



## OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)

### LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

7 JUNE 2012

#### KEY ISSUE

To set out the funding available for local committee county councillors' allocations and community safety 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 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 firstly presents a summary of the projects that the Local Committee's member allocations funded in the last financial year. It then identifies and makes recommendations on bids received for funding out from the 2012/13 budget that have been sponsored by at least one county councillor. It also seeks approval for the allocation of the community safety budget.

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Local Committee (Mole Valley) is asked to:**

- (i) Note the summary of the local committee's 2011/12 expenditure detailed in section 2.
- (ii) Agree the items recommended for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 Member Allocation funding, as set out in section 3 of the report and summarised below:

Organisation	Project Title	Amount
Holy Trinity Church, Westcott	Westcott Community Project based at St John's Church Furlong Road, Westcott	£3,786
SCC Children's Services	Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children	£3,000

- (iii) Note the expenditure previously approved by the Community Partnerships Manager and the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated powers, as set out in section 4.
- (iv) Note any returned funding and/or adjustments, as set out within the report and at **Appendix 2**.
- (v) Agree that the community safety budget of £3190 that has been delegated to the Local Committee be allocated to for use in accordance with the Community Safety Strategy for Mole Valley, in consultation with the county councillor representative and that the Community Partnership Manager authorise its expenditure in accordance with the Local Committee's decision, as detailed in section 5.

## 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 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 At its first meeting in the 2012/13 committee cycle, the Local Committee (Mole Valley) will decide if and how it wishes to divide its revenue and capital member allocations budgets amongst the Committee and its individual county councillors.
- 1.3 The Committee will also determine whether or not it wishes to delegate authority to the Community Partnerships Manager & Community Partnership Team Leader (East Surrey) to approve budget applications (and refunds) up to and including £1,000, subject to them being reported to the Committee at the following meeting. The Council's Constitution also allows for the Community Partnership Manager and Team Leader to approve funding for the purchase of grit bins at the request of 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 Allocation funding is generally made to organisations on a one-off basis, so that there should be no expectation of future funding for the same or similar purpose.
- 1.6 Member Allocation funding will not usually be granted for purposes that benefit one individual, or to fund schools for direct delivery of the National Curriculum, or to support a political party.
- 1.7 When considering bids, organisations applying are advised against assuming that the Local Committee will meet the total cost of their project.

## **2. ANALYSIS OF 2011/12 LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING**

- 2.1 In 2011/12, the County Council allocated £8,410 revenue funding per County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to the Local Committee in Mole Valley.
- 2.2 The analysis of projects funded by County Councillors (attached at Appendix 1) shows that the majority of the Committee's budget went to external organisations and funded local activities to improve the quality of life of local residents. These projects were wide-ranging and included recreational activities for children and young people with disabilities and theatre productions for the local community.

## **3. BIDS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL – REVENUE/CAPITAL FUNDING**

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

### **Westcott Community Project**

Hazel Watson

£3,786 capital

Holy Trinity Church, Westcott has submitted an application to fund the replacement of a carpet in its building. It aims to make the building more comfortable and welcoming in order to attract more people to the Mum and Toddler Group (Cookie Club), youth club, Community Cafe and Teas Group that take place in the building. The building is owned and maintained by the

PCC of Holy Trinity Church Westcott and is part of its long term vision for community outreach.

### **Leaders' Bursary Fund for Looked After Children**

All County Councillors	£3,000 revenue £500 per member
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This is an application from Surrey County Council's children's services seeking contributions to the Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children. The fund will support two approaches to give children and young people in care recognition and reward. Celebration bursaries will be awarded to children in care and will be linked to the achievement of targets set out in their Personal Education Plans. There will also be a fund that can be drawn upon to provide a more spontaneous response to achievements and respond to other opportunities for looked after children.

## **4. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS**

- 4.1 The Community Partnership Manager or Community Partnership Team Leader (East Surrey) have approved the following bids under delegated authority since the last committee meeting:

A one off sum of £1,000 from Helyn Clack's capital allocation was approved for Horley & District Pubwatch to contribute towards the Pubwatch Ping Pong project. This will supply and install six all-weather concrete table tennis tables in recreation areas covered by the Horley & District Pubwatch.

A one off sum of £230 from Hazel Watson's capital allocation was awarded to Wotton Parish Council to contribute towards the project 'Wotton Village Signs'. This will replace two village gateway signs on the A25 in time for the Olympic Road Race.

A one off sum of £400 from Tim Hall's capital allocation was awarded to SCC Dorking Library to fund walking aids. This will purchase two wheeled walking frames with a seat and basket to increase accessibility for elderly, frail or disabled customers who would otherwise find walking unaided and conducting their own book selection difficult.

A one off sum of £150 from Helyn Clack's revenue allocation was awarded to help to support local residents in the printing of 300 plus questionnaires to analyse the need for a community shop in Leigh.

A one off sum of £250 from Helyn Clack's revenue allocation was approved to contribute towards Betchworth Celebrates Queen's Diamond Jubilee the project. The project will organise Betchworth's Jubilee celebrations.

A one off sum of £650 from Hazel Watson's revenue allocation has been approved for Azcari Youth Project. This will fund the purchase of ten helmets and ten high visibility vests for use by unemployed young people who will receive motorcycle riding and maintenance workshop experience and signposting to employers within the industry.

A one off sum of £500 from Helyn Clack's capital allocation was awarded to the Charlwood & Hookwood Jubilee Committee to contribute towards the purchase of a marquee. The marquee will then be able to be used by other organisations within the Parish as a Jubilee legacy.

A one-off sum of £250 from Helyn Clack's revenue allocation was awarded to Brockham Jubilee Committee to contribute towards the Brockham Jubilee Celebration Weekend. This will help to fund a programme of village-wide activities in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

One-off sums of £1,000 from Clare Curran's revenue allocation and a one off sum of £500 from Helyn Clack's revenue allocation were awarded to the Bookham/Fetcham Beacon Community Group to build a beacon (very large bonfire) and to organise a firework display and other entertainment in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

A one off sum of £900 from Hazel Watson's capital allocation was awarded to Mickleham Parish Council to help to repair and reinstall two village signposts. This will fix existing village signs to the tops of new posts and install them more firmly in the ground.

A one off sum of £900 from Hazel Watson's revenue allocation was approved for the Leith Hill Action Group (LHAG) to contribute towards the appointment of a barrister and expert witnesses to represent LHAG at the Europa Oil and Gas Exploration in Bury Hill Wood, Holmwood, Public Inquiry.

## **5. COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING**

- 5.1 The County Council has in the past made available to Local Committees the sum of £14,500 per borough/district for use in conjunction with the Community Safety Partnerships, of which £12,000 was ring-fenced for outreach with those affected by domestic abuse and the Local Committee was asked to allocate the remainder of the funding for community safety work. As part of the centralised approach to these services the domestic abuse outreach is being funded centrally for allocation by the Community Safety Unit. This year, the Local Committee has a delegated budget of £3,190 for general community safety purposes which it has, in the past,

allocated to for use in accordance with the Community Safety Strategy for Mole Valley, in consultation with the county councillor representative.

- 5.2 The Committee is asked to confirm that it wishes to use its budget of £3,190 to in accordance with the Community Safety Strategy for Mole Valley, in consultation with the county councillor representative and to delegate authority to the Community Partnership Manager to oversee the expenditure of this budget.

## **6. OPTIONS**

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

## **7. CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

## **8. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 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 Appendix 2.
- 8.3 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 currently in the process of being returned to the Local Committee.

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

- 9.1 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.

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

## **10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 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 locally agreed criteria, which are available from the Community Partnerships Team.
- 10.2 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.

## **11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 11.1 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.

## **12. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

- 12.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 12.2 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.
- 12.3 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.

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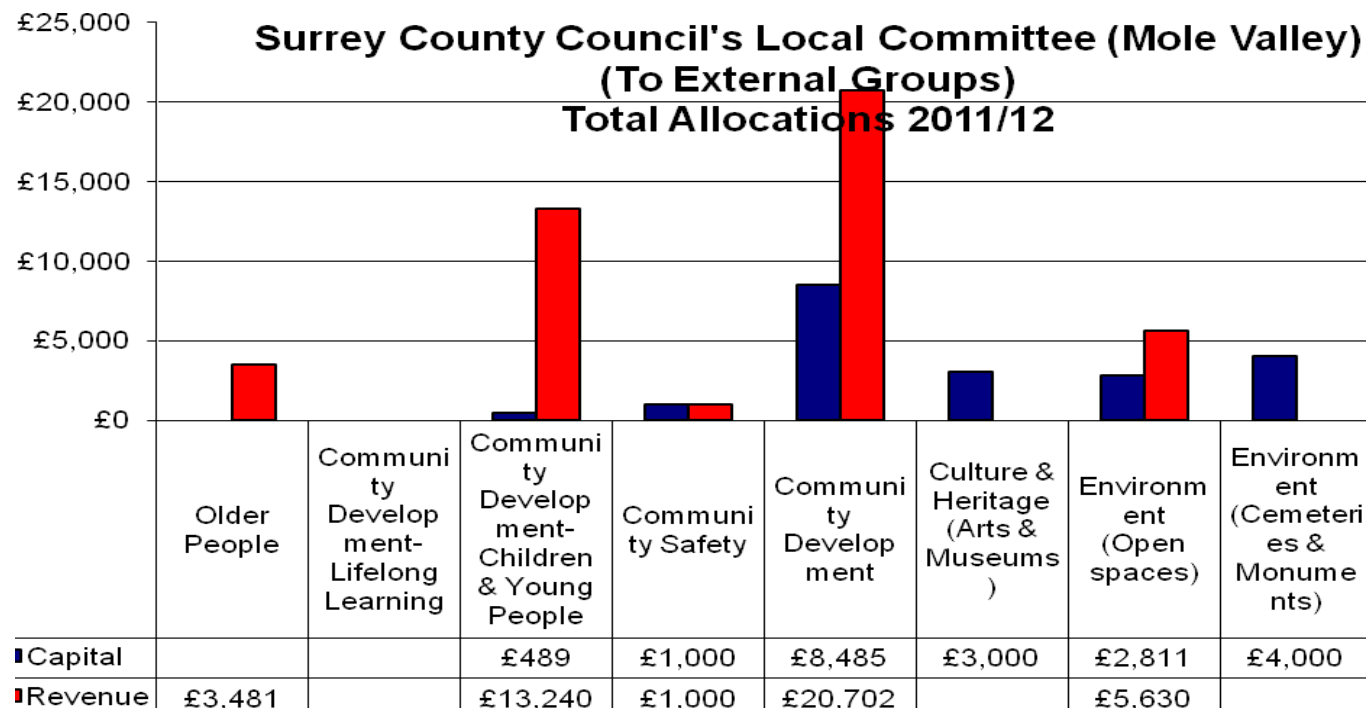
**Background Papers:**

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



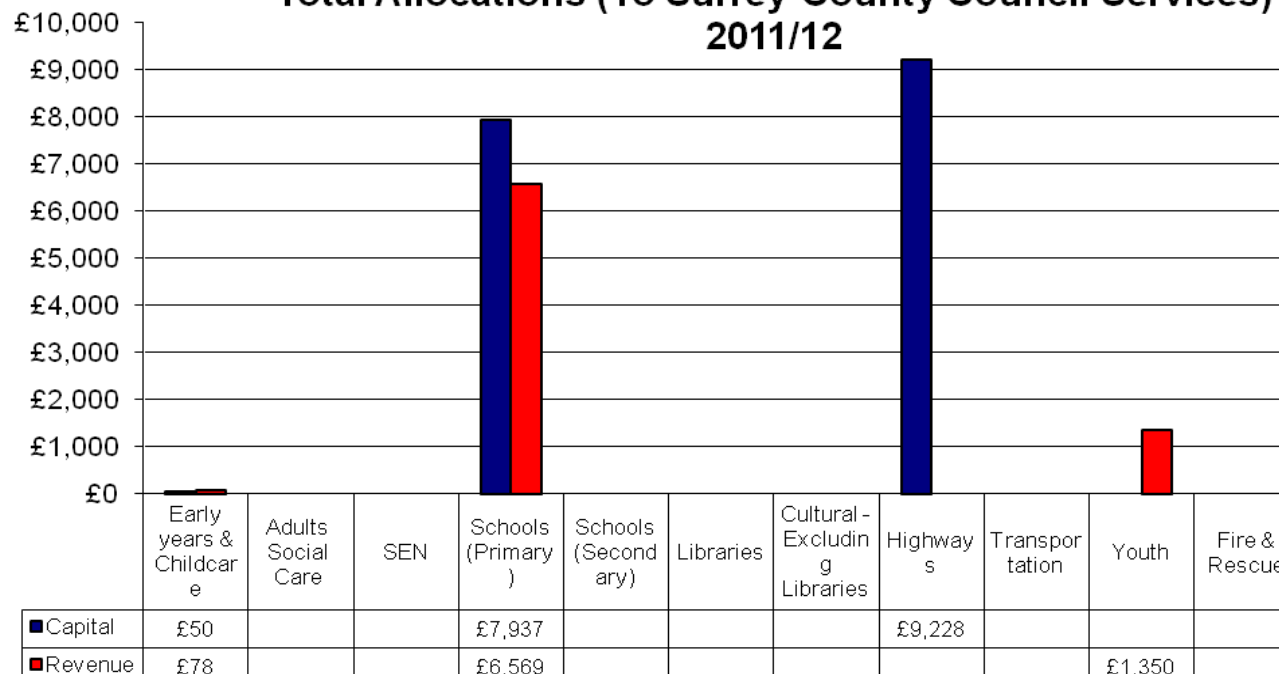


Appendix 1



Note: Figures include any returned (unspent) allocations from the previous financial year that were reallocated and spent within 2011/12

**Surrey County Council's Local Committee (Mole Valley)  
Total Allocations (To Surrey County Council Services)  
2011/12**



Note: Figures include any returned (unspent) allocations from the previous financial year that were reallocated and spent within 2011/12

