

Blakenall & Bloxwich Local Neighbourhood Partnership –5th February 2007

Funding Report

Summary of report

This report seeks to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership of the progress to date with regards to the funding priorities 2005-2006.

Recommendations

The LNP is asked to note progress on projects

LNP projects to date

Project Description	Total Spend/Commitments to Date	Project Status
Eco-Girl performances to all primary schools in LNP area	£4,160.00	Completed
Cricket Benches at Walsall North TYS	£1,420.24	Completed
Litter Bin near Sneyd School	£2,190.00	Completed
Skip Days	£3,240.00	In Progress
Detached Youth Workers at Goscote	£5,000.00	In Progress
Infrastructure costs for Christmas tree lights on Lower Farm	£ 950.00	Completed
Landscape improvements along alleyway of North Walsall School	£2,053.50	Completed
Community Cash Scheme	£6,997.00	In Progress
Bloxwich Cemetery Christmas Period	£ 800.00	Completed
Bloxwich Cemetery Barrier	£4,750.00	In Progress

Total spent/committed	£31,560.74
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Total Remaining from 2005/2006	£ 1,439.26
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Update on projects

Skip Days

From the £3,240.00 allocated towards skip days in the LNP area £1,690.00 was spent. The remaining £1,550.00 will be allocated to other areas of the LNP. Hotspot areas for future skip days can be determined at future Community Action Group Meeting in partnership with key stakeholders.

Detached Youth Workers at Goscote

An update on the youth workers is enclosed with this report as appendix a.

Community Cash Scheme

18 projects were agreed upon at the last LNP meeting to be funded by the Blakenall and Bloxwich LNP community cash scheme. The grant agreements have been sent to all voluntary and community groups. The cheques will be sent to the voluntary groups/organisations once the grant agreements have been signed and returned to the LNP team. An update on the grant agreements received and cheques sent will be tabled at the LNP meeting

Bloxwich Cemetery

An update regarding this will be received via agenda item 6.

Contact Officer

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Neighbourhood Partnership Officer

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Appendix A

PROGRESS REPORT ON GOSCOTE DETACHED PROJECT

I am pleased to provide an update on progress made with regards to this project.

Three part time workers are currently employed to develop youth work within this area. They work face to face with young people on Monday's and Fridays between 7.00pm – 9.00pm.

The workers have made excellent progress in the development of relationships within the area both with young people and with staff and volunteers at Goscote Resource Centre. It has been recorded that work on the streets of Goscote particularly around Hildicks Crescent and Goscote Lodge Crescent has predominantly brought the staff in contact with young people below the Youth Service age range and the children then tend to follow the youth workers which hinders opportunities of engaging with the older young people in the area. This has highlighted a need to work closely with the Goscote Resource Centre where we are currently actively working towards developing work in partnership. The Detached Youth Workers did initially work with the Goscote Youth Club however the club has been suspended until a project offering more sustainability and consistency can be developed.

A trip to Bloxwich Boiling Alley with young people is scheduled for Monday the 26th January 07. This is an activity that the young people has suggested and will act as a means to further develop relationships with young people in the area, some of which are deemed as risk and under referral to YIP (Youth Inclusion Panel).

Concerns have been raised by workers at Goscote Resource Centre about the likelihood of an increase of anti social behaviour within the area once the houses have been demolished as a part of the Goscote Corridor Project. This would also be a concern for me in terms of completing risk assessments for my workers to continue to work particularly around the immediate area due to concerns with regards to rubble being thrown.

Financial support given via the LNP has put us in the position where we are now in the process of developing excellent partnership work with Goscote Resource Centre and we are in the planning stages of joint initiatives to develop youth provision on the Estate which will include a jointly run youth project on 2 evenings per week facilitated by both Detached Youth Workers and Centre Staff and Volunteers. I am also working with Elaine Rowbotham (Goscote Resource Centre) and Connie Jennings (WHG) in building on responding to needs already identified in the area on the development of addressing issues around sexual health and condom distribution. Young people at Goscote Resource Centre have also been supported by centre staff to seek funding to develop a 'Youth Room'.

Myself and Elaine have ensured that we link into the Bloxwich and Blakenall LNP Pledges of:

- **Promoting awareness of Sexually Transmitted Diseases STD's**
- **Look to sustain funding for current community and voluntary organisations**
- **To increase activities for Children and Young People in the LNP area**

I am currently exploring additional support funds to support a Graffiti Arts project for the half term week and funding towards the purchase of resources for activities to take place within the centre ie. Arts and crafts materials, 'chill out' settees and play stations and other media games.

I am also sitting on the Goscote Capacity Building Project Steering Group to see how the Youth Service can further support young people from the Goscote Estate.

We would like to thank the Blakenall, Bloxwich LNP for its initial investment which has supported the development of this partnership and hope that you will continue to support us in the future.

Lusia Gallagher
District Youth Worker (Bloxwich)