



Organisation Name	Dorney Playground Management Group
Project Name	Leisure Activities and Youth Restart
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£2509.51
Amount of Match Funding	N/A
Amount being applied for	£2509.51
Amount suggested	£2509.51

Project Summary

Repairs to Dorney playground following lack of maintenance and vandalism during the Covid-19 lockdown at a cost of £2109.07. This will ensure that play equipment is safe for children to use and allow the playground to fully reopen.

Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to enable the volunteer run Youth Club to operate safely, at a cost of £400.44

How does the project address local priorities?

Young People: This project will benefit young people in the Dorney area, by allowing both the playground and youth club to reopen fully. The playground is managed by a volunteer committee which has fundraised to install both a playground and a Multi-Use Games Area in Dorney in the past decade. Some pieces of play equipment have been damaged due to lack of maintenance and vandalism during lockdown. Repairs to this play equipment will allow the playground to fully reopen, providing a vital facility for children and families in the area.

Pre Covid-19 Dorney Youth Club attracted at least 25 youth members on a weekly basis with 40 children on their register. The Youth Club has had to pause its activities as they could not be run safely without the purchase of PPE equipment to keep volunteers and children safe. Purchasing this equipment will enable the youth club to re-open in a Covid secure manner.

How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

Strengthening Our Communities: Ensuring that playground is safe and accessible for all will allow the community to use the facilities to improve their physical and mental wellbeing. Involving local volunteers in the project ensures that local people are playing an active part in their community, building a sense of ownership and responsibility.

Protecting the Vulnerable: Given the difficulties presented by the Covid-19 pandemic, including increased loneliness, vulnerability and reduced activity, there is an even greater need for community projects such

as this which provide recreation facilities. There are children from low income families who rely on the youth club to meet others, enjoy activities and be an active part of their community. Volunteers also benefit from a sense of achievement and involvement.

How does the project achieve value for money?

Dorney Playground Management Committee paid for an inspection by an approved playground inspector which identified the works needed to bring the playground back into safe use. The Committee requested a quotation for these works which has been provided with their application.

In relation to the purchase of PPE equipment, the applicant has made enquiries with suppliers to obtain costings for the equipment required. Costs provided are: £18.99 x6 (113.94) for masks, £118.80 for a hand sanitiser station, and for hand sanitiser refills £27.95 x6 (£167.70)

Community Board Coordinator comments

This application was discussed in principle at the Beeches Community Board meeting on 17 September. Members were supportive of the application, provided that no other sources of funding within the Council were available. The revenues team subsequently confirmed that no Covid related grants were available to Dorney Youth Club.

The Management Committee have previously fundraised to provide new play equipment and a Multi-Use Games Area for the village. Costs are usually covered by fundraising events, however these have not been possible in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, the Committee need to secure other sources of funding in order to keep the facilities operational and safe this year. This application fits with the Community Board's priority for Young People, as it will enable vital facilities that improve mental and physical wellbeing to re-open safely.

The application makes reference to maintenance costs for Dorney tennis courts, which are managed by the Playground Management Committee. The tennis courts are free to access and provide a much needed recreation and exercise facility for adults and children in the village. Unfortunately, the funding criteria makes it clear that funding should not be used for maintenance costs of organisations, and the applicant has been advised that funding provided by the Community Board cannot be used for this purpose.

The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.