



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE  
Epsom and Ewell**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE IN  
EPSOM & EWELL  
MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS  
15 SEPTEMBER 2008**

**KEY ISSUE**

To consider new proposals for expenditure from the Members' Allocations budget 2008/09

**SUMMARY**

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

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked:

To approve the proposed expenditure from the Members' Allocations budget.

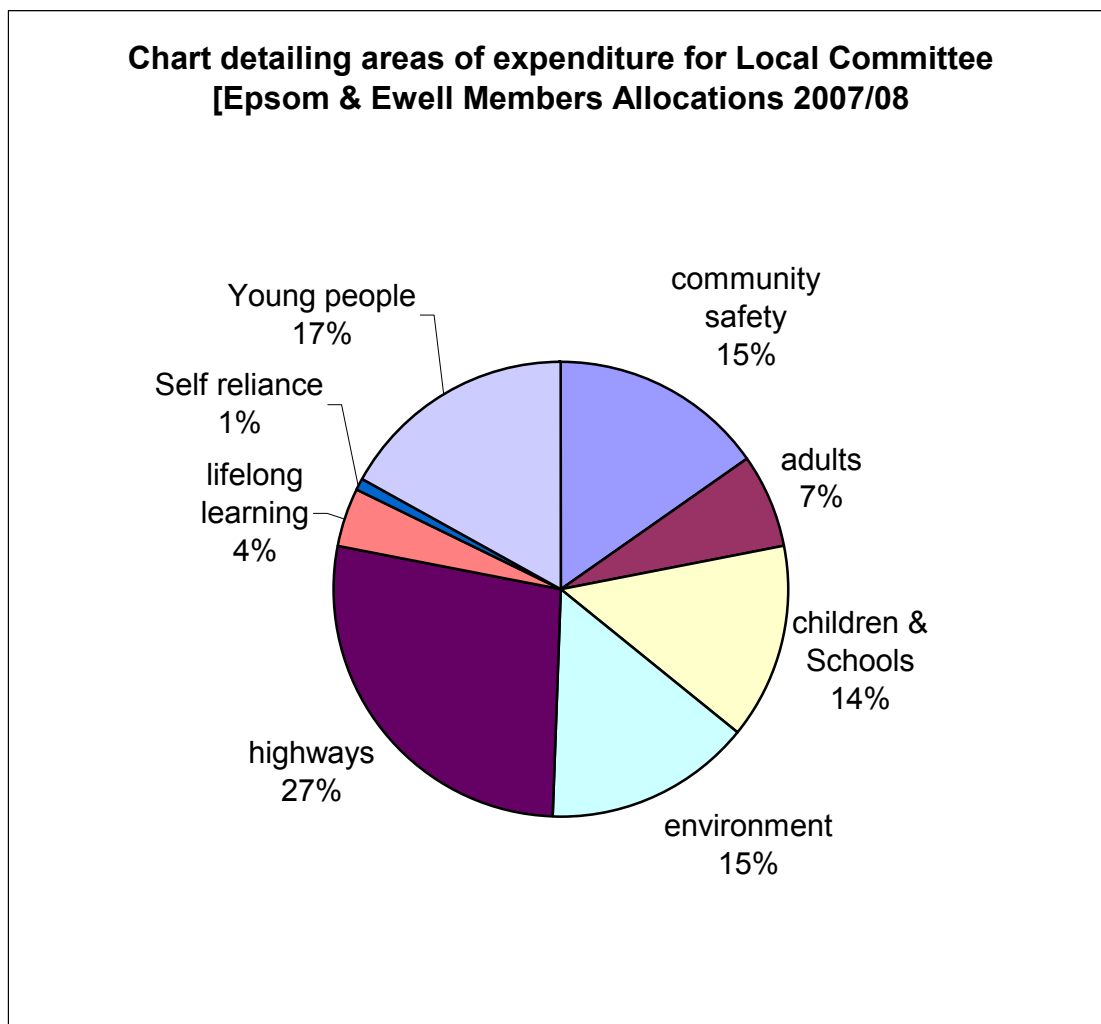
**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Each Member of the County Council has been allocated a budget of **£11,000** in 2008/09 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 (Annexe 1).

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.

1.3 Summary of Local Committee delegated budgets 2007/08

The chart below summarises the revenue funding allocated by the Local Committee in 2007/08, for information:



2. MEMBERS' REVENUE ALLOCATION

2.1 EPSOM HOSPITAL RADIO – 24 HOUR BROADCASTING

Since it began, 30 years ago in a second-hand garden shed on the roof of the hospital, Epsom Hospital Radio has provided entertainment and information to thousands of patients, as well as the staff and support organisations based within the hospital. Little by little, the facilities they work with have been improved and the technical expertise within the team continues to grow. Currently, the station broadcasts in the evenings and all day at weekends but, in order to expand and improve the service still further, they would like to move to 24 hour broadcasting, starting from

Christmas 2008. Some of the necessary equipment and software is already in place, and funding is requested to purchase the outstanding items. A detailed budget has been provided and this can be summarised as follows:

Phase 1 – Broadcast Automation	£550
Phase 2 – Facilities to allow use of music library in production of live shows	£2380
Phase 3 – Equipment to enable presenters to pre-record shows for the automated service	£1230

<b>Member</b>	<b>Chris Frost</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 4,160</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 1,430</b>

## 2.2 PLAYGROUND BENCHES FOR EPSOM & EWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Additional benches for the playground will provide a leisure area for pupils to enjoy socialising during break and lunch-time and, it is hoped, reduce the number of pupils wandering round the school at recess. Some benches have already been purchased and there is evident need for a few more. The application requests 50% of the anticipated cost, with the balance coming from within the school's own budget.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Jan Mason</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 2,000</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 1,000</b>

## 2.3 IMPROVEMENT OF 'SAFE DRIVE STAY ALIVE' SAFETY INITIATIVE – Surrey Fire and Rescue Service

Safe Drive, Stay Alive is a hard-hitting interactive show that tells the story of a road traffic collision through a video interspersed with on-stage, real life testimonies by members of Surrey's emergency services, the parents of a young person killed in a road traffic accident and a person disabled by the actions of a young driver. Aimed at reducing the number of casualties on Surrey's roads, particularly involving the 17-24 age range, the SDSA production has now been seen by more than 28,000 school and college students across the county, and is widely regarded as an unqualified success. The DVD material now requires updating to refresh and maintain its relevance for new audiences, and this includes full production and video recording. A grant of £5,000 is requested as a contribution towards the cost (a similar sum has been requested from each Local Committee across the county).

<b>Members</b>	<b>Chris Frost, Nigel Petrie, Jan Mason Jean Smith, Colin Taylor</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 55,000</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 5,000</b>

## 2.4 4-7-11 EPSOM GANG SHOW 2009

The 4-7-11 Gang Shows have been running, usually every second year, since the mid 1970s. It involves approximately 100 members of the Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts attached to Epsom Methodist Church and a part is found for all those who want to take part. Its purpose is to introduce children to the stage, building their self-confidence and teaching them to work as a team, and it provides an opportunity for them to be part of a professionally produced stage show, working with stage technology and special effects. The overall cost of the production is in the region of £13,000 and this is expected to be met largely from box office sales, children's deposits and donations/sponsorship. Additional expenditure on specific items is anticipated for the 2009 production, for which funding is now requested.

Purchase of 2 powered speakers and radio microphones	£600
Purchase of copier for CDs/DVDs	£400
Filming and production of show DVD	£900

<b>Member</b>	<b>Jean Smith,</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 1,900</b>
<b>Amount Proposed</b>	<b>£ 600</b>

## 2.5 NEW DUCK HOUSE FOR ROSEBERY PARK POND

Funding is requested to purchase and install a duck canopy with float on the pond in Rosebery Park. The model quoted for will provide nesting for several waterfowl, and allow members of the public using the park the enjoyment of observing the wildlife.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Chris Frost</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 465</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 465</b>

## 2.6 EPSOM PRIMARY SCHOOL – BREAKFAST CLUB

In order to provide a sound start to the day for pupils whose parents have to leave for work very early in the morning and/or have domestic or financial problems, Epsom Primary School is planning to run a breakfast club before school each day. It is anticipated that 14 pupils will attend initially, but this may grow as the September intake join. The EPS catchment area spreads across Court, Longmead, Horton, etc. It is expected that the introduction of this scheme will improve both attendance figures and educational attainment.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Colin Taylor</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 8,000 p.a.</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 2,000</b>

### 3. PROPOSALS AGAINST CAPITAL GRANT

#### 3.1 LIGHTING FOR ROSEBERY PARK

Funding is requested to install two new lighting columns on the path through Rosebery Park from the Woodcote area to the town centre. At present there is a pool of darkness along the footpath near to the rear of houses at the north-east corner of Woodcote Close and another at the north-eastern end of the pond. (A plan showing the exact siting is included with the application form.) New lighting at these two positions will improve the safety of the area.

<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 3,400</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 3,400</b>
<b>Amount Recommended</b>	<b>£ 3,400</b>

#### 3.2 YOUTH & COMMUNITY HALL – EPSOM METHODIST CHURCH

A contribution is requested towards this major project to build a new affordable youth and community hall to replace an existing dilapidated and energy-inefficient early 1960s structure, situated on land at the rear of Epsom Methodist Church. The main beneficiary of the project will be the 7<sup>th</sup> Epsom Scout Group, which has attracted so many young people to its activities that it is now the largest group in Britain with well over 300 active members. There are 10 other groups also using the existing facilities, and several other organisations keen to benefit from improved facilities, including Parkinson's Disease Society, Tumble Tots, keep fit groups, etc. At the time of application, £326,400 had already been collected/pledged, and a vigorous fund-raising effort is underway to meet the balance of costs.

<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 651,000</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 10,000</b>
<b>Amount Recommended</b>	<b>£ (to be discussed)</b>

#### 3.3 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Business Partnership is at the heart of a campaign to raise sufficient funding to purchase and erect Christmas lights in the main shopping centres of Epsom & Ewell. The business community has pledged £6,750 but this is far short of the estimated £20,500 that would secure a worthwhile display. A further £6,000 has been pledged by Epsom & Ewell Borough Council. The Business Partnership's application requests a Local Committee grant of £5,000, leaving the balance (just under £3000) to be raised via business community/residents.

<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>£ 20,555</b>
<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>£ 5,000</b>
<b>Amount Recommended</b>	<b>£ 5,000</b>

#### **4 RETURNED FUNDING**

- 4.1 A sum of £1,000 was allocated In December 2002 for Replacement Trees in Whitehorse Drive. This work was carried out with funding from another source and so the money has been returned to Chris Frost's individual allocation.
- 4.2 £592 has been returned to Colin Taylor's individual allocation. This had been allocated in February 2006 to Epsom & Ewell Karate Club for the purchase of new mats but was never drawn down.

#### **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 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 2008/09.

#### **6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no significant equalities implications.

#### **7 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 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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**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

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