

## **Councillor Call for Action (CCfA)**

CCfA made by Councillor Lowry  
Received: 16 August 2010

Discussed with Councillor James on 18 August 2010

Response (sent 20 August 2010): Councillor James cannot yet agree to take this CCfA to the Management Board as he would like to receive further information as follows:

- 1 CCfA should only be considered as a 'last resort' when all reasonable efforts have been made to solve the problem.

You refer to discussions with Councillor Monahan, Tim Howes (neighbourhood liaison officer for Ernesettle), the police and Councillors Williams and Smith. What is their response/position?

Discussions with Councilor Monahan took place at an Area Committee meeting and also questions from the floor, additionally Councilor Monahan arranged a meeting with the youth services department, however although he was sympathetic he was unable to help Ernesettle as there was no funding allocated for Ernesettle.

Tim Howes (neighbourhood liaison officer for Ernesettle) is aware of the situation of The Budshead Trust core funding and at the meeting with him on the 5<sup>th</sup> August supports a CCfA.

I have discussed these matters at length with Cllr Smith and Williams and taken all the actions they have suggested, which are recorded in these notes.

The police fully aware of The Budshead Trust and their work in the community of Ernesettle and have written a letter of support which reads

To whom it may concern,

I write with regard to The Budshead Trust, Ernesettle, following a recent conversation with the Manager of the Trust, Veronica Small. It is with regret that she has informed me that The Budshead Trust may have to cease its excellent work due to insufficient funding.

I am aware of the details of what is required in terms of funding but would request that from a police perspective every effort is made to try and facilitate the funding of The Budshead Trust so that those concerned with the Trust can continue their invaluable work in the Ernesettle community and especially with the young people of Ernesettle. As the Neighbourhood beat manager for Ernesettle I get to see the benefits The Budshead Trust has on the community and have significant concerns the effect of The Budshead Trust closing would have especially on the young people.

If you require further details or case examples of where The Budshead Trust have worked in conjunction with the police to help prevent crime and assist people on a personal basis please contact me directly.

I cannot emphasise enough how much of a loss this would be to the community should this facility have to close through lack of funding or support, please explore every possibility to ensure this does not happen.

Yours sincerely,  
PC 6237 PEN-COLLINGS.

- 2 CCfA states that, “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.”

Do you have any information that supports this statement|?

The Budshead Trust have not had any direct core funding from government since Neighbourhood Renewal Funding stopped in 2006 they have been existing on reserves and proportions of costs recovery in outside bids.  
The crime has increased all stats are on the Devon and Cornwall Police site.

- 3 Which organisation(s) provide the existing core funding and what level of services/staffing can be provided with £30,000/annum? Can you provide a copy of the Trust’s/Treasurer’s Annual Report and the constitution?

No organization provides existing funding as stated above.  
The level of service/staffing that can be provided for 30,000 per annum is a fully operational youth service i.e. Drop-in café, internet café, youth drop-in office, sexual health/drugs/alcohol guidance/advice and referral (The Budshead Trust is a targeted alcohol service), councillor and police surgeries, community learning, parental advice it will also pay towards the manager and financial administrator’s salary plus all overheads

- 4 The email dated 22 July refers to:

a) No applications being made, for core funding, to either the Youth Capital Fund or the Youth Opportunities Fund.

Applications were made for both these funds 2009/2010 and were successful.

Do you know why these applications were not made?  
Funding for 2010/2011 an email was distributed in May stated that all YCf and YOf had been frozen.

b) What was the PAYP's decision, on 22 July, about a contribution to core funding?

The PAYP's decision was that they cannot contribute to core funding.

c) Is the Budshead Trust starting to look at, with support from the VCS Forum, "at the potential for a consortium approach to bidding for larger streams of funding"?

The Budshead Trust are in a partnership with Hamouze House and the Harbour Centre for an alcohol related project across the South and North West of Plymouth but again this does not cover core money. The Budshead Trust is in the VCs Forum and have approached Routeways for help and the Woseley Trust

5 Can you explain how a temporary lease of the 'disused ex-university sports' facilities' would be a means of generating funding and the reasons that the 'asset management team and the waste department are cautious in handing over these facilities on a temporary lease'?

The income received from providing the sport hall and playing fields as recreationally facilities would provide a small income of approximately £500 per month profit in the short term, with the prospect of raising more as the facilities become more popular (noting there are a shortage of playing fields in the north of the City). These monies would support the Budshead Trust and assist it in becoming self financing and not grant dependant.

Asset management team and the waste department are cautious in handing over these facilities on a temporary lease due to the potential for the site still to be considered as a waste to energy plant site. I understand their concerns but I have repeatedly stated we would take a very short term lease (1month at a time).