



- District Councils  .....
- Health Authority  .....
- Police  .....
- Other Bodies/Individuals  .....

**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

### Stratford On Avon Area Committee – 18 July 2007.

#### Stratford on Avon Well being Fund priorities and Potential Project and Social Inclusion Fund Project

#### Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

##### Recommendation

That the Area Committee:

- 1: Agrees that the priorities for the use of the Well being Fund shall be those set out in paragraph 2.2 of this Report
- 2: Approves the Well being Fund proposals set out in Section 5 and the Social Inclusion Fund proposal set in Section 6

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Well being Fund seeks to address the social, environmental and economic well being needs of local communities in the District. This is achieved by commissioning projects that meet priorities identified by Stratford on Avon Area Committee. The priorities are based on those identified through the Warwickshire Local Area Agreement and the Stratford District Community Plan.
- 1.2 Potential commissions can be identified by a Theme Group of the Stratford District Partnership (the Local Strategic Partnership) in support of the actions identified in the Community Plan, by the local Area Managers and by Area Committee.
- 1.3 This report contains funding proposals that have been considered by the members of the Area Committee's Funding Sub Group. Further details of any of these proposals can be obtained from the County Councils Stratford on Avon Area Office.

## **2. Well being Fund – Available Resources**

- 2.1 A total of £65775 is available to the Area Committee in this years Well Being fund to commit in 2007/08. This includes an uncommitted balance of £1,855 from 2006/07. It should be noted that it was agreed by Area Committee that should an appropriate project be developed by Victim Support the balance would used to fund the project.
- 2.2 The current priorities for the Fund are projects that address five of the six Local Area Agreement priorities:-
- Climate Change & Environment
  - Health & Older People
  - Stronger Communities
  - Safer Communities
  - Children, Young People & Families
- 2.3 The only exception is Economic Development and Enterprise.
- 2.4 It is proposed that the priorities identified for this Fund remain unchanged for the 2007/08

## **3 Social Inclusion Fund**

- 3.1 The Social Inclusion Fund has an allocation of £50,450. There is also an uncommitted balance of £38,205 from 2006/07. There is an additional allocation of £6,000 agreed as part of the budget process specifically for projects to address anti social behaviour. Therefore the Fund has a total of £98,655 to commit in 2007/08.
- 3.2 With regard to the additional allocation of £6,000 it is proposed that the Safer Communities Theme Group of the Local Strategic Partnership be asked to develop suitable project(s) for consideration by the Area Committee.

## **4. Budget Savings**

- 4.1 Each Area Committee is, as a result of the budget decisions, required to make one off savings of £3082 from the grant funds as a contribution towards the inflation element of the core grants paid to organisations such as the Council for Voluntary as Service.
- 4.2 It is recommended that the savings are made from either the Well being Fund or the Social Inclusion Fund and that this is managed by the Funding Sub Group.

## **5. Well being Fund Proposals**

### **5.1 South Warwickshire Fundraiser's Forum and Fundraising Surgeries**

#### **a) Description of the Project**

South Warwickshire Fundraiser's Forum (SWFF) was set up to support Voluntary and Community Sector fundraising activity in South Warwickshire.

Voluntary and Community organisations find it increasingly hard to raise funds to finance the services they offer. Over 50% of funding bids within the sector fail due to inexperience and the lack of skills of the fundraisers, and limited knowledge of potential funders and understanding of their donation criteria.

Fundraiser's Forum meetings in South Warwickshire will be planned every two months throughout 2007/8 (subject to funding). Forum meetings involve inviting speakers from various funding bodies, both statutory and charitable, providing networking opportunities to encourage peer learning and partnership working, and short workshops on the various skills needed to raise funds successfully. The forum also provides regular e-mail funding and information bulletins. The choice of topics for the SWFF is driven by the members. Membership is free of charge and is open to all voluntary and community sector organisations.

The Forum also hosts fundraising surgeries that provide fundraisers, particularly from small organisations, village halls and community buildings, the opportunity (on an individual basis) to raise their funding issues and receive information, advice and support from a team of 'experts'. Two day-long surgeries are proposed in each of the South Warwickshire District areas in 2007/8.

#### **b) Proposer of Project**

CVS on behalf of South Warwickshire Fundraisers Forum – the work would be lead by Lin Pride, Funding & Development Manager (employed by CVS Warwick District, working in partnership with CVS Stratford District).

#### **c) Amount of Funding sought**

£1,680

#### **d) Total Cost of the Project**

£1,680 will cover 3 half day Fundraisers Forum Events in Stratford District over the next year, and 2 day-long Fundraisers Surgeries providing one to one advice to local organisations.

#### **e) Contribution to Area Committee Priorities**

The project will contribute to the Area Committee Stronger Communities priority.

## 5.2 Barriers to Learning

### a) Description of Project

The Area Committee has previously awarded the project £15,000 which enabled a further £5000 to be secured from the Learning and Skills Council. The priority community chosen as a focus for the work was Lower Quinton. The money was awarded to try and ascertain what the issues were in the priority community and to look for ways of supporting the community to find solutions.

The project began in September 2006 and the Development Worker has currently undertaken over 600 hours work in the community and real change is becoming evident.

A major concern identified by the community was lack of provision for young people. PAYP and DASH were both working in the village although there was little contact between the two agencies. After a great deal of work by the Development Worker, a Youth Club is now running one evening a week from the Village Hall and PAYP have moved their provision into the Village Hall. This is of obvious benefit to the community adding to the longer-term sustainability of the Village Hall. Protocols have been drawn up between the agencies to allow the sharing of equipment. This is a huge step forward and something which would not have happened without the direction and coordination of the Development Worker.

The community are keen to set up a project for young people and are seeking funding. The Development Worker appointed by the ACLP has a wealth of experience in securing funding and their help to the community will be invaluable.

The Development Worker recently convened and chaired a multi agency meeting around work with young people. All agencies found this to be extremely beneficial and got a greater understanding of the restrictions each other face. This has resulted in agreements about new ways agencies can support each other which will ultimately give a better service to the young people and the community as a whole.

The Community, supported by the Development Worker, secured a small pot of funding to support a community day in June. This is very much the first stage in securing a community identity and could be the ideal starting point for inter-generational work.

Lower Quinton has come on in leaps and bounds since September of last year but further work over the few more months is necessary to ensure that the impetus generated by the community day is not lost. Turning the outcome of the community day into project activity will help to ensure the longer term future of the work undertaken to date is not lost.

- b) Proposer of Project**  
Area Community Learning Partnership
- c) Amount of Funding sought**  
£7500
- d) Total Cost of the Project**  
£7500
- e) Contribution to Area Committee Priorities**  
The project will contribute to the Area Committee priorities of Children Young People and Families and to Stronger Communities.

### 5.3 Sloppy Slippers

- a) Description of Project**  
The aim of the project is to help prevent falls in older people by providing the free replacement of old and worn out slippers. The target group are house bound older people in receipt of means tested benefit.

Evidence has shown that one of the causes of older people falling is badly fitting footwear. Older people who are housebound tend to wear slippers most of the day. As their feet swell or the slippers become worn they do not tend to replace them due to cost or a comfort factor. The pilot in Rugby has shown the older people have improved balance, confidence and feel more comfortable wearing the new footwear.

Similar schemes around the country have shown that the older people have worn the new slippers reducing the risk of falling. The old slippers need to be removed to ensure the person does not continue to wear the old slippers.

The project will benefit 350 older people.

- b) Proposer of Project**  
The project is led by Warwickshire NHS on behalf of the Healthier Communities & Older People Theme Group.
- c) Amount of Funding sought**  
£1,000
- d) Total Cost of the Project**  
£1,000
- e) Contribution to Area Committee Priorities**  
The project will contribute the Healthier Communities & Older People priority of the Area Committee.

## **6 Social Inclusion Fund Proposal**

### **6.1 Health Inequalities in Alcester**

#### **a) Description of Project**

Following research Alcester has been identified having the highest levels of health inequalities within the District. Alcester consistently scores highly on the various indicators of deprivation and health inequality.

In order to start tackling health inequality, an Alcester based group has been set up to specifically look at this issue. This group is lead by SDC with current membership extending to:- Country District and Town Councillors, Community Engagement Officer (SDC), Area Co-ordinator (SDC), Public Health representatives, South Warwickshire Housing Association, community members and a health visitor.

Addressing rural inequality is fundamental to the LAA. In order to establish the health needs of the target community (Conway Estate and Ten Acres) an event is being hosted by the Group on Saturday, 1 September, 2007 on the Conway Fields. The aim of the event is to engage face to face consultation with the community in order to establish their health need/s and health issues which are of concern to them.

This is a joint event with Alcester Opportunities, who as part of their remit are tasked with arranging a community event. Alcester Opportunities have a remit of the wider community agenda which encompasses health inequality.

This is an inclusive event which will encompass a range of activities, information and interaction for all diversities and age groups of the community. The outcome of the consultation event will then inform priorities for action.

It is anticipated that the cost of hosting such an event will be in the region of £4,000 of which the District Council can contribute £1000. Alcester Opportunities will commit in kind contributions through volunteers, buildings and utilities.

#### **b) Proposer of Project**

Healthier Communities & Older People Theme Group, project led by Stratford on Avon District Council

#### **c) Amount of Funding sought**

£3,000

#### **d) Total Cost of the Project**

£4,000



**e) Contribution to Area Committee Priorities**

The project will contribute the Healthier Communities & Older People and Stronger Communities priorities of the Area Committee.

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19 June 2007