

Appendix 'C' - Champion for Disabled People

Report on Expenditure from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014

"To assist the Leader and appropriate Portfolio Holders by advising on service issues which support and encourage active, independent and healthy lives for disabled people and to raise the profile of disabled people and their needs in the development of policy across Directorates."

Applications awarded in 2013/14

Lancashire Care Foundation £345

This project would help people with long term conditions to get involved in the process of developing right services for them- that work for them and are equitable and easy to access. It will raise awareness of long term conditions and their impact on patient and their carer's life. It has helped professionals to find out where and how people with long term conditions can be supported more effectively throughout their journey right from the diagnosis to the management of the condition and living well with that condition. It would also raise awareness of self-management and care pathway for services for people with long term conditions.

Disability Forum £560

Lancashire County Council has moral, business and legal responsibility to consult and engage with vulnerable members of community. They have County wide forums for disabled people and people with sensory impairment. They all enjoy independent status and hold their meetings, set action plans and try to achieve the best outcomes for their communities. They also consult and involve to design and deliver their services and also get feedback of our performance via these forums individually. Although these forums are independent they still have many issues that cross over with each other. Many disabled members of Disability forums are sensory impaired and many members from sensory impairment forums are disabled. It has been discussed many times to merge them but the forums have refused to accept that because they don't want their individual forum's issues to be diluted by other forums.

It is felt there is a need for the forums to be linked somewhere to share their vast knowledge of their experiences, barriers and also to share best practice amongst themselves. It was therefore agreed to hold an event on 29 November 2013 from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm and make it an annual event for the forums.

The forums think this will provide a great opportunity to showcase their performance and achievements and share good practice with each other. It was agreed to invite some of the professionals to attend the event and organise a question time session with them to discuss with the forums how to improve our services for them and tell them how they are working through

hard times of financial restrictions and still trying their best to improve the quality of services for their citizens.

The total cost of the event will be £560, this covers the venue, refreshments and transport costs.

New Longton Village Hall £500

The toilets for disabled people have not been refurbished since the Hall was opened in 1979 and do not meet current standards, upgrading the toilets has improved the facilities for disabled people, the funding of £500 was used towards the cost of the renovation costs.

VICS Christmas Party £500

VICS are a support and play group for families registered blind or partially sighted children in Lancashire, offering a safe environment for their children to be in, whilst taking part in numerous stimulating activities that are organised for them.

The funding of £500 was used to provide a Christmas Party for them on the 22 December 2013. The party included a Christmas Buffet tea whilst receiving a balloon made especially for them by the hired balloon man, each child received a present from Santa and a photograph of them stroking the real reindeer.

VICS Braille Equipment £2,395

VICS are a support and play group for families registered blind or partially sighted children in Lancashire, offering a safe environment for their children to be in, whilst taking part in numerous stimulating activities that are organised for them.

The funding of £2,395 was used to purchase a Perkins Braille machine, Supernova pen drive, Crafts, Braille paper and RNIB reading Braille books. These will help the children carry out Braille and be able to hear what they type as the smart Braille is audio. The crafts equipment is adapted to tactile and sensory use for the members.

Whitworth Museum £1,000

Whitworth Museum is run by a committed group of trustees and volunteers. They are in the process of a building project to make the Museum more accessible for disabled people. The contribution of £1,000 has enabled them to complete this project. The benefit of this project has made the Museum DDA compliant and allow members of the public with a disability to enjoy their facilities.

Hyndburn ShopMobility £1,000

The contribution of £1,000 was used towards the purchase of a new mobility scooter one (approximately £800) and batteries (£50 each – 2 per vehicle) with any amount remaining going as a contribution to the increased insurance.

The benefits help anyone with mobility problems (short or long term) to access the town centre via the Unit from the Arndale Car Park or Union Street.

Freshfields Enterprises £750

Freshfields Enterprises wished to start up a wood-working project, called Tool-shed for adults with Learning disabilities, making wooden planters, bird boxes and feeders etc. They also planned to take unwanted donated items of furniture and up-cycle them into items of further use. The project would provide employment skills experience for those involved as well as volunteer opportunities for people looking to get back into employment. It was hoped by selling the items they produce or re-furbish the project can go some way towards self sufficiency. Those participating in the Tool-shed project will benefit by being part of a social team, which will give them a sense of belonging and self-esteem, as well as having a feeling of responsibility and pride as they gain employment skills experience at being able to construct or deconstruct something.

Lancashire Bombers Disabled Wheelchair Basketball Club £250

Lancashire Bombers Wheelchair Basketball Club is a fully inclusive sports club for young people and adults based at St Augustines New Avenham Centre in Preston. They offer a range of sports including Basketball, Handball, Tag Rugby and Rounders. They have been going for just over two years and in this time their membership has grown to over 20 people. The club prides itself on being fully inclusive and tries to breakdown the barriers for disabled people who want to take part in sport and lead healthier lifestyles. They aim to offer everyone the right equipment and support to ensure they can enjoy taking part. They have 14 sports wheelchairs at the moment, and are currently looking to fund a number of additional chairs at the moment due to specific seat widths needed, it's their aim to ensure they have enough chairs for everyone to participate. The allocation of £250 was used as a contribution to purchase new sports wheelchairs.

One Voice £400

One Voice is based in North Lancashire, one of their projects is called Unique which is a young disabled person's social group that was set up in 2008 and now has a membership of 45 young disabled people. The group organises activities that they want to do and organise and plan their ideas independently, the group was originally set up as young disabled people felt that their social time was often organised for them and not by them and did not always take into account what they wanted to do and when they wanted to socialise. The group are now looking to become more self-sustaining and move towards becoming more independent, they are wanting to raise funds to purchase some fundraising equipment which will include, T-shirts, Badges, Banners and Leaflets. The funding of £400 helped them purchase these items to carry out a series of awareness events and fundraising activities in order to increase membership and raise further funds to purchase additional materials and carry out a more extensive set of social activities.

Chorley Play Partnership £250

Chorley Play Partnership were looking to provide free or low-cost activities for children and young people with disabilities throughout Chorley Borough during the summer and October half term. The funding of £250 allowed the activities to take place offering a greater opportunity for safe play activities for children and young people experiencing social isolation due to lack of amenities and involvement.

Open House £944

Open House was set up four years ago as a voluntary organisation providing one day a week daycare for people with disabilities. People are referred to the group by parents/carers, social workers, or can self-refer.

They have received donations of old gardening equipment and were left a large shed which is used at lunchtimes and for craft activities when the group need to take a break. Tee shed was leaking in and they needed to recover the roof, they also needed to purchase more equipment to allow them to grow vegetables, fruit, flowers etc and teach nutrition and healthy eating. The funding of £940 was used towards the cost to re-roofing the shed.

Disability Equality NW £800

Disability Equality NW put on 4 Independent Living Workshops for disabled people. This project was aimed specifically at disabled people to support them to live independently. The project delivered a range of courses to enable people to gain self-esteem, enhance their health and well-being and improve their employability. Having completed the course they then support them to access a volunteer placement so they can take a more active, inclusive and fulfilling role within society. The following course ran 4 times throughout the year, each course open for up to 12 participants and had 3 modules.

- Module 1 – Confidence Building and Communication Skills
- Module 2 – Basic IT Skills and letter/CV Writing
- Module 3 – What is volunteering.

The funding of £800 will help to cover the costs of a sessional facilitator, support worker, accessible transport, related overheads, access costs and materials.

The Arts Partnership £800

The Arts Partnership would like the funding to work with adults with disabilities to provide drama and singing sessions based as a community venue. The funding of £800 helped pay for a member of staff to coordinate and oversee the project, purchase materials, costumes and some new tables suitable for adults with mobility problems. The project ran twice weekly for 1 ½ hours providing drama based workshops and arts/crafts workshops for adult with disabilities (and their carers) and enable vulnerable adults to access a community based project developing skills and knowledge, building on their confidence and communication skills using drama and art as a medium and make them feel a valued member of their community. They provided a safe friendly environment at which they can use their creativity to express who they

are without any prejudice and break down barriers by recruiting volunteers from their local community to work with them.

Schedule of Expenditure for 2013/14

County Councillor Gareth Molineux - Champion for Disabled People	
Applicant	Amount of Grant
Lancashire Care Foundation – Publicity Material	£345
New Longton Village Hall – Renovation of Disabled Toilet	£500
Disability Forum Event	£560
Visually Impaired Children's Support Braille and Craft Equipment and Children's Party	£2,895
Whitworth Museum – Disabled Access	£1,000
Hyndburn Shop Mobility – Mobility Scooter	£1,000
Freshfield Enterprise Burnley – Wood Working Project	£750
Lancashire Bombers Wheelchair Basket Ball – Sports Wheelchairs	£250
One Voice Social Group Lancaster	£300
Chorley Play Partnership – Summer/Half Term Activities	£250
Open House – Shed Re Roofing	£944
Disability Equality North West – Independent Living Workshops	£800
The Arts Partnership – Drama/Singing Sessions	£800
TOTAL SPENT	£10,394