

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> May 2008</b>			
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Corsham Area (4) Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2008/2009</b>			
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working			
Public Report	YES			
<p><b>Summary of Report</b> To ask Members to note the 2008/9 budget allocation and criteria.</p>				
<p><b>Officer Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>1. Members note their 2008/9 budget allocation and funding criteria for the Community Area Awards Scheme.</b></p>				
Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
YES	NONE	YES	NONE	YES
Contact Officer	Victoria Welsh, Community Partnership Officer, 01249 706 446 <a href="mailto:vwelsh@northwilts.gov.uk">vwelsh@northwilts.gov.uk</a>			

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the budget available and funding criteria for the 2008/2009 Community Area Awards Scheme, which were approved by Executive on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

### **Option 1: Members note their 2008/9 budget allocation and funding criteria for the Community Area Awards Scheme.**

- 2.1 The budget allocation was approved by Council on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Details are outlined at Section 3 of this report.
- 2.2 In 2008/9 the Corsham Area (4) Committee has been allocated a capital budget of **£40,000** and a revenue budget of **£12,000** for distribution in the form of Community Area Awards.
- 2.3 The rules on capital have remained unchanged. At the Corsham Area (4) meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008, Members resolved to recommend to the Executive that the 2007/8 **capital funding** under-spend of **£24,575** be carried forward. The total capital available to this Committee during 2008/2009 is therefore, **£64,575**.
- 2.3 The rules on revenue have remained unchanged and the balance of revenue from the previous financial year was not carried over. The total revenue budget available for distribution by the Corsham Area (4) Committee during 2008/09 is therefore, **£12,000**.
- 2.4 The Community Area Award criteria for 2008/9 were reviewed by a Joint Community Area Funding Advisory Body on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2007. The Executive subsequently approved the Community Area Award criteria on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Members will recall a Member training session about the Scheme on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008. Further details are outlined at Section 3 of this report. Should Members wish to act in contravention of these amended criteria, the matter must be referred to the Executive.

## 3. Background Information

- 3.1 A copy of the 2008/9 Community Area Awards Funding Pack can be found at Appendix 1. This contains information relating to funding criteria, sources of advice and funding available other than from the District Council, an application form and a chart outlining the process by which their application will be dealt with.
- 3.1.1 Applications can be made electronically via the Council's website, [www.northwilts.gov.uk](http://www.northwilts.gov.uk) or via a paper version. All enquires should be made to [community@northwilts.gov.uk](mailto:community@northwilts.gov.uk) or 01249 706 448.
- 3.2 Funding Criteria
- 3.2.1 Key elements and changes to the funding criteria are:
- The matched funding threshold has changed. During 2008/09 funding awards of up to £2,500 may not require match funding and may be made for the total project cost.
  - For awards over £2,500, Area Committees will not normally award more than 60% of the total project cost.
  - Applications received after **19th December 2009** will not be considered for funding as there will be insufficient time to process them before the final award give at the January Area Committee Meetings.
  - Members will need to be satisfied that awards granted in the 2008/09 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed before March 31 2009. All funding must be drawn down by **31st March 2009**.

- 3.3 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that funding applications will be submitted for consideration at each of the Corsham Area (4) Committee meetings up to and including **20<sup>th</sup> January 2009** providing five funding opportunities. These meetings will take place as follows:

<b>8<sup>th</sup> July 2008</b>	deadline for receipt of applications 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2008
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> September 2008</b>	deadline for receipt of applications 8 <sup>th</sup> August 2008
<b>18<sup>th</sup> November 2008</b>	deadline for receipt of applications 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2008
<b>20<sup>th</sup> January 2009</b>	deadline for receipt of applications 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2008

3.4 Budget

Appendix 2 provides details of the Corsham Area (4) capital and revenue balance for 2008/9. Appendix 3 details the 2007/8 distribution of awards across Corsham Area (4), in an attempt to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the Community Area.

**4. Legal Implications**

Members of the Area Committee will not be able to make an award to an applicant that exceeds the sum requested on the formal application form. Should Members wish to award a greater sum, the item would need to be deferred until the next funding round and the applicant requested to submit a revised application.

**5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Corsham Area (4) Committee as set out in Section 2 of this report.

**6. Community and Environmental Implications**

- 6.1 Awards made by Area Committee to successful applicants will contribute to the continuance and/or the improvement of cultural, social and community activity and well-being in the Community Area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent on the individual project.

**7. Equality & Diversity Implications**

- 7.1 Community Area Awards give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 7.2 An Equality Impact Assessment for the Community Area Awards has been undertaken and copies are available on the Council's website.

**8. Risk Analysis**

- 8.1 Failure to make awards would have a moderate impact on applicants and their associated community projects. Since this is considered to be unlikely, the overall risk is considered low.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix 1 - Community Area Awards Funding Pack</li> <li>• Appendix 2 - 2008/9 Financial Summary</li> <li>• Appendix 3 - 2007/8 Financial Summary</li> </ul>
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2008/9

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Corsham Area (4) Community Area Awards	Corsham Area (4) Committee - 15th Jan 2008	CO53
Community Area Awards Criteria 2008/9	Executive 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	E182
Budgets	Council 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	C83