



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (Spelthorne)

LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

9th July 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 and/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 2011/12. It then identifies and makes recommendations on bids received for funding that have been sponsored by at least one County Councillor.

This report also seeks agreement to transfer the Local Committee delegated Community Safety Budget to the Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership, to further the aims of the Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership Plan.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) is asked to:

- (i) Note the summary of the Local Committee's Member Allocation expenditure in 2011/12 as detailed in section 2.

- (ii) Agree the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **revenue** funding as set out in section 3 of this report and summarised below:

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT
The Echelford Primary School	Outside Classroom and Seating Area	£9,527
Parish of Staines and Churches together in Staines and Laleham	Manna – The Food Bank in Staines	£7,000
Penton Hook Association	Jubilee Street Party	£499
Staines Village Residents & Traders Association	Staines Village Jubilee Street Party	£500
Surrey County Council	Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children	£3,500
The Lifetrain Trust	Live and Direct	£1,400

- (iii) Agree the items recommended for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **capital** funding as set out in section 3 of the report and summarised below:

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Shepperton Youth Centre	Court Yard Redevelopment	£3,000
Ashford Library - SCC	New furniture for children's area	£1,527
The Salvation Army Staines	Ten Week Parenting Course using qualified staff	£1,000
The Echelford Primary School	Outside Classroom and Seating Area	£3,473
A2 Dominion Group	Refurbishment of Lounge Furniture	£4,126

- (iv) Note the expenditure previously approved by the Community Partnerships Manager and the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated authority, as set out in section 4.
- (v) Note any returned funding and/or adjustments, as set out within the report and also in the financial position statement at Appendix 2.
- (vi) Agree that the community safety budget of £3,160 that has been delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership and that the Community Safety Partnership Manager authorize 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 (Spelthorne) will decide if and how it wishes to divide its revenue and capital member allocations budgets amongst the Committee and its constituent 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, nor to fund schools for the direct delivery of the National Curriculum, nor to support a political party.
- 1.7 When considering bids, organisations applying are usually 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 and £35,000 capital funding per County Councillor in Spelthorne
- 2.2 The analysis of projects funded by County Councillors is attached at Appendix 1. It shows that the majority of the Committee's 2011/12 budget was awarded to external organisations and funded local activities

designed to improve the quality of life of local residents (community development). Within this, children and young people benefitted significantly and projects ranged from those designed to provide them with sport and leisure activities during the summer holidays to projects that helped young people secure work, educational and training opportunities. The wider community in Spelthorne benefitted from the creation of job clubs for people over fifty years old, the provision of Christmas lights and local theatre productions.

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.

Shepperton Youth Club: Court Yard Redevelopment £3,000 capital

Richard Walsh

This is an application for funding to redesign the central courtyard to make it more youth-friendly but also to ensure that there is enough space to host and cater for community members when they visit the centre.

The Club wishes to create a small organic patch where young people can grow their own vegetables that can then be used in cooking projects held at the club that will also help to forge positive relationships amongst the local community. The Shepperton Youth Club will also contact residents associations to source volunteers to work with young people at the club and also to encourage the community to help within the development project.

New furniture for Ashford Library Children's area £1,527 capital

Carol Coleman

An application has been submitted by Ashford Library for the purchase of new furniture to enhance its children's library following changes made that removed their old equipment. Funding will fill the gap where an old PC and self services kiosk were ripped out and allow various book collections to be displayed better. It will also enhance the look and feel of the junior area and make it more user-friendly and organised. This project will not only benefit people in the Ashford area but other surrounding areas as well. Approximately 400 to 500 people from the locality and the surrounding areas visit the library each day.

Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children

All County Councillors £3,500 revenue

This is an application from Surrey County Council's children's services seeking contributions of £500 from each County Councillor to the Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children. The Fund will support two approaches to giving 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 may be drawn upon to give a more spontaneous response to achievements and respond to other opportunities for looked after children.

Live and Direct
The Lifetrain Trust

£1,400 revenue

Denise Turner – Stewart

The project will introduce music making to young people and then support the young people to develop their musical ability and increase awareness of music technology and music management. In addition to learning musical technique, they will plan and manage their own live performances.

This project will increase young people's personal development and confidence; the development of team working; understanding of the logistical and financial implications of organizing events; and awareness of the benefits of peer review, supported through complementary youth work.

Outside Classroom and Seating Area
The Echelford Primary School

£3,473 capital
£9,527 revenue

Carol Coleman

The Echelford Primary School has submitted an application to enable greater use of outside areas so that outdoor learning in support of current government education guidelines can be delivered. The project will also provide additional teaching and learning spaces by utilising a disused area of the school. The underused area will be cleared and an outside classroom will be erected on it as part of this project. Part of the area will also be laid with tarmac to develop a seating space for spectators of the outdoor learning activities. The 650 pupils at the school will benefit from this project and the revamped area may also be made available to external societies and clubs in the wider community.

Manna – The Food Bank in Staines
Parish of Staines and Churches together in Staines and Laleham

£7,000 revenue

Denise Turner - Stewart

An application from the Manna Food Bank has been received. It has become apparent, particularly to many local clergy, that there is a rising number of people who are calling on vicarage doorsteps asking for food because they have insufficient funds to feed themselves and their families.

The project will provide a five-day food parcel for those who find, due to circumstances, that they cannot afford to put food on their table. This would involve those awaiting benefits to come through, loss of income due to redundancy/unemployment, bereavement or accident. It is unclear exactly how many people will require this service. However, from the experience of Restore, which provides food for people in Sunbury, their numbers are increasing.

Jubilee Street Party – Penton Hook Association £499 revenue

Denise Saliagopoulos

The Association organised a street party in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee for residents of Penton Hook Road, St Pinnock Avenue, Penton Hall Drive, Penton Hall, Belle Vue and Thames Side down stream from the Penton Hook Lock to Penton Hall. A buffet luncheon was provided and contributed to the Association's efforts to continue building stronger social networks and cohesion already started with previous "Meet Your Neighbour" gatherings. The celebration provided a basis for further functions in the local community and between social groups and Neighbourhood Watch members. The Association's application was received after the event had taken place. Since the Local Committee's criteria for the use of member allocations states that retrospective bids cannot be agreed under delegated authority, this bid is being submitted to the Spelthorne Local Committee for its consideration.

Staines Village Jubilee Street Party £500 revenue
Staines Village Residents & Traders Association

Denise Saliagopoulos

The **Residents & Traders Association** submitted an application to help fund the cost of hosting a street party in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. 240 people planned to attend the event from Church Street, Island Close, Vicarage Road and Church Island in Staines. The party aimed to increase community spirit and to give people living on the street an opportunity to meet other residents and build connections that, in turn, would lead to a stronger and safer neighbourhood. Particular consideration was given to ensuring that elderly residents were included in the event. This application was, however, received after the event had taken place. Since the Committee's criteria for the use of member allocations states that retrospective bids cannot be agreed by delegated authority, this bid is being submitted to the Spelthorne Local Committee for its consideration.

Ten Week Parenting Course using qualified staff £1,000 revenue
The Salvation Army Staines

Denise Turner - Stewart

We need to develop further daily activities to build relationships with these young people. We would like to develop sporting & social activities.

Parenting Course – Re 10 week parenting course (qualified staff) This is an addition to our daily nursery Parent & Toddler / Baby & Toddler music groups. Approx. 100 parents weekly, more than 150 children from the local communities stated who would benefit from a parenting course.

Refurbishment of lounge furniture £4,000 capital
A2 Dominion Group £126 revenue

Denise Turner - Stewart

A bid has been received from the housing association to renew communal dining room table and chairs in order to improve residents' social life.

All residents will use the new facilities on a daily basis for their meals and for all social events. Berryscroft Court previously received funds from the local committee in 2011/12 totalling £5,857 for purchase of a garden shed and decorating the communal lounge.

4. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS

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

COUNCILLOR	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Carol Coleman	Provision and Distribution of Illustrated Dictionaries to Year 5 pupils in Ashford & Stanwell Schools 2012	£750
Richard Walsh	Shepperton Youth Club – Boys Football	£400
Richard Walsh	Donating books to local Primary and Junior Schools	£500
Denise Saliagopoulos	Job Club for the 50+	£950
Denise Saliagopoulos	Memorial Gardens	£900
Richard Walsh	The Raft Race	£500

COUNCILLOR	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Carol Coleman	The Rex Crescent – Diamond Jubilee Street Party	£250
Carol Coleman	Ashford & District Smallholders Centenary	£100
Denise Saliagopoulos	Social Club for the Blind and Partially Sighted	£800
Richard Walsh	The November Show – The Revelaires	£400
Denise Saliagopoulos	Queens’ Diamond Jubilee	£539
Denise Turner-Stewart	New Kids Zone – WR Sports Club	£1000
Richard Walsh	Intergenerational Community Games	£200
Denise Saliagopoulos	Spelthorne & Runnymede Drama Festival	£700
Denise Saliagopoulos	Dictionaries for Schools	£626
Richard Walsh	Reflective Vehicle LandRover	£700
Denise Saliagopoulos	Signage for SSR	
Richard Walsh	Shepperton in Bloom – South & South East in Bloom Entry	£800
Richard Walsh	Laleham Darby & Joan Club	£500
Carol Coleman	Keep Out – The Crime Diversion Scheme	£500

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 Surrey County Council’s Community Safety Unit. This year, the Local Committee has a delegated budget of £3,160 for general community safety purposes which it has, in the past, allocated to the Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership as its contribution towards the projects and activities referred to in the relevant report.
- 5.2 The Committee is asked to confirm that it wishes to transfer its budget of £3,160 to the Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership and to delegate authority to the Community Safety 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 or 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 balances are set out 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 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 The 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 local agreed criteria, which is available from the Community Partnerships Team.
- 10.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from 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

