



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 2 9 November 2005

Report of Assistant Director of Community Policy

Area Panel Budget Proposals 2005/6

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The Area Panel 2 budget allocation for 2005/6 is £29,000. The Panel can also carry forward £11,309 from 2004/5. A total budget of £40,309 is available for allocation to projects during this financial year.
- 1.2 The area panel is asked to consider the following applications:

Applicant	Project	Ward	Funding requested
Boulton Lane Park Baby and Toddler Group	Toys and equipment	Boulton	£1,000
Chellaston Bowls Club	Building renewal	Chellaston	£5,000
Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living	Volunteer development programme	All wards	£1,922
Sinfin and Stenson Fields Asians over 60s Social and Welfare Club	Health, social and cultural project	Sinfin	£4,830
Total funding requested			£12,752

- 1.3 A short summary of each project is attached to this report in Appendix 2.
- 1.4 The Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel met on 17 October 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	Appraisal Panel recommendation
Boulton Lane Park Baby and Toddler Group	Toys and equipment	Approve
Chellaston Bowls Club	Building renewal	Approve
Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living	Volunteer development programme	Defer
Sinfin and Stenson Fields Asians over 60s Social and Welfare Club	Health, social and cultural project	Reject

-
- 1.5 The Council constitution states that Area Panels can ‘use a delegated budget for local environmental and community purposes’. For applications that do not specifically refer to a local activity, consideration needs to be given to the appropriateness of allocating area panel funding. In deciding whether to support each application, the Panel will assess each funding request against its priorities.
- 1.6 The new funding criteria, included in the Council Constitution, says 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.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 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.
- 1.9 If approved in total, the implication for the budget for Area Panel 2 will be:

Area Panel 2	£
Budget for 2005/6	£29,000
Funds carried over from 2004/5	£11,309
Total funds available for allocation 2005/6	£40,309
Total commitments to date	£16,975
Sub total of proposals to consider in November 2005	£12,752
Budget remaining if proposals for September are approved	£10,582

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 To consider and determine four applications for area panel funding.

For more information contact: Richard Smail 01332 258505 e-mail Richard.smail@derby.gov.uk
Minicom 01332 258522

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

List of appendices:
Appendix 1 – Summary of implications
Appendix 2 – Summary of applications
Appendix 3 – Funding approvals for 2005/06

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 organisations 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.

Corporate objectives and priorities

- 5.1 The provision of grants to community projects can contribute to the delivery of the Council's key objectives and priorities. The summary of each project in Appendix 2 includes an indication of how each one contributes.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS

Applicant 1: Boulton Lane Park Baby and Toddler Group

Project: New equipment and toys

Total cost of project: £1,000

Amount of funding requested: £1,000

Wards: Boulton

Description

The Boulton Lane Baby and Toddler Group has been meeting at the Boulton Lane community centre for 25 years. It has approximately 20-30 members, parents, grandparents and carers attending sessions each Wednesday mornings. We keep members subscriptions deliberately low to encourage more members to join us. It is a vital club as many new mums feel very isolated so can come along and make new friends. The community midwife refers mums to us. The subscriptions are used to cover the running costs and refreshments.

This application is to replace the group's equipment and toys. In the past we have relied on donations to replace equipment and toys but we now need to have some new toys and equipment that comply with health and safety and will attract new members.

For the past nine years we have arranged events such as autumn fairs to help finance running costs. We aim to ensure that any new toys and equipment are kept in good condition, and we anticipate at least 5 years worth of usage from any new equipment because they are used once a week. The equipment is kept secure in locked cupboards.

£450	Toys such as jigsaws, plastic lawn mowers, vacuum cleaners, trolleys, dolls, dressing up clothes, cars, garages and play mats
£200	Equipment such as baby mats, baby gyms, beakers, tents and tunnels
£150	Moveable partition
£100	Music equipment such as Musical Activity Set CD Player and CD's
£100	Books, crayons and paper
£1,000	Total

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 or priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan	✓

Applicant 2: Chellaston Bowls Club

Project: Building renewal

Total cost of project: £25,000 to £30,000

Amount of funding requested: £5,000

Wards: Chellaston

Description

Chellaston Bowls Club Ltd was established in 1905 provides both sporting and social facilities to a wide local community. It has about 90 members and nearly all live in Area Panel 2 area. The club offers the opportunity to people of all ages and backgrounds to learn to play the game of bowls. Short mat bowling started in 1988. The present pavilion is of wooden construction and about 55 years old, it is at the end of its life and we are desperately trying to build a permanent brick structure.

The club have started planning for a new brick building as their club base and aim to replace the existing wooden building. The application to Area Panel 2 aims to start the scheme off by allowing the club to employ professional builders to complete all the initial foundations and all the brickwork. Match funding is coming from sponsorship for materials and equipment that will keep the costs down. After the brickwork has been completed the club members will complete the joinery and other tasks using the skills and volunteer time from club members.

The club are requesting £5,000 towards the cost of the builders, so far one estimate has been received and others are awaited. A planning application is due to be submitted shortly at an anticipated cost of £750 and the club proposes to cover this cost from existing funds and contribute up to £2,500 towards the building work. The total project cost is estimated at £30,000 but this is being reduced by offers of materials.

Currently sponsorship and donations have provided 6,500 Marley Roofing Tiles, 800 Thermalite Building Blocks, £295 from O.R.S LTD, £200 sponsorship from Smurfit and £200 from United Co-op as well as donations from members.

The club will maintain and service the new pavilion in the same way that the existing building has been serviced throughout its life. The club generates its working capital by annual subscriptions, income from bar sales and catering within the club.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel	
Approve. However, the Appraisal Panel notes the request is above the £2,000 guideline amount.	

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 or priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan	✓

Applicant 3: Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living

Project: Volunteer development programme

Total cost of project: £5,402

Amount of funding requested: £1,922

Wards: Alvaston, Boulton, Chellaston and Sinfen

Description

Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living - DCIL is involved with a number of networks and support agencies in Derby. Members play an active role in putting into policy and practice development which affect disabled people in Derby.

DCIL has 52 members, all disabled people, in Derby and 13 live in Area Panel 2. Derby members of DCIL are requesting more opportunities for involvement as volunteers within the organisation.

Our current volunteers have noted an increased demand for our service and further volunteers need to be trained to extend the service. Current members and volunteers involved in Area Panel 2 area receive over 30 enquiries a month, at a 2 hour a week slot in Alvaston Library.

This project will support and expand upon an already successful information point delivering DCIL services in Alvaston library, currently staffed by two volunteers. We aim to:

- train six more disabled people as volunteers to staff this information point and to initiate other information points in the area, for example in Sinfen library to extend a vital service to the people living in the area.
- provide publicity materials and equipment to help promote this service
- provide a laptop.
- Pay for volunteer travel expenses, the volunteers will require accessible taxis for transport to DCIL offices in Ripley.

Elements of this project are one-off, for example, the equipment and training provision.

DCIL will seek further funding to support volunteers expenses as the work continues into future years. It may also be necessary in the future to seek further funding to train new volunteers. The group are requesting £1,922 towards a total project cost of £5,402.

DCIL currently receive no other funding from Derby City Council however DCIL received £44,000 in 2003 from Derby City Council as part of a service Level Agreement and less than £5,000 in 2004 as part of a joint finance arrangement with Derbyshire County Council.

Information provided by DCIL after Appraisal Panel meeting:

- Links - DCIL have links with other groups including regular representation on the Councils Disabled People's Advisory Committee. Representation on Derby City Direct Payments Implementation Group, CVS Voluntary Sector Liaison and Derby Community Network. Two members represent DCIL and Disabled People's views at the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum.
- Beneficiaries - They aim to train six more volunteers in Area Panel 2 and provide a service for over 100 people.
- Duplication - DCIL are aware Disability Direct run a service from Sinfen library but do not feel it will duplicate their service, however they are willing to consider an alternative venue.
- Laptop - The laptop will be transferred around the different information points in the area. It will be a resource to volunteers to enable them to access DCIL Data, which includes DCIL's information database, contacts, grants and trusts.
- Transport costs - It is likely the volunteers will not have their own transport and a return taxi journey to Ripley and back currently costs about £20 one way for one taxi.

£120	Information Volunteer Training course. Six Volunteers to attend two training days in DCIL Head Office, Ripley. Travel costs at £10 each volunteer each day
£120	Reference materials and handbooks for two Information points
£140	Display boards
£200	Leaflets - to promote volunteering opportunities & to promote the service
£900	Running costs for 1 year for two volunteers travel for 45 weeks at £5
£442	Lap top - to enable access to DCIL Data, to answer enquiries).
£1,922	Total

Match funding:

£308	Training staff time for delivery and preparation 8hrs at £38.50 an hour
£1,440	Volunteer time - at £8 an hour for 45 weeks for 2 hours for 2 people)
£1732	Staff time supervision and support of volunteers for 45 weeks for one hour at £38.50 an hour
£3,840	Total

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel
Defer. The Appraisal Panel requested more information is provided about links with other similar agencies in Derby, whether there is any duplication of services, how many people will become involved, who the laptop is for and clarification of transport costs.

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 or priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan	✓

Applicant 4: Sinfin and Stenson Fields Asians over 60's Social and Welfare Club

Project: Health, social and cultural project

Total cost of project: £4,830

Amount of funding requested: £4,830

Wards: Sinfin

Description

The group was set up in 2001 and has 61 members who benefit from its activities. About 60% of the members live in Derby and about 40% live in South Derbyshire District Council area. The group aims to improve their member's health and provide much needed social and cultural facilities. It is well known that the Asian senior citizens living in Sinfin need these facilities.

Derby City Council Social Services pay the group £4,296 a year to pay for renting Sinfin Moor Social Club five days a week. South Derbyshire District Council pay £5,150 a year to the group for lunch one day a year and for trips to the coast.

This project is to provide transport to and from Moorways and to pay the hire charges for activities to help with their health. In addition the group want to arrange cultural events and celebrations for their members and employ a worker to work with the group.

Area Panel 2 have already funded the group in all of the last three financial years for the same project including transport costs and health activities at Moorways. The amounts funded were: £2,693 on 5 March 2003, £2,500 on 10 March 2004 and £1,000 on 15 March 2005. Evidence of how the money has been spent has been provided for the first two allocations. While this funding application is within the criteria, Area Panel 2 and the Appraisal panel have previously expressed their concern about the sustainability of the project.

The Area panel is being asked to pay for the total cost of the activity, and there is no evidence that the group have any plans to reduce this dependency. The need to do this was expressed to the group in March 2004 and April 2005 when the Panel made their previous allocations.

£1,800	Hire of Moorways at £18 an hour twice a week for 50 weeks
£1,000	Transport of members to and from Moorways at £20 a week for 50 weeks
£90	Three cultural events food and hall hire at £30 for each event
£900	Food at three celebrations for 40 guests at £300 for each celebration
£1,040	Part time worker for 4 hours a week at £5 an hour for 52 weeks
£4,830	Total

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Reject. The project is not sustainable and no evidence has been supplied in the latest application to suggest any action has been taken to address the sustainability issue. The Appraisal Panel also notes the request is above the £2,000 guideline amount.

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 or priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan	✓

Appendix 3

AREA PANEL 2 FUNDING APPROVALS 2005/6						
Area Panel Budget for 2005/6				£29,000		
Budget carried forward from 2004/5				£11,309		
Total budget available for allocation in 2005/6				£40,309		
Total budget allocated in 2005/06				£16,975		
Applicant	Project	Amount requested	Amount approved	Date approval given	Grant paid	Ward
Councillor Mark Tittley	Fencing around Chellaston Park	£1,525	£1,525	21 September 2005	Work to be done by Derby City Council	Chellaston
Sinfin Community Childcare	Garden Improvements	£500	£500	21 September 2005	£500	Sinfin
SUPORT Ltd	Security shutters	£3,000	£3,000	15 June 2005	£3,000	Sinfin
Derby City Council Sport Development Team	Football tournament	£385	£344	15 June 2005	Work to be done by Derby City Council	All wards
Sinfin Lane Allotment Association	Improved security	£1,081	£1,081	15 June 2005	£1,081	Sinfin
Little Rockers Mother and Toddler Group	New equipment and toys	£300	£300	15 June 2005	£300	Alvaston
Sinfin Moor Church Parent and Toddler Group	New equipment and toys	£700	£700	15 June 2005	£700	Sinfin
Elvaston District Guides	Tents and camping equipment	£1,200	£1,200	15 June 2005	£1,200	Alvaston
Merrill Way Allotment Association	Allotment recycling	£600	£600	15 June 2005	£600	Chellaston, Sinfin, Boulton
Boulton Breakfast Club	Games, music and books	£750	£725	15 June 2005	£725	Boulton

Enthusiam	Event in a tent	£2,000	£2,000	15 June 2005	£2,000	Boulton
Alvaston Street Area and Neighbourhood Watch	Green Lane improvements	£10,000	£5,000	15 June 2005	Work to be done by Derby City Council	Alvaston