

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Warwick Area Committee

Date of Committee 26 July 2005

Report Title Well Being Fund and Social Inclusion Fund 2005/6 – Funding Proposals

Summary This report outlines proposals for projects to be funded through the committee’s Well Being and Social Inclusion Funds for 2005/6.

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) Cllrs. Boad, Haywood and Randev as Area Committee funding sub group.
Cllr. Browne re The Gap, Percy Estate, Warwick.
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member
- Chief Executive
- Legal David Carter
- Finance Dave Preece, Finance Officer
- Other Chief Officers
- 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

Warwick Area Committee – 26 July 2005.

Well Being Fund and Social Inclusion Fund Proposals – 2005/06

Report of the County Solicitor and Assistant Chief Executive

Recommendation

That Members approve the funding proposals set out in sections 4 and 5 below.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting of June 21st 2005, this committee approved priorities for allocating Well-being Funds and Social Inclusion Funds for 2005/6 and for bringing proposals to committee. This report contains funding proposals from the Area Team that have been considered by members of the Area Committee's funding sub group. Further details of any of these proposals can be obtained from the County Council's Warwick Area Office.

2. Well – being Fund – Available Resources

- 2.1 £66,670 is available to the Area Committee in this year's Well-being Fund. In addition to this, some £656.50 was carried over from 2004/5, making a total available balance this year of £67,326.50

3. Social Inclusion Fund - Available Resources

- 3.1 £50,200 is available to the Area Committee in this year's Social Inclusion Fund and a sum of £2,688.50 was carried forward from 2004/5. However, £16,000 from this year's fund has been previously committed to support ongoing projects (details contained in appendix A). Consequently, the amount available to the Committee this year in the Social Inclusion Fund is £36,888.50

4. Wellbeing Fund Proposals

4.1 Percy Estate, Warwick - Consultation Project – Reflect for Change

a) Description of the Project

The project seeks to develop an area plan for the Percy Estate in Warwick. Work on the plan will be undertaken by local people who will be trained to carry out the work and to undertake consultation and participation activities with others in the community. The project seeks not only to develop a plan for

the area, but to build the capacity of local people to play a central role in shaping the future of their community. For further details see appendix B.

b) Applicant

The Gap – Warwick Percy Estate Community Projects Limited.

c) Amount of Funding sought

£5,000

d) Total Cost of the Project

Up to £24,000

e) Appraisal

The proposal will meet the Fair Community objectives of the Community Plan in enabling people who would not normally be in a position to shape the future of their community to do so. The proposals will meet the Prosperous Community objectives of the Community Plan in providing training and development opportunities for local people.

f) Recommendation

Approve a grant of £5,000

4.2 Warwick Words – Poets in Residence, Warwick West and Lillington

a) Description of the Project

Warwick Words 2005 will be the fourth literary festival under the auspices of the Warwick Events Group. This year will see a much broader programme devised to develop further the local audience base with specific events for children and young people, more participatory events and use of a greater variety of venues to attract non-regular arts attenders.

One of the most successful events in Warwick Words last year was Poetry and Pints, which was funded by Warwick Area Committee. This event attracted great interest from local communities and the general public.

In 2005 Warwick Words would like to develop a project called Poets in Residence taking live poetry to a different level with young people from Warwick District. Poets in Residence is an opportunity for poets to work and perform in association with local primary and secondary schools, libraries and youth clubs in Warwick West (Forbes Estate) and Lillington area in Leamington Spa over eight days. A number of workshops and performances will be scheduled and will be led by the poets, Richard Grant and Julie Boden from September through to November.

Workshops will be specially devised for each group. Each area will receive 4 days of workshops from both Richard Grant and Julie Boden.

The aim of Poets in Residence is to:

- Provide an opportunity for young people to work with professional writers and poets in their own environment
 - To develop an interest in live poetry/writing/reading
 - To develop literary and communications skills
 - To develop creative and participation skills
 - Raise the profile of Warwick Words within the local community
- See appendix C for further details.

- b) **Applicant**
Warwick Words / Warwick Events Group
- c) **Amount of Funding sought**
£3,000
- d) **Total Cost of the Project**
£3,000 is the total cost of this single element of the festival
- e) **Appraisal**
The proposal meets the fair and cohesive community objectives of the Community Plan for Warwick District in taking arts activities to those who would not normally participate.
- f) **Recommendation**
Approve a grant of £3,000

5. Social Inclusion Fund Proposals

5.1 Portuguese Community Support Worker.

a) Description of Project

Portuguese Community Research Project

In July 2004 this committee allocated a sum of £20,000 to appoint a Portuguese Community Support worker and to undertake associated research into the needs of the Portuguese Community locally. £10,000 of this was subsequently re-allocated to other purposes because the project did not commence until Spring 2005. £15,000 is now sought to add to the £10,000 from last year to carry the work of the project through to the end of 2005/6. This gives a total project budget of some £25,000.

Work undertaken in the three months that the project has been operating has been impressive with a significant amount of individual casework on behalf of individuals in the community and the establishment of effective links with a range of services and organisations whose work impacts on the Portuguese community. Initial research work is also taking place, but the research element of the project is proving difficult because of the amount of case work.

It is proposed that a half-year report on the work of the support worker be provided to this committee in the autumn. At that time, assuming the high quality of work currently being undertaken continues, committee will be asked to consider the continuation of funding for the project into 2006/7.

- b) **Applicant**
Peter Hunter, WCC Warwick Area Manager
- c) **Amount of Funding Sought**
£15,000 to add to the £10,000 from last year's fund.
- d) **Total Cost of the Project**
The annual cost of employing the support worker for 20 hours a week is some £20,000. The initial costs in the first year of around £25,000 reflect the start up and recruitment costs associated with the post. Urgent priority is now being given to approaching partner organisations locally to contribute to the cost of the project – effectively buying additional hours.
- e) **Appraisal**
The proposal meets the cohesive community objectives of the Community Plan and is an agreed Community Plan action.
- f) **Recommendation**

Approve the allocation of £15,000 from the Social Inclusion Fund to enable this initiative to continue.

5.2 Warwick District Welfare Rights Group

a) Description of the Project

Proposals for the establishment of a local welfare rights outreach service have been in existence for the last year or more. The proposal was the result of research funded by this committee into how well the needs of those entitled to welfare benefits locally were currently being met. The proposal features as a key element of the County Council's recently approved LPSA2 bid to Government. With the approval of LPSA2 funds, the project now becomes viable

The aim of the project is to work throughout the community in Warwick District, particularly with hard to reach groups and individuals with a view to maximising the uptake of a wide range of welfare benefits. It is anticipated that there will be a significant multiplier effect generated by this work, with every pound spent on this initiative bringing in significant additional funding into the local economy through enhanced benefits take up. This is of value to the local economy as well as to the individuals concerned.

b) Applicant

Warwick District Welfare Rights Group

c) Amount of Funding sought

£20,000 per annum over three years

d) Total Cost of the Project

£311,600 over four years. Other major funding contributors are LPSA2, Warwick District Council, Sure Start, Regenesis.

e) Appraisal

This is a significant project that has been developed over a two year period that can have potentially major positive effect on the least well of members of the local community. The proposal is a key Community Plan action and contributes to meeting the fair and prosperous community objectives of the community plan.

f) Recommendation

Approve the allocation of £20,000 per annum this year and for the subsequent 2 years.

DAVID CARTER
County Solicitor and Assistant
Chief Executive
Shire Hall
Warwick

27 June 2005

Appendix A

Social Inclusion Fund Commitments

Of the funds allocated at previous meetings, £8,000 is allocated to a part time post to support the work of the Warwick District Policy for Older People Group. No appointment to this post has yet been made, consequently it is proposed that the funds allocated to that post in 2004/5 be made available for other purposes and the funding for the Policy for Older people's Group post be rolled forward so that funding commences in 2005/6, with the funding continuing for a further 2 years beyond 2005/6.

£3,000 was also allocated this year to the establishment of a local BME Network. This project has not progressed to date, consequently it is proposed that the funds allocated to this project in 2004/5 be made available for other purposes and the funding for the project be rolled forward to 2005/6.

Appendix B

Percy Estate, Warwick – Consultation Project – Reflect for Change



working with and for the community

39 Oakwood Grove, Warwick CV34 5TD

Phone: 01926 494200 Email: janethegap@btconnect.com

Tim Healey
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall
Warwick
Warwickshire

Dear Tim

Ref: Community Consultation Project – Reflect for Change

Further to our earlier telephone conversation, please accept this as an outline of our project and what we aim to achieve, and how it could meet the aims of your department. This is with specific reference to area plans that have already been piloted in rural areas, that the County is looking to take to more (particularly deprived) urban estates, with the final aim being a report or “Area Plan” for action to improve the Percy Estate in Warwick.

Aim of project:

To recruit hard to reach individuals from target groups we have already identified are under represented or face big barriers to training or education on our estate. To develop in consultation with local people an informal training and development programme around community development skills. The facilitators will be using reflex action techniques (a tool developed to work with communities in Africa and Sierra Leone) to engage with and create a participative programme. The aim is that through this technique local people will be able to design and develop their own training programme as a group. Through this training and development programme it is hoped that ten local people will then be able to do the following:

- Create and deliver a series of creative consultation workshops and projects with up to an additional 500 local people to ascertain local peoples needs and concerns
- Design and deliver their own community projects through the Gap, both as a group and as individuals

- Have the skills to become part of the management of the Gap, through our steering group and through our Board of Trustees, so that the Gap continues to be locally and user led
- Have the opportunity to undertake accredited training in community development through the Open College Network

Our target groups for the project include those with learning disabilities, working families and lone/young mothers, Older Adults (particularly over 75), those with mental health issues. We have an unusually high proportion of older adults and working families who suffer from deprivation due to housing and income deprivation on the estate, and who are largely not engaged with any activity in the area.

Timetable

June/July 2005 – Recruit community development volunteers – firm up funding arrangements for the project

August 2005 – Initial training and development workshop days to design and plan the course with input from ten participants

September 2005 – Begin 24 week training course to include development of skills in facilitation and consultation methods, budgeting, planning developing and delivering projects

December 2005 – Begin planning potential consultation activities for the new year whilst using new skills

January - March 2006 – Begin consultation activities

March 2006 – Open College Network Qualification delivery and assessment (this will also be open to workers or volunteers from other organisations as well as those undertaking training at the Gap to spread best practise amongst other community and voluntary sector groups).

April 2006 – Collation of findings of consultation into an area plan with appropriate actions

April 2006 – onwards – Begin new activities, raise additional funding and work with local authorities to meet the priorities of the new area plan

Examples of how this project will meet both the Community Plan and criteria for the department

- Remove barriers to training and development for local people to enable them to make a difference to the place that they live and work through provision for those who have support needs, transport or mobility needs, and those with bad experiences of traditional education. “We want a *prosperous* community where a strong local economy, with a sound knowledge and skills base, provides the foundation for a successful community.”
- Engage those who would not normally participate in training by using the reflex action technique. Also by not advertising the opportunity as an

educational one but rather as an opportunity to make a difference to the community, the recruitment process is bound up in the needs and aspirations of the individuals and what they want to achieve, rather than running a traditional vocational course which is bound up with teaching skills to someone.

- Create a means tested Area Plan, designed and developed by local people – including actions of what the community want to achieve for the estate in the next few years
- Consult widely, particularly targeting those who would not normally involve themselves in political or economic discussion. “We want a fair community, where there are improvements in the quality of life for all and where deprivation has been eliminated.”
- Develop activities to begin to meet the targets of Area Plan arising from the community consultation. “We want a cohesive community, where everyone in our community lives and works together in a spirit of tolerance, respect and co-operation”

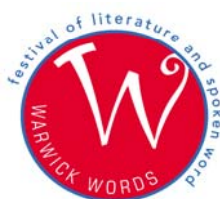
Cost of the project: Under £24,000

Cost to WCC: £5,000 to be used expressly for training community development volunteers and to deliver the community consultation events and workshops.

The Gap has all of its match funding in place.

Appendix C

Warwick Words – Poets in Residence.



Warwick Words 6-9 October 2005

Poets in Residence

Warwick Words 2005 will be the fourth literary weekend managed by Warwick Events Group. Building upon the success of the past three festivals Warwick Words 2005 will see a much broader programme devised to develop further the local audience base with specific events for children and young people, more participatory events and use of a greater variety of venues to attract non-regular arts attenders such as churches, pubs in the town and a poetry competition to find Warwick's second Poet Laureate.

One of the most successful events in Warwick Words last year was Poetry and Pints, which was funded by Warwickshire County Council. This event attracted great interest from local communities and the general public. Poetry and Pints was an open mike session with reading spots for all. People signed up at the beginning of the evening to share their poetry in a relaxed setting. Professional poets opened and closed the evening and acted as host.

In 2005 we would like to develop a project called **Poets in Residence** taking live poetry to a different level with young people from Warwick District. **Poets in Residence** is an opportunity for poets to work and perform in association with local primary and secondary schools, libraries and youth clubs in Warwick West (Forbes Estate) and Lillington area in Leamington Spa over eight days.

A number of workshops and performances will be scheduled and will be led by the poets, Richard Grant and Julie Boden from September through to November.

Poets in Residence **will aim to reach the following groups in these two areas.**

- Aylesford Secondary School
- Newburgh Primary School
- Westgate Primary School
- Racing Club Youth Group in Warwick
- Lillington Primary School
- Lillington Youth Group
- Lillington Library

Possible Poets in Residence events:

- Workshops in primary and secondary schools
- Workshops with Youth Groups
- Storytelling events
- Performances/showcase events

Workshops will be specially devised for each group.

Each area will receive 4 days of workshops from both Richard Grant and Julie Boden.

The aim of Poets in Residence is to:

- Provide an opportunity for young people to work with professional writers and poets in their own environment
- To develop an interest in live poetry/writing/reading
- To develop literary and communications skills
- To develop creative and participation skills
- Raise the profile of Warwick Words within the local community

Budget

Richard Grant (4½ days)	£1000
Julie Boden (4½ days)	£1000
Tickets for Warwick Words events	£500
Administration	£500
TOTAL	£3,000