



Allocating Local Committee Funding: Members' Allocations

Local Committee for Woking 14 October 2004

KEY ISSUE:

The Local Committee has £110,000 Members' Allocation budget in 2004/2005, of which £16,146 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:

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

Member allocations 2004/05

1. 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.
2. The Local Committee has allocated £93,854 of this year's money. 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.
Woking Bowls Club	Mrs Gruselle	2,000	2,000	5
Drugs Education in Woking	Mr Marlow	1,300	1,300	6
Goldsworth Care	Mrs Smith	400	400	7
TOTAL			3,700	
Total available to this meeting			£16,134	
Balance for future use			£12,434	

5. Woking Bowls Club maintain their playing surface themselves using volunteer club members. In the last year, their mower has been particularly unreliable and has need repairs costing £1,200. The Club believes that it would be more economic to replace the mower with a new model costing £4,000 of which they are confident that they could raise half themselves. This request meets the Committee's criteria.
6. Drugs Education in Woking are seeking support for the purchase of equipment to help them deliver drugs education work in local schools. The equipment includes a new drugs box – samples and paraphernalia for

educational purposes - display boards and a digital camera. This request meets the Committee's criteria.

7. Goldsworth Care is a small local voluntary organisation that provides transport to Doctors' Surgeries, other medical appointments and the shops. It also fills other service gaps such as undertaking odd jobs and visiting vulnerable people. The organisation has asked for £400 to meet incidental expenses including the costs of Police Checks for volunteers and new advertising material. While incidental expenses will arise every year and Members' Allocations are not normally used for on-going support, an award this year would enable the Community Support Team to work with the group to identify sustainable alternative sources of support for the future. In the circumstances, and for the current year, it is considered that the request meets the Committee criteria.

8. If all the recommendations are approved, there will be only about £12,500 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 it has 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
 - Schools Christian Action Team: £1,000 for a laptop computer

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: The listed bids for Members' Allocations

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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.