

# Report to Wexham and Iver Local Area Forum

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**Title:** LOCAL AREA FORUM BUDGETS

**Date:** 28th April 2010

**Author:** Rebecca Carley Head of Service, Locality Services

**Contact officer:** Stephen Young Area Coordinator Locality Services  
Tel 01296 387543  
Email [syoung@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:syoung@buckscc.gov.uk)

**Electoral divisions affected:** Alderbourne and Ivers

## Summary

1. This paper describes the arrangements for the allocation of the funding devolved to Local Area Forums (LAFs) in 2010/11.
2. The amount of funding awarded to each project in the Wexham and Iver Local Area in 2009/10 is outlined from para 25 onwards

## Recommendation

3. **Wexham and Iver Local Area Forum is recommended to note the arrangements in 2010/11 for its devolved budgets as described in the report and also note the expenditure of the allocated funding in 2009/10.**

## Background

4. A key element of the Locality Services vision is "Genuine and increased influence by residents over local decisions and budgets". LAFs are central to achieving this (although this is not the only mechanism for working at a more local level).
5. This vision has led to an increased range of decisions, services and budgets that can be influenced within the framework of the 19 community areas and via the LAFs. In line with



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the County Council's aim to increase local decision making, the LAFs' Local Priorities budget has been substantially increased from £8,000 in 2009/10 to £20,000 per LAF in 2010/11.

### Budgets Devolved to LAFs in 2010/11

6. The devolved budgets for 2010/11 are set out in the table below.

Service area	County-wide total	Wexham & Iver LAF
Transportation local improvements	£500,000	£34,006.74
Positive Activities for Young People	£95,000	£5,000
"Early Years" grant	£95,000	£5,000
Local Priorities budget	£380,000	£20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,070,000</b>	<b>£64,006.74</b>

### General Principles for the Management and Decision-Making of Devolved Budgets

7. All funding must be spent in line with the specific criteria associated with the budget (see below).
8. The funding must be spent within the financial year for which it is allocated.
  - For 2010/11, in consultation with the LAF Chairman, each Head of Service concerned will take a view in November 2010 on the likelihood of unspent monies being used that year. If there is budget that is unlikely to be spent that year, it will revert back to the service concerned for allocation to activities that will benefit the area during 2010/11.
9. As in 2009/10, in terms of formal decision-making, the LAFs will be advising the relevant Head of Service on how to spend the devolved budget who will then implement that advice.
10. To allow for the occasional unforeseen opportunity that requires a swift decision, funding may be agreed in between LAF meetings in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and other LAF members for the neighbourhood concerned.

### Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP)

11. As in 2009/10, this must be used to engage young people (age 11-19) in positive activities. Young people must be consulted on any planned activity.
12. The LAF Local Area Planning process is demonstrating that young people are being seen as a priority throughout the County. This enables the PAYP funding to be directed at addressing the specific areas identified in the LAF's local area plan using the following mechanisms or a combination
  - **Direct funding of LAF youth priorities identified through the Local Area Plan**  
A programme of youth development/activities are commissioned through the LAF that deliver against local priorities for young people. This could include grant funding of activities.
  - **Creation of local area youth plans and youth-led forums**  
The creation of medium-term dedicated Local Area Youth Plans using existing youth plans and strategies/policies as a baseline and/or the creation of local Youth Forums

led by young people from within each local area, engaged in representing young people in the planning of youth recreational programmes and projects and spending budgets as appropriate. The LAF can also commission and provide targeted opportunities to develop young people's skills as community leaders.

13. The Accountable Officer is the Head of Community and Youth Engagement.

### **"Early Years" grant**

14. This must be used to fund local childcare provision – specifically improvements to support inclusive practice for 0-19 year olds.

15. There will be a restricted list of activities to support improvements in order to satisfy the terms of the ring fenced direct government grant. It is anticipated that the LAF will receive applications directly and recommend providers for the Inclusion Grant.

16. It is acknowledged that the Early Years grant was not made available to the LAF as anticipated for 2009/10. This funding is currently being reviewed to ensure greater influence by the LAF over its use in 2010/11.

17. The Accountable Officer is the Divisional Manager (Joint Commissioning), Commissioning and Business Improvement.

### **Local Priorities budget**

18. The Local Priorities budget will be allocated in line with priorities identified in the LAF's local area planning process to support local community needs and the well-being of the area in line with the following criteria:

- Proposals meeting more than one of the LAF's priorities or addressing a wide community need will be prioritised for funding.
- Proposals enabling match-funding, whether through additional grant funding or parish council support, or with the benefit of additional community support, will be given priority over projects with no additional funding or those with little community support.
- The Local Priorities budget is not the catch-all to support proposals rejected for funding by the other LAF budgets. However, if there is a proposal that was initially considered for other LAF budgets and it can meet several of the LAF's priorities, the proposal can be considered by the Area Coordinator.
- The Area Coordinator will also assess potential proposals to see if 'quick wins' can be identified to enable specific projects/issues to be resolved quickly.

19. The Area Coordinator will evaluate proposals and make recommendations through the local area planning process in due course to the LAF. LAF members who have particular ideas arising from this should raise these directly with the Lead Area Officer or Area Coordinator.

20. The Accountable Officer is the Locality Services Manager.

## Transportation Local Improvements Budget

21. This budget is to fund minor transportation improvement schemes. Schemes for 2010/11 submitted from Local Area parish councils will be presented for decision at this 28<sup>th</sup> April 2010 meeting of Wexham and Iver LAF.
22. The Accountable Officer is the Head of Transportation.

## Monitoring and future planning arrangements

23. At the end of the year, officers will prepare a review of the work for Wexham and Iver Local Area Forum and later put forward proposals for the allocation of the next year's budgets. Projects which have benefited from Wexham and Iver LAF support will be invited to report on progress to the LAF, either as part of the annual review or at some time during the course of the year.
24. Projects benefiting from this funding in 2009-10 are outlined below.

## PROJECTS AWARDED FUNDING DURING 2009-10

25. Projects awarded funding for the Wexham and Iver Local Area during 2009-10 summarised below were the subject of detailed reports to the Wexham and Iver LAF meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010

## Local Priorities budget

26. The following projects were funded during 2009-10 through the LAF's Local Priorities budget.

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Value</b>
Wexham and Stoke Poges NAG Burglary Awareness Leaflet	£249
Wexham and Iver Good Neighbour Scheme	£4,000
Iver Heath Community Safety Diversionary Activity Programme	£2,861
George Green Dragons Football Club Grant	£890
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,000</b>

## PAYP funding

27. The following local area projects were funded during 2009-10 through the LAF's PAYP funding.

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Value</b>
South Bucks District Council Casting & Hoodie Design Arts Project	£1,020
Sound Studio – District Wide Music Project	£1,518.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,538.50</b>

### Transportation delegated budget

28. The following projects were funded during 2009-10 through the LAF's Transportation delegated budget. See Appendix A for more detailed information.

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Value</b>
North Park Hard Standing	£5,000
Richings Way Hard Standing	£5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

### Early Years grant

29. Although the Early Years grant was not made available to the LAF to enable funding for specific projects in 2009-10 (see para xx), the following projects were directly funded by the Early Years Team in the Wexham and Iver local community area.

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Value</b>
Langley Manor School Canopy	£10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

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Report Ends