

**Request for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to consider a Councillor Call for Action**

Councillor:	Cllr Lowry
Ward:	Honicknowle

Summary of issue and why it should be raised with the Management Board (*You may wish to attach a letter or an email instead of completing this box*)

The Budshead Trust which provides invaluable support to young people in Ernesettle and in particular in the area of drug and alcohol misuse is at risk of closing after 10 years of excellent work, due to the withdrawal of core funding.

Whilst it remains successful in achieving specific project funding, the lack of £30,000 of core funding puts those projects in jeopardy and may well require repayment of hard-fought project funding received to date.

The withdrawal of core funding has already led to the closure of facilities provided for the Ernesettle community and as a direct consequence; there has been an increase in crime, particularly low level crime since June 2010.

CCfA should only be considered as a 'last resort' when you have made all reasonable efforts to resolve the problem. Have you had discussions with any of the following?

	Yes/No	Date	Contact name/Tel no.
Cabinet Member	Yes/No	June 2009	Cllr Handman.
Director/Chief Executive	Yes/No	July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Barry Keel
Assistant Director	Yes/No	July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Bronwen Lacey
Other Council officer	Yes/No	August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Howes
Other ward member	Yes/No	July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Peter Smith / Nicky Williams
Partner organisation representative (eg: NHS, police)	Yes/No		Police

Please give details of the outcome of the discussions you have had (continue on an additional sheet if necessary) or include this information in a letter/email attached to this form.

The results of those discussions have been fruitless and I attach relevant documentary evidence.

What outcome do you hope to achieve from your CCfA?

I expect that the Management Board will recognize the unique role of the Budshead Trust and that Cabinet will be requested to find the necessary core funding.

Certain statutory exclusions apply to the CCfA process. Please answer the following questions:

Does it relate to a complaint made by an individual or organisation? No

Does it relate to a planning, licensing, Council Tax/Benefit application or appeal? No

Does it relate to an issue currently under dispute in a court of law? No

Signed:  Date: 16 - Aug - 2016

Please complete and return this form to Judith Shore, Democratic and Member Support  
Manager, Plymouth City Council, Council House, Plymouth PL1 2AA  
or email it to: [judith.shore@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:judith.shore@plymouth.gov.uk)



**THE BUDSHEAD TRUST**

The Budshead Trust  
8 Hornchurch Lane  
Ernesettle  
Plymouth  
PL5 2TH  
Telephone: 01752 369501

14<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Cllr M Lowry  
61 Ganges Road  
Plymouth  
PL2 3AY

Dear Mark

You will be aware from our various discussions over the last twelve months of the perilous state concerning the ongoing financial viability of the Budshead Trust – specifically the core element. It is with a heavy heart that I write to notify you formally that the situation has deteriorated to such an extent that it is my judgement that we have now reached a point where we are unable to operate.

To be blunt, unless there is a meaningful injection of capital in the very near future we face the prospect of going out of business. You need to be aware that although there is funding in place from Comic Relief to support the staff delivering the Alcohol Project in the North West of Plymouth, this funding is dependent on the Managerial oversight and Governance provided by the Trust and without this, it is likely that Comic relief would withdraw their support. The basic cost to sustain our activities and provide proper Managerial and Governance support is approximately £30k per year

What are our options:

**Option One** is do nothing and shut down the trust – this would be disastrous for the younger members of our community at a time when they will need all the support they can get.

**Option Two** is that we secure emergency funding at the outset to continue – here I need your support to lobby Plymouth Community Homes, Plymouth City Council and the PCT as I have no influence in these areas. I am working very actively with Third Sector Partners to secure what I can but to be frank with you, there is very limited funding out there.

In summary, I know that you are individually and collectively committed to the core principles and ethos of the Trust and the value we add to the residents and fabric of Ernesettle is substantial. If we are unable to act decisively and persuade the statutory authorities to support us, all the efforts of the past 10 years will have been for very little.

I would like to propose that we meet at the earliest opportunity and I will be in contact with you to arrange an emergency Board meeting. In the meantime, can I urge you to press any contacts or influence you might have to secure funding.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information

Yours sincerely

*V. G. Small*

Veronica G Small  
Manager

**Lowry, Mark (CLLR)****To...****Cc...****Bcc...****Subject:****Attachments:****From:** Lowry, Mark (CLLR)**Sent:** Sunday, July 18, 2010 7:28 PM**To:** Howes, Tim (CORPORATE SUPPORT); Lacey, Bronwen (CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE)**Cc:** Broome, Adam (CORPORATE SUPPORT); Keel, Barry (CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPT); Smith, Peter (CLLR); Williams, Nicky (CLLR); SEABECK, Alison [SEABECKA@parliament.uk]**Subject:** Councillor Call for Action

Dear Tim/Bronwen,

I have received a letter today as a trustee of the Budshead Trust located in Honicknowle. This community group delivers youth projects in the north of the city, specifically around drug and alcohol abuse, additionally they run an internet cafe and community meeting facilities. They are not in receipt of any monies from the city council in respect of the works they carry out, and they have been living hand-to-mouth and on voluntary support for many years. They have in the past been very successful in accessing grants (approx. £300,000) to support their works. However, these grants are not permitted to be used in core funding of the organisation.

We have tried to agree the temporary lease to the Budshead Trust of the disused ex-university sports facilities in the area, as this would be a means of generating funding however it would appear that the asset management team along with the waste department are cautious in handing over these facilities on a temporary lease.

The approximate requirement for core funding is in the order of £30,000 a year and without this funding they will undoubtedly have to cease their operations shortly. The effect of this will result in a considerable number of problems around drug and alcohol abuse, with an increase in anti-social behaviour. We have previously spoken to the portfolio holder to assist, however the response has been limited.

Can I call upon you to engage with the Budshead Trust to see what measures can be taken to provide limited additional funding, and in parallel with this meet with myself and Cllrs Smith and Williams to discuss "Councillor Call for Action".

It would be a shame if this voluntary and grant funded work were to cease because we as an authority cannot assist and in the longer run the overall cost to the authority would be substantially more.

Kind regards  
Mark

 You forwarded this message on 23/07/2010 08:13.

The sender of this message has requested a read receipt. [Click here to send a receipt.](#)

**Lowry, Mark (CLLR)**

**From:** Brettell, Kathy (CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE) on behalf of Moore, Col (CHILDREN'S SERVICES) **Sent:** Thu 22/07/2010 14:58  
**To:** Lowry, Mark (CLLR)  
**Cc:** Lacey, Bronwen (CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE); Howes, Tim (CORPORATE SUPPORT); Keel, Barry (CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPT); Howes, Alison (CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPT); Toms, May (CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE)  
**Subject:** RE: Councillor Call for Action / Budshead Trust  
**Attachments:**

Dear Cllr Lowry

Please find below our response to your recent email regarding the issues raised concerning Budshead Trust.

Plymouth City Council's Youth Service has been working directly with the Budshead Trust over the last few years to support funding for the activities they provide.

Last year, 2009-10, The Budshead Trust received two Positive Activities grants (PAYP) of £6871 and £6716. The maximum grant is normally £7,000. They were also directed towards the Youth Capital Fund (YCF) and Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) however, it appears that no applications were submitted.

This year, Budshead Trust have submitted a bid for £9959 PAYP funding, however, this was declined by the panel due to a lack of clarity regarding implementation, outcomes and VFM. They were supported to resubmit and this will be presented to the panel on the 22 July. If successful this funding could support up to 25% of certain key core costs for the project.

However, PAYP, YCF and YOF all sit within the Area Based Grants, with spending at present frozen, therefore, the Youth Service is currently unable to release funding to the VCS.

In addition to this, future support through the funding streams above will cease in March 2011 as this is provided by National Government Departments. This represents a 22% reduction in the overall Youth budget in the city, approximately £850,000 of grants that for the last 3 years have gone directly to Voluntary & Community Sector Projects (VCS) to support young people.

John Miller, Head of Integrated Youth Support is working closely with the VCS to explore future funding streams that may be available to replace this funding, however, at present there is uncertainty concerning what will fill the gap left with the end of the substantial national funding opportunities mentioned above.

John, with support from Ruth Marriot at the Zone, is currently looking at the Big Lottery Fund 'Youth in Focus' aimed at organisations working with young people who need more support, specifically young carers, young people leaving care and young people leaving young offenders' institutions. He will be exploring a coordinated bid between PCC and a range of smaller VCS providers with a view towards ensuring a coordinated programme of support if successful. If appropriate, Budshead Trust could be part of such bids in future.

I fully share your concerns regarding the impact on young people and communities if we lose such projects and would like to assure you that we are currently working towards improving direct work with Elected Members and local neighbourhoods through the PACT arrangements to prioritise support and resources for young people where they are needed most.

Finally, I would recommend that the Budshead Trust starts to look, with support from the VCS Forum, at the potential for a consortium approach to bidding for larger streams of funding. This approach has recently been successful across the Arts Sector both locally and nationally particularly in securing core funding for groups of smaller providers and individuals.

Regards

**Colin Moore**

Assistant Director Children's Services (Lifelong Learning)

Services for Children and Young People

☎ (01752) 307464

✉ col.moore@plymouth.gov.uk

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**From:** Lowry, Mark (CLLR)

**Sent:** Sunday, July 18, 2010 7:28 PM

**To:** Howes, Tim (CORPORATE SUPPORT); Lacey, Bronwen (CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE)

**Cc:** Broome, Adam (CORPORATE SUPPORT); Keel, Barry (CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPT); Smith, Peter (CLLR); Williams, Nicky (CLLR); SEABECK, Alison [SEABECKA@parliament.uk]

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Can I call upon you to engage with the Budshead Trust to see what measures can be taken to provide limited additional funding, and in parallel with this meet with myself and Cllrs Smith and Williams to discuss "Councillor Call for Action".

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Kind regards

Mark

20 July 2010

Dear Barry,

I am writing to draw your attention to the problem faced by the Budshead Trust. This is an organisation which has been very good at raising capital but really needs a revenue stream to enable it to carry out the excellent work it does particularly with young people. Their drugs, alcohol and related health work is used by the PCT and the Council have in the past made use of their expertise.

Given that there will be a move to further outsourcing to organisations like the Trust could you please ask officers as a matter of urgency to give a view on whether or not what they offer will be of value in the new financial landscape the authority faces. If they do have a place then it should be supported. I know that Councillors Lowry and Smith are seeking officer advice but would like you to be aware that this project is invaluable in an area with significant alcohol problems and high teenage pregnancy rates. What they seek to achieve is certainly within the scope of the Coalition Government's 'Big Society' idea and therefore I trust it will not simply be allowed to go to the wall but could be used to show what Plymouth is doing to support David Cameron's initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Seabeck MP

c.c. Cllr Lowry Cllr Peter Smith.

Barry Keel  
Chief Executive  
Plymouth City Council  
Civic Centre  
Plymouth  
PL1 2AA





Alison Seabeck MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND  
YOUNG PEOPLE**

Plymouth City Council  
Plymouth  
PL1 2AA

Tel: (01752) 307400

Fax: (01752) 307403

Email:

servicesforchildren&youngpeople@plymouth.gov.uk

www.plymouth.gov.uk

When calling or telephoning please ask for:

Colin Moore

Direct Line:

307464

My Ref:

CM/KB

Your Ref:

22 July 2010

Dear Alison

I am writing with regard to your letter dated 20 July addressed to Barry Keel which has been passed to me to provide a response and can confirm that Plymouth City Council's Youth Service has been working directly with the Budshead Trust over the last few years to support funding for the activities they provide.

Last year, 2009-10, the Budshead Trust received two Positive Activities grants (PAYP) of £6871 and £6716. The maximum grant is normally £7,000. They were also directed towards the Youth Capital Fund (YCF) and Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) however, it appears that no applications were submitted.

This year, Budshead Trust have submitted a bid for £9,959 PAYP funding, however, this was declined by the panel due to a lack of clarity regarding implementation, outcomes and VFM. They were supported to resubmit and this will be presented to the panel on 22 July. If successful this funding could support up to 25% of certain key core costs for the project.

However, PAYP, YCF and YOF all sit within the Area Based Grants, with spending at present frozen, therefore, the Youth Service is currently unable to release funding to the VCS.

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The Government Standard

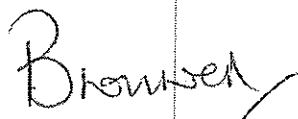
Awarded to:  
Behaviour Support Team  
Governor Development Team

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bronwen Lacey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Bronwen Lacey  
Director of Services for Children and Young People

**Examples of the steps which a councillor could be expected to have taken before submitting a Councillor Call for Action to overview and scrutiny**

1) **Resident or stakeholder raises matter with the councillor** at a surgery or other meeting point. The councillor emails or speaks to the appropriate officer and/or portfolio holder and reports back on the action taken. When a reply is received, the councillor advises the resident whether the matter has been resolved or not, and the next steps. If the matter remains unresolved and has wider significance for a community or area, the councillor will refer the matter to the chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the Democratic and Member Support Manager.

2) **The relevant complaints procedures have been complied with**

If the issue appears to be that a standard service has not been provided, or not provided to a sufficient standard, the councillor should check that the relevant complaints procedure has been used and that the service provider has responded to the complaint.

3) **The appropriate officer has been approached**

The issue may be that local people feel that the standard service is not the right one for local conditions and therefore the matter may be a question of making some slight adjustments at management's discretion. The councillor would therefore be expected to have discussed the matter with the appropriate senior manager in an attempt to secure the change. This process could apply across the range of partner agencies.

4) **Relevant partnerships or local groups have been approached**

It is more likely that matters which merit a Councillor Call for Action are more complicated than the examples above. One likely possibility is that the matter requires attention from a number of agencies acting in partnership. The councillor should in such cases demonstrate that local partnership bodies have had an opportunity to respond. For example, it may be appropriate for a councillor to raise an issue at a PACT meeting that covers their local area.

5) **The relevant Cabinet members have been approached**

The councillor may come to the view that a pattern of conditions in the local area can only be addressed through a substantial policy change. In that case, the Management Board will expect to see that the councillor has approached the relevant Cabinet members and at least given them a reasonable opportunity to respond.