



<u>Committee and Date</u> Oswestry Local Joint Committee 27 May 2010 7pm
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<u>Item/Paper</u> 12 Public
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Community Chest

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Summary

This report makes recommendations to establish for 2010/11 a Community Chest of £16,000 from the Committee's devolved budget of £59,893.86 and to consider applications received by 30 April 2010. This report also provides a summary of how the 2009/2010 budget was allocated.

Recommendations

A – It is recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee establishes a Community Chest with a value of **£16,000**.

B - It is recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee allocate funding to those organisations and their projects as set out in Appendix A to this report.

C – It is recommended that the £10,000 allocated by the Oswestry Local Joint Committee in March 2010 to improve the tourism offer in Oswestry is spent on improving tourism signage around Oswestry.

Background

1. At the Implementation Executive on 19 March 2009 it was determined that there will be 28 Local Joint Committee's for the new Shropshire Council. A devolved budget of £54,000 has been allocated to the Oswestry Local Joint Committee based on its electorate.
2. The Constitution governing Local Joint Committee's states:
 - Each Local Joint Committee (LJC) has a delegated budget which will be confirmed on an annual basis.
 - The LJC must use the standard guidelines and application form when granting funding to third parties.
 - The LJC budgets will be subject to Shropshire Council's audit procedures.

Report

2009/2010 Budget

3. The following highlights how the 2009/2010 devolved budget has been allocated:

<u>Budget</u>	£	54,000.00	<u>Notes</u>
Community Chest	£	28,106.14	
Oswestry TC/ Powis Hall	£	10,000.00	Cabinet 20th of Jan 2010
Tourism Offer in Oswestry	£	10,000.00	8 th March 2010
Unallocated	£	5,893.86	
	<u>£</u>	<u>54,000.00</u>	

Community Chest

Budget	£	28,106.14	
Allocated round 1	£	8,111.80	Approved 22 Sept 2009
Allocated round 2	£	5,259.34	Approved 3 Dec 2009
Recommended r 3	£	14,735.00	Approved 8 th March 2010
Total allocated	£	28,106.14	
Balance	<u>£</u>	<u>-</u>	

4. The Oswestry LJC therefore has an available budget of £59,893.86 for the financial year 2010/2011 made up of its core budget 2010/11 of £54,000 plus the unallocated funds from 2009/10 of £5,893.

Community Chest

5. The Community Chest which ran last year (2009/10) proved to be very popular, with over £28,000 worth of funding being given to community and voluntary groups who had bid for money to fund local projects.
6. It is being recommended that Members consider allocating some of its devolved budget to establish a Community Chest for 2010/11 of **£16,000**.
7. As with the 2009/10 Community Chest this funding would be subject to the Financial Procedure Notes drawn up by Shropshire Council for the Local Joint Committees. Other than that, the Committee would have authority to fund any eligible project considered on a case by case basis. Schemes will also be subject to the rules agreed by the Committee set out below and detailed on the application form.
- The maximum amount that can be allocated to any one project is £2,000.

- Applications to the Community Chest are limited to one per organisation in any one financial year. In exceptional circumstances more than one application from an organisation may be considered.

Round 1

8. The closing date for applications to be considered at the 27 May LJC meeting was 30 April 2010. By the closing date six applications had been received, totalling £7,340.00, all of which meet the key eligibility criteria. Those recommended for funding are shown at Appendix A.
9. The recommendations have been made on an assessment of each application against the rules of the Local Joint Committee and the Community Chest rules as set out in this report. It must be noted that, the Committee has the authority to fund any eligible project considered on a case by case basis.

Budget Implications

10. The bids recommended for agreement total £6,840.00 which is within the available budget. Should the recommendations within this report be accepted then the total amount available for other groups to bid for and which will be considered by Members in July is £9,160.00.
11. The deadline for applications to be received for the second round of bids which will be considered by the Committee on 22 July is Friday 25 June 2010.
12. Applications to the Community Chest must be made using the agreed application form which will be available at the meeting. It will also be available from Shropshire Council's Website (www.shropshire.gov.uk), or by telephoning Nicki Young, Community Regeneration Officer on 01691 677318 or by e-mail nicki.young@shropshire.gov.uk, or the Lead Officer on the above contacts.

Improving the Tourism Offer

13. At the March LJC, members allocated £10,000 to improve the tourism offer in Oswestry. This budget was set up with the aim of funding the priorities identified by those participating in the workshop.
14. The workshop identified a number of positive opportunities for improving Tourism in the town but a theme consistently identified during the workshop and during a previous LJC meeting which focussed on the local economy, was the need to improve tourism signage around Oswestry. This was also identified as a priority for the town by the former Oswestry Borough Council. Shropshire Council Officers are currently in the process of reviewing previous signage assessments undertaken and are discussing with colleagues in the Highways service how the funding allocated (£10,000) could be used to improve tourism signage. A further update will be provided at the next LJC meeting in July 2010.

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

1. Locality Working – New ways of working – Implementation Executive 19 March 2009

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations are unlikely to result in any implications for the Human Rights Act.

Environmental Appraisal

Environmental appraisals will be carried out as necessary.

Risk Management Appraisal

The Council needs to address the risk of legal challenge to decisions through procedural or other errors. This has been carefully assessed.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

None

Cabinet Member

Councillor Gwilym Butler – Portfolio Holder for Partnership Working, Performance and Productivity and Customer Service

Local Member

Councillor Keith Barrow

Councillor Martin Bennett

Councillor Vince Hunt

Councillor Bill Benyon

Appendices

Appendix A – Applications / projects recommended for funding