

## **SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL WORKING TOGETHER IN SHROPSHIRE**

### **Background to Grant Opportunity In Tern and Severn Valley Local Joint Committee area**

#### **The opportunity**

Shropshire Council would like to hear from local organisations or individuals interested in providing youth activities for 10-19 year olds (24 years old for individuals with learning difficulties) in the Tern and Severn Valley Local Joint Committee area. Organisations/individuals who provide youth activities or are looking to be active in the area are encouraged to apply.

Applicants should ideally have a record of providing inclusive youth activities that provide better outcomes for young people. However, organisations who are new to delivering youth activities will also be considered.

The successful applicants will be required to have the correct safeguarding and health and safety policies, and insurances in place prior to starting provision. We expect that providers will follow safeguarding practice as directed by the Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB). We also expect that providers will participate in relevant safeguarding training. For more information on the SSCB visit its web site at: <http://www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/scb/>

Activity providers with an interest in / experience of providing activities for young people will need to evidence their readiness to provide appropriate, outcomes-oriented support in a safe environment.

Funding to support youth activity is available for the period September 2015 until March 2016.

#### **Background**

As a local authority, Shropshire Council has a duty to secure, so far as reasonably practicable, equality of access for all young people to the positive, preventative and early help they need to improve their well-being.

We must also take steps to gain the views of young people and to take them into account in making decisions about services and activities for them.

Our aim is to ensure that as many young people as possible can access a wide range of activities after school, at weekends and in school holidays. These activities are known

collectively as Youth Activities and their purpose is to support young people's well-being, development of personal and social education and preparation for adulthood.

Youth Activities are part of Shropshire's Early Help Offer for young people.

Local Joint Committees (LJCs), together with young people and supported by the Community Enablement Team (CET), are responsible for making commissioning recommendations for youth activities in their area.

A county-wide infrastructure support partner, the Shropshire Youth Association in partnership with Energize provides capacity building support to existing and new activity providers by, for example, helping them get started, providing training for leaders and young people, advice with recruiting volunteers, etc. Affiliated youth groups can also benefit from insurance, equipment loans, mini-bus hire, and the development of policies

The provision of youth activities will contribute to the following outcome areas in the Shropshire's Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014:

1. Ensuring all Children & Young People are safe and well looked after in a supportive environment
2. Narrowing the achievement gap in education & work
3. Ensuring emotional wellbeing of Children & Young People by focusing on prevention and early intervention
4. Keeping more Children & Young People healthy and reducing health inequalities

### **Tern and Severn Valley Local Joint Committee area context**

The LJC in Tern and Severn Valley covers the parishes of:

- Uffington
- Upton Magna
- Withington
- Astley
- Bicton
- Bomere Heath
- Atcham
- Berrington
- Buildwas
- Leghton and Eaton Constantine
- Cressage, Harley and Sheinton
- Cound
- Church Preen, Hughley and Kenley

What the needs analysis data says about local need:

- That the area is largely rural and that provision should reflect this.

What activities are already taking place and what we know about existing facilities:

- No Shropshire Council led youth provision takes place in the LJC area
- An Explorer Scouts group meets in Bicton
- A Brownie and Guides Group meets at Bomere Heath
- Sports activities for young people are provided through sports clubs in the area including Shrewsbury Archers; Cound Tennis Club; Bomere Heath Cricket Club and Wroxeter Junior Cricket Club.

What young people have told us about their preferences and priorities

- Sports
- Outdoor activities
- Trips

### **Proposal for Tern and Severn Valley Local Joint Committee**

After a review of local needs evidence and consultation with young people and local stakeholders the Local Joint Committee has made the following recommendation for youth provision:

- To provide a small grants scheme to support youth activity in the LJC area for those aged 10 – 19 years or up to 24 years for those with learning difficulties. Preference will be given to applications offering activities to the 10-14 age group. This funding is intended to enhance existing voluntary sector organisations by supporting additional activities
- Activities will respond to the special requirements of a predominantly rural area and will provide better outcomes for young people
- After school activities, not currently provided by the area Primary Schools, are encouraged.
- Activities which provide the one or several of the following are encouraged:
  - Drug, Alcohol and sexual and public health advice
  - Anti-Bullying advice including cyber bullying awareness
  - Sports activities for both males and females
  - “Taster sessions” to sports activities
  - Arts and or crafts activities
  - Out of School education aimed at increasing curriculum attainment levels
  - Social and life skills (e.g. natural environment, cooking, money admin, driving etc)

### **Funding**

**The maximum amount of funding that organisations can apply for is £500**

Please note that the council is always looking for best value for money.

## **Next steps**

<b>Grant Scheme live on:</b>	<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015</b>
<b>Deadline for applications:</b>	<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015</b>
<b>Grant panel</b>	<b>Reviewed at LJC meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October</b>
<b>Award confirmed to provider:</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> October</b>
<b>Grant activity completed by:</b>	<b>March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016</b>

All applications will be evaluated. Young people will be involved in the evaluation of grant submissions.

A successful application will lead to a grant award with terms & conditions qualifying the activities, the expected number of service users, the aims and outcomes of the provision. The grant will also include provisions for the safety of all children and a requirement for the provider to provide monitoring information that allows us to evaluate the performance of the service. The details of this will depend on the nature of the service and will be agreed by the council officer and the provider.

## **Further information**

For clarification of the requirements and the application process contact Mathew Mead or David Fairclough , Community Enablement Officers on 01743 252534 or 01743 252483 or [mathew.mead@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:mathew.mead@shropshire.gov.uk) or [david.fairclough@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:david.fairclough@shropshire.gov.uk)

## **To submit an application**

If you wish your organisation to be considered, please complete the application form and email it to the local Shropshire Council Community Enablement Team Officer at [communityenablement@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:communityenablement@shropshire.gov.uk)

Or post to:  
Community Enablement Team  
Shropshire Council  
Abbey Foregate  
Shirehall  
Shrewsbury SY2 6ND