

COMMITTEE: SOUTH WEST REF NO: SWAC/18/11
DATE: 12 JULY 2018
SUBJECT: FUNDING REQUEST: FOOTSTARS CIC
TRAINEESHIP COMPUTER RESOURCES
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HEAD OF SERVICE: IAN BLOFIELD

Short description of report content and the decision requested:

This report requests that the Committee consider allocating £907.20 to Footstars CIC for the purchase of four laptops to aid the education of 16-24 year-olds participating in the Traineeship and Apprenticeship Programme.

List of Appendices included in this report:

None

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This report was prepared after consultation with:

Internal consultees

External consultees

The following policies form a context to this report:

(all relevant policies must also be referred to in the body of the report)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AS REQUIRED BY LAW

(papers relied on to write the report but which are not published and do not contain exempt information)

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OTHER HELPFUL PAPERS

(papers which the report author considers might be helpful – this might include published material)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report requests that the Committee consider allocating £907.20 to Footstars CIC for the purchase of four laptops to aid the education of 16-24 year-olds participating in the Traineeship and Apprenticeship Programme.

2. Background



Figure 1 – Footstars school coaching

- 2.1 Footstars is a local company that provides school football coaching, Physical Education lessons and extracurricular clubs. Lead coach Guy Hayes founded Footstars in 2012 and has operated as a sole trader up until in 2018 when Footstars changed to a not for profit organisation (Community Interest Company, [08135241](https://www.gov.uk/08135241)).
- 2.2 When first established in 2012, Footstars ran one hour-long session a week, it now runs with five full time & four part time members of staff delivering coaching to around 1,000 children each week.
- 2.3 Footstars is establishing a new coaching traineeship for young people (16-24yrs) not currently in education, training or employment. The traineeship is a 10-week programme providing participants with an understanding of the sports education sector and establish coaching skills. It will be delivered from their base at the Bourne Vale Sports and Social Club. Successful participants will achieve a Level 2 Certificate in the Principles of Sport Coaching.
- 2.4 At the end of the programme, participants may progress to the Apprenticeship and gain experience of coaching alongside the Footstars coaches. Alternatively, they will be assisted with interviews for employment elsewhere.
- 2.5 In order to complete the educational element of the traineeship, participants will need internet access through a computer. Those most likely to access the traineeship are those who face financial disadvantage.

2.6 In order that possession of a home computer is not a barrier to accessing the traineeship programme Footstars wish to purchase four laptops that trainees can use. The computers will be supplied by an organisation that refurbishes units for charities and non-profit organisations and will cost £226.80 each (including VAT). The laptops will be based at the Footstars premises.

2.7 **The amount requested of the South West Area Committee is £907.20**

3. Relevant Policies and Area Action considerations

- 3.1 Building a Better Ipswich underlying principles:
- Priority 1: A Strong Ipswich Economy
 - Priority 3: An Enjoyable Place to Live, Work and Study
 - Priority 4: A Healthy Community
- 3.2 To alleviate deprivation in the domains of:
- Education, Skills and Training

4. Options Considered / Under Consideration

- 4.1 In deciding these options, the South West Area Committee is asked to use its discretion as to whether the evidence offered in section 10.4 is sufficient mitigation for the lack of business plan, as would normally be required by the Area Committee funding Protocol.
- 4.2 **Option 1** – Approve allocation of funding of £907.20 to Footstars CIC to purchase of four computers to support youth training.
- 4.3 **Option 2** – Approve allocation of an amount less than £907.20 to Footstars CIC to purchase of four computers to support youth training.
- 4.4 **Option 3** - Do not fund

5. Consultations

- 5.1 No public consultation has been required for this application. The traineeship programme has been developed through Footstars work with local young people and secondary schools.

6. Risk Management

- 6.1 The Footstars CIC management team and trustees are responsible for the proper running of traineeship programme and associated risks.

Risk Description	Consequence of risk	Risk Controls	Probability of risk occurring taking account of controls (1: almost impossible - 6: very high)	Impact of risk, if it occurred taking account of actions (1: negligible - 4: catastrophic)

Safeguarding of young people	Injury or abuse	Safeguarding staff training, policy and procedures Disclosure and Barring Service checks	1	3
Actions to mitigate risk				
Footstars staff are all DBS checked and safeguarding trained. The organisation has a reporting process and safeguarding policy.				
Theft or loss of equipment	Disruption of training	Security of equipment Storage of equipment Insurance	1	2
Actions to mitigate risk				
The laptops will be accessible to trainees during supervised sessions and stored securely between. Footstars insurance policy will cover the equipment once purchased.				
Lack of business plan	Threat to sustainability of Footstars Failure to deliver training	Annual Accounts Established practice Limited cost exposure	2	2
Actions to mitigate risk	Footstars has reserves in place for several months running costs and a scalable business model. The tutoring of the Traineeships has funding secured and so the delivery and use of the computers is protected to some degree.			

7. Environmental Impact Assessment

- 7.1 The environmental impact of this project is assessed to be negligible as the laptops are refurbished units. The scheme diverts units from waste to be reused by charities and non-profit organisations in order to prolong the life and reduce waste.

8. Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 8.1 The Footstars traineeship programme is open to Ipswich young people of all backgrounds. This project will have neither a positive or negative impact in relation to the characteristics of gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership (in employment only), race, religion or pregnancy and maternity.
- 8.2 This project has a limited inclusion for age but as the project addresses disadvantage particular to the NEET age group there is not judged to be a negative impact to excluded age groups.

9. Financial Considerations

Item	Cost
One-off costs	
<i>Unit</i> Dell Latitude E6340 refurbished laptop with Windows 10 Operating System	
<i>Cost</i> £226.80	
<i>Quantity</i> 4 units	£907.20
Total	£907.20

9.1 The refurbishment scheme represents a significant saving over retail rates and value for money has therefore been demonstrated. The traineeship places are government funded without cost to the trainees. The equipment to support the training is unfunded and is for the Area Committee to consider.

9.2 **The amount requested of the South West Area Committee is £907.20**

10. Legal Considerations

10.1 The Council has the power to award grants to community projects through the Area Committees. The Area Committees have delegated Executive powers and devolved budgets.

10.2 Area Committees have the power to award grants in accordance with part 3, section 2 of the Council's Constitution i.e. the Area Committee terms of reference.

10.3 The Funding Protocol condition of being constituted was met by confirmation of registration with Companies House (Number [08135241](#)). Evidence of named post holders for the management team and trustees is provided within the Companies House registration.

10.4 The bank account registered to Footstars CIC was verified through copies of online banking information. The organisation supplied yearend accounts for 2016/17. A business plan was not supplied.

10.5 The actions proposed to mitigate risks identified are sufficient to allow this funding request to be considered.

11. Performance Monitoring

11.1 Footstars CIC would be required to complete the Area Committee monitoring report as part of the standard funding agreement. This would include confirmation of the laptop purchases and traineeship enrolment & outcomes for 2018-19. The organisation may be invited to report to the South West Area Committee.

12. Conclusions

12.1 Footstars CIC is seeking funding to support a new coaching traineeship for young people (16-24yrs) not currently in education, training or employment. The computers will be integral to the training, which will give young people a workplace qualification and experience thereby improving their prospects of employment. This is intended to directly benefit the participants and contribute to the local economy.

13. Recommendations

13.1 That the South West Area Committee considers the merit of the options for funding set out in section four and decides an option.

13.2 Reason:

- To support training opportunities for young people in Ipswich
- To support the growth of local enterprise