

Criteria and Guidance

1. Criteria

The project should help with at least one of the following:

- **Improving community facilities:** including improvements to local facilities or the convenience, appearance or safety of community spaces or venues;
- **Making a real difference to people's lives;**
- **Encouraging self-reliance:** supporting communities to take responsibility for local issues.

2. Core themes

The project should help with at least one of three core themes:

- **Public pride:** enhancing the look and feel of Surrey
- **Public wellbeing:** promoting public health and wellbeing, such as community allotments
- **Volunteering in Surrey:** among residents, businesses and the public or voluntary sectors

In 2012/13, applications to support the following are also encouraged:

- **Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations:** initiatives to mark the event
- **London 2012 Legacy:** initiatives to support the ongoing benefits of the 2012 Olympics

3. As well as outlining the project and showing how it fits with the key criteria and themes, bids should

- show clear timescales, baseline position and intended outcomes (with measures);
- show what additional resources (people or money) are available from partners to complement any county council resource;
- indicate how funding will be sustained beyond the initial funding period;
- be consistent with the best practice principles of the Surrey Compact (where working with Voluntary, Community and Faith groups);
- be consistent with county council policies.
- Successful bids will be asked to produce a final report showing the success of the project, how they have worked with the community and how the money has been spent.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

- How the money was spent and the impacts / outcomes of the project
- The Community Engagement through the project and ongoing, if applicable
- Statements of accounts, and any remaining balances held
- As funding is public money, successful applicants may be asked to provide additional information for audit purposes

4. Restrictions

The Community Improvements Fund may NOT be used for:

- Political organizations or individuals;
- To cover ongoing revenue costs, including salaries;
- To replace withdrawn funding for existing projects
- In the main, to supplement existing funding available from the County Council towards a project.
- Projects opposed to County Council Policy or taking sides in a planning application.