



<u>Committee and date</u> Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley and Claverley Local Joint Committee  2 December 2009  7.00 p.m.
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<u>Item No</u>  <b>8</b>  Public
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## Budget Allocation 2010/11 and Funding Criteria

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### Summary

1. Members will be aware that the current budget round is due to come to an end in March 2010. A new budget will be allocated to the Committee for the financial year 2010/2011.

### Background

2. The purpose of this paper is to remind Members of the current budget allocations and funding criteria and to prompt a discussion to assist officers in preparing recommendations for the June Committee meeting when the 2010/2011 budget allocations and funding criteria will be presented to the Committee for consideration.
3. The agreed allocations for the 2009/2010 budget were as follows:
  - **Community Chest** – budget of £10,000 providing small grants up to £500 ( subject to the criteria as set out below )
  - **Larger Grant Fund** – budget of £45,000 split into three rounds of £15,000 for projects over £500 with grant applications not normally exceeding £7,000 ( subject to the criteria as set out below )
  - **Local Priorities** - £16,000 which was initially retained for local priorities. During the course of the financial year this was added to the Larger Grant Fund as there were several applications which had a focus on promoting tourism which had been identified as a local priority.
4. During the course of the year all applications for funding have been considered by officers initially and thereafter Members in accordance

with the Financial Procedure Notes governing Local Joint Committees and against the following criteria:

Eligibility

- Projects will be delivered in the eligible area
- Project meets approved financial/grant criteria

Assessment

- In the local area
  - Percentage of match funding
  - One application per applicant per financial year
  - Is for £500 or less ( Community Chest ) or £7,000 or less ( Large Grant)
  - Is not for profit
  - Denominates need
  - Delivers local community benefit
  - Assures that application can deliver the project
  - Demonstrates sustainability
  - Demonstrates no adverse environmental impact
  - Provides benefit to wider community in the LJC area
5. In addition the Community Regeneration Officer normally expects to see evidence of the current level of funds available to applicants in order to evaluate the need for the award of grant from the LJC.
6. Successful applicants are expected to report back to the LJC with reports on what has been achieved with the funding.
7. For the forthcoming year therefore Members are asked to indicate through discussion whether the above criteria and methodology of assessment of funding applications is to be replicated for 2010/2011 or whether changes or indeed additional criteria are required.
8. Example areas that Members may wish to discuss are as follows:
- Town and Parish Council applications – only in exceptional circumstances?
  - Lowering the maximum threshold of the Large Grant Fund from £7,000.
  - Having a themed meeting with a specific allocated “pot” where there would be one opportunity to bid e.g. festivals

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

**Human Rights Act Appraisal**

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

**Environmental Appraisal**

There are no environmental implications that arise from the recommendations within this report.

**Risk Management Appraisal**

All funding will need to be evaluated against agreed criteria and in accordance with agreed financial procedures.

**Community / Consultations Appraisal**

Decisions on the allocation of funding will be taken by the committee as local representatives of the community

**Cabinet Member**

Councillor Gwilym Butler

**Local Member**

All members of the Local Joint Committee

**Appendices**

None