

IDENTIFIED INITIATIVES RESERVE 2011/12 TO 2014/15	Total Budget 2011/12	Probable Outturn 2011/12	Proposed 2012/13	Proposed 2013/14	Proposed 2014/15	Total estimated spend 2011/12 to 2014/15
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Town Centre and Central Park

Town Centre - Promotion and Communications	35,000	10,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	85,000
Town Centre Crime and Disorder Initiative	18,690	15,000	0	0	0	15,000
Town Centre and Park Improvements	82,705	50,000	150,000	50,000	50,000	300,000
Town Centre - Parking improvements	16,000	0	0	0	0	0
Town Centre - PCSOs / enforcement	44,866	47,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	77,000
Central Park - ad hoc works	2,500	0	0	0	0	0

Sports and Culture

Arrow Riding School - Olympics	6,470	0	0	0	0	0
Dartford Judo	41,868	41,868	0	0	0	41,868
Stone Lodge Indoor Bowls	0	8,960	0	0	0	8,960
Feasibility studies/works	10,125	3,000	50,000	20,000	20,000	93,000
Managing the Marshes	10,000	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000

Community

2012 Celebrations	0	0	50,000	0	0	50,000
Community Projects/Grants	200,000	350,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	525,000

Governance

Locality Board	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
Locate in Kent	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
Thames Gateway Kent Partnership	60,000	30,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	210,000
Economic Board	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000

Corporate

Local Development Framework	152,293	63,570	73,000	58,000	0	194,570
Contaminated Land, Soil , Air Quality- Investigations and Equipment	12,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	35,000
Supporting Change	14,495	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	60,000
Revenues and Benefits - temporary additional resources	0	0	40,000	20,000	0	60,000
Borough Elections	150,000	150,000	0	0	0	150,000
Housing & Planning Delivery Grant	143,970	143,970	0	0	0	143,970
TOTAL	1,030,982	963,368	593,000	353,000	275,000	2,184,368

IDENTIFIED INITIATIVES RESERVE

The projects to be funded from the Identified Initiatives Reserve are shown on the previous page and the following is a brief description of the main projects with funding from 2011/12 to 2014/15.

Items funded from the Identified Initiatives Reserve are shown in the following themes:

- Town Centre and Central Park
- Sports and Culture
- Community
- Governance
- Corporate

Town Centre and Central Park

The total funding for the Town Centre and Central park is £477,000 which includes £300,000 for improvements. As noted in Appendix A (ii) the Council's various enforcement activities are being brought together under one team to ensure a more coordinated and responsive enforcement service.

The Council has submitted an application to the Chief Constable for the accreditation of uniformed Council officers to enable those officers to use police powers such as the power to demand name and address and the power to confiscate alcohol. These powers will maximise the effectiveness of existing resources and increase the Council's contribution to making Dartford a safer, cleaner place. The initiative will be of particular benefit in helping to address low level anti-social behaviour in and around the Town Centre, and in our parks and open spaces.

In a further initiative the Council intends to investigate the benefits of a joint Council/private company litter enforcement team.

The Council has contributed to the funding of 3 PCSOs since 2003/4 and funding has been sustained, despite pressure on the Council's financial resources, longer than other Councils in Kent. In recent months, the Police service has undergone a fundamental reorganisation of both its county / sub-regional structures and its local deployment strategies. It is clear that PCSOs are no longer an optional extra but a core component of community and neighbourhood policing and an intrinsic part of Kent Police deployed and funded by them as operational demands dictate. Early signs suggest that the reorganisation has been successful and is rolling-out smoothly. The integration of PCSOs into core policing gives the Council the opportunity to refocus its enforcement efforts and there is no requirement for the Council to fund PCSOs going forward.

Taken together, the reforms to Policing resulting from the recent reorganisation and the opportunities to deploy partnership staff with real and meaningful new powers mean that the Council can take forward the work of its highly successful enforcement team.

Sports and Culture

The total funding for sports and culture is £159,000 which includes £90,000 for feasibility studies and works.

Community

The total funding for community initiatives is £575,000. Following the success of the community grants scheme last year £50,000 additional funding for each of the next three years has been provided. This is in addition to the community grants funded from the base revenue budget of £179,470. £50,000 has been provided to celebrate special events in 2012 with our residents; primarily the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics.

Governance

This includes the council's contribution to Thames Gateway Kent Partnership, Locate in Kent, Locality Board and the Kent Thameside Economic Board. The total funding is £330,000.

Corporate

The total funding is £643,000 and includes £194,000 for the Local Development Framework, £150,000 for the local elections and £144,000 for services funded from the old Housing and Planning Delivery Grant.

COMMUNITY GRANTS 2012/2013

In addition to any funds set aside for grants in the Identified Initiatives Reserve, there are two grants schemes in operation:

- Recurring Grants
- Dartford Community Grants

The budgets for these are shown below.

Recurring Grants

The total budget for Recurring Grants is £157,350. Of this £113,750 represents major grants for the Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) and Groundwork Trust. Service Level Agreements (SLAs) are in place for CAB, Groundwork and Dartford Symphony Orchestra (time limited funding through Identified Initiatives Reserve). This enables their performance to be monitored. Monitoring consists of an annual review. The balance of the total budget mainly represents grants awarded for rent payable to Dartford Borough Council.

Dartford Community Grants

The base budget for Dartford Community Grants is £22,120. Despite the need to reduce overall expenditure by over £600,000 an additional £50,000 has been allocated to support the local community for each of the next three years.

Summary of Grants available in 2012/13:

	General Fund Budget £
Recurring Grants (including Citizens' Advice Bureau and Groundwork Trust)	157,350
Dartford Community Grants	72,120
Total	229,470

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

	2013/14	2014/15
	£'000	£'000
Directorate Base Budgets 2012/13	12,485	12,485
Likely changes to the base budget		
Allowance for inflation	269	391
Allowance for pay increase	285	485
IT licence renewal	150	250
Less		
Employee vacancy factor	(100)	(100)
Support to other funds	(951)	(951)
Net Estimated Budget	12,138	12,560
Formula Grant/Business rates redistribution	(5,000)	(5,000)
Special Grant for council tax freeze - 2011/12	(141)	(141)
Collection Fund surplus	(150)	(150)
Amount funded from Council tax	(5,913)	(6,121)
Total Income from Grant and Council Tax	(11,205)	(11,412)
Potential Budget Gap	934	1,148
Council tax base	35,420.20	35,774.40
Indicative Band D council tax	£166.95	£171.09

BUDGET SETTING 2012/13 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Saving/Growth proposal	Equalities Assessment			Actions to be taken Could reasonable adjustments be made to the proposal to address the equality impacts?	Resp Officer
	Potential to cause adverse impact or discrimination	Makes a positive contribution to promoting equality	Summary of impacts		
Reduction in contribution to Parish Councils	No	No	Small amount and equal percentage for all.	N/A	N/A
Slight modification of opening hours at Museum	No	No	Minor reduction in opening hours unlikely to impact on any particular group.	N/A	N/A
Joint service for Environmental Health with Sevenoaks	No	No	Service levels unchanged.	N/A	N/A
Closure of the main cash office at the Civic Centre and small cash office at Swanscombe	Yes	No	An automated machine to accept cash payments will be installed at the Civic Centre. Automated machine will be available for more hours each week than current cash office.	Staff will be available at the Civic Centre to help customers use the automated machine. Information on alternative methods of payments will be made available and widely publicised.	CR
Increase in budget for community grants	No	No	Additional funds will be available for grants to the community with equal access for all.	N/A	N/A