SMALL DISADVANTAGED AREAS FUND

Application Fund

Closing date for this fund: 1 December 2010: Local Deadline 1 October

Contact details	Help Notes	
Q1 Name of Local Committee: Runnymede	The name of the Local Committee submitting the bid	
Q2 Name of recipient organisation: Englefield Green Village Centre	This is the name of the organisation which will carry out the activities funded or hold the funds on behalf of a partnership	
Q3		
Contact person: Linda Ashford		
Title:		
First Name: Linda		
Surname: Ashford		
Position held in the organisation: Centre Manager	This is the person we will	
Contact address: The Village Centre	contact if we need information about this application	
Victoria Street		
Englefield Green		
Surrey		
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Fax:		
E-mail: Linda@villagecentre.org.uk		
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What are you seeking funding for?

Q4 Describe the area where the funding applied for would be spent

Englefield Green West has been identifed as an area of deprivation and need with high numbers of unemployed, low income and other social problems. The majority of the geographical area comprises the Forest Estate, a densely populated area with little green space and a lack of community facilities, and made up of a post war Local Authority development which is now fragmented by owner occupied properties and private landlords, the latter renting to students from the neighbouring Royal Holloway University of London.

targeted by this proposal

Give details of the

neighbourhood or locality which is being

There is a large population of retired and elderly residents who

initially were tenants of the Local Authority and have chosen to purchase their homes in the 1970's - 80's under central Government 'sell-off' schemes, whilst the remaining properties still under Local Authority / Housing Association ownership are tenanted by low income and single parent families.

There is a number of sheltered and nursing care facilities for the elderly and hostel accommodation type units for the younger age group on income and social support located around the periphery of the ward.

The closure of the Queen Elizabeth House day centre two years ago as a result of local authority cut-backs was a serious blow for the elderly in the area and represented a further deterioration to the available public buildings in the area. Much of the accommodation offered by the three remaining public halls / centres is strictly limited during weekday times by pre-school and crèche facilities. The conversion of the former Methodist Church premises into The Village Centre very much an asset for the Community.

It is a long walk to the Egham library and public transport is extremely limited.

Q5 Provide evidence of the local needs which the funding would address

Englefield Green West appears within the top twenty SOAs in Surrey, when ranked just on income deprivation affecting children – families on low incomes.

Englefield Green West also score relatively highly for income deprivation affecting people over 60

The latest data available for this SOA:

- Census 2001 showed 6% of SOA population as lone parents (county average 4%)
- income deprivation affecting children was high at 33% of the SOA (England average is 22%) based on IMD 2007 release
- 19% of households were in privately rented accommodation (county average is 7%) at the time of the 2001 census
- 9.4% of the working age population were in receipt of benefits in 2008 (county average 6%)
- 24% of the SOA population had no car at the time of 2001 Census
- adult social care open cases in March 2010 was 49.5 per 1000 population (county average 19.3), which is high;
- 46% of young people in the ward gained 5 GCSE passes in 2009 (county average was 59%),

Provide data, e.g. Index of Multiple Deprivation, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and details of any local consultation which support your application for this area.

- under 18s teenage conception rate was around 27.5 per 1000
- the number of NEET young people in the ward in February 2010 was 11 (second highest in the borough);
- in 2009 the rate of domestic abuse incidents reported to the police was 3.6 per 1000
- A higher than average proportion of local youth are diagnosed with ADHD and other related learning disorders, coupled with the fact that because of these behavioural problems many are temporarily or permanently excluded from school. Generally, these youth fall within the low income and single parent social categories where external support may not always be readily available and as a consequence the young person may miss out on basic standards of education and literacy.

Q6 Describe the project or activities you are seeking funding for

Digital technologies now pervade every aspect of modern society but these opportunities are not enjoyed by everyone for example, 17 million people in the UK still do not use computers and the Internet and there is a strong correlation between digital exclusion and social exclusion. Computers and the internet can be used to make life easier in many different ways and are fast becoming the only way to apply for certain jobs and purchase certain products. It is also the biggest tool for communication helping to keep people in touch and ensuring that they can obtain any information they require.

The project that has been designed is for a digital suite for The Village Centre situated on Victoria Street, Englefield Green. The suite would consist of 3 or 4 computers, an AppleMac and also a laptop for mobile use and linking to screen, a printing and photocopying facility, a projection screen and projector for training and film club, audio system with link for deaf. Desks and appropriate chairs would also be required.

The purpose of this equipment is to create an Information Centre providing the community with access to IT facilities at no cost and the chance to use them with support around if needed.

There would be work done on the following areas;

Job search/ tackling unemployment/writing a good CV Financial use – paying bills online, online banking, credit cards Debt management – budgeting, CFEB site Online shopping – supermarkets for food, clothes, furnishings etc Briefly describe the proposed actions and the activities that will be undertaken; explain how the project would offer something new to the area New Culture - Itunes, LoveFilm, Amazon, Sykpe, FB

SCC website – Information on social services, highways, councillors, news, library

RBC website – council tax payments, housing register, leisure facilities

Social – film and arts club with specific evening for different age groups and cultures

Q7 What outcomes and outputs will you be aiming to achieve and how do they help SCC achieve its strategic priorities? Please also say what SCC services are involved and the named contact(s).

The IMD uses seven key headings or domains indicating a particular need or lack in the population which include income, employment, health deprivation & disability, education, skills and training, barriers to housing and services, crime and living environment. The project assists in tackling problems in 6 of these domains including income, employment, education, skills and training, crime and living environment and barriers to housing and services.

The project will seek to empower vulnerable groups of people. These include the elderly, the unemployed, families and the young.

Elderly

Englefield Green West scores relatively highly for income deprivation affecting people over 60. The current lack of social activity on the Green for the elderly means many have or are becoming isolated within their own homes as a result of travel difficulties. Many do not possess the mental agility or the financial ability to make use of technological advancements. Digital Inclusion delivered by volunteers would assist residents with their financial management, keeping in contact with family and friends outside the immediate area; assist with shopping and give them personal contact on a regular basis, the one thing many old people in the area lack. This would help the County Council move forward with assisted living rather than care homes.

Youth

A higher than average proportion of local youth are diagnosed with ADHD and other related learning disorders, coupled with the fact that because of these behavioural problems many are temporarily or permanently excluded from school. Generally, these youth fall within the low income and single parent social categories where external support may not always be readily available and as a consequence the young person may miss out on basic standards of education and literacy.

Often these are the youth the police engage with on the streets and are suspected of most incidents of anti-social behaviour and

An outcome is the direct difference your project will make. The outcomes and quantifiable outputs you specify will form part of our funding agreement with you and progress against these must be detailed in the report which you will be required to submit at the end of the funding period.

vandalism. Their boredom and frustration is fuelled by their inadequacies of education and the spiral of deprivation in which they find themselves.

Digital Inclusion within the Village Centre would enable the youth of Englefield Green West to develop their powers of literacy, thus empowering them to look for work, prepare CV and job application data. The Centre is heavily pledged with volunteer assistance, a lot of whom come from Royal Holloway and therefore have the expertise to develop and deliver educational programmes at peer group level, which in addition would assist with community cohesion between the college and the local community.

Additionally the provision of training, digitally based functions such as cinema clubs etc would help to keep young people off the streets and provide a safe and congenial atmosphere for community activities. The police are keen as it is a way of tackling anti-social behaviour caused by young people hanging around the streets and have stated they will organise shifts so they can drop into the centre during film screenings etc to manage any rowdy behaviour.

This would help the County Council raise attainment rates, tackle unemployment and reduce the burden on police.

Unemployed

Many unemployed people find themselves stuck alone in the house all day and with nobody to ask questions to or any support in their hunt for work. The suites will be available for these people to come in, have a coffee and sit job searching. One a regular basis there will be someone available who will be qualified to help them write or improve their CV and who will show them how to research a company before an interview and how to fill in applications online.

Families

The SCC Children's Centre manager Jane Perry is supportive of the proposal as they will use the projection screen for training and entertainment for young families. This supports the County Council's work on prevention by stopping the break up of families which can led to other problems placing a burden on the authority.

Q8 How would you involve residents in the project?

The project has the support of the Englefield Green Residents Association who will advertise the schedule in their newsletter and will inform all their members of the service. Some of their members are volunteers at the Centre.

Some residents have offered help on a voluntary basis including a careers advisor and a counsellor.

Describe how you would establish a relationship with residents and voluntary organisations All residents are welcome in the village centre. Many residents have involvement with voluntary groups who will be welcome to use the Centre and facilities.

SCC Social Services are setting up a Contact Centre in the Village Centre, as they have stated there is a huge need. This will involve residents coming to the centre for these appointments and being able to use the Information Centre then and for their children to play computer games or watch films if the situation is difficult.

Q9 The fund is available for one year only; how will any project initiated during this period be sustained in the longer term?

Once the equipment has been bought the overheads are minimal. The staff who will help support the project have generally agreed to do it voluntarily. The only cost will be paper, printer ink, insurance and general admin as well as internet connection and a strong firewall.

Once we have the facility in place we will be able to extend activities as more volunteers become available and work with Royal Holloway University develops.

Q10 How will you measure your success in carrying out the activities and achieving the outcomes you have set out above?

Success will be measured by the numbers of people made computer literate and who are able to order online and send emails etc. All people who attend will be asked to fill in a feedback form. We will also keep records on numbers attending the cinema club and the amount of hours the equipment is used and for what purpose.

There should be a reduction in police time being spent on small queries and issues which can be dealt with at the centre and also a reduction of anti-social behaviour.

Explain how you intend to develop local capacity to sustain the project after the funding ends.

We don't want to create reporting burdens so do keep systems simple, realistic and informative.

Q11 Please set out the project timescale and key project milestones

Confirmation of funding would lead to the procurement of the PCs and the start of employment/CV training as we already have volunteers available. We would also start immediately contacting the elderly residents to tell them how they can use the equipment.

We would then work with Royal Holloway College to assess what skills students can provide to teaching and what courses can be set up for both young and elderly residents.

The setting up of audio and projection equipment would be undertaken so that training and entertainment can be started. After the equipment is installed we would then seek to have a programme of events and activities every month. Records of numbers attending these would be noted and failure to meet minimum attendees would mean looking at changing the activity for something else.

After 6 months we would ask users to fill out a form letting us know if other assistance or courses would help them and what could make the centre better.

We would also seek to have a number of different voluntary groups and clubs using the equipment and want to prove after 12 months that we have attracted these organisations to use the centre and utilise the equipment.

After 12 months we will ask police what changes have occurred in anti-social behaviour and other criminal activity.

We will be requiring a brief quarterly update on progress and these milestones will form the basis of that update

Q12 Who are your key partners and how are you developing a shared approach to the area?

The application is made by The Methodist Church of Englefield Green in conjunction with Surrey Police who fully support the proposed initiative. It is endorsed by the Surrey County Councillor (Marisa Heath) who is also a Runnymede Borough Councillor. The Plan has been discussed at and approved by Englefield Green West Community Liaison Forum represented by all community groups present on the green

The Police – the Englefield Green police came up with the original concept alongside the Manager of the Village Centre as they were getting large numbers of people seeking their assistance on matters which were out of their hands or that they didn't have the answers to. They felt a place where they could direct people to get advice and information from would be useful. They also wanted to see a point of focus for the Englefield Green community as they felt it was lacking and they had particular concern for the elderly who are oastracized from the community.

The Voluntary Sector – The Village Centre is run by a voluntary faith group. It would be possible for any voluntary group to use the equipment for traning and entertainment. The Islamic society will potentially use the projector for films and culture sharing sessions.

The County Council – The local County Councillor has been actively involved in supporting the Centre and will run her surgeries from there. She feels a central information point would be very useful to direct residents towards council services. It will ensure the council is open and transparent.

The Borough Council – The Borough Council will also be able to use the Centre as an information point. The Head of Housing has stated that she would welcome an Information Centre to deal with the Housing Register and the Head of Planning has added that it would be useful for residents to see the application list and make comments.

The Children's Centre – Improving the computer literacy of some of the parents will help them seek help, find work and help their children with school work. Also having somewhere for teenagers to socialise and watch films will give parents a break whilst knowing their child is safe and close by.

Royal Holloway University – Will provide students with IT skills to assist which will support their voluntary programme, develop the CVs of those who take part and integrate students with the rest of the community.

Please list the partner organisations you are working with and the strategic and local objectives you wish to achieve; explain how partners' contributions will represent an integrated solution to the needs of the area.

Q13 Provide details of reports received by the Local Committee which have contributed to an understanding of disadvantage in your borough/district as a whole and in this area in particular.

We have received several reports highlighting data on disadvantaged areas in the Borough of which Englefield Green has featured. These include:

In 2008 Item 15 Local Area Profile report In 2009 Item 12 Priority Areas Report In July 2010 SDAF Report

These reports noted that multi-agency groups were meeting to discuss action plans and local members including the Englefield Green Councillor had supported funding requests from those agencies to help with work in the area.

Demonstrate that the Committee has developed an understanding of the profile of disadvantage locally and of the opportunities for joint working and leadership.

Q14 What has the Local Committee done in the past to support multi-agency activity to respond to the needs of disadvantaged communities?

The Local Committee has set up Community Liaison Forums to bring different groups together to work on reducing disadvantage. This group meets regularly and has communicated well.

The Local Committee has also agreed member allocation to assist needs identified by partners on the multi-agency working group such as children in families on low incomes. This has included funds to the Youth Club for Live & Direct music sessions, money for equipment in the Youth Centre, supporting the Royal Holloway Voluntary Group to undertake projects in the village, funds for the Children's Centre to subsidise days out for low income families and money for the roof and flooring of the Village Centre.

Describe any projects supported in high-need areas and initiatives which have increased the influence of their residents on local services and opportunities.

Financial Questions

Q15 How much are you applying for?

£29k –project costing attached

This should be the total amount of money you are requesting from this fund.

Q16 How will this funding help the project or initiative? What are the implications of not receiving the funding you have requested from SCC? What are the implications of receiving part of the funding you have requested from SCC? (Please keep answer brief)

The community centre has spent years sourcing and raising the money to covert an old building and create a brilliant resource for the village. It will continue to do so to keep the basic courses and events in place. However, it would not be possible to find this additional money to create an information centre so it would not proceed if funding was denied.

If we received part of the funding we would have to make decisions on what to provide but we feel that the projector and audio equipment is very important and that is a substantial part of the overall cost so we would want to go ahead with that. If we only got part of the funding we would have to try to get as much as we could with the amount given e.g. we will be seeking best value when purchasing computer equipment and have already had an offer of a used laptop which is not ideal but would have to do.

Q17 What resources are available from other partners in the project and how far are these dependent on SCC funding?

The resources are the team which has been put together to provide support and training for the PCs and are prepared to give time at no cost if this project goes ahead.

All other resources have been exhausted for the time being in the build of the Centre and so this funding is the only financial assistance we can apply for.

Q18 Has the area received financial support from any part of SCC (including Local Committee allocations and funding from the former self-reliance budget) in the last 2 years? If yes, please give brief details.

Yes, small sums of money have been provided via local members allocation from the County Councillor for kitchen equipment (£900) and furniture.

Name of Funding	Name of Manager	Amount	When

This information helps SCC to continue to monitor its support to Surrey organisations and promote collaboration between departments.

Costings - Summary

Audio and Visual Equipment
Non-Loop Related Sub Total £17,590.00
VAT @ 17.5% £3,078.25
Non-Loop Related (inc. VAT) Sub Total £20,668.25
Loop Related (ex-VAT) Sub Total £710.00
Total for audio/visual equipment £21,378.25

Computers

4 PCs at £400 each = £1600

1 Apple £1,200

Printer/photocopier £500

Ink and paper £120

Desks and chairs £800

60 Go-Pak folding chairs for training events £2,610

Trolley for transporting chairs £842

Total for Computers and related equipment £7672

Grand Total £29050

Completing this form does not guarantee success when applying for funding					
All successful projects will be required to complete an evaluation form outlining the outcomes of the project					
•					
I confirm that to the best of my knowledge the information contained within this Application Form and the enclosed supporting documentation is accurate.					
Print Name: Linda Ashford	Organisations and Status: The Village Centre Project. Englefield Green. Centre Manager				
Signature:		Date: 30/9/10			

Bids should be submitted electronically to sylvia.carter@surreycc.gov.uk

Office Use				
Grant Programme title: Local Committees Small Disadvantaged Areas Fund				
Date received and who by: 30/9/10 Sylvia Carter	All documents attached: YES			