

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive Member for Leisure and Community for Decision

Portfolio:	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Community Fund Application – Warsash Sea Cadets
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 Mr Richard Hobbs, committee member of Warsash Sea Cadets – TS Tormentor, for the sum of £4,999.00 to enable them to purchase a safety boat.

The Warsash Sea Cadet unit is based at the Warsash Maritime Academy on the River Hamble and has over 100 cadets and adult volunteer staff. They have direct access to the River Hamble for water borne training in a range of activities including; but not limited to; sailing, canoeing, kayaking and rowing.

They currently have one rigid inflatable safety boat that is used for limited safety monitoring for these activities. This one boat is not sufficient to meet the training needs and prohibitively impacts on the experience that the qualified staff can offer to the young people and ultimately has an impact on the retention of members.

With one boat the unit is only able to provide safety cover for 12 cadets and 2 members of staff at any one boating session. In practice they hold two boating sessions per week which enables 24 cadets and 4 staff members to be involved each week. This means that most cadets are only able to go boating once every three weeks, which is not frequent enough to maintain a safe teaching programme.

The unit would therefore like to purchase an additional safety boat, which will enable them to operate a safe programme for the whole unit and result in doubling the number of cadets who can participate at any one session, whilst also providing a back-up for the current boat. A second boat will also enable the unit to provide safety coverage at local community boating events including the annual Hamble Raid and local regattas.

The safety boat could be expected to be in service for between 15 and 18 years. It will be operated and maintained in accordance with Royal Yachting Association, Maritime Coastguard Agency and Marine Society and Sea Cadet Society rules and regulations and will be routinely inspected by Area Sea Cadet staff.

The total cost of the project is £16,000 and Warsash Sea Cadets will be funding £3,000 themselves from membership contributions and local fundraising initiatives. Sport England has approved a grant of £8,000 on condition that £4,999 is approved from Fareham Borough Council's community fund.

Councillor Cartwright and Councillor Ford are in support of this application.

Recommendation:

That the application for £4999.00 from Fareham Borough Council's Community Funding Programme, submitted by Mr Hobbs of Warsash Sea Cadets, 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 £4,999.00 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.