



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: **Baldock & District Area Committee**

2. Date: **7 Sep 2015**

3. Summary of application: **Training & support of volunteers and to hold a local fun/awareness day**

Name of organisation: **Home-Start North Herts (Baldock, Letchworth & Hitchin)** Sum requested: **£7,500**

Total project cost: **£0**

Brief details:

Home Start North Herts supports those families who are unable or unwilling to engage in statutory services. Families struggling with mental health, children with disabilities whose behaviour is so challenging they simply can't go out, families with a history of social care intervention, families where parents are terminally ill, or where children are ill and are surrounded by professionals - but have no local family or emotional support.

Home Start see their volunteers grow in confidence as they engage in a 40 hour preparation training course and then begin supporting their first family. Research shows the important role volunteering plays in all generations supporting people back into employment in younger generations and creating purpose in life in retirement.

Locally, Home Start would like to continue to support vulnerable families and constantly seek funding to achieve this objective.

Matched / linked funding: **£0**

Funder:

Matched /linked funding: **£0**
or DRR
Funding in place:

Funder:

Comments from Development Officer:

On average it costs about £1,400 to support one family per year. That cost includes training and expenses for the volunteer. The volunteer will spend between 2 to 3 hours with their allocated family once a week. Although sometimes this can be more depending on the families need.

In order to support 5 additional families in Baldock it would cost about £7,000.

Home Start wishes to arrange a family fun day in Baldock. The kind of event would be similar to a local fete, stalls with items for sale, games to play, bouncy castle etc. They would put together flyers and promote the event locally in the papers, radio and local shops.

They recently held a similar event in Hitchin funded by the Hitchin Area Committee, which went really well, even with heavy rain on the day. This gave the charity an opportunity to talk to and raise the profile of Home-Start to local businesses and the local community. The estimated cost to run the fun day is estimated at £500. Members should be aware that Home Start are also requesting the same contribution from the Letchworth Area Committee to support families within the Letchworth, however, any funding received for Baldock families will be ring fenced that use.

The Community Development Officer has examined this application against the Authority's Area Grants Policy, the organisation's accounts and grant history, and considers it an eligible application to put before the Committee. However, members may wish to consider officers' additional advice provided at 7.5 in the main committee grants report at this meeting.

Amount recommended: **£1,500**

4. Comments from Ward Members:

I support / do not support this application

Name:

Signed:

Date:

I support / do not support this application

Name:

Signed:

Date: