

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**  
**27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010**

External Funding Position Statement – Quarter 1 : 2010/11

<b>OPEN</b>	
<b>SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:</b>	Multi-themed
<b>CORPORATE PLAN AIM:</b>	A well-run and responsive Council
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	Councillor Stephen Clee
<b>DIRECTOR:</b>	Mike Parker, Director of Planning and Regulatory Services
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<b>APPENDICES:</b>	Appendix 1 – External Funding Monitoring Report: Quarter 1 2010/11

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the amount of external funding being attracted into the District during Quarter 1 of the 2010/11 financial year; and the variety of projects for which the funding is contributing towards for the benefit of the District and its residents.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to NOTE the amount of External Funding being attracted to the District as attached in *Appendix 1*.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Wyre Forest District Council (WFDC) promotes and improves the economic, social and environmental well-being of the district in the best interests and for the greatest benefit of its residents, businesses and visitors.
- 3.2 The District Council is increasingly dependent on attracting external funding sources, in addition to its own budgets, to meet its own priorities as well of those of the community.
- 3.3 In April 2005 the District Council adopted its External Funding Strategy to establish protocol and aid development to all stakeholders and partner organisations that WFDC work with (on external funded projects) to be aware of their roles and responsibilities.

- 3.4 A review of this Strategy was completed in April 2009 in order to ensure that it is meeting its aims and objectives effectively, and that the protocol is relevant and up to date. As a result of this review, the Strategy was renamed the 'External Funding Monitoring Policy' to emphasise its primary role as a monitoring exercise.
- 3.5 External funding bid information is obtained and recorded on a quarterly basis to ensure that funding is reported and monitored regularly. This is reported in the form of position statements and is supplied to the Audit Committee. The Community & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee also receives an annual position statement detailing funding information for the whole year.

**4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 Appendix 1 is the External Funding Position Statement for Quarter 1 of the 2010/11 financial year.
- 4.2 The information provided in the Appendix is externally funding projects which the District Council and its Officers have been directly involved with.
- 4.3 The information contains a mix of those projects where funding was actively bid for by the District Council, those instances where a grant has been allocated to the Council in order to provide a service, projects which the Council is leading on an attracting support from other organisations, and projects where the Council is working in partnership with other organisations and has contributed, but is not the accountable body.
- 4.4 The big funding story is the successful bid to attract £1 million worth of funding for the Horsefair, Broadwaters and Greenhill ward. This funding will be used for projects that address issues and provide opportunities identified by the local community.
- 4.5 Members will also note that the EU LEADER funding available for community projects in the rural areas of the District is starting to appear in projects on the ground. The Solar Panels at Rock village hall is one of the first lot of projects and it is envisaged that more projects will be realised over the coming year.

**5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

**6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no legal or policy implications arising directly from this report.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

7.1 Not applicable.

**8. EQUALITY IMPACT NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

8.1 Not applicable.

**9. CONCLUSIONS**

9.1 The provision of external funding continues to be an important part of Wyre Forest District Council delivery of its priorities.

**10. CONSULTEES**

10.1 Not applicable.

**11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 External Funding Monitoring Policy (February 2009)