

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive Leader for Decision

Portfolio:	Executive Leader
Subject:	Use of Council Chamber for The Moving On Project's Networking Event
Report of:	Director of Finance and Resources
Strategy/Policy:	Community Engagement Strategy
Corporate Objective:	Strong and Inclusive Communities

Purpose:

This report seeks approval for the Council Chamber to be used by The Moving On Project for their networking event.

Executive Summary:

The Moving On Project is a charity working in Fareham and Gosport, providing free counselling for young people in the area.

Based at X-perience Youth Centre, The Moving On Project offers confidential, discreet counselling and support to local young people aged 11-25. In addition, the organisation co-delivers drop-in health and wellbeing sessions at a number of local youth centres. Over 900 counselling sessions are provided annually to approximately 250 individual clients, with referrals received from GPs, Social Workers and School Welfare Officers.

All counsellors have a minimum professional qualification in the Diploma of Counselling and the majority are unpaid volunteers. Funding is received from commissioned work from Hampshire County Council, Fareham Borough Council and local education establishments.

The Moving On Project is currently looking at ways to generate income to enable them to continue to provide and develop their services for young people. They are proposing to hold a networking event enabling them to engage with a number of local businesses, with a view to securing direct funding or assistance with fundraising initiatives. The event will include a presentation explaining what the organisation does, their aims and suggestions on how local businesses can help.

The Moving On Project has requested the use of the Council Chamber in which to hold their event. The Executive Leader will be in attendance, acting as sponsor, and will address the meeting.

Recommendation:

That approval be given for the Council Chamber to be used by The Moving On Project for their networking event on a weekday (date to be agreed), for approximately two hours, with no fee to be charged.

Reason:

The Moving On Project's networking event is being held to promote the work of the organisation and to engage with local businesses to secure funding to sustain the project.

Cost of Proposals:

The prescribed fee for the hire of the Council Chamber by an external organisation is £95.00 per hour, increasing to £165.00 per hour after 18.30 hours.

If the fee for the hire of the Council Chamber is waived, any approved additional overtime costs will be added to the existing salary budget to ensure staffing costs are covered.

Risk Assessment:

There are no significant risks in relation to the Council Chamber being used by The Moving On Project for their networking event. The Civic Offices will remain open until the end of the event and will be staffed by Facilities Assistants who are qualified first aiders.