

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

North Warwickshire Area Committee - 26 July 2006

North Warwickshire Well-being Fund 2006/07

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

Recommendation

That the North Warwickshire Area Committee agrees priorities from those set out in Appendix A for the use of the Well-being Fund 2006/07.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Well-being Fund seeks to address the social, environmental and economic well-being needs of local communities in the Borough. This is achieved by commissioning projects that meet priorities identified by North Warwickshire Area Committee. The priorities are based on those identified through the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Plan, the County Strategic Plan or the Area Business Plan. The new North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Plan 2006-09 has now been developed and contains a range of new priorities.
- 1.2 Area Committees review their priorities on an annual basis so that well-being funding can be programmed accordingly. For the year 2006/07 North Warwickshire Area Committee has invited North Warwickshire Community Partnership Theme Groups to submit expressions of interest for those projects contained in the revised Community Plan, particularly those which include age and intergenerational issues, which would benefit from Well-being funding.
- 1.3 The Wellbeing Fund allocation for North Warwickshire for 2006/07 is approximately £50,000 (final figure to be confirmed). In addition, £10,464 is carried forward from previous years.

2. Priorities for 2006/07

- 2.1 The North Warwickshire Community Partnership Theme Group Chairs have now selected initial priorities for this year, based on the guidance from the Area Committee, that could have potential for partnership projects and are suitable for well-being fund commissions. The suggested list is attached at **Appendix**

A. The North Warwickshire Area Committee Funding Sub-Group met on 5 July to consider priorities for the use of the Well-being Fund in 2006/07 and their recommendations will be reported verbally.

2.2 Once the Area Committee has agreed its priorities for the use of the Fund, projects will be developed through appropriate partnerships to meet these priorities, and brought back to Area Committee for approval.

3. Conclusion

3.1 There are funds available of around £60,000 to be committed from the Well-being Fund in 2006/07. Once the priorities for use of the Fund are agreed by the Area Committee, draft commissions can be identified by the North Warwickshire Community Partnership Theme Groups for consideration at a future meeting.

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28 June 2006

North Warwickshire Community Partnership Theme Group Priority Areas for Well-being Projects

1. Local Economy

Develop and promote local tourism

Suggested project: Improving the Quality of the Tourism Product

The project would - raise the quality of visitor facilities and services on offer in North Warwickshire and ensure that customer expectations are exceeded.

The project would offer a financial contribution to private sector accommodation providers to allow them to be graded (with stars and diamonds) under the national Quality Assurance Scheme. For many local operators the cost of joining the scheme has been a limiting factor. A quality standard mark recognised by customers should increase trade in over night stay locally.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £5,000 matched by local operators

Support rural business and enterprise

Suggested project: Vital Villages

Village shops and post offices are an essential part of the local community, serving all generations. In addition the North Warwickshire Framework for Sustainable Rural Action has specifically identified the importance of village shops and post offices to the local rural economy.

The project would match fund a pledge by the Borough Council to provide small grants of up to £500 to village shops and post offices, as a 50% (maximum) contribution to works which will help to ensure their long term sustainability.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £5,000 matched by NWBC

2. Community Life

Improve people's life chances for those most in need by providing and facilitating better choice and means of accessing local services.

Suggested Project: (NEETS) Not in Education, Employment, Training Scheme

The project will expand the existing NEETS programme, which is currently supported by Connexions to encourage young people back into education, employment or

training. The funding will add a healthy living and eating workshop and a driver awareness scheme to the current programme of attainment.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £2,523

Develop the support available to people running and organising voluntary and community activity

Suggested project: Governance through the generations

The project would hold two events to bring together young people with experienced trustees to help recruit new committee members to organisations across North Warwickshire. This intergenerational project would assist young people to be better informed about these opportunities and encourage existing members to think about how they welcome new members.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £1,250

Assist vulnerable groups and address the level of homelessness

Suggested Project: Homelessness Prevention & Financial Literacy Project

This would be a partnership project between North Warwickshire Citizen Advice Bureau (CAB) and North Warwickshire Borough Council (NWBC) in a bid to do some pro-active work around homeless prevention and debt advice.

The project would provide face-to-face advice to residents in North Warwickshire who may be experiencing multiple debt problems. CAB would deliver the service from direct referrals from the Housing Division and Revenues & Benefits Division.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £10,000.
Additional finance / contributions would be forthcoming from NWBC and CAB.

3. Education & Life Long Learning

Encourage the most effective use of resources by bringing greater coherence to learning initiatives in the area'

Suggested project: Coordination of local and national initiatives

To ensure the co-ordination of local and national initiatives with regard to learning provision.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: level of funding required not yet confirmed.

Aid achievement & participation by aiding access to learning

Suggested Project: Funding Guide

To collect and publish information about funding availability to support learners. Information to be made available in a number of different formats as appropriate.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £1,000

Make the most effective use of resources by encouraging collaborative working and sharing of information.'

Suggested project: Develop network/information sharing re learning provision within the Borough

The project would identify existing learning provision within the Borough and map potential progression routes for learners.

Information would be kept up to date and made readily available. Current performance measures would be included to produce an annual area profile to monitor progress within the Borough.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £4,000 - £6,000

4. Health & Wellbeing

Reduce obesity and improve diet and nutrition

Suggested Project: Adopt a School

Continue existing programme of fitness classes aimed at 11 year olds in Coleshill area. The programme aims to promote fitness, tackle obesity and improve nutritional advice. The 7 week sessions would be offered to all Key Stage 2 children in Coleshill area who would then be encouraged to join Coleshill Leisure Centre.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £500 (dependant on the number of weekly sessions run) with potential match funding

Increase the amount of exercise people take

Suggested Project: Arley Sports Centre 'Evergreens'

Undertake a pilot series of weekly 'chairobics' classes to increase participation in fitness activities for the over 50's age group, and to raise awareness of the importance of exercise.

As part of the National Service Framework for Older people - increasing physical activity and creating exercise programmes which help co-ordination, can help to prevent falls.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £700 (dependant on the number of weekly sessions run). Additional funding to be sought

5. Safer Communities

To address public reassurance by improving the physical environment in priority locations'

Suggested Project: Community Regeneration Project

The project would look to regenerate an area experiencing anti-social behaviour to potentially design out or reduce the problem. Possible locations include Ansley Common and Lister Road, Atherstone. The programme would start by drawing together local knowledge from a cross section of the community encouraging younger and older generations to work together on finding a solution.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £5,000 – £10,000 additional funding would be sought

To address public reassurance by reducing the fear of crime, supporting local community issues, reducing anti-social behaviour and nuisance, reducing criminal damage and working with communities

Suggested Project (1): Digital Natives

The project would target young people who are at risk of causing antisocial behaviour into a training and peer mentoring scheme. The young people would make a series of films portraying the image that young people create on the streets and how this creates fear in the older generation. This intergenerational project would involve young people visiting care homes and day centres for older people and undertaking interviews.

Peer mentoring would be provided from young people who have been in danger of getting ASBOs and have now successfully completed a nationally accredited training course at college.

A pilot service exists in Leamington, which has demonstrated a 100% success rate (of 8 young men) in re-integrating young people who have committed violent crime.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £23,175

Suggested Project (2): Coleshill Stakepark Association

The project would work with young people to address the damage done at the skatepark before the main equipment is installed. The project would provide a graffiti board for young people to express themselves in a constructive and creative way.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: level of funding required not yet confirmed.

To address public reassurance by developing positive diversionary activities for young people

Suggested Project: Enhanced mentoring services

The project would enhance a successful mentoring programme managed by Positive About Young People. Additional funding would enable the programme to support more mentors through a training and support programme to work with young people who have been involved in anti-social behaviour. This intergenerational project would help to raise the aspirations and confidence of young people in North Warwickshire.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £5,000 – £10,000

6. Environment

Raise awareness of and educate people about the historic, built and natural environment

Suggested Project: Local Skills for Local Needs

This intergenerational project would provide free training in a variety of conservation orientated practical skills eg chainsaw training and certification, pond and wetland habitat construction, maintenance and development. The training would take place at Kingsbury Water Park.

The course would be advertised through the local colleges and job centres to target those communities in areas of disadvantage which suffer low employment around the Kingsbury Water Park area including Kingsbury, Piccadilly, Wood End, Hurley, Caldecote, Atherstone South Ward, Hartshill and Mancetter.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £5,000

7. Children, Young People & Their Families

Provide services, facilities and activities in ways that meet the actual needs of children, young people and their families

Suggested Project: North Warwickshire Play Strategy

Funding is required to engage the consultants 'Inspace' to develop a Play Strategy for North Warwickshire. A successful strategy should enable up to £200,000 to be drawn from the National Children's Play Programme to implement locally identified play projects in North Warwickshire. The Strategy needs to be ready for submission by February 2007.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £3,000.
Contribution of £6,000 from NWBC

8. North Warwickshire Area Business Plan

To support identify, review and seek to address Parish traffic issues in North Warwickshire in order to promote road safety and reduce road casualties

Suggested Project – Village Traffic Plans Officer

This project would employ an officer to address traffic and transport related problems experienced in many rural villages in North Warwickshire. The project aims to strengthen relationships with voluntary and community sectors and town and parish councils. It should also enable communities to articulate their needs and to work towards meeting these.

The officer would work closely with Warwickshire Rural Community Council in the delivery of Parish Plans to consult with residents on traffic and transport issues. Once adopted the officer would work to implement the traffic related projects identified in the Parish Plan. In addition, it is proposed to develop Village Traffic Plans for those parishes that are not intending to develop Parish Plans at this time.

Indication of funding level to be sought from the Well-being Fund: £15,000. Match funding from Environment & Economy Directorate, Warwickshire County Council.