

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

1st November 2010

‘Local Community Funding Still Available’

Times are difficult for many local communities in the current economic climate. But, help may be at hand from the West Suffolk LSP Community Chest Capital Fund which is open to voluntary and, community groups and Town and Parish Councils across the West Suffolk area: Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, Sudbury, Newmarket, Mildenhall and Brandon, including the surrounding villages

There is up to £2000 available per application for items that are one-off capital* costs, e.g. furniture, building materials, sports equipment, outdoor play areas or computer equipment.; If your organisation needs to purchase capital* items to support community activities, the West Suffolk LSP may be able to help.

Already in 2010, the West Suffolk LSP has provided funding to over 30 local projects covering a range of activities and organisations. The projects have been well supported by the local communities and have included: training young people in sailing, SOS Bus in Newmarket to provide help and support for young adults, materials for an embroidery group, healthy eating and lifestyle workshops, through to cutting carbon emissions and advice on how to manage your personal finances better.

Lurna Compton, West Suffolk LSP Manager said **“I am delighted with the range of projects we have funded over the past year, many of which are already having a significant impact on the communities they are working in. Partnership is at the heart of everything the WSLSP does and has achieved to date in order to improve services and provision in the West Suffolk area.”**

Only Parish and Town Councils and community and voluntary sector organisations are eligible to apply to the WSLSP Community Chest. All bids must benefit some or all of the residents of West Suffolk which covers St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Forest Heath District Council and west part of Babergh District Council.

The deadline for applications to the West Suffolk Community Chest is 5.00 p.m. on 8th December 2010, to find out further details go to www.onesuffolk.co.uk/wslsp.

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Notes for Editors

Enclosed are 2 pictures:

1. Newmarket SOS Bus
2. Training of young people sailing

West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership is an umbrella organisation that brings together public sector organisations (such as local councils, Police and Primary Care Trusts) and representatives from local businesses and voluntary or community groups.

They work together to make life better for residents, organisations and businesses in West Suffolk by concentrating on issues such as health and well-being, specific needs of people, community safety, local skills, training and the environment.

LSPs were proposed by the last government as the best mechanism for developing the Sustainable Community Strategy, which each local authority has a statutory duty to produce. West Suffolk LSP covers Forest Heath, St Edmundsbury and the western part of Babergh.

*Definition of capital used in the guidance notes:

Capital is a one-off cost for items that are lasting and have a life of more than a year such as furniture, equipment, vehicles, training manuals, property, minor alterations to buildings. You cannot ask for any money to help you run this project (e.g. staff) in this application.

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