

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER – CORPORATE SERVICES

DATE: 14 October 2009

SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(Grants to Voluntary Organisations)

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Regeneration
Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Steph Prewett – Assistant Director- Neighbourhoods
0151 934 3485

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To inform the Cabinet Member that there has been an increase in the emergency fund and of an application for the Grants to Voluntary Sector Emergency Fund.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To respond to grant applications received.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Cabinet Member:

- (i) Note that the emergency fund has increased from £8,815 to £10,215
- (ii) Considers the application and makes a decision based on the outcomes of the assessment.
- (iii) Apply a condition of grant that any future applications by Crosby Scouts and Guides Club will need evidence that other funding sources have been sought and applied for, and provide details as to why they have been unsuccessful. (The Neighbourhoods Division will signpost the group to funding information sources).

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the “call in” period for the minutes of this meeting

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Members have discretion on whether or not to allocate funds at this stage.

IMPLICATIONS:**BUDGET/POLICY FRAMEWORK:** NA**FINANCIAL:**

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

LEGAL: None from this report.**RISK ASSESSMENT:** NA**Asset Management:** Grant allocations from this budget can assist in maintaining the quality of the Council's assets.**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS**

The Finance & IS Director has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into this report- FD171

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Application form

1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 At the cabinet meeting of 22 July 2009, it was agreed that £8,815 of the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Fund budget be kept aside as an emergency fund. The emergency fund could be accessed by community and voluntary organisations in need of emergency funding and would be considered by the Cabinet member on an individual basis.

2. CURRENT POSITION:

- 2.1. Bootle, Litherland and Netherton Junior Football League were awarded £1,400 at the last Cabinet meeting on 22 July 2009. However, the organisation was unhappy that they did not receive the full amount they applied for and declined the funding allocated.
- 2.2. This means that an additional £1,400 has been added to the emergency fund. The total amount in the emergency fund now stands at £10,215.
- 2.3. The Neighbourhoods Division has received one request for emergency funding from Crosby Scouts and Guide Club for £3,000 for 2009/10. The group stated that they would like to receive funding for three years. However, the Neighbourhoods Division informed the group that Cabinet Member for Corporate Services had agreed to only consider applications for this financial year due to the increase in the number of applications and the budget available.
- 2.4. The application is attached for consideration. It is for storage charges, service charges and costs towards activities to encourage wider membership that has reduced in recent times due a number of issues beyond the control of the organisation. At present the group has a very limited income source mainly derived from membership subscriptions, which is down to around 20 members. If funding could not be found this could result in the group being unable to meet its financial requirements for this year in terms of the storage and service charges.
- 2.5. The assessment undertaken by the Neighbourhoods Division recommends that the resources should be awarded to the Crosby Scouts and Guides Group this year. However, this is to enable them to make robust plans to secure alternative sources of income in the future. The Neighbourhoods Division recommend that this should be a condition of grant and that if any future applications are made by the Group that evidence is supplied that they have actively considered and applied for other funding sources and why they have been unsuccessful.
- 2.6. Allocating funding for this project at £3, 000 would leave £7,215 in the emergency funding budget.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member:

- (i) Note that the emergency fund has increased from £8,815 to £10,215
- (ii) Consider the application from Crosby Scouts and Guides Club and make a decision based on the outcomes of the assessment.

- (iii) Apply a condition of grant that any future applications by Crosby Scouts and Guides Club will need evidence that other funding sources have been sought and applied for, and provide details as to why they have been unsuccessful. (The Neighbourhoods Division will signpost the group to funding information sources).