

**Westbury Area Board
18 October 2012**

Youth Funding Proposal

Purpose of the Report

To ask the area board to approve the allocation of funds to part fund activity equipment for older children.

Background to funding allocation

At full council on 23 February 2010, the Leader, Jane Scott, announced that it was intended to allocate approximately £100,000 across the 18 area boards to allow for additional grant by each area board, specifically for children and young person's projects or activities.

Councillor Scott identified that the budget consultation carried out via Area Boards and Peoples Voice, had in each case, placed youth activities at the top of their priorities. Within that consultation and also following discussion with youth representatives, the need for transport for this group had consistently appeared at the top of their concerns.

The Westbury Area Board has been allocated £4,045 for young people's activities in the community area. How this money is allocated is at the discretion of the area board.

Background to proposed project

At the Westbury Forward event held earlier this year, local people raised the issue that more activities and facilities were needed for older children.

After consultation with the Westbury Town Council, which is responsible for local play areas, it was suggested that this year's youth funding could be best used to help pay for activity equipment which would appeal to teenagers as well as younger children.

The aim is to install the equipment in Grassacres park. The project will be led by and part funded by Westbury Town Council.

Similar equipment has proved popular in other areas and appears to fill the gap in such provision for older children – i.e. Westbury is already well served with play facilities for younger children such as the skate ramp, playgrounds, sports facilities etc.

What is the project's timescale

Westbury Town Council's play areas working group is ready to proceed as soon as this funding is approved.

How many young people will benefit from this project?

All young people within the Westbury community area

How will you know if your project has been successful?

By measuring usage of the equipment and by feedback from users.

Environmental Impact of the Proposals

There are no environmental implications.

Financial Implications

£4,045 has already been allocated to the area board and is ring fenced for funding youth activities in the Westbury Community Area.

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications

HR Implications

There are no HR implications.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The proposal supports Wiltshire Council's commitment to provide customer focused services.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the area board agrees to allocate £4,045 to Westbury Town Council to part fund the purchase and installation of activity equipment for older children and requests regular updates on the progress of this project.

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