



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 4 27 JUNE 2007

Report of Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit

Area Panel 4 Budget Proposals 2007/8

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 Area Panel 4 budget allocation for 2007/8 is £17,472. The panel has an additional budget of £6,436 carried forward from 2006/7, which means that a total budget of £23,908 is available for allocation to projects during this financial year.
- 1.2 Area Panel 4 is asked to consider whether to support the applications received. A short summary of each project is attached to this report in Appendix 2
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 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 funding applications are approved, the implications for the total budget for Area Panel 4 in 2007/8 will be:

	Area			
Budget for 2006/7	£17,472			
Carried forward from 2006/7	£6,436			
Funds returned due to under spend on projects: Gayton Community Centre - £1,000 from 2005/6	£1,000			
Total Budget available for 200/08	£24,908			
	Blagreaves	Littleover	Mickleover	
Total commitments to date	£0	£0	£0	£0
Total available to allocate at this meeting	£24,908			

Funding Applications to consider in June 2007					Officer Advice
Breast Feeding Mums Group	£300	£300		£600	Approve
Sub-total of proposals to consider at this meeting	£300	£300	£	£600	
Budget remaining	£24,308				

PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To consider and determine applications for area panel funding.

For more information contact:	Richard Smail 01332 258505 e-mail Richard.smail@derby.gov.uk
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 1

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, Area Panel 4 must give reasons for its decision.

Legal

- 2.1 Area Panel 4 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 Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services and Deputy Chief Executive 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 priorities

- 5.1 The provision of grants to community projects can contribute to the delivery of the Council's key priorities.

Appendix 2: Summary of applications and officer advice

Applicant 1:	Breast Feeding Mums Group
Project:	Peer Counsellor Training, Enrichment Day and Graduation
Total cost of project:	£ 2,000
Amount of funding requested:	£600
Wards:	Blagreaves and Littleover

Officer Advice
Approve. Subject to clarification about the cost of each of the four elements in the application.

Description

The group was set up in 2002. The group works to encourage and promote the positive benefits of breast-feeding to mothers and to offer the opportunity for women to meet with their peers, receive support and information and reduce isolation. Approximately 70 women benefit from the project. The group is open to all and particularly supports women in the first few weeks of motherhood. 70% live in Area Panel 3 and 30% live in Area Panel 4 area.

The group meets on Tuesdays at Pear Tree clinic, in Area panel 3, from 10.30 am – 1.30 p.m. and on Thursdays at St Peter's Church, in Area Panel 4, from 10.30 – 12.00. At the sessions women receive support from fully trained peer counsellors and presentations and advice sessions are regularly organised as part of the sessions covering areas such as healthy eating, diet and exercise. Members meet other mums, have some respite from caring responsibilities and receive support with breast feeding and general parenting.

The group operates on the input of volunteer time and support. The Primary Care Trust provides some support through a paid secretary for the group and they receive support in-kind through free use of meeting venues. The group received a grant from Area Panel 3 in September 2006 to cover the cost of a crèche worker to support the weekly sessions. The crèche worker enables volunteers who are trained support workers to dedicate their time in the session to supporting and offering some respite to the mothers who attend.

In the last 3 years about 30 peer counsellors have been trained giving them the skills, knowledge and confidence to support and advise members and others in the community. This request for funding is to train more peer counsellors, provide crèche support, arrange an Enrichment day – where peer counsellors meet, network and raise awareness of benefits of breast feeding and hold a Graduation party – where newly trained counsellors celebrate ending their training.

The request for funding is being made to Area panel 3 and Area panel 4 because the members live in both areas. Details about how much each of the four elements of the project have not been provided.

Peer Counsellor Training
Creche worker
Enrichment day
Graduation party
£2,000 Total