

**Record Of Decision Taken Under Scheme Of  
Delegation By Member Of Senior Management  
Team In Consultation With Portfolio Holder and  
Chair of My Neighbourhood Forum**

**SMT Member:**  
**Service Group:**  
**Portfolio Holder:**  
**Portfolio/Committee:**  
**My Neighbourhood  
Chair:**  
**My Neighbourhood  
Forum:**  
**Subject:**

**Decision:**

**Details and Reasoning:**

Denise Johnson
Development, Enterprise & Community
Councillor Phil Smith
Regeneration & Healthy Communities
Councillor Mike Nelson
Eastern
Permission to spend core funds allocated to the Eastern Neighbourhood Forum to purchase three community benches
Permission to allocate and spend core funds of up to £1800 to purchase three benches.
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>The Eastern Neighbourhood Plan includes the following project:</p> <p align="center"><b>Community Benches</b></p> <p><b>Background</b></p> <p>Eastern Neighbourhood Forum has received several requests from residents and community groups to install benches in the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The junction of Chorley Road and Duddle Lane, Walton le Dale</li> <li>• Chorley Road, close to the Holland House roundabout, Walton le Dale</li> <li>• Walton Summit Road, bus stop close to A6</li> </ul> <p><b>Details</b></p> <p>One of the priorities for members of Eastern Forum was to look at social isolation within their area and help they could help reduce this. They found in the UK, only 17% of older people are in contact with family, friends and neighbours less than once a week, and 11% in contact less than once a month.</p> <p>A review found that educational and social activity group interventions that target specific groups of people can alleviate social isolation and loneliness among older people.</p> <p>Although installing benches are not a social group activity it is a method for people who are out and about to have a break and maybe chat to likeminded people. It then may become a focus point for people to meet out on a regular basis.</p> <p>The installation of these benches could encourage social interaction particularly with older people in help combat loneliness.</p> <p>Also members are responding to community demand as several requests for the installation of benches has been received from residents.</p> <p><b>Proposal</b></p> <p>In line with the details given above, the proposal is to allocate up to £1800 from core funds to support installation of three benches at agreed sites (see attached).</p>

**Wider Implications  
(Financial, Legal,  
Equality & Risk):  
Report attached?**

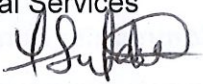

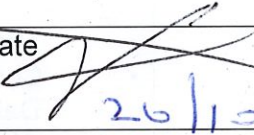
**Exempt from  
publication?  
If exempt, give  
reason(s):**

None

Please refer to [www.southribble.gov.uk](http://www.southribble.gov.uk) website for further details of My Neighbourhood Forum decisions.

No

**Signed:**

Financial Management J. Blundell	Legal Services 	
Date 6/11/17	Date 9/11/17	
SMT Member N A Johnson	Portfolio Holder 	My Neighbourhood Chair
Date 26/10/17	Date 26-10-2017	Date  26/10/17

**Publication Date  
(DST use):**

WEDNESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2017

Decision template revised June 2013

**THIS DECISION WILL COME INTO FORCE AND MAY BE IMPLEMENTED FIVE WORKING DAYS  
AFTER ITS PUBLICATION DATE, SUBJECT TO BEING CALLED IN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION**