
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2004/05

**Responsible Cabinet Member(s) - Councillor Don Bristow,
Resource Management Portfolio**

Responsible Director(s) - Paul Wildsmith, Director of Corporate Services

Purpose of Report

1. To consider applications in respect of financial assistance received from seven individuals, details of which are contained in the report.

Background

2. The total committed in respect of applications made in the current year is £14,807.10. The Council has made provision within the 2004/2005 revenue budget of £15,000. This leaves a balance of £192.90 and is before consideration of the attached applications.
3. **Denise Baker - Swimmer**

(a) ***Introduction***

An application has been received from Denise Baker for financial assistance of £500 towards the costs of competing in various swimming events during the year. In 1987 Denise underwent a kidney transplant, and since then has taken up swimming as a means of keeping fit. She now competes for the Cleveland Area Transplant Team.

Denise has been selected to represent Great Britain in the World Transplant Games in Canada in July 2005, and she will also compete in the British Transplant Games scheduled to take place in Loughborough in August 2005. Past achievements are numerous and she has competed in four World Transplant Games gaining two gold, 6 silver and 8 bronze medals in swimming events. Additionally, she has also competed in ten British Games and has gained seven gold, eleven silver and eleven bronze medals.

(b) ***Financial Information***

In order that Denise can compete in these events she needs to raise in the region of £2,530. A summary of anticipated income and expenditure has been obtained and is detailed in the following table :-

Expenses	£	Income	£
<u>British Transplant Games –</u>			
<u>Loughborough</u>			
Accommodation	250	No donations received as yet	
Travel	50		
<u>World Transplant Games -</u>			
<u>Canada</u>			
4 Training Weekends	200		
Flights and registration fees	1,500		
Accommodation	400		
Equipment/Uniform	130		
Total	2,530	Total	0

Based on the financial projections shown above, there is a shortfall of £2,530 which will have to be funded privately.

Applications for additional funding have been submitted to a number of local companies without success. Also, an application has been forwarded to the Mayors Charitable Fund and at the time of writing no response had been forthcoming.

(c) ***Previous Applications***

Mrs Baker has applied for financial assistance on five previous occasions. Details of these successful applications are shown in the table below together with additional and relevant information:-

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref.	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
1996/97	Costs incurred whilst competing in the World Transplant Games in Sydney, Australia in 1997.	I26 (Ia53) Feb 97	500	100
1999/00	Costs incurred whilst competing in the British Transplant Games in June 1999 and the World Transplant Games in the Netherlands in August 1999.	K121 (Ka150) Apr 99	300	200
2000/01	Costs incurred whilst competing in the British Transplant Games in June 2001 and the World Transplant Games in Japan in August 2001.	C256/Jan/01	500	500
2002/03	Costs incurred whilst competing in the British Transplant Games in France in July 2003 and the British Transplant Games in Stoke-on-Trent	C229/February/2003	500	500

(d) **Conclusion**

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wished to support this application in respect of Denise Baker, and if so, to what extent.

4. **St James the Great, Albert Hill, Darlington - Choir Trip and Pilgrimage to Prague at Easter 2004 in respect of 6 Young Students (Sally Wheelhouse, Edward Dobson, Louisa Dobson, Sophie Dobson, Natalie Grieves and Tom Featherstone)**

(a) **Introduction**

An application has been received from six young students from St James the Great Church for financial assistance of £800 in total towards the cost of flights, accommodation and subsistence in respect of their Pilgrimage to Prague, scheduled to take place in March 2005.

These students, who attend St. James the Great Church which is situated in Central Ward, have been invited to sing two masses in Prague Cathedral. This project's main objective is to sing choral music to the highest possible standard and to train young people in classical singing through regular performance and to encourage all age groups

to take part in music making.

(b) ***Financial Information***

The total cost of the trip is anticipated to be in the region of £3,000 and the group are striving to raise money through fund raising activities, St. James the Great Church and by private donations.

Of the six young applicants, funding is being sought of £100 for five of the students and £300 for one young student.

Additional funding has been sought from various sources without any success.

(c) ***Previous Applications***

St. James the Great students have not previously applied for financial assistance. However, the Elm Ridge Youth Group have successfully applied and obtained financial assistance of £700 to send their seven students to Hungary in August 2003. Cabinet C52/July/2003 refers.

(d) ***Conclusion***

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wished to support this application in respect of the six St James the Great students, and if so, to what extent.

Outcome of Consultation

5. No consultation is taken on this item as a decision is made by Members.

Legal Implications

6. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members, other than those highlighted in the report.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

7. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

Council Policy Framework

8. The issues contained within this report do not represent change to Council policy or the Council's policy framework

Decision Deadline

9. For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that instructions of Members are requested on this application.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services

Background Papers

(i)	Denise Baker - World Transplant Games in Canada, July 2005 and the British Transplant Games In Loughborough, August 2005	Application for Financial Assistance Summary of Anticipated Expenditure Press Cuttings
(ii)	St James the Great – 6 Young Students Choir/Pilgrimage to Prague, March 2005	Application for Financial Assistance Trip Itinerary

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