



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(WAVERLEY)**

**COUNTY COUNCIL FUND FOR SMALL DISADVANTAGED
AREAS**

17 SEPTEMBER 2010

KEY ISSUE

To decide which applications for funding to submit to the countywide panel.

SUMMARY

At its meeting on 18 June 2010 the Committee received a report on the recently announced County Council fund for small disadvantaged areas and agreed arrangements for seeking and assessing applications. The report contains details of the short-listed applications and invites a decision on which to submit for consideration by the countywide panel.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to agree which application(s) to submit for consideration by the countywide panel.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At the meeting of the County Council on 23 March 2010 the Leader announced that £200k would be made available in 2010/11, from the policy initiatives budget, to help disadvantaged areas in Surrey.
- 1.2 The purpose of the fund is to develop initiatives which reduce inequalities and empower small to medium-sized communities in Surrey which experience relative disadvantage to work with the County Council and other relevant partners to develop local solutions to the problems facing them. The Leader believes that it is important that the Council tries to help some of the more

disadvantaged areas to help themselves to develop economically, socially and in a way that is sustainable.

1.3 At its meeting on 18 June 2010 the Committee agreed:

- To promote the availability of the fund amongst relevant organisations and partnerships in Waverley.
- To invite Local Task Groups to develop relevant applications from within their areas.
- To establish a Task Group to assess applications received from Local Task Groups and other sources and to make recommendations to the Committee for formal decision; Mr S Renshaw (Chairman), Mr S Cosser and Mr K Webster were appointed to the Task Group.
- To receive a report at its next meeting (17 September 2010) containing recommendations on which project(s) to submit to the panel as its application(s) for possible funding.

2 DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

2.1 The Task Group met on 31 August to consider the six applications for funding which it had received. Applications were scored against a series of criteria based on those implicit in the application form and associated guidance.

2.2 The Group reinforced the fact that the Local Committee (Waverley) has developed an understanding of the profile of disadvantage in Waverley and has a long tradition of supporting innovative projects in those neighbourhoods most affected (most recently in the report considered at the meeting on 4 December 2009). It noted the extent to which the well-established community projects in Waverley had focused on the needs of specific neighbourhoods in the round, made good use of appropriate evidence and involved all relevant partners. Projects have become well embedded in their communities through efforts to develop skills and capacity locally. The Task Group looked for similar characteristics in the applications received.

2.3 The Group identified three projects which scored above 20 points (out of a possible total of 26):

- Binscombe Project (24 points)
- Haslemere Young Parents (21 points)
- Opportunities Project (Sandy Hill and The Chantry) (21 points)

The applications are made available at **Annexes 1 to 3** respectively.

2.4 The Group was also impressed by the application which it ranked fourth: Change of Scene (Farnham), to which it allocated 17 points (**Annex 4**). The Group was minded to give the Committee an opportunity to consider this application and to be guided particularly by the perspective of the relevant local councillors.

3. OPTIONS

- 3.1 The Local Committee is invited to consider the short-listed applications and decide which it would wish to recommend to the countywide panel as its submission(s). The Committee is reminded that there is no limit to the value (up to the countywide maximum of £200,000) or number of the applications it may submit.

4. CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 Evidence of the involvement of stakeholders and of the approach to engaging the wider community is contained within the applications annexed to the report.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Applicants were invited to provide detailed financial information in their applications.
- 5.2 In relation to the application at Annex 3 the Committee will be aware that the wider Sandy Hill project has been in receipt of County Council financial support relating to the establishment of a Children's Centre and the rebuilding of The Bungalow.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 A recognition of the diversity of Surrey and a wish to promote inclusion and equality of opportunity are central to the purpose of the fund. All of the applications reflect in some respect the objective of reducing exclusion and addressing the needs of those Surrey residents who are less advantaged.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The application at Annex 1 is explicit in its objective of reducing anti-social behaviour, but all of those submitted contain preventative approaches which are designed to develop personal resilience and, as a consequence, make a contribution towards strengthening communities.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Local Committee has an opportunity to support applications which would bring significant funding into the borough to enable some much-needed projects to be taken forward.

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

ITEM 12

- 9.1 The Local Partnerships Team will ensure that the applications identified by the Committee for consideration by the countywide panel are submitted and that all applicants are notified as appropriate of the decision.

LEAD OFFICER: Dave Johnson (Area Director)
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01483 517301
E-MAIL: dave.johnson@surreycc.gov.uk

CONTACT OFFICER: David North (Local Committee and Partnership Officer)
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01483 517530
E-MAIL: d.north@surreycc.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None