



	<b>Cabinet Member Report</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>15 March 2019</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Expenditure from the Ward Budgets for the Digital Inclusion Project run by Age UK Westminster.</b>
<p><b>1. Summary</b></p> <p>1.1 This report seeks approval for the expenditure of £12,000 from the Churchill and Maida Vale Ward Budgets in order to commission the Digital Inclusion Project run by Age UK Westminster. The project will consist of classroom sessions which aim to help older people become less digitally isolated, and in doing so, increase their confidence in using digital devices and accessing online resources. The sessions will be 2-hours long and held twice monthly, and each session will be allocated a topic of learning. The group learning sessions will be led by a skilled tutor followed by one-to-one sessions, where participants will be buddied with a highly skilled IT volunteer to try out what they have learned on their own device.</p> <p><b>2. Recommendation</b></p> <p>2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Sports, Culture &amp; Community approves expenditure of £12,000 in respect of the above proposal detailed in the report.</p>	



City of Westminster

# Cabinet Member Report

Cabinet Member:

**Cabinet Member for Sports, Culture & Community**

Date:

**15 March 2019**

Classification:

**For General Release**

Title of Report:

**Expenditure from the Churchill and Maida Vale Ward Budget**

Report of:

**Head of Cabinet Secretariat**

Wards involved:

**Churchill and Maida Vale Wards**

Policy context:

**Neighbourhoods Programme**

Financial summary:

**The proposed expenditure of £6,000 from the Churchill Ward Budget leaves £14,613.31 remaining for allocation in the current financial year.**

**The proposed expenditure of £6,000 from the Maida Vale Ward Budget leaves £20,031.91 remaining for allocation in the current financial year.**

Report Author:

**Sonia Sekhon, Member Services Officer**

Contact details

**This matter is being handled by:  
Sonia Sekhon, Member Services Officer  
020 7641 4299  
[ssekhon@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:ssekhon@westminster.gov.uk)**

## 1. Background Information

- 1.1 Ward budgets were established under the City Council's Neighbourhood Programme agreed by the Cabinet in November 2007.
- 1.2 Budget provision of £46,000 per ward for the financial year 2018/19 exists to fund ward-based projects.

## 2. Proposed Projects

- 2.1 £12,000 will contribute towards the costs of running Age UK Westminster's Digital Inclusion Project. The running costs of the project include the salary of the sessional worker, volunteer expenses and training costs, practical costs including publicity, space hire costs, office facility costs and project coordinator and management costs.
- 2.2 The project will consist of classroom sessions which aim to help older people become less digitally isolated, and in doing so, increase their confidence in using digital devices and accessing online resources. The sessions will be 2-hours long and held twice monthly, and each session will be allocated a topic of learning. The group learning sessions will be led by a skilled tutor followed by one-to-one sessions, where participants will be buddied with a highly skilled IT volunteer to try out what they have learned on their own device. Sessions will be held in accessible locations in Churchill and Maida Vale.

## 3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 Expenditure and approvals in process from the Churchill budget to date total £25,386.69 leaving **£20,613.31** to be allocated.
- 3.2 The proposals for expenditure in this report amount to **£6,000** and leaves **£14,613.31** available for future allocation.
- 3.3 Expenditure and approvals in process from the Maida Vale budget to date total £19,968.09 leaving **£26,031.91** to be allocated.
- 3.4 The proposals for expenditure in this report amount to **£6,000** and leaves **£20,031.91** available for future allocation.

## 4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 Section 1 of the Localism Act, aka "the general power of competence" enables authorities "to do anything that individuals generally may do". The proposals within this report are consistent with the Council exercising this power.

## **5. Outstanding Issues**

5.1 None of the Ward Councillors stood aside or disapproved of the decision.

## **6. Consultation**

6.1 The proposals have been agreed by all Councillors from all Wards involved

6.2 The proposal for the Digital Inclusion project has been drawn up and verified following consultation with Age UK Westminster and the Council's Finance and Legal Services Departments.

## **7. Equalities**

7.1 The proposals in this report will support the Council's wider equalities and diversity agenda by focusing on addressing local issues with enhanced local engagement.

**If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect one of the background papers please contact Sonia Sekhon on 020 7641 4299, email [ssekhon@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:ssekhon@westminster.gov.uk)**

For completion by the Cabinet Member for Sports, Culture & Community

**Declaration of Interest**

- I have no interest to declare in respect of this report

Signed ..... Date .....  
Councillor Iain Bott, Cabinet Member for Sports, Culture & Community

- I have to declare an interest

State nature of interest: .....  
.....

Signed ..... Date .....  
Councillor Iain Bott, Cabinet Member for Sports, Culture & Community

(N.B: If you have an interest you should seek advice as to whether it is appropriate to make a decision in relation to this matter.)

For the reasons set out above, I agree the recommendation(s) in the report entitled **Recommendation(s) for Expenditure from the Churchill and Maida Vale Ward Budgets** and reject any alternative options which are referred to but not recommended.

Signed .....  
Councillor Iain Bott, Cabinet Member for Sports, Culture & Community

Date .....

**For Ward Specific Reports Only**

In reaching this decision I have given due regard to any representations made by relevant Ward Members.

Signed .....  
Councillor Iain Bott, Cabinet Member for Sports, Culture & Community

Date .....

If you have any additional comment which you would want actioned in connection with your decision you should discuss this with the report author and then set out your comment below before the report and this pro-forma is returned to the Secretariat for processing.

Additional comment: .....  
.....

NOTE: If you do not wish to approve the recommendations, or wish to make an alternative decision, it is important that you consult the report author, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Director of Finance and Performance and, if there are staffing implications, the Director of Resources (or their representatives) so that (1) you can be made aware of any further relevant considerations that you should take into account before making the decision and (2) your reasons for the decision can be properly identified and recorded, as required by law.

**Note to Cabinet Member: Your decision will now be published and copied to the Members of the relevant Policy & Scrutiny Committee. If the decision falls within the criteria for call-in, it will not be implemented until five working days have elapsed for any call-in request to be received.**