



## OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)

### COUNTY COUNCILLORS ALLOCATIONS FOR 2007/08

5 OCTOBER 2007

#### KEY ISSUE

To set out the funding available to County Councillors from the delegated budget for 2007/08 and to consider requests received.

#### SUMMARY

Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive delegated funding to allocate to local and community organisations and projects that meet specific social, economic or environmental needs within the parameters of its espoused priorities.

For 2007/08 the allocation to each County Councillor is £11,000 revenue funding. In addition each Local Committee received a further £35,000 to spend on capital projects for voluntary sector organisations in the local area, making a total of £101,000 available to Tandridge Local Committee.

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Tandridge Local Committee is asked to:**

- (i) Consider new requests for funding from the Members' Allocations budget as set out in Annex A.
- (ii) Formally approve any previously discussed requests for funding that have been agreed in principle [NOTE: para 2.2 of this report].

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive delegated funding to allocate to local and community organisations and projects that meet specific social, economic or environmental needs within the parameters of its espoused priorities.
- 1.2 At the annual budget meeting on 6 February 2007, this was set at £11,000 revenue per County Councillor plus £35,000 for capital projects. As the six Surrey County Council Members of Tandridge Local Committee have elected to pool their individual allocations, this makes a total of £101,000 for Tandridge Local Committee.
- 1.3 The County Council also delegated £100,000 capital funding to each Local Committee to support highways projects. The Local Highways Manager provides separate reports on this funding.

## 2 FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 2.1 Eleven funding proposals have already been approved this year totalling £24,765 and a further six, totalling £25,600, are currently under discussion. Members have received copies of the completed application forms for information. These are summarised below for convenience.
- 2.2 **Nick Skellett Holland School £5,000 (In principle agreement)**  
Due to time constraints, the Local Committee agreed in principle at an informal meeting on 27 July 2007 to contribute £5000 towards essential building works at Holland School to enable work to begin. Members are asked to formally ratify that decision at this meeting.
- 2.3 **Peter Langham Tandridge Voluntary Service Council £3100**  
The Tandridge Voluntary Service Council coordinates a network of local voluntary organisations. It aims to provide 4 networking events throughout the year to support and promote the work of local organisations, to disseminate relevant information on trends, legislation, etc. and to benefit from cross-fertilisation of ideas, creative thinking and peer support. TVSC would also like to host a marketplace event annually where its members can display their material for the benefit of local people and businesses and where volunteers and sponsors can be matched. Local organisations have very few opportunities to engage with potential volunteers and sponsors and this event would be of considerable interest and benefit to the local community.
- 2.4 **Nick Skellett Tandridge Youth Forum £10,000**  
For the past three years, the Local Committee has supported the Tandridge Youth Forum with a grant of funds which they then disburse to various projects in much the same way as the Local Committee. The criteria for making grants and the processes involved are very closely

monitored and, apart from the obvious benefits to local projects, the process allows young people to develop an awareness of local democracy in action and supports their personal development. As the membership of the Forum changes from year to year as young people grow up and move on, this is always a fresh challenge for them and their annual reports to Local Committee on how the funds are disbursed demonstrate the value of this process both to young people and the wider community.

**2.5 David Hodge Warlingham Village School £3,500**

The village school is carrying out extensive work to the front of the school to improve safety for children and families entering and leaving. It has liaised with Highways on developing the scheme. The improvements aim to prevent parking outside the school and to widen the pavement at a total cost of close to £12,000. The school is asking for a contribution towards the cost as it will not only benefit the school but also the wider community. This cost would not routinely be met from school funding.

**2.6 Sally Marks Message in a Bottle Scheme £1000**

The Local Committee contributed to this scheme when it was first launched in 2004. Message in a Bottle is a neat solution to ensuring that emergency service can have access to vital information when an elderly or vulnerable person is unable to provide this information in person for example after an accident in the home. Details of medication, medical conditions, etc can be stored in a small plastic container which, in turn, is stored in the fridge. The advantage is that it is safe and accessible even in the event of fire. This partnership initiative was originally widely promoted by Surrey Ambulance Service but following the change of provision to South East Coast Service, take up has significantly declined. The funding would help to relaunch the scheme and promote it to partner agencies and users. This approach is being co-ordinated by the Council for Voluntary Service.

**2.7 Sally Marks Woldingham Parish Church £3000**

St Pauls Church in Woldingham has recently built a new community room at a cost of over £280,000 with the intention of opening up the premises for wider community use. It is available to local school children for their environmental projects as well as for Christmas concerts and other community events and, in future, will provide a base for work with people suffering from Alzheimer's disease. The bulk of the funding has already been raised but there is a shortfall of some £30,000. The Committee is asked to provide funding for a much-needed sound system, which will greatly enhance provision and open up further possibilities for community use. The estimated cost of installation is £6,600 and they are looking for £3,000 towards this total.

### **3 OPTIONS**

- 3.1 The Local Committee may choose to approve all, any or none of the proposals under discussion.

### **4 CONSULTATIONS**

- 4.1 Consultation may have been undertaken by the organisation receiving funding, the local Member or the Local Partnerships Team as required, depending on the nature of the project, and further details are available on request.

### **5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Local Committee delegated revenue funding for 2007/08 is £66,000. £10,650 has already been allocated (as at Annex A). If all the current bids, totalling £13,100 are agreed this will leave a balance of £42,200. Of the £35,000 capital budget, £14,065 has already been allocated and if the current bids, totalling £12,500 are agreed this will leave a balance of £8,435. [Note: all figures are shown in Annex A.]

### **6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Local Committee funding is available to all residents, community groups or organisations based in, or serving, Tandridge and places no further restrictions on who may apply. The success of a bid depends entirely upon its ability to meet the locally agreed criteria, which are flexible and cover a wide-ranging and diverse variety of projects. The local priorities specifically identify vulnerable adults, and Member funding continues to support projects which benefit disadvantaged local people.

### **7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Local Committee funding can also be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs.

### **8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 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.

- 8.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2007/08 Local Committee delegated budgets as detailed in the report.

## 9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 All projects under consideration have been sponsored by, and have the support of, the appropriate Local Member. As funding for Tandridge Local Committee is pooled, Members are requested to consider them as a group and to decide on whether or not to approve them.

## 10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 10.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 10.2 Any changes to an approved bid will be discussed with the local Member and the Chairman and, if the changes are considered to be significant, an amended bid will be brought back to Committee for approval.
- 10.3 In all other circumstances the Local Partnerships Team will process the payments as soon as possible once the signed agreement has been received.
- 10.4 Within three months of receipt, all successful applicants will be contacted for details of how the funding was spent and will be asked to supply evidence.
- 10.5 Except in exceptional circumstances, and at the Chairman's discretion, any proposals for consideration at the next formal Local Committee should reach the Local Committee and Partnership Officer no later than **7 November 2007**.

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<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>	Local Committee Funding Bids