

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Decision Report**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Communities and International Relations
<b>Date:</b>	4 November 2010
<b>Title:</b>	Funding request for Groundwork Solent via the Hampshire Action Team (HAT) for Gosport
<b>Reference:</b>	2167
<b>Report From:</b>	Chief Executive

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## **1. Executive Summary**

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for funding of £9,000 to Groundwork Solent from the Gosport HAT Community Budget. The funding is for an initiative called "Greening the Grey" which is focused on Environmental Improvements in Gosport's Town Ward.

## **2. Contextual information**

2.1. This programme will deliver small scale environmental improvements and enhance the grounds maintenance offer in Town Ward. It will also build skills and improve job prospects for long term unemployed young people who will be involved in delivering the improvements as part of the Community Task Force team.

2.2. Town Ward has a high concentration of lower income households including social and council owned housing stock along with some private ownership. The environment around some of these housing areas is poorly maintained. There is a lack of community ownership and residents are not empowered to take responsibility. At the same time the local authority is not able to allocate more resource to address the deficiencies. Town Ward has a higher proportion of economically inactive households than other parts of Gosport. Two of the Local Super Output Areas are in the 5% most deprived in Hampshire.

2.3. The project will work with stakeholders including Gosport Borough Council Officers across Housing, Tenant Participation Unit, Community Safety and Street Scene, local Councillors and service providers. The project will engage residents and help them to make decisions about improving their neighbourhoods.

2.4. The 3 priority locations in Town Ward are:

- White Lion and Seahorse Walks
- Trinity Green and Bastion No.1
- Seafield

### **3. Finance**

3.1 The total funding allocation available to Gosport HAT is £100,000.

3.2 The amount remaining following previous successful applications is £66,965.

3.3 The amount of funding requested for this project is £9,000 and the details are set out in the application form accompanying this report. Part of the funding is for staffing but most of the staffing has been joint funded via the future Jobs Fund, other grants from Hampshire County Council and Groundwork UK. The total project cost is £19,500 and the joint funding required has been secured.

3.4 The project is of a “task and finish” nature.

### **4. Legal Implications**

4.1 The County Council has the power under S137 (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 to incur expenditure on contributions to any of the following funds:

- (a) the funds of any charitable body in furtherance of its work in the United Kingdom;
- (b) the funds of any body which provides any public service (whether to the public at large or to any section of it) in the United Kingdom otherwise than for the purposes of gain.

Groundwork Solent is a registered charity and therefore eligible for a grant under S137 (3).

### **5. Monitoring**

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

### **4. Other key issues**

4.1. There are no other key issues associated with this request.

**5. Statements of Support**

- 5.1. This application has the majority support of the whole HAT and supports partnership working in the locality.

**6. Recommendation**

- 6.1. That the Executive Member for Communities and International Relations approves a sum of £9,000 to be awarded to Groundwork Solent, from the Gosport HAT Community Budget for 2010/11 only, with no expectation for future years.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

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

**IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

**1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

1.1. There are no adverse implications.

**2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1. One of the intended outcomes is to help to reduce incidents and impact of anti-social behaviour by designing robust improvements to specific areas which improve sight lines, are resilient to vandalism and actively encourage community ownership and engagement of families and young people.

**3. Climate Change:**

a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

There are no adverse implications.

b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The project will improve the overall quality of the environment. Sustainable planting will be carried out including drought tolerant species and where feasible growing fruit and vegetables amongst more municipal shrub planting.