

Report

Subject : General Community Fund Grants 2008/09
Report to : The Cabinet
Date : Wednesday 18 June 2008
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Deputy Leader of the Cabinet : Councillor S Fear

GENERAL COMMUNITY FUND GRANTS – 2008/2009

1. **Report Summary:**

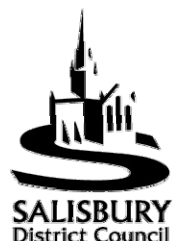
To present to the Cabinet recommendations for Members to consider for awarding the first tranche of the General Community Fund budget between voluntary and community organisations for funding during the 2008/09 financial year

2. **Background:**

- 2.1 As part of the 2008/09 Revenue Budget, Members approved the creation of a one off General Community fund of £130,000 to provide the Cabinet with flexibility during the year to support community led projects that improve the quality of life and wellbeing of the residents of South Wiltshire.
- 2.2 At the March Cabinet meeting, Members approved the criteria by which applications would be assessed (**Appendix 1**) and agreed that four members be nominated to form an advisory group to Cabinet regarding the consideration of grant applications.
- 2.3 The closing date for the first tranche was 30 May 2008 and the council received 39 applications with a total monetary value of £723,546, of which only one did not meet the criteria.
- 2.4 The full applications are available for Members to refer to at Democratic Services, 47 Endless Street
- 2.5 The Advisory Panel met on 4 June to assess the applications, and make funding recommendations to Cabinet.



Awarded in:
Housing Services
Waste and Recycling Services



3. **Proposals:**

3.1 **Appendix 2** summarises the grant recommendations for Cabinet to consider. The current budget does not meet the total amount requested therefore the table shows the individual amounts requested and the amount proposed based on the grant assessment process.

3.2 The advisory group was impressed both with the quality of the applications and the range of services that funding had been applied for and acknowledged that this had made the task of the group even more difficult than it already was to provide the Cabinet with a proposal.

3.3 The advisory group has formed its proposals based on a combination of factors outlined below:

- i. The degree by which the application supported the Council's corporate objectives, key strategies and policies
- ii. The level by which the service or activity contributes to the Council's Core Values
- iii. The degree to which applications supported priorities identified in parish, town, ward and community plans
- iv. Whether the application represented value for money, weighing up the overall cost of the project against the number of residents that the project or service would benefit.
- v. The sustainability of the project and whether it would provide a lasting benefit to the local community
- vi. The ability of the project to enhance the quality of life for residents across the whole of the district
- vii. Opportunities to enhance partnership working within the local community
- viii. Whether the funding would make a significant contribution to the role of the voluntary and community sector
- ix. To what degree would the project meet the needs of socially excluded communities or groups in the district
- x. Whether there are alternative sources of funding that could be sourced for the project and the extent to which the council is already supporting the organisation financially.
- xi. The geographical spread of the collective funding proposal.

4. **Compact:**

4.1 Salisbury District Council continues to work towards full compliance with the Wiltshire COMPACT Board's Code of Good Practice on Funding and Procurement

4.2 The Code of Practice on Funding and Procurement is one of the four codes that describe how the COMPACT will work in practice. It is based on the national Code that was developed by Central Government together with the Voluntary and Community Sector

4.3 In terms of funding and procurement code there is a requirement to develop and sustain effective procedures that result in sound funding decisions to support well delivered services. Funders will also commit to ensuring that all funding streams are transparent, consistent and fair.

5. **Proposals;**

5.1 **Appendix 2** shows the Grant recommendations for Cabinet to consider. The current budget does not meet the total amount requested therefore the table shows the amount recommended and the amount requested and is based on the grant assessment process.

5.2 Due to both the number and the total monetary value of the applications the advisory panel is proposing that an allocation of £108,861 from the total budget of £130,000 is used to fund applications in this first tranche. The advisory group's view is that to only use half the allotted budget would not do justice to the range of applications received. It is not considered that this would be to the detriment of applications submitted in the second tranche as the advisory group anticipate that the Cabinet is likely to have some flexibility later in the year to supplement the existing budget.

6. **Recommendation:** that members approve the recommendations of the advisory group as set out in Appendix 2

7. **Background Papers:**

7.1 Application criteria

8. **Implications:**

- **Financial:** The allocation of £108k in this tranche is within the approved non recurring budget of £130k. There is currently no budget available to add to the £22k remaining for the second tranche, therefore the funding of any additional needed to supplement the budget would have to be examined prior to the second tranche.
- **Legal:** section 2 of the Local Government act 2000 enable the Council to do anything that will enhance the well being of the local community or any part or parts of it
- **Human Rights:** article 6 [right to a fair trial] may be engaged. Conscientious consideration of the recommendations should demonstrate compliance
- **Equalities:** article 14 [prohibition of discrimination] is engaged if article 6 is engaged. Consideration of the recommendations against the criteria should demonstrate compliance
- **Community Safety:** relevant community safety implications are linked to specific applications
- **Environmental:** contained in report
- **Core Values:** The Community Fund supports the following Core Values of the Council:
Fairness and Equality
Anti-Poverty and Social Exclusion
Communicating with the Public
Supporting the Disadvantaged
Protecting the Environment
- **Wards Affected:** All

General Community Fund Policy

Salisbury District Council's General Community Fund supports community led projects that improve the quality of life and wellbeing of the residents of South Wiltshire

The council will consider applications for funding that:

- Support the Council's corporate objectives, key strategies and policies
- Assist in delivering the Council's Core Values
- Support the delivery of parish, town, ward and community plan priorities
- Support the voluntary and community sector improve the quality of life for the residents of South Wiltshire
- Make a significant contribution to the role of the voluntary and community sector
- Encourage partnership working within the local community
- Represent value for money
- Contributes to developing the values of equality and diversity, supporting disadvantaged and socially excluded groups in South Wiltshire

Groups can apply if they:

- are set up for charitable purposes or considered to be not for profit organisations that work for the benefit of local people
- have aims and objectives that are clear and well defined and are of real benefit to the community
- are properly constituted or have a Memorandum of Association or rules
- have a bank account or building society account with at least two joint signatures
- have annual accounts or statements of income and expenditure
- have an equal opportunities policy

When assessing an application the council will:

- Only consider one application per project
- Expect applicants to demonstrate financial need and as a guide the council would expect applicants to have no more than six months reserves. However consideration will be given the Government guidelines on Full Cost recovery that states that Funding bodies must recognise that it is legitimate for third sector organisations to recover the appropriate level of overhead costs associated with the provision of a particular Service
- Permit applications for community purposes from religious organisations, but will not fund religious or political groups or activities
- Require applicants to be suitable and have a track record consistent with the level of funding being applied for
- Only approve one application per organisation
- Consider applications from core funded organisations who apply for funding support for projects not included in the service agreements

The council will not:

- support applications that are deemed to be the role of other public funded bodies (e.g. WCC, Parish and Town Councils, PCT).
- accept applications from other precepting or public-funded bodies
- accept applications that would be for the benefit of an individual
- accept applications from businesses, commercial or profit making organisations
- consider projects already receiving funding from the council
- consider projects where construction work, the event, or the project itself have already commenced ie grants will not be awarded retrospectively

- consider applications from organisations whose principal area of activity is outside the District
- Consider applications that are relevant to another district council grant scheme
- support applications to cover general revenue costs or capital costs of building, such as:
 - Rents or insurance
 - Rates, council tax and utilities
 - Endowments
 - Loan payments
 - Professional fundraisers

How much is available

- The total grant fund is £130,000
- Minimum grant award will be £5,000
- There will be no maximum grant award
- At least 10% of the project costs must be raised locally by the applicant

Additional Information that will be required

Accounts for the past two years (new organisations with less than two years accounts will be expected to provide an estimate of income and expenditure for the first year).

Appendix 2

App no.	Applicant	Amount Requested	Review panel recommendations to Cabinet
1	Brian Whitehead Sports Centre Association	£10,000	The applicant will be awarded £5,000 towards the project provided it is match funded from another source.
2	Riverside Tennis Club	£6,525	The applicant will be awarded £3,000 towards the project.
3	Chalke Valley Cricket Club	£10,000	The application be refused for funding
4	Salisbury Fencing Club	£5,100	The application be refused for funding
5	Salisbury & South Wiltshire Sports Club	£35,000	The applicant will be awarded £10,000 towards the project.
6	Fovant Village Hall	£20,000	The application be refused for funding.
7	Bishopstone Village Hall	£12,500	The application be refused for funding.
8	Teffont Village Hall	£11,300	The application be refused for funding.
9	Circular Arts	£7,000	The application be refused for funding.
10	Cirque SWHED	£8,150	The application be refused for funding.
11	Forest Forge Theatre Company	£10,530	The application be refused for funding.
12	Salisbury Arts Centre	£50,000	The application be refused for funding.
13	SWAN	£19,000	The applicant will be awarded £15,000 towards the project.

App no.	Applicant	Amount Requested	Review panel recommendations to Cabinet
14	Elizabeth House Social Centre	£9,779.12	The applicant will be awarded £5,000 towards the project.
15	Home Start	£20,000	The applicant will be awarded £20,000 towards the project.
16	Wessex Community Action	£5,647	The application be refused for funding.
17	The Salisbury BIG project	£12,500	The application be refused for funding.
18	Quantum Wellbeing Centre	£81,000	The application did not meet the criteria
19	Age Concern	£13,802	The application be refused for funding.
20	Citizens Advice Bureau	£11,500	The application be refused for funding.
21	Tisbus	£10,000	The applicant will be awarded £5,000 towards the project.
22	Berwick St John Music Group	£7,200	The application be refused for funding.
23	Bemerton Heath Community Centre	£7,415	The applicant will be awarded £7,415 towards the project.
24	Salisbury Coalition Against Racism	£5,000	The applicant will be awarded £3,000 towards the project provided it is match funded from another source.
25	Wilton Community Centre	£19,975	The application be refused for funding.
26	Maiden Bradley Village Shop	£40,027	The application be refused for funding
27	Bemerton Heath Scout Group	£25,000	The applicant will be awarded £10,000 towards the project.
28	Rethink	£56,917	The application be refused for funding.
29	The Sea Cadets	£70,000	The application be refused for funding
30	Downton Millennium Green Trust	£10,349.40	The application be refused for funding
31	Tisbury Preschool	£16,386	The applicant sought funding for 2 years, which does not meet the criteria, so has been awarded £8,000 to cover the full cost of the service for 2008/09.
32	Alderbury Social Club	£5000	The application be refused for funding
33	The Bridge	£23,350	The application be refused for funding

App no.	Applicant	Amount Requested	Review panel recommendations to Cabinet
34	Busy Bees Preschool	£20,000	The applicant will be awarded £10,000 towards the project.
35	Youth Action Wiltshire	£7,446	The applicant will be awarded £7,446 towards the project.
36	The Wiltshire Wheels to Work Project	£19,992	The application be refused for funding
37	1st Wilton Scout	£9,952.88	The application be refused for funding
38	Figheidean Youth Group	£7,637.50	The application be refused for funding
39	Treetops Day Nursery	£5,605.52	The application be refused for funding