



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: **Southern Rural Area Committee**2. Date: **9 Jun 2016**3. Summary of application: **Funding to assist annual operational costs re fortnightly club sessions**Name of organisation: **Herts Young Carers**Sum requested: **£540**Total project cost: **£9,820**

Brief details:

Herts Young Carers (HYC) meets fortnightly at Nightingale Day Centre, Hitchin to give emotional and practical support to young carers through recreational activities. Three different themed activities per session: sports / exercise activity, a cookery activity and an arts and crafts 'project'. They provide the young carers with respite and peer support in a safe and fun environment.

The group was set up in May 2013 over the past 3 years the focus has been on keeping the Group going, making it fully compliant by creating a raft of Safeguarding policy documents, training the volunteers, fundraising and also on maintaining the Group as a place that the young carers want to come to.

HYC currently have 24 young carers attending Group and a waiting list. Following a volunteer recruitment programme in November 2015 they have brought on-board a high quality management committee, in addition to 9 volunteers at each session and 9 trustees. The organisation is now in a position to 'take things to the next level' and become fully sustainable for the future. They aim to become a registered Charity this year and are now in a strong position with stable management and a more strategic approach to funding.

Matched / linked funding: **£3,650**Funder: **Stevenage BC**Matched / linked funding: **£4,060 (applied)**
or DRRFunder: **NHDC Hitchin & Letchworth Area Committees**

Comments from Community Officer:

The operational costs have increased significantly over the past few years as the number of Young Carers attending has increased. These will increase with the expected expansion of the group and the recruitment of additional volunteers.

Grant funding is requested towards equipment, materials, volunteer training and expenses, operational costs, promotion and marketing, transport and trips.

The operational costs per annum are £9,820 for an expected number of 25 young carers. This equates to an annual cost of £392.80 per young carer. As 8 of the young people are based in Stevenage, the Borough Council has provided £3,650 towards the operating costs.

The group is seeking a total of £4,600 from NHDC (to be split between 3 Area Committees which currently have young carers attending). This equates to £270.58 x 17 young carers in the relevant areas.

The group is therefore seeking £540 to cover the cost of 2 young people who attend from the Southern Rural Area; Herts Young Carers are committed to raise the balance of approximately £3,000.

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.

Amount recommended: **£540**