

COMMITTEE: NORTH WEST AREA **REF NO:** NWAC/18/08
DATE: THURSDAY 19 JULY 2018
SUBJECT: WHITTON GIRLS SPORT AND YOUTH FOOTBALL
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HEAD OF SERVICE: TOM MINNICAN

Short description of report content and the decision requested:

The Ipswich Borough Council Sports team is seeking funding to allow for the continuation of free sports activities for young people in North West Ipswich with partner organisation Suffolk Positive Futures. Activities will include a sports project for girls on a Friday evening and a football project on a Wednesday afternoon – both to take place at Whitton Sports Centre. The sessions will be free for participants, held at a local community venue and promise to be fun and engaging.

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)

Building a Better Ipswich – The Council's Corporate Plan

The North West Area Committee Action Plan

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Ipswich Borough Council Sports team is seeking funding to allow for the continuation of free sports activities for young people in North West Ipswich with partner organisation Suffolk Positive Futures. Activities will include a sports project for girls on a Friday evening and a football project on a Wednesday afternoon – both to take place at Whitton Sports Centre. The sessions will be free for participants, held at a local community venue and promise to be fun and engaging.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Ipswich Borough Council Sports team provide facilities and activities for children and adults across the whole of Ipswich to engage in sports and healthy activity. This provision encompasses all ages and abilities; however, the team work with partner organisations to broaden access for people who might otherwise be excluded. An example of this model that is familiar to many families is the Jumpers For Goalposts free-to-access programme, organised by the Sports team and delivered by Suffolk Positive Futures.
- 2.2 Suffolk Positive Futures has developed, through external funding, a provision of regular sports and football provision at Whitton Sports Centre. This programme has been running for over 18 months and it is designed to reach families experiencing financial hardship that might otherwise be excluded from sports. Part of the initial funding is ending and the Sports team wishes to ensure the continuation and development of this complimentary programme as part of the overall offer to young people to keep them active and safe.
- 2.3 Suffolk Positive Futures aims to transform young people's lives and make a significant impact on reducing crime and youth violence in local communities, while promoting positive emotional wellbeing. Staff are well known and trusted by the community, and they will reach out to young people, at times when they need it most. Suffolk Positive Futures run a range of sporting activities across the county in areas where there is a high level of deprivation. This involves the delivery of free community sports sessions as well as targeted sessions with local groups and schools.
- 2.4 The organisation Suffolk Positive Futures is part of Catch 22. Catch 22's staff work across children's social care, deliver alternative education, get people into work through apprenticeships and employability programmes, build stronger communities through social action, and deliver social justice and rehabilitation services.
- 2.5 Locally Suffolk Positive Futures is currently delivering two weekly sessions, providing young people aged 10 – 19 years, the opportunity to take part in free sports activities.

- Session 1: Football 4 - 5pm every Wednesday at Whitton Sports Centre for approximately 30 young people.
 - Session 2: Girls only sports (including trampolining, dodgeball, badminton and boxing) 7 – 8pm every Friday at Whitton Sports Centre for approximately 30 young people.
- 2.6 The programme is about getting young people to develop a sporting habit for life and to transform the social and sporting landscapes in disadvantaged communities. Sessions are fun, engaging and provide a vibrant place where young people play sports, at zero cost, at a venue on their doorstep.
- 2.7 The project will enhance community safety in the North West area, as young people will be offered free sports sessions after school, which will help divert them into constructive evening activity and deter them from getting involved in antisocial behaviour.
- 2.8 Sessions will be informal, allowing the sports coaches to work on social skills with the young people, such as communication, confidence and teamwork. It will also allow the young people to get to know each other better, so when they see them again outside of the sessions they will have a connection - breaking down barriers and fostering good relations in the community.
- 2.9 Suffolk Positive Futures expects approximately 50 young people to attend the weekly sessions, with total yearly throughput, over 46 weeks, to be 2,300. The organisation expects to work with 150 different young people over the 12-month project.
- 2.10 Beneficiaries will be made aware of the project via social media, flyers and posters in local shops and the sports centre, and via the Council's newsletters. Suffolk Positive Futures will host taster sessions at Westbourne and Ormiston Endeavour Academies and go out into the community to engage young people. They have worked in North West Ipswich for the past 15 years and so are able to promote the sessions directly to existing participants and have good links with local agencies working with young people, such as the Youth Offending Service and Suffolk Family Focus.
- 2.11 All sessions are run in open access and inclusive environments. Session leaders are selected by their ability to engage and relate with young people as well as their ability to lead a sports session. A female coach and two coaches, who describe their ethnic origin as BME (Black and/or Minority Ethnic), will run these sessions. This helps greatly in attracting young people from a wide cross-section of the community; it also provides positive role models to young people. One of the coaches has been engaged with the project since he was 12 years old! He works across the county, is an outstanding role model for participants and he still lives in the North West Ipswich area.
- 2.12 The programme is already over 50% funded and the Sports team is seeking funding to enable it to continue and shape this programme for the next year. A breakdown of costs is given in Section 9.

2.13 The request for the North West Area Committee to consider is for £3,000.

3. Relevant Policies AND Area Action considerations

3.1 In line with the priorities identified in the Council's Corporate Plan and the North West Area Committee Action Plan, the project seeks to contribute towards

- A Healthy Community,
- Safe Communities and
- An Enjoyable Place to Live, Work and Study.

3.2 The project also aims to alleviate deprivation in the domain of

- Education, Skills and Training.

4. Options Considered / Under Consideration

4.1 Option 1 – Approve funding of £3,000 towards the cost of the Whitton Girls Sport and Youth Football project.

4.2 Option 2 – Agree a lesser contribution towards the cost of the project.

4.3 Option 3 – Do not fund.

5. Consultations

5.1 Positive Futures monitors feedback received from participants and parents and they use this feedback to shape future programmes in partnership with the Sports team.

6. Risk Management

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 (scale 1 – negligible; 4 – catastrophic)	Actions to mitigate risk
Safeguarding risk to young people	Emotional or physical harm to young person Threat to operation of the project	Staff and volunteer DBS checks Safeguarding training Safeguarding policy and	2	4	Staff/volunteers to be trained and DBS checked Evidence of policy and procedure to be provided to

		procedure			the Council for recording purposes This risk is owned by Catch 22, Suffolk Positive Futures
Risks inherent in individual activities within the program, e.g. physical exercise	Physical harm to young person, staff or volunteer	Risk assessment and management of individual activity	2	3	Staff/volunteers to risk individual activities within the program before delivering. Public liability insurance held by the organisation must cover the activities identified This risk is owned by Catch 22, Suffolk Positive Futures
Activities are not well attended or well run	Public funds are not well used	Consultation with users Monitoring of progress	2	2	Consultation between organisation and young people in developing the program Staff to report on success of program to the Council
Alternative funding sources not secured	Dependency on Area Committee for ongoing funding	Condition of committee funding allocation and monitoring to include evidencing of application to external sources	3	2	The organisation to provide evidence of other funding

7. Environmental Impact Assessment

- 7.1 There are no negative environmental impacts identified within this report. Participants will live locally and it is expected that they will walk or cycle to sessions.

8. Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 8.1 The organisation does not discriminate against any individual on any characteristic and this includes but not exhausted to disability, gender, race, religion, belief, or sexual orientation.

9. Financial Considerations

- 9.1 The total cost of the project for 1 year is £7,000. So far, Suffolk Positive Futures has secured 57% of this cost through three different funding channels. The Ipswich Borough Council Sports team is seeking £3,000 to allow it to work with Positive Futures on the project to run for 12 months.

Description of expenditure	Cost (£)
Indoor facility hire x 46 weeks	£1,748
Outdoor facility hire – 2 pitches x 46 weeks	£2,070
Staffing - Sports Coaches (Wednesdays) x 46 weeks	£1,380
Staffing - Sports Coaches (Fridays) x 46 weeks	£1,380
Incentives for young people (medals, hoodies)	£250
Equipment (balls, first aid kit, dodgeballs, bibs)	£172
Total project costs	£7,000
Total amount requested	£3,000

- 9.2 To sustain the project in the future, Suffolk Positive Futures intends to apply to funding programmes such as 'StreetGames', SCC's Health and Wellbeing Board, Suffolk Community Foundation, local trusts and Sport England.

- 9.3 The request for the North West Area Committee to consider is for £3,000

10. Legal Considerations

- 10.1 The Council has the power to make available grants for 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 Catch 22, Suffolk Positive Futures is a registered charity ([1124127](#)) with a committee and staff members. The organisation has provided its constitution document, details of a named bank account and a year of accounts.
- 10.4 The organisation have the following policies relevant to this application in place, of which copies can be viewed on request.
- Safeguarding for vulnerable adults and children
 - Equal Opportunities

11. Performance Monitoring

- 11.1 Members of the Area Committee will be welcome to visit the project sessions and will be kept updated on progress. The organisation will collect case studies, testimonials from young people and parents, photographs and statistics demonstrating whom the project is attracting.

12. Conclusions

- 12.1 This programme of activities offers value for money and provides quality activities for a range of young people, giving them sports and social skills, benefit their wellbeing, showing them positive role models and deterring them from becoming involved in antisocial behaviour.

13. Recommendations

- 13.1 That the North West Area Committee consider funding £3,000 from the budget to enable the project to go ahead as outlined above.**

Reason: To meet the priorities of the North West Area Committee Action Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan and to increase young people's participation in physical activity.