
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 three applications in respect of financial assistance received from three charitable and non-profit making organisations, details of which are contained in the report.

Background

2. The total committed in respect of applications made in the current year is £2,100. The Council has made provision within the 2004/2005 revenue budget of £15,000. This leaves a balance of £12,900, and is before consideration of the attached applications.
3. **Childline – Yorkshire and North East**

(a) ***Introduction***

An application has been received from the regional fundraiser, for financial assistance of £1,984 towards funding the cost of phone calls made from children in the Darlington area.

Childline Yorkshire and North-East is based in Leeds and Durham and it takes calls from children across both regions. Children call about every conceivable issue, but the most common problems in the North East are; abuse (both sexual and physical), bullying, serious family tensions and teenage pregnancy. Childline aims to protect children who are at risk from harm and to help children resolve or alleviate their problems.

In further support of the application, due to lack of funds Childline are only able to answer around half of the calls they receive. On average it costs £32 to counsel a child and a grant of £1,984 would help ensure that 62 local children received help and support they need. An illustration of demand for the service has highlighted that 188 children from Darlington in the month of January 2004 have sought help from this organisation.

(b) **Financial Information**

Consolidated audited accounts for the two previous years ended 31st March, 2003 have been submitted and are analysed in the table below.

	Year Ended 31st March	
	2002	2003
	£	£
Income		
Donations and Gifts	7,349,085	8,572,966
Grants	1,356,834	1,940,172
Fundraising Events	1,739,647	2,019,323
	10,445,566	12,532,461
Expenditure		
Fundraising and Publicity	3,445,865	4,139,640
Counselling Services	6,374,829	7,238,100
	9,820,694	11,377,740
Surplus/(Deficit)	624,872	1,154,721
Cash Balances	3,850,057	2,493,511

(c) **Previous Applications**

Childline Yorkshire and North-east has successfully applied for financial assistance on one previous occasion. Details are highlighted in the table below together with additional and relevant information.

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref.	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
2003/2004	Funding the cost of phone calls made from children in Darlington	C52/July/2003	1,984	1,984

(d) **Conclusion**

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wishes to support this application in respect of Childline Yorkshire and North-East, and if so, to what extent.

4. **Sir E D Walker Homes ‘Goodwill Club’, Coniscliffe Road, Darlington**

(a) **Introduction**

An application has been received from the Secretary of Sir E.D. Walker Homes Goodwill Club for financial assistance of £150 towards the provision of outings, entertainment, which includes whist and dominoes, occasional buffet lunches/ afternoon teas and a Christmas lunch.

Sir E.D. Walker Homes Goodwill Club meets on a weekly basis for social activities which includes dominoes, whist and bingo. At the present time there is a membership of 44 who each pay an entrance fee of fifty pence for the provision of tea.

(b) **Financial Information**

Audited accounts for the three years ended 31st August, 2002 have been submitted and are detailed in the table below.

	Year Ended 31st August		
	2001	2002	2003
	£	£	£
Income			
Contributions towards Outings	495	528	959
Donations	1,205	1,111	1,300
Fund Raising Activities	893	951	1,224
Interest	20	15	6
	2,613	2,605	3,489
Expenditure			
Cost of Outings	1,430	945	1,877
Fund Raising Expenses	335	500	526
Administration	64	78	27
Christmas Activities	523	617	465
Other	10	0	16
	2,362	2,140	2,911
Surplus/(Deficit)	251	465	578
Balances	1,521	1,986	2,564

(c) **Previous Applications**

Sir E.D. Walker Homes Goodwill Club has been successful in applying for financial assistance on an annual basis since 1991. Details of the more recent applications

together with additional and relevant information are shown below.

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref.	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
1997/98	To subsidise the costs of providing summer outings, lunches, and Christmas lunches for its members	K15(Ka17) July 97	150	150
1998/99	As Above	K5(Ka13) July 98	150	150
1999/00	As Above	K26(Ka62) Sept 99	150	150
2000/01	As Above	C90(c) Sept/2000	150	150
2001/02	As Above	C157/Nov/01	150	150
2002/03	As Above	C147/Nov/02	150	150
2003/04	As Above	C24/June/03	150	150

(d) ***Conclusion***

The Cabinet are asked to consider whether they wish to support this application in respect of Sir E. D. Walker Homes Goodwill Club, and if so, to what extent.

5. **The Wednesday Over 60's Club, based at Wesley Court Community Centre, Darlington**

(a) ***Introduction***

An application has been received from the Treasurer of the Wednesday Over 60's Club based at the Wesley Court Community Centre for financial assistance of £200 towards the cost of organising various trips and social gatherings for its members who are pensioners and in some cases immobile.

At the present time the club has a membership of 30 and the main objective of the group is to provide social activities for its members, which include bingo, dominoes and whist evenings. Various entertainment is organised throughout the year where members can enjoy some refreshments and also the provision of a Christmas tea.

(b) ***Financial Information***

This Club is recently established and audited accounts for two years ended 31st March 2004 have been submitted and are analysed in the table below.

	Year Ended 31st March	Year Ended 31st March
	2003	2004
	£	£
Income		
Bingo	54	0
Fundraising Activities	80	326
Refreshments	31	57
	165	383
Expenditure		
Social Activities	103	216
Other	60	52
	163	268
Surplus/(Deficit)	2	115
Balance	215	330

(c) *Previous Applications*

The Wednesday Over 60's Club applied for financial assistance on two previous occasions, details of which are highlighted in the table below.

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref.	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
2002/2003	To assist with the cost of trips during the summer months and the provision of a Christmas dinner/tea for its members	C17/June/02	200	200
2003/2004	As Above	C24/June/03	200	200

(d) *Conclusion*

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wishes to support this application in respect of the Wednesday Night Over 60's Club, and if so, to what extent.

Outcome of Consultation

6. No consultation is taken on these items as a decision is made by Members.

Legal Implications

7. 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

8. 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

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

Decision Deadline

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

Recommendation

11. It is recommended that instructions of Members are requested on these applications.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services

Background Papers

(i)	Childline – Yorkshire & North East	Application for Financial Assistance Audited accounts for the two years ended 31st March 2003
(ii)	Sir E D Walker Homes 'Goodwill Club'	Application for Financial Assistance Audited accounts for the three years ended 31st August 2003
(iii)	The Wednesday Over 60's Club	Application for Financial Assistance Audited accounts for the two years ended 31st March 2004

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