

Report to	Tidworth Area Board
Date of Meeting	17 January 2011
Title of Report	Performance Reward Grant Scheme

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider their support for 3 applications seeking funding from the Performance Reward Grant Scheme

1. Healthy Schools Plus - seeking a grant of £12,000 for a project to set up planned activities and interventions to tackle health issues that are of concern locally at a school level in the Tidworth Community Area and for a chosen vulnerable groups of pupils.
 2. Splitz (Men's Groups Project) – seeking a grant of £41,696 towards 'Respect' accredited work with male perpetrators of domestic abuse.
 3. Wiltshire Volunteers - DEVELOP Enhancing Community Support - seeking a grant of £55,694 (county-wide) to enhance the Volunteer Service set up by GROW and develop an accredited volunteer centre for Wiltshire.
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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.

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.

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. The first tranche will run from October to December. 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.

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

2. Criteria for the Grant Scheme

2.1 Points to consider are:

- Funding under this scheme is for initiatives that have local support and will take forward ambitions in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire, or help combat the recession as part of the Action for Wiltshire programme. Information on this is provided in the grant pack.

- It is one-off funding, so should not be used for things that will result in an unfunded financial commitment after the end of the project. As part of the bid you will be asked to confirm that no unfunded commitments will result from your proposal.
- In total, Performance Reward Grant must be spent half on revenue and half on capital expenditure (guidance is given in the pack). Experience is that many initiatives are 'revenue', so there may be more money left available for 'capital' bids. We will need to account to government on the use of the grant, so will ask you for information on what the money will be used for.
- It is important that these initiatives have a positive local impact, and that we are able to show success. So you will be asked how you will measure that success – and we will ask you to let us know how well it worked.

The use of the grant will fall within the Area Board's usual good governance arrangements.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
3.1	Healthy Schools Plus	To set up planned activities and interventions to tackle health issues that are of concern locally at a school level and for a chosen group of pupils.	£12,000

3.1.1 It is recommended that the Area Board supports this application from Healthy Schools Plus (HS+) for a grant of £12,000. This is 100% of the total cost for expanding the Healthy Schools Plus programme into the Tidworth Community Area. The schools to benefit are Wellington Academy, Castle Primary, Zouch Primary, and Clarendon Infant and Junior.

3.1.2 Each school will be allocated £1,750 for their HS+ activities (e.g. to cover staff costs, resources, etc.) whilst the remaining funding will be held by the Healthy Schools Team to run training and network support meetings for the schools.
 $6 \times £1,750 = £10,500$ (school allocations)
 $6 \times £250 = £1,500$ (for school support and training costs)
 Total £12,000

3.1.3 The Healthy Schools Plus programme contributes to the 'Building Resilient Communities' ambition of Wiltshire Council by Schools participating in the programme are asked to devise innovative health interventions for the benefit of the children and young people in their care. They are asked to consult with the wider school community about the issues which people are most concerned about, and through the programme offer educational opportunities for children and their families to get involved in positive activities learning about making healthy choices so that they can achieve and make successes of their lives.

3.1.4 HS+ also contributes to the 'Lives not Services' ambition. HS+ is all about promoting positive health choices. Schools involved in this programme will be contributing towards tackling some of the key issues facing the local area that are endangering children and young people's health (e.g. obesity, sexual

health, teenage pregnancy and substance misuse).

- 3.1.5 HS+ also contributes to 'Improving outcomes for children and young people'. Healthy Schools Plus is a programme that is all about improving outcomes for children and young people as healthy, happy pupils are better learners! There is also a special emphasis on addressing the health issues of vulnerable groups (e.g. looked after children, children with SEN, young carers etc) as these children are most at risk in terms of poor health which inevitably impacts upon their achievement.
- 3.1.6 National indices and the Joint Strategic Needs assessment identify Tidworth as an area that has significant health issues. Childhood obesity and teenage pregnancy feature high in the ratings and it is intended that schools involved in Healthy Schools Plus in the Tidworth Community Area must focus on either of these as their local priority focus.
- 3.1.7 Schools will gather baseline data at the beginning of the programme and they are then required to report the progress they are making on a 6-monthly basis. Schools will be asked to set targets for their health behaviour outcomes with milestones to measure their progress.
- 3.1.8 Over 2000+ pupils from the 6 schools will benefit. There is additional benefit to the parents and carers of the pupils. The project will also seek to make links with the Skilled For Health programme already being run in Tidworth and will try to link in with the NHS Wiltshire's Health Trainer programme as there are currently 4 health trainers in the Tidworth area.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
4.1	Splitz (Men's Groups Project)	To carry out 'Respect' accredited work with male perpetrators of domestic abuse.	£41,696

- 4.1.1 It is recommended that the Area Board supports this application from Splitz for the Men's Groups Project to carry out 'Respect' accredited work with male perpetrators of domestic abuse for a grant of £41,696 towards the first year of this project in the Tidworth Community Area.
- 4.1.2 This is a 3-year project. The total cost of the first year is £114,696 and the Performance Reward Grant of £41,696 is for the first year only to tide the project over until the result of an application to 'Reaching Communities' (part of the Big Lottery Fund) is known. In the meantime, Splitz is applying to other funders and has received confirmation from some and is awaiting news of the other bids.
- 4.1.3 Splitz has gained 'Respect' accreditation for work with male perpetrators of domestic abuse, who engage voluntarily with Splitz services in order to change their offending behaviour. Participants are primarily drawn from military/ex-military personnel (but help is also available for civilian men) and undertake 30 weeks of studies across five modules comprising: exploration of

physical abuse; sexual respect; emotional abuse; impact on children and rebuilding trust and respect. Complementary work is undertaken with the spouses/partners and children to ensure their safety. The work is predicated on effective military/civilian integration as well as studies on soldiers returning from war zones and the trauma and stresses evident on their return; Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and flashbacks exacerbating issues of coercion and control

4.1.4 The project addresses the following LAW ambitions

- 'Building Resilient communities': Situations where people isolate themselves through fear and embarrassment and where neighbours feel unable to intervene cannot be helpful in the development of neighbourhoods and communities who are strengthened and able to assist the Council in tackling issues. Domestic abuse is often described as the 'hidden secret' and creates intense isolation, suffering and hardship often accompanied by escalating mental health and drug and alcohol problems.
- 'Lives not Services': Supporting people to make positive choices and ensuring that the right services are available help people to stay in control of their lives.
The Men's Groups have outcomes that allow the group participants as well as their spouses and children to recover and lead fulfilling economically successful lives (minimum cost of domestic abuse in Wiltshire is estimated at £18.5 million per year) ; ensure that the psychological damage, particularly to the children who have witnessed domestic abuse in the home, is tackled at an early stage to prevent long term harm.
- 'Safer communities': Wiltshire is the second safer county in the Country and people report that 'feeling safe' in their community is important to them.
Domestic abuse is recognised as being under reported and, notwithstanding the introduction of the specialised domestic abuse outreach service, provided by Splitz and funded by 'Safer Wiltshire' pooled budget monies, there continues a high risk particularly concerning children and young people who live with, and experience, domestic abuse. The successful engagement of the male perpetrator in the Men's Groups (and the complimentary women's safety work) will mitigate against repeat offending and the reconstruction of relationships, including the re-integration of the formally abusive partner into the family, providing improved social and economic security and wellbeing.
- 'Improving outcomes for children and young people': Domestic abuse has serious consequences on the capacity of some of Wiltshire young people achieving the goal of reaching their full potential. The impacts on children witnessing and experiencing domestic abuse include: developmental delay; academic problems leading to diminished educational achievement; a tendency to self-harm and depression; increased tendency to become abusers themselves; a fundamental change to the core self demonstrated by a loss of hope, faith or trust in others. The successful re-establishment of relationships or ideally, family life arising from the successful completion of the Men's Group programme will enable children and young people to begin in themselves a recovery of lost ground and provide positive encouragement for their futures.

4.1.5 Further details are available in the attached application form.

4.1.6 The work of this project will be continued as ongoing work by Splitz as funding is obtained. There will be no unfunded commitments. Risks are managed continuously by the programme coordinator. Monitoring is undertaken to 'Respect' accreditation standards.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
5.1	Wiltshire Volunteers	To build on the basic county-wide Volunteer Service for Wiltshire provided by GROW and develop an accredited volunteer centre for Wiltshire.	£55,694

5.1.1 It is recommended that the Area Board supports this county-wide application from DEVELOP Enhancing Community Support for a grant of £55,694.

5.1.2 The new Wiltshire Infrastructure Support Service – 'GROW' *Enhancing Community Support* includes a countywide Volunteer Service for Wiltshire for the first time. This application, if approved, would both build on the basic service and develop an accredited volunteer centre for Wiltshire. At present the nearest accredited centre is in Swindon. The proposed service would offer the six core 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 draw down further funding via Volunteering England to support volunteering, and access to support and information as part of a national framework.

5.1.3 The bid will fund:-

- One part time Development Worker post to focus on achieving the six core functions of an accredited Volunteer Centre for Wiltshire, at the same time supporting the team to increase opportunities for volunteering and supporting organisations to attract volunteers.
- One half-time Development Worker post to develop an Employer Supported Volunteering scheme working with local employers to actively encourage and support staff to volunteer in their community.
- Promote opportunities and arrange local Community Challenge Events. Laptop computer with remote access; mobile phone; display boards; promotional materials; signage; accreditation fees.

5.1.4 Outcomes to be delivered:-

- 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
- Successful Community Challenge Events

5.1.5 Beneficiaries:-

- Voluntary Organisations who rely on volunteers to deliver their service
- Voluntary Organisations looking for Trustees
- Statutory organisations who use volunteers to enhance delivery of their service
- Community Areas undertaking community challenge and community projects
- Individuals who need help and support to access employment or return to work
- Young people seeking experience to get into employment
- Retired professional people wishing to 'give something back' to the community
- Mums returning to work and wishing to gain confidence
- Isolated and lonely people looking for social contact and a purpose in life
- Employers and staff

Appendices:	3 grant application forms
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