

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date of Decision:	29 March 2010
Decision Title:	Hampshire Action Teams: Community Budgets and Procedures for Authorisation of Expenditure and Monitoring
Decision Reference:	1443
Report From:	Chief Executive

Contact name: Barbara Beardwell - Head of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Tel: 01962 845967

Email: barbara.beardwell@hants.gov.uk

1) Executive Summary

- 1.1 The report to Cabinet on 23 November 2009 on the future of Hampshire Action Teams referred to the provision of a Community Budget for Hampshire Action teams (HATs) with a total budget of £700,000 being allocated proportionately to each HAT to reflect the population and Index of Multiple Deprivation in each area.
- 1.2 The purpose of this paper is to set out the individual budget allocations for each HAT from the Community Budget for the year 2010-2011 and to establish a scheme of authorisation facilitating the recommendation of expenditure by HATs of their proportion of the HAT's Community Budget.
- 1.3 This report seeks to:
 - Set out the individual proportion of the Community Budget to be allocated to each HAT;
 - Set out the legal framework for the authorisation of expenditure from the Community Budget;
 - Set out the procedure for authorisation for expenditure from the Community Budget;
 - Set out the monitoring arrangements for expenditure from the HATs Community Budget.

2) Establishment of Local Grants Budgets

- 2.1 The annual Budget approved by the County Council on 18 February 2010 made provision for £700,000 to be allocated to the HAT's Community Budget.
- 2.2 The basis of allocation between the respective HATs has been modelled largely on the basis of a 40% weighting for population and 60% for deprivation.
- 2.3 It is proposed that the HAT's Community Budget be allocated to each individual HAT as follows:
- Basingstoke and Deane £70,000
 - Eastleigh and Fareham £110,000
 - Gosport £100,000
 - Havant, East Hants and Winchester £200,000
 - New Forest £70,000
 - Rushmoor and Hart £95,000
 - Test Valley £55,000

3) Legal Framework for Expenditure from the HATs Community Budget

- 3.1 HATs have no delegated Executive Powers, nor are they formally constituted as Committees of the County Council. As such HATs are not able to make decisions, or formally authorise expenditure on behalf of the County Council. The decision to approve expenditure must therefore be made by an Executive Member or Officer under delegated powers.
- 3.2 It is therefore necessary that any recommendations for expenditure from the HAT's Community Budget be submitted for authorisation to the relevant Executive Member.
- 3.3. It is proposed that the Executive Member for Communities should be responsible for authorising recommendations for expenditure from the HAT's Community Budget on projects up to an aggregate limit of £25,000 per HAT. This function will be included within the Executive responsibilities for the Executive Member for Communities. It is proposed that the Executive Member for Policy and Resources should be responsible for authorising recommendations for expenditure from the Community Budget for projects over £25,000.
- 3.4 It should be noted that this will inevitably involve the Executive Members for Policy and Resources and Communities authorising expenditure across the whole spectrum of the County Council's executive portfolios. This means that consultation should take place

between the Executive Members for Policy and Resources and Communities and any other relevant Executive Members and Departments before expenditure is authorised from the HATs Community Budget.

- 3.5 The report to Cabinet on 23 November 2009 made reference to the possibility of individual Members contributing part of their Individual Member's Budgets to approved projects and in that way supplementing the HAT's Community Budget. Whilst this is possible, it should be noted that any such allocation of Individual Member's Budgets will still need to be in accordance and meet the requirements for expenditure set out in the Report and Protocol on Devolved Budgets to Members approved by Cabinet on 21 May 2007. This report delegated the decision to approve expenditure from Member's Individual Budgets to the County Treasurer, and the Protocol established the criteria that has to meet before expenditure can be approved.

4) Procedure for authorisation of expenditure from Community Budgets

- 4.1 Each HAT will make recommendations to the relevant Executive Member relating to expenditure from its proportion of the HAT's Community Budget on projects which fall within the HATs Terms of Reference as set out in the report to Cabinet on the Future of HATs on 23 November 2009 ('the HAT's Terms of Reference').

It should be noted that any expenditure from the HAT's Community Budget should be limited to 'one-off' capital projects, and should not have any revenue or other recurring expenditure.

- 4.2 When a HAT decides that it wants to apply part of its proportion of the Community Budget towards a project it must submit to the relevant Executive Member for approval a recommendation which must include details of;
- How and on what scheme or initiative the relevant part of the HAT's Community Budget will be applied and in particular full details of the particular project proposed;
 - The basis on which the proposal falls within the HATs Terms of Reference and in particular how it contributes to either the Local Area Agreement priorities, the Index of Multiple Deprivation for the HAT's area, or the local priorities for roads and transport in the HAT's area;
 - In the case of expenditure being applied to fund bodies outside the County Council, details of the status and purpose of the organisation to whom funding is being applied;
 - The level of expenditure required;

- The Consultations undertaken with other Executive Members and Departments relating to the proposed project;
- Any personal or prejudicial interests declared by HAT Members in connection with the proposal;
- The process undertaken by the HAT to reach agreement on the recommendation to the relevant Executive Member;
- The legal power pursuant to which the Executive and the County Council are authorised to incur expenditure on the proposed project.

5) Monitoring arrangements

As agreed by the Cabinet on 23 November 2009, there will be an annual report to the Council on the operation of HATs which should include:

- Details of all projects supported by HATs and the payments made by each HAT from their proportion of the HAT's Community Budget relating to those projects
- An assessment of the project outcomes for each project funded from the HATs Community Budget

6) Recommendations

- 6.1 That the £700,000 allocated to the Hampshire Action Teams' Community Budget in the annual budget for 2010-2011 be allocated to each HAT in the proportions set out in paragraph 2.3 of this report.
- 6.2 That the Cabinet approves the process and recommendation requirements set out in this report for administering the HATs Community Budget.
- 6.3 That the Executive Member for Communities be responsible for authorising any single recommendation for expenditure from each HAT from their proportion of the Community Budget on projects up to an aggregate limit of £25,000 per HAT.
- 6.4 That the Executive Member for Policy and Resources be responsible for authorising any single recommendation for expenditure from each HAT from their proportion of the Community Budget on projects over £25,000.
- 6.5 That the Annual Report to Council on HATs should contain full details of all expenditure from the HATs Community Budget.
- 6.6 That the arrangement and resource requirements for administering the HATs Community Budget set out in this Report be approved.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>Review of Democratic Structure</u>	<u>County Council</u>	<u>30 January 2006</u>
<u>Devolved Budgets to Members</u>	<u>Cabinet</u>	<u>21 May 2007</u>
<u>The Future of Hampshire Action teams</u>	<u>County Council</u>	<u>19 November 2009</u>
<u>The Future of Hampshire Action teams</u>	<u>County Council-1008</u>	<u>23 November 2009</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	
<u>None</u>		

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

N/A

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

N/A

3. Climate Change:

3.1 How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

N/A

3.2 How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

N/A