

Smart Start Community Grant Fund 2016/17

Summary

A total of 108 applications were received for the 2016/17 Smart Start Community Grant Fund which was launched on 12 September and closed on 22 November 2016. Out of these, 79 projects were approved for funding, at a value of £223,425.

Background

The County Council, through the Smart Start programme, launched a Community Grant Fund (referred to as 'the Fund') on the 12 September 2016, making available £250,000 to support and pilot local creative ideas and grass-roots activity to help improve school readiness and support children aged 0-5 years to get the best start in life. The Fund was widely publicised through Smart Start's website, Twitter and Facebook accounts, promotional emails, newsletters and various early years communications platforms.

The Fund offered one-off grants of up to £2,500 (for 12 months), with a larger sum available to those groups or organisations submitting a joint bid. Groups and organisations were limited to one application submission only. Applications had to be approved by a local councillor to be considered for funding.

The closing date for applications was 22nd November 2016.

In total, 108 single and/or joint applications were received:

- 4 - countywide
- 42 - northern areas
- 15 - Rugby area
- 47 - south and central areas

Grant Selection Process

The Smart Start team screened all applications for eligibility, in line with the Fund's Guidance Notes.

Three geographical scoring panels were set up. Each included councillor, public health and community locality officer representation:

- South & central Warwickshire panel (sat on 5 December)
- Rugby area panel (sat on 8 December)
- Bedworth, Nuneaton and North Warwickshire panel (sat on 6 December)

Applications were judged against two criteria - in line with the Fund's Guidance Notes - and were scored out of a total of 8 points (see Appendix 1). It was agreed that those applications that scored 5 or more were approved for funding. Some offers were made with very specific project

conditions, laid out by the panels. Other offers included alterations to the amount of funding originally applied for.

Several applications required further clarification or pre-conditions with the applicants after the panel meetings, before offers were finalised.

Applications and funding agreed

In total, 79 out of 108 applications were approved for funding.

The total allocation of agreed funding for these 79 projects is £223,425.

Table: Approved applications by geographical area

Locations of project application	No. applications received	No. applications approved	% approved
Countywide	4	4	100%
Bedworth, Nuneaton and North Warwickshire	42	36	86%
Rugby area	15	9	60%
South and Central area	47	30	64%
Total	108	79	

See Appendix 2 for a detailed list of all the applications approved.

By 22 December 2016, all organisations and groups had been informed by email and/or telephone as to whether they had been successful or not.

Next steps

All successful projects are expected to be completed by 31 March 2018. This includes an evaluation of the projects' outcomes.

A detailed list of projects will be published on the Smart Start website:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/smartstart

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Appendix 1

Questions (scoring criteria) from the Smart Start Grant application form

3	Scored Question (max. 4 points)
	<p>The Smart Start Community Grant Fund has been made available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pilot or start up local creative ideas and <u>grass-roots</u> activity; and/or • diversify the range of <u>community based</u> activities/ services being delivered which support children (0-5 in particular) to give them the best start in life; and • improve school readiness. <p>Describe what you will spend the money on to support 0-5 families in Warwickshire. Please include who is going to benefit from your community based project/activity and how it will contribute to improving school readiness of Warwickshire children?</p>
4	Scored Question (max. 4 points)
	<p>This grant funding is a one-off payment and the Warwickshire County Council expects that if the activity/ project this funding supports carries on or needs to be maintained beyond this funding, it will need to be self-sustaining or supported in other ways.</p> <p>How do you intend to sustain your activity/ project after this funding comes to an end?</p>

Scoring details presented in the Smart Start Grant Guidance Notes

It is possible that the bids that are received will exceed the amount of funding available. If this is the case, the Council will consider different approaches to allocation of funding, including:-

- Offering a lower than requested level of funding for the proposed project; or
- The allocation of partial funding for specific elements of the proposed project; or
- Not supporting all projects, prioritising initiatives that will support families in greatest need.

Question 3 and 4 (the criteria) within the funding application will be scored as follows:

Scoring range		
Criterion not met = 0 points	Criterion partially met = 1,2,3 points	Criterion met = 4 points

- a) The maximum score for applications is 8 points.
- b) Applicants must answer all of the questions in the funding application for the bid to be considered. Incomplete applications will not be scored.
- c) Grants will be awarded to the highest scoring applications.

Project code	Organisation	Location of Project	Panel	Funds Agreed
CW2	The Ups of Downs	Countywide	Rugby	£1,986
CW1	Family Learning, Adult & Community learning	Countywide	Rugby	£2,500
CW4	Birth to Three Portage Service - Bonding and Play Programme	Countywide	Rugby	£2,500
CW3	Integrated Disability Service	Countywide	Rugby	£1,000
NW026	Brooklyn Private Day Nursery Ltd	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW016	St Francis Catholic Primary School	Bedworth	North	£2,500
NW041	Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs (WAYC)	Nuneaton/Bedworth	North	£2,480
NW024	Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW021	Stockingford Early Years Centre & Library	Nuneaton	North	£900
NW033	Barnardo's - North Warwickshire Children's Centres Group	Atherstone	North	£2,500
NW036	Northern Warwickshire Active Community Foundation & Nuneaton Harriers Community Association	Nuneaton	North	£5,000
NW007	Sports & Leisure Management, Jubilee Sports Centre	Hinckley	North	£2,397.84
NW001	Life Church EU	Bedworth	North	£2,500
NW014	Little Gems Initiative (Partnership with Barnardo's)	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW005	St Michael's CE Academy	Bedworth	North	£2,500
NW019	Oak Wood Schools Academy	Nuneaton	North	£2,500

NW020	Lottie's Tots	Tamworth	North	£2,500
NW030	Little Glendalers Pre-School (Private)	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW002	Ansley Common Residents Association	Nuneaton	North	£7,500
NW017	Khair in the Community	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW031	Outreach and Community Action Project	Nuneaton	North	£2,487
NW035	Camp Hill Young Peoples Holiday Scheme (CHYPS)	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW042	Race Leys Infant School	Bedworth	North	£2,079.84
NW038	St Michael's Nurture Nursery	Bedworth	North	£2,500
NW015	Bedworth Health and Atherstone nurseries	Bedworth Heath	North	£2,500
NW022	Baddesley Ensor Parish Council	Atherstone	North	£2,500
NW010	St Mary's Stay and Play	Atherstone	North	£2,500
NW004	Okey Cokey Playgroup	Nether Whitacre	North	£2,000
NW013	The Baby Hubs	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW018	Little Saints Stay and Play	Nuneaton	North	£1,500
NW011	The Links Daycare Centre Ltd	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW023	Friends of Daffers Wood, The Village Playgroup, Jelly Beans Nurture Nursery	New Arley	North	£7,500
NW027	Little Learners Day Nursery Ltd	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
NW028	The Canons CE Primary School	Bedworth	North	£2,500
NW039	The Caterpillar Club Nursery	Coleshill	North	£2,000

NW037	Peter Pan Pre-School & Nursery	Nuneaton	North	£2,092
NW029	Nuneaton Group's Children Centres, Riversley	Nuneaton	North	£2,000
NW025	Noah's Ark Pre-School	Bedworth	North	£2,500
NW032	Family Intervention Counselling Service CIC	Bedworth	North	£5,000
NW040	Cheeky Monkeys Day Nursery	Nuneaton	North	£2,500
R013	Mini Play Rangers	Rugby	Rugby	£15,400
R006	Rugby Methodist Church Centre	Rugby	Rugby	£2,130
R007	Bilton Evangelical Church	Bilton	Rugby	£2,500
R008	Brooke School (lead partner), Noah's Early Year Centres, FOBS	Rugby	Rugby	£7,500
R002	St Andrew's Benn Primary School	Rugby	Rugby	£1,674
R005	Rugby United Reformed Church & Whitehall Pre-School	Rugby	Rugby	£3,660
R009	Ready Steady Go' Circles Network	Rugby	Rugby	£2,500
R010	Bradby Club	Rugby	Rugby	£2,500
R001	Sunbeams Toddler Group	Hillmorton	Rugby	£2,000
S/C029	EYP Solutions CIC, Parenting Project, Studley Community Infants School, St Mary's Catholic Primary School	Studley	South and Central	£8,000
S/C012	Central Works Branch of NCT (Parent's in Mind national pilot project)	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£2,500
S/C008	Family Matters in Warwickshire	Henley in Arden	South and Central	£4,500
S/C004	Own Books	Henley in Arden	South and Central	£2,500
S/C044	Warwick Nursery School	Warwick	South and Central	£2,150

S/C020	Little Willows Pre-School	Whitnash	South and Central	£2,500
S/C027	Time 4 Hope	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£2,500
S/C047	Rag Tag Toddler Group, Snitterfield Village Hall	Stratford upon Avon	South and Central	£220
S/C048	Stepping Stones Nursery and Pre-School	Claverdon	South and Central	£2,281
S/C019	Crown Community Hub (The Chain Hub)	Lillington	South and Central	£2,500
S/C006	Acorns Primary School	Long Compton	South and Central	£2,500
S/C026	Little Listeners & St Patrick's Catholic Primary	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£2,500
S/C010	Little Gregs Pre-School Attached to St Gregory's Catholic Primary School	Stratford upon Avon	South and Central	£2,500
S/C035	Hill Close Gardens Trust	Warwick	South and Central	£2,500
S/C049	Create and Play Time Stockton PCC Stockton Parish	Southam	South and Central	£2,500
S/C017	Claverdon Primary School	Claverdon	South and Central	£2,500
S/C005	Rising Stars Lillington Nursery and Primary School	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£2,500
S/C009	Bump to Three	Kenilworth	South and Central	£2,500
S/C037	Meon Vale Community Group	Stratford upon Avon	South and Central	£1,100
S/C003	Hampton Magna Parent & Toddler Group and Pre-school (partnership)	Warwick	South and Central	£5,000
S/C011	Wooton Waven Pre-School	Henley in Arden	South and Central	£2,500
S/C007	Entrust Care Partnership & Harbury Toddler Group	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£1,500
S/C022	Alderminster Tots	Stratford upon Avon	South and Central	£1,000

S/C043	Sydenham Neighbourhood Initiatives (Partnership of Leamington Children Centres, Croft Medical Centre and SYDNI)	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£3,971.60
S/C025	Telford Play School	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£1,419.98
S/C001	Little Starts Christian Nursery	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£900
S/C002	Southam Church & Community Project (Partnership of GAC, Grange Pre-School, Parent & Toddler Group)	Southam	South and Central	£2,500
S/C014	Clopton Nursery Trust Ltd	Stratford upon Avon	South and Central	£2,396
S/C023	The Priors Educations Trust	Southam	South and Central	£1,000
S/C040	Chapter 1	Leamington Spa	South and Central	£2,500
			Total	£223,425