
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 an application in respect of financial assistance received from a charitable and non profit making organisation, details of which are contained in the report.

Background

2. The total committed in respect of applications made in the current year is £16,107.10. The Council has made provision within the 2004/2005 revenue budget of £15,000. This leaves a overspend of £1,107.10 and is before consideration of the attached application.
3. **1st Darlington Rainbows - Hire of Mowden Infant School to Host Weekly Rainbow Meetings**

(a) ***Introduction***

An application has been received from the Rainbow Unit Guider for financial assistance of £200 towards the cost of hiring Mowden Infant School from September 2004 to July 2005 to continue to host the 1st Darlington Rainbows each Monday evening during term time after 6.00pm.

Since 1990 this Rainbow Unit has held these weekly meetings at the School free of charge between the hours of 4.55pm and 5.55pm. However, due to work commitments the Guider runs this group after 6pm. As a result of this, a charge has been levied which means that the Group must pay for the hall hire at a cost of £7.00 per session agreed with the Head Teacher. This equates to £259.00 per annum.

Other groups use the same School facilities on a weekly basis namely the Brownie and Guide Unit and are both covered by the Councils Community Education Registration Scheme. Groups who are under this Scheme pay £50 to the Council which entitles them to a voucher which usually covers the remaining cost for the use of these facilities. Unfortunately the 1st Darlington Rainbows are not a member of this Scheme, and at the present time the Scheme is closed to new applicants.

As a Rainbow, girls between the ages of 5 and 7 are a part of Girlguiding UK which is the largest voluntary organisation for girls and young women in this Country. Girls are encouraged to learn new skills and to make new friends under the supervision of trained Rainbow leaders.

(b) **Financial Information**

Audited accounts for the two previous years ended 31 July 2004 have been submitted and are analysed below:-

	Year Ended 31 July	
	2003	2004
Income		
Subscriptions	428	334
Camps/Outings	21	59
Tax Refund	78	117
Contribution to Gifts	18	58
Donation	10	0
Sale of Tabards	20	32
	575	600
Expenditure		
Subscriptions	224	218
Camps/Holidays	48	100
Activity Materials	81	89
Books & Badges	53	16
Equipment	44	23
Gifts	27	78
Party Expenses	63	64
Photocopying	33	43
Tabards	16	32
Training	31	0
Rent for School	0	50
	620	713
Surplus/(Deficit)	(45)	(113)
Cash at Bank on current & instant accounts	160	47

(c) **Previous Applications**

The 1st Darlington Rainbows have not previously applied for financial assistance. However, the Trefoil Guild (Senior Girl Guides) have recently been successful in applying for financial assistance amounting to £200 to offset the costs of hiring of St. Cuthbert's Church Hall. Cabinet C208/March/2004 refers.

(d) **Conclusion**

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wished to support this application in respect of 1st Darlington Rainbows, and if so, to what extent.

Outcome of Consultation

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

Legal Implications

5. 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

6. 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

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

Decision Deadline

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

Recommendation

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

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services

Background Papers

(i)	1st Darlington Rainbows based at Mowden Infant School	Application for Financial Assistance Audited accounts for the two years ending 31 July 2004
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