

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CORPORATE STRATEGY  
TO EXECUTIVE  
3 April 2009

**Community Grants**

**1.0 Introduction and Report Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the budget position for the Executive Committee in respect of Community Grants and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received. The Executive currently considers grant applications twice each year, usually in April and October.
- 1.2 The contact officer for this report is Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer (Tel: 01235 547626).

**2.0 Relationship with the Council's Vision, Strategies and Policies**

- 2.1 This report supports the Council's Vision in that it supports building and safeguarding a fair, open and compassionate community. It does not conflict with any Council strategy or any Council policy.
- 2.2 Furthermore, the award of grants to community and voluntary sector groups helps to deliver actions set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy which aims to improve the quality of life for everyone in the Vale.

**3.0 Recommendations**

- (a) *that Members note that the Executive's budget for 2009/10 for Vale-wide grants is £21,714.00*
- (b) *that Members consider and determine the following grant applications:*
- (i) **Oxfordshire Association for the Blind, £5,000, towards running costs***
- (ii) **Oxfordshire Chinese Community and Advice Centre, £7,000, towards running costs and Chinese New Year celebrations***
- (iii) **Wantage Counselling Service, £1,800, towards running costs***
- (iv) **Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers, £2,000, towards running costs***
- (v) **Oxfordshire Rural Education Initiative, £2,000, towards cost of employing an Education Link Officer***

*(vi) Vitalise, £2,716.50, towards the provision of care breaks*

*(c) that Members agree to the request from Area Committees to carry forward any unallocated grant budget from 2008/09*

#### **4.0 Community Grants**

4.1 The budget position of the Executive for Vale-wide community grants in 2009/10 is shown below

<b>Budget b/f 2008/09</b>	<b>Budget 2009/10</b>	<b>Total Budget 2009/10</b>	<b>Environmental Agenda Proportion</b>	<b>Social Agenda Proportion</b>	<b>Economic Agenda Proportion</b>	<b>Discretionary Proportion</b>
<b>£0</b>	<b>£21,714</b>	<b>£21,714</b>	<b>£7,599.90</b>	<b>£7,599.90</b>	<b>£4,342.80</b>	<b>£2,171.40</b>

#### **5.0 Applications**

5.1 Applications for consideration under the Council's Community Grants Scheme have been received from the organisations listed below and there is a narrative providing additional details at Appendix A to the report. The total amount of grants requested is 20,516.50.

**(i) Oxfordshire Association for the Blind, £5,000,** towards running costs

**(ii) Oxfordshire Chinese Community and Advice Centre, £7,000,** towards running costs and Chinese New Year celebrations

**(iii) Wantage Counselling Service, £1,800,** towards running costs

**(iv) Ryder-CheshireVolunteers, £2,000,** towards running costs

**(v) Oxfordshire Rural Education Initiative, £2,000,** towards cost of employing an Education Link Officer

**(vi) Vitalise, £2,716.50,** towards the provision of care breaks

5.2 Members are asked to consider and determine the grant applications.

#### **6.0 Unallocated grant budget**

6.1 At the end of 2008/09 the Area Committees have unallocated grants budgets as indicated below:

North East Area Committee	£417.65
South East Area Committee	£0
Abingdon Area Committee	£1,764.72
West Area Committee	To be advised verbally

- 6.2 Those area committees with unallocated grants budget have resolved to request that these amounts be carried forward into 2009/10. The Executive is asked to agree their request.

TOBY WARREN  
HEAD OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY

CLARE KINGSTON  
HEAD OF CORPORATE STRATEGY

Background Papers: Applications and supporting documents