



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)

COUNTY COUNCILLORS ALLOCATIONS FOR 2007/08

14 December 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.

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 Sixteen funding proposals have already been approved this year totalling £50,365 and a further eight, totalling £17,743, are currently under discussion. Members have received copies of the completed application forms for information. These are summarised below for convenience.
- 2.2 **Sally Marks Whyteleafe Tennis Club £5,483**

The tennis club pavilion was destroyed by fire in April this year. The District Council has agreed funding to replace it with a concrete structure. They now require additional funding to fit it out. The Club maintains that funding would ensure the survival of a facility which has been in existence in Caterham since before the 1939-45 war and it considers itself to be a community facility charging minimum fees to clients. They are currently negotiating to arrange opportunities for scouts to learn with one of their members so as to qualify for their sports badges. This project would be of benefit to members and casual users of the facilities in the Whyteleafe community.
- 2.3 **Marian Myland Community café, Godstone £2,000**

Godstone Parish Church aims to provide a glass fronted welcome area that will house a community café for local residents, a local information point, internet café facilities and new disabled/family access. Local residents will be able to find refreshment, friendship and stimulation in 5 sessions per week, seating 26 people at any one time. The project will encourage computer/internet use within the local community and provide support through social interaction and community information. The funding for the building work is now in place and they are asking the Committee to contribute essential equipment. This project will benefit

residents in the local community and, with support, will open to the public in mid-2008.

2.4 Marian Myland Nutfield Village Hall £4,230

Nutfield Village Hall is a local focal point for the village. However it is in great need of upgrade and refurbishment. This is an ongoing process and the Local Committee is being asked to contribute specifically towards refurbishing the ladies toilets. The upgrade, once completed, will make the facility more attractive and will result in increased use of its facilities as a local resource at a time when the only similar facility in the village has been burned down. This would benefit local residents and other users of the hall.

2.5 Nick Skellett Limpsfield in Bloom £950

The Management Committee is asking for support to allow Limpsfield to enter the Royal Horticultural Society's South and South East in bloom competition, and also Britain in Bloom. Its entry for 2007 was very well supported and local people are keen to enter again next year. In 2007 They obtained a gold medal and won the 'large village' category, and along with only two other entries, have now been asked to enter Britain in Bloom in 2008. The In Bloom entries do not only improve the local environment but also involve the whole community. This is not limited to planting but includes improvements to streets and walkways and, in this case, the local stream. The local schools are also involved in various sub-projects and competitions. The benefits include improvements to the environment, strengthening the community and stimulating the local economy through increased tourism.

2.6 Sally Marks Woldingham Village Hall Refurbishment £1400

The Village hall is at the hub of the local community and is a well used resource. It is currently spending its funds on improving the fabric of the building and is asking the Local Committee to help by purchasing replacement chairs for public performances. The existing furniture is dilapidated and unsafe and the group would like to be able to replace it in time for the annual pantomime. The Committee's contribution would buy 100 new chairs, which would be an invaluable asset to the village hall and its patrons.

2.7 Ken Rimington Crowhurst Village Centre Project £1885

Crowhurst Parish Council has plans to create a focal point in the village centre area including trees, plants, and a village sign, where people can rest on the benches and enjoy the ambience. There will be no labour costs as the local community will be supplying the labour. The District Council has pledged £3,000 and the Tandridge Local Committee Members are asked to fund two wooden benches, paving slabs, ballast, cement and a flagpole. If this bid is successful, the project can be completed by summer of 2008 and will benefit local residents and visitors to the area.

2.8 Sally Marks Woldingham Cricket Club Equipment £1000

Although the club will continue to play in friendly games, it has been accepted into the Surrey Downs League - provided it meets with ground and facilities requirements. This will attract new members at all skill levels and will encourage young players to join and to develop skills in the nets prior to participating in games as well as ensuring that more experienced players can continue to progress. To this end it is fundraising for the purchase and installation of cricket equipment to enable training of new and existing members, especially youngsters – specifically a cricket cage (net for training) costed at £16,500 and a sight screen costed at £1,200. Members are asked to contribute towards the sight screen. The equipment will be used by Woodlea School (at no charge) and the Sports Master there is keen to add cricket to his curriculum with the prospect of ultimately establishing a colts team with the club.

2.9 Peter Langham Le Personne Trust Hearing Loop £795

The Le Personne Trust is commencing a project to convert 12 of its bedsit flats to one-bedroom flats at a cost in excess of £600,000. This project will absorb the Trust's own resources for the foreseeable future. Residents, whose average age is in the mid 80's, have raised funds themselves to provide a modern digital television in the residents' lounge. However, a significant number of them have hearing difficulties and are unable to benefit from this facility. Purchase and installation of a hearing loop will enable elderly residents of the Le Personne Homes with hearing difficulties to take a full part in all social and communal activities in the residents lounge. This project will benefit vulnerable adults.

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. £23,800 has already been allocated (as at Annex A). If all the current bids, totalling £17,743 are agreed this will leave a balance of £14,548.

Of the £35,000 capital budget, £26,565 has already been allocated and if the current bids, totalling £3,195 are agreed this will leave a balance of £5,240. [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 **28 January 2008**.
- 10.6 Provisional expressions of interest currently total £9,500 and Members are reminded that the March Committee will be the final opportunity of the year to ensure that the balance is fully committed.

LEAD OFFICER:	Lynne Martin, Area Director (East)
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	08456 009 009
E-MAIL:	Lynne.martin@surreycc.gov.uk
CONTACT OFFICER:	Janet Johnson, Local Committee and Partnership Officer
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	01883 732795 / 01737 737423
E-MAIL:	Janet.johnson@surreycc.gov.uk
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Local Committee Funding Bids