

SHREWSBURY LJC FUNDING GUIDELINES

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Summary

This report sets the funding context, and details the proposed funding guidelines, for the Shrewsbury Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2012.

A total of £32,400 has been devolved to the Committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC. This amount has been calculated as a 30% top-slice of the Shrewsbury neighbourhood LJC budgets, as agreed by Council on 9th December 2010.

Recommendation

- That the LJC approves the report as a basis for considering LJC funding applications in 2011/12.

Report

Background

1. The Shrewsbury wide Local Joint Committee provides a new way of working together with Shrewsbury Town Council and local people and organisations across the County town. The Local Joint Committee provides people with opportunities to get more involved in decisions about issues which affect the whole of Shrewsbury. It has a small budget to allow action to be taken over local issues.
2. The amount allocated to the Shrewsbury wide Local Joint Committee is calculated based on a 30% top-slice of the Shrewsbury neighbourhood LJC budgets and totals ££32,400.
3. The Committee can use its budget for a variety of purposes. It could seek to enhance service provision within its area of coverage. It could decide to fund

specific priorities agreed by the Committee on annual basis. It could offer grants to small scale local projects which have a Shrewsbury wide impact.

4. Despite the budget being reasonably small it is important that there are clear and robust financial procedures in place concerning the spending of these budgets. These procedures are set out in the LJC funding guidelines and criteria available at www.shropshire.gov.uk/ljc.
5. Each request for funding by a voluntary organisation or body must be supported by a completed application form. The application form is available from the website, Shrewsbury Councillors, or the Council's Community Action Team.
6. The application form must be completed to ensure that the Local Joint Committee receives full details about what the project will entail and how the funding will be used to make a difference in the local area. This can then be used as the basis of the committee's decision on funding allocations.
 - Expenditure must be consistent with achieving the aims, objectives and vision set out in Shropshire's Sustainable Community Strategy, the Council's Corporate Plans and local Neighbourhood or Parish Plans.
 - Expenditure must be for activity within the geographical area of the Local Joint Committee.
 - Expenditure must benefit the Shrewsbury-wide community.
 - The budget must not be spent on mainstream council activities, but can be used to enhance mainstream activities.
 - The budget must not be a displacement of existing council funding. For example, a service cannot be reinstated from the local budget if the council has cut funding for it in the previous 3 years.
 - The budget should not be used to meet staffing costs of an organisation.
7. Contributions can be made to larger schemes with a number of funding sources. In particular, the Local Joint Committee could consider matching its funding with that provided by Shrewsbury Town Council's Community Chest scheme. The applicant must confirm the status of any third party funding before incurring approved Local Joint Committee expenditure on the whole project.
8. Any organisation making a bid for funding must have a bank account in the name of the organisation to which payment will be made.
9. All claims for expenditure must be supported by invoices.
10. Any organisation in receipt of approved monies from the Local Joint Committees must be prepared to be audited by Shropshire Council.

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 Council 9th December 2010.
LJC application forms for the projects listed

Human Rights Act Appraisal

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

Environmental Appraisal

None.

Risk Management Appraisal

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

Community / Consultations Appraisal

Consideration has been given to the public opinion expressed at the previous Local Meeting.

Local Member

N/A

Appendices

None.