

Report

Report subject: Rural Floral Enhancement Scheme

Report to: Western Area Committee

Date: 16th February 2006

Author: Reg Williams

1. Introduction:

- 1.1. The Committee will be aware that the Parks section operates a Rural Floral Enhancement scheme each year.

2. Background:

- 2.1. Villages throughout the District are invited to apply for floral displays to be located at strategic positions within the village. These are delivered during late May and collected in late September.
- 2.2. The scheme has run for a number of years and has proven to be very popular with the villages.
- 2.3. During 2004 and 2005 only the Northern Area Committee has participated in the scheme, up till then all three area committees took part.

3. Current Position:

- 3.1. The Parks Manager has e-mailed the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each of the three Area Committee's asking for their initial views as to whether they wish to participate in 2006.
- 3.2. SAC confirmed that they do not wish to participate, NAC however re-affirmed their likely commitment. The Chairman of WAC requested the issue be debated at Committee and hence this report.

4. Financial Situation:

- 4.1. The relevant Area Committee funds the provision of the displays and the village organises the watering and maintenance.
- 4.2. The funding comes from the Area Committee's discretionary budget. At this time it is anticipated that the discretionary fund allocated to each Area Committee will continue during 2006/07, and therefore should the Committee so wish, this scheme could be re-signed up to. For information, the discretionary budget for each area committee in 2005/06 was £7,500.
- 4.3. Based upon the years when the WAC did participate in the scheme, it is likely that a sum of up to £4,300 would need to be earmarked for 2006.



Awarded in:
Housing Services
Waste and Recycling Services



5. Recommendations:

- 5.1. The Committee is requested to determine whether or not, should funds be made available, it intends funding the Rural Floral Enhancement scheme in 2006.
- 5.2. Should the Committee resolve to participate this year, an Agenda item will appear in March to consider the level of funding in light of the requests received from the villages.

6. Implications:

- 6.1. Financial: As outlined in the report. It should be noted that any specific funding for 2006 can only be approved once the budget for 2006/07 has been set by the Council.
- 6.2. Legal: None
- 6.3. Personnel: None
- 6.4. Human Rights: None
- 6.5. Community Safety: None
- 6.6. Ward(s) Affected: All wards in the Western area