

11. Grants Budgets Financial Summary and SSDC Grants Policy (Executive Decision and Excepted Business)

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Purpose of the Report

- (1) To consider the funding demand from the Community and Leisure Capital Grant Budget against the funding bids put forward and to top it up to enable these and future bids to be supported.
- (2) To inform members of the budgetary position should the recommendations set out in items 12, 13 and 14 in the agenda be approved; and remind Members of South Somerset District Council's Grants Policy as reviewed in February 2009.

Recommendations:

- (1) That member's approve a transfer of £25,000 from the Capital Reserve to the Community and Leisure Capital Grants Budget.
- (2) That the financial summary of bids and grants policy framework be read in conjunction with Items 12, 13 and 14 on the agenda.

Background

Community grant applications (either capital or revenue) are normally considered twice yearly in June and December. In addition to this small grants up to a maximum of £750 are available through the Community Development Officer using delegated powers . There are also ring-fenced funds for some specific types of schemes with their own arrangements for approval via the Community Planning Sub Committee. For example, communities implementing priority projects identified through endorsed Parish or Community Plan can be funded through the Community Planning Implementation Fund. Businesses can apply for funding from the Retail Support Initiative

Current Position

The 2 eligible bids for Community and Leisure Capital Grant aid that follow this report, asked for funding totalling £12,500 The Community and Leisure Capital Grants Budget was completely used up in December 2008. There are a further 3 bids that are eligible for funding from other budgets see table in appendix A.

Financial Considerations and Implications

The Community and Leisure Capital Grants Budget aids small community projects with sums of between £1,000 up to £12,500. It is topped up periodically when it becomes depleted. This was last done in December 2008 to meet grant requests at that time. It now needs to be topped up again for 2009/10 and beyond.

The balance in the Capital Reserve currently stands at £62,645 to 2010/11. It is available to top up the Community and Leisure Capital Budget for the 2009/10 financial

year and/or support other programmes such as capital allocations to regeneration schemes (SSDC or community led) requiring greater sums of money against a full capital appraisal. If members wish to allocate £25,000 to the Community and Leisure Capital Budget this will leave a sum of £37,645 unallocated in the Area Capital Reserve.
