

## **Grants to Sports and Community Groups**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 To approve the application for grant aid to Oakwood Community Association, a voluntary community organisation, for £2,700, as detailed below and at Appendix 2.
- 1.2 To approve the application for grant aid to Derventio Excel, a voluntary sports organisation, for £1,600 and £6,500, as detailed at Appendix 3.

### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. The organisations applying for grant aid meet the Council's criteria and objectives for grant funding schemes.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Oakwood Community Association works for the benefit of the inhabitants of the surrounding area and provides many opportunities in the interests of social welfare and leisure time occupation.
- 3.2 Derventio Excel is a partnership initiative between the Amateur Swimming Association, the Derbyshire ASA and the Derbyshire and Peak Park Sport and Recreation Forum and all swimming clubs in Southern Derbyshire. The club provides the necessary structure, pool time and resources for swimmers to attain their full potential and hopefully develop into future international athletes.

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The Regeneration Co-ordinator in the External Funding Unit of Derby City Partnership has been consulted on the grant applications. It is considered that the projects do not meet the necessary funding criteria for the National Lottery 'Awards for All Scheme' and that no other source of funding is currently available.

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**Background papers:** Grant Application Form  
**List of appendices:** Appendix 1 – Implications  
Appendix 2 – Oakwood Community Association  
Appendix 3 – Derventio Excel

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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### Financial

- 1.1 The annual revenue budget for grants to outside bodies and organisations for 2004/05 is £17,937. So far this financial year, £15,234 has been committed, leaving a balance of £2,703.
- 1.2 The annual revenue budget for grants to voluntary sports organisations for 2004/05 is £28,495. This includes a virement of £4,500 from the Voluntary and Special Needs Playschemes budget and a virement of £1,000 from the Pursuit of Excellence Grants budget. So far this financial year, £26,858 has been committed, leaving a balance of £1,637.
- 1.3 The indicative revenue budget for grants to voluntary sports organisations for 2005/06 is £23,616.

### Legal

2. Powers to fund these schemes are granted under Section 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

### Personnel

3. None.

### Equalities impact

- 4 Grants are available to all sections of the community for schemes that will benefit the citizens of Derby.

### Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 5 The proposal comes under the Council's Objectives of **healthy, safe and independent communities and a lively and energetic cultural life**. The grant aiding of local sports organisations, community organisations and voluntary and special needs playschemes helps to provide a range of sporting and community based activities for the people of Derby and visitors to the City.

## **GRANTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS**

### **Oakwood Community Association**

Oakwood Community Association owns and manages Oakwood Community Centre. Its objectives are to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the surrounding area and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare and leisure-time occupation.

No individual or group is excluded because of their nationality, creed, colour, religion or disability.

Oakwood Community Centre is a very well used building with a wide range of community groups.

Oakwood Community Association is applying for £2,700 for funding towards the cost of decorating the inside of the Community Centre, and to replace the carpets and curtains. Considerable work is planned shortly to improve the exterior of the building. The Association is working in partnership with Property Services and local councilors to improve the inside of the building through refurbishment and also to restructure the management of the facility.

The Association had a balance of £15,698 on 31 March 2004, which represents less than one year's running costs.

The Association has received grant aid for its ground rent of £1,300 for the past three years.

It is recommended that the full grant of £2,700 be awarded.

### GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY SPORTS ORGANISATIONS

#### Derventio Excel

Derventio Excel was formed in September 2003 and is a partnership initiative between the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA), the Derbyshire ASA, the Derbyshire and Peak Park Sport and Recreation Forum and all swimming clubs in Southern Derbyshire. The clubs include:

- Belper Marlins
- Ripley SC
- Burton SC
- Swadlincote SC
- Phoenix SC
- Ashbourne SC
- Etwall Eagles
- Spondon SC
- Trident SC
- Ilkeston SC
- City of Derby SC
- Treonte SC

The club aims to provide elite swimmers in Southern Derbyshire, both able bodied and disabled swimmers the opportunity to attain their full potential, and to support and develop grass roots swimming at feeder clubs and schools. The elite squad currently has 50 members, 25 of whom are Derby residents.

The clubs identified above act as feeder clubs to Derventio Excel where young talented swimmers are brought on to a level where they are proficient enough to move on to the elite squad. The club is still developing and it is looking to the next stage of growth which will include establishing:

- an elite squad for disabled swimmers
- a development squad
- a new talent identification squad
- a coach-mentoring scheme to further develop coaching in the feeder clubs.

Since its inception, the club has made tremendous progress. Two swimmers have been selected for the British Men's Beijing Select Group. Two girls have been selected for the British Swimming Talent identification programme. Five swimmers are ranked in the top five in their age group in the country and a further five are ranked in the top ten.

In addition to the success of the swimmers, the club has:

- raised the profile of swimming in Derby both regionally and nationally
- helped to develop disability swimming
- become a major partner on the Swim Focus Group
- appointed an Education Liaison Officer to communicate with schools.

In September 2004 the club was awarded £4,671 in grant aid to cover the projected deficit in the club's running costs up to December 2004. Since then the club has produced a revised forecast up to the end of March 2005, which despite the above grant aid of £4,671, predicts a deficit of £5,671. The club has requested £8,000 to cover this cost. As there is only £1,637 remaining in this year's grant budget, it is recommended that the club be awarded £1,600 towards meeting the cost of the deficit.

In addition to the proposed support from Derby City, the club is actively seeking other support, which includes grant aid/sponsorship from the following sources:

Amber Valley District Council	£1,000
South Derbyshire District Council	£ 500 and 50% reduction in cost of pool hire
Radleigh Homes	£3,000
Awards for All	£5,000 – specifically for setting up elite disability squad
Derby University	free use of office space, computer, printing and telephone

As part of the above application the club has also requested £10,000 grant aid towards meeting their projected operating deficit of £23,893 in 2005/06. The club is also applying for grant aid/sponsorship from Amber Valley District Council, Derbyshire County Council Active Sports and a number of commercial organisations to meet the shortfall of £13,893. The costs of running the elite programme has increased due to the expansion of the club and recent appointment of an Assistant Coach. The latter has been part funded by Sport England

The club has confirmed that the support of the City Council is vitally important for the development of competitive swimming in the region and has taken every opportunity to acknowledge the support they receive. As noted above the club has had a tremendous impact on swimming in the County in the relatively short time it has been in existence. The financial support the Council provides will enable the club to continue to develop and become a major force in British swimming.

It is recommended that the club be awarded £6,500 in grant aid towards the projected deficit in 2005/6 and that this be made available from next year's grants budget. The award is higher than that recommended for the previous year due to the expansion of the club and increased running costs.

Both grants will be subject to the club continuing to pursue the following specific conditions as detailed in the September 2004 grant agreement:

- In conjunction with the Sport Development Unit and PE Adviser, set up a coach education seminar for schoolteachers and City Council swimming instructors.
- Set up a coach-mentoring scheme with partner clubs to further develop coaching skills within the feeder programme.
- Further pursue the setting up of an elite disability squad as part of the club structure.
- The club continues to source funds to meet their projected deficit of £17,393 in 2005/6 from other local authorities and commercial organisations.