



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**AREA PANEL 2
21 SEPTEMBER 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.
- 1.2 The area panel is asked to consider the following applications:

Applicant	Project	Ward	Funding requested
Councillor Tittley	Fencing around Chellaston Park	Chellaston	£1,525
Sinfin Community Childcare	Garden Improvements	Sinfin	£500
Total funding requested			£2,025

- 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 1 August to appraise area panel funding applications against the new criteria agreed by Council on 21 April 2004. The purpose of the Appraisal Panel is to support the Area Panel to make decisions about whether to approve applications. These applications were submitted after the Appraisal Panel met and therefore no recommendations have been made.

Councillor Tittley	Fencing around Chellaston Park	Not considered by Appraisal Panel
Sinfin Community Childcare	Garden Improvements	Not considered by Appraisal Panel

- 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	£14,950
Sub total of proposals to consider in September 2005	£2,025
Budget remaining if proposals for September are approved	£23,334

PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To consider and determine two applications for area panel funding.

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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 £1,000, 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 £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.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS

Applicant 1:	Councillor Mark Tittley
Project:	Fencing around Chellaston Park
Total cost of project:	£2,025
Amount of funding requested:	£1,525
Wards:	Chellaston

Description

This project is to provide improved fencing around Chellaston Park along Swarkestone Road. Many local residents have requested that improved fencing is installed in the area. The current fencing along this section of the park is very unsightly and could be a potential health and safety risk.

Not only will the new fencing improve and make the area more attractive, it will also improve the safety of the area.

The fencing will be bow top steel fencing measuring 27 metres long and 1.2 metres high at a cost of £75 a metre. Commercial Services will contribute £500 towards the cost and install the fencing.

Commercial Services will also maintain the fencing.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Not considered by the Appraisal Panel

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	
a stimulating and high quality learning environment	
healthy, safe and independent communities	✓
a lively and energetic cultural life	
a diverse, attractive and healthy environment	
a prosperous, vibrant and successful economy	
a shared commitment to regenerating our communities	

Applicant 2: Sinfin Community Childcare

Project: Garden Improvements

Total cost of project: £9,000

Amount of funding requested: £500

Wards: Sinfin

Description

Sinfin Community Childcare - SCC is a Neighbourhood nursery, not for profit organisation, providing full and sessional childcare, catering for local working parents and people on courses. The outside play area is in major need of a revamp. Following a recent OFSTED inspection, hawthorn hedging and low branches on a Poplar tree situated by the baby unit, were pointed out as a hazard to the children whilst out playing, and was marked by OFSTED as an action needing immediate attention.

The group will be applying for a major funding bid for a complete revamp of the outside play area in the near future which will cost an estimated £9,000. However they are requesting area panel funding of £500 for the urgent removal of the offending hawthorn hedge and Poplar tree branches on the grounds of health and safety for the children.

The nursery caters for up to 110 local children during the day and before and after school. Many of the parents of these children attend training courses at SUPORT and receive free childcare due to them being in receipt of appropriate benefits. The play area is used by the children whilst in the care of the nursery. As part of the children's learning plans out door play is a requisite of the curriculum. It is also a requirement of OFSTED regulations and if this work is not carried out the future of the nursery could be in jeopardy, which would affect the lives of the local residents who are dependant on the care during working or whilst on training.

The play area will be improved by the removal of the hawthorn hedge, which will be replaced by more child friendly shrubs allowing the young children to play in a much safer and secure environment.

Suggested recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel

Not considered by the Appraisal Panel

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	
a stimulating and high quality learning environment	✓
healthy, safe and independent communities	✓
a lively and energetic cultural life	
a diverse, attractive and healthy environment	
a prosperous, vibrant and successful economy	
a shared commitment to regenerating our communities	✓

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						£14,950
Applicant	Project	Amount requested	Amount approved	Date approval given	Grant paid	Ward
SUPPORT 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