

Councillor Alison Rolf, 22 February 2021
Re: Neighbourhood CIL Decision Board

Dear Jane and Roger,

Further to our meeting on Tuesday, I write, as requested, to formally respond to your email sent on 10th December 2020. The original email did not indicate that a written response was required, hence one was not sent previously.

I thought our meeting was very useful and a good opportunity to throw ideas around. Sheron and Ellie are considering the issues raised and we will discuss them with Scrutiny in due course.

Your specific query related to the decision not to allocate monies to the Scout's bid which, as you know, came third in the bidding process. The bids are all scored against a matrix which has been approved before the bidding process starts so that the process is transparent. All three of the bids that you mention, did score enough points to potentially be allocated funds. As you know, the bid that scored the highest was funded. There was then insufficient funds for bid 2. You ask why bid 3, which was for a lesser amount couldn't then have been funded.

The monies that are not allocated remain in the pot until the following year and are then topped up by the new funds accumulated during the year. This then allows for a larger pot to be distributed. If we had given the money to the Scouts, as you suggest, then there would have been little money left to top up. It would also mean that a bid which scored less than another was funded in preference which cannot be seen as fair and is not how the process runs. As I have already said, the matrix and the process are clear to all at the bidding stage and we won't change that during the assessment of the bids as this would be unfair.

I accept what you say about the public support and we discussed this. I think we came up with a solution to that issue.

Hopefully, while you might not agree with me, I have explained clearly why the Scouts did not receive funding from my decision session but they are welcome to bid for further funds this year.

Kind regards,

Alison Rolf