

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

DATE: 8 DECEMBER 2014

LEAD OFFICER: SANDRA BROWN

SUBJECT: LOCAL COMMITTEE & MEMBERS' ALLOCATION FUNDING – UPDATE

DIVISION: ALL



SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Surrey County Council Councillors receive funding to spend on local projects that help to promote social, economic or environmental well-being in the neighbourhoods and communities of Surrey. This funding is known as Members' Allocation.

For the financial year 2014/15 the County Council has allocated £10,300 revenue funding to each County Councillor and £35,000 capital funding to each Local Committee. This report provides an update on the projects that have been funded since April 2014 to date.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to note:

- (i) The amounts that have been spent from the Members' Allocation and Local Committee capital budgets, as set out in Annex 1 of this report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The allocation of the Committee's budgets is intended to enhance the wellbeing of residents and make the best possible use of the funds. Greater transparency in the use of public funds is achieved with the publication of what Members' Allocation funding has been spent on.

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 and directs that this funding should be spent on local projects that promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area.
- 1.2 In allocating funds councillors 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.
- 1.3 Member Allocation funding is made to 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. RECENT PROJECTS:

- 2.1 Two examples of recent projects:

Esher & District Citizens Advice Bureau office lighting

Esher CAB provides free, confidential and impartial advice to the residents and workers of Elmbridge. Its main office is Harry Fletcher House, located in the Civic Centre car park, Esher and is leased by Elmbridge Borough Council. Recently, some of the light tubes in the main staff office needed replacing. Thanks to a £300 contribution from Councillor Stuart Selleck, the tubes were replaced without an impact on the finances of the CAB.

Claygate millennium signage

On June 4, the millennium sign at the junction of Hare Lane and the Parade in Claygate slid down its post, causing damage to the tiled roof. A contribution of £1000 from Councillor Mike Bennison's Members' Allocation has gone towards the cost of repairing the sign so that it will continue to benefit the vicinity.

3. ANALYSIS:

- 3.1 All the bids detailed in Annex 1 have been considered by and received support from the local county councillor and been assessed by the Community Partnerships Team as meeting the County Council's required criteria.

4. OPTIONS:

- 4.1 The Committee is being asked to note the bids that have already been approved.

5. CONSULTATIONS:

- 5.1 In relation to new bids the local councillor will have discussed the bid with the applicant, and Community Partnerships Team will have consulted relevant Surrey County Council services and partner agencies as required.

6. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 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 approval. All bids are also scrutinised to ensure that they comply with the Council's Financial Framework and represent value for money.
- 6.2 The current financial position statements detailing the funding by each member of the Committee are attached at **Annex 1**. Please note these figures will not include any applications that were approved after the deadline for this report had past.

7. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 The allocation of the Members' Allocation and Local 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.

8. LOCALISM:

- 8.1 The budgets are allocated by the local members to support the needs within their communities.

9. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

| Area assessed: | Direct Implications: |
|--|--|
| Crime and Disorder | No significant implications arising from this report |
| Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions) | No significant implications arising from this report |
| Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children | No significant implications arising from this report |
| Safeguarding responsibilities for | No significant implications arising |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| vulnerable children and adults | from this report |
| Public Health | No significant implications arising from this report |

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.

11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

11.1 Payments to the organisations have, or will be paid to the applicants, and organisations are requested to provide publicity of the funding and also evidence that the funding has been spent within 6 months.

Contact Officer:

Georgie Lloyd, Local Support Assistant, 01372 832605.

Consulted:

- Local Members have considered and vetted the applications
- Community Partnership Team have assessed the applications

Annexes:

Annex 1 – The breakdown of spend to date per County Councillor, including the breakdown of spend to date per County Councillor of the Local Committee Budget.

Sources/background papers:

- All bid forms are retained by the Community Partnerships Team