

Request for Further Information

Allies (CG4356)

Northern Local Grants Committee

At the meeting of the Northern Local Grants Committee on 24th February 2010, the Team Leader for Community Learning and Development was asked to obtain further information on Allie's (Working with the Homeless) (CG4356).

The Committee asked if Allies knew at the application stage, the likely level of food support that they would receive from other sources. In response to the matter Allies stated that it is very difficult to predict the level of support that they will receive from Marks and Spencer's or Local Community Churches and often the food has a short 'shelf life'. Due to the above Allies were not able to factor these contributions into their application.

With regards to charging for services; Allies do not apply any charge to their clients. Due to the nature of the organisations clientele, any charging would be a barrier to accessing the services. This is the main reason they seek other sources of funding.

Allies have in the past been funded wholly through the John Fulton Soup Kitchen (2001 – 2007). However, due to depleting funds the organisation was encouraged to seek other funding sources.

In recent years the organisation secured funding from the Lifelong Learning Partnership (previously Community Learning and Development Partnership) for a learning based initiative. They have also secured an Awards for All Grant for outdoor activities (which also includes a food provision element). The staffing costs for Allies are paid for by funding received from the Robertson Trust and TSB/Lloyds Foundation.

Previously monies received from the Lifelong Learning Partnership included running cost contribution (light and heating), however this year this element was not included. Given the level of food support the organisation has received and a slight impact by the cold weather the organisation requested a re-alignment of their local grant funding.

Allies has increased the level of service available over the years growing from a service offering meals twice a week to a five day provision. Also the organisation has invested in Educational Programmes and Health and Wellbeing Initiatives for some of East Ayrshire's most vulnerable citizens.

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