

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Communities
Date:	2 August 2010
Title:	Winchester Devised Theatre Group request for project funding from the East Central Hampshire Action Team (HAT) Community Budget.
Reference:	1912
Report From:	Chief Executive

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for funding of £6,500 to the Winchester Devised Theatre Group (WDTG) from the East Central Hampshire Action Team Community Budget 2010/11 only, with no expectation for future years.

2. Contextual information

2.1. The proposal is for a six-month project to promote understanding of homelessness by developing a piece of devised theatre which allows homeless people to speak for themselves. The project provides an opportunity for homeless people to tell their own story through theatre, bridging the existing gap between homeless people and their issues, and an understanding of them by society, the government and the organisations who provide resources for homeless people such as Winchester Churches Nightshelter group. The proposal is fully outlined in the bid form attached as Appendix C.

3. Finance

3.1. The total funding allocation for the East Hampshire HAT is £200,000. The amount currently remaining is £200,000.

3.2. The amount of funding requested is £6,500 towards a total project cost of £16,740, subject to £1,600 being agreed by CCRA. The remaining funding is coming from in kind donations and additional funding from Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council. The detail of the bid is set out in the application form accompanying this report (Appendix C).

3.3. Checks have been made which confirm this is a bona fide organisation.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1. The County Council is able to utilise broad powers under the Local Government Act 1972 to provide financial support for the arts. In particular, Section 145 of the Act enables the Council to contribute towards the expenses of doing anything necessary or expedient for any of a number of purposes, including the provision of entertainment of any nature, or the provision of a theatre, concert hall, dance hall or other premises suitable for entertainment. The powers include the ability to contribute towards the development and improvement of the knowledge, understanding and practice of the arts

5. Monitoring

- 5.1. The intended outcomes of the project are outlined in the application form accompanying this report.
- 5.2. A detailed monitoring report setting out the final outcomes of the project will be sent out for completion at the end of the project.

6. Other key issues

- 6.1. There are no other key issues associated with this request.

7. Statements of Support

- 7.1. This application has majority support of the East Central HAT. It was approved at a HAT meetings on the 12 June 2010 subject to the local Members meeting with the applicant to discuss how the work would be taken forward after the project. This meeting was held on 29 June 2010 and Members in attendance were in full support.
- 7.2. The Executive Member and senior officers from adults social care have been consulted and no adverse comments were received. Adults social care are happy to support this initiative and confirmed that it doesn't overlap, interfere, or duplicate any other work that they are involved in with homeless people. Officers felt that the project will also add much to the lives of those who become involved.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1. That £6,500 of funding be awarded to the Winchester devised Theatre Group from the East Central HAT Community Budget for 2010/11.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

1.1. The WDTG works directly with vulnerable and disadvantaged homeless people in Winchester. Participation of performers from a range of backgrounds will be encouraged.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. There are no adverse impacts arising from this report. This project may help to address some of the fear of crime felt by the wider public towards homeless people by encouraging understanding of homeless issues. The project may also act as a diversionary activity for those at risk of committing crime as well as increasing the confidence of participants which may encourage them to report crime and seek support.

3. Climate Change:

3.1. There are no adverse impacts arising from this report.