

**Committee** CABINET

**Agenda item**

**Date:** 24 OCTOBER 2013

**18**

**Title:** TIMEBANK SCHEME

**Portfolio Holder:** COUNCILLOR HOWARD ROLFE

**Key decision:** no

## Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval to contribute financially towards the development of a pilot Timebank scheme in Uttlesford.

## Recommendations

2. Members are recommended to approve the contribution of a supplementary management cost of £2,520 towards the development of a Timebank scheme.

## Financial Implications

3. The Council has a budget for Access to Services funding of £20,000 per annum and it is envisaged that the supplementary management cost of £2,520 could be allocated from that budget. The purpose of the budget is to provide financial assistance to enable the development of services locally which are determined as of benefit to the community.

## Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None.

## Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	The Council for Voluntary Services and the Volunteer Centre are delivering this pilot in conjunction with Colchester Council for Voluntary Services and Uttlesford District Council.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None.

Health and Safety	None.
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None.
Sustainability	None.
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None.

## Situation

6. The Local Strategic Partnership Health & Wellbeing Group has prioritised an Access to Services initiative to support the community in accessing services locally and to encourage self-sustaining schemes involving volunteers. The District Council has earmarked an annual budget of £20,000 to enable the development of services. District Council officers supporting the group have been pursuing a number of initiatives under Access to Services and the development of a Timebank scheme is one of them
7. A Timebank is a voluntary service that operates with 3 categories:
  - Donator – volunteer who donates time but does not wish to receive anything in return.
  - Exchanger – volunteer who donates time by undertaking a task and then receives a service provided for them in return for the same amount of hours donated.
  - Recipient – someone who receives a service but who is not in a position to reciprocate.
8. Essex County Council (ECC) has also been considering the development of Timebanks around the county and has provided Colchester CVSU with a sum of money to contribute towards rolling out pilots across West Essex. If the pilots prove successful then ECC has indicated that there will be further funding available to contribute towards establishing ongoing schemes.
9. Colchester Council for Voluntary Services (CCVS) approached the Council for Voluntary Services Uttlesford (CVSU) and the District Council regarding development of a pilot Timebank scheme in Uttlesford.
10. Colchester CVS is affiliated to the National Timebank Association which collates data for all of the schemes and provides a framework for operating Timebanks. The CVSU has agreed to act as the Lead Agency in Uttlesford and will manage the funding but the project will be delivered with the Volunteer Centre (VC) and support from UDC officers.

11. The funding allocated by ECC/CCVS to Uttlesford is £8,000. However, both the CVSU and the VC have identified a need for further funding of £2,520 (additional money for some staff time, Disclosure & Baring checks, travel assistance and attendance at training sessions in Colchester) in order to deliver the scheme in Uttlesford. It is proposed that the additional funding be provided by the District Council utilising the Access to Services budget for the pilot scheme only.

## Risk Analysis

12. The level of risk associated with this initiative is as follows:

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
The risk is that volunteers will not come forward.	1 – A number of volunteers have already been recruited.	2 – The impact would be that the scheme is progressed utilising existing volunteers as opposed to expanding the volunteer force.	Partner agencies are working together to ensure that the project is a success and it is envisaged that risks are minimal. The Council for Voluntary Services Uttlesford and the Volunteer Centre are working with Colchester CVS and the National Timebank Association to deliver this scheme so there is an existing level of expertise to utilise.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.