

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive Member for Leisure and Community for Decision

Portfolio:	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Community Fund Application – Stars in the Sky
Report of:	Director of Finance and Resources
Strategy/Policy:	Community Engagement Strategy
Corporate Objective:	Strong and Inclusive Communities

Purpose:

This report presents an application for funding under the Council's Community Fund Programme.

Executive Summary:

An application for community funding has been received from Ms Nicole Hamerton, Project Manager of Stars in the Sky Hampshire Learning Disability Service, for the sum of £782.73 towards the purchase of equipment for their learning workshops.

The Stars in the Sky service is based at The Kings Centre in Fareham and is staffed by volunteers. They provide workshops for adults over the age of 18 who have learning difficulties or who are on the autistic spectrum.

The aim of the workshops is to teach those with learning difficulties important, independent life skills. Workshops cover various elements including Friendship training (safeguarding issues and appropriate relationships), Money Management (teaching skills such as budgeting, shopping and completing financial paperwork), Sex Education and Relationships (covering the difference between relationships and friendships, contraception, confidence skills) and Health and Wellbeing (diet, hygiene, exercise and healthy living). These workshops are carried out in a safe and supported environment.

Stars in the Sky recently featured in a television documentary and this has increased interest and membership enquiries.

The organisation will be recommencing the workshops for one year from September 2015. The total cost of the project is £2,144 and they are requesting £782.73 from the community fund to enable them to purchase much needed equipment for use at the workshops including a colour printer, a CD player for dance and drama sessions, stationery and publicity of the workshops.

Councillor Bryant and Councillor Mrs Bryant are in support of this application.

Recommendation:

That the application for £782.73 from Fareham Borough Council's Community Funding Programme, submitted by Ms Hamerton of Stars in the Sky for the purchase of equipment, be approved.

Reason:

This application meets the agreed Community Funding Programme criteria for financial support for community capital projects.

Cost of Proposals:

The total cost of this project will be £782.73 and can be met from within the existing budget for the Community Fund Programme.

Risk Assessment:

There are no identified risks associated with this report.