



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 5 5 April 2006

Report of Director of Derby Community Safety Partnership

Area Panel Budget Proposals 2005/6

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The Area Panel 5 budget allocation for 2006/7 is £17,472. The Panel has an additional budget of £380 carried forward from 2005/6, which means that a total budget of £17,852 is available for allocation to projects during this financial year.
- 1.2 The Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel met on 12 June 2006 to appraise the applications against the agreed criteria. The purpose of the Appraisal Panel is to support the Area Panel to make decisions about whether to approve applications. Recommendations are based on the information provided by the applicants measured against the area panel funding criteria.

Applicant	Project	Ward	Funds requested	Officer Advice
73 rd Derby (Allestree) Scout Group	Purchase of stacking chairs	Allestree	£1,939	Approve
Brackensdale Neighbourhood Watch	Shed alarms	Mackworth	£1,500	Approve
Derby City Council	Wild Derby Summer Scheme	All wards	£1,509	Approve
Total			£4,948	

- 1.3 A short summary of each project is attached to this report in Appendix 2.
- 1.4 The Council Constitution states that the Area Panels can 'use a delegated budget for local environmental and community purposes'. Therefore, if an application does not specifically refer to a local activity, consideration needs to be given to the appropriateness of allocating area panel funding to the project. In deciding whether to support each application, the area panel will assess the funding request against the funding criteria and its priorities.
- 1.5 The funding criteria states that applications need to provide a service in response to the needs of local residents and meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - improve access for local people to existing services
 - provide a service in response to an issue raised in a community update report
 - contribute to improvements which will provide a benefit to local residents
 - assist in providing an integrated service in response to an issue raised at an area panel meeting
 - enable residents to participate in their community or at area panel meetings.

Applications also need to:

- provide evidence of need for the application

- show evidence that ongoing maintenance or revenue costs have been approved by the relevant Council department, if necessary.

1.6 The priorities for supporting an application are that it:

- is from a voluntary or community group
- shows evidence of match funding or self help
- provides a service in response to the needs of local residents
- will directly benefit people living in the geographical area covered by the area panel
- show evidence of how the project will be sustained beyond the period of funding, if it is not a one-off project
- contributes to the delivery of one or more of the Council's corporate objectives.

1.7 In most circumstances, the amount of funding that the area panel will award to an applicant will be between £50 and £2,000. However, the area panel does have the discretion to award more if it considers the application to be a priority for the area.

1.8 If the proposals are approved, the implications for the total budget for Area Panel 5 in 2005/6 will be:

Area Panel 5	£
Budget for 2006/7	£17,472
Funds carried over from 2005/6	£380
Total funds available for allocation 2006/7	£17,852
Total commitments to date	£0
Total to available to allocate this meeting	£17852
Sub total of proposals	£4,948
Budget remaining if proposals for July 2007 are approved	£12,904

1.9 A summary of the financial implications of the proposals by ward is provided below.

Allestree ward	
Budget for 2006/7	£5,950 +
Carry over from 2005/6 - <i>money owing to Mackworth ward</i>	-£115
Total available in Allestree	£5,835
Total commitments to date	£0
Total to available to allocate this meeting	£5,835
Sub total of proposals	£2,442
Budget remaining if proposals for July 2007 are approved	£3,393
Darley Ward	
Budget for 2006/7	£5,952 +
Carry over from 2005/6 - <i>money owing to Mackworth ward</i>	-£3,614
Total available in Darley	£2,338
Total commitments to date	£0
Total to available to allocate this meeting	£2,338
Sub total of proposals	£503
Budget remaining if proposals for July 2007 are approved	£1,835
Mackworth Ward	
Budget for 2006/7	£5,950 +
Carry over from 2005/6 – payments from Darley and Allestree	£3,858

Total available in Mackworth	£9,808
Total commitments to date	£0
Total to available to allocate this meeting	£9,808
Sub total of proposals	£2,003
Budget remaining if proposals for July 2007 are approved	£7,805

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 To consider and determine the applications for area panel funding.
- 2.2 To note the Area Panel 5 funding still available for 2006/07.

For more information contact:

Background papers:

List of appendices:

Colin Avison Telephone 258500 e-mail
colin.avison@derby.gov.uk

Minicom 01332 258522

Area Panel Budget allocation criteria, Application forms stored on file.

Appendix 1 – Summary of implications

Appendix 2 – Summary of applications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 Area Panels must consider priorities within the Area when considering requests for funding. Not all requests that meet the criteria will be considered a priority. When supporting or rejecting an application over £25,000, the Panel must give reasons for its decision.

Legal

- 2.1 The Area Panel has delegated authority to use its budget for local environmental and community purposes.
- 2.2 Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 empowers the Council to offer grants to voluntary and other organizations to provide any recreational facilities.
- 2.3 Any decision involving the making of a grant or loan over £25,000 to any voluntary body is deemed to have a significant impact on two or more wards and is therefore a key decision.
- 2.4 After a key decision has been taken, the Director of Corporate Services must publish a record of every executive decision taken at that meeting within two days of that meeting. The record must include a statement of the reasons for each decision and any alternative options considered or rejected at the meeting. No action will be taken on any such decision for five clear days from the date of publication.

Personnel

- 3.1 None other than those included in the application forms.

Equalities impact

- 4.1 None other than those included in the application forms.

Applicant 1: 73rd Derby (Allestree) Scout Group

Project: Purchase of stacking chairs

Total cost of project: £1939

Amount of funding requested: £1,939

Wards: Allestree

Description:

The scout group provides learning opportunities for young people aged from 4 and 20. In addition to Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs, a Scout Troop and Explorer Unit, the group hosts a daily playgroup and a Rainbow Colony. The buildings are used as the venue for Scout Association Adult Leader and Community Group training courses. However, a current lack of chairs limits the scope for this use, and the group are frequently unable to respond positively to requests. The group are requesting a grant to purchase 132 stacking chairs to enable the use of the facilities to their full potential.

The Headquarters main hall, committee room and annex are used five nights a week. In addition to Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer Scout activities and associated meetings, users include local community groups. At weekends the main hall and annex are used for social functions, some organized for/by the Scout Group, others by members of the community.

All those who make a contribution to the functioning of the group – as leaders working with young people, in administration, in the organisation of fund raising events and with care and maintenance of our facilities and equipment – do so on a wholly voluntary basis, their receiving no financial remuneration what-so-ever.

Further information received since the original application states that the principle reason for its approaching the Panel for financial support in relation to this project, rather than purchasing the chairs through its own fund raising activities, is that it is currently striving to raise £30,000 to provide storage, workshop, garaging and car parking facilities on the land it owns at the rear of its Headquarters. It is currently two thirds of the way towards this target.

In addition, to further enhance the facilities it is in a position to offer the community at large, the Group is about to spend t4000 of its own funds to increase toilet provision and enhancing disability access.

Our existing chairs are too few in number and are in a very poor state of repair – the backs can cause splintering to the hands and damage to clothing. . We have investigated the possibility of using the chairs currently owned by the Darley Abbey Community Association, (which they are replacing with Area Panel funding). However, such is their state of repair, they are considered to be not fit for purpose.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Approve.

This application was deferred from the April meeting in order to ascertain whether the chairs being replaced at Darley Community Centre were suitable for reuse by the Scouts. Correspondence has been received from the Scouts which states that the chairs are needed to enhance the Group's ability to support adult and community use of their facilities, rather than just "traditional" core scouting activities for young people. This is similar to Darley Community Centre and therefore the chairs are not suitable for the same reasons that Darley Community Association wanted to replace theirs.

Area Panel funding criteria

The application must provide a service in response to the needs of local residents	✓
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In addition, the application must meet at least one of the following:
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Improve access for local people to existing services.	
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Provide a service in response to an issue raised in a community update report or at an area panel.	
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Contribute to environmental improvements which will provide a benefit to local residents	✓
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Assist in providing an integrated service in response to an issue raised at an area panel meeting.	
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Enable residents to participate in their community or at area panel meetings	✓
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Area Panel funding priorities

Community or voluntary group	✓
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Shows evidence of match funding or self help	✓
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Provides a service in response to the needs of local residents	✓
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Directly benefit people living in the geographical area covered by the area panel	✓
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Evidence of how the project will be sustained beyond the period of funding	✓
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Contributes to the delivery of one or more of the objectives set out in the Council's Corporate Plan	✓
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Applicant 2: Derby City Council

Project: Wild Derby Summer Scheme

Total cost of project: £2009

Amount of funding requested: £1,509

Wards: Allestree, Darley and Mackworth

Description:

Wild Derby partnership provides fun activity days for children, one on Allestree Park LNR and one on Sturgess School Field near the Markeaton Brook wildlife sites, on 2 days in August.

The dates are: Markeaton Brook 10 August and Allestree Park 17 August

The summer scheme is a series of educational activities that engage children with their family and friends of all ages allowing them to enjoy and experience the natural environment of Derby. It is targeted at families for the summer months. More specifically it is an opportunity for local communities in Allestree on Allestree Park and for the district between Duffield Road and Slack Road on Sturgess Field to engage positively with their natural open space in a way that stimulates learning, collective engagement, respect for the local environment and fun. The activities include outdoor crafts, wildlife walks and play such as bird box making, mini-beast hunting, story telling, parachute games, face painting and willow weaving. There is no charge for the event, it is not a fundraising opportunity and runs specifically for the benefit to communities and the natural environment.

The summer scheme in 2006 will build on what was done in 2004 and 2005 on 5 Local Nature Reserves in Derby, by taking forward the opportunity to allow families to continue to engage positively in the open space and in a way allows local people to respect, look after and gain benefit from public open space. In 2007 the summer scheme will continue looking for new sources of funding in order to continue to repeat the benefits gained by being part of public open spaces, local community and receiving the wildlife value.

Families across the three wards of Area Panel 5 will be targeted and information about where attendees live will be collected to monitor how effective the targeting has been.

The breakdown and explanation of costs include:

Publicity	£164
Donation to Friends Group for their voluntary assistance	£400
Summer scheme leaders	£685
Toilet hire	£240

- Note: Donation to Friends Groups £200 per group as a contribution to group funds for their voluntary time at a cost of £50 per person per day up to 4 volunteers to support their group work on the wildlife site. Groups will be expected to spend this funding on further activities within their operational areas for the benefit of residents providing added value to the Area Panel funding.

- Note: Summer Scheme Leaders: Team leaders provided by Groundwork Erewash Valley at a cost of £385 for a day and an independent leader at a cost of £300 for two days.

Council staff will lead on one of these days , providing 2 leaders for the delivery of each event on the day. It is important to provide the necessary skills, professional experience and cover that allows them to work with children and provide risk assessments.

The Wild space! scheme funding from English Nature ceases to operate in July 2006 and other sources of funding are unavailable for coming season.

Wild Derby seeks to provide positive support for the positive and active engagement of people on open spaces and once communities are engaged to continue to reinforce that relationship for the positive benefit of wildlife and open spaces in the future. At this stage the ownership of the event by Friends Groups remains an important aim of Wild Derby in maintaining this continuous support.

The City Council will support the event in the form of resources, provision of publicity, support on the day, the bookings system and creation of the itinerary, training of volunteers. Wild Derby has already provided Public Liability Insurance to both Friends Groups to ensure they can take part.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel	
Approve subject to suitable responses being received about the sustainability of the project.	

Area Panel funding criteria	
The application must provide a service in response to the needs of local residents	✓
In addition, the application must meet at least one of the following:	
Improve access for local people to existing services.	✓
Provide a service in response to an issue raised in a community update report or at an area panel.	
Contribute to environmental improvements which will provide a benefit to local residents	
Assist in providing an integrated service in response to an issue raised at an area panel meeting.	
Enable residents to participate in their community or at area panel meetings	✓

Area Panel funding priorities	
Community or voluntary group	✓
Shows evidence of match funding or self help	✓
Provides a service in response to the needs of local residents	✓
Directly benefit people living in the geographical area covered by the area panel	✓
Evidence of how the project will be sustained beyond the period of funding	
Contributes to the delivery of one or more of the objectives set out in the Council's Corporate Plan	✓

Applicant 3: Brackensdale Neighbourhood Watch

Project: Shed alarms

Total cost of project: £1,500

Amount of funding requested: £1,500

Wards: Mackworth

Description:

The project will provide shed alarms to residents within the area to act as a deterrent against shed break ins. Combined with warning signs there aim is to deter non dwelling burglar's with sound of alarm of possible theft.

To date 260 such alarms have been purchased, mainly through our local police particularly 225 PC D Wilson all but a dozen or so have been issued to estate residents, these dozen are for any non dwelling burglaries that may happen in the future and will be issued to victims when such events take place.

The alarms have been a success as the local police have mentioned in their past monthly beat reports.

It is intended that some of the alarms will also be provided to people who are the victims of shed break ins to help prevent re-victimisation. Many of the alarms will be distributed by the police contributing to building relationships with the community.

Discussions have taken place with the local police officers who have agreed that the shed alarms are effective. Informal discussions among Neighbourhood Watch members has identified the continuing need for this project.

The project will:

- Provide safety & peace of mind to local residents,
- Help to reduce the workload of the police long term and help free them for more essential work,
- Help maintain and improve relationships between the police and local residents.

Activity or item	Cost
£1,500 at present prices will get 125 shed alarms along with 125 warning signs.	£1,500

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel
Approve

Area Panel funding criteria	
The application must provide a service in response to the needs of local residents	✓
In addition, the application must meet at least one of the following:	
Improve access for local people to existing services.	✓
Provide a service in response to an issue raised in a community update report or at an area panel.	

Contribute to environmental improvements which will provide a benefit to local residents	
Assist in providing an integrated service in response to an issue raised at an area panel meeting.	
Enable residents to participate in their community or at area panel meetings	✓

Area Panel funding priorities	
Community or voluntary group	✓
Shows evidence of match funding or self help	✓
Provides a service in response to the needs of local residents	✓
Directly benefit people living in the geographical area covered by the area panel	✓
Evidence of how the project will be sustained beyond the period of funding	
Contributes to the delivery of one or more of the objectives set out in the Council's Corporate Plan	✓