

Trowbridge Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide details of the grant applications made to the Trowbridge Area Board. These could include:
 - community area grants
 - youth grants
 - older and vulnerable people grants
 - area board initiatives
2. To document any recommendations provided through sub groups.

Area Board Current Financial Position

| | Community Area Grants | Youth Grants | Older and Vulnerable People Grants |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Opening Balance For 2023/24 | £ 34,670.00 | £ 30,464.00 | £ 7,700.00 |
| Awarded To Date | £ 12,375.00 | £ 4,097.90 | £ 4,995.10 |
| Current Balance | £ 22,295.00 | £ 26,366.10 | £ 2,704.90 |
| Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations | £ 12,135.76 | £ 13,360.54 | £ -3,411.75 |

Grant Funding Application Summary

| Application Reference | Grant Type | Applicant | Project | Total Cost | Requested |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| ABG1484 | Area Board Initiative | Cllr Antonio Piazza | Memorial Defibrillator in Honour of Max George | £1500.00 | £750.00 |

| Application Reference | Grant Type | Applicant | Project | Total Cost | Requested |
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| <p>Project Summary: I am looking to put forward a £750 match-funded grant to the Area Board to secure an DHSC Community Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Organisations across England are invited to bid for a share of £1 million of government funding to buy life-saving defibrillators for community spaces like town halls, local parks or post offices. The DHSC Community Automated External Defibrillator (AED) fund will support provision of 2000 AED's. These will be distributed across England during 2023-2024, supporting any organisation based in England that is not eligible for the current Department of Education AED programme. The funding for the scheme is based on a first come first served basis. The funding will be allocated on the following basis: 100 applications will be selected by DHSC to receive a fully funded AED - selection is based on areas that are most in need of AED throughout England. Applicants will be advised in mid October and units shipped in mid November. 1900 applications will receive partial DHSC funding for an AED - organisations will be required to provide their own match funding of c.£750. At the Remembrance event last month, I had the opportunity to speak with Max's grandmother. Our conversation naturally gravitated towards the community's well-being, reflecting on the contributions and memories associated with Max. The family has expressed a heartfelt desire to commemorate Max's legacy in a meaningful way. They are keen on the idea of installing a defibrillator in the town, dedicated in Max's memory. This gesture not only honours Max but also provides a significant resource for our community's health and safety. It would be a fitting tribute and a valuable addition to our town's amenities. Thank you for considering this proposal. I look forward to hearing from you.</p> | | | | | |
| ABG1347 | Community Area Grant | Friends of Southwick Country Park | Additional equipment for the Friends of Southwick Country Park Local Nature Reserve | £479.00 | £479.00 |
| <p>Project Summary: During the last 12 months or so, the number of volunteers has increased for our working parties. We need additional tools to enable the maximum use of the volunteers time.</p> | | | | | |
| ABG1472 | Community Area Grant | YMCA Brunel Group on behalf of YMCA Green Shoots Nursery | YMCA Green Shoots Nursery Development of Sensory Garden | £4260.00 | £2130.00 |
| Application Reference | Grant Type | Applicant | Project | Total Cost | Requested |
| <p>Project Summary: We have re-developed most areas of our nursery garden and we have one remaining area that we would like to develop into a sensory area. This will give greater access to all children including children with special educational needs. Our area is at the end of the garden and is currently gravelled. The children's access is limited and we would like to level and block pave the area to give children the opportunity to use the area every day. Currently we have a child who is non-mobile who uses a wheeled walker and this would give access to this child. We also have a high number of children with special educational needs who would benefit from a quiet outside space where they can develop sensory play. Our plans include a planting area and other sensory activities and also an arbour where children can sit and listen to stories in small groups. We provide high quality care for all children and have up to 40% of our children with language delays and more complex needs. We have an indoor sensory/ quiet area and our outdoor area development would make a significant difference to those children who need more individual attention.</p> | | | | | |
| ABG1477 | Community Area Grant | The Pump Trowbridge CIC | The Pump Trowbridge equipment development | £4050.48 | £1800.24 |

Project Summary:

Formally known as The Village Pump, The Pump in Trowbridge is a live music and entertainment outlet servicing the needs of both young musicians right the way through to retirees. The space provides opportunities to those who otherwise couldn't necessarily afford expensive rehearsal and practise space. It provides people with the ability to perform and express themselves and their art, in a supportive and nurturing environment. Often an environment otherwise lacking in their lives. The space is a professional space, run by dedicated, experienced individuals who donate their time, effort and energy on a voluntary basis. The organisation is a CIC in its very nature, but also because of its limited ability to generate revenue. We essentially support people often with various mental health needs, for example anxiety. And have successfully created an entire community shared around a love for live music. The organisation has a new lease of life in 2020 when local promoter Kieran Moore took over the venue from the old committee. We've swiftly grown from strength to strength and are looking to make a more significant impact on Trowbridge. The aim for the project is to get people out of their bedrooms and into a supportive live environment! We're asking for this money to better equip the venue to make the most of our community moving forward!

[ABG1505](#)

Community Area Grant

Busy Bees Playgroup

Playground canopy installation and outdoor activity enhancements including sensory water flow area

£10500.00

£5000.00

Project Summary:

The metal outdoor canopy, would provide a covered area outdoors to enable the children to play outside when otherwise the weather would preclude this. The children benefit so much from outside time. The flow waterway - is an area where the children can play with water. Gaining an understanding of gravity and the principles of how water moves. It is various different pieces of equipment that multiple children or individuals can use as well as a staff led educational experience. The enhanced construction area includes a new playhouse and warning signs. It will also include children's demonstration equipment and other educational items so that the children can learn about being safe, and what is involved in building. The Mr McGregor garden is inspired by our two pet rabbits in the setting which the children look after in rotation. We would like to create a series of raised beds, filled with compost and to also purchase a significant number of child size gardening tools, and watering cans. If successful going forward, we anticipate that seeds will be received via donations from the community with any other items required on an ongoing basis funded by Busy Bees cashflow. Being able to get the kids planting and looking after their plants (primarily a vegetable patch) will be hugely rewarding for them and we hope that they will have some produce that they can take home or potentially eat at the setting in a harvest festival.

[ABG1471](#)

Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding

We Hear You

We Hear You cancer counselling in Trowbridge

£7233.30

£3616.65

Project Summary:

WHY, provides free professional counselling to anyone affected by cancer or other life-threatening conditions. We provide a service to children, young people and adults in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon, Wiltshire, and Somerset. A patient recently gave this feedback: "WHY were amazing. Provision for counselling on the NHS is abysmal, so it's only charities like WHY who give you support and an opportunity to make sense of the "mess" your head is in after such a life impacting illness". Amongst our range of therapeutic services, the most requested is one-to-one counselling which we can offer in person or online. We offer up to 16 weeks per person free of charge, in recognition that a life-threatening condition brings along financial challenges. Our counsellors are fully qualified and experienced in working with cancer, bereavement and a wide range of mental health conditions. Some of them specialise in support to children and young people, others work across all age groups. WHY's counselling provides a safe, calm place where people can find the support they need, express their deepest fears, and say the 'unsayable' without fear of hurting those around them. In April 2023, WHY was providing 64 weekly one-to-one sessions in B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire. However, this drastically reduced to 19 weekly sessions from the end of September 2023 due to the lack of future grants. There is no other organisation in Wiltshire providing free psychological support in the community for those affected by cancer or life-threatening conditions. We currently provide support to around 725 people each year and we have over 140 people on our waiting list for services. 55% of people waiting for a service have now been waiting for more than four months. We have 23 adults waiting for our Trowbridge services and can only afford to offer three sessions a week – this means it could be more than a year for some people to be seen. We have 10 young people waiting for our Trowbridge services which we offer within John of Gaunt school. This means it will be more than a year for some young people to be seen. We also have a further 6 young people waiting for a service all who would be prepared to travel to Trowbridge. We are seeking an Area Board grant to extend our current service in Trowbridge to meet the current demand for support. This grant would enable us to offer a further 3 weekly sessions for 45 weeks.

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| ABG1482 | Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding | Arts Together | Arts Together Projects for Isolated and Vulnerable Older People in Trowbridge | £8562.00 | £2500.00 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|

Project Summary:

Arts Together is a Wiltshire charity that has been running creative support groups for isolated and vulnerable older people in six areas of Wiltshire for 23 years. We provide regular, meaningful activities that build trust, confidence and friendship, supporting group members within their community and combatting the damage caused by isolation. From April 2024 to March 2025 we will run 6 art projects in Trowbridge, led by local artists and supported by a team of local volunteers. Each project takes place over a 5-week block, at the Bethesda Church Hall in Trowbridge. Assisted transport is arranged for the group members, the majority of whom would be unable to attend otherwise. We also provide refreshments, a hot lunch and a warm accessible place to be at each weekly project session, increasingly important for frail older people during this cost-of-living crisis. Our art tutors are professional artists fully insured and with DBS checks and our group manager and volunteers (also DBS checked) are trained in supporting members who might have barriers to taking part, be it through poor health, disability or mental health issues. The group manager has extensive experience and offers wellbeing support to each beneficiary to support them to keep attending the regular art group sessions. This year our transport, food and materials costs have increased due to the cost-of-living crisis. We have increased the number of members per group from 12 to 16 in response to increased need and referrals. We are constantly fundraising and request £2500 from Trowbridge Area Board towards the cost of running three of these engaging, confidence building and life enhancing 5-week projects for some of the most vulnerable older members of our community.

[ABG1469](#)

Youth Grant

Trowbridge Future

Mill Street Youth Provision

£20396.00

£5000.00

Project Summary:

We will be opening a dedicated youth space in the centre of Trowbridge where young people can be themselves, with trusted adults to help guide and support them through their adolescence and into adulthood. We are looking for support towards the costs of a Youth Development Leader and Youth Development Assistant who will help us run regular weekly youth sessions.

[ABG1478](#)

Youth Grant

The Equivalent
Project CICSelf harm support
programme

£10000.00

£1805.56

**Application
Reference****Grant Type****Applicant****Project****Total Cost****Requested**

Project Summary:

Following our success in providing a fully funded Self Harm Support Programme for young people living in Somerset last year, we are applying for a grant to extend a specialized support program for young people living in Wiltshire who are struggling with their mental wellbeing and whose families are on a low income. We will do so by utilizing Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL) techniques, offering a unique and therapeutic approach to assist young individuals in overcoming self-harm tendencies and promoting their overall well-being and mental health. Program Overview: The proposed Equine Facilitated Learning Self-Harm Support Program is designed to provide a safe, nurturing, and therapeutic environment for young people struggling with self-harm behaviours. The program will combine traditional EFL approaches with the transformative power of equine interactions to foster emotional healing, personal growth, and improved coping mechanisms. Program objectives: Empowerment and Resilience: Utilize equine interactions to help young participants build self-esteem, self-awareness, and resilience, empowering them to overcome self-harm tendencies. Crisis Intervention and Support: Offer immediate and ongoing support to young individuals in crisis, providing them with coping strategies and a support network to navigate difficult emotions and challenges. Skill Development: Facilitate learning experiences with horses to enhance interpersonal skills, emotional regulation, problem-solving, and communication abilities. Self Healing: Utilize Equine Facilitated Learning to provide a non-judgmental and healing environment where participants can process and express their emotions constructively. Anticipated Impact: The Equine Facilitated Learning Self-Harm Support Program aspires to make a profound and lasting impact on the lives of young participants by promoting emotional well-being, reducing self-harm instances, and fostering a sense of hope and resilience. We anticipate that this program will not only positively affect the individuals directly involved but will also contribute to creating a safer and more supportive community. Last year, we supported 20 Somerset students for 16 weeks, funded by Somerset Community Foundation. Of those 20 students, 16 completed the course and all 16 reported a significant improvement to their mental health and reduction in self-harm. They also reported improvements in attendance at school/college, and we witnessed incredible social and emotional growth. The students started as highly anxious, closed down and introverted, but left as confident, chatty and optimistic, having made strong bonds with their peers and developed skills to navigate the outside world with less fear of being triggered. We often receive enquiries from distressed parents of young people living in the Trowbridge area who are suffering with their mental health and many of whom are self-harming, thus identifying a need for support for young people living in the town and surrounding areas. So as to remain impartial, we will be seeking referrals for our proposed support via organisations such as The Clarendan Academy, John of Gaunt secondary school, Wiltshire Mind and Trowbridge Future. The funding we are seeking will be used to support 13 young people in need from Trowbridge to attend a full term of sessions (7 weeks). This works out at £138.89 per young person and includes report writing. The funding from Trowbridge Area Board will hopefully be being matched with a grant from the Wiltshire Community Foundation to cover our remaining costs which are outlined below. Please see below a summary of our monthly expenses which we use to establish the cost of each session Monthly Costs £ ex VAT Rent £ 1,050.00 Hay £790.00 Feed £317.00 Accountant £200.00 Vets £400.00 Tea / drinks £25.00 Insurance £380.00 Other £ 240.00 Office Costs £184.00 Wages £ 5,713.00 Horse Supplement £160.00 Total £ 9,459.00 Available Monthly Provision Hours 56 Cost per provision hour £168.91 Cost per 90 min session £253.37

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|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|
| ABG1500 | Youth Grant | Trowbridge Town Hall Trust | Giving Youth A Voice | £61675.00 | £5000.00 |
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Project Summary:

In 2023, Trowbridge Town Hall Trust's collaboration with the National Theatre's Public Acts initiative demonstrated how a broad spectrum of the community, made up of thirty-three individuals aged between 12 and 80, seven of whom had Special Needs, could come together and participate in a creative enterprise that had a profound impact on their lives and psychological wellbeing. The Trust would now like to build upon the success of that project by recruiting a new, younger cohort of participants to develop and deliver another similar project that enables those who wish to have a platform, to articulate their authentic voice, ready for performance in the late summer of 2024.

| Application Reference | Grant Type | Applicant | Project | Total Cost | Requested |
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| ABG1526 | Youth Grant | The Pump Trowbridge CIC | The Future Sound of Trowbridge | £2400.00 | £1200.00 |
| <p>Project Summary: Formally known at The Village Pump, The Pump in Trowbridge is a live music and entertainment outlet servicing the needs of both young musicians right the way through to retirees. The space provides opportunities to those who otherwise couldn't necessarily afford expensive rehearsal and practise space. It provides people with the ability to perform and express themselves and their art, in a supportive and nurturing environment. Often an environment otherwise lacking in their lives. The space is a professional space, run by dedicated, experienced individuals who donate their time, effort and energy on a voluntary basis. The organisation is a CIC in its very nature, but also because of its limited ability to generate revenue. We essentially support people often with various mental health needs, for example anxiety. And have successfully created an entire community shared around a love for live music. The organisation has a new lease of life in 2020 when local promoter Kieran Moore took over the venue from the old committee. We've swiftly grown from strength to strength and are looking to make a more significant impact on Trowbridge. We're about to launch a project called 'The Future Sound of Trowbridge' which will deliver a series of events aimed at 14-25 year olds, and giving them agency to take ownership of their music, their community the space and their friends! The aim for the project is to get people out of their bedrooms and into a supportive live environment! We're asking for this money to better equip the venue to make the most of our community moving forward!</p> | | | | | |

Background

3. Area Boards have authority to approve funding under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria. This document is available on the council's website.
4. Three funding streams are available to the Area Board, each with an annually awarded amount. These funding streams are as follows:
 - Community Area Grants (capital)
 - Youth Grants (revenue)
 - Older and Vulnerable People Grants (revenue)
5. The Area Board will be advised of the funding available prior to their first meeting of each financial year.

Main Considerations

6. Councillors need to be satisfied that the applications meet the requirements as set out in the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria and that the health and wellbeing and young persons funding guidelines have been adhered to.
7. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.
8. Councillors need to consider any recommendations made by sub groups of the Area Boards.

Safeguarding Implications

9. The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Public Health Implications

10. The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Environmental & Climate Change Implications

11. Grant funding will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

Financial Implications

12. Councillors must ensure that the Area Board has sufficient funding available to cover the grants awarded.

Legal Implications

13. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

Workforce Implications

14. There are no specific human resources implications related to this report.

Equalities Implications

15. Community Area Boards must fully consider the equality impacts of their decisions in order to meet the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.
16. Community Area Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes where they meet the funding criteria.

Proposals

17. To consider and determine the applications for grant funding.

Report Author

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