

## Annex 2

### Surrey Short Breaks for Disabled Children Capital Grant Requests

15 January 2013

#### High Value (> £100,000) Applications

The following summarises a capital grant request for a high value application (i.e. more than £100,000):

#### Disability Challengers

Project – ‘The BIG Build’ redevelopment of Guildford Play Centre

Total Project Value - £1,020,425

Funding Sought - £500,000

#### Disability Challengers – Introduction

Disability Challengers (Challengers) is a registered children's charity, established in 1979, providing play and leisure for disabled children and young people, through play and youth centres in Guildford and Farnham and through a range of community based projects across Surrey and Hampshire.

Challengers supports any child or young person with any impairment through Play schemes (age 2-13), Youth schemes (age 13-18) and Young Adult schemes (18-25). Their non exclusion policy means that they support individuals with high levels of dependency, no matter how challenging the care needs or behaviour presented; this can mean that they are the only service that some young people can access.

Challengers offers a wide range of fun activities for children and young people to take part in; their Play Schemes are typically based around ‘free play’ where they encourage and support children to make free choices about the activities they take part in. Their Youth and Young Adult Schemes are caring, relaxed and friendly places where disabled young people can make friends, try new activities or just ‘hang out’.

#### AHDC Priority Groups:

The original AHDC priority groups that can be catered for by Challengers’ service are:

Children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders	✓
Children and young people with complex health needs, including those who are technology dependent and those requiring palliative care	✓
Children and young people aged up to 18 with moving and handling needs	✓
Children and young people with challenging behaviour as a result of their impairment	✓
Severely disabled young people aged 14+	✓
Support for disabled children and young people in accessing activities in universal settings	✓
Positive experiences for children by promoting friendships and encouraging social activities, new experiences and supportive relationships with carers.	✓

## Service Provision

Challengers provided a total of 87,140 hours to children and young people in Surrey during 2011-12. Services were provided to 956 children in Surrey. The table below shows the distribution of the hours across the 4 quarters of the financial year:

2011-12	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total Surrey Provision
Child hours	20,709.5	33,971.0	15,925.0	16,535.0	87,140.5
Individual children	620	755	456	500	956

## Parents' Feedback

Below are some examples of feedback from parents based on the service during 2011-12:

### Parents' views of Challengers' schemes

- "My son absolutely loves the opportunity to be away from home with friends and people of his own age and to take part in activities that would not normally be available to him."
- "She loves it; it is a great way for her to spend her leisure times. She especially likes the staff."
- "He really enjoys going there. When we arrive he runs in without looking back and is determined to get stuck in to the soft play."

### How parents feel it helps their child

- "To socialise with his friends in a safe environment; which allows him freedom from the usual routines. Meeting new and different members of the team and having fun."
- "Provides play and leisure, and a structure to his life. A chance to meet people other than his teachers and his close family. Chances to try new activities."
- "It gives my son independence in supervised surroundings with the opportunity to socialise in his peer group."

### Feedback about the staff

- "Without exception, fantastic, enthusiastic, helpful, imaginative and thoughtful."
- "Having a large number of young male play leaders is a bonus for our 17 year old son."
- "They are absolutely amazing! The perfect age-group; old enough to take responsibility and young enough for my son to identify with them and not feel like he is in another controlled environment like school. They are so enthusiastic and energetic and perfect to be with youngsters."

### The Guildford Play Centre – benefits of redevelopment

The Guildford Play Centre is located at the easternmost tip of Stoke Park, Guildford's largest and best-known park. The centre is adjacent to Burchatts Farm Barn (a C16th farm building, available for hire as a function venue). Other neighbours are the GMES (Guildford Model Engineering Society) and its model railway, and children's charity Urban Saints Guildford. The centre is housed in portakabins that were originally donated by a building company. Since that time there has been a gradual addition of temporary buildings (portakabins, sheds and storage containers) to house the growing service and team delivering that service. The final addition was a garage – originally intended as such but has now become the Fundraising Team's office.

Challengers leases the 6,000 square metre site from Guildford BC; has the use of a field at the rear, and parking to the front of the premises – this agreement was set up in 1984.

They have gained agreement from Guildford BC to extend their existing lease (due to expire 2024) for a further 99 years.

Challengers pays rent to Guildford BC each year, who in turn supports them by charging a low rent. They are popular with Guildford BC and with their neighbours – the GMES group runs an annual fundraiser for them each year and Challengers in turn allows the group to use their field for events.

Twenty-two Challengers staff are based at Guildford and the majority live in Guildford, Woking or surrounding villages. Most have worked for the organisation for a long time and travel into work by car or on foot. This set of temporary buildings houses the following operations: CEO, Finance, Fundraising, HR and H&S, Operations which includes bookings, Guildford play workers.

The site benefits from excellent transport links, with London Road BR station being 5 minutes' walk, buses stopping outside, the site being on a main road, and close to the A3. Children access Guildford Play from all surrounding towns and villages in Surrey, arriving by car or taxi, or are collected from school in Challengers mini buses. Re-building its Guildford Play Centre will improve the quality of play space as well as assure and future proof the ongoing services for the next generation of children with special educational needs and disability.

The new building will be sensitively designed to sit harmoniously in the surroundings of Stoke Park. The building will be a timber frame construction, with an ergonomic Hemcrete finish to ensure that is environmentally friendly and conserves heat. Because the construction will be permanent, it will be designed and built with energy conservation in mind (e.g. with better insulation, modern plumbing etc.), and with more consideration to fuel efficiency (e.g. by introducing heating 'zones', optimising daylight, energy efficient lighting etc.). The proposed new building will be a considerable improvement on the existing structures both in terms of aesthetics and in reducing carbon emissions.

This new space will enable Challengers to:

- Improve the quality of what they provide
- Increase the numbers of children attending each week at Guildford in an improved and larger playspace
- Introduce a new preschool for 2-4 year olds
- Accommodate a team to develop new services for disabled youth provision including a Buddy service
- Introduce a much needed facility to offer training and support to families.

### **Fundraising**

Challengers has developed a Capital Campaign to raise the shortfall of £520,425, and having carried out a feasibility study, is confident that this will be achieved. To date, they have raised £10,894 for this project with the campaign launching in earnest in December 2012. The campaign is planned to generate a high level of publicity, including a public launch which has been confirmed at 10 Downing Street, led by Samantha Cameron.

A Capital Appeal Board has been set up, comprising highly networked individuals who will help to achieve their goal. A Buildings Committee will oversee the buildings project and is already working to assure the timescale is achievable and cash flow is managed well.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	
<b>Short Breaks Capital Grant Funding</b>	<b>£500,000.00</b>	
Total Statutory	£5,204.25	1%
Trust Sources	£202,965.75	39%
Corporate Donations	£46,838.25	9%
Individuals	£208,170.00	40%
Clubs and groups	£20,817.00	4%
DC Supporters and Ambassadors	£15,612.75	3%
Events	£15,612.75	3%
Other	£5,204.25	1%
<b>Total Balance of Income</b>	<b>£520,425.00</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,020,425.00</b>	

If it is not possible for fundraising to achieve the full balance in time for Phase 1 (Summer 2013), Challengers has obtained a commitment of an interest free loan to ensure that this development is achieved within the planned timescale. Furthermore the balance of the funding has been underwritten by an anonymous donor. This has been confirmed in writing to trustees which means that subject to the capital grant funding being formalised and approved by January 2013, the project has a green light.

The case for support is strong as it is a well known children's charity with a good reputation for delivering essential services.

### **Fundraising Strategy**

1. To identify and secure major and institutional gifts
2. To secure funding from statutory sources
3. To build as many longer term relationships amongst donors as possible
4. To raise the profile of Disability Challengers in Surrey and surrounding counties

### **The Budget**

The BIG Play Appeal was a Capital Campaign that Challengers managed to achieve £3.1M of income for the development of the Farnham Play and Youth Centres (the refurbishment of 2 Victorian buildings for which it took 3 years to raise the income). As a point of comparison the Challengers BIG Build Appeal is a smaller project as it is one building and a new build. The following is a breakdown of the Appeal budget which has been based on the previous BIG Play Appeal Budget.

	<b>Challengers BIG Build Appeal</b>
The building: 525 sq m @ £1500 per sq m	£787,500
Equipment Play Centre	£100,525
Professional fees (land & buildings)	£65,000
'Moving Fees' (IT, phones. removals, rent)	£50,000
PR fees	£2,400
Fundraising/ Event fees	£5,000
Insurance	£5,000
Sundry costs	£5,000
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>£1,020,425</b>