

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report :

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
<b>Date:</b>	8 March 2011
<b>Title:</b>	Partnership Funding to Independent Charitable Outdoor Centres – 2011/12
<b>Reference:</b>	2686
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs

**Contact name:** Stuart Nundy

**Tel:** 01962 845015

**Email:** stuart.nundy@hants.gov.uk

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report considers applications for partnership funding for 2011/12 from the seven independent charitable Outdoor Education Centre providers (including the Hampshire Red Cross). This report recommends the distribution of a total of £162,300 in 2011/12, representing an 8% reduction on last years budget, as follows:

Centre	Amount
Avon Tyrell Outdoor Centre, Ringwood	5,888
Countryside Education Trust, Beaulieu	43,360
Privett Centre, Privett, near Petersfield	26,128
Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Activity Centre, Bursledon	12,144
British Red Cross, (Hampshire Branch)	3,726
Gilbert White Field Study Centre, Selborne	33,322
Marwell Wildlife	37,720

### 2. Background / Contextual Information:

- 2.1. The seven identified organisations are invited to apply for annual partnership funding to assist them with their essential running costs, with base levels affirmed by the Select Committee Review of 2009. The support enables them to deliver outdoor education to Hampshire young people in support of the Hampshire Outdoor Service 2008/11 Strategy, Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (CCRA) Service Plan Themes and Priorities and in support of the Corporate Priorities, specifically relating to 'Enhancing our quality of place'.
- 2.2. The 'score sheet' (see appendix 1) sets out specific criteria and has been used to assess the contribution of each centre for 2011/12 to overall Corporate Priorities. In addition, each centre has submitted a comprehensive application form setting out their operational and budget situations. Summary Business Plans exist for each centre. In addition, each centre is being

encouraged to seek other funding opportunities. A summary of all the partnership funding applications is set out in appendix 2 with recommended funding levels.

### **3. Budget Position:**

- 3.1. The base budget provision for this partnership funding in 2011/12 is £162,300. This represents an 8% reduction on 2010/11 budget availability, and is determined by the HCC corporate response to the reduced Government Grant Settlement to Hampshire County Council for 2011/12, as confirmed by the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation's decision relating to the CCRA Budget report of 28 January 2011.
- 3.2. For 2011/12 the recommendation is that the 8% reduction in available funding be applied equitably to all Outdoor Partnership applications. The Director of Culture Communities and Rural Affairs wrote to all funding recipients in November 2010 to give early indication of this likelihood. Further discussion took place between officers and a number of organisations who contacted the department at that time. All organisations are now aware of the likely outcome of the 2011 – 12 funding round and have been advised to make business decisions of their own to manage this reduction. None have made representation to officers indicating significant difficulty in doing so.
- 3.3. During 2011/12 further discussion will take place with all partnership organisations to determine and give advance notice of any alternative strategy that may be necessary in 2012/13 and onwards in order to manage Government Grant reductions to Hampshire that are mooted for 2012 - 2015

### **4. Criteria of Grant:**

- a. Strategic fit with Corporate Priorities
- b. Strategic fit with Educational/Children's Services Priorities
- c. Fit with centres provided by HCC
- d. Value for money as measured by the level of subsidy provided by HCC
- e. The vigour with which the centre appears to improve its level of income from sources other than HCC
- f. Culture of innovation in course development/outdoor experience and delivery

### **5. Other Considerations:**

- 5.1. It is affirmed that these grants contribute significantly to services for Young People provided by Hampshire County Council.
- 5.2. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken with respect to the recommendations in this report. As all the decisions about using a centre are made by the school and youth group concerned, and as schools hold budgets to support outdoor education internally, schools already are legally responsible for ensuring no young person is disadvantaged. Further, in all cases, the amount of funding provided by the County Council is a small element of the

total income of the centres involved. Any fee increases determined by the centres' business processes are therefore likely to be below the level at which significant impact may occur. The outcome of the Assessment is therefore that the changes identified in this report will not significantly impact upon any specific element of the community.

- 5.3. It is affirmed that the overall work of the centres noted contributes significantly to the outcomes explicit within the 'Children, Young People and Families' Theme within the CCRA Business Plan for 2011 onwards, specifically:
- a. The 'universal service' is developed in response to the needs of CYP & families
  - b. There are increased levels of participation by under-represented groups
  - c. Children in care, disabled children and socially disadvantaged groups have improved opportunities for personal development and to take part in leisure and recreational activities

**6. Recommendations:**

- 6.1. That approval is given to the above partnership funding recommendations for 2011/12
- 6.2. That further discussions go ahead with Partner Organisations with respect to possible options from April 2012 in the context of the likely budget position 2012 – 2013.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Business 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.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
Grant Application Forms 2011-12	Mottisfont Court – CCRA
Select Committee - Charitable Outdoor Centres Final Report 2009	Mottisfont Court – CCRA

**CRITERIA FOR PARTNERSHIP FUNDING:**

<b>Centre: charitable outdoor centre _____</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	
<b>Strategic fit with Corporate Priorities</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximising wellbeing, Enhancing our quality of place</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategic fit with Educational/Children's Services Priorities</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eg. Children at risk of exclusion / Children in care / Special needs</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<b>Fit with Centres provided by HCC</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either the degree to which the centre complements HCC centres, or the degree to which the centre adds needed capacity vis-à-vis HCC centres</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree to which the centre's location helps improve access for all localities in Hampshire</li> </ul>	
<b>Value for money as measured by the level of subsidy apparently provided by HCC</b> (using an approximate unit of 'per person', 'per session')	
<b>The vigour with which the centre appears to improve its level of income from sources other than HCC</b>	
<b>Culture of innovation in course development/outdoor experience and delivery</b>	
<b>Note:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .....</li> <li>• .....</li> <li>• .....</li> </ul>	

**DETAILS OF PARTNERSHIP FUNDING APPLICATIONS:**

<b>Centre</b>	<b>Number of HCC young people 2010/11</b>	<b>Type of work undertaken</b>	<b>Funding 2010/11 (£)</b>	<b>Recommended funding 2011/12 (£)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Avon Tyrell Outdoor Centre	2141 Residential and day Use	Outdoor Environmental education	6400	5888	Small scale funding applied just to the Environmental Education Unit. Mainstream curricular activities. The member for Ringwood, Councillor Steve Rippon-Swaine, has been consulted
Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Activity Centre	6000 Day Use activities and Residential	Outdoor activities with Hampshire young people and adults with special needs	13200	12144	The only centre with facilities for very severely disabled young people. Has had a very successful year, with expansion in both activities and group numbers. The member for Hamble, Councillor Keith House, has been consulted and has noted the recommendations
Countryside Education Trust, Beaulieu	9327 Residential and Day Use	Field studies and environmental education. Community education	47130	43360	Has a broad community education remit, extending well beyond formal education, and including YP at risk. This year the centre has been involved with some targeted intervention work in conjunction with Children's Services. They are also intending to expand their outreach work with schools and groups. The member for Brockenhurst, Councillor Ken Thornber, has been consulted and supports the recommendations
Gilbert White Study Centre	2870 Day Use	Field studies and environmental Education, museum education	36220	33322	Part of Gilbert White House Museum. Following a fundamental review of structure and activity in 2009 the centre has made very good progress in terms of its new business plan and development. Provides mainstream curricular activities. The member for Alton Rural, Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee has been consulted
Privett Centre	1094 Residential and Day Use	Residential and life skills for children with special needs and disabilities	28400	26128	Specific focus on Children with Special Educational Needs, mental and physical disabilities, and the provision of opportunities for small Primary Schools. Quite unique in terms of Hampshire provision. Has recently installed a new and modern kitchen, Fire safety equipment and play equipment for disabled YP. Internal redecoration is now ongoing. The member for Petersfield Hangers, Councillor Vaughan Clarke, has been consulted

<b>Centre</b>	<b>Number of HCC young people 2010/11</b>	<b>Type of work undertaken</b>	<b>Funding 2010/11 (£)</b>	<b>Recommended funding 2011/12 (£)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Red Cross – Hampshire Branch	16000	Training in First Aid skills for young people	4050	3726	Works with most HCC secondary schools, youth groups, PRUs and voluntary bodies working with young people. The trust operates county wide, and thus there is no available comment from a local member.
Marwell Wildlife Education Service	13427 School Children, Day Use	Environmental, sustainability and science education	41,000	37720	Marwell Wildlife has recently undergone a major revision to its curriculum work and continues to be popular with schools. Provides mainstream curricular activities  The member for Bishops Waltham, Cllr Peter Mason, has been consulted