



## Cricklade Youth Provision

21<sup>st</sup> April 2017

Dear Bob

Please find enclosed Community Mentoring and Support CiC's (CMAS) draft proposal to deliver youth services in the Cricklade area. I hope that all the information you require is contained within the document but if you do want any more information from us please do not hesitate to contact me at the email or telephone number below. **Section 2 is the bit that talks about what we propose to do so maybe that is the most important bit (but feel to read the rest of the other generic information).**

We are a young social enterprise that makes no profit but aims to provide quality support for young people, wherever that may be. Please come back to us with suggestions, ideas and revisions to this document so we can design the right provision for young people in the area

Yours sincerely

Ben Evans  
Managing Director

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## 1. Introduction

Community Mentoring and Support CiC (CMAS) is a Social Enterprise registered with Companies House as a Community Interest Company. The Company was founded in October 2013 to meet the following aims:

- a) To provide commissioned professional mentoring for young people who have additional needs
- b) To provide youth services to commissioning bodies such as town, parish and district councils
- c) To use any profits we generate to recruit, train and manage volunteers to provide mentoring for young people.

We are delighted to make a proposal for providing services for young people in North Wiltshire from June 2017 under the second strand of our work.

## 2. Our proposal

CMAS proposes that we provide the structure and support of Cricklade youth provision from June 2017 to June 2018, for 46 weeks of the year. This would involve:

- Providing two suitably qualified and experienced youth workers for two hours, two evenings a week for 46 weeks of the year
- Providing all back up and managerial support including insurance, safeguarding support, supervision, H&S support, payroll etc
- Liaising with interested agencies (stakeholders) such as police, town council and local schools to make sure the delivery is targeted at times and areas of greatest need
- To work outside (detached) for the summer months engaging and building relationships with the young people, with the aim to move them into a suitable home as a youth centre in the winter months

Outcomes we would work towards:

- Decrease in incidence of ASB committed by young people as reported by police and Town council
- Decrease in spend on repair and maintenance by the Town Council as result of actions of young people
- Five young people attending town council meetings as some point in the year to represent themselves and their cohort to the council

The cost for this service would be £10,750

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### 3 Why choose CMAS?

Quite simply because we deliver a better service than any other body currently operating in the local area in the areas we are tendering for! You are welcome to take references from any of the current committees who commission us, especially around issues such as quality of provision; reporting; “added-value” such as fund raising and support to the committee; and most importantly the change in culture of the youth clubs we have taken on following on from other providers. We are not a perfect organisation and try to learn from all the projects we run and mistakes we make, but moreover we try and learn from the mistake other organisations make. This means we can often pre-empt mistakes and the following are what set GMAS apart from other organisations that may tender:

- We take time to understand the individual needs of committees and commissioners. We communicate with them regularly, listen and lead in equal measure, and foster positive relationships with them
- We employ good staff. This is a major area of learning since the County Councils’ withdrawal from Youth Clubs in 2011 and how other organisations have tried to respond to it. We have a mixture of qualified staff; adult volunteers; young leaders; and staff who we “talent-spot” and employ before they are qualified. The new staff often have transferable skills – such as being teaching assistants or community leaders – and we support them to become youth workers. We don’t rely on trainees or apprentices as, although we welcome people to train with us as part of their development, the model of relying on them can lead to poor quality provision
- We are excellent in facilitating partnerships and raising additional income.

### 4 Health, Safety and Safeguarding

Promoting the health, safety and wellbeing of young people is a key priority for CMAS. We take the following steps to ensure that we do our duty – and beyond – to ensure young people’s wellbeing is at the heart of what we do:

- Safe recruitment – we follow a safe recruitment policy which includes taking references on our staff (for this purpose “staff” includes volunteers); running DBS (previously CRB) checks on all staff; having regular supervision available for all staff; and doing direct visits to observe their practice
- Safeguarding Policy – we follow a Safeguarding Policy modelled on Gloucestershire Safeguarding Board’s example. Ben Evans is our Designated Safeguarding Officer. His experience in this area includes 15 years managing youth clubs and youth work settings; and three years managing risk with young people at high risk of harm as part of Gloucestershire’s Youth Offending Service
- Health and Safety Policy – we follow a simple health and safety policy and risk assess as the work we do. Our risk assessments follow a common sense approach and we embrace risk as a necessary part of adolescents growing up into rounded adults
- Staff training – we induct all our staff into the organisation. We encourage staff to train in safeguarding and have termly meetings where we discuss safeguarding matters and reinforce safeguarding good practice

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## 5 Practical Arrangements

- ✓ CMAS is insured by Merkel Insurance for Employers Liability (£10,000,000) and Public Liability (£5,000,000)
- ✓ CMAS is governed by constitution and managed by three Directors: Matt Tope, Craig Davey and Ben Evans
- ✓ CMAS is constituted as a “Community Interest Company”. This means that we are non-profit making. CMAS is run as a business in order to make a surplus which is directed to our social aims
- ✓ CMAS banks with the Unity Trust Bank. We require two signatories on all payments which is approved by major funders such as the National Lottery

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