

Wards Affected: Bestwood and Basford

**AREA TWO COMMITTEE
(BASFORD AND BESTWOOD
WARDS)**

26 November 2008

REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY BUS TRANSPORT

1. SUMMARY

This report provides an evaluation summary of the funding granted by Area 2 Committee for a 6 month trial community mini bus to transport elderly residents living in Basford to leisure opportunities in their local area. The aim was to encourage and support people to become more physically active.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Area Committee note the summary evaluation report in appendix 2.

3. BACKGROUND

Whilst the Health Action Officer was carrying out health sessions during the Week of Action in September 2007, it was highlighted by the Warden and residents living in sheltered housing/warden aided flats in the area that public transport access to the Southglade Leisure Centre was limited.

The elderly members of the community were quite keen to get active and attend the exercise session provided by Southglade Leisure Centre. They were aware of the benefits to their health, but could not attend due to the lack of good public transport.

4. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that the evaluation report in appendix 2 be noted and accepted by area committee.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Area Committee gave funding of £2,121.60 from Basford Ward funding allocation.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The funds allocated by the Area Committee were used to address diverse needs of various sections of the community and to reduce inequalities. It also contributed towards the City Council's work in respect of the Equality Standard for Local Government.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The funding was subject to satisfactory risk assessments being undertaken.

8. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The money contributed towards the priority of Nottingham City Council Active and Healthy Nottingham, to tackle health inequalities and promote active lifestyles and help Nottingham people to live fulfilling and independent lives. To support people at risk of heart diseases in targeted neighbourhoods, specifically within Basford area.

9. CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS

None.

10. VALUE FOR MONEY

The transport provided effective services and activities at a local level in response to the needs of the community and adhere to the Best Value principles.

11. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None.

12. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

None.

LIANNE TAYLOR
ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES
2 ISABELLA STREET
NOTTINGHAM
NG1 6AT

Contact Officer:

Claire Probert – Health Action Officer
Tel: 0115 915 9128
Email: claire.probert@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Project Cost Breakdown

6 months hire period February to July 2008

(Hire of driver x 8 hours @ £7.00 per hour = £ 56.00)

26 days X £56.00	= £1456.00
Petrol projected cost £20.00 X 26	= £520.00
Contingency Cost 10%	= £145.60
Total:	£ 2,121.60

Appendix 2 – Evaluation

Project Title – Basford Bus Project

Aim of the project:

- To provide transport for people living in Basford from sheltered housing and warden aided flats to encourage people to take part in leisure opportunities in the local area.
- To encourage physical activity and reduce cardio vascular disease
- To pump prime a project that would eventually become self sustaining

Project Partners

Claire Probert – Health Action Officer – Nottingham City Council

Neville Scholden – YMCA – Physical Activity Lead North

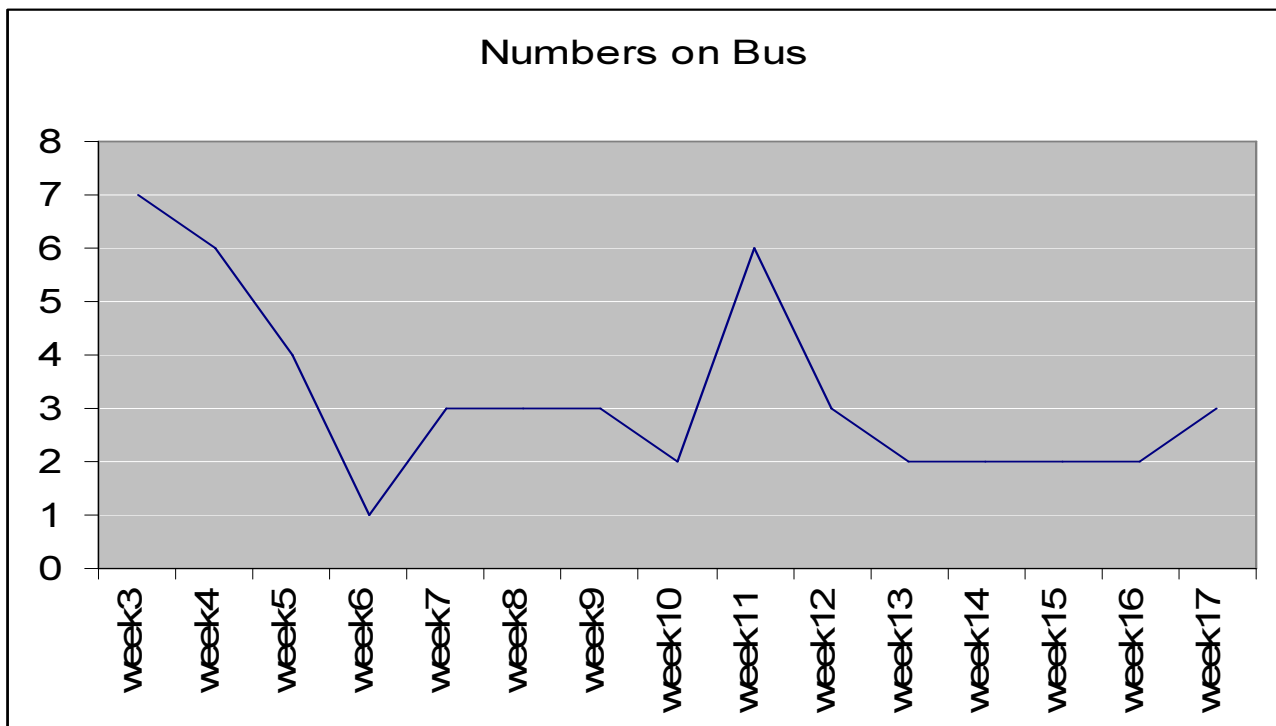
Josie Grange – Ellis Guilford School - Community Partnership Manager

Project Description

5 sheltered accommodations were identified in the Basford Ward which would be targeted for the project. A leaflet was developed by the Health Action Officer to promote the project. (Please see appendix 3.) The YMCA conducted Tai Chi taster session during the month of March & April to raise awareness of the project and encourage people to participate in the project.

Ellis Guilford placed an advert in the Nottingham Evening Post promoting the bus and the Tai Chi class on Monday 9th June. It was decided that the community bus would run the same route at the same time every week targeting the 5 targeted accommodations. Everyone in the sheltered accommodation received a flyer promoting the project.

Initially the project ran well with promising numbers for the first couple of weeks. However during week 6 there was a misunderstanding between the bus and Ellis Guilford as it arrived early and the next week it arrived late. From then on the numbers have struggled.



Due to falling numbers through out the month of August the Health Action officer attempted to meet with the warden managers to promote the project and a letter was sent to all those that had previously used the bus. Flyers went out to everyone in the 5 targeted accommodations to encourage attendance.

Unfortunately numbers have not increased and currently the bus is picking up 2/3 residents and therefore is not cost effective to run and will soon be stopping. The health action officer is currently discussing with those residents who are still using the bus what options are open to them to continue to participate in the Tai Chi class at Ellis Guilford.

Project Conclusion

The partnership between agencies worked well as every partner wanted the same outcome. Unfortunately the enthusiasm in the community wasn't as great as first anticipated and the project was difficult to monitor as partners were doing this as an added project on top of other work streams.



Basford



Nottingham
City Council

Bus Timetable (Approx)

- Kersal Court 10.00
- Rona Court 10.05
- Foxgrove 10.10
- Churchfield 10.20

Exercise

FREE Bus

For more information or to register an interest please contact Ruby daily before 1pm on 913 1759

The free minibus will offer a reliable service to take residents to gentle exercise sessions at Ellis Guilford Sports Centre.

The sessions will cost £1.00 if you are referred by your GP or £2.00 on the day.



Friday
Tai Chi
10.30-11.30



Ellis Guilford School & Sports College
Working for the Community

