middleton Township Devolved Funding & Devolved Services Sub Committee for decision.

- c) Delegated decisions will be reported for information to each Middleton Township Devolved Funding & Devolved Services Sub Committee to ensure all Members are aware of projects that have been approved.

4.7 Alternatives Considered

In considering the report, Members will decide whether or not to approve the allocation of funds to funding streams and adopt the terms and conditions.

5. Costs and Budget Summary

- 5.1 Middleton Township revenue and capital budget summaries that detail expenditure, commitments and balances for financial year 2020/21 in Appendix 1 and 2. Recommendations for allocation of Middleton Township Funds to funding streams for financial year 2021/22 in Appendix 5.
- 5.2 Committee will receive regular reports to enable Members to monitor the use of the Middleton Township Funds to ensure best use of available resources.
- 5.3 Township funds are monitored on a monthly basis and financial monitoring reports will be presented to future committees.

6. Risk and Policy Implications
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- 6.1 No specific risk issues for Members to consider arising from this report.
- 6.2 The Townships Plan forms part of the Council's policy framework. The plan will be updated to reflect how funds are allocated across the Townships in line with the identified priorities.
- 6.3 The purpose of the Township Funds is to enable Township Committees to meet their respective Township priorities and to deliver actions to meet those priorities.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 Middleton Township Devolved Funding & Devolved Services Sub Committee receives regular monitoring reports about the use of the funds. All proposals will to be consulted on as appropriate with Members, residents and other stakeholders.

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
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None	N/A
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