PROPOSALS FOR EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL REVENUE BUDGET

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL’S LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE AREA)
15 NOVEMBER 2004

SUMMARY:
To receive a report setting out details of six proposals for expenditure of the local revenue budget.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Revenue Budget 2004/05</td>
<td>£112,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditure committed to date</td>
<td>£23,710</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current proposals</td>
<td>£15,104</td>
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<td>Remaining balance</td>
<td>£73,686</td>
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RECOMMENDATION:
It is recommended that the Local Committee agrees to these requests.

LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER: Janet Cooke, Local Director

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 020 8541 7931
A. Christmas Lights – Weybridge Town Centre

1. Name of member:
   Ian Lake

2. Description of proposal:
   Ian Lake wishes to fund enhancements to the Christmas lights in Weybridge Town Centre.

3. What need will this proposal address?
   The lights will help contribute to the appearance of the town centre and the general well-being of shoppers at this busy time of year.

4. What consultation has been undertaken?
   The initiative is being promoted through the Elmbridge Business Partnership.

5. Financial details of the proposal:
   (i) What is the cost of the proposal?
       Ian Lake wishes to contribute £1,000 towards the lights.
   (ii) When is the funding required?
        Immediately.
   (iii) Are there any financial implications beyond the current year?
        No.
   (iv) Is there any other relevant funding (e.g. match funding)?
        Yes – Elmbridge Borough Council has made a capital contribution towards the cost of improving Christmas lights across the borough as a whole.

6. Local Director’s Comments
   I would support this proposal, which will help contribute to the attractiveness of Weybridge town centre at Christmas.
B. First Gear – Brooklands Auto Project

1. Name of member:
   Tony Pegler

2. Description of proposal:
   The First Gear project aims to teach young people in Lower Green and East Molesey the basics of good vehicle control, vehicle care and the attitudes, rights and responsibilities related to driving and car ownership. The project is being managed by the Youth Development Service and will involve staff and volunteers from the Brooklands Auto project, the RAC, the Driving Standards Agency, road safety officers and a local driving school.

   Young people will complete the 30-hour course over 8 weeks and in addition will participate in 3 hours of supervised driving sessions. At the end of the course, those who reach the relevant standards will receive their First Gear award.

   In addition, youth workers are looking to run a number of smaller projects, which would be specifically children in the Lower Green area from the age of 11 upwards.

3. What need will this proposal address?
   The First Gear project addresses the need to provide young people with facilities that appeal to them. The project has proved to be very popular with young people and is regularly oversubscribed. The project also helps teach young people to be mindful drivers and therefore helps to reduce irresponsible behaviour of young people on the roads.

4. What consultation has been undertaken?
   This project is being delivered in consultation with the police, youth services, local schools and members of the community.

5. Financial details of the proposal:
   (i) What is the cost of the proposal?
       Tony Pegler wishes to contribute £5,000 towards the project. Of this, £3,000 will be for First Gear sessions over the course of a year, with each session being open to around 12 young people. The remaining £2,000 would be set aside for other targeted projects with children in the Lower Green area and to help fund the cost of running a minibus used to transport the young people to the various activities.

   (ii) When is the funding required?
       Immediately.
(iii) Are there any financial implications beyond the current year?
No.

(iv) Is there any other relevant funding (e.g. match funding)?
No.

6. Local Director’s Comments

I recommend that the Local Committee supports this proposal as the First Gear project provides a much-needed facility to young people in the area and one that is well received by the local community. This proposal will also help deliver other much-needed projects to young people in the Lower Green area.

C. Bentley Copse Scouts Campsite

1. Name of member:
John Pincham

2. Description of proposal:
Surrey Scouting owns 28 acres of woodland at Shere in the Borough of Guildford for its Camping and Adventure Centre, which provides a safe, secluded environment from which to access the Surrey countryside and engage in team building and self-sufficiency training. The centre is open to all youth groups, charities and schools, and records some 17,000 camper nights annually. The centre serves Surrey as a whole and 11 of the 20 of Surrey's most deprived areas used the site last year. The site is almost full to capacity and its indoor training facilities, built 50 years ago, are in need of urgent development.

3. What need will this proposal address?
The plans call for the consolidation of old buildings into a single fully equipped adventure and training centre with accommodation, catering facilities and disabled access for 40 people.

4. What consultation has been undertaken?
A full feasibility study including support from existing and potential users has been undertaken. Disabled and youth groups have given written support. Full support has been given from Surrey County Council, who have provided a part-time project officer and SCVYS. A voluntary professional project group supports the development.
5. Financial details of the proposal:

(i) What is the cost of the proposal?

The overall project will cost some £500,000. This is being undertaken in phases. £32k has already been spent on improving access. The next phase, the construction of the first accommodation pod costing £40k began this September and it is against this phase that support is sought. The main build will cost some £250k and it is for this phase that a Lottery bid is being made.

John Pincham wishes to contribute £500 towards the improvement of the Bentley Copse site.

(ii) When is the funding required?

Immediately.

(iii) Are there any financial implications beyond the current year?

The project plans call for the completion of all phases over the next 2 years. However, the first accommodation pod is a self-contained project to be completed by December 2004.

(iv) Is there any other relevant funding (e.g. match funding)?

Surrey County Scout Council has some £80k as reserves committed to this project, and in addition has raised some £44k so far towards the total of £500k. £250k is sought from the Lottery, and a fund raising programme is seeking to raise the remainder.

6. Local Director’s Comments

This centre makes a valuable contribution to serving the needs of youth - both boys and girls - across the whole county. I recommend that the Local Committee supports this project.

D. Elmbridge Directory of Services for Disabled People

1. Name of member:

Maggie Martin and Tony Pegler

2. Description of proposal:

Production of a comprehensive directory of services available for disabled people in Elmbridge, enabling people to see in one place what facilities are available, with all the necessary contact details.
3. **What need will this proposal address?**
   Access to information is recognised as a basic need in promoting independence and empowerment amongst disabled people. This is particularly the case in a borough like Elmbridge where health and social care services are split between two different Primary Care Trusts and Adults and Community Care teams.

4. **What consultation has been undertaken?**
   Local Surrey County County social care managers have agreed that this would be a very useful project. Service users and representatives of a variety of agencies would be fully involved in developing the content, although the initiative would be led by Borough Council staff.

5. **Financial details of the proposal:**
   (i) **What is the cost of the proposal?**
       Costs for 5,000 copies are estimated to be in the region of £5,000. Maggie Martin and Tony Pegler wish to contribute £2,500 each towards this cost.
   (ii) **When is the funding required?**
        Immediately.
   (iii) **Are there any financial implications beyond the current year?**
        No.
   (iv) **Is there any other relevant funding (e.g. match funding)?**
        No

6. **Local Director’s Comments**
   I recommend that this proposal is supported.

E. **Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired (CHEER) Befriending Scheme**

1. **Name of member:**
   Maggie Martin

2. **Description of proposal:**
   CHEER, formally known as Esher and District Old People’s Welfare, was relaunched and rebranded in 2000. In the same year they set up a befriending service with a part-time staff member to recruit, train and support volunteers to visit lonely and housebound pensioners. The scheme currently has almost 40 volunteers and still attracts new volunteers.
The part-time co-ordinator post will be unfounded from April. A recent application for funding from the Lottery was rejected due to other bids having greater priority, but CHEER has been encouraged to bid again and they should know the outcome of this in December. However, even if this bid is successful the funding will not be available to CHEER for some months. If the bid is unsuccessful CHEER will reapply to one of their current funders but cannot do so until June 2005. CHEER is therefore looking for financial support to tide the befriending scheme over whilst further funding is secured.

3. What need will this proposal address?
The befriending scheme plays a vital role in helping elderly people to maintain their independence in their own homes, whilst at the same time providing lonely and isolated elderly people with a link to the community and a valued social contact. The scheme helps to build the confidence and improve the mental health and well-being of the elderly people. The frontline support service that this scheme provides also helps reduce pressure on hospital services by delaying hospital admission and assisting in hospital discharge.

4. What consultation has been undertaken?
Staff in Surrey County Council’s Esher and Mole Valley Social Care Team have fully endorsed the excellent work done by CHEER’s befriending project.

5. Financial details of the proposal:
(i) What is the cost of the proposal?
Maggie Martin would like to contribute £2,500 to help support the befriending scheme.

(ii) When is the funding required?
Early in 2005.

(iii) Are there any financial implications beyond the current year?
No.

(iv) Is there any other relevant funding (e.g. match funding)?
The befriending scheme was originally funded through what became the East Elmbridge and Mid Surrey Primary Care Trust. Two large local employers have given £5,000 each to help fund the project this year.

6. Local Director’s Comments
I thoroughly support this proposal, which provides a valuable service to elderly people, helping them to maintain their independence as long as possible.
F. **Salting Supplies for Heathside School**

1. **Name of member:**
   
   Ian Lake

2. **Description of proposal:**
   
   Ian Lake wishes to fund the cost of a salt bin and spreader for Heathside School.

3. **What need will this proposal address?**
   
   Having their own salt bin and spreader will enable Heathside School to protect their grounds and access routes from the dangers of winter weather for their benefit of students, staff, parents and visitors.

4. **What consultation has been undertaken?**
   
   N/A

5. **Financial details of the proposal:**
   
   (i) **What is the cost of the proposal?**
       
       Ian Lake would like to allocate £1,104 which is the total cost of the salt bin and spreader recommended by the Local Transportation Service.

   (ii) **When is the funding required?**
       
       Immediately.

   (iii) **Are there any financial implications beyond the current year?**
       
       No.

   (iv) **Is there any other relevant funding (e.g. match funding)?**
       
       The Local Transportation Service has confirmed that they will supply the salt as and when required.

6. **Local Director’s Comments**
   
   A salt bin and spreader would be beneficial for the safety of all people who attend, work at or visit Heathside School. I recommend the Local Committee supports this proposal.