

## REPORT FOR AREA COMMITTEES ~ JUNE 2009

### LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FUND

Members will be aware that a Local Environment Fund (LEF) was set up in the financial year 2006/7 to allow each Area Committee some funding towards their communities. For the financial year, 2009-10, an LEF fund of £100,000 will be divided between each councillor, upon the recommendation of the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance, Property, People and Governance.

The LEF funding has been allocated on the basis of an equal amount per councillor (approximately £1,754 each).

The LEF fund is to be expended on local projects that meet broad policy criteria for improvements to the local environment. The fund was intended for one-off expenditure of a revenue or capital nature, trying to avoid on-going commitments against revenue commitments for subsequent years.

Examples of projects funded from the LEF in recent years are:

- Alley gates
- Dog bins
- Fencing and railings
- Seating
- Signage and notice boards
- Access / walkway repairs
- Public spaces improvements / flower beds –tree planting
- Green issues for schools – bird boxes ect.
- Recycling projects – recycling shelters and compost bins

#### Area Committee Total Available 2009-10

Budshead, Honicknowle & Southway:	£15,786
Compton & Peverell:	£10,524
Devonport, Stoke, St. Peter & Waterfront:	£15,786
Drake, Efford, Lipson, Sutton & Mount Gould:	£14,032
Eggbuckland & Moor View:	£10,524
Ham & St. Budeaux:	£10,524
Plympton:	£12,278
Plymstock:	£10,524
Unallocated:	£22
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£100,000</b>

Members can jointly fund any project and must sign off the allocation of funds with the forms provided. Area Committee approval must be sought for any projects or, if expenditure is required between meetings, the Principal Highways and Fleet Manager may authorise expenditure in consultation with the chair and appropriate ward councilor(s). Only the designated Council Officers can initiate the expenditure.

The funds must be either spent or allocated by the end of the financial year,

Each Area Committee is requested to:

(i) Confirm projects for consideration – to include a full outline of the project and its costs and identify any joint funding.

(ii) Gain agreement and arrange to sign off the works with the chair of the committee then submit this signed form to Principal Highways and Fleet Manager to authorise spend.

Garry Stainer  
Principal Highways and Fleet Manager