

Report to	Trowbridge Area Board
Date of Meeting	11 July 2013
Title of Report	Community Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider one funding application to the community area grants fund:

1. One application seeking Community Area Grant Funding (appendix 1)
 - Wiltshire West District Scout Association - to purchase maintenance equipment & a secure store to keep it in and to improve accessibility at Jubilee Wood Scout Camp site and community youth activity centre - £1,500 requested

Total Amount requested = £1,500

1. Background

- 1.1 Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing (5 April 2013). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2013/2014. The emphasis in 2013/14 will be that the Area Board funding will support volunteering, community involvement and addressing community priorities.
- 1.1 In 2013/14 the Area Boards grant scheme will be restricted to capital projects that deliver enduring community infrastructure improvements – such as new equipment, facilities or environmental improvements. Guidance will be provided to applicants on eligibility.
- 1.3 Trowbridge Area Board has an increased budget for 2013/2014 budget of £111,127 for community area grants (CAGS), community area partnership (CAP) core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. Pursuant to the budget approved by the Council, the Area Board has been provided with a capital and revenue budget allocation - £88,486 capital funding for CAGS/Councillor led projects; £21,141 allocated funding for CAP funding & revenue/operational budget; £1,500 capital for Digital Literacy Fund grants. £18,236 has been allocated to date:
 - £15,556 - TCAF CAP funding
 - £2,680 – TCAF – Lights Camera Action CAGThis leaves a remaining budget total of **£92,891** to allocate in 2013/14.
- 1.4 Area Boards will be encouraged to develop ways of linking grant funding to locally agreed priorities emerging from the Joint Strategic Assessment, the local community plan or other relevant local evidence
- 1.5 An on-line funding application process has been introduced for all applicants.
- 1.6 In 2013/14 up to £500 unmatched funding will be available to support small local projects. All applications for projects exceeding £500 will be expected to provide match funding (either in cash or in kind) to the value of a minimum of 50% of the total requested
- 1.7 In 2013/14 applications specifically for Wiltshire Online, Digital Literacy will be considered, with £1,500 being allocated to each area board and distributed through the community area grants process.
- 1.8 In support of the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2013/14 the Area Boards will particularly welcome applications that encourage young people and people with disabilities to become more actively involved in sports, outdoor activities, recreation, arts and volunteering.
- 1.9 Area Boards will not consider CAG applications from town and parish councils for purposes that relate to their statutory duties or powers that should be funded from the local town/parish precept. However this does not preclude bids from town/parish councils, encouraging community projects that provide new

opportunities for local people or those functions that are not the sole responsibility of the town/parish council.

- 1.10 In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons for why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.11 In addition to CAGs, Councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle sticky community issues and/or community identified priorities. Cabinet have emphasised that they do not wish these to be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria or for filling gaps where there are council service shortfalls.
- 1.12 Officers are required to provide recommendations in their funding reports (except in the case of Area Board/Councillor led initiatives), although the decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.
- 1.13 Funding applications will be considered at every ordinary Area Board meeting.
- 1.14 Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available to view on the Wiltshire Council web http://portal.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboard_grants/grants_list.php
- 1.15 All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board. This applies to all grants made by the area board.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Area Board Grant Guidance 2013/14 as presented for delegated decision
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2013/14 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

3. Environmental Impact of the Proposals

- 3.1. Community Area Grants will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Awards must fall within the budget allocated to the Trowbridge Area Board. If the funding is allocated according to the recommendation in this report there will be a remaining budget for 2013/134 of £91,391.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1. There are no specific Legal implications related to this report.

6. HR Implications

- 6.1. There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

7. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 7.1. Community Area Grants give local community and voluntary groups, an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 where appropriate.

8. Community Grant Applications

Applicant 8.1	Project summary	Funding requested
Wiltshire West District Scout Association	To purchase maintenance equipment & a secure store to keep it in and to improve accessibility at Jubilee Wood Scout Camp Site and Community Youth Activity Centre	£1,500

- 8.1.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.1.2 This is a joint application to Trowbridge, Bradford & Melksham Area Boards with a split in funding requested based on the location of users of the project. Melksham and Bradford Area Boards have each allocated the amounts applied for on the basis that all three Area Boards provide the funding applied for.
- 8.1.3 The applicant will be contributing over 50% funding towards the project.
- 8.1.4 **It is recommended that a grant of £1,500 is approved**

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 **It is recommended that the Area Board agrees to the recommendation for the Community Area Grant application contained within paragraphs 8.1.4 of this report.**

Appendices:	Appendix 1 - Community Area grant application
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