

Estate Development Budget (EDB) Overview



Brighton & Hove
City Council

What is EDB for?

It is for improving the quality of life for tenants and leaseholders.

Each EDB bid must do **at least one** of the following:

- an improvement to a council housing owned building or community facility
- an improvement to council housing owned land or local environment
- a project that benefits the community

Can be used for both capital and revenue projects

What can't EDB be used for?

- Works that fall under maintenance & repair
- Projects that aren't clearly of benefit to tenants and leaseholders
- Items or projects that benefit an individual



Who can bid for EDB money?

- A constituted residents' association/group
- An informal community group
- Any individual, as long as there is clear benefit to tenants and leaseholders, along with evidence of a consultation showing they have the backing of their community



Principals behind EDB

- Decisions are led by residents
- Residents come to a consensus on the bid being awarded or rejected
- All bids must comply with council financial regulations and accountability



Benefits of EDB

- Helps get people engaged with the council
- Helps strengthen communities – we encourage people to reach out to their neighbours and discuss the ideas with them, as well as involving them in the development process



Bid Types

- A Quick Bid
 - Up to £1000
 - Each group can submit max of 5 per year
- A Main Bid
 - Minimum of £1000 and maximum £10,000
 - Each group can submit max of 6 main bids per year (3 per bid cycle as there are two main bid rounds per year)



Funding Split

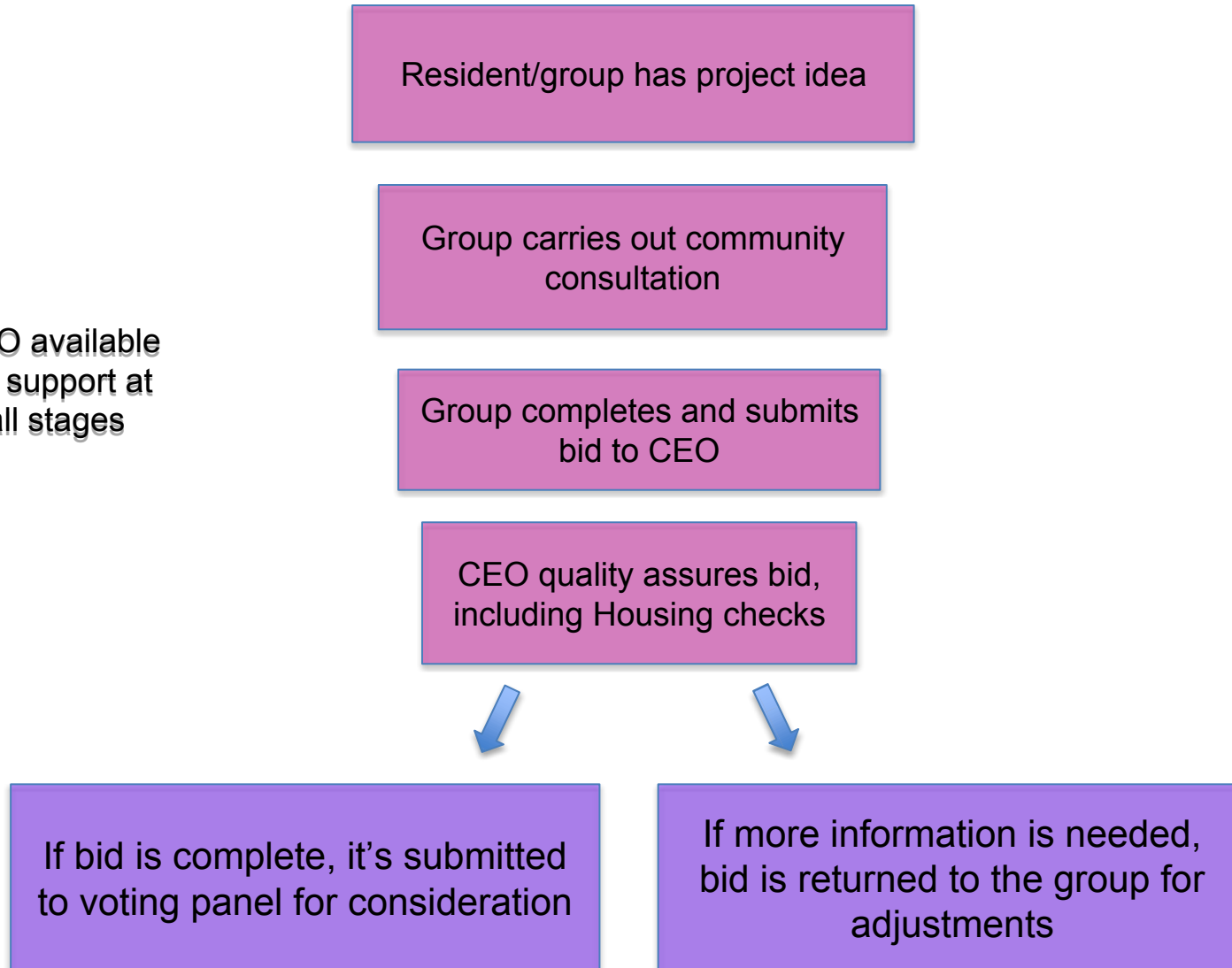
- Between Housing Management Areas based on the number of council properties in that area
- In 2021/2022:

	Dwellings	Budget Split
Central	2462	£67,168.00
North	2961	£80,768.00
East	3825	£104,352.00
West	2483	£67,712.00
Total	11731	£320,000.00

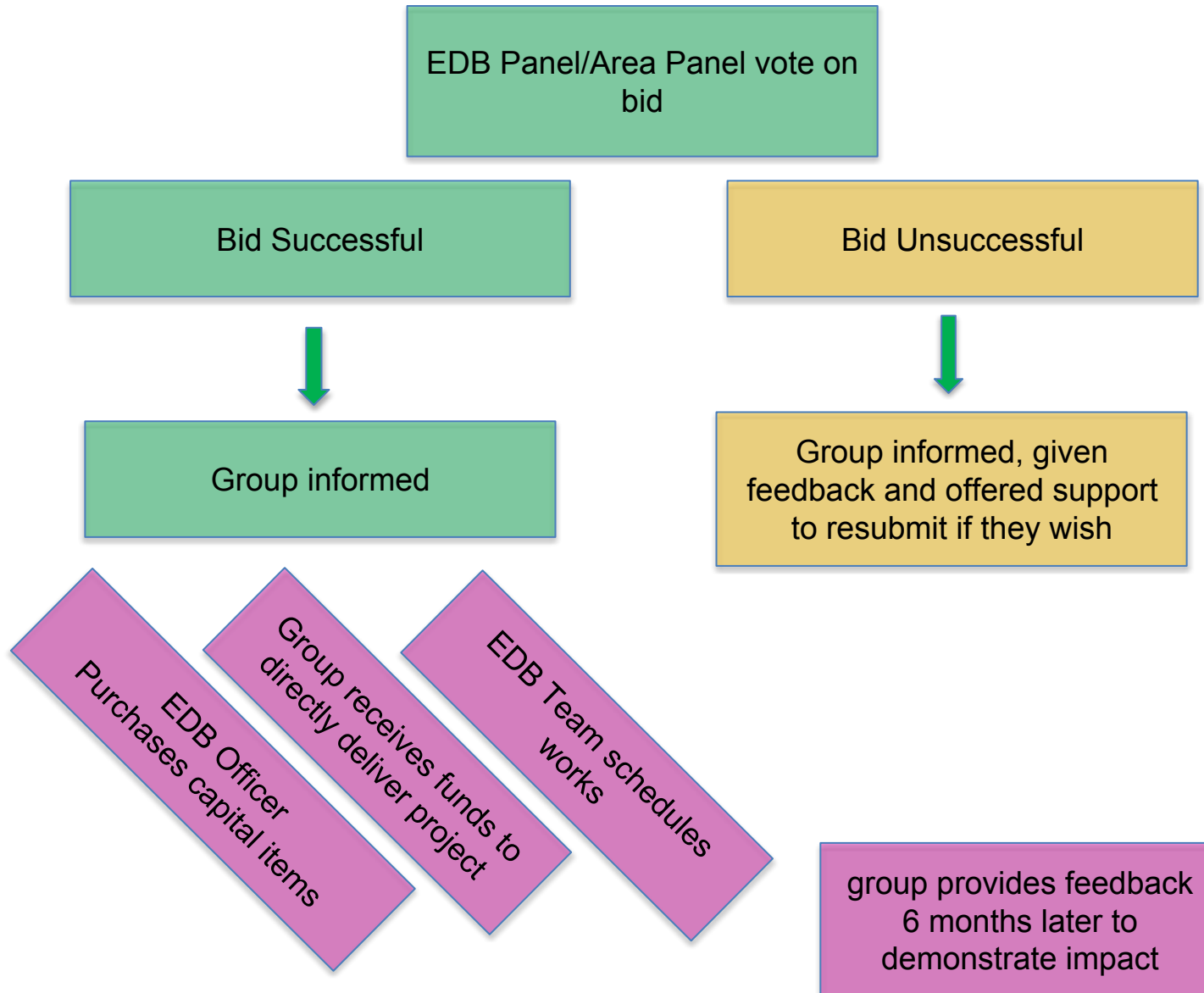
- Area Panel members decide on split between quick and main bid pots for their area each year

Process

CEO available
for support at
all stages



Process



Roles and Responsibilities

Who does what in the process?

- **EDB panel** – Award Quick bids and monitors delivery of all bids
- **EDB Area panel** – Awards main bids, and agree split of funding between Main and Quick Bids for each financial year
- **Community Engagement Officer** – Offer support and guidance with bids at the planning stage and assist groups with consultation. Offers support pre and post application (for unsuccessful bids)
- **EDB Officer** – Administrative support to run EDB Panel, point of contact for applicant queries and provide feedback to applicants on the outcome of their bid. Carry out funding transfers and purchases on successful Quick bids



Measuring Impact

- Before 2021 there was no clear and consistent way of measuring impact
- In 2021, we have introduced the following:
 - We're asking groups to plan how they're going to gather feedback from their communities on whether their project has achieved it's objectives
 - Using this information to help groups celebrate their successes
 - Ensuring proportionality, if it's a straightforward bid we wouldn't ask for the same level of information as a complex project. Support is available from the CEO on what this looks like



Key changes in 2021

The introduction of a scoring method to the decision making process. As agreed by the EDB Review Group this was designed to:

- Provide clear evidence of how decisions were reached on awarding funding
- Help mitigate the likelihood of groups having an unfair advantage due to voting members familiarity with the bids
- Provide guidance for applicants when providing information on their bids

Based on concerns raised by residents on how this method was introduced, this will be discussed by the EDB Task and Finish Group in the new year, with the aim of co-producing a way of meeting the objectives above as agreed by the EDB Review Group.

Key changes in 2021 continued

1. Changed main bids to **bi-annual** instead of annual to speed up process and give more opportunities to submit bids
2. Reduced quick bids to **6 rounds** a year from **10** to reduce the number of meetings busy panel members were attending
3. Changed deadline for submission to **3 weeks** before a Panel meeting to allow for pricing and checks with other departments



Next Steps

- A new EDB Task and Finish group has been set up to make recommendations to area panels to resolve outstanding actions from the 2018 internal audit. These will be taken to subsequent Area Panels for approval.



Questions?

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Information on BHCC website:
[Estate Development Budget \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](http://brighton-hove.gov.uk)