

Title: Kentish Town DMC September Budget Report

Designation (Information/Discussion Report): Discussion

Recommendations: The DMC is asked to note the report notably the updates provided and new bids to be considered.

Report Summary: This report details the Camden Town DMC budget allocation for 2024/2025, progress on approved bids and any new bids submitted for consideration.

1. Minor & Major Revenue Works Budget 2024/2025

- 1.1 The minor revenue and major works budget for 2024/2025 is **£154,680.00**. This budget is the consolidated total of the former minor works and major revenue works budgets.
- 1.2 All TRAs are encouraged to submit their bids as early as possible to allow enough time for assessment prior to DMC consideration. All expenditure must occur within the current financial year (2024/2025), unless it is clear that an individual scheme meets the capital criteria and needs to be categorised as such. To avoid capitalisation (carry forward) DMCs are encouraged to commit their in-year budget by their December meeting.
- 1.3 In the normal course of events, unspent budget cannot be carried forward from one year to the next. These rules are put in place by the Finance Department to ensure good governance of the Council's resources and meet financial regulations.
- 1.4 In exceptional circumstances money can be spent on specific projects using budget from the previous year. These must be decided on a case by case basis with the Finance Department. Any TRA seeking carry-over of funding should submit their case for carry-over of funding to the Ward Housing Manager who will refer this to the Finance Department for consideration.
- 1.5 TRAs are advised to use the Special Projects Grant (SPG) for social activities such as trips and community events. The SPG has a £750 limit, although funds can be requested twice within a 12-month period.
- 1.6 TRAs should continue to report back on all underspends and overspends, which will be noted in subsequent reports. Overspends are to be approved at DMC and

underspends to be returned to the budget in sufficient time to allow other TRAs to use the monies within the financial year.

2. Late Submissions

2.1 All bids should be discussed prior to being presenting to the DMC, with Tenant Participation Officers (***please refer to the application guidance***). This will ensure that the correct information regarding costs, resident consultation and input by other services/departments, if necessary, will be presented. It has therefore been agreed that no late and/or verbal bids can be tabled on the day but will be considered at the following meeting.

3. Bid Criteria

3.1 TRAs should refer to the application guidance that outline the process, eligibility and what funding can be applied for.

4. Bids for financial year 2024/2025

4.1 The table below outlines the in-year budget and spend to date

Total budget for the financial year	£154,680.00
Total of bids approved in year	£137,371.74
Balance available for the financial year	£ 17,308.26

4.2 There are (2) new bid for consideration at the September meeting of 2024/2025.

TRA	Bid Request	Amount	Comments
Brookfield Estate TRA	Christmas Festive Event	£4995.00	The event will be stretched over two weekends between 6 th – 15 th Dec organised by the TRA Wkd 1 - Dickensian themed Christmas market with a diverse range of halls Wkd 2 - Santa Grotto and OAP hampers
Ingestre TRA	Garden maintenance project – purchase of Wood chip, water bowser, hose and reel, and top ups for flower beds	£1,643.00	This bid is re-submitted unchanged as it was not heard at the July meeting.

5. Itemised Bids Approved to Date

5.1 The table below list the bids approved in-year to date below for information with progress update where available.

5.2 Bids highlighted in amber were not approved for reasons mentioned in the comment column.

TRA	Bid Request	Approved	Purchase Order date	Completion date	Comments
Peckwater Estate TRA	£50,000.00	Yes (subject to match funding)	Unable to raise order until match funding secured	TBC	Replacement astroturf, additional fencing and new lighting to MUGA. This is a match funding bid, the total cost of the works is £135,891.00.
Spencer Rise & Churchill Road TRA	£19,171.00	Yes	TBC, with the Recreation Team to progress	TBC	Replace MUGA netting with taller fencing. Bid approval has been confirmed with recreation colleagues – awaiting start date for works.
St Pancras Way TRA	£2000.00	Yes	Direct payment to TRA requested 15.08.24	Ongoing project throughout the year	Monday club for women
	£1,800.00	Yes	Direct payment to TRA requested 15.08.24	EDC September 24	Summer activities
	£1,700.00	Yes	Direct payment to TRA requested 15.08.24	Ongoing project throughout the year	Community Kitchen
Bernard Shaw Court	£12,420.00	Yes	TBC, with the Recreation team to progress	TBC	Replacement of play equipment (roundabout) in playground. Bid approval has been confirmed with recreation colleagues – awaiting start date for works.
Camden Square TRA	£2,750.00	Yes	Direct payment to TRA requested 15.08.24		Camden Newtown Community Festival bid

	£1,346.74	Yes	Direct payment to TRA requested 15.08.24		Professional A3 scanner for archive project
91 Highgate Road (Sheltered Housing)	£945.00	Yes			Gardening project
Whittington TRA	£4950.00	Yes			Gardening phase 2
KTDMC Contribution	£2,500.00	Yes			Borough wide resident events that each DMC have been asked to contribute towards
14 Leighton Crescent (officer bid)	£875.00	Yes			Gerda lock install - works currently on hold. NHM to contact the TRA to discuss
16 Raydon Street (Chester/Balmore development) officer bid	£875.00	Yes	Retrospective bid, lock already installed	Completed	Gerda lock install
Maiden Lane TRA	£31,049.00	Yes	TBC, with Caretaking to progress	TBC	Install of Metrobin storage
Maiden Lane TRA	£4,900.00	Yes	Direct payment to be made to TRA	EDC 05.11.24	
Denyer House (officer bid)		No			Deferred to completion of review of all TRA halls
Ingestre TRA		No			TRA non-attendance – bid re-submitted at Sept meeting
Carol and Sanderson TRA		No			TRA non-attendance

6. St Pancras Way estate - Community Hub Update

- 6.1 The housing manger informed the TRA and DMC in the previous report as to why plans to build a Community Hub on the estate cannot progress, due to not having sufficient funding available to deliver a scheme of this size.
- 6.2 Since then the housing manager met with the TRA to discuss what alternative improvements could be made to help deter ASB and drug use in this part of the estate. The TRA has explained

they would like to encourage residents to make better use of the area in front of the undercroft. The TRA are keen to have an outdoor gym fitted there and feel the location would be ideal for quiet exercise and it is shielded from view. The TRA would also like to have additional parking deterrents put in place (bollards and a barrier gate) on the estate, to make the area surrounding the children's play area, safer for children to access.

- 6.3 The TRA and DMC are being asked to note that the use of unallocated reserves cannot be guaranteed and may be dependent on the scale of any predicted overspends in the HRA position.
- 6.4 The process for repurposing unallocated DMC funds is for the TRA to first seek agreement from DMC. The TRA is therefore seeking DMC consent to spend the monies previously allocated (£100,000.00) towards a Community Hub, to instead be spent on an outdoor gym for the area in front of the undercroft and parking deterrents on the estate.
- 6.5 Colleagues in Recreation have been asked to provide a costing for the outdoor gym. Similarly, colleagues in Housing Repairs have been asked to provide a costing for the barrier gate and bollards. This information will be shared with the TRA and DMC as soon as is available

Report Ends