

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Warwick Area Committee

**Date of Committee** 8 May 2007

**Report Title** Well-Being Fund 2007/8 – Funding Proposals

**Summary** The report outlines two proposals, which it is recommended should receive financial support from the Well-Being Fund.

**For further information please contact:** Peter Hunter,  
Warwick Area Manager  
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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)
- Other Elected Members  Cllr. Boad, Chair, Warwick Area Committee  
.....
- Cabinet Member  .....
- Chief Executive  .....
- Legal  David Carter
- Finance  Nicola Cumberledge, 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 – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2007.

#### Well-Being Fund 2007/8 – Funding Proposals

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

##### **Recommendation**

**That Warwick Area Committee approves the funding proposals set out in section 2 of the report.**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1** Some £60,000 is allocated to the Well-being Fund for the Warwick Area in 2007/8. Below are two proposals for projects, which it is recommended, should be supported from the fund.

#### **2. Funding Proposals**

##### **2.1 Mediation and Community Support Service – Gap Funding**

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

The Mediation and Community Support Service has been in operation in Warwick District since 2000, with its current range of activities running since 2005, when a two-year National Lottery grant was received.

The service particularly focuses on neighbourhood mediation and has plans to extend into schools, parent / child mediation and workplace mediation. The distinguishing feature of this service is that it trains and develops a network of community volunteers who undertake mediation work rather than employing solely professional staff. This enables the project not only to deliver its core service, but also to build capacity and expertise in the community.

The project's existing lottery funding is now coming to an end. Various follow up funding bids have been made, but have as yet been unsuccessful. A follow up lottery bid has been made and a decision on this should be made by the end of May. The organisation are optimistic about the bid's chances of success, however, even if this is successful, there will be a funding gap until any award is made. Consequently, support from Warwick Area Committee is sought. If the lottery bid is unsuccessful, other funding applications are in the pipeline. Appendix A to this report provides additional information about the work of the project.

- b) Applicant**  
Mediation and Community Support Service – Warwick District
- c) Amount of Funding sought**  
£10,290.
- d) Total Cost of the Project**  
The project has monthly running costs of some £4,100 (see appendix A). The £10,290 of funding sought will cover the operating costs of the service for 10 weeks; during which time a range of further funding avenues can be pursued.
- e) Appraisal**  
The project has proved immensely successful in its years of operation. The organisation is poised to develop the service further if funding can be found. A range of funding bids are in hand and negotiations are in place over possible long term funding support from community safety sources. However, there is no guarantee that any of these funding avenues will be successful; there is a clear element of risk in funding the project as proposed. The funding may buy the project the valuable breathing space that it needs to secure long term sustainable funding. Alternatively, the funding may merely extend the life of the project for a few months, after which it will be forced to close. On balance however, it is recommended that the grant be made, with a view to enabling the project to secure a sustainable future in the long term.  
  
The proposal meets the safe community and fair community objectives of the Warwick 2020 Community Plan and the organisation's activities contribute towards the delivery of safer and stronger LAA outcomes.
- f) Recommendation**  
Approve a grant of £10,290.

## **2.2 Warwick Folk Festival – Street Festival and Singing Safari.**

- a) Description of the Project**  
Warwick Folk Festival is now a well-established and successful annual event. In recent years, Warwick Area Committee has supported the event and has sought to encourage activities that enable local people to participate in the festival and for the festival to engage the local community.  
  
This year, contributions are sought to two initiatives, firstly, a street festival in Warwick Town Centre throughout the Festival weekend and a Singing Safari educational project, comprising informal workshops in the period leading up to the festival, designed to enable local people who are interested in singing to participate. Further details of both of these proposals are available from the Warwick Area Office.
- b) Applicant**  
Warwick Folk Festival
- c) Amount of Funding sought**  
£2,500
- d) Total Cost of the Project**  
The total cost of these two elements of the festival is estimated to be £8,000. Grants from other sources contribute the balance of the required funding.
- e) Appraisal**  
The project is a significant cultural event locally and these elements of the project are aimed at making the festival accessible to the local community.

The proposals help to deliver against the stronger community themes of the Warwick 2020 Community Plan and of the LAA.

- f) **Recommendation**  
Approve a grant of £2,500.

DAVID CARTER  
Strategic Director,  
Performance and  
Development  
Shire Hall  
Warwick

23 April 2007

## MEDIATION AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

April, 2006

## THE PAST

Following the Crime and Disorder Audit and subsequent strategies compiled in 1997 a Victims Tasking Group formed and identified that a local mediation service was required. A sub group was formed which included Rev. Clive Fowle, Judy Falp (prior to becoming a Councillor), Kate Evans (an active Neighbourhood Watch representative) and Linda Price as Manager of Victim Support. Meetings with the established Mediation and Parents Support in Coventry were held. They provided a trained administrator/mediator for two hours a week so that a low-key service could begin. Between 2000 and 2004 some funding was received from Community Safety funds.

By 2001 many cases were being handled establishing a need and between 2002/3 two unsuccessful lottery bids were submitted. In October 2004 Lottery funding was agreed and the Lottery Board encouraged the project to re-apply to continue and implement its 5 year business plan which included widening the geographical reach of Mediation Services and developing services from neighbourhood mediation into peer mediation in schools, parent/child mediation - including mediation to reduce homelessness and workplace mediation.

## THE PRESENT

The £115,000 Lottery fund enabled a robust project to become established in May 2005 for two years. There is now a Town Centre office base, one full time co-ordinator and one part time administrator, a team of 20 trained and supported volunteers to deliver mediation services to the community all managed by a volunteer management committee of 7 members including the original four mentioned in para 1. The group became a company limited by guarantee in 2006 and is currently registering with the Charities Commission.

The case load has increased from around 6 per year in 2004 to 48 per year in 2006/7 and successes include working with a whole

street of residents experiencing a dispute with one family to a number of clients needing help with understanding Mental Health issues in their communities including problems with autism and agoraphobia.

The Project has delivered awareness raising sessions with around 19 referral agencies and currently receives case referrals from Housing and Environmental Health departments, The Police Service, CABx, Housing Associations, solicitors and the courts and self referrals

## THE FUTURE

By late 2006 the management committee and staff began to seek further long term funding to continue and develop the mediation project. Bids were forwarded to Children in Need, Allan Lane Foundation, The Nuffield Foundation, Barrow Cadbury, Tudor Trust, and The Big Lottery. The first three of these were not successful however we have high hopes for the Lottery funding. The Project now requires £10,290 from South Warwickshire Area Committee for continuation funding to fund staff and services for 10 weeks whilst further funding options are pursued.

Monthly recurring costs	
Staff Costs (1 full time,1 part time)	£3,400
Payroll	£33
Rent 2 desks from	
Regensis	£490
Phone	£36
Broad Band	£37
Stationery,photocopy	£25
Postage	£25
Volunteer Travel Costs	£50
Insurance (Year £240))	£20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£4,116</b>

NB Yearly Public Indemnity Insurance £240

If any further information is required please contact Linda Price on 427684 or Judith Halliday on 424250.