

Allocating Local Committee Funding: Members' Allocations

Local Committee for Woking 14 July 2004

KEY ISSUE:

The Local Committee has £110,000 Members' Allocation budget in 2004/2005, of which £34,100 is available to allocate.

SUMMARY:

This report lists and makes recommendations on bids received for Members' Allocations which have been sponsored by at least one Member.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to:

a. agree the recommended allocations with, where appropriate, the recommended conditions.

Member allocations 2004/05

- The Surrey County Council Local Committee for Woking has £110,000 in 2004/05 to spend on projects which will benefit the people of Woking. Surrey County Council has decided that this year, £35,000 of this should be prioritised for capital for voluntary organisations; the other £75,000 can be capital or revenue.
- 2. The Local Committee has allocated £70,900 of this year's money, of which more than £35,000 is capital for voluntary organisations. Some of these allocations are conditional; for example, on the recipients raising matching funding from other sources, or on their providing detailed budgets. It is possible or even likely that some of this will be returned for the Committee to allocate to other purposes.

Criteria for allocations

3. On 19 March 2003, Members set criteria to assess bids, and in January 2004, Members agreed to carry this forward into the new financial year, with a minor amendment agreed on 26 April 2004. The criteria, with this amendment, are in annex 1.

Bids received

4. The table below shows all bids received which have been sponsored by a member. They are therefore all eligible for decision by the Local Committee.

Project summary	Member sponsor	£ requested	£ recommended	see para.
Capital	-			
Brookwood Memorial Hall window replacement	 Mrs Elizabeth Compton 	£2,500-£3,000	up to £3,000	5
Basingstoke canal: St John's back-pumping	Mrs Elizabeth Compton	£7,000.00	0	6
Friends of West Byfleet Library: new chairs	Mr Geoff Marlow	£2,200	TBC	
TOTAL capital		£11,700- £12,200	up to £5,200	
Woking Dance Festival - older people's project	Mrs Valerie Tinney	£5,000 approx	£2,600	7
Woking Young Parents' Driving Project	Mrs. Diana Smith	£8,107.50	up to £8,000	8
Advocacy in Action Development Plan	Mr Geoff Marlow	£2,654.00	£2,654.00	9
TOTAL revenue			up to £13,254	
GRAND TOTAL			up to £18,454	
Total available to this meeting			£34,100	
Balance for future use			£15,646	

- 5. Brookwood Memorial Hall have a tri-partite joint funding agreement, under which Surrey County Council, Woking Borough Council, and the Memorial Hall itself, each contribute approximately £15,000 towards the cost of major improvements to the site. This application is for work which is not covered by that agreement. It falls within the Committee's criteria.
- 6. The Committee rejected a bid for this same purpose last year because it did not meet the key criterion of furthering a Surrey County Council Corporate Plan priority or a Woking Community Strategy priority. This has not changed, and I therefore recommend that the decision not to fund it be repeated.
- 7. Woking Dance Festival received Local Committee funding last year for a dance project with people with disabilities which was a success; we have a letter of thanks from Surrey County Council People with Learning Disabilities Manager. This project builds on successful work that the Dance Festival is already doing to involve older people across Woking, leading to a performance as part of the festival. It meets the Committee criteria.
- 8. The Woking Young Parents Driving project aims to give young women who attend the Young Parents group organised by Surrey County Council Youth Development Service the opportunity to learn to drive while their children are in the crèche. This increases their capacity to study or work. The group meets regularly and members have already achieved, for example, qualifications in computers, First Aid, Food & Hygiene. It meets the Committee criteria.
- 9. Advocacy in Action helps vulnerable people access health and social care, look after their finances, and enables them to make their own choices and be free from financial and other arises. From 11 clients in 2001 they now have 75. This is a share towards the cost of a project to fundraise and develop. It meets the Committee criteria.
- 10. If all the recommendations are approved, there will be only about £15,500 left for future bids, plus whatever is available for re-allocation from projects which do not meet the conditions. The Local Committee may want to bear in mind that the Local Committee promised to consider a bid from Regen for up to £10,000 when the specific need was clearer, and that the following bids are being prepared for decision at the next meeting:
 - Sheerwater Senior Citizens Club: unspecified sum for lightweight tables, chairs and crockery for their club room
 - Age Concern: £10,000 towards the cost of setting up Age Concern Woking
 - Woking Park Bowls Club: up to £4,000 for a new lawnmower

Report by: Christine Holloway, Local Director for WokingLEAD/CONTACT OFFICER:Christine HollowayTELEPHONE NUMBER:01483 518093BACKGROUND PAPERS:The listed bids for Members' Allocations

Annex 1 – Criteria for allocation

To be considered, projects must

- a. support the priorities of the Surrey Corporate Plan and Woking Community Strategy.
- b. be possible to implement within the time and budget, and offer value for money.

In choosing what to fund, the Local Committee aims for a portfolio which overall:

- 1. includes at least one comparatively large project of benefit to Woking;
- 2. benefits a variety of communities of interest (for example, young people, old people, ethnic minorities, disabled people), and different areas of Woking;
- 3. includes a mix of large and small projects, but not a lot of very small ones.

A large project that benefits a lot of people will take priority over a project that benefits only a few people.

Within this framework, projects are more likely to be funded if:

- 1. The funding is needed "one-off".
- 2. The project will demonstrate its impact within 12 months.
- 3. The project will give long-term benefit.
- 4. The project is preventive in purpose.
- 5. The project targets more disadvantaged areas or communities.
- 6. Local Committee funding will unlock much more funding from other sources.
- 7. If small and local, the project has a significant impact on the quality of life of the people affected.