

Tandridge Local Committee Briefing Note – 5th March 2010

Community Foundation for Surrey

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION for SURREY

The Community Foundation for Surrey is an independent charitable trust raising the level of philanthropy for local community benefit and connecting people who want to give with those who are in need.

The Foundation is building permanent community funds and has a growing family of charitable funds established by individuals, families, companies and Trusts. These funds support a programme of grant-making to communities across Surrey. The Community Foundation is one of a network of Community Foundations across the UK and was one of the last to be established.

The Community Foundation has awarded £1.5 million to over 470 community and voluntary groups across Surrey since the Foundation was established 4 years ago. In addition, permanent community funds of over £2.3 million have been established, of which the interest generated is used year after year to support local community and voluntary groups who make a real difference to the quality of life in their communities.

COMMUNITY NEEDS IN SURREY

The Community Foundation for Surrey launched its report ‘Hidden Surrey’ in 2009. The report provides a revealing perspective on social disadvantage within Surrey. It is the result of extensive research and consultation with voluntary and community groups as well as a thorough summary of the key statistics.

The report includes an inspiring range of examples of how people are currently helping those in need and building stronger communities in Surrey. It makes a powerful case for increased local philanthropy to help address community needs in Surrey on an immediate and permanent basis.

TANDRIDGE COMMUNITY FUND

A new initiative to raise the level of philanthropy to support local community needs on a sustainable basis

The Tandridge Community Fund aims to build a permanent community fund which will generate interest year after year to support voluntary groups, charities, individuals and community services in Tandridge. The Fund has been established in partnership with the Community Foundation for Surrey and was the first district wide community fund established with the Community Foundation.

Initially, a permanent fund of at least £100,000 will be built from a number of pooled donations from Founding Sponsors including local residents, companies and trusts. The interest generated from the fund will be used each year to award grants to support community projects and activities in Tandridge. The fund will build over time from additional donations, legacies and from capital growth.

The fund is held within the Community Foundation who invests the fund and provides the administration, advice and support and ensures donations are as tax effective as possible. A grants panel consisting of local representatives will work with the Community Foundation for Surrey to consider grant applications and make grant awards.

The Tandridge Community Fund can benefit from the Grassroots challenge, an initiative from the Office of the Third Sector to help build permanent community endowment funds. This enables the Community Foundation to match all donations to the Fund on a 1:1 basis and with Gift –Aid this makes a very effective way to support local community needs.

BENEFITS

The Tandridge Community Fund will help to raise the level of philanthropy to support the range of community and voluntary groups in Tandridge who are building stronger communities and making a difference to people's lives.

The Tandridge Community Fund:

- Encourages local philanthropy and enables people in Tandridge to support their own local community and help build a permanent fund that grows over time;
- Enables donations to be more than doubled with Gift Aid and the Grassroots Challenge match;
- Ensures grants are effective – Grants are targeted to greatest need based on knowledge and understanding of local communities;
- Helps build new local resources at a time when other sources of funding are declining; and
- Builds permanent funds that will grow over time and support communities in perpetuity