

AREA YOUTH FORUM AWARDS – RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING 2008/09

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is:

- to inform Cabinet of the proposals received from youth projects for funding from the Area Youth Forums
- to inform Cabinet of the recommendations made by young people from the four Area Youth Forums in September/November 2007 regarding allocations to projects benefiting young people in their areas
- to request Cabinet agrees the transfer of the £10,000 budget from Corporate Services to Children and Young People's Department (CYPD) and that, in future, ratification for the awards be via the four CYPD District Boards.

Cabinet is asked to consider the recommendations of the four Area Youth Forums, agree to fund applications at the levels identified within the appendix of this report. The budget of £2,500 per Area Youth Forum is within the Corporate Services Budget, but all support for the Youth Forums is provided by the CYPD.

1. Background – Area Youth Forum Allocation

1.1 Four Area Youth Forums, co-terminus with the adult Area Forums, were established in 2002. In the financial years 2003/04, 2004/05 and 2005/06, and, as part of the drive to increase participation by young people, each of the four Area Youth Forums received £500 from the Youth Service's Transforming Youth Work allocation. Transforming Youth Work was a government grant allocated to each local authority youth service between 2002 and 2006.

1.2 At the Cabinet meeting on 20th February 2006 the following policy option was agreed in Minute 504:

(K) YOUTH FORUMS

(i) That in addition to the £15,000 a year being allocated to each Area Forum for community projects, the sum of £2,500 be allocated to each of the four Youth Forums to be spent on projects beneficial to young people.

(ii) That this reflects Corporate Priorities 9.5.1 and 9.5.2 on involving local people in decision making and also Priority 3.2.7 (Ensuring that activities for young people are accessible and reflect their needs and aspirations). It also reflects the key priority of User Involvement and Community Engagement.

1.3 At Cabinet meeting on 7th February 2008 the young people's recommendations for 2007/08 allocations and amounts to be carried forward to 2008/09 financial year were agreed.

- 1.4 This financial year applications were assessed by a group of young people at three of the four Area Youth Forums between July and October 2008.
- 1.5 No applications were received in the South Wirral area. When young people met to discuss this at their Youth Forum in October, they recommended that, instead of advertising a second round for South Wirral area applications, they would like to use the money to organise large-scale area activities for all youth groups in the South Wirral area.
- 1.6 The young people were facilitated and supported by staff from the Youth & Play Service, Connexions and Extended Schools Co-ordinators. The young people scored applications against agreed and publicised criteria. Successful projects will be required to write a report for submission in April 2009.

2.0. Applications to Area Youth Forums

- 2.1. The availability of the funding was publicised widely, through email shots to the voluntary and statutory youth sectors across Wirral.
- 2.2. The Area Youth Forums met to fully consider the applications as follows:

Area Youth Forum	Date of Area Youth Forum meeting
West Wirral	9 th July 2008
Birkenhead	30th July
Wallasey	24 th September 2008
South Wirral	2nd October 2008

- 2.3. A summary of the bids received by each Area Youth Forum and the recommendations of the Area Youth Forums are provided in the appendix to this report.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The levels of funding are within the Area Youth Forum budget. In Aiming High for Young People the government have impressed as a policy that by 2018 young people will have direct influence over 25% of spending on their services.

4. Staffing Implications

- 4.1 There are no staffing implications as a result of this report.

5. Equal Opportunities Implications

- 5.1 The recommendations support wider engagement by young people and aim to promote equality of opportunity.

6. Community Safety Implications

- 6.1 The funding enables young people to engage in positive activities and away from risk taking behaviour.

7. Local Agenda 21 implications

7.1 There are no agenda 21 implications arising directly from this report.

8. Planning Implications

8.1 There are no planning implications arising directly from this report.

9. Anti-poverty Implications

9.1 These funds are concerned with enabling young people to have greater opportunities within Wirral.

10. Social Inclusion Implications

10.1 The allocations of these funds increases social inclusion opportunities for young people.

11. Local Member Support Implications

11.1 The range of applications relates to all 22 council wards.

12. Background papers

12.1 Cabinet meeting 20th February 2006.
Cabinet meeting 15th March 2007.
Cabinet meeting 7th February 2008

Recommendations

That:

- (1) this report and the proposed allocation of funding as detailed in Appendix 1 be agreed;
- (2) Cabinet agrees to the transfer of the £10,000 budget from Corporate Services to CYPD; and
- (3) Cabinet agrees that future ratification of these awards be via the four CYPD District Boards

	Original budget for 2008/09	Total funding agreed
West Wirral	£3,763.11 (£2,500 allocation plus £1,263.11 carry over 2007/08)	£3,763.11
Birkenhead	£2,500.00	£2,500.00
Wallasey	£2,835.12 (£2,500 allocation plus £335.12 carry over 2007/08)	£2,835.12
South Wirral	£3,717.17 (£2,500 allocation plus £1,217.17 carry over 2007/08)	£3,717.17