
Stourbridge Area Committee – 09 March 2009

Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Capital Allocations

Purpose of Report

1. To consider an application for a capital allocation.

Background

2. The Area Committee has an unallocated capital budget of £22,683.21 for 2008/09.
3. The Area Committee has previously agreed that contributions from the budget will be limited to £5,000 unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated. Spending proposals are invited from members of the Area Committee, the public, representative organisations and Council directorates, and each proposal is assessed against the following criteria:-
 - (a) The allocation is to be spent on “capital” schemes as defined by legislation, i.e. “one-off” type expenditure on acquisition, construction, enhancement of land, roads, buildings, equipment or vehicles, which may also include the making of grants or loans for capital expenditure by others;
 - (b) For projects with a value of £1,000 or more applications will only be approved if:-
 1. the applicant can demonstrate that they will secure at least 50% of the cost of the project either from their own resources or from some other funding; and
 2. the applicant has not been awarded a capital allocation by the Committee or a grant from the Stevens Trust within the preceding three years.

Except, in either case, in the opinion of the Area Committee, there are special circumstances which would warrant the approval of the application in the public interest.

- (c) Schemes should contribute to the Community Plan and should not conflict with existing Council policy;
- (d) Schemes should be for the general benefit of the wider community, i.e. not just for the benefit of individuals or specific groups, and should make a difference in the local area;
- (e) Schemes should not result in any ongoing revenue cost to the Council;
- (f) Consideration should be given to schemes which might generate external funding (i.e. using the allocation as match-funding);
- (g) Spending must be in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, and demonstrate Best Value; and
- (h) Approved allocations must normally be claimed within six months.

Application by Stourbridge Youth Committee Representatives

- 4. An application has been received from Stourbridge Youth Committee Representatives, Valley Road Youth Centre, Providence Street, Lye, for a capital allocation of £500 to fund the cost of I.T. equipment and stationery.
- 5. The aim of the Organisation is to promote and encourage equality of opportunity for all young people in the area and to raise the profile of young people in the Stourbridge area by promoting a positive image of their contribution to the Community.
- 6. As the stationery is of a revenue nature then this can not be considered as part of the application. The value of the revenue element of the application is £200.
- 7. The Organisation has not supplied a set of audited accounts.

Finance

- 8. The Area Committee's delegated budget allocation is funded by the Council's mainstream capital resources. The current position with regard to available resources for 2008/9 is set out in paragraph 2 of this report.

Law

- 9. Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, enables the Council to do any thing which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well being of the Borough or any part of it.

Equality Impact

10. This report complies fully with the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

Recommendation

11. It is recommended that the Area Committee consider the application submitted by the Stourbridge Youth Committee Representatives.



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Area Liaison Officer

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List of Background Papers:

1. Application submitted by Stourbridge Youth Committee Representative

