

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Warminster Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>20 May, 2010</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Performance Reward Grant Scheme</b>
<p><b>Purpose of Report</b></p> <p>To ask Councillors to consider the details of 2 applications for funding from the Performance Reward Grant Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Wiltshire Alternative Youth Sport partnership (WAYS) is seeking £6,030 to develop and deliver a new alternative sports hub in Warminster.</li> <li>b) 'GROW' <i>Enhancing Community Support</i>, which includes a countywide Volunteer Service for Wiltshire, is seeking £55,694 to support and encourage volunteering in Wiltshire 'Wiltshire Volunteers'.</li> </ul>	

## 1. Background

- 1.1 Wiltshire agreed a Local Public Service Agreement with government that ended in March 2008. This contained 12 'stretch' (difficult) targets that required a number of organisations to work together to achieve the improvement. Our performance against these targets earned Performance Reward Grant (PRG) of £5.4m. This is paid by government over two years; half in 2009 and half in 2010.
- 1.2 This presents a unique opportunity for us to put additional resources into our Local Agreement for Wiltshire (LAW) and to combat the recession in Wiltshire through the Action for Wiltshire programme. £1.6m of this grant will be reinvested in the target areas that earned the grant, to take forward Wiltshire's ambitions. Another £1m will support some countywide initiatives under Action for Wiltshire. The balance of £2.8m is available over two to three years for bids supported by Area Boards that propose initiatives that take forward those things in the LAW and Action for Wiltshire that are important to local people.
- 1.3 Ideally all community areas of Wiltshire will benefit from this scheme, and there will be a spread of initiatives across LAW ambitions and Action for Wiltshire. We understand that not all bids will be made at the same time, and that proposals will take time to develop. The timing of local initiatives will also vary. To help ensure that projects in all community areas have the opportunity to bid, the funding will be released in 3 month tranches of £250,000. We will keep this under review and if appropriate will vary the

timing and amount of funding in each tranche. At the end of the tranche any unallocated money will go back into the pool for future bids. Any bids pending when all the money in that tranche has been allocated will be carried forward to the next tranche.

- 1.4 The government imposes a grant condition that the grant must be used half for capital and half for revenue expenditure. Guidance on what counts as 'capital' is given in the funding pack on the Wiltshire Council website. Experience so far is that bids tend towards revenue expenditure, so it may be easier to get funding for 'capital' type initiatives.

Bids will initially be submitted as 'Expressions of Interest' to the local appropriate Area Board. The Area Board will make a decision as to which bids it supports. Lack of support from the Area Board does not rule out the bid going forward to the grant scheme.

Full details of the Scheme and a Funding Pack are available from the Wiltshire council website:

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/.../localagreementforwiltshire/performanceawardgrantscheme.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/.../localagreementforwiltshire/performanceawardgrantscheme.htm)

## **2. The Applications**

### **2.1 Warminster Alternative Sports Hub**

2.1.1 The alternative sports hub will be located at Kingdown School.

2.1.2 The project follows on from other alternative sport projects run in and around Warminster in the past 3 years. There have been successful and well attended indoor board, ultimate Frisbee, archery and power kiting projects in the past.

2.1.3 In 2010 Warminster Youth Centre carried out a consultation with young people which indicated the need and desire for alternative sports provision in the town park or at Kingdown School

2.1.4 The project aims to tackle a range of local priorities, from engaging young people in positive activities, tackling obesity and providing opportunities for regular volunteering.

2.1.5 There have been successful applications to Calne, Salisbury, Tidworth and Pewsey area boards. Another application is being considered by Trowbridge area board.

2.1.6 The application demonstrates a benefit to the community and shows how the project is designed to respond to the aspirations of local young people.

2.1.7 The project has already been successful at other area boards and in some areas is already successfully under way.

2.1.8 This project offers the opportunity for local young people to access alternative sports on a regular and ongoing basis within the community area.

2.1.9 The full application can be seen at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/warminsterareaboard](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/warminsterareaboard)

## **2.2 Wiltshire Volunteers**

2.2.1 At present the nearest accredited centre is in Swindon.

2.2.2 The proposed service would offer the functions of a Volunteer Centre as prescribed by Volunteering England. The benefits to all community areas in Wiltshire will include better access to volunteering opportunities and support to individuals, Employer Volunteering scheme, specialised support, information and good practice services, access to further funding via Volunteering England to support volunteering, and access to support and information as part of a national framework.

2.2.3 If successful, this application will fund two part time posts and the purchase of a Laptop computer with remote access; mobile phone; display boards; promotional materials; signage; accreditation fees.

2.2.4 Outcomes of the project will include increased volunteering opportunities both formal and informal for potential volunteers, increased awareness of volunteering opportunities through promotion and marketing, knowledge of Employer Supported Volunteering scheme by local employers and successful Community Challenge events.

2.2.5 The application overview can be viewed at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/warminsterareaboard](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/warminsterareaboard)

## **3. Recommendation**

3.1 It is recommended that the area board approves both applications.