



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (WOKING)

SMALL DISADVANTAGED AREAS FUND

20 OCTOBER 2010

KEY ISSUE

To decide which of the bids submitted should be recommended to the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Panel for funding consideration.

SUMMARY

Local Committees have been asked to consider and prioritise bids submitted for funding within their borough, and recommend to the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Panel those which it considers should be funded through the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund.

Four bids have been submitted to the Local Committee (Woking) for consideration. Copies of the bid documentation is attached in **Annex A-D**.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The local committee (Woking) is asked to:

- (i) Consider all the bids detailed in paragraph 2.4 (and attached at Annex A - D);
- (ii) Agree which bid or bids they wish to submit to the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Panel; and
- (iii) Consider what order of priority they wish to reflect in their submission.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 In May 2010, Dr Andrew Povey, the Leader of Surrey County Council, announced a new fund from the Project Initiatives Fund called the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund.

1.2 In launching this fund, the Leader said that:

“The extent of borrowing undertaken by the previous government is such that there will inevitably be a reduction in public expenditure over the next few years. In Surrey, I feel it is important that we try to help some of our more disadvantaged areas to help themselves to develop economically, socially and in a way that is sustainable.

Projects could well take on board the ‘Digital Inclusion’ work, which is one way of strengthening communities, but ideas and innovation are welcome!”

1.3 The purpose of the fund was 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.

1.4 He requested that local committees assess the bids that are submitted for projects within their area, and decide which of the bids should be submitted for consideration by the central Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Panel. The Panel would then meet in December to consider the recommendations, and a formal announcement of those that had been successful would be made at the Council meeting on 14 December 2010.

2 ANALYSIS

2.1 All projects that are being submitted to the Panel for consideration will be expected to have demonstrated the following:

- **Innovation:** model new ways of listening to residents (such as digital inclusion) and involving them in developing services, which meet the needs of their neighbourhood in a sustainable way.
- **Involvement:** work with residents, statutory partners and the voluntary/faith sector to embed increased confidence and cohesion in communities, which make a difference & can lead to sustained improvements in quality of life, opportunities and achievement.
- **Integration:** demonstrate genuine partnership working which pursues a shared vision (ideally through the relevant Local Strategic Partnership), operates with a “Total Place” methodology in terms of sharing resources and involves services adjusting their delivery to reflect local conditions.

2.2 They will also be required to show how they relate and contribute to the County Council’s five strategic themes

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- Core Offer
- Personal responsibility
- Deciding and delivering locally
- Prevention
- Working together

2.3 In addition, the Local Committee are asked to look to recommend projects where the Committee can demonstrate that the projects have:

- Made progress in taking forward the principles of Localism and “Total Place”.
- Developed a clear understanding of the profile of disadvantage in their district/borough.
- Evidenced multi-agency activity that responds to needs and opportunities in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods.
- Addressed improvements in education, skills, tackling anti-social behaviour/vandalism and other social matters of concern.
- A continuing record of investment in projects or have an emerging focus of priority which could strengthen these neighbourhoods and increase the range of opportunities available to their residents
- The potential to deliver sustained capacity-building in that community.

2.4 Four bids have been submitted to the Local Committee (Woking). In summary, the bids comprise:

Prevention of young people from becoming NEET (Not in education, employment or training) (Annex A)

Applied for: £11,750.

Bishop David Brown School is requesting funding to provide increased opportunities for students aged 15 and 16 who are disengaged from the curriculum and at risk of fixed or permanent exclusion; and provision of information, advice and guidance for year 9 students to help them fulfil their potential.

Financial literacy in Lakeview (Annex B)

Applied for: £20,860

The Lakeview Community Action Group is requesting funding for financial literacy courses and a financial help referral service to help address the issues in the local area.

Internet based community radio station for Sheerwater and Maybury (Annex C)

Applied for: £12,960

Funding is requested to set up a radio station that is listened to via a website. The project will initially be based in Sheerwater Youth Centre

and will be partnered with a similar project which is already up and running in Bracknell called the Hug Radio Project.

Partnership for the regeneration of Old Woking (Annex D)

Applied for: £80,000.

Funding is requested for a network of 12 computers (£44,264), an outdoor gym (£20,242) and environmental, social and security improvements at Priors Croft (£15,496) to help address issues identified by the community. (A further statement of support from Mrs Liz Bowes is available on request from localpartnerships.woking@surreycc.gov.uk or phone 01483 518095)

3 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 All successful bids will be funded out of the allocated money within the Project Initiatives Fund. The essence of the project is that it is to provide communities with the ability to support themselves over a sustained period. Therefore there are no further financial implications.

4 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The successful bids will support some of the more disadvantaged areas of Surrey to develop sustainable mechanisms to develop economically and socially.

5 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no identified crime and disorder implications at this time.

6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The recommendation is that the committee assess the bids submitted for consideration and recommend to the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Panel those it would recommend for funding.

7 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The proposals brought before the committee fulfil the criteria for the Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund.

8 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 8.1 The Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund Panel will consider all the recommended bids in December and formally announce the successful

candidates at the Surrey County Council meeting on 14 December 2010.

8.2 The successful candidates will then have until March 2012 to utilise the funds as set out within their bid form and will have to report back the outcomes of their spend by June 2012.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Bids guidance
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