



## OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE

(GUILDFORD)

# MEMBERS' LOCAL ALLOCATIONS

## 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

### KEY ISSUE

To set out the funding available for County Councillors' allocations for 2012/13, and to give consideration to the funding requests received.

### SUMMARY

Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive funding to spend on locally determined purposes that help to promote social, economic or environmental well-being. This funding is known as Member Local Allocations.

For the financial year 2012/13, the County Council has allocated £12,615 revenue funding to each County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to each Local Committee. This report identifies and makes recommendations on bids received for funding that have been sponsored by at least one County councillor.

### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Local Committee (Guildford) is asked to:**

- (i) Agree the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **revenue** and **capital** funding as set out in paragraph 2 of this report.
- (ii) Note the expenditure approved since the last Committee by the Community Partnerships Manager and the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated powers, as set out in paragraph 3.
- (iii) Note the return of funding to the Members' Allocation budget from projects previously agreed, as detailed in paragraph 4.

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The County Council's Constitution sets out the overall Financial Framework for managing the Local Committee's delegated budgets. The underlying principle being that Members Local Allocations should be spent on local projects to promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area, as required by the Local Government Act 2000.
- 1.2 Members of the Local Committee (Guildford) have traditionally agreed to split both the revenue and capital funding equally amongst the members of the Committee.
- 1.3 In addition, the Local Committee agreed to delegate authority to the Community Partnerships Manager & Community Partnership Team Leader (West Surrey) to approve budget applications (and refunds) up to and including £1,000, subject to these being reported to the Committee at the following meeting. The Council's Constitution also allows for the Community Partnership Manager to approve funding for the purchase of grit bins upon a request from a County Councillor.
- 1.4 In allocating funds, Members are asked to have regard to Surrey County Council's Corporate Strategy 2010-14 Making A Difference that highlights five themes which make Surrey special and which it seeks to maintain:
- A safe place to live;
  - A high standard of education;
  - A beautiful environment;
  - A vibrant economy;
  - A healthy population.
- 1.5 Member Local Allocation funding is made to groups and organisations on a one-off basis, so that there should be no expectation of future funding for the same or similar purpose. It may not be used to benefit individuals, or to fund schools for direct delivery of the National Curriculum, or to support a political party.

## 2. BIDS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL – REVENUE/CAPITAL FUNDING

- 2.1 The proposals for revenue and capital funding for consideration and decision at this Committee are set out below.

### 2.2 CHIPS Guildford Charity – CHIPS Playscheme (Pauline Searle/Fiona White)

Project Cost	£40,000
Amount Requested	£2,000 each (Revenue)/£1,000 each (Capital)
Project Description:	To provide a playscheme offering a responsive environment of freely chosen play and planned activities for children 4 to 11 years old living in the Westborough and Stoke wards of Guildford.

**2.3 Puttenham Parish Council – To provide a Skate Board Park (Simon Gimson)**

Project Cost £27,000  
 Amount Requested £1,500 (Capital)  
 Project description: To create a new skateboard park to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee for the ever increasing children population in the Parish.

**2.4 St Francis Church, Westborough – to create a suspended ceiling in the church hall (Fiona White)**

Project Cost £3,790  
 Amount Requested £1,990 (Capital)  
 Project Description: To lower and insulate the current high ceiling, which causes an echo, benefiting all community users of the hall.

**2.5 Ash Youth Centre – Special projects for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in Ash (Marsha Moseley)**

Project Cost £1,840  
 Amount Requested £1,840 (Revenue)  
 Project Description To provide a variety of summer holiday and half term activities for approximately 40 young people aged 11-17 years.

**2.6 Guildford Borough Council – Bollarding at The Mount (David Goodwin)**

Project Cost £7,830  
 Amount Requested £4,000 (£3,500 Capital/ £500 Revenue)  
 Project Description To provide 870 posts to cover an area 650 metres long to protect chalk downland grass verges along a popular bridlepath in Guildford Town from illegal parking and associated anti-social behaviour.

(NB. The maintenance for this project is still to be agreed).

**3. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS**

3.1 The Community Partnerships Manager or Community Partnerships Team Leader (West Surrey) has approved the following bids from the 2012/13 Local Committee budget under delegated authority since the last committee meeting.

**3.2 Friends Of Hurtwood (Keith Taylor)**

Project Cost £2,220  
 Amount Requested £710 (Revenue)  
 Project Description: To provide equipment for educational outdoor play activity days for children aged 5 to 11 years.

**3.3 Cadence Drum & Bugle Corps (Keith Witham)**

Project Cost £17,370

Amount Requested £500 (Capital)

Project Description: To contribute towards the purchase of new brass instrumentation to replace old unsuitable instruments.

**3.4 Bushy Hill Community Centre Community Cohesion (Graham Ellwood)**

Project Cost £7,200

Amount Requested £950 (Revenue)

Project Description To build/rebuild relationships and cohesion within the community by renovating the Community Centre as a shared space and resource.

**4. RETURN OF MEMBER ALLOCATION FUNDING**

4.1 The funding previously approved as detailed below is to be added back into the allocation for 2012/13 of the relevant Member.

- a) Worplesdon Parish Council telescopic ladder £44 under budget (Keith Witham)
- b) Worplesdon Parish Council Little Cricket Nursery signs £22 under budget (Keith Witham)
- c) Pirbright School Winter Maintenance equipment £520 not drawn down (Keith Witham)
- d) Shalford Parish Council £500 towards the installation of a vehicle activated sign not drawn down (Simon Gimson)

**5. OPTIONS**

5.1 The Local Committee may choose to approve all, part or none of the funding proposals under discussion in this report.

**6. CONSULTATIONS**

6.1 In relation to new bids, consultation, where appropriate, may have been undertaken by the organisation receiving the funding, the local Member of the Community Partnerships Team as required. The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

**7. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Each project detailed in this report has completed a standard application form giving details of timescales, purpose and other funding applications made. The County Councillor proposing each project has assessed its merits prior to the project's inclusion as a proposal for decision by the Committee. All bids are also scrutinised to ensure that they comply with the Council's Financial Framework and represent value for money.

7.2 There are sufficient monies to fund all of the proposals contained within this report. If the above recommendations are approved the remaining are set out in the Chart in the Local Committee's financial position statement attached at Annexe 1

7.3 Please note these figures will not include any applications submitted for approval after the deadline for this report or that are currently pending approval under delegated authority. They also do not include any funding that is in the process of being returned to the Local Committee.

## **8. EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The allocation of the Committee's budgets is intended to enhance the wellbeing of residents and make the best possible use of the funds. Funding is available to all residents, community groups or organisations based in, or serving, the area. The success of the bid depends entirely upon its ability to meet the agreed criteria, which is flexible.

8.2 The Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs.

## **9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 The spending proposals put forward for this meeting have been assessed against the County standards for appropriateness and value for money within the agreed Financial Framework and the local agreed criteria, which is available from the Community Partnerships Team.

9.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2012/13 Local Committee delegated budgets as detailed in the report.

## **10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 The Committee is being asked to decide on these bids so that the Community Partnerships Team can process the bids in line with the wishes of the Committee.

## **11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

11.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.

11.2 Any changes to an approved bid will be discussed with the local Members and the Chairman, and if the changes are considered to be significant, an amended bid will be brought back to the Committee for approval. In all other circumstances, the Community Partnerships Team will process the payments as soon as possible once the signed agreement has been received.

11.3 Within 6 months of receipt, all successful applicants will be contacted for details of how the funding was spent and will be asked to supply evidence.

11.4 A breakdown of the expenditure for the year will be brought to the first meeting of the next municipal year.

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**Background Papers:**

- SCC Constitution: Financial Framework
- Local Committee Protocol
- Criteria and Guidance for Members Allocations
- Local Committee Funding Bids