

Community Development Report

South West Area Panel, item 8

Committee:	South West Area Panel	Agenda Item
Date:	23 July 2007	8
Title:	Community Development Report	
Author:	Sue Hayden - Community Development Officer (Cultural Services)	Item to note

Summary

- 1 To advise the Panel of related community development activities and schemes with which officers have been involved since the previous Panel meeting.
- 2 To bring the Panel's attention to important community based activities that will be taking place during the next few months.

Recommendations

- 3 That the Panel endorses the actions taken by officers to promote greater community capacity and well-being for the community.

Background Papers

None.

Situation

Leisure and Cultural Grants

- 4 Since 2003 Uttlesford District Council has given grant aid in the form of the Leisure and Cultural Grant scheme. The Scheme is open to talented individuals, non-profit making organisations and local charities providing services to/for the community and/or for the purpose of assisting the arts, sports and cultural clubs. Applications from those residents/established for less than 6 months will **not** be considered.
- 5 Arts, sports and cultural projects/initiatives, which benefit individuals or residents of the Uttlesford District e.g. equipment, training, coaches etc are eligible to apply. N.B. Grants will **not** be given for on-going costs and projects which have already taken place.
- 6 The maximum grant given under the Leisure & Cultural Grant scheme is £500. Applicants must have raised 100% match funding towards the

Project/Initiative. Decisions are made by the Chairman of the Community Committee on 1st of each month providing the application form is received by the Funding and Strategic Partnerships Officer by 16th of the preceding month. If the application is successful, payment is made within two weeks of the date of the decision being made.

- 7 The following application from the south west area has received a grant award in this financial year:

Stansted Day and Community Centre - contribution towards a “thank you” party for the volunteers of the centre £200

For further information on the Uttlesford District Council’s grants or assistance with funding advice please contact Jane Elsom, Funding and Strategic Partnerships Officer on 01799 510559.

Fire Break

- 8 A firebreak scheme ran in June at Newport Fire station for 12 young people from the Uttlesford District. The course was delivered by a team of fire fighters and non-uniformed staff from within Essex Fire and Rescue Services. It was a five day course based on actual fire service activities and procedures including eating a huge breakfast before duties start!! The course was designed to help young people build personal skills such as self confidence, self discipline and respect for themselves and others. In addition, it also assists personal development by helping the young people acquire communication and leadership skills and experience of working in a team. The week ended with a passing out parade, to which teachers and parents were invited to enable the young people to 'show off' their new found skills!



Motorwise

- 9 The Motorwise Event is now in its seventh year and dates for 2007 are Monday 17th September till Wednesday 26th September, which will be held at the ATC Site on Craver Barracks, Wimbish, Saffron Walden, Essex.

Motorwise is a driving and car awareness course developed as an instructional, educational and crime prevention scheme for pre and young drivers aged 16/17 years old. In 2006, **751** students attended the event.

The Motorwise day runs from 9.30 am till 2.45 pm, which ensures the students are back at school to make their usual connections for home.

The day consists of eight, thirty minutes interactive workshops:

- Driving Schools
- Road Safety (Brake Reaction Tester & Safety Belt Sledge)
- Alcohol, Drugs
- The Law
- Crash Scene Management
- Car Maintenance /Buying a Second Hand Car
- Cost of Motoring Game
- FedEx HGV – Blind Spots

Background Research

Nationally it has been shown that Young Drivers aged 17-25 years have the highest rate of accidents and one in three, male drivers between the ages of 17 & 20 have an accident within the first two years after passing the test. Passengers with young novice drivers run a higher risk of being involved in a serious accident.

If we can get to the target area at an early stage it is hoped that a foundation of responsible attitudes will be laid.

The aim of the project is to give the students the opportunity to experience an exciting, challenging and rewarding day, where they have hands on activities which will aid them to understand, evaluate and rectify situations as drivers, passengers and as members of the community.

The objective of the project is to help young people to, realize their mortality and accept responsibility for their own safety and others. Cope with dangerous situations, make sensible decisions based on acquired knowledge and learn social responsibility.

We are also very fortunate to have the support of a very strong partnership that deliver the project; they are, UDC Community Safety, Community Development, ECC Road Safety, Essex Traffic Police, Essex Police School Liaison, Essex Fire and Rescue and Essex Youth Service and FedEx.

Summer Holiday Programme

- 10 With the summer holidays looming fast Uttlesford District Council has launched its sports, arts and museum programme of activities for young people aged 4 – 19 years old, six week programme of activities is attached.

To book or check availability on any courses please call 01799 510322 or 01799 510323.

For further information on any of the course listed above please contact John Starr, Community Development Officer (Youth and Arts) on 01799 510384.