

# **Funding Plans 2014-15 – How the Catford South Assembly fund will be managed this year and how you can get involved**

## **Background**

- We gathered priority ideas from the Assembly held in February as a way to direct how the assembly fund should be spent. These Priorities are as follows:
  - 1 - Streetscape and environment
  - 2 - Development opportunities for Children and Young People
  - 3 - Increase opportunities for older people
  - 4 - Community Cohesion, including combating anti social behaviour and crime
  - 5 - Improving local shopping hubs
- Assembly members highlighted the issues and areas they wanted to focus on in February within these priorities. These comments are displayed on the tables around the room for use as part of the exercise and in your agenda booklet. You have a chance to add more if there is anything you want to say on a particular issue

## **Next Steps**

- We are using the table exercise today to help the coordinating group decide what projects to commission through the funding application process. Let us know what you think should be the focus of the fund.
- The coordinating group are meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July to discuss the findings of this exercise and plan the selection criteria and parameters for the Catford South Fund.
- The application process will then open to the public and will be advertised widely throughout the community. Local groups and organisations are invited to submit a project bid around the priorities and project ideas. Full details of how to apply and the kind of projects the assembly are looking for, will be available with the application form and on the Catford South Assembly website from the end of July. There will be approximately 7 weeks to submit a proposal.
- The final project bids will be presented to the full assembly at a public meeting where, like last year, the assembly will be asked to vote on ratification of the projects taken forward as a whole. The Assembly will not be asked to vote on projects individually. This ensures a fair vote based on merit and scrutiny, not on numbers attending a public meeting. Details of all projects will be open and available to the public and those selected to proceed, will be asked to present their project at the next public meeting.

## **A few important details to note:**

- This years assembly fund is a total of £15,000. The Catford South Assembly would like to ensure that projects cover the relevant priorities and provide the best value for money. This could mean a few, or several projects, depending on the kind of applications that get put forward
- The fund will **not** be split over different priorities so you can make an application for a project that covers one or many of the priorities. There will be no upper limit for any projects to bid for, however we particularly encourage projects under £2500. For an exceptional project proposal, we would consider going higher if best value and outcomes are demonstrated.
- The coordinating group will meet again at a second special funding meeting where the project applications will be assessed by the full group. They will then decide which projects best fit the needs of the community, based on the work done over the last few assemblies, cover an agreed priority, demonstrate best value for money and have most effective outcomes etc. The Group will finalise which projects will be taken forward to the full Assembly meeting for ratification.
- The coordinating group will assess all projects very carefully, with community needs at the forefront and will ensure there is no conflict of interest by asking anyone involved in a projects to declare a conflict and remove themselves from the selection process.
- If you want to be a part of making these funding decisions then you are very welcome to attend both the special funding meetings, we fully encourage involvement from assembly members when making these decisions.
- If you want to be a part of the funding planning process contact Lucy – details on the agenda today and Catford South Assembly website.
- The Catford South Assembly fund will be launched no later than Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2014. If we have your contact details you will be alerted when the fund begins. Full details will be available on request or on the Catford South Assembly web pages  
[www.lewisham.gov.uk/getinvolved/localassemblies/Catford-South-Assembly](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/getinvolved/localassemblies/Catford-South-Assembly)