



Committee and date
Albrighton Area
Local Joint Committee

3 July 2013

7.00pm

Item No

10

Public

2013/14 FINANCE REPORT, INCLUDING UPDATE ON FUNDING REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Responsible Officer Andrea McWilliams

Email: andrea.mcwilliams@shropshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01743 257866

1. Summary

This report considers the funding allocated to the Albrighton Area Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1st April 2013 up until 31st March 2014.

We now have confirmation that the LJC budget for the 2013/14 financial year will be £11,582 which includes a small carry forward of £212 that relates to underspend on the administration budget.

The committee usually allocates its funding into two pots:

- a pot of £2,000 to be used as a community chest for grant applications up to a value of £250.
- A larger pot with the remaining budget for other projects.

Prior to each LJC, a planning meeting takes place to discuss applications for funding and agree recommendations.

2. Moving Forward

The LJC's are a key part of the overall work to deliver localism in Shropshire, and will be supported by Shropshire Council to achieve this. Recognising this strategic importance there is increasing onus on LJC's to have a very clear understanding of their local communities and how the various elements (public, voluntary and private) can best work together to deliver real outcomes that make a difference to the lives of local people.

In order to achieve this goal LJC's have to work towards allocating their funding towards outcomes that meet community priorities.

There is a clear directive to move away from simply reacting to whatever group needs funding for the moment and a move more towards funding to achieve the needs of both the local community but also Shropshire as a whole.

The LJC is aware of various priorities within the community that may need significant help in forthcoming months in order to complete various projects and will be considering how best to allocate their funding based on how these projects progress.

In addition it is clear that with the ever increasing pressure on local authority budgets there is uncertainty whether LJC's will have a budget next year or indeed will be able to roll forward any unallocated funding into next financial year.

3. Applications Received

Six valid applications have been received for this reporting period. These were considered at the planning meeting held on 6th June 2013 and the recommendations arising are detailed later in this report for members to consider at this meeting.

4. Recommendations

- That the committee confirms that it wishes to continue with the current grant system
- That the LJC considers the applications received and awards funding to those organisations and their projects as recommended in Appendix 1 to this report.
- That the LJC considers its priorities for funding which will be directed at activities that help develop community-based and led projects in the area for the 2013/14 financial year.

5. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

The proposals under consideration will improve the levels of community based and community driven activity in the LJC area, and in particular in those communities identified by local Councillors as not benefiting previously from LJC support.

6. Financial Implications

The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year to address local priorities. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC's and additional criteria agreed by this committee.

7. Background

A total of six applications have been received for consideration at this meeting, four for the larger grants scheme and two for the community chest.

Details of the individual applications are listed on the attached Appendix 1 to this report. Recommendations are now put forward to the Albrighton Area LJC and are summarised below as follows:

Grants	£
Albrighton & District Civic Society – Fencing at Station	Refuse
Albrighton & District Civic Society – Community website	Refuse
Albrighton Arts & Heritage Forum	Award 500.00
Albrighton Trust, Moat & Gardens	Award 700.00
Albrighton Sports Complex	Award 250.00
Cosford Youth Club	Award 250.00
Total recommended at this meeting	1,700.00
Total spent	1,700.00

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2011/12 – 2013/14, Appendix 5. Report to Cabinet 13th January 2011.

Locality Working Local Joint Committees. Report to Cabinet 9th December 2010.

LJC application form for the projects listed

Albrighton Area LJC funding guidelines

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Cllr Gwilym Butler

Local Members

Councillors Malcolm Pate and Stuart West

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of Applications