

VICTIM SUPPORT (VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISING PROGRAMME) – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Executive Summary

A second application for financial support has been received from Victim Support. This request is seeking a contribution of £4,000 to develop a community fundraising volunteer programme in Surrey. The purpose of the programme would be to develop fundraising income from organisations, companies and individuals and to raise awareness of Victim Support and its services to the local community, not towards direct service provision.

The Council acknowledge the benefits of the direct support services offered by Victim Support to the Victims and their families. However, neither the proposals nor the need for funding of £4,000 have been clearly set out and accordingly there is no justification on which the Council could support the proposed programme of fundraising.

In view of this, and the ongoing financial pressure on the Council’s budgets, it is recommended that no grant is awarded. However, the Group could make contact with the Council’s Community Development team regarding volunteer development and advice on potential funding sources.

Recommendations

Reasons for Decision	It is not considered that the application form has provided sufficient justification for the Council to consider funding the new programme of fundraising.
----------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The Executive is requested to:	RESOLVE That no grant be awarded.
--------------------------------	------------------------------------------

The Executive has authority to determine the above recommendations.

Background Papers:

2018/19 Application Form.

Reporting Person:

Sue Barham, Strategic Director
Extn: 3810, Email: sue.barham@woking.gov.uk

Ray Morgan, Chief Executive
Extn: 3333, Email: ray.morgan@woking.gov.uk

Contact Person:

Frank Jeffrey, Democratic Services Manager
Extn: 3012, Email: frank.jeffrey@woking.gov.uk

Doug Davern, Democratic Services Officer
Extn: 3018, Email: doug.davern@woking.gov.uk

Victim Support (volunteer fundraising programme) – Application For Financial Assistance

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Ayesha Azad

Email: Cllrayesha.azad@woking.gov.uk

Shadow Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Ian Eastwood

Email: cllrian.eastwood@woking.gov.uk

Date Published:

6 December 2017

Victim Support (volunteer fundraising programme) – Application For Financial Assistance

1.0 Summary of Application	
1.1 Status and Aims	Victim Support is the independent charity formed in 1974 for people affected by crime and traumatic events in England and Wales. Their specialist teams provide individual, independent, emotional and practical help to enable people to cope and recover from the effects of crime.
1.2 Employees	10, comprising the Senior Manager (30 hours per week), two Service Delivery Managers (18.5 hours per week each), a Service Delivery Manager (37.5 hours per week), two Admin support (22.5 and 16 hours per week), the CYP caseworker (37.5 hours per week), vulnerable caseworker (37.5 hours per week), a Caseworker (18.5 hours per week) and a Volunteer Manager (15 hours per week).
1.3 Volunteers	32. Victim Service volunteers offer support to individuals and their families to enable them to feel stronger, understood and able to move forwards with their lives.
1.4 Clients/Users	None.
1.5 Members	None.
1.6 Sum Requested	£4,000 (Revenue)
1.7 Project	To develop a community fundraising volunteer programme in Surrey. The programme would develop fundraising income from organisations, companies and individuals and raise awareness of Victim Support and our services to local community.
1.8 Cost breakdown:	£500 recruitment £1,000 Training and development £1,500 Merchandise £1,000 Expenses
1.9 Community Benefit	The Charity is developing a local fundraising strategy to apply for funds from local businesses and develop awareness of Victim Support in the community to attract new supporters and reach out to victims of crime in the community.

2.0 Financial Background	
2.1 Budget	<p>At the time of the application, the Group held £11.7m in the bank. The sum of £3.8 million is reserved for specific local projects.</p> <p>The Group has submitted a budget for 2018/19 which shows an anticipated income of £25,000 (the main income received through funding from the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner's Office is yet to be confirmed and so is not included); against an anticipated expenditure of £547,001, resulting in an anticipated deficit of £522,001.</p> <p>Anticipated income includes grants (£20,000) and donations (£5,000). Items of expenditure include salaries (£204,000), staff indirect costs</p>

Victim Support (volunteer fundraising programme) – Application For Financial Assistance

	(£24,000), Volunteer costs (£24,000), Office costs (£18,000), Central support costs (£36,000) and the victim assessment centre (£241,001).
2.2 Accounts	The Group has submitted accounts for 2016/17 which show an income of £36,409,000 (£41,037,000 in 2015/16) against expenditure of £42,479,000 (£45,203,000 in 2015/16), resulting in a deficit of £6,070,000 (deficit of £4,166,000 in 2015/16). The sum of £11,682,000 was carried forward at the end of the 2016/17 year.
2.3 Support over the past five years	New Application

3.0 Assessment of Application		
3.1 Key Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Constitution ○ Registered Charity ○ VAT Registered ○ Equal Opportunities Policy ○ Safeguarding Policy ○ Reserves Policy ○ Quality Mark ○ Other funding sources pursued ○ Other support by the Council ○ Fundraising ○ Two quotes ○ Regular monitoring provided previously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes Yes No Yes Yes Yes No Yes No Yes N/A N/A
3.2 Consultee Comments	<p><u>Officer Comment</u></p> <p>I would not be supportive of this request as there is in my view insufficient information contained in their application about their proposal for delivery and very limited supporting evidence for the need for such activity. Additionally, since this is the second application from the organisation to the Council, and the Officer comments were not supportive of the organisation in the first application, I see little reason to adopt a different view.</p> <p>There is no reason however whilst they shouldn't contact the Council's Community Development and Engagement Team and seek advice from one of the Development Officers regarding volunteer development as well as potential alternative funding advice should they so wish.</p>	
3.3 Assessment	<p>The applicant has advised that Victim Support is developing a local fundraising strategy to apply for funds from local businesses and develop awareness of Victim Support in the community to attract new supporters and reach out to victims of crime in the community. In order to achieve this, the Group has applied for a grant of £4,000 to cover the costs of recruitment, training, expenses and merchandise.</p> <p>The applicant has explained that the Charity receives less income</p>	

Victim Support (volunteer fundraising programme) – Application For Financial Assistance

(both restricted and unrestricted) as a result of devolved funding from Ministry of Justice to local PCC. The Group is therefore exploring alternative sources of income to continue providing existing services and for any potential development.

The Council acknowledge the benefits of the direct support services offered by Victim Support to the Victims and their families. However, neither the proposals nor the need for funding of £4,000 (against an annual income of £36m) have been clearly set out and accordingly there is no justification on which the Council could support the proposed programme of fundraising.

In view of this, and the ongoing financial pressure on the Council's budgets, it is recommended that the application is not supported and that no grant is awarded.

REPORT ENDS