



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE TANDRIDGE

MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS FUNDING

29 JUNE 2012

KEY ISSUE

To set out the funding available for County Councillors' allocations for 2012/13, and to give consideration to the funding requests received.

SUMMARY

Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive funding to spend on locally determined purposes that help to promote social, economic or environmental well-being. This funding is known as Member Allocations.

For the financial year 2012/13, the County Council has allocated £12,615 revenue funding to each County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to each Local Committee.

This report firstly presents a summary of the projects that the Local Committee's Member Allocations funded in 2011/12. It then identifies and makes recommendations on bids received for funding that have been sponsored by at least one County Councillor from the 2012/13 budget.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Tandridge) is asked to:

- (i) Note the summary of the local committee's expenditure in 2011/12 detailed in section 2.
- (ii) Consider the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **revenue** budget as set out in section 3 of this report and summarised below:

Organisation	Project Title	Amount
Horne Parish Council	Regeneration of Newchapel Green	£2500
Home-Start East Surrey	Volunteer Preparation Course	£2030
SUSY Radio Ltd	SUSY Community Radio Project	£2750
SCC Children and Families	Looked After Children's Celebration and Bursary Fund	£3000

- (iii) Consider the items considered for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **capital** funding as set out in section 3 of the report and summarised below:

Organisation	Project Title	Amount
Lingfield Skate Park Venture	Lingfield Skate Park Venture	£2500
Victoria Sports & Social Club	Cellar Refurbishment	£5060
Felbridge Hall Management Committee	Window and Door Replacement	£1664
Nutfield Parish Council	South Nutfield New Playground	£7000
Care & Repair – Tandridge DC	Supply and Fitting of 'FREE' Key Safes	£5500
Ridge Radio	Disabled Toilet/Baby Changing Area	£900

- (iv) Note the expenditure previously approved by the Community Partnerships Manager and the Community Partnerships Team Leader, in consultation with County Councillors, under delegated powers, as set out in section 4.
- (v) Note any returned funding and/or adjustments, as set out within the report and at **Annex B**.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The County Council's Constitution sets out the overall Financial Framework for managing the Local Committee's delegated budgets. The underlying principle being that Members Allocations should be spent on local projects to promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area, as required by the Local Government Act 2000.
- 1.2 At its first meeting in the 2012/13 committee cycle, the Local Committee (Tandridge) will decide if and how it wishes to divide its revenue and capital Member Allocations budgets amongst the Committee and its constituent County Councillors.
- 1.3 The Committee will also determine whether or not it wishes to delegate authority to the Community Partnerships Manager and Community Partnership Team Leader (East Surrey) to approve budget applications (and refunds) up to and including £1,000, subject to them being reported to the Committee at the following meeting. The Council's Constitution also allows the Community Partnership Manager and Team Leader to approve funding for the purchase of grit bins at the request of a County Councillor.
- 1.4 In allocating funds, Members are encouraged to have regard to Surrey County Council's Corporate Strategy 2010-14 Making A Difference that highlights five themes that make Surrey special and which it seeks to maintain:
- A safe place to live;
 - A high standard of education;
 - A beautiful environment;

- A vibrant economy; and
- A healthy population.

- 1.5 Member Allocation funding is usually made to organisations on a one-off basis, so that there should be no expectation of future funding for the same or similar purpose.
- 1.6 Member Allocation funding will not usually be granted for purposes that benefit one individual, nor to fund schools for the direct delivery of the National Curriculum, nor to support a political party.
- 1.7 When considering bids, applicants are advised against assuming that the Local Committee will meet the total cost of their project.

2. ANALYSIS OF 2011/12 LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

- 2.1 In 2011/12, the County Council allocated £8,410 revenue funding to each County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to the Local Committee in Tandridge.
- 2.2 The analysis of the types projects funded by County Councillors is attached at Appendix A. It shows that the majority of the Committee's 2011/12 budget was awarded to external organisations to fund local activities designed to improve the quality of life of local residents (community development). Within this, festivities to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee were supported, as well as projects to help refurbish community buildings. The Highways Department also received an important contribution for community improvements.

3. BIDS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL – REVENUE/CAPITAL FUNDING

- 3.1 The proposals for revenue and capital funding for consideration and decision at this Committee are set out below.

Regeneration of Newchapel Green

£2500 Revenue

Mr Michael Sydney

An application has been received from Horne Parish Council for forestry thinning to remove trees and brambles in order to create an improved habitat that will include shaded grass margins, glades and a circular footpath. This will encourage access to the countryside for parishioners of Horne and Lingfield and increase the diversity of wildlife. This application represents approximately half the cost of the project. The remaining money is coming from the Parish Council's reserve account and an application will be made to the English Woodland Grant Scheme.

Home-Start East Surrey

£2030 Revenue

Mrs Sally Marks

An application has been received to fund a Volunteer Preparation Course to train ten new volunteers over a ten week period to prepare them to provide home visits and support to families who are facing difficulties. The service will cover the whole of Tandridge and will benefit at least ten families for a year, or more

families for a shorter period. Information packs are sent to health visitors, doctors, children's centres, CAMHS, teachers and social workers and all professionals are closely liaised with.

SUSY Community Radio Project

£2750 Revenue

Mr Michael Sydney

An application has been received from SUSY Radio Ltd that holds a broadcast licence for an area south of the North Downs including a large part of Tandridge. SUSY Radio is a 'not for profit' organisation, with studios being built in Merstham and the transmission site in Bletchingley. It is due to operate 24 hours a day and is the result of 17 years of work and projects by the group of volunteers. It is due to be on air in July/August 2012. The application is for work relating to the new studio, including cabling, building work, software and running costs incurred due to a three month delay in the issue of the License. The organisation received £2,500 from the Tandridge Local Committee last year. Reigate & Banstead also donated £2800 in 2011/12.

Leaders' Bursary Fund for Looked After Children

£3000 Revenue

All County Councillors

An application has been received from Surrey County Council's children's services seeking contributions to the Leader's Bursary Fund for Looked After Children. The fund will support two approaches that will give children and young people in care recognition and reward. Celebration bursaries will be awarded to children in care and will be linked to the achievement of targets set out in their Personal Education Plans. There will also be a fund that can be drawn upon to provide a more spontaneous response to achievements and to other opportunities for looked after children.

Lingfield Skate Park Venture

£2500 Capital

Mr Michael Sydney

An application for funding has been received to build an additional skate ramp at Jenners Field for the children of Lingfield and surrounding areas. A new sport of scooting has become popular among the young community in Lingfield during the past year, however, youngsters come from Hurst Green, Oxted, Edenbrige and East Grinstead to use the current ramps also. Consequently, the existing skate ramp is not big enough for the amount of people that are using it and can sometimes be dangerous. This project would provide the additional space for the children to use at Jenners Field. The total cost of the project is £12,000. An application has also been made to the County Council's Youth Small Grants Scheme for £4,000. The applicants have raised £7,675, to date and there is a shortfall of £4,325 that it is hoped, will be met from these applications. However, since the original quote of £12,000 was received, the bidders have received a further quote of £20,000 for ramps of a superior quality. Various fundraising events have been arranged in support of the project.

Victoria Sports & Social Club**£5060 Capital**

Mr Michael Sydney

An application has been received to build an insulated room within the current cellar, to make the operation of the Club more cost effective and environmentally friendly. It aims to reduce the cost of energy by an estimated 75%, making the cellar fit for purpose and improving the environment for staff. The application is for the whole cost of the project. The Club serves the village of Lingfield and surrounding areas, with approx 500 Members and 6 Staff.

Felbridge Hall Management Committee**£1664 Capital**

Mr Michael Sydney

An application has been received for the replacement of existing windows and doors with modern equivalent double-glazed units. This will reduce heating bills, increase Hall security and provide a warmer environment for hall hirers. The Hall is available for hire 7 days a week and there are 17 different groups of long term users presently booking the Hall. However, casual hire is also available. The total cost of the project is £16,634.70. An application has been made to BIFFAWARD for the remaining money.

Nutfield Parish Council**£7000 Capital**

Mr Tony Elias

An application has been received for the replacement of the old playground with new and extra play equipment. Replacement is necessary as present equipment is failing on compliance. The project will benefit the children on Nutfield and the surrounding area. The total cost of the project is estimated at between £50,000 and £60,000 and will be insured and maintained by Tandridge District Council, who will match fund up to half the cost. Donations have been received from Nutfield PC Woodlands Burial profit, Nutfield Playground Friends and Nutfield Sports Association.

Care & Repair – Tandridge District Council**£5500 Capital**

Mr Michael Sydney

An application has been received for the supply and fitting of free Key Safes for clients in receipt of means tested benefit. This service will aid hospital discharges and help people to remain independent as carers will be able to call without the client having to come to the door. The usual charge for this service is £37 but vulnerable clients may not be able to fund this themselves. Eighty clients benefitted from the scheme in 2011/12 and at least this number is anticipated for this financial year. The service is advertised widely throughout the Tandridge area.

Ridge Radio**£900 Capital**

Mrs Sally Marks

An application has been received to supply, fit and build a new disabled toilet and baby changing area. Ridge Radio has moved to new premises which have no disabled toilet facility to enable their work with the Orpheus Centre and disabled members of the community. The total cost is approximately £1450, with the remaining money coming from fundraising and donations. Ridge Radio received Member Allocations totalling £4550 in 2011/12 and £4000 in 2010/11.

4. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS

4.1 The Community Partnership Manager or Community Partnership Team Leader (East Surrey) has approved the following bids under delegated authority since the last committee meeting:

Member	Project	Amount Capital
Mr Michael Sydney	Felbridge & Sunnyside Cricket Club Practice Net Facilities	£950
Mr Nick Skellett	Tandridge Parish Council Beacon for 3012 Jubilee	£500
Mrs Sally Marks	Whyteleafe Village Fete Equipment	£961.50
Mr Nick Skellett	Rotary Club of Oxted & Limpsfield Oxted Pram Race	£730
Mr Michael Sydney	Burstow Parish Council Generator for Smallfield Summer Party	£720
Mr Michael Sydney	Felbridge Gardening Club Deer Fencing	£500
Member	Project	Amount Revenue
Mr Tony Elias	Godstone Parish Council Jubilee Celebrations	£500
Mr Michael Sydney	Dormansland Carnival Committee	£650
Mr David Hodge	Chelsham & Farleigh Parish Council Diamond Jubilee Picnic	£500
Mr Michael Sydney	Felbridge Parish Council Planting of Trees for Queen's Diamond Jubilee	£523
Mr Nick Skellett	Legacy Committee Oxted United Reformed Church Bluehouse Festival 2012	£860

Mr Tony Elias	Metal Monkeys (Orpheus Centre) Supernature	£500
Mrs Sally Marks	Street Youth Centre Girls Group	£615.08

- 4.2 Members are requested to note that funding of £327, previously awarded to the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service for the purchase of step ladders has subsequently been withdrawn and returned to the Capital Budget, as detailed in Annex B.

5. OPTIONS

- 5.1 The Local Committee may choose to approve all, part or none of the funding proposals under discussion in this report.

6. CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 In relation to new bids, consultation, where appropriate, may have been undertaken by the organisation receiving the funding, the local Member of the Community Partnerships Team as required.
- 6.2 The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

7. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Each project detailed in this report has completed a standard application form giving details of timescales, purpose and other funding applications made. The County Councillor proposing each project has assessed its merits prior to the project's inclusion as a proposal for decision by the Committee.

All bids are also scrutinised to ensure that they comply with the Council's Financial Framework and represent value for money.

- 7.2 There are sufficient monies to fund all of the proposals contained within this report. If the above recommendations are approved the remaining are set out in the Chart in the Local Committee's financial position statement attached at Annex B.
- 7.3 Please note these figures will not include any applications submitted for approval after the deadline for this report or that are currently pending approval under delegated authority. They also do not include any funding that is in the process of being returned to the Local Committee.

8. EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The allocation of the Committee's budgets is intended to enhance the wellbeing of residents and make the best possible use of the funds. Funding is available to all residents, community groups or organisations based in, or serving, the area. The success of the bid depends entirely upon its ability to meet the agreed criteria, which is flexible.

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

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 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 and the local criteria. These are available from the Community Partnerships Team.
- 9.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2012/13 Local Committee delegated budgets as detailed in the report.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The Committee is being asked to decide on these bids so that the Community Partnerships Team can process the bids in line with the wishes of the Committee.

11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 11.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 11.2 Any changes to an approved bid will be discussed with the local members and the Chairman, and if the changes are considered to be significant, an amended bid will be brought back to the Committee for approval. In all other circumstances, the Community Partnerships Team will process the payments as soon as possible once the signed agreement has been received.
- 11.3 Within 6 months of receipt, all successful applicants will be contacted for details of how the funding was spent and will be asked to supply evidence.

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Background Papers:

- SCC Constitution: Financial Framework
- Local Committee Protocol
- Criteria and Guidance for Members Allocations
- Local Committee Funding Bids

