



LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE AND BANSTEAD)

20TH NOVEMBER 2006

KEY ISSUE

To consider the proposals contained within the report for funding from the Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) delegated funding 2006/07.

SUMMARY

Surrey County Council Local Committees receive delegated funding to allocate on locally determined purposes that meet local social, economic or environmental well-being.

For 2006/07 the County Council have delegated £99,000 revenue funding (£11,000 per County Councillor) and £35,000 capital funding for voluntary organisations.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to:

- (i) Consider the items submitted for funding from 2006/07 Local Committee delegated budgets;
- (ii) Consider the request for a change of funding use, for an allocation previously agreed in 2003/04.

1 INTRODUCTION

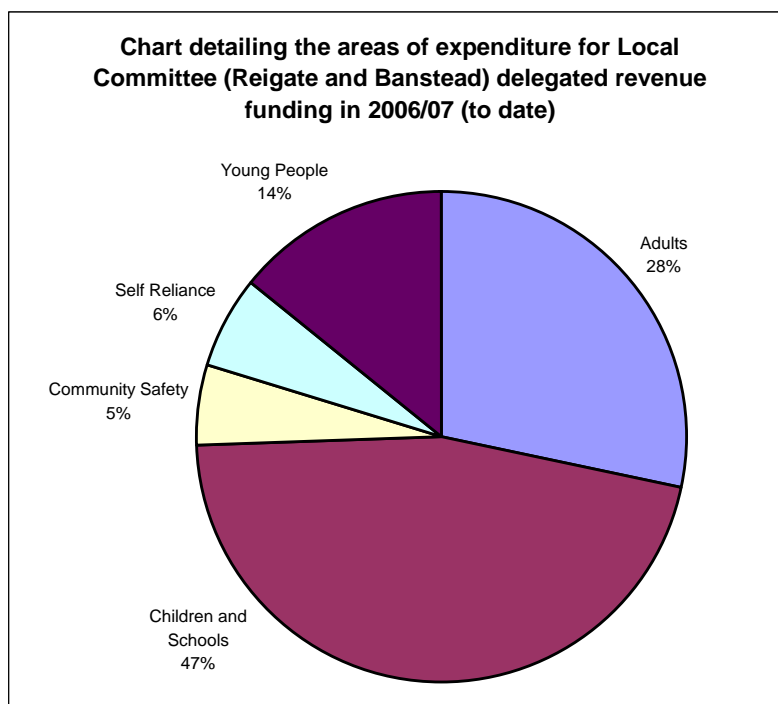
- 1.1 Surrey County Council's Local Committees have been delegated power to take decisions in response to local needs within the County Council's power of well-being, up to a maximum sum per County Council member of the Committee. In addition the County Council have also delegated a capital sum to Local Committees. This funding is determined annually as part of the Council's budget process.
- 1.2 The County Council also delegated £100,000 capital funding to each Local Committee. This funding was used to support local transportation projects. The Local Transportation Manager provides separate reports on this funding.

2 FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL COMMITTEES

- 2.1 To give Local Committees maximum flexibility, the key underlying principle is that Local Committees are at liberty to spend on locally determined purposes that meet local social, economic or environmental well-being.
- 2.2 When the Local Committee was established in April 2002, it was resolved that priorities for spending the delegated funding should come from the County Council's corporate plan, or the Reigate & Banstead community plan, or other sources, or any combination of these. A summary of these priorities is attached as Annex A.

3 LOCAL COMMITTEE DELEGATED BUDGETS 2006/07

- 3.1 At the annual budget meeting on 7th February 2006, the County Council approved delegated funding to Local Committees of £11,000 revenue funding per County Council member and £35,000 capital for voluntary organisations per Committee.
- 3.2 Therefore, the Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) has a total budget of £99,000 revenue and £35,000 capital to allocate in 2006/07.
- 3.3 At present the Local Committee have allocated a total of £14,090, as detailed below:



- 3.4 The following are new funding proposals from Local Committee revenue funding:

BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTION, BANSTEAD YOUTH CENTRE

Member Mr M Gosling

Amount Proposed £422.84

Summary of Proposal

Banstead Youth Centre does not currently have a broadband connection for their IT suite.

The IT suite is popular with young people using the centre. This allocation will enable the young people to use the internet for one year whilst the long term funding of the youth centre is resolved. There is no ongoing funding commitment, as the broadband contract can be cancelled at the end of the year. The allocation will be subject to the Youth Development Service securing the necessary procurement approval.

TALKING NEWSPAPER

Member Mr D Kee

Amount Proposed £1,500

Summary of Proposal

The talking newspaper is a fortnightly tape, providing local news and information to blind and partially sighted people who might otherwise feel isolated from usual communication channels. It is available free to anyone in the borough who is registered blind. The recordings help reduce social isolation for the blind/partially sighted. Feedback from users is very positive.

The talking newspaper has previously received funding from the local committee in February 2005. It must secure funding each year to ensure it continues, and may make a similar funding request in the future. They are also applying to Reigate and Banstead Borough Council for a grant.

IT PROJECT - ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Member Mr S Harding
Amount Proposed £4,000

Summary of Proposal

St John's Primary School are planning to upgrade the IT equipment at the school. The new equipment will ensure that the school is able to provide first class ICT facilities for the benefit of young people at the school.

The Parent Teacher Association have approved £5,000 match funding. If the committee approves this allocation, the school will need to secure further capital funding of £41,000.

SEATING FOR RECREATION GROUND, LONESOME LANE

Member Mrs F King
Amount Proposed £1,000

Summary of Proposal

This allocation will provide funding for the supply and installation of a wooden seat within the recreation area off Lonesome Lane. A play facility in the area was removed due to problems with anti-social behaviour. Consultation with local residents supported this move, but they have also requested that something be put in its place.

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council are unable to fund seating from this year's budget, but have confirmed that they will provide funding for the upkeep and maintenance of the seating.

WHITE LINE WORKS, FAIRFAX AVENUE/BAXTER AVENUE, REDHILL

Member Dr L Hack
Amount Proposed £200

Summary of Proposal

Consultation with local residents has highlighted speeding as a priority that should be tackled in the Cromwell Road area.

This allocation will provide funding to place 4 "slow" white line warnings on the roads and "Keep clear" warnings across a dropped kerb. Reducing the speed of traffic on the estate will improve safety for all residents, particularly young children accessing the park.

VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS, A217 (LOWER KINGSWOOD TO BURGH HEATH)

Member Mr M Gosling
Amount Proposed £10,000

Summary of Proposal

This allocation will provide funding to purchase two mobile vehicle activated sign units. These signs will be used along the A217 between Lower Kingswood and Burgh Heath. The exact locations will be agreed by the Local Transportation Service, and by reference to the Surrey Safety Camera Partnership.

The signs should reduce the number of vehicles that exceed the speed limit along the A217 and will therefore improve safety.

The Local Transportation Service will manage and maintain the signs.

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YOUTH PROJECTS, BANSTEAD YOUTH CENTRE

Member Mrs A Fraser DL
Amount Proposed £2,500

Summary of Proposal

This allocation will support sessional staffing necessary to run three youth projects at Banstead Youth Centre – High Sheriff Youth Award, Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, and an Annual Entertainment Project. The projects will run until mid 2007.

The projects will benefit a substantial number of young people (11-18 years) in the Banstead area. The projects also provide skills opportunities for those near the top of the age range to lead groups of younger participants.

The High Sheriff award will help address problems such as bullying and behavioural difficulties. The funding for the Duke of Edinburgh award will support the costs associated with the residential part and the costs of the awards evening.

COMMUNITY FREEDOM PROGRAMME, EAST SURREY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FORUM

Member Mr N Harrison
Amount Proposed £1,986

Summary of Proposal

This funding will support East Surrey Domestic Violence Forum to run a 12 week community freedom programme for 10 women living in Preston and the surrounding area.

The programme is for women who wish to learn more about the reality of domestic violence and abuse. The programme also illustrates and explores the effects of domestic violence on children. The aim of the programme is to help women gain self-esteem and confidence to improve the quality of their lives, and the lives of their children, and also assist women to recognise potential future offenders.

The programme is based on work developed through Downview prison, and an earlier pilot was run with great success.

BANSTEAD WEST MUSIC IN THE PARK 2007

Member Mr N Harrison
Amount Proposed £1,500

Summary of Proposal

The Banstead West Music in the Park event is a free event held in Nork Park, and is extremely popular with local residents. The annual event includes live music and entertainment for local residents.

This funding will contribute towards the costs of organising, running and publicising the event in 2007. It is hoped that additional funding will be raised through sponsorship and other applications. Previously, the Local Committee allocation has acted as the trigger to encourage further fund raising.

The funding and organisation for the event is administered through an independent Charitable Trust. Any profits from the event are donated to charity. Previous profits have been donated to provide additional seating in Nork Park.

50TH ANNIVERSARY FLOWER FESTIVAL, BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB**Member** Mrs A Fraser DL**Amount Proposed** £500**Summary of Proposal**

Banstead Flower Club plan to decorate All Saints Church in Banstead as part of a 50th anniversary festival. This will be a community project, involving members of the flower club, church and wider community, including children from two local schools.

The display will be available for the whole community to see, with any donations being given to charity. The exhibition is planned to take place 4th-6th May 2007. The total cost of the flowers is expected to be in the region of £3,000. Banstead Flower Club has successfully raised £1,500 to date, and it is hoped that a bid to the Lottery will also be successful.

REIGATE AND REDHILL LIVE AT HOME SCHEME**Member** Mr D Kee**Amount Proposed** £1,500**Summary of Proposal**

The Live at Home scheme is a charity, which is operated through Redhill Methodist church. It aims to help vulnerable older people in maintaining independent lives in their own homes, by providing voluntary home help. The scheme assists in reducing social isolation, and provides practical assistance as well as social contact for those who are largely housebound.

Reigate and Redhill Live at Home scheme has previously received funding from the local committee over the last 2 years. It must secure funding each year to ensure it continues, and may make a similar funding request in the future. The charity applies for a variety of grants to assist with funding.

HELPING HANDS SCHEME, PROSPECT HOUSING**Member** Mr D Kee**Amount Proposed** £3,000**Summary of Proposal**

The Helping Hands scheme provides voluntary gardening, decorating and security lock fitting services to older people, people with disabilities or those who are housebound.

The volunteers themselves are people with learning difficulties or mental health problems, who receive training and work experience from the scheme. This raises their self esteem and skill levels, providing them with greater access to future employment. By assisting vulnerable households with keeping their homes and gardens in good order, they will be less likely to be targeted by bogus callers. The project

The Helping Hands scheme has previously received funding from the local committee over the last 2 years. The scheme is ongoing and raises funds throughout the year through events and bids, so there may be a need for further funding in future years. The charity applies for a variety of grants to assist with funding.

SPORTS EQUIPMENT, ROYAL ALEXANDRA AND ALBERT SCHOOL

Member Mr D Kee

Amount Proposed £3,000

Summary of Proposal

Royal Alexandra and Albert School is a voluntary aided school for pupils aged 7 – 18 years old.

In September 2005 the school was awarded specialist sports college status.

Sports college status will enable the school to raise standards in all subjects, to foster a greater culture of learning, success and achievement in all areas of school life. The school also opens its facilities for the local community to use, such as inviting local schools and clubs to use the trampoline facilities.

This allocation will allow the school to purchase a new trampoline to support this work.

- 3.5 The following is a request to approve a change in use for a previously agreed project:

WARREN MEAD INFANT SCHOOL

Original Proposal Building Refurbishment

New Proposal Outdoor Learning Area

Amount Proposed £3,500

Summary of Proposal

The Local Committee has previously agreed £3,500 to support building refurbishment at Warren Mead Infant School (on 15th September 2003). Unfortunately, initial cost estimates proved to be too low and the project has not been able to start.

Warren Mead Infant School propose instead, to use the funding for an outdoor learning area, for which they have successfully raised £13,000 to date.

The project involves redesigning the playground to create different activity areas, including a multipurpose sports pitch, physical games area, role play, science investigation and a covered quiet area with tables, board games, and a friendship bench which the children have designed. The playground will then be used during lesson time to support specific aspects of the curriculum.

The local committee funding would enable the school to proceed with the playground improvements. This is a change of use proposal only, and funding will not come from the Local Committee 2006/07 delegated budgets.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The Local Committee delegated revenue funding for 2006/07 is £99,000 (£11,000 per County Councillor). The Committee have previously agreed £14,090 revenue and the proposed allocations total £31,108.84. If these are all agreed the remaining balance will be £53,801.16. The remaining delegated capital funding for voluntary organisations is £35,000.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 Any proposals for consideration at the next formal Local Committee should reach the Local Committee & Partnership Officer no later than **15th January 2007**.

LEAD OFFICER: Lynne Martin, Area Director
TELEPHONE: 01737 737694

CONTACT OFFICER: Gavin Handford, Local Committee and Partnership Officer
TELEPHONE: (01737) 737695

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE PRIORITIES

In May 2005, the County Council agreed to focus its work on the following core areas of improvement:

- Extending social care for Surrey's vulnerable adults;
- Improving services for children, families and young people;
- Improving the roads & traffic management;
- Reducing waste, improving recycling rates and finding the best solution to getting rid of Surrey's growing waste mountain;
- Improving community safety & reducing anti-social behaviour;
- Improving our customer services and engagement with residents;
- Keeping the council tax down and providing value for money.

REIGATE AND BANSTEAD COMMUNITY PLAN PRIORITIES

The current Community Plan in Reigate and Banstead was adopted in 2003 and contains the following priorities:

- **Caring for the environment** - providing a clean, safe and well designed environment for all to enjoy both now and in the future;
- **Creating a safe place to live, work and visit** - making Reigate and Banstead a safer and more pleasant place;
- **Tackling traffic Problems** - providing an efficient, affordable and practical transport network;
- **Helping older people to stay independent** - allowing older people to stay independent and healthy through community-based services;
- **Providing facilities / opportunities for young people** - improving life-chances for young people in the Borough;
- **Providing low-cost housing** - helping people to live in affordable, good quality local accommodation;
- **Making it easier to find out about services and how to get help** - ensuring everyone can easily get information and help when they need it;
- **Raising levels of learning and skills** - providing opportunities to continue learning and gaining new skills;
- **Helping families with children** - co-ordinating and improving provision for families.