



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (Elmbridge)

LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

14 June 2012

KEY ISSUE

To set out the funding available for Local Committee County Councillors' allocations and community safety for 2012/13, and to give consideration to the funding requests received.

SUMMARY

Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive funding to spend on locally determined purposes that help to promote social, economic and/or environmental well-being. This funding is known as Member Allocations.

For the financial year 2012/13, the County Council has allocated £12,615 revenue funding to each County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to each Local Committee.

This report firstly presents a summary of the projects that the Local Committee's member allocations funded in 2011/12. It then identifies and makes recommendations on bids received for funding that have been sponsored by at least one County councillor.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

- (i) Note the summary of the local committee's Member Allocation expenditure in 2011/12 as detailed in section 2.
- (ii) Agree the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **revenue** funding as set out in section 3 of this report and summarised below:

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Surrey Highways	Island revamp & slip road	£1,000
St Barnabas Youth Group	Duke of Edinburgh awards	£1,250
CAMHS	CYA Awards 2012	£500
SCC Children's Services	Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children	£4,500

- (iii) Agree the items recommended for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **capital** funding as set out in section 3 of the report and summarised below:

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Surrey Highways	Island Revamp + Slip Road	£6,000
Christ Church Esher	Doventon Clark Memorial	£2,000
Bevendean Residents Association	Project Bench	£1,500
Claygate Primary School	Installation of multi use game area (MUGA)	£3,000
St Peters Hersham	Audio Visual System	£4,000
Elmbridge/Runnymede Talking Newspaper	Digital Recording news memory sticks	£1,414
The Methodist Church	Ladies Toilet Facilities	£5,000
Bell Farm Primary School	Weatherproofing and curtains	£1,995
British Red Cross	Wheelchair Project	£2,696

- (iv) Note the expenditure previously approved by the Community Partnerships Manager and the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated authority, as set out in section 4.
- (v) Note any returned funding and/or adjustments, as set out within the report and also in the financial position statement at Appendix 2.
- (vi) Agree that the community safety budget of £3160 that has been delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership and that the Community Partnership Manager authorize its expenditure in accordance with the Local Committee's decision, as detailed in section 5.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1** The County Council's Constitution sets out the overall Financial Framework for managing the Local Committee's delegated budgets. The underlying principle being that Members Allocations should be spent on local projects to promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area, as required by the Local Government Act 2000.

- 1.2 At its first meeting in the 2012/13 committee cycle, the Local Committee (Elmbridge) will decide if and how it wishes to divide its revenue and capital member allocations budgets amongst the Committee and its constituent county councillors.
- 1.3 The committee will also determine whether or not it wishes to delegate authority to the Community Partnerships Manager & Community Partnership Team Leader (East Surrey) to approve budget applications (and refunds) up to and including £1,000, subject to them being reported to the Committee at the following meeting. The Council's Constitution also allows for the Community Partnership Manager and Team Leader to approve funding for the purchase of grit bins at the request of a County Councillor
- 1.4 In allocating funds, members are asked to have regard to Surrey County Council's Corporate Strategy 2010-14 '*Making A Difference*' that highlights five themes which make Surrey special and which it seeks to maintain:
 - A safe place to live;
 - A high standard of education;
 - A beautiful environment;
 - A vibrant economy;
 - A healthy population.
- 1.5 Member Allocation funding is generally made to organisations on a one-off basis, so that there should be no expectation of future funding for the same or similar purpose.
- 1.6 Member Allocation funding will not usually be granted for purposes that benefit one individual, nor to fund schools for the direct delivery of the National Curriculum, nor to support a political party.
- 1.7 When considering bids, organisations applying are advised against assuming that the Local Committee will meet the total cost of their project.

2. ANALYSIS OF 2011/12 LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

- 2.1 In 2011/12, the County Council allocated £8,410 revenue funding per County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to the Local Committee in Elmbridge.
- 2.2 The analysis of projects funded by County Councillors is attached at Appendix 1. It shows that the majority of the Committee's 2011/12 budget was awarded to external organisations and funded local activities designed to improve the quality of life of local residents (community development). Within this, children and young people benefitted significantly and projects ranged from those designed to teach them personal finance skills to funding outdoor activity equipment for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The community benefitted from similarly wide-ranging

projects including theatre productions and support for local festivals and access to the arts.

3. BIDS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL – REVENUE/CAPITAL FUNDING

- 3.1 The proposals for revenue and capital funding for consideration and decision at this Committee are set out below.

Island revamp and slip road £1,000 revenue
£6,000 capital

Michael Bennison

This project has been submitted by Surrey County Council's highways department and aims to improve the entrance to Claygate Village. The project will resurface the island outside shops and also resurface the slip road thus also improving the aesthetic of the entrance to the village centre. The total cost of the project is £7,000.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards £1,250 revenue

Ernest Mallett

The Saint Barnabas Youth Group East & West Molesey has submitted an application seeking funding to purchase computer equipment to help them meet new regulations requiring the electronic enrolment and administration of awards via the internet. Purchase of this equipment will assist all the young people seeking to gain the nationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh awards through the Youth Group. The total cost of the project is £1,250.

CYA Awards 2012 £500 revenue

Margaret Hicks

A retrospective application for a contribution towards the food, refreshments and venue hire for the CYA Awards that took place in early May 2012 has been received from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS). The awards recognised the hard work and achievements of 135 young people using the CAMHS service, many of whom lack confidence in themselves. The total cost of the project was £2,292 some of which is being met by county councillors from other local committees.

Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children

All County Councillors £4,500 revenue

This is an application from Surrey County Council's children's services seeking contributions of £500 from each county councillor to the Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children. The Fund will support two

approaches to giving children and young people in care recognition and reward. Celebration bursaries will be awarded to children in care and will be linked to the achievement of targets set out in their Personal Education Plans. There will also be a fund that may be drawn upon to give a more spontaneous response to achievements and respond to other opportunities for looked after children.

Doveton Clarke Memorial £2,000 - Capital

Nigel Cooper

An application from Christ Church, Esher has been submitted seeking funding to thwart and remedy the deterioration of the Doveton Clarke Memorial's roof. This is a Grade II listed monument and funding would help to repair and protect it into the future. The total cost of the project is £4,767 and the Church, the Historic Buildings Trust and Elmbridge Borough Council are all contributing.

Project Bench £1,500 capital

Michael Bennison

Bevendean Residents Association has applied for funding to clear the Oxshott Railway footbridge area and to install a bench and new plants in order to enhance amenity value for local residents. The total cost of the project is £1,500.

Multi Use Game Area (MUGA) £3,000 capital

Michael Bennison

Claygate Primary School has submitted a bid for the installation of a multi-use games area (MUGA) with a tarmac base and surrounding fencing.

The project includes relocation of some existing equipment and is necessary due to the growth of the school and the impact this has had on play areas for children. The School has a large field but in the winter months and when the field is wet, the play space available becomes limited, making playtimes and lunchtimes congested. In 2009, in response to increased demand, the school admitted an additional Reception class, the Portakabin for which was located on the main tarmac playground. The total cost of the project is £51,000 that will also be met from the School's own budget, donations and fundraising.

Audio Visual System £4,000 - Capital

Margaret Hicks

St Peter's Church Hersham has applied for funding to upgrade its sound system and to install a screen projector as the current sound is 17 years

old and is increasingly difficult and expensive to manage and maintain resulting in poor sound quality and high cost. This will help to respond to the increasing need to project visual images at community events and in worship. The current portable screen and projector are inadequate in size and safety terms. The total cost of the project is

Digital Recording news £1,414 capital

Ernest Mallett

The Elmbridge/Runnymede Taking Newspaper for the Blind is seeking funding to acquire equipment to digitally transfer data from cassettes to memory sticks. This will bring the system that disseminates news to blind people up to date, improving quality, use and easy distribution. The project covers the Elmbridge and Runnymede areas. The total cost is £2,826 which is being shared between the two local committees.

Ladies Toilet Facilities Refurbishment £5,000 capital

Ernest Mallett & Nigel Cooper

The Methodist Church in East Molesey has applied for funding to replace the ladies toilet that is in very poor condition with new facilities. The Church can hold a minimum of three hundred people and hosts between fifty and one hundred functions in its church hall. The hall can cater for up to 100 people. The total cost of the project is £13,763 of which £5,000 has already been raised. The Church continues to fundraise for the outstanding amount.

Weatherproofing and curtains £1,995 capital

Margaret Hicks

Bell Farm Primary school will open next September and statutory guidelines for Early Years Education state that children should have access to high quality, outdoor learning provision. To allow for this, the School is applying for funding to weather-proof covered learning areas and purchase special door curtains to allow for continuous access to the outdoors without drafts interrupting indoor learning. They also aim to create a sensory garden to engage pupil's senses and foster an early love for nature and gardening. The total cost of the project is £1,995.

Wheelchair Project £2,696 Capital

Tony Samuels

We are seeking to upgrade the stocks of wheelchairs that are available at the Red Cross Medical Loan Centre at Walton on Thames, as 20% of the wheelchairs at this centre are over 10 years old and need an urgent replacing; there is also an increased demand for heavy duty chairs such

as extra wide/children's chairs. The total project cost, throughout the 8 Red Cross Medical Loan Centres in Surrey is £28,877. This project will have an enormous impact on residents of Walton on Thames and surrounding areas, particularly Walton South and Oatlands. The wheelchairs are available for short term loan and are free of charge; this equipment helps those families and carers who do not have the funds to buy one. During 2011, 229 people loaned wheelchairs from this centre. The Red Cross Loan Medical - Walton on Thames Centre also assists hospitals to address home discharges.

4. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS

- 4.1 The Community Partnerships Manager or Community Partnerships Team Leader (East Surrey) have already approved the following revenue bids under delegated authority since the last committee meeting:

COUNCILLOR	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Tom Phelps-Penry	Scouts Security Fence	£500
Nigel Cooper	Radio Microphone / Speakers	£149.99
Ian Lake	Weybridge Extravaganza Lights for Diamond Jubilee, Olympics and Christmas	£1,000
Ernest Mallet Nigel Cooper	40th Anniversary Party	£200
Margaret Hicks	Visit of Chinese Headteacher to Surrey	£1,000
Michael Bennison Ernest Mallet Tom Phelps-Penry	SWISO Trips to Iceland and Germany Elmbridge Seniors	£1,000 £800
Michael Bennison	Sticky Fingers Art Project	£200
Peter Hickman	Thames Ditton Summer Fair signs	£600
Ian Lake	The Quadrant, Weybridge Olympic decorations	£500

- 4.2 Members are requested to note that funding previously awarded to the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service to fund the purchase of stepladders has subsequently been withdrawn and returned to Margaret Hicks' allocation, as detailed in Appendix 2.

5. COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING

- 5.1 The County Council has in the past made available to Local Committees the sum of £14,500 per borough/district for use in conjunction with the Community Safety Partnerships, of which £12,000 was ring-fenced for outreach with those affected by domestic abuse and the Local Committee was asked to allocate the remainder of the funding for community safety work. As part of the centralised approach to these services, the domestic abuse outreach is being funded centrally for allocation by the Community Safety Unit. This year, the Local Committee has a delegated budget of £3,190 for general community safety purposes which it has, in the past, allocated to the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership as its contribution towards the projects and activities referred to in the relevant report.
- 5.2 The Committee is asked to confirm that it wishes to transfer its budget of £3,190 to the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership and to delegate authority to the Community Partnership Manager to oversee the expenditure of this budget.

6. OPTIONS

- 6.1 The Local Committee may choose to approve all, part or none of the funding proposals under discussion in this report.

7. CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 In relation to new bids, consultation, where appropriate, may have been undertaken by the organisation receiving the funding, the local Member of the Community Partnerships Team as required.
- 7.2 The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

8. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Each project detailed in this report has completed a standard application form giving details of timescales, purpose and other funding applications made. The County Councillor proposing each project has assessed its merits prior to the project's inclusion as a proposal for decision by the Committee.
All bids are also scrutinised to ensure that they comply with the Council's Financial Framework and represent value for money.
- 8.2 There are sufficient monies to fund all of the proposals contained within this report. If the above recommendations are approved the remaining balances are set out in the Local Committee's financial position statement attached at Appendix 2.

- 8.3 Please note these figures will not include any applications submitted for approval after the deadline for this report or that are currently pending approval under delegated authority. They also do not include any funding that is in the process of being returned to the Local Committee.

9. EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The allocation of the Committee's budgets is intended to enhance the wellbeing of residents and make the best possible use of the funds. Funding is available to all residents, community groups or organisations based in, or serving, the area. The success of the bid depends entirely upon its ability to meet the agreed criteria, which is flexible.
- 9.2 The Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs.

10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The spending proposals put forward for this meeting have been assessed against the County standards for appropriateness and value for money within the agreed Financial Framework and the local agreed criteria, which is available from the Community Partnerships Team.
- 10.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2011/12 Local Committee delegated budgets as detailed in the report.

11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 The Committee is being asked to decide on these bids so that the Community Partnerships Team can process the bids in line with the wishes of the Committee.

12. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 12.1.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 12.2 Any changes to an approved bid will be discussed with the local Members and the Chairman, and if the changes are considered to be significant, an amended bid will be brought back to the Committee for approval. In all other circumstances, the Community Partnerships Team will process the payments as soon as possible once the signed agreement has been received.

12.3 Within 6 months of receipt, all successful applicants will be contacted for details of how the funding was spend and will be asked to supply evidence.

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Background Papers:

- SCC Constitution: Financial Framework
- Local Committee Protocol
- Criteria and Guidance for Members Allocations
- Local Committee Funding Bids