

**DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Norton/Pedmore and Stourbridge East/Wollaston and Stourbridge Town Centre**

**Report of the Lead Officer – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**Community Forum Funding**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider the allocation of expenditure from the Community Forum Funding budget for the 2013/14 year.

**Background**

2. The ten Community Forums are responsible for allocating expenditure from the delegated Community Forum Funding budget. The guidelines against which allocations from the delegated budget should be considered are set out in Appendix 1. These are corporate guidelines only and it is ultimately for each Community Forum to decide on individual applications.
3. A copy of the application/s referred to in this report, appendix 2 has been e-mailed to Members prior to the meeting..

**Applications for consideration at this meeting:**

4. 8<sup>th</sup> Stourbridge Guide Company – Norton ward
5. An application has been received from the 8<sup>th</sup> Stourbridge Guide Company based at Kempton Way, Norton. Their organisation supports 20 people all residing in the Borough.
6. Other organisations using the facility include scouts and beavers, guides and brownies, totalling over 100 youngsters. The request for funding is for £500 including VAT, the cost of the project is £439.98. This is 100% of the cost of the project. As the amount is up to £500, a single quote for the shelving has been provided. It should be noted that no previous applications have been made in the last 3 years.
7. Clent Cricket Club, Clent (out of Borough)

8. An application has been received from Clent Cricket Club, based at Belbroughton Road, Clent, out of the Borough. The organisation supports 25 people (22 of which reside in Dudley Borough). The application is for a grant to provide a rain cover for the wicket at a total cost of £468.01 including VAT. This is 100% of the cost of the project. A quote for the rain cover has been provided. It should be noted that no previous applications have been made in the last 3 years.

9. West midlands police, Stourbridge police Station

An application has been received via Seargent Ade George the Neighbourhood Policing Coordinator for a sum of £378.99, this is the total cost for a laptop computer. The computer is to allow crime prevention strategy officers to promote the Immobilise website at Police surgeries, Educational establishments and Town centre Cop Shop. Officers assist the public to register their items of value on immobilise. Local companies have agreed to allow officers to access their wifi. The online checking service is used by all Uk police forces to trace owners of lost and stolen property.

Officers intend to promote registration through a range of community engagement events.

A quote has been provided confirming the cost to be £315.83 plus VAT total £378.99.

There is no indication of the receipt of any Council funding in the last 3 years

10. Stourbridge Street Pastors.

An application has been received from Stourbridge Street Pastors based at Chawn Hill Church Church Hill Stourbridge. The aim of the street pastors is to contribute to the safety of visitors to evening premises in Stourbridge Town. Examples of support include helping people to sober up by offering water to drink, conversation, providing flip flops for those walking barefoot. Providing taxi fares on occasion to support an individual returning home.. Street Pastors have been effective in reducing and preventing alcohol related violence, they are also trained in first aid The organisation has 36 volunteers all residing in the Borough.

The funding is requested to contribute to the salary costs of the coordinator over a 9-month period. The total cost is £5720.00 £4290 of which is requested from the grant application. The remainder is funded through donations from Churches, the Safe and Sound partnership of Dudley's Community Safety Partnership and 50 % from Dudley Public Health team now part of Dudley Council. Current grants expire in December 2013.

11. Ward Members have been circulated with details of the application prior to the forum.

## **Finance**

12. It is proposed that each Community Forum will receive £10,000 per ward to allocate each financial year.

13. The total sum currently available to spend in each ward is:

Ward	Amount £
Norton	£13,989.99
Pedmore & Stourbridge East	£18,989.99
Wollaston and Stourbridge Town Centre	£18,989.99

14. This amount includes unspent balances from the resources allocated to the former Area Committee and the first meeting of this community forum.

### **Law**

15. Pursuant to Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 the Council has the general power of competence to do anything that individuals generally may do.

16. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive to or incidental to, the discharge of its statutory function.

### **Equality Impact**

17. This report complies with the Council's policies on equality and diversity. Some of the applications include facilities which are available to children and young people.

### **Recommendation**

18. That the Forum members consider the application/s referred to in this report and make recommendations to the Director of Corporate Resources on each individual application.



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### **List of Background Papers**

Appendix 1 – Corporate guidelines for considering funding applications

Appendix 2 - The application forms on which this report is based have been emailed to Members prior to the meeting but contain exempt information under terms of part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.