



Allocating Local Committee funding Local Committee for Woking 15 October 2002

KEY ISSUE:

£13,387 of Local Committee Members' funds have not yet been allocated during 2002/03. At the Local Committee meeting on 11 September 2002, Members agreed to consider a proposal to provide internet access for young people on the computers that are already available to them in Woking's Youth Centres.

SUMMARY:

This report provides an officer assessment of the project. The cost of providing the internet access for all three Woking Youth Centres is £3640. Young people can benefit from using the internet because it helps them to develop their communication skills, obtain wider knowledge of the world and events, gain confidence in the use of information technology and do research for school, exams and qualifications. In many cases young people do not have access to this technology anywhere else outside of school hours.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to

Decide which of the three elements of the costs the funding should cover: telephone line installation, line rental and internet usage

Decide whether to cover the cost of the remainder of this financial year, or for a period of 12 months

Decide which of the three youth centres to fund

Allocate funding in line with these decisions up to a maximum of £3,640 to Surrey County Council Youth Services so young people can access the internet using the computers at Woking's Youth Centres.

Background

1. Each local committee has a delegated budget of £17,500 per Member. The local committee agrees all proposals for the use of this funding. Each local Member has a key role in influencing the way in which £17,500 is spent.
2. On 25 July 2002 the Local Committee agreed the process by which proposals will be assessed and decisions made. This involved two stages: an officer assessment followed by Members' decisions. The criteria against which proposals would be assessed at each stage were also agreed.
3. On 11 September 2002 the Local Committee agreed to allocate up to £91,613 to projects providing that certain conditions are met. These conditions were outlined in the relevant papers of that report. £13,387 of Members' funds remains to be allocated. There will be more if any of the projects are not able to meet the conditions set down on 11 September.
4. During the Local Committee Meeting on 11 September 2002, Members asked the Community Support Team for Woking to do an officer assessment on the cost of providing internet access for all computers at the Youth Centres in Woking.

Proposal to be considered

5. A proposal from Surrey County Council Youth Services has been received and a detailed officer assessment of this is attached in Annex 1.
6. It is proposed that funding is provided for the telephone line installation, one-year line rental and one-year internet usage costs.
7. Where the need is on-going, the Committee needs to emphasise that there is no commitment to any future funding.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Local Committee report and minutes of 11 September 2002 Detailed proposals for use of Members' allocations and officer assessments; Local Committee report and minutes of 25 July 2002; Local Committee (transportation agenda) report of 1 July 2002

Annex 1

Funding from Surrey County Council's Local Committee for Woking Project assessment

Name of member who wants this project to be assessed

Local Committee Meeting of 11 September 2002

Name of project

Providing internet access to the young people of Woking at Youth Centres

The proposal

1. Description of project (including its aim, what will be done, and who will benefit)

This project will provide telephone line installation, rental and usage costs required for young people to access the internet from the computers that are already available to them in the Youth Centres.

2. Which organisation would be responsible for carrying out the project?
Youth Services
3. What need(s) will this project address?

The Youth Centres in Woking provide young people with facilities that help them to do their homework. These facilities are provided free of charge and encourage young people to use computers for research and enjoyment. In many cases young people do not have access to this technology anywhere else. Further, the Youth Centres have procedures in place to prevent young people from accessing inappropriate sites.

4. What outcome(s) are sought?
Youth Services will be able to support and enhance learning for young people because young people can access the internet to develop their communication skills, obtain wider knowledge of the world and events, gain confidence in the use of information technology and do research for school, exams and qualifications.
5. What consultation has been undertaken?
Youth Services has consulted with young people who attend the Youth Centres and others who do not. As a result, it was determined that young people need access to computer equipment and the internet outside of schools hours.
6. What is the estimated timetable for the project? When will the project be completed or the service provided
Straight away. (Youth Services wish to provide on going internet access to young people.)

7. What is the total cost of the project?

Up to £3640.00

There are three Youth Centres in Woking and these are the Sheerwater Youth Centre, Lakers Youth Centre and Woking Youths Performing Arts Centre. The cost of £3640 is made up of the following:

Sheerwater Youth Centre - up to £1590.00

Quantity	Description	Amount per computer	Total
Installation Costs			
3	Line installation	£50.00	£150.00
Monthly Costs			
4	Line rental per month	£15.00	£60.00
4	Internet charges per month	£15.00	£60.00
Total monthly costs			£120.00
Total installation costs			£150.00
Total yearly costs			£1440.00
Total Cost at Sheerwater Youth Centre			£1590.00

Lakers Youth Centre – up to £1230.00

Quantity	Description	Amount per computer	Total
Installation Costs			
3	Line installation	£50.00	£150.00
Monthly Costs			
3	Line rental per month	£15.00	£45.00
3	Internet charges per month	£15.00	£45.00
Total monthly costs			£90.00
Total installation costs			£150.00
Total yearly costs			£1080.00
Total Cost at Lakers Youth Centre			£1230.00

Woking Youths Performing Arts Centre, Trinity Road – up to £820.00

Quantity	Description	Amount per computer	Total
Installation Costs			
2	Line installation	£50.00	£100.00
Monthly Costs			
2	Line rental per month	£15.00	£30.00
2	Internet charges per month	£15.00	£30.00
Total monthly costs			£60.00
Total installation costs			£100.00
Total yearly costs			£720.00
Total Cost at Woking Youths Performing Arts Centre			£820.00

8. How much of the total cost would come from the Local Committee's funds?
100%
9. Where is the rest coming from? and is it promised already or still under consideration?
10. When is the Local Committee's money needed?
Immediately
11. Are there any financial implications beyond the current year?
This is an ongoing project, but the Local Committee is being asked for set-up and initial costs only.

Officer assessment

12. It is legal.
13. Supporting young people's personal and social development is a key objective of Youth Services.
14. This can be implemented within the time and budget
15. Funding from the Local Committee would not simply replace funding from another source.

Background information for Committee decision

16. Size of project: **Small**
17. Areas of Woking that benefit: **Woking South East and Woking West**

Divisions.

18. Community/ies of interest which benefit: **Sheerwater, Knaphill and Goldsworth Park.**
19. "One-off" funding: **Yes.**
20. Will the project demonstrate its impact before the end of the financial year?
Yes
21. Will the project give long-term benefit? **Yes**
22. Is the project preventive in purpose? **Not directly but it promotes social inclusion in schoolwork and education.**
23. Does the project target more disadvantaged areas or communities? **Yes**
24. Would Surrey County Council funding unlock much more funding from other sources? **No.**