



## **OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (WOKING)**

### **LOCAL COMMITTEE BUDGETS**

**27 JUNE 2012**

#### **KEY ISSUE**

To set out the funding available for County Councillors' allocations for 2012/13, and to give consideration to the funding requests received. To agree the local committee community safety budget for 2012/13.

#### **SUMMARY**

Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive funding to spend on locally determined purposes that help to promote social, economic or environmental well-being. This funding is known as Member Local Allocations.

For the financial year 2012/13, the County Council has allocated £12,615 revenue funding to each County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to each Local Committee.

This report presents a summary of the projects that the Local Committee's member local allocations funded in 2011/12. It also identifies and makes recommendations on bids received for funding that have been sponsored by at least one County Councillor.

Finally, this report informs on the community safety budget which is delegated to the Local Committee.

## OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

### The Local Committee (Woking) is asked to:

- (i) Note the summary of the Local Committee's expenditure in 2011/12 detailed in paragraph 2.
- (ii) Agree that each local member has an allocation of £12,615 revenue which is a pooled amount of £88,305 and £35,000 capital to fund projects within the local area in 2012/13.
- (iii) Agree the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 **revenue** and **capital** funding as set out in paragraph 3 of this report.
- (iv) Note the expenditure approved since the last Committee by the Community Partnerships Manager and the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated powers, as set out in paragraph 4.
- (v) Agree that the community safety budget of £3,160 delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Woking Community Safety Partnership and that the Community Partnership Manager authorise its expenditure in accordance with the Local Committee's decision, as detailed in paragraph 5.

## **1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The County Council's Constitution sets out the overall Financial Framework for managing the Local Committee's delegated budgets. The underlying principle being that Members Local Allocations should be spent on local projects to promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area, as required by the Local Government Act 2000.
- 1.2 Members of the Local Committee (Woking) have traditionally agreed to pool both the revenue and capital funding.
- 1.3 In addition to the £88,305 revenue funding we have an additional £6334 funds returned as unspent. The total available for 2012/13 is £94,639
- 1.4 In addition, the Local Committee agreed to delegate authority to the Community Partnerships Manager & Community Partnership Team Leader (West Surrey) to approve budget applications (and refunds) up to and including £1,000, subject to these being reported to the Committee at the following meeting. The Council's Constitution also allows for the Community Partnership Manager to approve funding for the purchase of grit bins upon a request from a County Councillor.
- 1.5 In allocating funds, Members are asked to have regard to Surrey County Council's Corporate Strategy 2010-14 Making A Difference that highlights five themes which make Surrey special and which it seeks to maintain:
  - A safe place to live;
  - A high standard of education;
  - A beautiful environment;
  - A vibrant economy;
  - A healthy population.
- 1.6 Member Local Allocation funding is made to groups and organisations on a one-off basis, so that there should be no expectation of future funding for the same or similar purpose. It may not be used to benefit individuals, or to fund schools for direct delivery of the National Curriculum, or to support a political party.

## **2. ANALYSIS OF 2011/12 LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING**

- 2.1 In 2011/12, the County Council allocated £8,410 revenue funding per County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to the Local Committee (Woking).

- 2.2 The analysis of projects funded by County Councillors (attached at Annexes 1 & 2) shows that the majority of the Committee's budget went to external organisations predominately for community development. These projects were wide ranging and included supporting the establishment of Surrey Save and renovation of community halls. Six County Council services have benefited from member funding in this financial year with Highways receiving over £20,000 of funding for grit bins and heritage lampposts.

### **3. BIDS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL – REVENUE/CAPITAL FUNDING**

- 3.1 The proposals for revenue and capital funding for consideration and decision at this Committee are set out below.

#### **3.2 Woking Recreational Boating for the Handicapped – Major repair to trip boat hull (Ben Carasco)**

Project Cost	£3,760
Amount Requested	£3,760 (Capital)
Project Description:	To pay for welding steel plates onto a boat that takes handicapped and disabled people on trips.

#### **3.3 British Red Cross – Provision of Wheelchairs: Redcross Medical Loan Centres Surrey (Liz Bowes)**

Project Cost	£28,877 (Surreywide)
Amount Requested	£3,877 (Woking) (Capital)
Project description:	To purchase 30 new wheelchairs for the Woking medical loan centre. Wheelchairs will be available free of charge for short term loans. The service is advertised by distributing leaflets to hospitals, GP's and health professionals.

#### **3.4 1349 (Woking) Squadron Air Training Corps – External Store relayout (Will Forster)**

Project Cost	£600
Amount Requested	£500 (Capital)
Project description:	To pay for heavy duty racking for safe storage of equipment.

**3.5 Fosters Lane (Knaphill) Association – Improvements to Fosters lane public right of way (Diana Smith)**

Project Cost £6,857  
 Amount Requested £1000 (Revenue)  
 Project description: Funding of £3682 was granted back in June 2011 for removing dead trees and reducing the height of other trees along Fosters Lane footpath and reinstating the original drainage ditch and also compacting and levelling the lane. Due to delays caused by bad weather etc costs went up which resulted in a shortfall of funds. They would like to apply for £500 to cover the shortfall and an extra £500 to carry out some additional works.

**3.6 Surrey Search and Rescue – Waterproof Jackets for Search & Rescue (Will Forster)**

Project Cost £1,635  
 Amount Requested £1,635 (Revenue)  
 Project description: To purchase 13 rescue specification waterproof jackets for volunteers.

**3.7 Byfleet Cricket Club- Extension and refurbishment project (Geoff Marlow)**

Project Cost £150,000  
 Amount Requested £3,000 (Capital)  
 Project Description: To pay towards the modernisation of the cricket club pavilion including changing rooms, showers, kitchen and social spaces. The funding will only be released once we have confirmation that funds have been secured from other sources and the project will be going ahead. The club facilities will also need to be available for hire to local community groups.

**3.4 Looked After Children Bursary Fund (All County Councillors)**

Project Cost £40,000  
 Amount Requested £3,500 (Revenue) - £500 per County Councillor  
 Project Description: A fund to support recognition and celebration of the achievements of Looked After Children.

**4. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS**

4.1 No bids were approved under delegated authority since the last committee meeting.

## **5. COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING**

- 5.1 The County Council has in the past made available to Local Committees the sum of £14,500 per borough/district for use in conjunction with the Community Safety Partnerships, of which £12,000 was ring-fenced for outreach with those affected by domestic abuse and the Local Committee was asked to allocate the remainder of the funding for community safety work. As part of the centralised approach to these services, the domestic abuse outreach is being funded centrally for allocation by the Community Safety Unit. This year, the Local Committee has a delegated budget of £3,160 for general community safety purposes which it has, in the past, allocated to the Woking Community Safety Partnership as its contribution towards the projects and activities referred to in the relevant report. (PE Item 2 on this agenda)
- 5.2 The Committee is asked to confirm that it wishes to transfer its budget of £3,160 to the Woking Community Safety Partnership and to delegate authority to the Community Partnership Manager to oversee the expenditure of this budget.

## **6. OPTIONS**

- 6.1 The Local Committee may choose to approve all, part or none of the funding proposals under discussion in this report.

## **7. CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 In relation to new bids, consultation, where appropriate, may have been undertaken by the organisation receiving the funding, the local Member or the Community Partnerships Team as required.
- 7.2 The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

## **8. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 Each project detailed in this report has completed a standard application form giving details of timescales, purpose and other funding applications made. The County Councillor proposing each project has assessed its merits prior to the project's inclusion as a proposal for decision by the Committee. All bids are also scrutinised to ensure that they comply with the Council's Financial Framework and represent value for money.
- 8.2 There are sufficient monies to fund all of the proposals contained within this report. If the above recommendations are approved the remaining available funds are set out in the table in the Local Committee's financial position statement attached as Annexe 3.

- 8.3 Please note these figures will not include any applications submitted for approval after the deadline for this report or that are currently pending approval under delegated authority. They also do not include any funding that is in the process of being returned to the Local Committee.

## **9. EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The allocation of the Committee's budgets is intended to enhance the wellbeing of residents and make the best possible use of the funds. Funding is available to all residents, community groups or organisations based in, or serving, the area. The success of the bid depends entirely upon its ability to meet the agreed criteria, which is flexible.
- 9.2 The Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs.

## **10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 The spending proposals put forward for this meeting have been assessed against the County standards for appropriateness and value for money within the agreed Financial Framework and the local agreed criteria, which is available from the Community Partnerships Team.
- 10.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2012/13 Local Committee delegated budgets as detailed in the report.

## **11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 11.1 The Committee is being asked to decide on these bids so that the Community Partnerships Team can process the bids in line with the wishes of the Committee.

## **12. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

- 12.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 12.2 Any changes to an approved bid will be discussed with the local Members and the Chairman, and if the changes are considered to be significant, an amended bid will be brought back to the Committee for approval. In all other circumstances, the Community Partnerships Team will process the payments as soon as possible once the signed agreement has been received.
- 12.3 Within 6 months of receipt, all successful applicants will be contacted for details of how the funding was spent and will be asked to supply evidence.
- 12.4 A breakdown of the expenditure for the year will be brought to the first meeting of the next municipal year.

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**Background Papers:**

- SCC Constitution: Financial Framework
- Local Committee Protocol
- Criteria and Guidance for Members Allocations
- Local Committee Funding Bids