



SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE IN EPSOM & EWELL MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS

4 JUNE 2007

KEY ISSUE

To consider new proposals for expenditure from the Members' Allocations budget.

SUMMARY

This report sets out new schemes suggested by Members for funding from the Members' Allocations budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked:

1. To agree to adopt the criteria for the use of Member's Funds as set out in Appendix 1.
2. That the Committee approves the proposed expenditure from the Members' Allocations budget

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Each Member of the County Council has been allocated a budget of **£11,000** in 2006/07 to be spent in accordance with his/her wishes on schemes and projects, which promote social, environmental or economic well-being. Each Member's proposal will require the approval of the Local Committee. Existing commitments are shown on the attached table.
- 1.2 The Committee has also been allocated a capital grant of **£35,000**. This funding may only be used for capital projects and schemes and its allocation requires the agreement of the whole Local Committee.

2. MEMBERS' REVENUE ALLOCATION

2.1 **AMIS AVENUE CLOSURE**

This closure was agreed at the January 2006 meeting of the Local Committee. The report – analysis of consultation has been brought back to the June 2007 meeting of the Local Committee with the recommendation to make the closure permanent. Should this be agreed, Jan Mason proposes to contribute £5,000 [the cost of making the Traffic Regulation Order permanent] with her County Councillor colleagues agreement to assist with funding from their members allocations.

Member	Jan Mason
Project Cost	£5,000
Amount Requested	£5,000

3. PROPOSALS AGAINST CAPITAL GRANT

- 3.1 The Library Service is looking forward to the introduction of Self Service for the issue and return of books across all Band 1 and Band 2 libraries starting in May 2007. This change will mean that staff will be able to spend more time interacting with the public in areas like Reader Development and Children's work. The Library Service wish to create a bigger and brighter Children's Library at Ewell, with space for activities such as school visits, rhyme sessions and story times.

The funding [£6510] is required to provide a feature of a 'wooden boat' that provides seating and book storage, replace worn and inappropriate toddler seating, and provide suitable children's tables and chairs.

Project Cost	£6,510
Amount Requested	£6,510

- 3.2 The Local Committee wish to propose a recommendation from Jan Mason to fund from the Capital Grant a pedestrian table on Watersedge Road - just past the junction with Hogsmill Way. Estimated cost is £12,000-15,000. A Working Group discussed the feasibility of raised pedestrian tables on the Watersedge Estate in February 2006. Views had been sought from a Ruxley Community Partnership meeting and the consensus was that this was a high priority as these were the areas in which children played. Since then a table has been constructed at the junction of Rowden Road. This additional table will enhance the slowing of traffic in the vicinity and provide a safer environment for the children playing nearby.

Project Cost	£12,000-15,000
Amount Requested	£15,000

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The attached table shows commitment and balance remaining for Members' individual allocations. There is no commitment, as yet, against the £35,000 Capital Grant for 2007/08.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The contributions proposed will benefit a wide range of adults and children in Epsom and Ewell, some of whom may have disabilities

6. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 The spending proposals put forward for this meeting have been assessed against the County standards for appropriateness and value for money and it is recommended that they should be approved.

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CRITERIA FOR USE OF FUNDS

1. MEMBER'S ALLOCATIONS

- a) Support for any one project will not normally exceed £10,000.
- b) Any proposal to be considered by Committee must be proposed by at least one Member who is willing to provide at least some financial support to the project. However, Members whose funds are totally committed may still put proposals forward for support by the Committee.
- c) The funds will not be used to cover revenue costs – expenditure must be of a one-off nature or serve as “pump-priming”.
- d) Contributions will not normally be made to cover funding gaps arising from budget reduction decisions.
- e) Priority will be given to proposals attracting an element of match funding.
- e) Proposals will be considered from SCC services, other statutory bodies and voluntary organisations.
- f) The application should be for a future project, not a retrospective request.

2. COMMITTEE CAPITAL ALLOCATION

The balance of the £35,000 initially allocated to support capital projects through voluntary organisations will be used for any suitable project promoting well-being in Epsom and Ewell, and agreed by the Committee. These funds are not allocated to individual Members but are allocated by Committee decision.

The following is a definition for “capital” in these circumstances:

Capital expenditure is defined as the acquisition, construction, enhancement or replacement of an asset. An asset can be land & buildings, vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment or infrastructure. In order for an asset to be capitalised it should yield benefits for a period of more than one year.

It is proposed that the following criteria should apply to this fund:

- a) Any proposal to be considered by Committee must be put forward by at least one Member.
- b) Priority will be given to proposals attracting an element of match funding.
- c) Proposals must be of a local nature and be for the benefit of the people of Epsom and Ewell.