

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Devizes AREA BOARD
26 January 2015

Youth Grants Area Board funding application

1. Purpose of the Report

To ask the Area Board to consider one application seeking 2014/15 Youth Grants funding.

SEND film project to promote employment opportunities for young people.

Background

1.1 Area Boards have authority to approve Youth Grants area applications as per the Leaders Guidance for Community Area Grants on positive Activities for Young People, adopted by Devizes Area Board on 29th September 2014. Area Boards will allocate their dedicated youth funds in accordance with this guidance issued by the Leader, meeting requirements of the Constitution. These decisions will take place at the public meetings to ensure that consideration on how the Youth Grants funding is deployed is open and transparent.

1.2 Area Boards must comply with the statutory equality and safeguarding duties as well as the council's rules on contracts and procurement and the code of conduct, as well as ensuring the Community Youth Grants criteria is met. Area Boards have been delegated the responsibility to ensure positive activities for young people are secured sufficiently to improve their well-being and to ensure support from Wiltshire Council Children's Services has been received. This support will fundamentally come from the local areas Community Youth officer so Area Boards need to be sure this resource has been offered and enabled.

1.3 The Community Youth Officer is required to provide recommendations from the Local Youth Network management group through a report submitted to the Area Board. These recommendations will be generated from the Local Youth Network management group through the use of a scoring sheet matrix of each Youth Grant funding application. Community Area Boards must take into account these recommendations, advice and guidance.

1.4 When considering funding applications, the Area Board must ensure there is evidence that young people have participated in the decision making process. This will have been verified by the Community Youth Officer.

1.5 Area Boards must ensure that safeguarding and quality assurance standards have been met and that and must have the necessary policies and procedures in place to meet legal requirements. The Community Youth Officer will have carried out these checks on the group that has submitted an application for funding.

1.6 Applications of up to and including £5000 can be made for a Community Youth Grant and those that have sought match funding will carry more weighting.

1.7 Applications that involve and benefit groups of vulnerable young people will be given extra weighting when coming to a decision.

1.8 Applications must help meet the identified needs, priorities and outcomes for young people in the area that the Local Youth Network has provided through its community needs analysis.

1.9 Applications must be for positive activities for young people aged 13-19 (up to 25 years of age for young people with special additional needs and or disabilities and must be for new projects and or support community projects, not retrospective applications. The Community Youth Grant funding is for revenue based positive activities for young people and is ring-fenced for this purpose.

1.10 Those applying for funds must be a voluntary or community sector organisation or have a sponsor organisation. Applications may be received from a parish/town council or school or other statutory service, providing conditions of application have been met, as per criteria. Groups of young people may apply providing they have the support of a supporting/sponsor organisation.

1.11 Area Boards will not consider Community Youth Grant applications from town and parish councils or schools/other statutory bodies for purposes that relate to fund their normal services and or activities

1.12 The funding is not to replace other local funding which is used to support services and activities for young people and the Area Board is required to ensure the funding enhances and complements local provision/resources.

1.13 The Area Board will ensure that impact assessment will form a condition of any funding decision to enable monitoring of the effectiveness of positive activities. The Community Youth Officer and the Local Youth Network management group will carry this role out. This will include recipients completing and returning evaluation forms and accounts of expenditure.

1.14 The emphasis of this Community Youth Grants funding is to support the ethos of the community-led model for the provision of positive activities for young people, which supports young people and their communities to come together to develop a local response to meet local needs. Therefore, applications that embrace and evidence this should be encouraged.

1.15 Area Boards will consider funding applications at every meeting whilst there is still funds available.

1.16 The funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/communityyouthactivitiesgrants.htm>

Background documents used in the preparation of this report-

- Leaders guidance for Community Area Boards on Positive Activities for Young People
- Devizes Local Youth Network Management Group notes and actions
- Positive Activities for Young People local Youth Network (LYN) Terms of Reference
- Positive Activities Toolkit for Community Area Boards

2. Main Considerations

2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that Youth Grants awarded in the 2014/2015 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of it being awarded.

2.2. Councillors will need to decide and be assured that young people and the community will benefit from the funding being awarded and the project/positive activity proceeding.

2.3. Councillors will need to ensure measures have been taken in relation to safeguarding children and young people.

2.4 Councillors will need to ensure that young people have been central to each stage of this Community Youth Grant funding application.

3. Implications

Environmental and community implications

3.1. Area Board grants contribute to the improvement of positive leisure-time activities for young people throughout their local community and the intention will be for the awarding project to add to this. The specific project will determine the scope of this.

Financial implications

3.2 No specific ones to report.

Legal Implications

3.3 No specific legal implications to report.

HR Implications

3.4 No specific implications to report

Equality and Diversity Implications

3.5 This project is specifically aimed at and therefore open and accessible to all young people aged 13- 25, with special educational needs and or disabilities.

4. Recommendations

That the application meets the grants criteria and is a revenue based project, meeting locally determined need, to provide a positive activity for young people.

To agree funding of £2,600 for pre-production, production and post production costs, running costs, to enable a film to be produced with young people from the Devizes community area in a fully participative role.

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