



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

CABINET ADDENDUM

4.00PM, THURSDAY, 22 JULY 2010

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

ADDENDUM

| ITEM | Page |
|----------------------|-------|
| 36. PUBLIC QUESTIONS | 1 - 2 |
| 37. DEPUTATIONS | 3 - 6 |

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority.

The question will be answered without discussion. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion. The person to whom a question, or supplementary question, has been put may decline to answer it.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public.

(a) Lisa Boyland

"Will Brighton & Hove City Council be spending the allocated money from the Playbuilder funding on our play park behind St Cuthman's Church in the centre of Whitehawk?"

(b) Sally Polanski

"What has been the impact assessment of the proposed cuts to Third Sector grants?"

DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for the hearing of deputations from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes following which the relevant Cabinet Member may speak in response. The deputation will be thanked for attending and its subject matter noted.

(a) Deputation concerning the Youth Capital Fund and the 15th Brighton Scout Group – Mr Duncan Hill (Spokesperson)

The 15th Brighton Scout Group, based in Manor Farm, serves girls and boys from across East Brighton, with membership stretching from Woodingdean and Rottingdean in the east, through Whitehawk and Manor Farm, to Queen's Park, Tarnerland and Five Lanes. Our membership is socially and religiously diverse. Parental occupations include long-term unemployed, post office clerks, plumbers, nurses, civil engineers, business analysts and university lecturers. Schools represented include Whitehawk Primary, St Mark's CE, St John the Baptist RC, Queen's Park, Carlton Hill, St Lukes, Patcham High, Longhill, Varndean and Brighton College – and we have Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist members. They meet together as equals, learning to respect and value each other.

Our leaders are all volunteers – and we fund most of our activities ourselves, rather than through grants or the like. Sometimes, though, we need a little extra help.

Our group is growing fast – faster than any other Scout Group in Brighton. Membership has almost doubled in the past year, and we want to make sure that we continue to improve the opportunities we give to our ever-growing group of young people.

The Youth Capital Fund seemed to us to be a great opportunity to do this – our Scouts would benefit not just from the improved facilities (a bouldering wall, outdoor game equipment, new tents, an upgraded kitchen) but also from the process itself – they came up with the ideas, and researched costs, they identified other groups with whom we could share the new facilities, and they wrote the bid. In the process they learnt about setting priorities, making compromises, budgeting. They learnt about the council's important role in supporting their community – and how they and other young people can take part in that. That the decisions about which YCF bids would be successful were guided by other young people greatly impressed them, giving them a belief in the council's commitment to taking youth seriously.

We were overjoyed to learn that we had been awarded £6000 – to give you some sense of how much that is to us, that's more than our total spending in 2008/9. This grant could give us a top-rate Scout Hall, to be used not just by 15th Brighton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, but by other Scout Groups from across Brighton, local Brownies, tenants and residents associations and others. The group would not just be offering better Scouting, but would have the facilities to ensure long-term viability and strength

Almost as soon as we were celebrating our success, we found out entirely by chance that the Council is now considering cutting the grants they have already promised. No-one from the council bothered to tell us about this, and as I understand it many other successful groups around the city have also not been told about this. Some have even incurred financial commitments as a result of trusting the council.

I ask the Cabinet to honour in full the awards made this June. In doing so you will not just be ensuring the continued success of groups like the 15th Brighton Scouts, but also showing young people that they do matter and are valued by the Council. – “A Scout is to be trusted” is the very first line of the Scout Law. Please show our Scouts that Councillors are to be trusted too.

(b) Deputation concerning the Youth Capital Fund and Sounds Enterprising – Mr Adam Joolia (Spokesperson)

The main issues I wish to highlight are:

- The fact that the YCF grant offer letters have already gone out and funding agreements been signed off and invoiced for
- Off the back of the funding agreement; a lot of work has already been done by the young people and Audioactive in preparation for the project and the charity which is already in a fragile state capacity wise has invested a lot of staff time (in-kind) into the work
- The potential impact that our grant, should it be released could have in the lives of young people and the wider community with regards to the ‘Big Society’ concept, social enterprise, youth unemployment/employability, engaging hard to reach groups, creating a community resource and becoming less reliant on grant funding
- The potential impact that the absence of the grant could in the lives of young people and the wider community with regards to the above
- The fact the grant would represent a low-risk investment in the above with far higher return with regards to the above than expenditure

Appendix 1: Sounds Enterprising proposal for funding

Item 37 Deputation (b) Appendix 1

Sounds Enterprising is a group of young people that have got together to try and start a sustainable project that will help other young people by setting up a social enterprise, creating an income, that will provide training and paid work opportunities for young people and funding for projects

We know this is a lot of money to ask for. Its because we want to make a difference that will last for 6 - 8 years even though the money will mostly get spent straight away

The capital funding will pay for an industry standard PA system that can compete with pro companies, we will set-up a small PA hire company, the revenue will pay to train us and other young people up in sound engineering and allow trainees to get paid for setting the equipment up and running it for customers. We know there is a demand for this because we bought a PA 2 years ago and Audioactive get a lot of calls from people wanting to hire it, but we are usually using it for events, workshops or gigs.

The Opportunity Fund money will pay for the initial set up training and some costs towards this years Hip Hop Foundation a targeted youth arts project which we have attended for 4 years. This years HHF project will be in partnership with Youth Offending Team

The main impact of the project will be from the social enterprise project set up from the capital funding. The equipment will last for 6 - 8 years or more and in that time it will provide an income for other projects and paid work for young people (hopefully £2,000 - 5,000 per year or £16,000 to £40,000 from PA hire over 8 years!!!) and train up more young people in live sound engineering who can staff the project in the future. All of this without any further grants needed. The young people will be more employable and might be able to go into jobs in Live sound which there is a lot of demand for in Brighton.

The impact of Hip Hop Foundation (YOF funding) will be to keep disadvantaged kids and young offenders off the streets and out of trouble andd give them something to do and some skills for the future like confidence, respect, motivation, literacy, communication and I.T.

- Young people who complete the vocational training will receive an OCN qualification in Live Sound Engineering and in in-house certificate, This course is likely to be repeated several times over a few years with money raised by PA Hire

- All Participants of the Hip Hop Foundation projects will be entered for a Duke of Edinburgh certificate through Julia Box

- Some of the participants of Hip Hop Foundation will be entered for a Bronze Arts award and some will be given the opportunity to achieve a Silver Arts Award

Item 37 Deputation (b) Appendix 1

Young People will receive vocational training and become more employable

- Young people will gain paid work directly with revenue raised
- If it goes really well, It will hopefully generate an income towards other community projects run by Audioactive.
- The community will be able to hire out a professional PA system for better prices than private hire AND get trained young people to run it included in hire price
- The community will see that young people are involved in running something that is good for young people and the community and improve young peoples image in society
- We will get skills running a community business
- It could help local youth unemployment
- Young people will be more involved in their community
- Young people will see that they can make a difference to their own lives
- The community will have more activities for young people to do
- The community will benefit from having less young people hanging around in the summer holidays
- Young people will learn valuable life skills
- HHF will provide paid work for local community artists
- The show will show everyone how talented some of the young people in Brighton are