



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

**LOCAL COMMITTEE IN
EPSOM & EWELL
MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS
13 SEPTEMBER 2010**

KEY ISSUE

To consider new proposals for expenditure from the Members' Allocations budget 2010/11.

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked:

- (i) To approve the proposed expenditure from the Members' Allocations and Capital Grant budgets;
- (ii) To approve requests for change of use;
- (iii) To note a revision to agreement and returned funding.

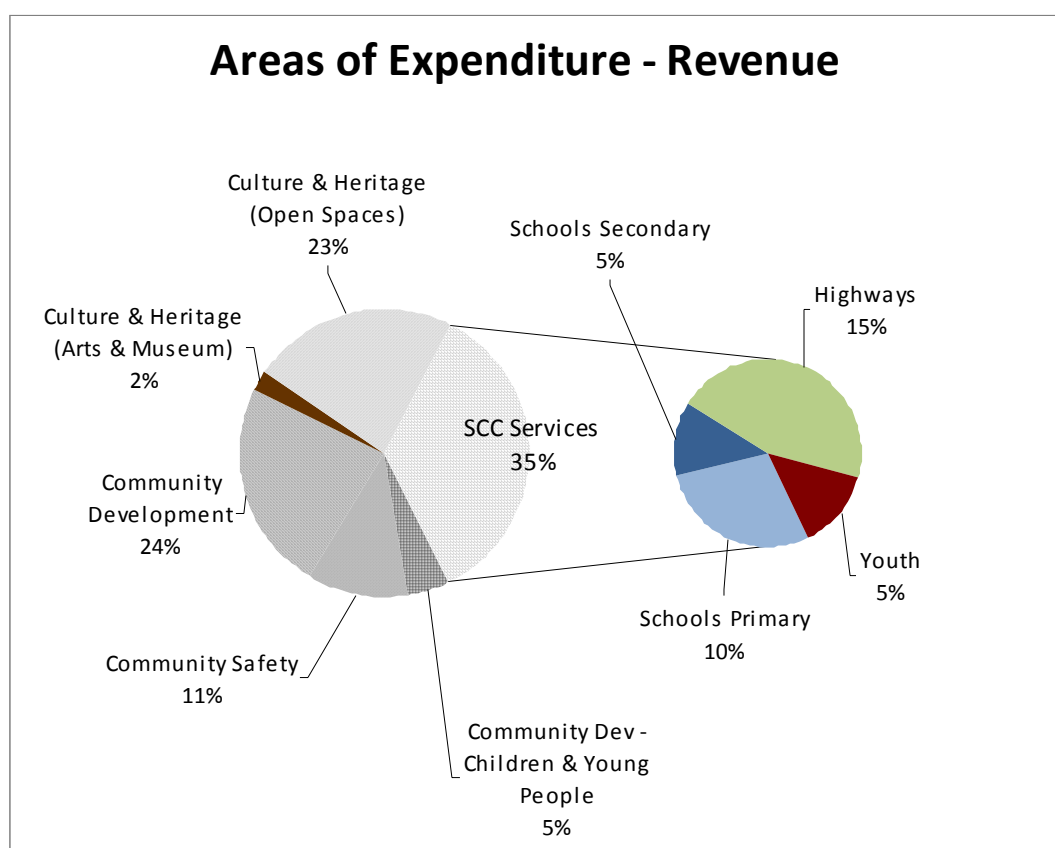
1. BACKGROUND

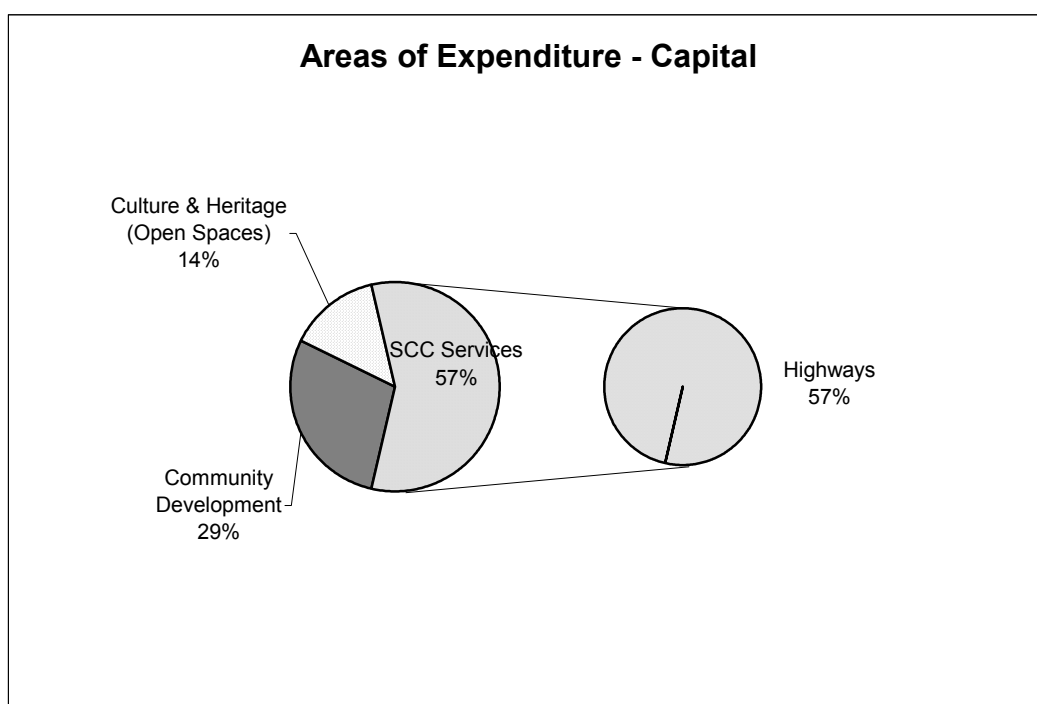
1.1 Each Member of the County Council has been allocated a budget of **£8,250** in 2010/11 to be spent in accordance with his/her wishes on schemes and projects, which promote social, environmental or economic well-being. Each Member’s proposal will require the approval of the Local Committee.

1.2 The Committee has also been allocated a capital grant of **£30,000**. This funding may only be used for capital projects and schemes. It will be allocated equally on a Division basis of £6,000 each, subject to agreement by the whole of the Local Committee.

1.3 Summary of Local Committee delegated budgets 2009/10

The charts below summarise the revenue and capital funding allocated by the Local Committee in 2009/10, for information:





2. MEMBERS' REVENUE ALLOCATION – NEW FUNDING BIDS

2.1 CHALK LANE BOLLARD

Application requests funding to move the bollard at the corner of Chalk Lane and Worple Road nearer to the corner to protect the house (no. 5 Chalk Lane) from lorry strikes.

Member proposing	Chris Frost
Project Cost	£ 600
Amount Requested	£ 600

2.2 EARLY YEARS LISTENING STATIONS – WEST EWELL INFANTS SCHOOL

The school would like to purchase 2 story phones for the Foundation stage classes. These will enable the children to listen to a variety of recorded stories and songs, enriching the classroom experience for the 95 children in the Foundation stage. The balance of the cost will come from the PTA / School Fund.

Members proposing	Eber Kington (£500) and Jan Mason (£500)
Project Cost	£ 1,190
Amount Requested	£ 1,000

2.3 MEADOW SURE START CHILDREN'S CENTRE

The Children's Centre would like to develop a role play area to encourage collaborative play, providing social and emotional opportunities and enhance the children's speech and language skills.

Members proposing	David Wood (£590) and Eber Kington (£300)
Project Cost	£890

Amount Requested £890

- 2.4 **DISABILITY CHALLENGERS – EPSOM SATURDAY PLAY SCHEME**
 Disability Challengers provides a wide range of innovative play and leisure schemes for disabled children aged 5-12. The Saturday play scheme operates out of West Ewell Infant School and in the Autumn Term will run for 15 Saturdays, providing 450 child spaces. The total cost is estimated at £15,565 with part funding coming from the Aiming High for Disabled Children grant and nominal parental contributions. The shortfall must be raised through voluntary donation. The present application requests £1,730 which would sponsor 5 disabled children to attend for 10 Saturdays each during the autumn term.

**Members Proposing Eber Kington (£520), Colin Taylor (£410),
 Chris Frost (£400) and Jan Mason (£400)**
Project Cost £15,565
Amount Requested £1,730

- 2.5 **DRIVE FOR VOLUNTEERING ACROSS SURREY - SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST**
 Between April 2008 and March 2009, volunteers donated over 3,000 working days towards SWT's community projects, helping to maintain, recreate or restore sites for wildlife conservation and public enjoyment. There are many volunteering opportunities in the middle and east of the county that are currently constrained by lack of transport. At present, SWT has one old and outdated minibus based in Pirbright. The Trust would like to acquire a second vehicle to be based on Norbury Park which would facilitate volunteer work parties at Howell Hill and other nearby nature reserves and open spaces. This application came to the Local Committee in March 2010, and although a grant of £1,059 was approved at that time, some members had already fully committed their allocations and could not contribute. At their request, the application is submitted again.

Members Proposing Jan Mason (£500) and Colin Taylor (£391)
Project Cost £25,000
Amount Requested £ 3,000 (less £1,059 approved in March 2010)
Recommendation £ 891

- 2.6 **SURREY CRIMESTOPPERS**
 Crimestoppers is an independent charity which provides a way for the public to get information to the police anonymously. Surrey Crimestoppers works with the Community Safety Team in Epsom & Ewell B.C., the local Police and Neighbourhood Watch in helping to reduce crime in the borough, and in 2009/10 they received 62 actionable packages of information about criminal activity in the borough of Epsom & Ewell. They currently receive a year on year grant from Surrey Police which goes a long way towards covering core costs, but recent budget cuts have wiped out most of the partnership funding grants (through the CDRPs) that made up the shortfall. This must now be found through grant funding and voluntary donations.

Members Proposing	All (£200 each)
Project Cost	£20,000
Amount Requested	£ 1,000
Recommendation	£1,000 – with the proviso that 50% is used for a local (Epsom & Ewell) initiative and the remainder contributing to core costs.

2.7 HAZEL COUPE ON EPSOM COMMON – EPSOM COMMON ASSOCIATION (ECOVOLS)

Funding is requested for the purchase of tools and equipment needed in order to create a hazel coupe for a future coppicing area, which involves clearing a large area (about 200 sq m.) of scrub and bramble, locating and transplanting suitable hazel plants (sourced from the common), and guarding them from deer attack. This will be a 5 year project and ECA will pay training and insurance costs, while Epsom & Ewell Borough Council will contribute towards vehicle and machinery costs and volunteer expenses.

Member proposing	Colin Taylor
Project Cost	£ 877.41 for purchase of tools & equipment
Amount Requested	£ 800

3 PROPOSALS AGAINST CAPITAL GRANT

3.1 VISUALISERS FOR STAMFORD GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school hopes to provide a visualiser for every classroom to complement the whiteboards and projectors already installed. These will allow interaction by the children and enhance their visual learning. The balance of the cost will come from the school's delegated budget.

Member proposing	Colin Taylor
Project Cost	£ 4,746
Amount Requested	£ 2,400

3.2 EPSOM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Additional funding is requested to purchase more Christmas lights to improve the town centre environment over the Christmas period and provide a more vibrant shopping area. The cost of installation and removal, as well as maintenance, will come mainly from local businesses with some donations from local residents.

Member proposing	Chris Frost, Eber Kington, Jan Mason, Colin Taylor - £750 each
Project Cost	£ 3,000 + installation/removal, etc.
Amount Requested	£ 3,000

4 APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE OF USE

4.1 SURREY CLUBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (LC080905)

A grant of £2,000 from Cllrs Eber Kington [Cllr Jean Smith] and Jan Mason, was approved in June 2008 as a contribution towards a sports development project, which was to support and encourage young people in the Epsom & Ewell area to access SCYP's programme of activities, particularly focusing on "harder to reach" young people. This was part of a £10,000 project to be run for 3 terms during 2008/09. For various reasons, initially problems in securing the balance of funding, and then ill health of the organiser, the project did not get off the ground. SCYP has now appointed a new Sports Development Officer who has submitted a request for approval to use the grant to run a 10 week course at The Edge Youth Centre, involving approximately 50 young people and staff, in various levels of engagement (participation/coaching/accreditation). SCYP is in close contact with the local youth worker as well as members and staff at The Edge, and there is no shortage of ideas and enthusiasm for such an initiative. This proposal is not dependent upon any other funding and could be running from January-March 2011.

4.2 ST JOHN AMBULANCE RESPONDERS

Funding was approved in March 2009, £2,500 from capital to purchase equipment for two responders and £1,000 to pay for their training. Alternative funding was found to cover the cost of the training and the organisation requests approval to use the revenue allocation to buy additional equipment.

5 REVISION TO AGREEMENT

5.1 LOWER MOLE COUNTRYSIDE TRUST – LAND ROVER APPEAL

An allocation of £5,000 from the capital grant was approved in December 2009, sponsored by Cllrs Chris Frost, Jan Mason and Colin Taylor. This was to be a contribution towards the cost of purchasing a new land rover for transporting bulky materials and heavy tools to the Trust's work sites. Normally, the Trust would be prevented from purchasing vehicles and must lease them, but Surrey County Council's contract with its supplier has just expired and the Trust has been offered an opportunity to purchase the existing vehicle at a cost of £8,700. Those members who contributed to the grant have confirmed their agreement to this change of use.

6 RETURNED FUNDING

6.1 HOWELL HILL LAND DEVELOPMENT – ECOLOGY AND WILDLIFE REPORTS (BEVERLEY CLOSE) – LC060731

A grant of £1,500 from Cllr David Wood [Cllr Nigel Petrie] was approved in March 2007 to pay for a detailed survey to record the wildlife and trees present on land under threat of development. The grant was paid but the developer refused access for the ecology study to be conducted. Planning applications had been refused and the situation has lain dormant for some time. A progress report on use of the grant was requested earlier this year and this revealed that there is little prospect of the study being carried out in

the near future. Accordingly, the money has been recouped and made available for reallocation.

7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The table attached as Annexe 1 shows commitment and balance remaining for Members' individual allocations and the capital grant.
- 7.2 The table attached as Annexe 2 provides a record of projects for which funding has been carried forward from previous years, together with an update on progress for individual schemes.

8 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

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

9 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 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.

LEAD OFFICER: James Painter, Area Director – North Surrey
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 0845 009 009
E-MAIL: James.painter@surreycc.gov.uk
CONTACT OFFICER: Lynda Tarling, Local Committee & Partnership Officer
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 0208 541 9437
E-MAIL: Lynda.tarling@surreycc.gov.uk
BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Version No. 1 Date: 24 August 2010 Time: Initials: MAB No of annexes: 2