



<u>Committee and Date</u> Church Stretton/ StrettonDale Local Joint Committee 9 July 2009 7.00 pm	<u>Item</u> <b>9</b>	<u>Paper</u> <b>A</b>
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## Decision Report for Church Stretton/StrettonDale Local Joint Committee

### Devolved Budget Report

**Responsible Officer: Liz Nicholson – Director of Children’s and Young Peoples Services**

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### Summary

This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Church Stretton/StrettonDale Local Joint Committee for 2009/2010.

### Recommendations

It is recommended to the Local Joint Committee that:

- i A Community Chest is created with a value of **£5,000**.
- ii Applications to the Community Chest are considered by Members at Local Joint Committee Meetings, subject to the Financial Procedure Notes governing Local Joint Committees and the ground rules as specified in this report.

### 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 £22,000 has been allocated to the Church Stretton/StrettonDale Local Joint Committee based on its electorate (4679), and having been ‘rural proofed’.
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

3. It is being recommended that Members consider allocating some of its devolved budget to establish a Community Chest with the aim of providing community and voluntary groups an opportunity to bid for money to fund local projects.
4. Community Chests which have run in pilot LJCs have proved to be very popular, with applications often in excess of the devolved budgets available.

## Community Chest 2009/2010

5. It is recommended that a Community Chest is created with an initial value of **£5,000**. It would of course remain open to the Committee to review this at a later date.
6. This chest would be subject to the Financial Procedure Notes (attached at Appendix A) 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.
7. The closing date for the applications which will be considered at the meeting of the Committee in September is **Tuesday 1 September 2009** and for the Local Joint Committee in January 2010 is **Friday 20 November 2009**.
8. Schemes will also be subject to the rules agreed by the Committee set out below.
  - Grants will not normally exceed £500 for any one project.
  - Applications to the Community Chest are limited to one per organisation within the 2009/2010 financial year. In exceptional circumstances more than one application from an organisation may be considered.
9. The Community Chest will be advertised through press releases and on the Shropshire Council website.
10. 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](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)), or by telephoning Peter Dunhill, Community Regeneration Officer on 01746 713230 or by e-mail [peter.dunhill@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:peter.dunhill@shropshire.gov.uk), or the Lead Officer on the above contacts.

**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 Community Working and Customer Services

**Local Shropshire Council Members**

Councillor James Gibson

Councillor Cecilia Motley

Councillor David Evans

**LJC Parish and Town Councillors**

Councillor Peter Relph

Councillor Lynne Gray

Councillor Mel McFarland

**Appendices**

A – Local Joint Committee Financial Procedure Notes