



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE AND BANSTEAD)

LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

1 MARCH 2010

KEY ISSUE

To consider the proposals contained within the report for Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) funding from the 2009/10 budget.

SUMMARY

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

For the financial year 2009/10 the County Council has delegated £74,250 revenue funding (£8,250 per County Councillor) and £35,000 capital funding for voluntary organisations to the Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead).

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) is asked to:

- (i) Consider the items submitted for funding from 2009/10 Local Committee delegated revenue budget totalling **£24,010**.
- (ii) Consider the items submitted for funding from 2009/10 Local Committee capital budget and agree the allocation of the remaining £15,000 funds.

1 INTRODUCTION

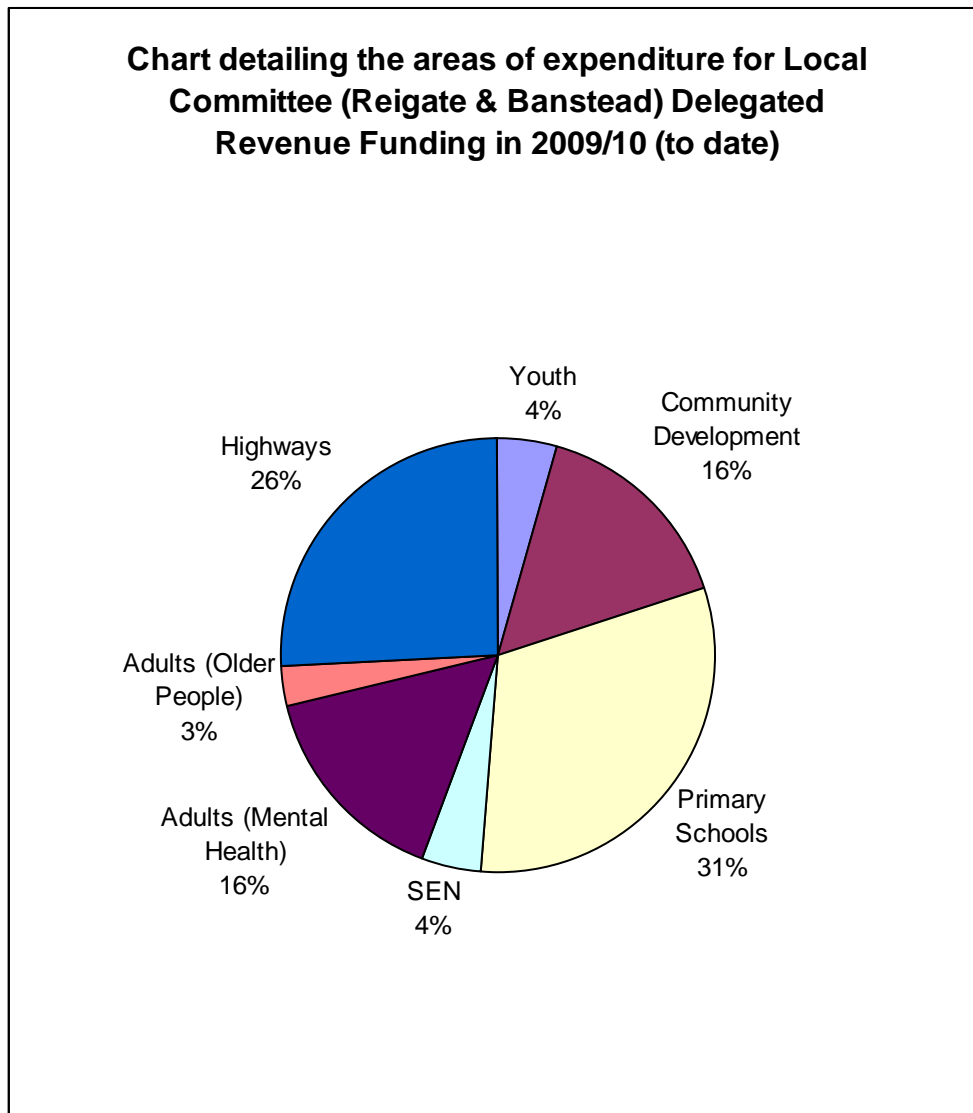
- 1.1 Surrey County Council's Local Committees have been delegated power to take decisions in response to local needs within the County Council's power of well-being, up to a maximum sum per County Council member of the Committee. In addition the County Council have also delegated a capital sum to Local 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 is delegated for Highways purposes.

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 The Local Committee has previously resolved that priorities for spending the delegated funding should come from the County Council's corporate plan, or the Reigate and Banstead Community Strategy, or other sources, or any combination of these. A summary of these priorities is attached as Annex A.
- 2.3 At its meeting on 20 July 2009, the Committee renewed its approval for the process for agreeing small funding allocations (up to and including £1,000) outside of formal committee meetings, with approval delegated to the Area Director in consultation with members. Any allocations approved through this process are detailed in Paragraph 3.6.

3 LOCAL COMMITTEE DELEGATED BUDGETS 2009/10

- 3.1 At the annual budget meeting on 10 February 2009, the County Council approved delegated funding to Local Committees of £8,250 revenue funding per County Council member and £35,000 capital for voluntary organisations per Committee.
- 3.2 The Local Committee has a total revenue budget of £74,250 to allocate in 2009/10.
- 3.3 At present, the Local Committee has allocated a total of **£22,439.46** revenue funding, as detailed below:



3.4 The following are new proposals for Local Committee **revenue** funding:

1. STAR FOR A NIGHT 2010

Member Dr Lynne Hack

Amount Proposed £3,000

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of Star for a Night 2010, which consists of ten weeks of rehearsals using a professional dance, drama and singing tutor, followed by two performances of a variety show at the Harlequin Theatre. The project benefits around 100 young people in Reigate and Banstead, building their confidence and self-esteem.

2. CLIMBING WALL AT SCOUT RIDGE, BANSTEAD

Member Mrs Angela Fraser

Amount Proposed £1,500

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of reinstating the existing climbing wall, which had to be taken out of use due to increased safety requirements. The funding will enable the existing wall and its associated equipment to meet current standards, providing climbing and abseiling experience for Scouts in the Banstead District and other youth organisations.

3. WALKING FOR HEALTH IN REIGATE AND BANSTEAD

Member Mr Peter Lambell

Amount Proposed £1,000

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought by Action for Life to contribute towards a project encouraging people to join a free walking programme offering health walks of between 1.5 and 4.5 miles and promoting the current recommendation of 5 x 30 minutes of physical activity. The project will specifically increase participation in the existing pram walk in Redhill, and, with additional funding, start a new pram walk in Priory Park, Reigate. The project specifically targets people with mental health problems and postnatal depression. There is considerable evidence of the benefits of physical activity for mental wellbeing and the management of mild to moderate depression. The project covers the borough of Reigate and Banstead, and will benefit those participating and those who train to become volunteer walk leaders.

4. SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST – DRIVE FOR VOLUNTEERING ACROSS SURREY

Member Dr Zully Grant-Duff

Amount Proposed £2,000

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of a new vehicle, based at Norbury Park, to enable Surrey Wildlife Trust to widen their geographic range, increase the number of donated volunteer days, broaden their relationship with all the communities of Surrey, and engage with more economically or socially challenged volunteers. The new minibus will cover Reigate and Banstead, Mole Valley and Tandridge, and meets the need to provide transport which is currently unfulfilled and places constraints on the amount of volunteering which can take place. Volunteering plays a vital role in the work of Surrey Wildlife Trust, and gives people from a wide range of backgrounds, including the long term unemployed and those lacking self-confidence or with mental health issues, the chance to learn practical outdoor skills.

5. REIGATE MINI RUGBY CLUB

Member Dr Zully Grant-Duff

Amount Proposed £1,410

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought for the provision of training equipment to the Reigate Mini Rugby Club. The club currently has 163 girls and boys from 19 different schools aged between 4 and 10 undertaking tag rugby and contact. The club also provides volunteer after-school tag rugby training free of charge, benefiting children who have not experienced formal sport training before. The club wishes to expand and is looking for funding to provide training equipment.

6. PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Member Mr Peter Lambell

Amount Proposed £5,000

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of purchasing and installing play equipment for children with disabilities at one of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's playgrounds (exact location to be confirmed). Consultation with local groups and parents of children with disabilities has taken place, and the intention is to provide a swing unit and inclusive roundabout. A proportion of the funding has been provided through Reigate and Banstead Borough Councillors' Community Awards, with additional fundraising to provide the balance.

7. BANSTEAD COMMUNITY JUNIOR SCHOOL – WILDLIFE GARDEN

Member Mrs Angela Fraser

Amount Proposed £2,000

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of a wildlife garden at Banstead Community Junior School. Bays will be cut into existing brambles for observation areas, benches will be provided for a quiet area, bird and bat boxes will be placed, and an existing pond will be drained and filled with a log pile to encourage mini beasts. A rubber mesh path will be laid for wheelchair access. The garden will enable children to observe nature and encourage wildlife in a safe and accessible area of the school. The project will benefit from the school, as well as local nursery children and residents from local retirement homes and people with disabilities. The school has been awarded £500 by the Surrey Mirror after entering a competition, and is looking for £2,000 to meet the cost of matting for paths, and bird and bat boxes.

8. SALFORDS AND NV YOUTH CLUB**Member** Mrs Kay Hammond**Amount Proposed** £2,000**Summary of Proposal**

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of a youth club with a professional youth leader for young people aged 10 – 16 living or being educated in and around Salfords. The funding will pay for equipment, property improvement and safety, and staff training, with the balance being provided via fundraising, Reigate and Banstead Borough Councillor's Community Award, and Salfords and Sidlow Parish Council. Future funding will come from entrance fees and further fundraising events are planned.

9. CONTACT THE ELDERLY – SALFORDS AND HORLEY**Member** Mrs Dorothy Ross-Tomlin**Amount Proposed** £800 (£500 – Horley; £300 – Salfords)**Summary of Proposal**

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of providing outings for two established groups of elderly residents in Horley and Salfords. Contact the Elderly is a national organisation which aims to provide friendship and fellowship for older people.

10. MERSTHAM COMMUNITY FACILITY TRUST – IT CAFÉ**Member** Dr Zully Grant-Duff**Amount Proposed** £2,400**Summary of Proposal**

Funding is sought to contribute towards the continuation of the existing IT café provision and extension of a project to provide a job club. The IT Café currently runs each Monday from 10am to 3pm and is staffed by volunteer "IT Buddies" who are recruited, trained and supervised by the Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) project worker who supports the Merstham Community Facility Trust (MCFT) to deliver to the community. The project addresses local needs including unemployment, social isolation and lack of access to IT. It is currently used by between 6 and 8 people per week, and it is hoped that this can be extended by providing more IT buddies to help with job searches, CVs and letter writing. The contribution from the Local Committee will pay for the cost of hiring the venue for one year.

11. ACTIVITIES IN WHITEBUSHES**Member** Mrs Frances King**Amount Proposed** £2,000**Summary of Proposal**

Funding is sought to contribute to the cost of providing free activities for young people in Whitebushes during the summer holidays. Many of the young people on the estate will not engage in any recreational activities

during the holidays at all due to disadvantage. This project will enable them to take part in sports and arts activities that will benefit them enormously and make their holidays memorable.

12. WARREN MEAD INFANT SCHOOL – SCHOOL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Member **Mr Nick Harrison**

Amount Proposed **£900**

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute to the School Library Development Project at Warren Mead Infant School. This involves furnishing and equipping the library with a greater range of reading material, cataloguing all the books using the Junior Librarian programme, developing a parents' working party to run the library every afternoon, and opening the library for children to borrow books. The aims of the project are to raise attainment in reading so that every child reaches their potential, provide the children with weekly use of the library, so promoting the enjoyment of books and reading, develop a more positive image of the library and the importance of reading, increase parental involvement in the running of the library, and familiarise the children with a library environment and teach them the purpose of a library.

- 3.5 The following are new proposals for Local Committee **capital** funding. The Committee has £15,000 remaining in the capital fund for 2009/10:

1. REIGATE METHODIST CHURCH – COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT

Proposed by **Mr Peter Lambell**

Amount Proposed **£15,000**

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute towards the cost of building Phase I of the new community centre at Reigate Methodist Church. The aim of the project is to provide a community building that is accessible and well served by public transport and roads, which is attractive and modern and fully meets the needs of the local community. Phase I of the development will include an atrium style entrance serving as an open, light and spacious informal meeting area; five additional meeting room of various sizes; an office for a centre manager/youth leader; kitchen facilities; storage for user groups. It will also be available as a meeting or seminar facility to promote local networking and business. Consultation has taken place with user groups and other interested parties, and a user-led programme of potential activities is being developed in conjunction with a range of voluntary, community and statutory organisations.

2. BANSTEAD HIGH STREET – SPECIAL DESIGN STREET LIGHTING

Proposed by Dr Lynne Hack
Amount Proposed £15,000

Summary of Proposal

Funding is sought to contribute towards the cost of replacing 20 street lighting columns in Banstead High Street with an enhanced design similar in appearance to the CCTV camera units located at points along the High Street. A programme of refurbishment will commence in March 2010 which will see all street lighting columns replaced (any columns under 15 years old will be refurbished). The investment programme will replace columns on a like for like basis (i.e. standard design for standard design/special design for special design) thereby upgrading the quality of Surrey's street lighting infrastructure. Alongside this, there is an opportunity for any interested party or group (private, public or local) to request special design lamps and columns in place of the standard design when the programme reaches that location – the additional cost of upgrading the design selection is not covered by the PFI contract and therefore is required to progress any application.

- 3.6 No allocations have been agreed under delegated powers since 7 December 2009.

4 OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Local Committee has delegated power to approve the proposals for funding or not.

5 CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 Consultation may have been carried out by the organisation receiving funding, the local Member or by the Local Partnerships Team, depending on the project. Further details are available on request.

6 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Local Committee delegated revenue funding for 2009/10 is £74,250. The proposed allocations total £24,010. If these are all agreed the remaining balance will be £44,649. It has been agreed that all uncommitted revenue funding can be carried forward to the 2010/11 financial year.
- 6.2 The Local Committee capital funding for 2009/10 is £35,000. The Committee has already allocated £20,000. Each proposal is seeking the remainder of this year's funding (£15,000), and Members must therefore make a decision as to how this money is allocated. Members should be aware that there is no capital funding allocation for the 2010/2011 financial year.

7 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community needs. A summary of how the funding has been allocated to date is set out in section 3 of this report.

8 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs. A summary of how the funding has been allocated to date is set out in section 3 of this report.

9 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) is asked to:

- (i) Consider the items submitted for funding from 2009/10 Local Committee delegated revenue budget totalling **£24,010**.
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10 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 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.

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 The Local Partnerships Team will process all payments as soon as possible once the agreement has been received.

- 11.3 Any proposals for consideration at the next formal Local Committee should reach the Local Committee and Partnership Officer no later than **4 June 2010**.

LEAD OFFICER:	Lynne Martin, Area Director (East)
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	03456 009 009
E-MAIL:	lynne.martin@surreycc.gov.uk
CONTACT OFFICER:	Sarah Albert, Local Committee and Partnership Officer
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	01737 737695
E-MAIL:	sarah.albert@surreycc.gov.uk
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Local Committee funding bids

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The County Council's Corporate Plan 2009/13 *Making Surrey a Better Place*, sets out the following five priorities:

- Protecting vulnerable children and young people
- Helping adults to live independently and safely
- Minimising and recycling waste
- Improving Surrey's roads
- Working to keep Surrey's economy successful

REIGATE AND BANSTEAD COMMUNITY PLAN PRIORITIES

The Community Plan, *Reigate and Banstead 2020*, contains the following priorities:

- **Your Environment** – maintaining a sustainable environment for future generations;
- **Neighbourhoods for the Future** – well designed places that meet the needs of local people and stand the test of time;
- **Vibrant Communities** – people who enjoy opportunities to live life to the full;
- **Right Services in the Right Places** – providing high quality, joined up and accessible services