

# OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

# **LOCAL COMMITTEE BUDGETS 2010-2011**

## 18 JUNE 2010

#### **KEY ISSUE**

To receive a final report on the members' revenue and capital budgets for 2010-2011, noting actions carried out under delegated authority, and to decide the principles on which the Local Committee's budgets for 2010-2011 will be allocated.

#### **SUMMARY**

The report summarises the uses to which the Committee's revenue and capital allocations were put in 2009-2010 and gives information on funding applications approved under delegated authority after the last meeting of the Committee. The revenue and capital budgets available to the Committee in 2010-2011 are described along with options for dealing with these.

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

# The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to agree to:

- (i) Note the actions carried out under delegated authority.
- (ii) Decide the principles on which it wishes to allocate its budgets for 2010-2011:
  - (a) revenue budget (paragraph 3.1)
  - (b) capital budget ("voluntary organisations") (paragraph 3.2)

- (iii) Delegate to the Area Director (Guildford and Waverley) the authority to approve budget applications (and refunds) of up to and including £1000, subject to these being reported to the Committee at the following meeting.
- (iv) Delegate responsibility for expenditure of the County Council's local crime and disorder funds in Waverley to the Area Director (South West Surrey).
- (v) Dependent on the decisions made at (ii), approve the applications for expenditure annexed to this report and note the grants set out in **Annex 2**.

#### 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 **Annex 1** contains details of applications for funding from the 2009-10 budget made in the period since the last formal meeting on 12 March 2010 and approved by the Area Director under his delegated authority.
- 1.2 At the end of the financial year 2009-2010 the status of the Local Committee's revenue and capital relevant budgets was as follows:

#### Revenue

Committed: £109952 Uncommitted: £ 1417

#### Capital

Committed: £ 35165 Uncommitted: £ 3918

The total budget available included not only the basic pro rata allocation to members but sums of money refunded from projects which did not go ahead or were underspent.

1.3 Members will be aware that uncommitted funding, subject to the County Council's approval of the out-turn for 2009-2010, may now be carried forward into the new financial year and the relevant sums set out above will therefore be added to members' allocations for the current financial year. The Area Director has approved under his existing delegated authority applications from members which can be wholly covered by sums carried forward within their allocations and these are included in Annex 1

#### 2 ANALYSIS

2.1 A headline analysis of the Committee's expenditure by themes in 2009-2010 is set out below.

	Number of projects	Total value
Environment	14	16658
Young People/Teenagers	18	16439
Arts, culture and sport, community events	19	12993
and groups		
Community Safety	8	12100
Local facilities	7	10700
Self-reliance/Stronger Communities	10	9550
Adults and Community Care	7	7128
Schools	7	6100
Younger children	3	2000

# 3 OPTIONS FOR ALLOCATION OF LOCAL COMMITTEE BUDGETS IN 2010-2011

- 3.1 The County Council has agreed that revenue allocations in 2010-2011 will be held at £8,250 per member (i.e. £74,250 available to the Committee in total). It has previously been the practice of the Committee that members submit applications individually for use of these funds, co-operating across more than one division where appropriate, and the Committee is asked to confirm that this is its preferred approach for the current year.
- 3.2 Each Local Committee has been given a reduced capital budget of £30,000. Although intended principally for the benefit of voluntary sector organisation, this budget may be allocated by the Committee for other purposes. The Committee is asked whether it wishes to confirm its previous practice of dividing the budget equally amongst its nine members or whether it might wish to adopt a different approach this year.
- 3.3 The Committee is asked to confirm at £1000 the level of delegated authority given to the Area Director to approve grants from the two budgets described above (and the return of any unspent funds). Annex 2 contains a list of applications for grants of £1000 or less received for expenditure from the 2010-2011 budgets: the Area Director will approve these, subject to the Committee's confirmation of delegated authority.
- 3.4 The Committee may wish to consider whether to adopt any further principles or guidelines for expenditure during the current year, e.g. a

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- specific shared theme which might govern the allocation of a proportion of the total budget.
- 3.5 Subject to having decided the principles by which its revenue and capital budgets will be allocated, the Committee is asked to approve the applications annexed to the report (**Annex 3 and 4**).
- 3.6 The Local Committee has in the past also received a separate local capital allocation of £100,000 which, although primarily (and traditionally) allocated for transportation purposes, could be used for other functions. The budget for this year has had to be reduced and arrangements for managing this smaller budget in 2010-2011 countywide have not yet been agreed and it is therefore proposed that, if it remains available, the Committee should make any relevant decisions at a future meeting.
- 3.7 The County Council's contribution of funding for local community safety purposes is this year set at £14,500 (of which £12,000 is ringfenced for outreach with those affected by domestic abuse); this budget is formally delegated by the Cabinet to the Local Committee. In previous years the Committee has contributed this budget to the Safer Waverley Partnership and the Area Director has ensured on its behalf that the County Council influences the objectives of the partnership and that the funding is spent in line with these objectives.
- 3.8 In the current year this contribution would enable the County Council to share in the allocation of some £180,000 for the work of the Safer Waverley Partnership, including its support for the work of the joint Domestic Abuse Outreach service covering the boroughs of Guildford and Waverley. The Outreach Service is contracted by Waverley and Guildford Borough Councils and runs until March 2011. It is currently the case that budget pressures are such that funding for the service needs to be protected, hence the ring-fence. (See report at Item 17 on this agenda).
- 3.9 The Committee is asked to confirm whether it wishes to delegate authority to the Area Director to spend the funding in this way or whether it wishes to consider an alternative approach.

### 4 CONSULTATIONS

4.1 In identifying projects for funding against the Committee's revenue and capital budgets members consult as appropriate with potential recipients.

#### 5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The overall framework within which Local Committee delegated budgets are deployed is set out in the County Council's constitution. The underlying principle is that Local Committees are at liberty to spend on locally determined purposes that promote social, economic or environmental well-being. Grants should:
  - Be directed to activities for which the County Council has legal powers
  - Meet demonstrable local needs
  - Deliver value for money so that there is evidence of the outcomes achieved
  - Be consistent with County Council policies
  - Be approved through a process that is open and transparent, consultative, accountable and auditable
  - Where appropriate, allow opportunities to be taken to pool funds with partner organisations

#### 6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Committee has in previous years allocated a significant proportion of its budgets to projects which promote social inclusion, self-reliance and stronger communities (see 2.1).

#### 7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 See 3.7-9 above. Members have in the past also allocated grants from their revenue and capital budgets to projects which contribute to community safety and prevent criminal and anti-social behaviour (see 2.1).

# 8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Committee is invited to make decisions which will allow the timely and effective deployment of its various budgets throughout the year.

# 9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The Committee is required to agree arrangements for the allocation of its budgets.

#### 10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

10.1 The Local Partnerships Team will administer the Committee's budgets in line with the decisions taken.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None