

**Report to Halesowen North and Halesowen South Community Forum 6th November 2013**

**Report of Lead Officer**

**Area Grants**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider applications for grant assistance from 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. A copy of the applications referred to in this report have been sent to Members prior to the meeting.

**Application**

3. There are four new applications to be considered:
  - Fast+Aid (volunteers supporting the West Midlands Ambulance Service) - an application for £10,000 in total (£1,000 from each forum), for a vehicle to assist with 999 emergency calls.
  - Halesowen In Bloom – an application for £4,149.60. This application is also being taken to the Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South community forum.
  - Christmas tree in Long Lane – an application for £1,000.90. This application has been submitted by Dudley Council's Environmental Management Division.
  - Unit3sixty C.I.C – an application for £50,000 in total (£5,000 from each forum), to create a local community enterprise/facility for young people which will provide a safe, stimulating environment to socialise, make friends and to get and stay fit and healthy. This will involve liaising with Borough schools and Colleges and Partnership agencies to offer a wide range of activities however loosely associated with the main activity of the park (details to follow shortly). Please note that any award would be subject to planning permission.

4. With regard to the information requested at the last forum in respect of the request from Leaps and Bounds, this will be reported on at the meeting.

### **Finance**

5. Taking account of previous commitments, the current balance of funding available to the Halesowen North and Halesowen South Community Forum is £12,900.00.

### **Law**

6. The Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a power of general competence to act in the interests of the community.

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**

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

### **Recommendation**

8. That the Community Forum consider the applications referred to in this report and make a recommendation to the Director of Corporate Resources.



**Sean Beckett**  
**Customer Services Manager, Dudley Council Plus**  
**Customer Services Division, Directorate of Corporate Resources**  
**and Lead Officer to the Community Forum.**

Contact Officer: Sean Beckett  
Telephone: 01384 815281  
Email: [sean.beckett@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:sean.beckett@dudley.gov.uk)

### **List of Background Papers**

- The application forms on which this report is based have been sent to Members prior to the meeting but contains exempt information under the terms of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
- Appendix 1 Corporate Guidelines for Considering Funding Applications.