

APPENDIX A

APPLICANT - KIDS ENJOY EXERCISE NOW (KEEN)

Based in South Oxford Community Centre, Oxford

Years in existence

21

Type of organisation

A registered charity since 1988

Project, service or event details

KEEN is a student-run organisation, which is seeking a grant towards the running costs of providing sporting and recreational activities for children and young people with special needs. These include a Saturday sports club, a drama, music and craft workshop, and social clubs for 11-17 year olds and over 18s. They also offer special events and holiday activities.

Volunteers, who are students from the University of Oxford, Oxford Brookes University and local young people, provide one-to-one support for the children and young people who attend the activities. The type of activity offered is in response to members' suggestions.

KEEN aims to provide a safe and challenging environment for the young people. Users are encouraged to support themselves. Keen allows young people with special needs to develop through sport, recreation and play. Sessions focus on promoting good health, social skills and independence. Feedback from associated professionals, namely teachers, social workers, Out of School Liaison Officers and parents, shows that KEEN provides activities that they cannot find elsewhere and are very much appreciated.

There is a huge amount of local support for KEEN, even from people who are not connected with it, as evidenced by the funds raised by groups such as HM Prison Grendon B wing who have donated their family day raffle takings over the last two years.

There are four projects running in the Vale which have some similarity with particular aspects of KEEN's work, although in each case the range of activities offered and the age range and geographical area covered are far more limited.

Supports the following Vale community strategy priorities:

Healthier communities	X
Improving quality of life for older people	
Safer communities	
Fostering a greater sense of community	
A good understanding of town and parish priorities	
Involving young people	X
Helping those without cars to access jobs and services	
Affordable homes	
Good quality homes	
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	X
Addressing economic weaknesses	
Building on our economic strengths	
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	
A low carbon Vale	
Living with extreme weather conditions	
Using resources wisely	
Reducing waste and increasing recycling	
A high quality natural and historic environment	

Area of the Vale covered

Although KEEN runs the activities in Oxford, they are open to all Vale residents, and about 15 per cent of the 145 regular members/users come from within the Vale. The majority of users come from Abingdon, although several are from smaller villages such as Rowstock, and from Faringdon and Wantage.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit in the Vale

Twenty seven male and six female, mainly within the 6-20 age bracket.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?

KEEN's activities are free to members and volunteers except for the over 18s social club, where members are asked for a £3 contribution per session or £10 for daytrips.

Total estimated project cost

£62,240 including VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances

£73,905 at 31 August 2008. KEEN holds sufficient reserves to cover the coordinator's salary and running costs for the current year and one future year. They use reserves to fund KEEN's activities when there is a funding shortfall, as is the position this year.

Running costs

£59,050, year ending 31 August 2008.

Own contribution

£50,999 of fund raising achieved this year. This includes funding from charitable trusts, the University of Oxford colleges, local businesses, donations from individuals and from events run by the University of Oxford.

Volunteers run all sessions. Two hundred and eighty students and young people volunteered with KEEN over the last year.

Grant requested

£3,000

Previous awards (Vale)

None

Parish council support

KEEN are writing to all parish councils in the Vale to ask for support.

Other support

There is an ongoing grant from Oxford City Council and South Oxfordshire District Council until at least 2009/2010, amounting to £7,025 per annum. KEEN is investigating the possibility of similar support from West Oxfordshire District Council and Cherwell District Council and are applying to parish councils throughout the Vale.

Children in Need has funded the cost of the coordinator's salary for the last three years. KEEN is seeking a continuation of this funding.

New College, University of Oxford provides its sports ground and facilities free of charge for Saturday afternoon sport sessions.

Officer recommendation

Recommend support?	Yes
Amount recommended	To be determined by Executive
Reasons:	
Meets community grant criteria?	Yes
Supports corporate priorities?	Value for money services (EB1)
Supports community strategy?	Healthier communities; involving young people
Remaining budget	£11,464
Remaining committee meetings	None
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	None

APPLICANT - OXFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY ACTION (OCVA)

Based in Oxford

Years in existence

76

Type of organisation

Registered charity

Project, service or event details

OCVA is seeking a grant towards running costs for its Volunteer Centre, which currently offers 159 volunteering opportunities in the Vale and provides best practice advice to local organisations.

OCVA is planning to expand its work in the Vale through two Vale-specific events in 2009/10. One of these is a big information event in Abingdon to support local voluntary organisations across the Vale and help them to recruit volunteers. OCVA will also provide ongoing support to the organisations after the event. The second event being planned is a business and voluntary sector networking event to enable the further development of Responsible Oxfordshire Business Involvement Network (ROBIN) in the Vale, the specific location is still to be determined. This aims to bring together local businesses and voluntary organisations for mutual benefit, especially through encouraging employee volunteering.

The Volunteer Centre believes that the rise in unemployment presents a good opportunity to encourage local people to get involved in volunteering. It

enables them to build up skills and confidence while seeking work as well providing the opportunity for them to give back to their community.

Supporting volunteering contributes to the priorities of the Vale Sustainable Community Strategy and is part of the Local Area Agreement at a county level. OCVA continues to support the Volunteer Information Points in Abingdon, Wantage and Faringdon by training staff in guiding individuals as well as providing publicity leaflets as required.

However, OCVA member organisations in the Vale report that they have problems recruiting and retaining volunteers, whilst members of the public report their frustration at having no obvious place to go in the Vale to offer their services and discuss what will suit them. The two proposed events and the ongoing support, which OCVA will provide to businesses, voluntary organisations and volunteers, will go some way to addressing these problems and frustrations.

Supports the following Vale community strategy priorities

Healthier communities	X
Improving quality of life for older people	X
Safer communities	X
Fostering a greater sense of community	X
A good understanding of town and parish priorities	
Involving young people	X
Helping those without cars to access jobs and services	
Affordable homes	
Good quality homes	
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	
Addressing economic weaknesses	
Building on our economic strengths	X
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	X
A low carbon Vale	
Living with extreme weather conditions	
Using resources wisely	
Reducing waste and increasing recycling	
A high quality natural and historic environment	

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

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

Potentially the whole population of the Vale could benefit from either volunteering or being supported by a volunteer. The OCVA directory lists 228 voluntary groups working in the Vale. OCVA supports all these groups with recruitment and retention of volunteers, which benefits thousands of users of

their services. Last financial year 105 people from the Vale applied for volunteering roles across the county.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?

OCVA expect volunteer-involving organisations wishing to advertise opportunities to be members of OCVA, which costs £25/£75 a year, depending on the income of the organisation (and is free for groups with an income of less than £5,000). They will also charge organisations a £10 one off fee to register with the Volunteer Centre.

Total estimated project cost

£53,510 (excl VAT); £53,859 (including VAT) – annual running costs of the Volunteer Centre operating countywide. The VAT element is minimal because the major proportion of the cost is not subject to VAT. VAT can be reclaimed.

Balances

£381,344 – Total OCVA as at 31 March 2008

Running costs of the volunteer centre

£53,510 per annum

Own Contribution

Share of general OCVA funding – see below

Grant requested

£2,500

Previous awards (Vale)

- 2007-2008 - £2,500
- 2006-2007 - £2,500
- 2005-2006 - £2,500

Parish council support

OCVA has sent letters to the parish councils to request funding but has not received any responses to date.

Other support:

- £49,230 – Oxfordshire County Council (this is a portion of a larger OCVA contract with Oxfordshire County Council, which is allocated for the Volunteer Centre)
- £1,530 – South Oxfordshire District Council

Officer recommendation

Recommend support?	Yes
Amount recommended	to be determined by Executive
Reasons:	
Meets community grant criteria?	Yes
Supports corporate priorities?	Value for money services (EB1)
Supports community strategy?	Fostering a greater sense of community
Remaining budget	£11,464
Remaining committee meetings	None
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	None

APPLICANT – THE MS THERAPY CENTRE (OXFORD) LIMITED

Based at Milton Park, Abingdon.

Years in existence

25

Type of organisation

Registered charity

Project, service or event details

The MS Therapy Centre is principally a self-help group for people suffering with multiple sclerosis for which there is no cure. The Centre provides friendship, understanding and a positive outlook on life as well as a range of therapies.

The Centre is seeking a grant towards its running costs to provide support services to MS sufferers. In particular, it is seeking to purchase a laptop, projector, pull-up screen and software to deliver powerpoint presentations to various groups, as well as to produce a leaflet/donation form to hand out to those who express an interest in supporting the Centre. This will enable the Centre to promote its services to potential users as well as potential

supporters or those providing funding. In addition, the Centre is keen to replace its fridge, which is 25 years old.

The Centre is funded solely by voluntary contributions and through fundraising events. Donations to the Centre are decreasing as the credit crunch tightens so it is more important than ever for the Centre to raise its profile to attract new donors.

The MS Therapy Centre marks its 25th anniversary in 2009. It has been saving for years to make this a special year. They raised £18,000, earmarked to spend on fixtures and fittings to make the use of the hyperbaric oxygen more accessible and more comfortable for MS sufferers.

Supports the following Vale community strategy priorities:

Healthier communities	X
Improving quality of life for older people	X
Safer communities	
Fostering a greater sense of community	
A good understanding of town and parish priorities	
Involving young people	
Helping those without cars to access jobs and services	
Affordable homes	
Good quality homes	
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	
Addressing economic weaknesses	
Building on our economic strengths	
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	
A low carbon Vale	
Living with extreme weather conditions	
Using resources wisely	
Reducing waste and increasing recycling	
A high quality natural and historic environment	

Area of the Vale covered

Vale-wide.

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

Twenty two MS sufferers from the Vale currently use the centre. However, there are up to 1,000 people in the area who have MS and could benefit from the Centre's services.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?

There are suggested donations for the services available from the Centre including for physiotherapy, podiatry and massage. There is also an annual membership fee of £15. The suggested donations are subsidised for people on low income or benefits. The Centre estimates that five per cent of its users are on income support, and 80 per cent are in receipt of incapacity or disability benefit.

Total estimated project cost

£35,917 incl VAT; £35,723 excl VAT overall running costs, of which £1,471 incl VAT; £1,277 excl VAT is for new equipment and printing (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances

£50,258 as at 31 December 2008 including £18,000 earmarked for expenditure outlined above.

Running costs

£34,789 for the year ending 31 December 2008

Own contribution

The Centre has identified all its own funds for other projects as described above.

Grant requested

£1,471

Previous awards (Vale)

£500 towards an electronic door opener in 2005/6.

Parish council support

The Centre has written to parish councils and is awaiting responses.

Other support

- applied to the MS Society – awaiting outcome
- grant of £2,632 from Gannett Foundation for a new door in June 2009
- £250 from Co-op towards food for a quiz night on 3 October 2009
- Hilary Burr from OCVA visited on 27 August 2009 to provide advice on other funding

- one-off fund raising events such as marathons, Snowdon challenge, Rotary Club sponsored walk etc. £2,501 has been raised between January and June 2009, with a further £2,313 received from donations during the period
- no existing/ongoing county, district or parish council funding is currently received
- ongoing Gift Aid

Officer recommendation

Recommend support?	Yes
Amount recommended	Executive to determine
Reasons:	
Meets community grants criteria?	Yes
Supports corporate priorities?	Value for money (EB1)
Supports Community Strategy?	Healthier communities, improving quality of life for older people
Remaining budget	£11,464
Remaining committee meetings	None
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	None

(IV) APPLICANT

MY LIFE MY CHOICE

Based in Oxford

Years in existence:

12

Type of organisation:

Registered charity

Project, service or event details

My Life My Choice is the only independent self-advocacy organisation run by and for people with learning difficulties in Oxfordshire. It is seeking a grant towards the costs of running self-advocacy groups in Abingdon and Wantage, as well as the Women's Group and Men's Group that are also based in Abingdon. The organisation covers the cost of transport for members so

everyone in the Vale can access the meetings and events held by these groups.

These groups help support the social inclusion of people with learning difficulties into the community. In the groups people talk about their rights, including access to services, health, housing, leisure, transport, leaning and social care. It gives the members a means to support each other in making decisions, and empowers members to make decisions for themselves. Without the groups, members feel their risk of isolation and exclusion would increase.

Local and national statistics show that people with learning difficulties have low social and economic status. The support offered by My Life My Choice helps to address this issue and helps people with learning difficulties to lead healthy and more independent lives.

My Life My Choice is seeking a grant that is equivalent to 5 per cent of the costs of running the four groups in the Vale.

Supports the following Vale community strategy priorities:

Healthier communities	X
Improving quality of life for older people	X
Safer communities	
Fostering a greater sense of community	X
A good understanding of town and parish priorities	
Involving young people	
Helping those without cars to access jobs and services	
Affordable homes	
Good quality homes	
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	
Addressing economic weaknesses	
Building on our economic strengths	
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	
A low carbon Vale	
Living with extreme weather conditions	
Using resources wisely	
Reducing waste and increasing recycling	
A high quality natural and historic environment	

Area of the Vale covered

Vale-wide

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

Thirty two males and 33 females, across a broad age range of 16-60+

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?

None

Total estimated project cost

£10,663.32 including VAT; £10,096.79 excluding VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances

£47,181 for the entire My Life My Choice Association as at 31 March 2008

Running costs

£193,844 for the entire My Life My Choice Association year ending 31 March 2008 of which £127,166 is restricted funding

Own contribution

Fundraising to cover the remaining 95 per cent of costs of running Vale groups

Grant requested

£2,783

Previous awards (Vale)

£1,000 for the last four financial years

Parish council support

My Life My Choice are applying to Abingdon and Wantage Town Councils for £300 each

Other support

My Life My Choice receives funding from Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire PCT, Charitable Funds and the Leaning Disabilities Development Fund. The organisation also receives support in kind from the Said Business School (for meetings) and from the Oxfordshire Partnership Board (for travel).

Officer recommendation

Recommend support?	Yes
Amount recommended	To be determined by Executive
Reasons:	
Meets community grant criteria?	Yes
Supports corporate priorities?	Value for money services (EB1)
Supports community strategy?	Healthier communities, fostering a greater sense of community
Remaining budget	£11,464
Remaining committee meetings	None
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	None