South of the Borough Neighbourhood Committee
8 October 2015

Your Money You Decide Community Budgeting Scheme Results
Report by the Neighbourhood Manager

Purpose
To consider the results of the Community Budgeting Scheme “Your Money You Decide” and endorse the results of the voting process.

Recommendation
To Resolve that funds be allocated from the Neighbourhood Improvement budget for the successful bids as identified in the late information to be presented at the meeting.

Key Points

A. £30,000 was allocated for the Community Budgeting Scheme “Your Money You Decide” project in July 2015 from the Neighbourhood Improvement Budget.

B. Community and voluntary groups, residents associations and Council departments were invited to submit bids for a share of up to £2,000 of a £10,000 budget in each of the 3 electoral wards.

C. Two voting events have been held and residents have been able to prioritise the bidders’ proposals. This report explains the process and highlights the successful bids.

D. The outline of the bids is shown in Annex 1 of the report and the results of the ballot will be circulated as late material for consideration at the meeting.

Context

1. The Council’s Kingston Plan says that we will “promote involvement of community and residents’ groups in local decision making including young people. The Neighbourhood Community Plan seeks to “encourage the local community to become more involved in the decision making process. In order to extend this ethos of community involvement in decisions that affect local people, a community budgeting scheme has been held in all three Wards of the Neighbourhood again this year.

2. Community and voluntary groups, residents associations and Council departments were invited to submit projects for funding of up to £2,000. A budget of £10,000 has been set aside for each Ward from the Neighbourhood Improvement Budget for this purpose. An outline of the bids received is shown in Annex 1.

3. To be eligible to bid the following rules applied:
   - only groups with a bank account could bid, no individuals.
   - the project must be legal and have all the necessary permissions and approvals. The proposals have to be for the benefit of the residents of the respective Ward.
   - on the day of the vote, bidders have to provide a display which promotes their idea. (In order to encourage residents to vote for them)
   - bids could be up to the value of £2,000.
   - any funds awarded must be spent before 31 March 2016.
4. Residents were invited to come along to Decision Day on
   ● Saturday 19 September at Chessington Community College for Chessington South.
   ● Tuesday 22 September at Tolworth Girls School for Tolworth & Hook Rise Ward.
   ● Saturday 26 September at The Hook Centre for Chessington North & Hook.

5. Residents could vote on which projects they felt should receive funding. To be eligible to vote residents have to live in the Ward and be at least 16 years old. You must attend the meeting to be able to vote.

6. Residents placed bids in their preferred order of priority. The scoring was calculated by awarding top marks for first place and working down to one point for last place. If a ballot paper was not completed, the remaining bids all received the same points.

7. Details of the various bids are listed in Annex 1.

Proposal and Options

8. The results of the voting process will be presented at the meeting.

Financial Implications

9. A budget of £30,000 was allocated from the Neighbourhood Improvement Budget for this project, at the Neighbourhood Committee on the 15 July 2015.

Background papers – held by the author of report – Barry Allen South of the Borough Neighbourhood Manager. email - barry.allen@kingston.gov.uk. Tel 0208 547 5974.

   ● None other than those referred to in this report