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**Report to Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum**

**Wednesday 2 July 2014**

**Report of Lead Officer – Supplementary Paper**

**Area Grants**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To update the Forum on the current position in relation to the Community Forum Funding Budget.

**Background**

2. The 10 Community Forums are responsible for allocating expenditure from the Community Forum Funding Budget. The guidelines against which allocations from the delegated budget should be considered are set out in Appendix 1. These are corporate guidelines only and it is ultimately for each Community Forum to decide on individual applications.

**In Principle Decisions from March 2014**

3. At the last meeting of Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum there were two decisions that required further consideration at the first meeting of the new Municipal Year. The decisions were as follows:
  - Approve a contribution, in principle, of £1,000 to the COCOA – Welcome to Dudley Project, subject to a contribution being considered by the Halesowen North/Halesowen South Community Forum, and that the application be considered further at the next meeting of the Forum.

Halesowen N/Halesowen S Community Forum determined to refer COCOA to Dudley Council for Voluntary Service (DCVS) to explore other potential sources of funding.

- Approve, in principle, the commitment of the remaining funds available to the Community Forum for the 2013/14 financial year (£3,414.04) to the Hasbury Community Association subject to the completion of the necessary lease agreement and that a recommendation on the allocation of the balance of the total funding requested by the Community Association be determined at the next meeting of the Forum.

**4. Life Centre Debt Advice**

An application from Life Centre Debt Advice, High Street, Stourbridge has been made to all 10 Community Forums. The application is for £1,230 (£1,010 salary

contribution, £220 stationary, leaflets and advertising) to assist with the appointment of a Debt Advice Manager's post. Members will be minded that there are other organisations that provide debt advice in the Borough.

There has been no previous application from this group for support in the past three years.

An electronic version of this application was circulated to Elected Members earlier this week.

### **Finance**

5. Taking account of previous commitments from this Community Forum and the funding allocation made for Municipal Year 2014/15, the current balance of funding available to the Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum is £24,414.04. Details were forward to Members prior to the meeting.

### **Law**

6. The Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a power of general competence to act in the interests of the community.
7. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive to or incidental to the discharge of its statutory functions.

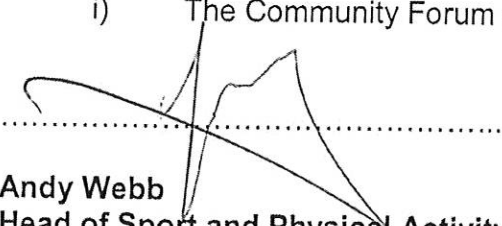
### **Equality Impact**

8. This report complies with the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy.

### **Recommendation**

9. That:-

- i) The Community Forum considers the contents of this report.



**Andy Webb**  
**Head of Sport and Physical Activity**  
**and Lead Officer to the Community Forum.**

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### **List of Background Papers**

- The application forms on which this report is based were sent to Members in advance of the March 2014 meeting.