

Area 2 Community Area Revenue Funding 2006/2007

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To ask Members to consider a virement from their 2006/07 Community Area Awards revenue budget.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. **To approve a one off virement of £1,000 from the Area 2, 2006/07 Community Area Awards revenue budget to the District-wide Awards revenue budget.**

3. Links to the Corporate Business Plan Priorities:

- 3.1. Community Area Awards can be linked to the Council's priority of Partnership Working, which through community based projects can help support the delivery of Community Plans and other Council Priorities including those associated with Equalities and Diversity, Healthy Lifestyles, Cleaner Safer and Better Streets and Waste and Recycling.

4. Background

- 4.1. Area Committees have historically received £10,000 revenue to enable them to support local community priorities. In 2005/06 there was an under spend of £6,909 by the Area 2 Committee of this budget.
- 4.2. Full Council on 21 February 2006 approved a reduction of £10,000 to the Area Committee Community revenue budget for 2006/07. The total budget of £40,000 results in a revenue funding allocation of £8,000 for each Area Committee in 2006/07.
- 4.3. Members may be aware that there is a centrally held revenue budget, the District-wide Award Scheme which provides funding for those projects which cover more than one Community Area or the whole of North Wiltshire.
- 4.4. Over recent years Area Committees have contributed towards a number of schemes, such as the Family Mediation Service, Relate, The Women's Refuge etc, due to insufficient funds in the District-wide Award scheme budget
- 4.5. In 2005/06 the District-wide Awards budget was £7,600. Distribution may be seen in Appendix 1.
- 4.6. Members will be aware that the Council signed up to the Wiltshire-wide Compact and its associated codes of practise. Officers have reviewed the funding support that the Council has given and in order to comply with the Compact the funding associated with the work undertaken by the Charities Information Bureau (CIB) and Solve should form part of Service Level Agreements (SLAs).

5. Discussion & Recommendations

- 5.1. In 2006/07 the District-wide Awards budget allocation is £7,900. Once funding has been allocated to SLAs and groups previously awarded tapering funding, approximately £3,000 will remain for distribution to specific schemes that cover more than one Community Area or the whole of North Wiltshire.
- 5.2. If each Area Committee were to vire, £1,000 from their Community Area Awards revenue budget to the District-wide Award scheme for 2006/07, this could provide considerable district-wide community benefit at relatively minor local cost, increasing the budget to a total of £8,000. This would result in a remaining Community Area Awards revenue budget of £7,000 for each Area Committee.

- 5.3. Officers have examined the historical spend of the revenue budget of each of the 5 Area Committees. In the 2005/06 financial year the Area 2 Committee allocated less than £7,000 to community revenue projects.
- 5.4. If Members are minded to support this virement to the District-wide Awards budget, applications from district-wide schemes will no longer be put forward to individual Area Committees, thus releasing revenue to the Area Committees.
- 5.5. Members of all five Area Committees must approve this recommendation before the virement can take place.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Should Members approve the recommendation they will reduce their Community Area Award revenue budget in 2006/07 from £8,000 to £7,000.

7. Community and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. Community Area Awards and District-wide Awards contribute to the continuance and or improvement of cultural, economic social and community activity and well-being in the Community Area.

8. Human Resources Implications

- 8.1. There are no Human Resources implications directly relating to this report.

Documents used in the preparation of Report

Minutes of Council 21 February 2006

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC MANAGER TO AREA 2 COMMITTEE 12 APRIL 2006

Report Prepared by

Miranda Gilmour

Principal Community Partnership Officer

Telephone: 01249 706380

email: mgilmour@northwilts.gov.uk