

AFM/12/10

Forum: Mid Essex Area Forum

Date: 11th November 2010

AREA FORUM BUDGET 2010/11

Report by: Councillor Joe Pike, Chairman, Mid Essex Area Forum

Contact: John Zammit, Area Co-ordinator Mid Essex.

1. Purpose of Report

To consider recommendations for the allocation of the Area Forum Budget for 2010/11.

2. Background

The Area Forum has made grants available over the last five years across the three Mid Essex districts – **£72,000 in 2005, £50,000 in 2006 and in 2007, £75,000 in 2008 and £50,100 in 2009**. The grants awarded for 2009 were agreed by the Forum at its meeting on 12th November 2009 (**report AFM/15/09**).

For 2010/11 the Area Forum has **£50,000** and this year Chelmsford Borough Council and Braintree and Maldon District Councils have been invited to apply through submission of specific projects that will achieve tangible improvements to people's lives within local communities.

3. Proposals

Twelve bids have been received for Forum grants totalling **£47,940** details of which are as follows:

Mid Essex Wide

- 3.1 Community Money Marketplace – this provides information and support on funding opportunities to community and voluntary organisations. An application was made last year by Maldon CVS seeking funding for this event which was planned for Autumn 2010 **£2,450**

Chelmsford Borough Council

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| 3.2 | Information Days – providing information about the services and entitlements available to over 55s. Past events have included community safety advice, legal advice and will writing, home safety advice, benefits advice and pharmaceutical advice | £5,000 |
| 3.3 | Older Persons’ Activity – funding the expansion and continuation of ‘forever active’ classes and programmes that are targeted specifically at older people. | £3,000 |
| 3.4 | Active Families Day - project providing a free public event to those residents living in the priority area of NW Chelmsford. The event is a multi agency event aimed at increasing access to services and information for residents who would otherwise not actively engage. Previous years have seen an increase in attendance with last year reaching approximately 4000 people. | £8,000 |

Braintree District Council

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| 3.5 | Community Transport Users Christmas Party – To hold a Christmas party for elderly, frail, vulnerable, rurally/socially isolated and disabled persons who use community transport services. | £3,000 |
| 3.6 | Crucial Crew - The project increases the awareness of personal safety and the safety of others and is delivered to 49 Schools in the Braintree District. Over 1,565 students (year 6) attend including 20 Students who the project is taken to from Southview School (School for physically and neurologically impaired Children) | £2,900 |
| 3.7 | Meet the Funders Day - . This event will aim to encourage small local organisations that are primarily run by volunteers to hear presentations from key local funders on their funding criteria and application process and to engage in face to face question and answer sessions with these funders. | £940 |
| 3.8 | Riverside Club Courses for Older People – Offer elderly, frail, vulnerable, rurally/socially isolated and disabled persons the opportunity to attend two ten week courses at the Riverside Club, Braintree College. | £4,250 |
| 3.9 | Outdoor Gym Activator - Employment costs for the outdoor gym activator, transport costs, and promotional material to enable him to work with identified vulnerable groups | £1,000 |

Maldon District Council

- 3.10 Heritage Open Days & Conservation and Design Awards – these annual events celebrate England’s cultural and architectural heritage and acknowledge best practice in historic building conservation, exemplary design projects in the built and natural environment and sustainability of development. **£2,500**
- 3.11 Maldon District Junior Ranger Scheme - The scheme currently has 135 signed up members and enables families to explore areas that they wouldn’t normally visit and allows them to get wet and muddy and challenge themselves whilst also learning something new about their local area. Funding will allow the scheme to continue for a further year. **£6,900**
- 3.12 999 Emergency Services Day/ Crucial Crew – Emergency Services Day is aimed at educating the public and raising public awareness of the work of the partner agencies involved in Community Safety Partnership. Crucial Crew increases the awareness of personal safety and the safety of others through a targeted programme aimed at children. **£8,000**

4. Recommendations

Following discussions with colleagues, the Chairman recommends that funding be allocated to the above proposals for the total amount of **£47,940**