



BUDGETS DELEGATED TO LOCAL COMMITTEES:

**LOCAL CAPITAL ALLOCATION
FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS**

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)**

1 December 2005

KEY ISSUE:

The report sets out the framework for the Local Committee's Local Capital allocation for voluntary organisations and makes recommendations on how this can be used for 2005/6.

SUMMARY:

Since 2004-2005, Local Committees have been given a capital allocation of £35,000 per Committee to be used to support voluntary or community groups.

This report asks the Committee to identify how it wishes to use this £35,000 and makes recommendations on 2 specific proposals.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee is asked to:

- i) Note the financial framework for the use of delegated capital funds to the Committee.
- ii) Decide on any principles it wishes to follow for the use of the capital allocation of £35,000 for voluntary or community organisations.
- iii) Identify proposals on how it wishes to use these funds.
- iv) Consider the two specific proposals, i.e. Guildford Bombings plaques and Wey Navigation Towpath improvements.

1. LOCAL CAPITAL ALLOCATION

- 1.1 As part of the support arrangements for Local Committees, SCC gives three pots of funding to initiate or extend projects that promote the economic, environmental or social well being of the community. In particular, this range of funds enhances the community leadership role of Members.
- 1.2 The 3 pots of funding are;
 - Members Revenue funds of £11,500 per member
 - Local “Transportation” Capital of £100,000 per Committee
 - Local Capital for Voluntary Organisations of £35,000 per Committee
- 1.3 This report concentrates on the last pot of funding, Local Capital for Voluntary Organisations. Inaugurated in 2004/5, a capital pot of £35,000 per Committee has been given to support voluntary or community organisations in the borough. Organisations receiving these funds must be recognised charitable, voluntary or community groups. It does mean that public bodies such as SCC, GBC, Police, the PCT or even parish councils cannot receive this funding.
- 1.4 The use of capital funds must be for the purchase or improvement of a fixed asset, such as a building, equipment, vehicle, and the life of that asset must be expected to last for longer than 12 months. It can include infrastructure such as fencing, shelters, signs etc. It cannot be used for salaries or other running costs, which is defined as revenue expenditure.
- 1.5 Members may wish to use this pot to support certain strategic priorities such as:
 - specific need groups, such as the elderly, young people or people with disabilities,
 - specific themes, such as Self Reliance(social inclusion); Community Safety; Social Care; Lifelong Learning, Sustainability,
 - specific geographic areas, such as North Guildford, Ash, the villages etc.,
 - matched with funding from other public organisations, such as, SCC, the Primary Care Trust, Guildford Borough Council, the Police or parish councils.

- 1.6 The pot of £35,000 can be spent in one sum or split into smaller amounts, as the Committee deems appropriate.

2. PROPOSALS FOR SPENDING

- 2.1 Members are asked to identify proposals for how they wish this funding to be used. If it is helpful, two specific projects have been suggested that members may wish to consider.
- 2.2 Guildford Pub Bombings. Sarah di Caprio has proposed the erection of two memorial plaques to commemorate the impact of the bombing of the Horse & Groom and Seven Stars public houses and the effects on the town. Cost will be £5,000. A voluntary group will be approached to oversee the installation.
- 2.3 National Trust – Wey Navigation. Upgrade, repair and improve the River Wey towpath from Onslow Bridge for one kilometre to the north. The total cost of the scheme is about £250,000 and funding is being sought from various sources (Sustrans, Safer Guildford Partnership, SEEDA/SEERA). GBC Executive will be considering an allocation of £80,000 at its meeting on 15th December 2005. It is suggested that the Committee uses its balance of £30,000.

3. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 The various delegated funds are subject to vigorous auditing arrangements with annual progress reports to the Local Committee. Thus, progress on the funds spent last year will be brought to the Committee for scrutiny at its meeting on 30 March 2006.

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