

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Warwick Area Committee

**Date of Committee** 8 May 2007

**Report Title** Social Inclusion Fund 2007/08 – Migrant Worker Support Post

**Summary** This report seeks the committee’s approval for a further years funding of a migrant worker support post from the Social Inclusion Fund 2007/8.

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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. Boad – “I am happy to support this.”
- Other Elected Members  .....
- 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.

## Social Inclusion Fund Proposal 2007/08 – Migrant Worker Support Post

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

#### Recommendation

That Members approve a further years funding for the migrant worker support post from the Social Inclusion Fund 2007/8 as set out in this report.

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In July 2004 this committee allocated a sum of £20,000 to appoint a part-time Portuguese Community Support worker and to undertake associated research into the needs of the Portuguese Community locally. Further funding has been provided in subsequent years and the project has proved immensely successful in supporting migrant workers, especially people of Portuguese origin. Funding from this committee has provided the core of funding for the post over the two years of operation, although there have been contributions from other agencies, including schools extended services funding from the County Council's Children, Young People and Families Directorate and from Warwick District Council.

#### 2. Migrant Worker Support Project

- 2.1 Mario Jaco, the Community Support Worker and Pauline Urwin from Warwick District Council for Voluntary Service attended the January meeting of the Warwick Area Committee to talk about the work of the project, which has continued to grow and develop since its inception.
- 2.2 The project has been involved in providing advice and support to public sector agencies locally in their dealings with migrant workers and their families, but has focused particularly on casework in support of individuals and families, principally in the areas of:
- Housing
  - Welfare rights and benefits advice
  - Health
  - Racism and racial harassment
  - Employment
  - Education

### **3. Social Inclusion Fund**

**3.1** £50,000 is allocated in the Social inclusion Fund for 2007/2008. Of this, £8,000 is committed to the third and final year of supporting a Policy for Older People support worker based at CVS Warwick District and £20,000 is allocated to the Warwick District Welfare Rights Project based at CAB. This leaves a balance of £22,000 which, as last year, it is proposed should be committed to the migrant worker support post.

**3.2** The annual cost of employing the support worker for 20 hours a week is some £20,000. An additional £2,000 is needed to cover on-costs and expenses. Additional funding from elsewhere, particularly schools extended services monies will be used to top up the post to full time equivalent. Whilst this commits all of the 2007/8 Social Inclusion Fund, the wellbeing fund is available to support new initiatives and the three SIF projects have proved to be valuable long term strategic projects. Every effort will be made over the coming year to identify alternative sources of funding to enable the work to continue beyond 2007/8.

### **4. Project Appraisal**

**4.1** The proposal meets the cohesive community objectives of the Warwick District 2020 Community Plan and is an agreed Community Plan action. As reported to Warwick Area Committee in January 2007, the project has been very successful in providing support to Portuguese and other migrant worker families and has been of great benefit to local service providers who have been helped to better understand the needs of the migrant worker community. It is recommended that an allocation of £22,000 from the Social Inclusion Fund 2007/8 be made to enable this initiative to continue.

DAVID CARTER  
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Performance and  
Development,  
Shire Hall,  
Warwick.

3 April 2007