

**REPORT OF ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

**FUTURE FORM YOUTH GROUP GRANT REQUEST**

**1 SUMMARY**

This report seeks approval from the West Area Committee for funding to be made available to support the Future Form Youth Club.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that West Area Committee agrees to an allocation of £3000 from the Aspley Ward uncommitted balance to support the Future Form Youth Group.

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Broxtowe area has historically suffered from a high level of anti-social behaviour and youth crime. Many initiatives have been introduced in the past to tackle such problems but these have had little impact.
- 3.2 The Broxtowe Partnership Trust has worked closely with Neighbourhood Management and Youth Services to deliver regular centre based youth activities. These were very poorly attended by local young people.
- 3.3 In 2006, the youth team decided to carry out consultation through outreach sessional activity. The information collated through this process was used to set up Future Form.
- 3.4 The Future Form youth group is run and supported by local volunteers. Youth Services provide professional support and guidance to the volunteers to ensure all rules and regulations are followed when working with young people. A few of the volunteers have previously been involved in anti-social behaviour and crime. These individuals have now been completely reformed and act as positive leaders for young people in their community.
- 3.5 Future Form regularly attracts approximately 50 – 100 young people to each of its evening sessions..

**4 PROPOSALS**

It is proposed that members agree to the request made in section 2 of this report. The money requested from the area committee will enable the group to extend the types of activities it can provide for their members. Thus, the group will have a major impact in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour even further.

## **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The £3000 contribution can be met by charging the Aspley Ward uncommitted balances. The total uncommitted balance for the West Area, not including the effect of other requests for allocation elsewhere on this agenda, stands currently as follows:-

Aspley Ward	£ 2,718
Bilborough Ward	£10,852
Leen Valley Ward	£16,304
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>£29,874</u></b>

## **6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

## **7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

The work being undertaken by Future Form provides young people from difficult social backgrounds, opportunities to participate in youth work activities, thus increasing their confidence and self esteem.

## **8 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

If the resources requested from this Area Committee are not approved, the groups will struggle to continue providing a wide range of activities at the Sixways Community Centre.

## **9 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

This report will support the City Council's corporate priorities of:-

- Respect for Nottingham; reducing gang crime and violence
- Young Nottingham; supporting young people to organise activities and inform service delivery
- Active and Healthy Nottingham; organising sports activities for young people to participate in.

## **10 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS**

Young people responsible for running the club have previously been involved in anti-social behaviour and are keen to provide support to their peers. The involvement of these young people has been recognised by the local Partnership to be reducing crime and anti-social behaviour. The Youth Service ensures the club is run professionally and all policy's and procedures are adhered to.

## **11 VALUE FOR MONEY**

Future Form is able to offer a large number of local young people the opportunity to benefit from a range of activities because it relies on a wide volunteering base made up of individuals from the community. Resources provided by the Area Committee offer good value thanks to the amount and quality of provision the club is able to deliver.

**12 List of background papers other than published works or those disclosing confidential or exempt information**

Future Form 2007-2008 Review and Development Plan, attached to this report, Appendix 1

**13 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

None.

**LIANNE TAYLOR**  
**ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Isabella Street  
Nottingham  
Nottingham NG1 6AT  
Tel: 0115 9158615  
Email: [lianne.taylor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:lianne.taylor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

Contact Officer:-

Asif Mohammed  
Acting Neighbourhood Manager  
Tel: 0115 9157656  
[asif.mohammed@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:asif.mohammed@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

Julie Scaddan  
Finance Community and Culture  
Tel: 0115 9152009  
[julie.scaddan@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:julie.scaddan@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

## Appendix 1

### Future Form 2007-2008 Review and Development Plan- Broxtowe Partnership Trust

#### 2007-2008 Review

##### Music

With a successful application to the YOF and Capital Funds for turntables and PA equipment, and Take 1 Studios commissioned to train the young people and supervise sessions, Future Form quickly doubled its attendance from around sixty per night to over one hundred and twenty. This presented supervision challenges for volunteers and staff, though the reality was that the young people themselves were extraordinarily well behaved, and that a new strength developed in the relationship between Future Form volunteers and NCC Youth Service staff.

Problems when they did arise on one or two occasions seemed to be at closing time, out on the estate when young people were dispersing. It was hard to establish whether it was young people who had been attending the club, or whether these were in fact the target of others who were simply waiting for them to emerge. Certainly it was clear that Sixways was the 'place to be' on a Thursday night for many young people across the city- there were people coming from Radford, St.Anns, Meadows, Top Valley, Bulwell etc on a regular basis.

Unfortunately there was eventually an incident that took place inside the club, where a girl from Top Valley had come looking for a girl from Aspley, found her at the Future Form club and attacked her, causing a cut to her face. This unsettled both members and volunteers, with several volunteers worrying for their safety with such high numbers and so much reliance on good will for good behaviour. The club was closed for a cooling off period, and re-opened on a lower key.

Since then music sessions are run by request on an ad-hoc basis and therefore attract more local young people than people from other areas of the city.

##### I Mac

The YOF and Capital Fund grants also provided a set of Apple I Mac computers which include software allowing music and graphics. These have also been used successfully with young people to produce story-boards and reportage about issues in the area from a young person's perspective. It is our intention to pursue this further and produce a regular pull-out section in the Broxtowe News by young people for young people.

##### Trips

The club ran several successful trips paint-balling with the boys which were very well attended and enjoyed. This has given rise to a plan to do more work with girls this year as they have so far missed out.

##### Girls Group

BPT assigned the NM Trainee Community Development Worker (Charise Mullings) to work with the female members of Future Form during their weekly Thursday night club sessions at Sixways.

Charise quickly developed a rapport with the young people who attended the club, and the girls arranged a dedicated meeting to talk about their ideas and plans for activities at the club. The kinds of things they suggested were:

- Trip to Paris, France to visit youth club(s) there and establish pen pal and youth exchange relationships.
- Completing a YOF application for a dedicated Girls Youth Work Development and Support role in the Aspley area.
- Local trips (e.g. Alton Towers).
- Sponsored events (e.g. parachute jumps) to raise money for charity.
- Forming a group of local young women who could volunteer in the community to provide support to vulnerable or isolated residents.
- Forming an editorial group to produce a regular young person's section for the Broxtowe News.

Charise has managed and delivered a trip to Alton Towers, and although no longer in paid employment, continues to voluntarily do development work with this group (see below).

### Development Plan

Broxtowe Partnership Trust now has a growing number of registered local volunteers, parents from the estate who have been CRB checked, and have completed either an introduction to Youth Work or an introduction to Play Work. All these volunteers want to help run activities for local young people at Sixways. BPT is now negotiating with Youth Services to expand our successful partnership approach to the whole weekly timetable of youth activities at Sixways. This should include a women and girls only night on Mondays, a men and boys only night on Wednesdays, and the regular mixed club night on Thursdays. The Monday and Wednesday night groups will be encouraged to develop their own spin-off activities including fundraising and local volunteering.

### Girls Group

The Sixways girls group has given themselves the name "B-Rox Girls Club" and have requested a dedicated night at Sixways on a Monday each week. BPT are currently negotiating this on a partnership basis with the NCC Youth Services.

Charise is working with another local mum (registered BPT volunteer, CRB checked and booked onto NCC Introduction to Youth Work training) Sabrina Pritchett to run the Monday night sessions which have so far been attracting over twenty local girls.

Charise has taken the opportunity to do some sexual health awareness work with them based on discussions arising from supervised viewing of selected internet materials about Aids/HIV. We have been shocked at how little awareness these girls have of STDs other than Aids/HIV and this is an area that will be further explored with them over the coming weeks.