



County Councillors' Local Allocations for 2005/06

8 July 2005

KEY ISSUE

To set out the funding available for County Councillors' allocations for 2005/06, and consider the requests received so far.

SUMMARY

For 2005/06 the allocation for each County Councillor is £11,500. In addition a sum of £35,000 is available for the Local Committee to spend on capital projects for voluntary sector organisations in the local area. This gives a total of £104,000, which represents a decrease of £6,000 against last year's budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

County Councillors are asked:

- a) to ratify decisions taken in principle at an informal meeting on 27 May 2005
- b) to consider the requests for funding set out in annex 1, and decide whether or not to support these requests
- c) to agree that, due to the reduced number of local committees, any future time-critical bids can be agreed in principle at informal meetings and formalised at the subsequent formal committee meeting.

BACKGROUND

1. In 2005/06 County Councillors across Surrey each have an allocation of £11,500 to spend on local projects. In addition each Local Committee has £35,000 to spend on capital projects for voluntary organisations. In Tandridge it has been agreed that the funds should be pooled and spent to improve services for local residents, with the following priorities:
 - to help children and young people
 - to help vulnerable people, including older people
 - to improve the local environment
 - to improve Surrey County Council's communication with local people

LOCAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2004/05

2. Annex 2 shows the allocations for 2003/04. All but £1338 was allocated and the remainder has been rolled forward into the current financial year. A wide range of worthwhile projects were supported and the percentage of funding against each priority was as follows:

68% to help children and young people compared with 40% last year however
20% to help vulnerable people, including older people compared with 34%
last year

11% to improve the local environment compared with 13% last year

1% to improve Surrey County Council's communication with local people
compared with 13% last year.

The allocations this year tended to attract a large number of requests for repairs and maintenance to youth facilities.

REQUESTS FOR 2005/06

3. Due to the cancellation of the formal May Local Committee meeting to accommodate new Member induction, a number of applications for funding were agreed in principle at an informal meeting on 27 May so as not to disadvantage applicants by a further delay. Members are therefore asked to ratify the decisions taken at that meeting without further discussion as follows:

Proposed by Peter Langham:

Chaldon Scout Group - £4,000 towards a new roof

Caterham Sea Cadets - £3,500 towards building improvements

Proposed by Sally Marks:

4th Caterham Scouts - £1,000 for equipment

1st Woldingham Guide & Scout Group - £1,357 paving for disabled access

Information Youth Bus – Up to £5,000 to complete customising

Proposed by N Skellett:

Tandridge Village Car Park - £2,000 towards resurfacing

Oxted CAB - £1,744 for carpeting and furniture

Master Park - £3,500 for playground maintenance (ring-fenced subject to further information.)

Item 6

XL Youth Project - £500 for project work in Oxted School (with an agreement to lend up to £500 to allow the project to go ahead until such time as young people can attract additional funding from other sources.)

4. Two additional new requests have been received (See annex 1), and County Councillors are asked to consider these and agree whether or not they wish to fund them.
5. The County Councillor who has received the bid will explain it, with the following background information:

£500 for Help the Aged National Falls Awareness Day received by Peter Langham

6. It is hoped to hold a drop in session for older residents of the Tandridge district to promote the prevention of falls in the home. A local chiropodist, optician, pharmacist and a local fireman will man stalls at St Mary's church hall, Oxted to give free advice on their areas of expertise, for example ill fitting shoes and eye tests. There will also be a chair-based exercise session which helps the elderly maintain their balance, so preventing falls. The majority of the money required will go towards producing flyers and posters to publicise the event but will also provide transport for those who require it, in addition to the Buses 4 U scheme. Light refreshments will also be provided. Although it is to be held in Oxted, this project will benefit the elderly and vulnerable across Tandridge.

£3000 (or contributions towards) for the Live & Direct Music Project received by Marian Myland

7. This late application is for funding to enable the Live & Direct Music project to go ahead in the summer. A decision will have to be taken at this meeting if Members are to fund this project as it is due to take place before the next informal meeting. Further information will therefore have to be brought to the meeting.

CONCLUSION

8. If Members agree the requests set out in paragraphs 3 - 7, the total commitment would be £26,101 leaving a balance of £79,237.
9. A consequence of the reduced number of formal committee meetings is that applicants will have to wait longer for a decision, and for some applicants, the delay can be critical. Members are therefore asked to consider discussing any outstanding bids at future informal meetings with a view to ratifying them at the next subsequent formal meeting.

Report by: Lynne Martin, Area Director, Local Partnerships Team

LEAD OFFICER: Janet Johnson, Local Committee & Partnership Officer, Tandridge Local Partnerships Team

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01883 732759
