

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member For Communities and International Relations		
Date:	11 March 2011		
Title:	Funding request from Sunrise Bushcraft Ltd via the Hampshire Action Team for the New Forest		
Reference:	2636		
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 £10,000 to Sunrise Bushcraft Ltd to support a project to engage disadvantaged and vulnerable young people in nature based environmental activities and learning, via the Hampshire Action Team for the New Forest.

2. Contextual information

2.1 For some years now Sunrise Bushcraft Ltd as an organisation has been working with children and young adults from all walks of life but especially from disadvantaged backgrounds, excluded from mainstream education or with disabilities.

2.2 An ethos of Sunrise Bushcraft Ltd is of "Nature Deficit Disorder" and how this has an impact on children's and young adults behaviour. The project that will be run will be to give vulnerable children or young adults the opportunity to come into nature and the woodland in Somerley Estate, Ringwood, New Forest and engage in a series of activities and projects based around conservation, habitat management and woodland skills.

2.3 Sunrise Bushcraft Ltd will run 24 days of structured activities (twice a month) with participants following a programme which will enable a recognised qualification either through Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN) or the Open College Network (OCN). During the sessions they will engage in a variety of skills and activities ranging from environmental work such as habitat maintenance and conservation through clearance of rhododendron, woodland skills such as fire maintenance, use of cutting tools, woodland management, edible wild foods, and biological surveys of flora and fauna.

3. Finance

- 3.1 The total funding allocation available to the New Forest HAT is £70,000.
- 3.2 The amount remaining following previous successful applications is £45,000.
- 3.2 The amount of funding requested is £10,000 and the detail of the bid is set out in the application form accompanying this report (Appendix C).

4. Legal Implications

- 4.2 The County Council has the power under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 as the activities are incidental to the functions of the County Council.

5. Monitoring

- 5.1 The intended outcomes of the project are outlined in the application form accompanying this report (highlighted in page 3).
- 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 to report.

7. Statements of Support

- 7.1 This application has the majority support of the New Forest HAT Members following a HAT meeting on the 28 January 2011 and supports partnership working in the locality.
- 7.2 The County Council Children's Services Department supports this request, which will enable children and young people who might otherwise be vulnerable to engage positively with their community. This is in line with the Local Children Partnership priorities.
- 7.3 The Executive Lead Member for Children's Services, Councillor Perry has been consulted and is in full support of the funding request.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 That the Executive Member for Communities and International Relations approves a sum of £10,000 be awarded to Sunrise Bushcraft Ltd via the Hampshire Action Team for New Forest, to support a project to engage disadvantaged and vulnerable young people in nature based environmental activities and learning for 2010/11 only, with no expectation of funding for future years.

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):	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

9. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1 This project will help to improve health in an outdoor setting and to improve the economic outlook of disadvantaged and vulnerable young people
as they focus on what is achievable and they follow a programme whereby a qualification could be gained as well as developing their social skills by introducing them to a different environment.

2.1 Impact on Crime and Disorder:

The opportunities provided by engaging children and young people in activities and learning for a year will help to promote a positive engagement with the forest environment providing positive activities that may distract from taking part in incidents of anti social behaviour.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?
- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

There are no impacts arising from this report.