

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee North Warwickshire Area Committee

Date of Committee 23 May 2007

Report Title North Warwickshire Well-Being Fund

Summary To note the progress of previous allocations.

For further information please contact:

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s) Cllr Ray Sweet - Area Committee Chair
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member
- Chief Executive David Carter
- Legal Sian Stroud
- Finance Nicola Cumberledge
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Area Committee Funding Sub-Group

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 – 23 May 2007

North Warwickshire Well-Being Fund

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

Recommendation

That the Area Committee note the end of project reports for two funded projects 'Positive Diversionary Activities' and 'North Warwickshire Play Strategy'.

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.
- 1.2 All potential projects for funding and progress from previous allocations are now considered by the Area Committee Funding Sub-Group. The Group met on 24 April.

2. Mid-term and End of Year reports from Previous Allocations

- 2.1. Commissions supported through the Well-being Fund are required to submit Mid-term and End of Year reports. Attached at **Appendices A and B** are final reports from the Community Safety Theme Group for the Positive Diversionary Activities Project and the Children, Young People and their Families Theme Group for the North Warwickshire Play Strategy Project.
- 2.2. The Committee are requested to note the reports submitted by previous allocations and are invited to comment on the progress made.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director of
Performance and
Development

Shire Hall
Warwick
16 April 2007

Well-being Fund End of Year Report 2005/06

Name of Lead officer: Cheryl Bridges

Name of Project: Positive Divisionary Activities

Name of Theme Group promoting project: Community Safety

Wellbeing fund grant: £6,506.12

Outline of Project brief

- The project aims to address some of the underlying issues which result in anti-social behaviour by young people. The project will target areas affected by Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), providing free diversionary activities for young people aged 12 – 24 years old.
- The project will operate throughout the year on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays evenings. It will be delivered by the Borough Council's Community Development Team who will conduct outreach work to engage young people in discussion about providing a range of suitable diversionary services and activities.
- The Team will work in partnership with members of the North Warwickshire Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership. A database of reports on ASB will be monitored by Young Persons Safety Officer (YPSO) to identify hotspot areas of anti social behaviour.
- It is envisaged that a range of activities will be used under the programme name 'Activities 4U' which will provide activities in hotspot areas such as football and cricket along with internet access and play station games.
- The project will also look to provide activities on the 12 new play areas that the Borough Council intend to replace over the next three years. The aim is to ensure that the play areas are used properly and young people start to take ownership of their local site.
- Through meaningful engagement the Team will be able to develop relations with young people to offer support, advice and signposting to other partners organisations and services.

<i>Details of timescale</i>	<i>Measureable outputs</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm funding from other identified sources – Feb / March 	Received from PAYP, Rural Links, Safer, Stronger Communities Fund

<p>06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint NWBC staff to leader / assistance roles in project delivery – March 06 • Project to start – April 06 • Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) appoint officer to lead on project – March / April 06 • Analysis of ASB database to draw up programme of hotspot areas – April 06 • Survey and consultation work carried out in targeted (hotspot) communities – April / May 06 • Activities 4U team to deliver outreach programme to target audience – from April (for at least 6 mths) • Regular sports sessions on new play areas by Activities 4U team – from April (for at least 6 mths) • Mid-term report to Area Committee – Sep 06 • Regular reports back to CDRP mtg • Survey to measure impact of diversionary activities on ASB in area – Sept 06 onwards • Final report to Area Committee – Feb 07 	<p>Officers named. Duties and responsibilities given in team</p> <p>Lead officer named</p> <p>Community hotspot areas agreed. Programme of delivery</p> <p>Baseline data on level of ASB for each hotspot area</p> <p>Record (for each area) of contact made with young people; diversionary activities tried; outreach work by other agencies</p> <p>Record of activities for each play area Two press articles</p> <p>Report complete for September Area Committee</p> <p>Minutes of mtgs</p> <p>Survey report – positive comments</p> <p>Report complete (tba) for March 07 Area Committee</p>
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Commentary on Project Progress – achievements to date

Activities 4U has been successful in securing funding from a range of partner agencies to provide mobile youth provision in our rural towns and villages. Funding was secured from Positive About Young People, Rural Links, Stronger Safer Communities Fund and the Well Being Fund. Staff for the project have been

appointed and have received appropriate training. A variety of training needs were identified as the project progressed. Each need was addressed to ensure the service that was delivered meet the needs of the young people. Activities 4U has been running since April 2006, operating on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 5pm to 9pm.

The new Nuisance co-ordinator maintains the Anti-social behaviour (ASB) database which is sent to the YPSO on a fortnightly basis. The database is then used to identify hotspot areas, which in turn are targeted for positive diversionary activities on appropriate nights. In April 2006 four hot spot areas were identified and agreed at the multi-agency YPSO steering group meeting. The initial areas selected were Kingsbury, Water Orton, Hartshill and Polesworth (until mid July). The project disengaged at Polesworth in July and commenced work around Atherstone due to an increase in ASB reports.

Since September the nights have become darker and the potential to divert young people with physical activity has been reduced. The teams have continued talking to the young people however the time they need to spend in the area is reduced as they are not playing sport as well. This has enabled the teams to be more responsive to a range of problems in a range of villages while maintaining relationships with the young people in the four designated "hotspot areas". Over the last year the teams have visited and worked in 11 villages around the borough including Kingsbury, Polesworth, Hartshill, Water Orton, Atherstone, New Arley, Coleshill, Mancetter, Ansley Common, Wood End and Warton.

Prior to the project being launched a survey was distributed to 100 households in each target area. The aim of the survey was to determine what community safety issues were of concern to local residents. Using the trigger method of the Safer Neighbourhoods model, recently employed by the Police, the main issues of concern that were identified included litter, dog mess, graffiti and speeding. Through Activities 4U we have been addressing litter and graffiti. Participants have been encouraged to use bin's and in Kingsbury they have participated in a local litter pick. The team attempts to address the problems associated with graffiti by providing them with positive alternatives and talking about the issue.

During the past 12 months the teams have achieved 2259. The project has seen a reduction in Anti Social Behaviour reports in the areas that we have been working. The weather has been a significant influence on the number of young people who have attended the sessions, the rain, cold, wind and hot temperatures have all prevented young people from participating. The most popular activities requested have been football, cricket and rounders and the laptop and Internet access has been a particular favourite the females.

Staff have been on numerous relevant training courses such as Child Protection, Dealing with Difficult Young People and Alcohol and Drugs Awareness. There have also been numerous resources made available to the young people on topics such as, sexual health, substance misuse, tobacco and anti social behaviour (ASB).

Due to excellent relationships the staff have managed to forge with the young people they have been able to chat about sensitive issues. In response to these issues the following topics have been addressed:

- Sexual Education – In partnership with the youth service, safe sex and the age of consent
- Respect – Challenging negative behaviour, how would they/their family feel in given situation
- Healthy Eating – provision of healthy snacks, tasting sessions
- Educational advice – signposting to connexions
- General issues – Family Issues, self-esteem, aggression and behavioural issues through advice and signposting.
- Tobacco – Smoking quizzes, cost and health implications
- Alcohol – Assessments, the law, harmful effects, harm minimisation, cost
- ASB – Challenging Graffiti, criminal damage including the costs, effects and the law and in some instances organising appropriate clean ups.
- Police responses – the law, the system i.e. ABC's and ASBO's
- We have also completed work on what is considered ASB including tolerance and perceptions.

During our time with the young people we have been able to set ground rules to address such behaviour as littering, swearing, aggression and respect. We have enforced a three-strike system where if rules are broken three times our staff leave the area and return next week. This has seen a marked improvement in the young peoples behaviour while at the sessions which has also been evidenced by the reduction of ASB reports in each of the areas of work.

We have also referred some young people on to other services such as connexions for specialised interventions. Also a database is being gathered of young peoples activities, which we have then been able to signpost young people to.

Playground support.

Since April 2006, Activities 4U has been operating in a range of play facilities supporting the installation of the new equipment. Since the installation at Polesworth there has been minimal damage to the equipment and the young people, who are not only from Polesworth but also the surrounding villages, have enjoyed the new equipment. When the team has been out in Polesworth the young people have been organising themselves positively, using the variety of equipment available, as such the team withdrew from Polesworth but it is still monitored via the database. Before the project was withdrawn the survey was repeated to the same households to try and determine what impact the project had on the area and if the residents perceptions had changed. Of those residents who responded, a reduced importance was placed on Littering, Crime, Young people, Swearing and Teenager related problems, at the end of the project period compared to before the project commenced.

Due to the Play area installation programme we are only now approaching a suitable time where additional play areas can effectively have diversionary activities operating. Over the next year we intend to support the following play areas Wood End, Hurley, Coleshill and continue to support Ansley Common.

Slippage

The original project proposal stated that Activities 4 U would operate 3 nights per week including Friday evenings. Since commencing the project we have been operating on two days per week with 3 staff per night, this has ensured the staff are confident to deliver the project, in sometimes confrontational situations. The level of staff will continue to be monitored and adjusted as needed, to ensure the staffs safety and their confidence in providing positive sessions. Friday evenings has the added issue of being the night many of the young people say and the police reports indicate they consume alcohol, this requires a higher level of drugs and alcohol training which has been developed and plans are being discussed to address the issues on Friday nights.

Analysis of cost		
Expense	Budget	Expenditure to date (apprx)
Staff (Salaries and Expenses)	£	
Staffing 1 leader and 2 assistants	£13,927.68	£8658
Training	£1000	£226.88
Host costs (Personnel, finance etc)		£959.84
Capital/Equipment	£	
Van hire	£3900	£1000
Equipment	£3805	£1016.06
Other	£	
Diesel	£1326	£1200
Contingency	£1000	
Publicity	£1000	£175
Refreshments	£780	£18.01
Funding secured	£	
PAYP	£10,000	
SSCF	£3000	
Well being	£6506.12	
Rural Links	£3000	
NWBC- Salary towards Leader	£5000	
Total	£26,738.68	£13,253.79

Cost for positive activities for young people	Total cost of project	Amount applied for from Well-being
Activities 4U	£26,738.68	£4738.68
Supporting Playgrounds 1yr	£1767.44	£1767.44
Total	£28,506.12	£6506.12

Publicity

At the beginning of the year an article was placed in North Talk to promote the development of the project. The hotspot Parish Councils that have benefited from the project to date, have been sent articles for inclusion in their parish magazine. Positive stories are being developed to highlight the benefits of the project.

Sustainability of project

Due to the level of funding secured from numerous sources we are able to operate Activities 4U for a further year. We will maintain outreach sporting based activities during the summer months (April to September). During the darker, winter months (October to March) we hope to hire local village halls to provide centre-based diversionary activities. In Atherstone, Arley and Hartshill for example we are investigating the potential of assisting the young people to set up local 5-a-side teams and provide them with transport and a venue to participate in football tournaments 1- 2 times a month.

The days of operation will be changing in May from a Wednesday to a Tuesday evening due to higher volumes of reports of nuisance behaviour received on Tuesday evenings. As stated previously the project did not operate on a Friday evenings due to alcohol related issues, a more targeted trial intervention is being investigated to address the Friday night issues.

Lessons learnt

The training of staff for this different type of intervention project took longer than anticipated. The project has highlighted that intolerance between generations is an issue that needs to be addressed.

Throughout the life of this project the young people we have worked with have frequently stated they have nothing to do. We have found that even by just talking with them has given them that "something to do". Through talking with the young people we have found that the aspirations of many of the young people we have been working with is extremely low.

Well-being Fund End of Year Report 2006/07

Name of Lead officer: Alethea Wilson

Name of Project: North Warwickshire Play Strategy

Name of Theme Group promoting project: Children & Young People

Wellbeing fund grant: £4,000

Outline of Project brief

- Funding is required to produce a Play Strategy for North Warwickshire.
- £200,000 has been made available to North Warwickshire borough through the National Children's Play Programme supported by the Big Lottery Fund to develop locally identified play projects. These projects must be included within a North Warwickshire Play Strategy in order to access the funding.
- The Borough Council has currently engaged consultants, 'Inspace' to develop the Play Strategy. Inspace are also advisors to the Big Lottery Fund on the 'Children's Play Initiative'.
- The funding requested would contribute to the consultancy fees of using Inspace to produce the North Warwickshire Play Strategy on behalf of the Play Strategy sub-group.
- The Strategy would be developed between now and January/February 2007 to enable a bid to be made to the Big Lottery Fund by March 2007.
- The Borough Council has so far supported the initial stages of the programme to prepare for the production of a Play Strategy.
- The Borough Council has appointed their Community Development Officer (Young People & Intergeneration) to set up and support a Play Strategy sub group of the North Warwickshire Children's Co-ordinating Group to work alongside the consultants, Inspace.
- The sub-group first met in April 2006 and meet monthly. The group has steered the initial stages of the programme providing clear guidance to the consultant.

<i>Details of timescale</i> (Taken from Funding Agreement)	<i>Measurable outputs</i> (Taken from Funding Agreement)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start production of strategy – Oct 06 • Agree detailed policy statements – October 2006 • Produce and apply local standards – November 2006 • 1st Draft of Strategy – November 2006 Out to consultation: NWBC website; Parish Councils; local councillors; community groups • 1st Draft - Action Plan – January 2007 • Feedback to consultees – Jan 07 • Agree Strategy and Action Plan – January 2007 • Identify Project Portfolio for BIG – January 2007 • Complete BIG Application form – February 2007 • North Warwickshire Play Strategy and project portfolio submitted – March 07 • End of project report to Area Committee – April 07 	<p>Minutes of Play Strategy sub-group</p> <p>Minutes of Play Strategy sub-group</p> <p>Minutes of Play Strategy sub-group</p> <p>Comments made by sub-group on draft strategy Press Release</p> <p>Minutes of Play Strategy sub-group</p> <p>Minutes of Area Forums</p> <p>Minutes of Play Strategy sub-group</p> <p>Up to 5 strategic play project proposals submitted by partners</p> <p>Application form completed</p> <p>Bound copy of bid document</p> <p>Report complete 25 April 07 for May Area Committee</p>

Commentary on Project Progress & Completion of timetable

[Main part of report - refer to above timescales and outputs when describing stages of project delivery and outputs. Please state here what has been done. Include as much detail as necessary.]

The project was managed to the measurable output deadlines.

Production of the Strategy began in October 2006.

Policy statements and local standards were agreed and consultation and audit of

current provision was undertaken.

There was a slight delay in the production of the draft strategy, which was not available until late November, allowing three weeks for consultation on the content.

The Play Strategy Sub-Group agreed the draft Action Plan along with the draft Strategy in January 2007 (the Sub-group has been re-named the North Warwickshire Play Partnership – although it is still a sub-group of the Partnership for Action Group). Using priorities identified by children, young people and their families, projects that were put forward for possible submission were reviewed and six projects were agreed for submission in the ‘project portfolio’ to the Big Lottery.

The Play Strategy and its Action Plan was formally adopted by the Borough Council and the North Warwickshire Local Strategic Partnership (a necessity for the submission to be considered by the Big Lottery).

The Big Lottery application was completed and the submission was made on the 12 March 2007.

A copy of the North Warwickshire Play Strategy and the Action Plan are available on the North Warwickshire Borough Council website: www.northwarks.gov.uk

Final project cost

Give details of final expenditure / costs. Highlight any under spend

	Budget	Expenditure
Total Project Cost:		
Staff (Salaries and Expenses) Staff (Salaries and Expenses) @ £375 per day	£	£
<u>STRATEGY PRODUCTION AND LOCAL STANDARDS</u>		
ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL SURPLUSES AND DEFICIENCIES IN TERMS OF QUANTITY, QUALITY AND ACCESSIBILITY		
Determine the quantitative, qualitative and accessibility components	187.50	187.50
Identify current deficiencies and surpluses relative to the standards	187.50	187.50
Identify possible future deficiencies and surpluses relative to changing circumstances	187.50	187.50
Identifying strategic options	375.00	375.00

REVIEW OF EXISTING NATIONAL, STRATEGIC AND LOCAL POLICY AND STRATEGY FOR PLAY		
Review all strategy and policy documents of relevance. These will be identified and obtained with the help of the Council	187.50	187.50
Review the effectiveness of existing policies and strategies against the findings of the study in terms of supply and demand in the borough	187.50	187.50
Establishing a Vision for open space and recreation in North Warwickshire	375.00	375.00
Assessing current, latent and future needs	1125.00	1125.00
THE PLAY STRATEGY		
Finalising the Strategy and Action Plan	1125.00	1125.00
Capital/Equipment	£	£
Other Additional costs	£ 62.50	£ 62.50
Funding secured NWBC	£	(£5062.50)
Total	£	£9062.50
Underspend		
Total project expenditure from Wellbeing fund	£ 4,000	£ 4,000
Total Project Cost 2006-2007		£9062.50

Incomplete action points
<i>Please identify any project outputs that have not been achieved</i>
None

Publicity
Please complete giving details of press articles, launches, events etc
None directly for the Play Strategy, although reports on progress have been made to

public meetings (Area Forums).

Sustainability of project

Details of what happens next - to ensure the outputs of the project continue to benefit target audience

To ensure that the Play Strategy makes a difference to the people of North Warwickshire an Action Plan has been drafted, which details what work needs to be undertaken over the next five years to improve play provision for children and young people.

The 'North Warwickshire Play Partnership' will deliver the Play Strategy Action Plan. The Play Partnership is a sub-group of the Partnership for Action Group (the children, young people and their families theme group of the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Plan).

The Partnership will meet a minimum of four times a year with a core group meeting on a more regular basis to ensure that actions are carried out. Should the application to the Big Lottery Fund be successful, the Partnership will also monitor the implementation of the projects against the submission.

Lessons learnt

Any comments on looking back at the completed project

The only problem that has been identified is the length of time that was available for consultation on the draft Play Strategy. Consultation on the needs and wishes of young people and the audit of current provision was very extensive and inclusive, the intention being to ensure that the content of the final strategy was as accurate as possible.

Once the final Play Strategy had been developed, however, the remaining time to consult was very tight with allowing time for the Strategy to be adopted by the Borough Council and the North Warwickshire Local Strategic Partnership. The Strategy had to be adopted to enable the application to the Big Lottery Fund to be considered.

I still believe that the project was dealt with in the most appropriate way to meet the imposed deadlines.

Other comments

None