



## Constituency Committee - Wallasey

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 22 January 2015
<b>Time:</b>	6.00 pm
<b>Venue:</b>	St Mary's Catholic College, Wallasey Village, Wallasey

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## SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

5. YOUR WIRRAL (WALLASEY) - BID YW2: STRIDING OUT CIC  
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## WIRRAL COUNCIL

### WALLASEY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

22 JANUARY 2015

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>YOUR WIRRAL (WALLASEY): BID YW2 STRIDING OUT CIC</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b>LEASOWE &amp; MORETON EAST; LISCARD; MORETON WEST &amp; SAUGHALL MASSIE; NEW BRIGHTON; SEACOMBE AND WALLASEY.</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>CONSTITUENCY MANAGER</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR GEORGE DAVIES NEIGHBOURHOODS, HOUSING &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b>
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>NO</b>

#### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report seeks a decision by Wallasey Constituency Committee as to bid YW2 to Your Wirral (Wallasey) by Striding Out CIC for a Digital & IT Skills for Employability Project.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 At Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group on 1 October 2014 a decision was made to award Your Wirral (Wallasey) grants amounting to a total of £61,733.42 to social sector groups (minute 20 of the Working Group refers). A decision in relation to bid number YW2 (Digital & IT Skills for Employability) for £2,485 was deferred for further information, namely whether there was a gap in provision that this project would fill.

2.2 The Your Wirral (Wallasey) Fund was overspent by £11,733.42 and at Wallasey Constituency Committee on 23 October 2014, the Constituency Manager identified alternative funding to allocate to this overspend (minute 20 of the Committee refers). The Constituency Manager also provided additional information in relation to bid YW2 by Striding Out CIC, proposed to be delivered from Vale House Community Centre, New Brighton. The Constituency Manager reported that the Council's Lifelong Learning Team had recently commissioned Striding Out CIC to deliver a project to 160 learners also from Vale House Community Centre. The Team was satisfied that this would provide adequate coverage from this geographical location. The Committee requested further information regarding the bid, in particular where there were any overlaps/duplication with the project currently funded, and asked that the applicant attend the next Committee meeting to answer any further questions

that the Committee may have. The details of bid YW2 are set out in Appendix 1.

2.3 Appendix 2 sets out an extract from Striding Out CIC's bid document to the Council's Lifelong Learning Team which outlines the contents of the courses currently funded. Striding Out CIC has been commissioned to provide courses (as outlined in Appendix 2) for 160 learners before July 2015. In December 2014 the contract was reviewed and at that time only 5 learners had been recruited. The Team is satisfied that Striding Out CIC has advertised the courses well but that there does not appear to be sufficient demand in the area.

2.4 The Committee is requested to make a decision as to whether this bid YW2 submitted to Your Wirral is funded.

### 3.0 Budget 2014/15

3.1 At Wallasey Constituency Committee on 23 October 2014, decisions were made as to its uncommitted budget of £46,306.73, which included £5,950 set aside for its Problem Solving Fund (minute 20 of the Committee refers). £24,780 was committed to various projects to tackle the Constituency's priorities. In addition, a maximum of £20,000 was set aside for the erection of Christmas lights in key locations across the Constituency allowing for any contingencies. This left £1,526.73 allocated to the Problem Solving Fund.

3.2 A total of £16,237.96 was spent on Christmas lighting. The remaining £3,762.04 has therefore been returned to the Problem Solving Fund, leaving a total of £5,288.77 unspent by the Committee and set aside in its Problem Solving Fund.

3.3 If the Committee wishes to fund YW2 it will do so from this Problem Solving Fund.

3.4 A full update on the 2014/15 budget spend will be provided to the Constituency Committee at its meeting on 16 April 2015. This will include an evaluation of projects in receipt of Wallasey Bright Ideas Fund (Year 1). The funding available to the Committee for 2015/16 is not yet known.

### 4.0 **RELEVANT RISKS**

4.1 Failure to agree the distribution of funding may result in a loss of funding allocation.

### 5.0 **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 Learning has been taken from the approach to this spend in 2013/14.

### 6.0 **CONSULTATION**

6.1 Elected members and community representatives have the opportunity to participate in all Constituency Committees and Working Group meetings.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS**

7.1 Both Wallasey Bright Ideas Fund and Your Wirral funding has been allocated to a number of voluntary, community and faith groups and 'not-for-profit' organisations.

7.2 The neighbourhood working model will strengthen the Council's relationship with the voluntary, community and faith sector.

7.3 Tackling the priorities of the Constituency will benefit communities directly.

## **8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS**

8.1 This report has implications for the expenditure of budget allocated to Wallasey Constituency Committee.

8.2 Funding may assist in greater use of and/or access to community assets.

## **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The arrangements will help the Council to deliver on the Localism Act 2011 and Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

9.2 Advice has been taken from Internal Audit regarding the operation of the small grants programmes.

## **10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes and impact review can be found at the link below (Progressing Neighbourhood Working).

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/chief-executives>

## **11.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The funding creates opportunities to encourage the sharing of community assets, therefore supporting carbon reduction.

## **12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 A number of the priorities and areas of focus set by the Committee will likely have a positive impact upon community safety.

## **13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

13.1 The Committee decides whether it wishes to fund Bid YW2: Striding Out CIC.

13.2 The Committee notes that an update on the budget will be reported to the next Constituency Committee meeting on 16 April 2015.

#### 14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 To enable the work of the Constituency Committee to be focused upon the needs of the local area and spend to be distributed accordingly.

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#### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet – Neighbourhood Working	24 January 2013
Council – Neighbourhood Working	11 February 2013
Cabinet – Neighbourhood Working – Proposed Operating Model	23 May 2013
Cabinet – Public Health Outcomes Funding	10 October 2013
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	11 December 2013
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	19 February 2014
Cabinet – Local Transport Capital Funding & The Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Programme 2014/15	13 May 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	26 June 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Wallasey Bright Ideas Fund	17 September 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Integrated Transport Block Capital Programme Fund	1 October 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Your Wirral	1 October 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	23 October 2014

Appendix 1 - Your Wirral (Wallasey) - Bid YW2 - Striding Out CIC

Ref:	Organisation Status Main Contact	Project name	What is the funding for	Is project needed	Amount Requested	Breakdown of costs	Overall cost of project	Any secured funding for this project	No of people to benefit	Measuring success of project	Purpose of the Organisation	Evaluation
YW2	Striding Out CIC Social Enterprise_CIC Faine Owen	Digital & IT Skills for Employability	The funding we are applying for meets the outcomes of the following pillars 4. Providing employment and training for local people; 6. Improving community facilities; 7. Engaging communities to improve quality of life. The funding would be used to help to provide training for local people of all ages who are currently unemployed or in low paid/seasonal jobs to provide them with IT and digital skills to make them more employable and able to apply for jobs and or promotions to a wider range of employers. We will provide access to internet enabled computers and the relevant software in order to help learners develop their digital skills to; a) create a professional sounding email addresses (from which to apply for jobs) b) Produce a professional looking & sounding CV c) Produce a short video CV of interesting information about themselves d) Upload their video to Youtube e) Email CV and You Tube link to prospective employers. The funding will help with the cost of communications, recruitment, training room hire, refreshments, training resources and a contribution towards tra	According to the National Statistics Currently there 3.4% of the Population in Wirral are unemployed, however the figures do not reflect those in low income situations such as those that work part time and are in zero hour seasonal contracts. Wirral is currently the 10th worst nationally for economic deprivation which in turn makes the employment increasingly competitive. We wish to offer the best opportunity possible for unemployed people and people on low income benefits to gain employment and/ or higher paid employment. Our training will take place at Vale House Community Centre in New Brighton, close to the wards of Seacombe & Wallasey and less than a mile from the newly developed leisure sea front where there are many seasonal tourist/leisure seasonal jobs and many individuals are hired on a zero hour or low paid basis. We believe based upon recent findings from local research and feedback from the Wirral Employers Steering Group that an up to date electronic CV, a professional email and updated IT skills will assist all learners to find employment	£2,485.00	Supply 30 learners with digital skills for employability at Vale House Community Centre: Hire of Suite (Quantity 10) £1200, Refreshments (Quantity 30) £90, Transport (Quantity 30) £111, Marketing/Comm/R ecruit Costs £300, Training Resources £234, Admin & Office Exps £200, Projector Hire (Quantity 10) £350	£2,485.00	No	30	We will expect attendance retention rates to be above 90%, All learners will have received a minimum of 6 hours of tuition, All learners will have access to a PC with internet & printer access, All learners will have created a professional (job search) relevant email address and know how to use it, All learners will have an up to date CV, 50% of learners will have created an up to date video CV, After training we will evaluate how each delegate would rate the training received and what they will do differently as a result of receiving it and what they would like to do next. We will provide relevant sign posting to further education and other training opportunities.	We work with individuals of all ages and backgrounds to help them stride out to success, and we have a special mission as an organisation to give young people access to coaching tools and techniques to empower them to achieve their potential.	7

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**Extract from bid by Striding Out CIC to the Council's Lifelong Learning Team**

Striding Out CIC would deliver 10 cohorts of learners divided into 5 cohorts across 2 customised courses, each course made up of 20 guided learning hours.

Course 1 - Figuring Out

Course 2 - Your Next Step

We would seek to recruit 20 learners per course, giving the maximum total of 400 learners.

Repeat learners could equal 200 if every learner on course 1 returned for course 2.

We would plan to run;

5 x Course 1 - Figuring Out

5 x Course 2 - Your Next Step

The venue will be based within Vale House community centre, New Brighton, which is open 7 days a week and frequented by thousands of local community residents and visitors throughout the year so the recruitment, outreach and engagement of the new learners will be made easier.

The benefits of the Figuring Out course for the Learners include -

Increase their confidence

Clarify their life and career goals

Enhance their interpersonal and interview skills

Design an Action plan for their future success

Learn how to access supportive materials, contacts and resources

Experience the positive feedback of peers, tutors (and eventually employers)

Encourage a personal engagement with Lifelong Learning.

The benefits of the Your Next Step course are that the Learners will -

Be prepared and ready for Employment

Develop new interpersonal skills

Clarify life and career goals

Enhance their CV

Improve their communication skills

Develop greater self-confidence

Learners will achieve a greater sense of connectedness with those around them as they discover more fully the untapped resources they already have, together with the new skills offered by each course. Self-esteem is built, and encouraged together with confidence helps to lessen the cohort's sense of disadvantage, marginalization or

isolation. The courses aim to help the vulnerable and the disabled to feel more empowered. Adults with low level skills will be helped to discover that learning can be fun – and lifelong.

The impact on the lives of Learners attending these courses is usually measurable and obvious. They rightly feel understood, valued, included and supported and they are better able to participate in their communities and find meaningful work.

Part of our philosophy is that we don't teach subjects, we teach Learners, and the focus that we give to their needs has obvious positive implications for the whole person which impacts their ability to function well in their relationships, their families, their workplaces, their social networks, etc.