

## Item 15c

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Salisbury Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>30 November, 2010</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area Grants</b>

### **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 1 application seeking 2010/11 Community Area Grant Funding

The Life Education Centres (Wiltshire) Ltd project is seeking £2,500 to support the delivery of an educational programme to primary school children on forming healthy living lifestyle choices.

The Officer must recommend refusal on the grounds that this project does not meet the grant criteria. However, the Board may wish to consider the application in respect that it may prove an exception to the criteria in terms of demonstrating a wide community benefit.

## 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 Community Services (27 February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 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 as to why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.5. Salisbury Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £78,247 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2009/2010 budget is £0.00. This leaves a total budget of £78,247 for the 2010/2011 budget.
- 1.6. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 20010/11</li><li>• Salisbury City Community Area Plan 2004 – 2009</li><li>• Local Agreement for Wiltshire</li></ul>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 6 rounds of funding during 20010/11. The fourth is contained in this report the remaining will take place on;
  - 20 January, 2011
  - 17 March, 2011

### 3. Environmental & Community Implications

Community Area Grants will 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 Salisbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If the Community Area Grant submitted to the 30 November, 2010 meeting is awarded in line with officer recommendations, the Salisbury Area Board will have a balance of £42,538.00.

### 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 give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 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 Grant Register ref no: SAL 034-10	Life Education Centres (Wiltshire) Ltd	To help support the delivery of an educational programme to primary school children on forming healthy living lifestyle choices from January to July, 2011	£2,500.00

- 8.1.1. The Officer must recommend refusal of this grant application on the grounds that it does not meet the grant criteria. However, it could be argued that this project might prove an exception to the criteria in terms of demonstrating a wide

community benefit.

- 8.1.2. This application does not meet the grant criteria in respect of 'Running costs' and a 'Project that has already started'.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Salisbury Community Plan by educating children on the effects of taking drugs and alcohol it has the capacity to reduce anti-social behaviour, associated crime and help build healthy lifestyles.
- 8.1.4. The Life Education Centre (Wiltshire) Ltd is a company limited by guarantee, registration number 4452552, also registered as a charity, number 1093578. The Charity's objects include the aim, 'to advance the education of children and young people particularly in respect of drugs and addictive materials and substances....' It is licensed by LEC UK (the national charity) and has been established to own and operate one or more LEC mobile classroom(s) in the county of Wiltshire. It has a voluntary board of trustees and is a not for profit organisation.
- 8.1.5. The mobile classroom project is equipped with a qualified specialist educator who delivers the programmes to the individual classes of children and their teachers as well as school governors, parents and carers who are encouraged to visit the mobile classroom. Wiltshire Council previously supplied (at no cost) a trained educator and council employee for 2.5 days per week, funded via a central government grant for Healthy Schools, PSHE, Drug Education & Wellbeing. This grant was cut in June/July and subsequently, the services of the educator were lost to the project. The charity employs another educator for 2.5 days per week.
- 8.1.6. The mobile classroom visits participating primary schools annually to deliver a health promotion and substance abuse prevention programme to children between the ages of 4 and 11. The facility is beyond the normal resources of any school to individually purchase. The project supports good practice in terms of providing holistic health education programmes that support the Every Child Matters: Change for Children vision and outcomes framework.
- 8.1.7. This application for funds will cover the primary, junior and infant schools in Salisbury. The applicant is requesting £2,500 from the Board as a contribution to its actual project costs in terms of the charge to schools (2500 children x £4.50 = £11,250). Previously, the project benefited from the supply of a trained educator and Wiltshire Council employee for 2.5 days per week, funding which came from central government grants for Healthy Schools, PSHE, Drug Education & Wellbeing. This grant was cut by the new government in June/July, 2010 and the project lost its educator as a result. The loss of income generated by the educator means that the project would need to raise its charges by nearly 30% to £4.50, the cost per child to schools. However, it seeks, with the help of the Area Board, to keep the charge to schools at £3.50 per child (2500 children x £3.50 = £8,750). Therefore, the Board's contribution would equate to a contribution of £1.00 per child. The project does not have any form of annual grant from the LEA, therefore relies on low level fund raising and donations of 'assistance' to trim the cost of running expenses. The project has contacted the Charities Information Bureau (CIB) and is working on submitting a number of applications to various funding bodies. Reserves held cover mobile classroom replacement, each having a life span of 10 years, costing £70,000 each. The current mobile classroom is 3 years

old, and as the project puts £7,000 per year toward replacement, £21,000 of the £25,000 reserve is committed to this.

- 8.1.8. As well as the LEC's mission to 'work in partnership with schools and engage with others in the community', the project works closely with the Community Safety Partnership and Wiltshire Police in providing the needs of educating children of the dangers of drugs and other addictive substances with the joint aim of significantly reducing any associated crime and anti-social behaviour in the community.
- 8.1.9. The project will promote equality by offering their services to children aged between 4 and 11, including children with special needs.
- 8.1.10. A decision not to fund this application would mean the charge to schools would have to increase at a time when budgets are being reduced, and would potentially affect those schools in areas where this kind of project is most needed.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>Appendix 1 Grant application – Life Education Centres</b>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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