

Report of Assistant Director - Community Policy

Area Panel Budget Proposals 2004/5

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The Area Panel 3 budget allocation for 2004/5 is £22,000. The Panel also has an additional budget of £5,778 carried forward from 2003/4, which means that a total budget of £27,778 is available for allocation to projects during this financial year. A list of projects funded so far in 2004/5 is attached to this report in Appendix 3.
- 1.2 The area panel is asked to consider whether to support six applications for funding received from:

Applicant	Project	Ward	Funding requested
20 th Derby (St Augustine's) Scout Group	Preventative measure to tackle vandalism	Arboretum, Abbey and Normanton	£2,000
Amnesty Congo Support Group	Purchase of instruments and equipment	Arboretum and Normanton	£2,445
Derbyshire Housing Aid	CCTV equipment for Night Shelter	Abbey	£3,000
Gayton Swimming Club	Swimming pool refurbishment feasibility study and purchase of equipment	Blagreaves	£1,410
Ikhlas Foundation	Ikhlas Saturday School	Normanton and Arboretum	£2,100
Normanton Allotments Society	Repair of stone steps	Normanton	£1,318
Total funding requested			£12,273

- 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 11 October to appraise each application against the new criteria agreed by Council on 21 April 2004. The purpose of the appraisal panel is to consider and appraise each application to support the area panel to make decisions to approve or reject applications. The Appraisal Panel has made a series of recommendations for each application and they are stated in the table in paragraph 1.5. More details about the recommendations are included in Appendix 2. The recommendations are based on the information provided by the applicants measured against the area panel funding criteria.

1.5 Appraisal Panel Recommendations

Applicant	Project	Recommendation
20 th Derby (St	Preventative measure to	Approve
Augustine's) Scout	tackle vandalism	
Group		
Amnesty Congo Support	Purchase of instruments	Approve
Group	and equipment	
Derbyshire Housing Aid	CCTV equipment for Night	Reject
	Shelter	
Gayton Swimming Club	Swimming pool	Reject
	refurbishment feasibility	
	study and purchase of	
	equipment	
Ikhlas Foundation	Ikhlas Saturday School	Reject
Normanton Allotments	Repair of stone steps	Approve
Society		

- 1.6 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.
- 1.7 The new funding criteria mean 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.
- 1.8 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.

- 1.9 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.
- 1.10 If these six proposals are approved, the implications for the total budget for Area Panel 3 in 2004/5 will be:

Area Panel 3	£
Budget for 2004/5	£22,000
Budget carried forward from 2003/4	£5,778
Total commitments to date	£8,640
Total budget available for allocation in 2004/5	£19,138
Sub-total of proposals to consider in November 2004	£12,273
Budget remaining if proposals for November are approved	£6,865
Abbey ward	
Budget for 2004/5	£7,333
Budget carry forward from 2003/4	£1,793
Total commitments to date	£4,400
Balance available for allocation in 2004/5	£4,726
Sub-total of proposals to consider in November 2004	£3,970
Budget remaining if proposals for November are approved	£756
Arboretum ward	I
Budget for 2004/5	£7,333
Budget carry forward from 2003/4	£650
Total commitments to date	£2,190
Balance available for allocation in 2004/5	£5,793
Sub-total of proposals to consider in November 2004	£3,242
Budget remaining if proposals for November are approved	£2,551
Normanton ward	
Budget for 2004/5	£7,333
Budget carry forward from 2003/4	£3,334
Total commitments to date	£2,050
Balance available for allocation in 2004/5	£8,617
Sub-total of proposals to consider in November 2004	£5,061
Budget remaining if proposals for November are approved	£3,556

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 To consider and determine the five applications for area panel funding.
- 2.2 To note the area panel spend to date in 2004/5 set out in Appendix 3.

For more information contact:	Sarah Edwards 01332 255636 e-mail sarah.edwardsl@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	Area Panel Budget allocation criteria, Application form stored on file.
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Summary of implications
	Appendix 2 – Summary of applications and recommendations from the Area
	Panel Grant Appraisal Panel
	Appendix 3 – Funding approvals for 2004/5

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 £1,000, Area Panel 1 must give reasons for its decision.

Legal

- 2.1 Area Panel 3 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 £1,000 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.

Applicant 1: 20th Derby (St Augustine's) Scout Group

Project: Preventative measure to tackle vandalism

Total cost of project: £8,712 **Amount of funding requested**: £2,000

Wards: Based on Upperdale Road, Normanton ward. Breakdown of current beneficiaries - Abbey 29%, Normanton 45%, Arboretum 23%

Description

The Scout Group is based in the inner city area of Derby and provides Scouting for the members of our community between the ages of 6 years and 14 years of age of both sexes.

Over the last few months their Headquarters has been subjected to a number of acts of vandalism in which windows have been broken due to bricks being thrown and the firing of an air rifle. On one occasion a brick came through a window narrowly missing one of their young members.

The project has been designed, in conjunction with the local community police: to overcome the safety and security implications to our members due to the vandalism. They aim to deter any further attacks by making the area around their Headquarters more secure by installing a new palisade style fence and lockable gates to the parameter of their premises. In addition, they intend to install polycarbonate sheeting to cover the windows of the building and the community police have agreed to make regular visits to the area.

Scouting provides a very important role for the members of the local community. They provide their members with an active and structured weekly programme of events and activities. This enables them to participate in activities to gain a greater understanding of their community and environment. It is very important that this is undertaken in a safe and secure environment. They hope that the combination of the additional security measures and the actions of the police will enhance the safety and security for their members, which is of paramount importance to them.

The Group is working in conjunction with the Police to submit a grant application for a security grant of £3,000 from the Economic Development Unit.

The Group have raised £2,500 themselves towards the project and are committed to raise more to meet any further shortfall.

Breakdown of how will the money be spent

- **£2203** - Install polycarbonate sheets over ten windows. This will require the purchase of 25 x 8 foot by 4-foot sheets at \pounds 72 + VAT per sheet. Labour to fix sheets to be provided voluntarily by our members.

- **£6509** - Install palisade fencing and gates as per detailed specification on a quote from Derwent Fencing - \pounds 5540 + VAT

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Approval. The appraisal panel recommend that the area panel provide £2,000 to cover the cost of the installation of the polycarbonate sheets. It also suggested that the group could apply to the Small Change Fund for assistance with the cost of installing the palisade fencing and gates.

Area Panel funding criteria	
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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	✓

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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

Corporate objectives – the application must meet at least one	
Job opportunities	
Strong and positive neighbourhoods	\checkmark
Education	
Protecting and supporting people	\checkmark
A healthy environment	
Shops, commercial and leisure activities	
Integrated, cost effective services	

Applicant 2: Amnesty Congo Support Group

Project: Purchase of traditional African instruments and sound system

Total cost of project: £2,445 **Amount of funding requested**: £2,445

Wards: Arboretum and Normanton

Description:

This group have requested funding to purchase musical instruments for their traditional band in order to share and promote their cultural music with the local community in Derby. They have requested funding for the following items:

African drums	275	X6 traditional African costumes	600
1 PS Sound system	550	Maracas	30
2 speakers	600	2 bangos	150
6 Microphones	120	1 Jembe	120
		Total	£2,445

This group were recently awarded £2,160 by the Small Change Award for a cultural event. The event formed part of Derby's Cultural Diversity Celebrations and provide an opportunity for people from different communities to come together and learn about Congelese culture. The event was held in Normanton and will include Congelese food, music, art and dance. The small change award covered the cost of the hire of equipment including stage, instruments and costumes. The Group have a local base at Wilson Street and the Appraisal Panel recognised that they have already made a significant contribution to cultural events within the city.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Approve. The Appraisal Panel suggest that the Panel could provide some funding to help the group to purchase equipment on condition that they can provide evidence that they have insurance and a safe place to store the equipment.

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:

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	~

Corporate objectives – the application must meet at least one	
Job opportunities	
Strong and positive neighbourhoods	 ✓
Education	
Protecting and supporting people	
A healthy environment	
Shops, commercial and leisure activities	
Integrated, cost effective services	

Applicant 3: Derbyshire Housing Aid

Project: CCTV provision for Night Shelter on Boyer Street

Total cost of project: £3,000 Amount of funding requested: £3,000

Wards: Abbey

Description

This group are experiencing problems with crime and anti-social behaviour around the shelter and feel that the installation of CCTV will act as a deterrent and help to ensure that the night shelter does not cause a problem for local people. They have requested funding to install a CCTV system with 4 cameras at the Night Shelter to improve safety of the staff, volunteers, shelter residents and the local community.

The group have provided 3 quotations for this work and they have provided evidence that they have discussed the project and taken advise from the local Community Crime Prevention Officer following a thorough crime reduction risk assessment. The group has also been asked to provide evidence of self-help and match funding and asked to approach the Small Change Fund who are currently keen to identify projects in this part of the city.

Given that this facility provides a citywide service the group have been asked to provide detailed evidence of how the project will benefit local residents and the wider local community. They have provided one letter of support from the manager of the local Jackson's store.

They recently applied for a grant from the Small Change fund. The application was initially turned down subject to the provision of more information about how the project will benefit the wider community.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Reject. The application does not provide evidence how it will benefit local people and the wider community.

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

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Corporate objectives – the application must meet at least one	
Job opportunities	
Strong and positive neighbourhoods	✓
Education	
Protecting and supporting people	✓
A healthy environment	
Shops, commercial and leisure activities	
Integrated, cost effective services	

Applicant 4: Gayton Swimming Club

Project: Refurbishment feasibility study and purchase of equipment

Total cost of project: £14,100 **Amount of funding requested**: £1,410

Wards: About 80% of the non-school users live in Area Panel 4 area. The remaining 20% live in AP2 and 3

Description: Gayton Swimming Club is based at the pool in the grounds of Gayton Community Junior School. The pool was built in 1978 by parents and volunteers. The pool has a full weekday, evening and Saturday morning programme. The three local schools Gayton Community Junior, Ridgeway Infant and St George's Primary schools are the main users, but it is also well used by the local community including, Phoenix Club, Gayton Swimming Club, Ducklings, Gayton, St. Georges and Ridgeway Community Association, Fun Ability, Autistic Society and private parties.

The pool and the building are now in need of modernisation. The priority for the club is to replace the pool cover and the shower area at a cost of $\pounds4,700$. The club hopes that the improvements will encourage more local groups and residents to use the pool.

To plan for the medium term development of the pool, the club have conducted a user survey in May 2004. The issues identified are to maintain a local swimming pool in Littleover, improve the reception and waiting areas and modernise the changing areas.

Matchfunding:

- £4,840 from the Club
- Area Panel 4 made a contribution of £4700 in July 2004.

Breakdown of proposed:

a) Purchase and install new pool cover - quote from Progressive £1,880

b) Purchase and install new shower – quote from Commercial Services £2,820

c) Cost of Consultancy for Feasibility and Design options and Topographical Survey of building and surrounding area £6,100

Total Cost of project £10,800

The applicant estimates that approximately 20 % of the swimming pool users live in Area Panel 2 and 3 and they have asked both panels for a contribution of 10% of the total costs were asked to contribute to the overall costs of the project but refused to do so.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Reject. Area Panel 4 agreed to provide a grant of £4,700 in July 2004 to cover the cost of the purchase of the swimming pool cover and new shower installation. The Appraisal Panel did not consider that the proposed feasibility and design study would provide significant benefit to local people in Area Panel 3.

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

Corporate objectives – the application must meet at least one	
Job opportunities	
Strong and positive neighbourhoods	 ✓
Education	
Protecting and supporting people	
A healthy environment	 ✓
Shops, commercial and leisure activities	
Integrated, cost effective services	

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Applicant 5: Ikhlas Foundation

Project: Ikhlas Saturday School

Total cost of project: £2,160 **Amount of funding requested**: £2,100

Wards: Normanton and Arboretum

Description:

The Ikhlas Foundation are setting up a Saturday school to target children who are performing below average in their studies by using SAT results. They will encourage children through their parents to enrol on a free Saturday school study programme. By targeting children who are vulnerable and likely to struggle in their education they aim to provide them with a platform to benefit from this new approach to learning and also signpost them to additional services such as mentoring by DEBP organisation and various other bodies. In this programme they will teach GCSE English, Maths and Science. In addition to this in term holidays they will treat these children to small recreational visits to reward/motivate them.

The group say that evidence of SATs results shows that Asian children and in particular Pakistani children are not performing as well as some of their peers in their GCSEs. They hope to engage children/parents and teachers to improve the SATs results and long term their GCSE results.

They say that parents have suggested at various community meetings that there is very little additional academic support provided outside of school and that there is no secondary school in the neighbourhood. By approaching/targeting parents they hope to encourage and support them to take more of an interest in their children's education such as attending parent's evenings, which they know from consultation meetings, is an issue.

The Ikhlas Foundation has asked for funding to establish and run the Saturday school from November 2004 – March 2005. They have requested funding to employ 3 teachers to teach GCSE English/Maths/Science x 3hrs x 16 weeks at £15.00 per hour. They have also applied for a Community Grant and the project does not appear to be sustainable unless this application is successful.

The project highlights the tension between responding to cultural needs in communities and ensuring a link and integration with current educational provision. The Director of Education was consulted about this proposal following the appraisal panel. Although his officers support the idea of this type of project in principal, there is already evidence of a steady improvement in the SATs and GCSE results of Pakistani children. The following information was included in a report to the Minority Ethnic Communities Advisory Committee in May 2004:

'At GCSE in 2003 pupils of Indian, Pakistani and Black Caribbean origin showed an increase in performance compared with attainments in 2002. The number of Pakistani pupils gaining 5+ A*-C grades significantly increased by 16% which was above the overall LEA percentage improvement. The attainment of black Caribbean pupils increased by 12%. Pupils of Indian origin out-perform other ethnic groups at all key stages; in this respect Derby is in line with the national averages.'

They therefore recommend that the group should work in partnership with one or two local schools to develop the project further and in particular to provide more evidence of:

- partnership and integration with current school provision
- commitment to provide appropriately qualified teachers
- proposed activities
- procedures for matters such as child protection.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Reject. The Appraisal Panel considered that this proposal requires further development and raises a number of concerns that need to be addressed including:

- procedures for Child Protection
- involvement of the DCC Education Service or local schools
- how this project will be sustained if the application for a Community Grant is unsuccessful

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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	•

Corporate objectives – the application must meet at least one			
Job opportunities			
Strong and positive neighbourhoods			
Education	✓		
Protecting and supporting people			
A healthy environment			
Shops, commercial and leisure activities			
Integrated, cost effective services			

Applicant 6: Normanton Allotments Society Limited

Project: Repair of steps to access the allotments

Total cost of project: £3,953Amount of funding requested: £1,318

Wards: Normanton

Description

Access to the Normanton Allotments is via a door on Hadden Street, which leads to a set of steps. These steps are over 70 years and were identified to be in need of replacement/repair by Derby City Council Inspectors in 2003. Local gardeners, the 80 tenants and their families and local user groups such as Dale community Primary School all use the steps and environmental and safety improvements are urgently needed. The provision of a safer set of steps and a handrail would remove some of the anxieties of the Society about the safety of tenants and user groups. Derby City Council owns the allotments. As such the Park section of Commercial Services are responsible for long term maintenance of the steps but they do not unfortunately have sufficient funds to pay for this work.

The Society has suggested that one forward could be a three-way split of the total costs between Parks, Area Panel 3 and the Society. They have provided three quotes for the work and asked the panel to contribute one third of the overall cost.

The Panel considered this application in September 2004 and deferred its decision pending further information. The panel asked for confirmation of:

- DCC Parks' willingness to provide £1,318
- Information about the availability of mainstream budget to fund this work; and
- assurance that there is not a health and safety risk caused by the condition of the steps.

DCC Parks have confirmed that they are willing to contribute £1,318 to the overall cost of the project. The steps have been inspected and Parks have confirmed that although they require maintenance, they are not currently considered to be a health and safety risk. DCC Parks cannot fund the full cost of the work from their mainstream grounds maintenance budget as they currently only have £6,070 for the whole city.

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	•

Corporate objectives – the application must meet at least one			
Job opportunities			
Strong and positive neighbourhoods	✓		
Education			
Protecting and supporting people			
A healthy environment			
Shops, commercial and leisure activities			
Integrated, cost effective services			

Appendix 3

AREA PANEL 3 FUNDIN	IG APPROVALS 2004/5					
Area Panel Budget for 2004/5				£22,000		
Budget carried forward from 2003/4			£5,778			
Total budget available for allocation in 2004/5			£27,778			
Sub-total allocated to date			£8,640			
Balance available for allocation			£19,138			
Applicant	Project	Amount requested	Amount approved	Date approval given	Grant paid	Ward
CAST Trust	Stockbrook Community Week	£2,500	£2,500	12 May 2004	Yes	Abbey
Friends of St Joseph's School	Purchase 2 waterproof gazebos for community events	£140	£140	12 May 2004	Yes	Arboretum
Asian Over 60's	New carpet for women's club meeting room	£500	£500	12 May 2004	Yes	Normanton and Arboretum
St Luke's Parish Church	Repair of boundary wall	£2,359	£1,500	12 May 2004	Yes	Abbey
Derby Central Youth Association	Trip to Pakistan	£2,500	£2,000	14 July 2004	Yes	Normanton and Arboretum
Serbian Orthodox	Purchase of kitchen	£2,100	£2,000	14 July 2004	Yes	Abbey, Normanton
Community Group	furniture to enable services to local residents					and Arboretum
Total			£8,640			