



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(EPSOM & EWELL)**

CLIMATE CHANGE FUND

17 DECEMBER 2009

KEY ISSUE

The Leader of the Council has announced a Climate Change Fund of £50,000 available for Local Committees to bid into.

Funding will be available for local, community-based initiatives, which support action to tackle climate change within the local area.

SUMMARY

The Climate Change Fund is a pot of money available in 2010-11 for local initiatives to tackle climate change.

Local Committees are invited to submit proposals with a value of up to £10,000.

Final details of the scheme have yet to be finalised, but it is envisaged that proposals will be evaluated on the basis of criteria set out below.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Epsom & Ewell) is asked to agree on a project to be submitted as its application for support from the Climate Change Fund.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 The Leader of the Council has announced that sustainability and taking action to prevent climate change must play a key part in the Council's agenda, cutting across all our strategies and services.

1.2 The County Council works in partnership with the Surrey boroughs and districts through the Surrey Climate Change Partnership to reduce per capita carbon

emissions in Surrey and to improve our resilience to the impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events.

- 1.3 Surrey's per capita carbon emissions were 6.67 tonnes in 2007. The domestic sector accounts for 39% of emissions; the industrial and commercial sector 32% and road transport 29%.

2 DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

- 2.1 A small fund, amounting to £50,000 in total, has been announced by the Leader to enable Local Committees to support climate change initiatives. The aim of the fund is to support local actions to raise awareness and develop local solutions for tackling climate change and improving local resilience
- 2.2 There are a number of activities and groups across Surrey who are already active in this area. Equally a number of Surrey schools are playing a leading role in reducing carbon emissions in their schools and raising awareness of climate change through the curriculum.
- 2.3 The Fund will support projects that can demonstrate:
- Local community leadership and engagement
 - Innovation and replicability
 - Demonstrable impacts in terms of cutting carbon emissions, raising local awareness and/or improving local resilience

3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 The Local Committee is invited to consider what proposals it might wish to put forward for possible funding and to agree a priority for submission.
- 3.2 Examples of the types of initiatives to be supported may include:
- Support for the development of local environmental groups, such as Transition Towns, Fairtrade Groups, Greening Campaigns
 - Support for local awareness-raising events and campaigns
 - Support/training for development of skills in community leadership/communicating climate change
 - Support for local schools climate change initiatives
 - Initiatives to improve air quality

4. CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 It is envisaged that due consultation with any relevant stakeholders will take place if the bid proposed by the Local Committee is approved for action.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The financial arrangements relating to this fund are set out above.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 To be determined when the Local Committee has identified its preferred project.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 To be determined when the Local Committee has identified its preferred project.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Local Committee has an opportunity to support a project, which will reduce the impact of climate change in Epsom and Ewell. It is invited to discuss options and agree a priority for development as its submission.

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 9.1 Details of the process through which applications will be submitted, assessed and taken forward have yet to be finalised.
- 9.2 A template for bids and information on the evaluation criteria will be made available for completion on behalf of Local Committees, based on the themes outlined above. It is expected that applications will include details of key partners, timescale and outcomes.
- 9.3 It is envisaged that bids should be submitted by 31 March 2010 and will be assessed by a panel, which will include the relevant portfolio-holder, using the evaluation criteria outlined above.
- 9.4 All funding will need to have been spent by 31 March 2011.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	None