

Fun Run

A budget line of 'Community Fun Run (£5,000)' was put into the Council's 2022-23 budget as part of the submission from the then-Planning and Environment Committee in December 2021. However, there is no record of the budget line being discussed by the then-Planning and Environment Committee before it was included in that committee's proposed budget for 2022-23 and the Chair of the then-Planning and Environment Committee offered no further explanation during the budget-setting meeting of January 2022. There is, therefore, no record of a clear description of what the budget line was intended to fund. Nevertheless, the budget line was voted through unamended by Council in its budget-setting meeting in January 2022.

There was a reorganisation of committee responsibilities at the Council's Annual Meeting in May 2022 and authority over the Community Fun Run budget line passed to the People and Communities Committee.

The Committee has no plans to stage a 'Community Fun Run' in 2022-23 but is ready to apply for associated permissions (e.g., road closures etc) for just such an event in July 2023. A separate budget line of £5,000 for expenditure on the July 2023 event was included in the Council's budget for 2023-24.

The Committee will be asked to decide whether it considers it within its authority to use the 2022-23 'Community Fun Run' budget line to fund aspects of the event planned for July 2023. If not, the Committee will need to go to the Full Council to request the necessary authority.

When Full Council agreed the Committee's budget for 2023-24, it did so on the understanding that the total expenditure on the July 2023 Fun Run would be £5,000. By agreeing to stick to a £5,000 limit for the initiative (regardless of the financial year in which elements of expenditure take place), the Committee would be acknowledging that it would be unethical to misuse its unspent funds from 2022-23 to increase the initiative's total budget.

Loneliness Project grant

An application for a grant to be paid from the Committee's 2022-23 Loneliness Project budget line has been received from Six Bells Community Centre.

The Committee has not, as yet, agreed criteria for the award of grants from this budget and the applicant has omitted to give details of the sum applied for.

The Committee will need to first consider whether it would be appropriate to award a grant in such circumstances before going on to consider this specific grant application.