



	Cabinet Member Report
Date:	18 March 2021
Subject:	Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Hyde Park
1. Summary	
1.1 This report seeks approval for the expenditure of £10,566.54 from the Hyde Park Ward Budget in order to commission:	
(a) Capital funding to carry out essential electrical works at St John's Church in Hyde Park, as identified at their last electrical inspection, and which are required before the electrical installation will be certified as safe. The works have been broken down into four phases and these are the works for phase three. The contractor is Red Electrical Services, recommended by their architect.	
Recommendation	
That the Leader of the Council approves the release of funds to the amount of £10,566.54 in respect of the above proposal, from the ward members of Hyde Park ward as detailed in the report.	



City of Westminster

Cabinet Member Report

Cabinet Member:

Leader of the Council

Date:

18 March 2021

Classification:

For General Release

Title of Report:

Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Hyde Park

Report of:

Head of Cabinet Secretariat, Member and Committee Services

Wards involved:

Hyde Park

Policy context:

Ward Budget Programme

Financial summary:

The proposed expenditure of £10,566.54 from the Hyde Park Ward Budget leaves £110,386.64 remaining for allocation in the current financial year.

Report Author:

Matt Gaskin, Senior Member Services Officer

Contact details

**This matter is being handled by:
Matt Gaskin, Senior Member Services Officer
07966 164556; mgaskin@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 The programme enables ward members to fund projects in the local area which benefit residents of that area and/or meet local priorities.
- 1.3 £46,000 is provided to each ward in each financial year of a 4-year electoral cycle. Monies not spent in year roll-over to the next until the end of the cycle.
- 1.4 Budget provision for the financial years 2018 to 2022 equates to £184,000 per ward

- 1.5 All decisions on projects to be funded are made by the ward members from the wards concerned, to support their local priorities.

2. Proposed Projects

£10,566.54 will provide capital funding to St John's Church, Hyde Park, to help carry out essential electrical works as identified at their last electrical inspection and which are required before the electrical installation will be certified as safe. The works have been broken down into four phases and this fund will cover the majority of the works for phase three. The contractor is Red Electrical Services, recommended by their architect. St John's Church plays a key role in the community and has relationships with local organisations and community groups in the holding of community events in Hyde Park. Therefore, upwards of 1000 people will benefit from the electrical works so that the venue can continue to be used safely as a community space.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 Expenditure and approvals in process from the Hyde Park budget to date total £17,046.82 leaving **£120,953.18** to be allocated.
- 3.2 The proposals for expenditure in this report amount to **£10,566.54** and leaves **£110,386.64** available for future allocation.
- 3.3 This report approves the release of the above funding from the central pot. The individual decisions taken on the projects being funded are made by the ward members for the ward(s) involved.

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. Conflict of Interest

- 5.1 As one of the ward members for the Hyde Park ward, Councillor Heather Acton cannot sign off on this Cabinet Member Report as is customary in Councillor Acton's role as Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 The proposals have been approved by all Councillors, or a majority of Councillors from all wards involved.
- 6.2 The proposal for St John's Church has been drawn up by the Member Services Officer; the financial and legal aspects of the funding have been verified by the Council's Finance and Legal Services Departments.

If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect one of the background papers, please contact Matt Gaskin on 07966 164556 or mgaskin@westminster.gov.uk.

For completion by the Leader of the Council

Declaration of Interest

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

Signed Date
Councillor Rachael Robathan, Leader of the Council

- I have to declare an interest

State nature of interest:
.....

Signed Date
Councillor Rachael Robathan, Leader of the Council

(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 **Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Hyde Park of £10,566.54** and reject any alternative options which are referred to but not recommended.

Signed
Councillor Rachael Robathan, Leader of the Council

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 Rachael Robathan, Leader of the Council

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:
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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.