

## **Appendix 4**

### **Devolved Ward Budget Scheme 2008 - 2013**

In 2008 we introduced the devolved budget scheme with the primary objectives of:

1. Giving ward members direct accountability for the allocation of funds to deliver local community-based projects.
2. Providing local communities with an opportunity to directly approach ward members with proposed projects.
3. Enabling initiatives of local importance to be realised where such works would be unlikely to achieve corporate priority status.
4. Minimising bureaucracy of process so that projects can be applied for simply and implemented quickly.

At the time of introduction, the scheme was ground-breaking though similar schemes have now been adopted by a growing number of other authorities. Over the first five years, the scheme has evolved and grown in success. Details of all schemes are listed for each year but set out below is a collective summary of what has been achieved over the period so far.

<b>Overall Project Numbers</b>	
Total number of projects delivered	253
Total funds spent	£386,127.19
Internally delivered projects by Council departments	124
Externally delivered projects by giving funds to community groups or other agencies	129
<b>Scheme Category/Type</b>	
Community / Social / Leisure need	131
Environmental Improvements	122

The reason for listing this information in a report of this type is that, notwithstanding the primary objectives listed above, an overarching achievement of the scheme is that it is an early example of 'Big Local' style community engagement and empowerment introduced by Eastbourne Borough Council.