

Report to	Devizes Area Board
Date of Meeting	24th September 2012
Title of Report	Area Board Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider two applications seeking 20012/13 Community Area Grant Funding

1. **DCAP** – Funding to hold a 1 day event on the 6th October to promote cycling in Devizes. They are seeking £1,250

Recommended for consideration for approval

2. **Devizes Outdoor Celebratory Arts** – Funding towards lantern making for the Christmas Festival. They are seeking £2,100

Recommended for consideration for approval

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing (4 April 2012). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2012/2013.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria and/or the officer's recommendation would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons for why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3. The emphasis in the Coalition Government's Localism agenda supports the ethos of volunteering and community involvement and the nurturing of resilient communities. With this in mind Community Area Grants (CAGs) should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups. Likewise, Small Grants (new this year) should be awarded to similar groups, as well as un-constituted groups of people wanting to improve things near to where they live.
- 1.4. Devizes Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £58,192 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,000 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. Small Grants, new for this year will fund up to £350, where the total cost of the project does not exceed £350. This grant is aimed at enabling groups (including those not formally constituted) to implement projects, involving local people to make their community a better place to live.
- 1.7. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (CAG) applications from town and parish councils for purposes that relate to their statutory duties or powers that should be funded from the local town/parish precept. However this does not preclude bids from town/parish councils, encouraging community projects that provide new opportunities for local people or those functions that are not the sole responsibility of the town/parish council.
- 1.8. In addition to CAGs and Small Grants, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle sticky community issues and/or community identified priorities. Cabinet have emphasised that they do not wish these to be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria or for filling gaps where there are council service shortfalls. The application process and form has been updated to bring it in line with the other grants.
- 1.9. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their funding reports (except in

the case of Area Board/Councillor led initiatives), although the decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.

- 1.10. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.11. Applicants are encouraged to contact and seek funding help from Charities Information Bureau (CIB) who work on behalf of Wiltshire Council. CIB support community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils to seek funding for community projects and schemes both from the Area Board and other local and national funding sources.
- 1.12. Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available on the Wiltshire Council web site with the area board agenda papers and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.13. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.14. A decision was been made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.15. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board. This applies to all grants made by the area board.
- 1.16. Devizes Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £15,751 for 2012/13. £5,779 has also been carried forward from 2011/12. There is also an additional budget for youth activities of £5,819

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision• Devizes Community Area Plan
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2012/13 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 5 rounds of funding during 2012/2013. Applications and supporting documents should be with the Community Area Manager at least 4 weeks before the meeting date. Future rounds of funding will take place at the following area board meetings:
 - November 26th 2012
 - January 28th 2012

3. Environmental & Community Implications

- 3.1. Area Board Grants contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Devizes Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Devizes Area Board will have a balance of £32,144. However a request by DCAP for £5,819 will be made at the January area board meeting. If granted, the balance will be £22,975

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1. There are no specific Legal implications related to this report.

6. HR Implications

- 6.1. There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

- 7.1. Community Area Grants and Small Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, town and parish council's equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes, where they meet the funding criteria.
- 7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – "Officer Recommendations".

8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	1. DCAP	Hold a cycling promotion day	£1,250 towards a project costing £3,562

8.1.1. This application is recommended for consideration for approval

8.1.2. The grants criteria for 2012/13 is met by this grant

8.1.3. The application contributes to the community plan as it contributes towards improving leisure and recreational activities as well as helping with health and traffic issues

8.1.4. The project called "Cycle Devizes!" is a one day event to be held in Devizes Market Place on Saturday 6th October 2012 from 11am to 3pm to get more people cycling in Devizes. It will trial three cycle routes: one through the town and two rural rides into the Pewsey Vale. There will be events to inspire all ages to get active, consider cycling to work or school and replace some short car journeys by bike. The events include stunts, cycle driven scalextric, bike and scooter skills, Doctor Bike, stalls, and an attitude survey as part of Wiltshire Council's consultation on draft Devizes cycle network.

8.1.5. Match funding has been obtained from various sources including the NHS and Town Council. The group have also carried out their own fund raising and there is support from "Roses of Devizes"

8.1.6. If the award is not made then the project may still go ahead but the impact will be greatly reduced

8.1.7. The project compliments the other work that is going on by the area board and DCAP to promote alternatives to car use.

9. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.1	Outdoor Celebratory Arts	To support lantern making by community groups for the Christmas Festival	£2,100 towards a project

9.1.1. This application is recommended for consideration for approval

9.1.2. If the member initiative to support outdoor celebratory arts was approved then this application meets the grants criteria

- 9.1.3. The application addresses the community plan as it helps increase cultural activities
- 9.1.4. Up to 1,000 children and their families are expected to participate in the making and parading of lanterns for the festival. Schools and other community organisations that have completed application forms and applied for funding by the area board include:
- Wansdyke School,
 - The Trinity School,
 - Southbroom Schools,
 - Nursteed School,
 - Five Lanes School,
 - Dauntseys Aided Primary School,
 - Devizes & District Guides
- 9.1.5. If the award is agreed, then there will be £2,900 left that can be applied for up until the end of March 2013

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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