

APPENDIX A

i) Applicant: Oxfordshire Association for the Blind (OAB), based in Gordon Woodward Way, Oxford

Years in existence: Since 1877

Type of organisation: Registered charity. OAB is an entirely independent local (county) organisation – not affiliated to a larger organisation such as RNIB.

Project, service or event details: The applicant is seeking a grant towards the wide range of important services they provide to blind and partially sighted people in the Vale, and to increase the support for visually-impaired children.

OAB currently provides advice and information on all issues of concern to visually-impaired people and their carers. They demonstrate specialist equipment to enable people to maintain independence and provide regular information updates via a quarterly newsletter sent in large print or on audio tape. A printed Sight Information Guide is also produced and a website is regularly updated and maintained (www.oxeyes.org.uk). OAB is now working with the Parents Support Group, Social and Education Services and RNIB to set up activity days for visually-impaired children.

OAB works closely with all the other specialist groups for visually-impaired people which operate in the Vale and facilitates some activities of other organisations, such as the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, at their centre.

OAB conducted its own survey of needs in 2008 and the results showed that there is a very high demand for services to supplement those of the County Council.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 990

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: All OAB services are free. Items of specialist equipment are available for sale. When a person is in financial hardship, OAB can often make an item available on loan.

Total estimated project cost: £21,675.00 excl VAT (VAT not payable)

Balances: £474,747 at 31/03/08

Running Costs: £219,849 for whole of Oxfordshire year ending 31/03/08

Own Contribution: £6,540.00 from fundraising activities

Grant Sought: £5,000

Previous Awards (Vale): 2008/09 £3,000.00 towards mobile resource centre and training courses.

Parish Council Support: OAB applied to all the town and parish councils in the Vale in summer 2008 and was awarded £1,075.00. They will apply to them all again in summer 2009.

Other Support: OAB has applied to the trusts listed below for its work in the whole of Oxfordshire in 2009/10, with the following outcomes:

Awarded:

CHK Trust (£5,000), Sobell Foundation (£10,000), Alchemy Foundation (£250.00), CP Lloyd (£100)

Outcome awaited:

Marshall Grant (£2,000), Opportunities for Volunteering, Central Government (£15,000)

Total awarded and being sought: £32,350.

The proportion of OAB service users in the Vale is 28% (990 people in the Vale, out of 3,470 in Oxfordshire). Therefore, approximately £9,060.00 of this amount is allocated to OAB's work in the Vale.

OAB has been awarded £5,000 by South Oxfordshire District Council and has applied to Cherwell District Council. It has made enquiries to Oxford City Council and West Oxfordshire District Council.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Executive to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Sustainable Community Strategy action(s)	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Budget	£21,714
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

(ii) Applicant: Oxfordshire Chinese Community & Advice Centre (OCCAC), based in Princes Street, Oxford

Years in existence: 18 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity; the bilingual advice service carries the “Quality Mark” awarded by the Legal Services Commission and holds a certificate from the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner to assist clients with immigration advice.

Project, service or event details: OCCAC has a Service Level Agreement grant of £4,675 towards running costs. This provides stability of funding, which helps OCCAC to explore new funding opportunities and attract grants for additional services of benefit to residents throughout the Vale.

OCCAC had committed itself to raising £28,000 from the community in 2009/10 but in view of the current economic climate they have had to revise this figure downwards to £22,000 which they believe is their absolute limit. As a result, OCCAC believes that without additional financial support from local authorities, increased overhead costs will have to be met from efficiency savings in staffing costs and community services, which will lead to service reduction.

This application is for an additional grant towards:

(a) running the Chinese New Year celebration 2010 (**£2,000**)

The annual celebration is the most important celebration in the Chinese calendar and is attended by over 1,100 people. It promotes a multicultural flavour and cross cultural harmony. It is important that the celebration caters for the whole community and remains affordable for all, especially families from low income or vulnerable backgrounds. This event requires a total subsidy of £5,500.

(b) the running costs of the advice centre (**£5,000**)

13% of OCCAC’s clients are from the Vale district; with running costs of £140,000 p.a. 13% amounts to £18,200. The current SLA grant of £4,675 represents 3.3% of running costs.

Support for OCCAC’s bilingual advice service will benefit non-English speaking Chinese residents Vale-wide, helping them to gain equal access to services. As added value, Chinese residents in the Vale will also benefit from other services provided by OCCAC, such as adult computing and English language training; vocational training (basic hygiene, first aid, health & safety etc); weekly day care and luncheon services for elderly Chinese as well as cultural and community activities (e.g. Chinese New Year celebration).

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 950

The Office for National Statistics estimated the Chinese resident population in mid-2005 as follows:

Oxfordshire: 6,600, Cherwell: 600, Oxford: 4,200, South Oxfordshire: 600,

Vale of White Horse: 900, West Oxfordshire: 300

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: The bilingual advice service is provided free of charge to clients. A small charge is applied for the luncheon scheme (range from £2.50 - £3.50 for elderly) and community activities, such as the Chinese New Year festival celebration (£7 adults; £4

children and elderly). However, charges are kept at a minimum, and concessions apply, in order to promote affordable community activities, and to encourage participation from low-income families.

Total estimated project cost: £140,000 excl VAT (VAT not payable)

Balances: £30,750.74 unrestricted funds at 31.03.08

Running costs: £117,826.29 unrestricted funds year ending 31.03.08

Own Contribution: With the increase in premises and related expenses such as utility costs, OCCAC had committed itself to raising £28,000 a year from the community. However due to the current financial climate the maximum expected to be raised in 2008/09 is £22,000.

Grant Sought: £7,000

Previous Awards (Vale):

£4,675 in 2008/09 (SLA) plus £1,000 one-off
£4,675 in 2007/08 (SLA) plus £1,000 one-off
£4,675 in 2006/07 (SLA) plus £1,000 one-off
£5,500 in 2005/06 (SLA) plus £1,500 one-off
£5,500 in 2004/05 (SLA) plus £4,500 one-off
£5,500 in 2003/04

Parish Council Support: OCCAC applied to all town or parish councils in the Vale district for support in 2007/8 and did not receive any positive responses. OCCAC has been advised to write to all parish councils in the Vale for 2009/10.

Other Support: Oxford City Council has confirmed a grant of £44,664 p.a. for a 3-year partnership agreement (2008-2011) plus an additional £5,000 grant for advice work in 2009/10. Oxfordshire County Council has agreed a grant of £24,432 for advice work services throughout the county in 2009-2011. Has applied to Cherwell District Council for £15,000 partnership agreement over 3 years (outcome awaited). South Oxfordshire District Council has advised that it has no money for advice work; West Oxfordshire District Council has no budget and there are very few Chinese residents in the district.

OCCAC has applied to various district councils, charitable trusts and commercial organisations each year and has found it difficult to obtain support.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Executive to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment

Supports Vale Sustainable Community Strategy action(s)	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Budget	£21,714
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions.
Other comments	

(iii) Applicant: Wantage Counselling Service, based in Portway, Wantage

Years in existence: 24 Years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: The applicant is seeking a grant towards running costs of providing counselling for clients living within the Vale. The service provides all the necessary support – administration, office, counselling rooms, professional management, clinical supervision, etc, and out of pocket expenses for a team of some 20 fully-trained volunteer counsellors. The main style of counselling offered – psychodynamic counselling – deals with deep-seated problems which generally require some months of regular, weekly, one-hour sessions to be resolved. Local GPs and the Oxfordshire PCT value the Wantage Counselling Service as an additional service for patients in need of longer-term counselling than is currently available through the NHS.

Over the past eleven years over a thousand individuals and couples (about 600 from the Vale) have been seen. No person needing counselling is turned away for financial reasons. Due to the correlation with poor achievement in employment, a disproportionate number of clients pay less than the full fee. This application is for half of the resulting deficit attributable to low-income clients residing in the Vale. The remaining half will be found from trusts, fund-raising and individual gifts. Funding is sought annually from West Berkshire on a similar basis, namely according to the number of their residents using the service.

Area of the Vale covered: The service is provided for clients living within about 20 miles of Wantage, predominantly from the Vale (66% of clients) and West Berkshire (25% of clients).

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 72

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Clients with below average resources are allowed to pay less than the £33 cost per one-hour session on an agreed sliding scale based on net household income.

Total estimated project cost: £3,600.00 excl VAT for clients in the Vale (VAT is reclaimable); £57,700 for whole service.

Balances: Accounts being presented to AGM in March 2009. Information on balances to be advised after that.

Running costs: £3,600 for the number of clients in the Vale; £57,700 for running the whole service.

Own Contribution: Fundraising events and appeals raised nearly £1,000 in 2008.

Grant Sought: £1,800.00

Previous Awards (Vale) 2003/04 - £3,000, 2004/05 - £2,500, 2005/06 – £1,500, 2006/07 - £1,000, 2008/09- £1,500.00

Parish Council Support: Receive a regular grant from Wantage Town Council (£575.00 in 2008/09) Advised to apply to all Vale Parish/Town Councils in the Vale.

Parish Precept: Vale-wide

Other Support: Applying to SODC for £570 and to West Berkshire for £1,200 approx (dependent on number of residents using the service). They have also appealed to and received donations from a number of local charities, churches etc (£2,500 in 2007/08).

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Executive to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Sustainable Community Strategy action(s)	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Budget	£21,714
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

(iv) Applicant: Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers (RCV), based in Kenilworth, Warwickshire

Years in existence: RCV as an organisation – 1986. RCV in the Vale of White Horse - 1989

Type of organisation: Registered charity and company limited by guarantee.

Project, service or event details: RCV is seeking a grant towards the 2009/10 costs of providing opportunities for disabled Vale residents to take up leisure and learning interests of their own choice and which they would otherwise be unable to pursue.

RCV works with people with long-term physical disabilities caused by an illness such as MS, stroke or Parkinson's Disease or by a traumatic accident. It seeks to improve their well-being and overcome the depression and social exclusion which often accompany these conditions and cause further health problems.

RCV's aims are to improve quality of life, to reduce social isolation and to encourage integration into mainstream society. Local volunteers are recruited to help users on a one-to-one basis either at home or by taking them out. A number of users are helped to access existing facilities/clubs independently if they prefer. RCV does its utmost to make each person's choice achievable and to help them overcome the obstacles that stand in the way.

The learning process and subsequent achievement promotes a growth in confidence and self-esteem, which in turn can lead to a more positive outlook and to users becoming more active members of their local community.

The project was set up in response to requests from disabled people, their carers, social services and disability groups. It consistently runs at capacity and occasionally has a waiting list.

The project will be transferred to an independent but affiliated branch of RCV in 2009. The branch will be locally managed which is thought to be advantageous for fundraising.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 57

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Users are not charged for RCV's service but pay for the costs/fee of their individual activity.

Total estimated project cost: £21,475 excl VAT (VAT not payable)

Balances: £129,385 unrestricted funds at 31.03.08

Running Costs: £283,416 unrestricted funds at 31.03.09.

Own Contribution: Local fundraising events will be organised with the aim of raising funds of £1,000 at least.

Grant Sought: £2,000

Previous Awards (Vale): £1,000 awarded in 2008/09

Parish Council Support: In the Spring of 2008 applications were sent to every parish and town council in the district. Eight Parish Councils donated a total of £695 and Abingdon Town Council donated £150. Applications will be made again this year.

Other Support: Although it is not a statutory requirement, Oxfordshire Social Services make an annual contribution to RCV's work in the county via a service contract. The proportion for the Vale will be £8,554 in 2009/10.

A number of grant-making trusts give to RCV on a regular basis. Applications are made every Spring and it is estimated that the combined amount for 2009/10 will be £5,500.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Executive to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Sustainable Community Strategy action(s)	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Budget	£21,714
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

(v) Applicant: Oxfordshire Rural Education Initiative (OREI), based at Millets Farm, Garford

Years in existence: 10 years

Type of organisation: Association, funds currently held by Northmoor Trust.

Project, service or event details: OREI is seeking a grant towards its ongoing work "Oxfordshire Kids on Farms", in particular towards the employment of an education link officer and the provision of support material. This officer assists in delivering a wide range of educational programmes for school children covering such issues as food production, countryside management and the environment, together with other skills set out in the national curriculum.

The project is managed by a voluntary steering group and it aims to ensure a substantial number of children have the opportunity to visit farms in the county during 2009.

The project links schools with farmers and food suppliers so that children gain an understanding of how their food is produced and subsequently are able to make informed choices in the journey their food takes from farm to plate. In providing this information OREI's aim is to promote an environmentally sustainable future for the countryside.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 400

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: OREI charges £2.75 per child for a half-day visit.

Total estimated project cost: £10,750.00 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: £2,555.00 deficit at 31.03.08

Running Costs: £7,975.00 year ending 31.03.08

Own Contribution: Fees and charges £ 3,000.00

Grant Sought: **£2,000.00**

Previous Awards (Vale): 2008/09 £1,000.00; 2006/07 £1,000.00

Parish Council Support: Has contacted all town and parish councils in the Vale and has been awarded £50 by Blewbury Parish Council.

Other Support: Awarded £2,000 by Cherwell DC and West Oxfordshire District Council, £2,000 by Oxford Agricultural Trust, £500 by Drayton Farming, £1,000 by Central Farming Trust.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Executive to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Sustainable Community Strategy action(s)	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Budget	£21,714
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	OREI has no formal constitution,

	instead it has a "Vision Statement" which sets out its aims and objectives.
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(vi) Applicant: Vitalise, registered office in Kendal, Cumbria

Years in existence: 46 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity and company limited by guarantee

Project, service or event details: Vitalise is seeking a grant towards the cost of subsidising care breaks for disabled residents from the Vale and the weeks given by volunteers. The breaks are subsidised to ensure that they are accessible to those who really need them.

Vitalise provides high quality breaks for disabled people in five fully accessible centres throughout the country supported by fully-trained nursing and core staff. The breaks are based on individual need and ensure that carers have a rest from their vital care role. Disabled people benefit from the stimulation of a change of environment, increased access to the arts, sport and outdoor activities and social interaction. Carers benefit from a break from their vital care role.

To help guests and make their holiday experience more enjoyable Vitalise recruits volunteers. This experience gives volunteers the opportunity to enhance their future employment prospects by developing new skills or exploring career options.

The work of Vitalise is widely recognised by health professionals and local authorities as being vital to the success of care in the community, yet they receive no funding from central government.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Health & Wellbeing; Recreation, Culture & Leisure

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 21. Last year 7 residents of the Vale enjoyed 12 weeks of planned breaks and another 14 residents gave 30 weeks of volunteering.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Each guest pays a fee but Vitalise subsidises this with an average of £368 per guest per week; volunteer's expenses are covered at a cost of £215 per week.

Total estimated project cost: £10,866 incl VAT (based on demand last year). VAT is not reclaimable.

Balances: £10,509,000 unrestricted funds at 31.01.08. As Vitalise is a national charity, consolidated accounts only are produced.

Running costs: £9,634,000 unrestricted funds year ending at 31.01.08
Own Contribution: Balance of the subsidy to cover any fundraising

shortfall

Grant Sought: £2,716.50 (25% of the cost of the subsidies)

Previous Awards (Vale): £500 in 2008/09; £400 in 2006/07; £460 in 2005/06

Parish Council Support: None but applicant has been advised to contact all town and parish councils in the Vale.

Other Support: Vitalise operates an ongoing fundraising programme approaching individual trusts, local authorities, companies and individuals; they also operate a local and national events programme; occasionally they benefit from legacies.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Executive to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Sustainable Community Strategy action(s)	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Budget	£21,714
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	