

## REPORT TO THE MALMESBURY AREA (1) COMMITTEE

Report No.10

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>21 MARCH 2007</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area 1 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/2007</b>
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working – also links to Healthy Lifestyles
Public Report	YES

### Summary of Report

This report presents recommendations relating to a skateboard facility for Malmesbury, from the 2006/07 Community Area Award Scheme. This project had previously received an 'in principle' award from the Committee, but due to unforeseen circumstances consideration of the formal application has been delayed.

The report links the application to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan and sets out the implications of accepting these recommendations.

### Officer Recommendations

**To agree funding distribution of the Area 1 Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2006/2007:**

**Malmesbury Skater and Riders Action Group – Award £16,191 from the capital budget, towards the provision of a skate board facility at the new Malmesbury Youth Development Centre, conditional on the receipt of planning permission, acceptable noise survey report and Wiltshire County Council agreeing to operate and maintain the facility and the balance of the funding being in place.**

Other than those implications agreed with the relevant Officers and referred to below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
Yes	None	Yes	None	Yes

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The report considers a recommendation relating to an application for a skateboard facility for Malmesbury, from the 2006/07 Community Area Award Scheme, which had previously received an 'in principle' award from this Committee. Due to circumstances beyond the control of the applicant there have been delays in submitting a formal application.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Malmesbury Skater and Riders Action Group</b> App 1	Provision of a skateboard facility at the new Malmesbury Youth Development Centre	Capital	£16,191

- 2.1 **Option 1: Award Malmesbury Skater and Riders Action Group £16,191 from the capital budget, towards the provision of a skate board facility at the new Malmesbury Youth Development Centre, conditional on the receipt of planning permission, acceptable noise survey report and Wiltshire County Council agreeing to operate and maintain the facility and the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 2.1.1 The application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria and identifies specific links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan, which clearly states that a next step to improve facilities for young people is to, "finance for the Skateboard Park in Malmesbury approved by Area Committee". (M&VCAP pp 34).
- 2.1.2 Provision of a skateboard facility has been a long held aspiration held by young people in Malmesbury and was identified as a continuing priority by people aged between 14 and 18 years of age. Adults also have expressed a desire that such a facility should be provided.
- 2.1.3 This application was first considered in January 2005 when an outline proposal was discussed with Members. At that time they agreed to make an 'in principle' award of £9,130 from their 2004/2005 capital budget and committed to allocate a further £5,000 from their 2005/2006 capital budget. Members agreed to award a further 'in principle' award of £2,061 from their 2005/2006 budget on 25th January 2006.
- 2.1.4. The planning application for this project is currently under consideration.
- 2.1.5 The skate facility will be sited to the rear of the new Wiltshire County Council Youth Development Centre in Cotswold House, Gloucester Road, Malmesbury.
- 2.1.6 Assurances have been received that Wiltshire County Council's Youth Development Service will undertake the maintenance of the skateboard facility, provide external lighting (with timed dimming control to ensure safe exiting), CCTV coverage of the area and regular and appropriate supervision of the skate

facility. They have also agreed to erect fencing, which will have a dual role, as a sound barrier, but also to protect users of this facility from the river close by.

- 2.1.6. In view of the fact that this application only considers phase 1 of an extended facility, Officers suggest that this Committee may want to clarify whether they would be willing to offer financial support to the purchase of any additional equipment.
- 2.1.7. There have been a number of delays, which have prevented the applicant submitting a formal funding application to this Committee. These have included Wiltshire County Council's negotiations related to Malmesbury Primary School, the current Cartmell Youth Development Centre and the purchase of a new Youth Development Centre in the town.
- 2.1.8. Providing a skate facility in Malmesbury will enable young people to access a designated place to skate will reduce the need for young people to travel to other facilities and enable them to act creatively in their own designated facility. It may also help to which may help to reduce ad hoc skating in the town, which may cause a nuisance to others.
- 2.1.9 A decision not to fund this project is likely to deprive local young people from a facility which has been a long held aspiration of the whole community and would illustrate a lack of commitment of local Members to address issues identified in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan.

### **3. Background Information**

- 3.1 Following the funding awards made on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2006, Area 1 Committee had a capital balance of £5,435 and a revenue balance of nil.
- 3.2 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that this is a special funding round to enable Members to ratify a previously 'in principle' award made by the Committee.
- 3.3 Members need to be aware that at present there is no indication that unallocated capital funding will be rolled forward to 2007/08.
- 3.4 Appendix 2 provides details of the 2005/2006 distribution of awards across Area 1, while Appendix 3 provides details of the 2006/07 distribution of awards, in an attempt to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the community area.
- 3.5 Members are reminded that all applications in 2006/07 will be considered under the same Community Area Award criteria. Those schemes requesting £500 or less will not require any matched funding, while those requesting more than £500 will not be awarded more than 50% of the total cost of their project.

- 3.6 Funding criteria for 2006/07 were reviewed by a Working Party, which included representatives of all five Area Committees. The Executive Committee subsequently approved the revised policy and procedures, on 2 February 2006. Should Members wish to act in contravention of this policy, the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.
- 3.7 The funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget would be allocated to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan. The remaining 25% would be available for those schemes that fell outside the Community Plan, but remained important for local people and were able to demonstrate that they meet a community-identified need.
- 3.8 In 2006/07 all funding applications will be considered under the same Community Area Award criteria. Those schemes requesting £500 or less will not require any matched funding, while those requesting more than £500 will not be awarded more than 50% of the total cost of their project.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 1 Committee as outlined in section 3 of this report.
- 4.2 If Members make the award in line with officer recommendations, there will be no change to capital or revenue balances.

#### **5. Community and Environmental Implications**

- 5.1 This award can be directly linked to priority themes and aspirations laid out in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan and has been a project with which young people and supportive adults have developed over a number of years. It is likely to have a significant positive impact on many young people living in Malmesbury and the surrounding villages.
- 5.2 Awards made by Area Committee to successful applicants will contribute to the continuance and /or the improvement of cultural, social and community activity and well-being in the Community Area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent on the individual project.

#### **6. Equality & Diversity Implications**

- 6.1 Community Area Awards give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment for the Community Area Awards has been undertaken and copies are available on the Council's website.

## 7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1 Failure to make this award would have a considerable negative impact on the applicant and their community project. Since this is considered unlikely, the overall risk is considered low.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appendix 1 Application - Malmesbury Skater and Riders Action Group</li><li>• Appendix 2 Area 1 2006/2007 geographical distribution of Community Area Awards</li></ul>
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2006/07

### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Community Area Award Funding Distribution 2004/2005	Area 1 on 19th January 2005	M54
Community Area Award Funding Distribution 2005/2006	Area 1 on 25th January 2006	M50