

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)

DATE: 19 FEBRUARY 2018



LEAD

OFFICER: CARYS WALKER, PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE OFFICER

**SUBJECT: LOCAL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING AND
MEMBER ALLOCATIONS UPDATE**

DIVISION: RUNNYMEDE (ALL)

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

In July 2017, the Local Committee was allocated a budget of £3000 for community safety projects in 2017/18. It was agreed by the committee that the funding was retained and administered by the Community Partnership Team in consultation with the chairman and vice chairman.

Each county councillor was given £6,000 of funding as part of the Members' Allocation scheme. This allowed divisional members to award funding to community facing projects in their divisions.

The report provides an update to both of those initiatives ahead of the end of the financial year.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to:

- (i) Note the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To ensure that the Local Committee is aware of the allocation of community safety funding to local Runnymede projects for 2017/18 and the expected outcomes.

To recognise the impact of Members' Allocations in supporting local community projects.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Prior to 2016, the Local Committee had historically chosen to passport its delegated community safety funding to the local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to assist in their efforts to tackle crime and anti- social behaviour on behalf of residents.
- 1.2 Following countywide analysis of the projects that were funded through CSPs and the outcomes achieved, the Local Committee agreed that its local CSP should firstly be invited to provide an outline of any prospective projects that could be supported from the committee's funding for approval. This aimed to provide greater oversight of the committee's expenditure. In the context of the County's Medium Term Financial Plan and the requirement upon all county services to contribute to significant savings, the process would also help to achieve better value for money from projects in support of the County Council's wider community safety priorities.
- 1.3 To assist CSPs in identifying suitable projects, the following criteria has been used
 - (a) Results in residents feeling safer
 - (b) Has clear outcomes that align with the priorities of the Local Committee and/or the CSP
 - (c) Is non recurrent expenditure
 - (d) Does not fund routine CSP activities (e.g. salaries, training)
 - (e) Is not subsumed into generalised or non-descript funding pots
 - (f) Does not duplicate funding already provided (e.g. domestic abuse services, youth work, transport costs, literature which could be co-ordinated across all CSPs)
- 1.4 Each county councillor was apportioned £6,000 funding for 2017/18 to help residents, voluntary and community organisations deliver activities that benefit local people in their neighbourhoods. This funding is known as Members' Allocation.
- 1.5 Members' Allocation funding can be used for one-off activities that cost just a few pounds, alternatively it can contribute to projects that cost much more. The funding is flexibly designed to help with costs that can range from purchasing sports equipment for local clubs, to the creation of websites to reach more residents.

2. ANALYSIS:

Community Safety Funding

2.1 As in the previous year, a clear and simple process, designed to support CSPs, was adopted in order that funds were processed efficiently.

2.2 Local CSPs were invited to submit a brief outline of the projects that they would like to fund, using the criteria set out in 1.3

2.3 To ensure funds could be utilised within the current financial year, proposals were submitted in September and were considered by the Community Partnership Team in consultation with the chairman and vice-chairman.

2.4 Successful bids for 2018

2.5 Safe Drive, Stay Alive £1,200

Safe Drive, Stay Alive is a theatre based education production, coordinated by Surrey Fire & Rescue Service, working with emergency services partners and members of the public. Designed to be emotionally engaging and thought provoking, this production aimed to raise road safety awareness amongst young people and positively influence their attitudes to driving. Performances targeted an audience of new and novice young drivers, who are a high risk group on the UK's roads. Safe Drive, Stay Alive aimed to make young people aware of their responsibilities as road users and the wide ranging and potentially devastating consequences should these not be taken seriously. The ultimate aim is to reduce the number of road traffic collisions involving young people and the number of deaths and injuries amongst this at risk driver group.

2.6 As a county-wide initiative, this was supported by all the area committees. Contributions were requested proportionately, with each borough or district contributing £1 per pupil (based on attendance at the previous year's event.)

2.7 11,800 people attended the 19 performances in late October and early November. The audience comprised 11,700 students, teachers/tutors/instructors, from over 90 schools, colleges, youth groups and the British Army, and over 100 invited VIP guests.

2.8 For more information, including testimonies from those who attended the event, please visit the website: <https://www.safedrivesurrey.org/>

2.9 Respect the Water £1,800

Respect the Water is an initiative that was launched by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution in 2016 (RNLI) to promote safety in the vicinity of water as many of those who drown do so as a result of entering the water accidentally. Last year it was reported that more people in Surrey die as a result of drowning than in house fires. As a result, Surrey Fire & Rescue and Surrey Search & Rescue joined forces with the RNLI to promote this initiative across Surrey.

2.10 The scheme was launched in Runnymede at a public water safety event in June 2017 that took place in Runnymede Pleasure Grounds where each of the agencies demonstrated their rescue techniques and members of the public were encouraged to try the techniques themselves. The campaign is expected to span three years and will encompass the nearby boroughs of Spelthorne and Elmbridge. It will comprise of public education events such as the one described above and better signage and rescue equipment along the water's edge.

2.11 The £1,800 contributed by Runnymede Local Committee will go towards purchasing three emergency thrown line signs along the banks of the River Thames at locations identified and recommending by the Fire & Rescue Service. (Total cost £2115) These will allow bystanders to safely aid anyone that they observe falling into the water.

2.12 For more information visit the RNLI's website:

<https://www.respectthewater.com/>

Members' allocation funding for 2017-18

2.13 Each county councillor was apportioned £6,000 funding for 2017/18 to help residents, voluntary and community organisations deliver activities that benefit local people in their neighbourhoods. This funding is known as Members' Allocation.

2.14 Members' Allocation funding can be used for one-off activities that cost just a few pounds, alternatively it can contribute to projects that cost much more. The funding is flexibly designed to help with costs that can range from purchasing sports equipment for local clubs, to the creation of websites to reach more residents.

2.15 To ensure that members were supported in assessing proposals that came in from the community, they were supplied a set of guidelines which was known as the financial framework. This has been supplied as **annex 1** to this report.

2.16 A list of successful bids which can also be found on our website has also been added to this report as **annex 2**.

- 2.17 The role of the Community Partnership team is to support councillors by processing the applications and providing advice on prospective proposals. In addition, the team seeks to raise the profile of the initiative by publicising projects that have benefitted from the fund on the website www.surreycc.gov.uk/runnymede or via our social media accounts:

Twitter: @RunnymedeLC

Instagram: @LCRunnymede

Facebook: @RunnymedeLC

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 The chairman and vice-chairman had the option to choose to support either of the Community Safety projects presented or not support either proposal.
- 3.2 The chairman felt that she wanted to support both initiatives and so funding was spilt between the two projects. This meant that the Respect the Water project did not get the full amount of funding that it had requested (£3,000). The CSP however, recognised that there were two worthwhile proposals submitted, both of which had benefit to the community and they agreed to scale back on their original bid.
- 3.3 Each member has the opportunity to endorse or reject proposals that are presented to them as part of the Members' Allocation initiative.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Local Committee Chairmen were collectively consulted about the process for allocating community safety funding, as recommended in this report.
- 4.2 The chairman and vice-chairman were consulted on the bids that were received for consideration of the Community Safety Fund.
- 4.3 Applicants are encouraged to contact their county councillor in the first instance to establish their interest and to promote it as a councillor-led scheme.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The costs of both initiatives were contained within existing revenue budgets. Early scrutiny of proposed projects by CSPs and local organisations helped to achieve better value for money for the Committee's funding.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 There are no direct equalities or diversity implications. However, through its membership of the local CSP and external bodies, the County Council can help to ensure that local services are accessible to harder to reach groups.

The CSP also maintains ongoing monitoring of hate and domestic abuse crimes.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The proposals contained in this enabled CSPs and/or other suitable local organisations to submit projects that supported the County Council’s strategic goal of enhancing resident experience.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out below
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications.
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications.
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications.
Public Health	No significant implications

8.1 Crime and Disorder implications

The county council’s membership of local CSPs ensured the achievement of its community safety priorities. The committee’s funding for local community safety projects enabled the CSP and/or other local organisations to help to promote safety, reduce crime, and tackle antisocial behaviour and raise awareness of safer practices and behaviours.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 The recommendations contained in this report are intended to secure greater oversight of the committee’s community safety expenditure and achieve better value for money through projects that help to achieve the County’s community safety priorities.

The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to:

- (i) Note the report and the achievements contain herein.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 The Committee will be advised on whether the two initiatives will be included in the 2018/19 budget.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted: Surrey's Local Committee Chairmen and county councillors.
Runnymede CSP.

Annexes:

- 1 Member Allocations financial framework
- 2 Member Allocations – remaining balance

Sources/background papers:

Local Committee Community Safety Funding and Representation on Task Groups
and External Bodies July 2017

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