

REPORT TO:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	AGENDA ITEM: 6
DATE OF MEETING:	11th December, 2013	CATEGORY:
REPORT FROM:	Director of Community and Planning Stuart Batchelor	OPEN/
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	Kate Allies 01283 535039 Kate.allies@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	Environmental Volunteering Project - update	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Districtwide	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 Support the continued development of the project and provide advice and guidance where appropriate.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To update members on progress since Sept 2013 verbal report

3.0 Detail

3.1 Since September we have:

- Delivered 2 workshops to parish councils and voluntary environmental groups, explaining how the project will work for them. Positive feedback
- Started to create a list of projects to develop ready for business groups to volunteer to complete. List includes Castle Knob, at Castle Gresley, projects in Findern, projects in National Forest woodlands.
- Made new corporate contacts eg Vodaphone / Ernst and Young – both of these have already tried a volunteering day at Rosliston and feedback was excellent. Also they got a lot of work done!
- South Derbyshire Partnership updated on progress (through Mike Roylance)
- Established a process for charging or not charging and tried it out on Rolls-Royce, Ernst & Young, Vodaphone. Basically if they want a free day they do gardening, if they want something more interesting they pay £80 per group of 12 people for a leader to work with them, and we also provide an extra leader for support. Cost to SDDC including on costs per £80 is £45-£60 depending on how long the group works for.

- Updated the project planning documents in the light of feedback from the voluntary groups and the corporate groups so that it is easier to use but captures the information corporate groups need in order to choose a project.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 Activity is covered within current budgets for 2013-14 as funding is provided by South Derbyshire Partnership for development work.
- 4.2 For 2013-14 we intend to apply for funding to South Derbyshire Partnership again but this will not be decided until the new financial year. We also intend to introduce a formal charging policy to generate income to develop the project further and make it sustainable.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 Corporate Plan:

- Lifestyle choices – supporting people in the community who choose to volunteer to improve their neighbourhood
- Value for money – providing a service to businesses and the community which is no cost to SDDC (self funding long term and subsidized by grants from partners short to medium term).
- Sustainable Growth and Opportunity – supporting businesses in their work on Business in the Community / Community Investment and providing an outlet for their voluntary contributions in South Derbyshire.

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 This work provides valuable volunteering opportunities for and within the local community

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 Progress has been made in developing this project since September as requested.

8.0 Background Papers

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