

Meeting	Community Development Committee
Date	27 th July 2022
Report Title	Draycott Sports
Agenda Reference	22
Author	Cllr V Manro, Chairman of the Council and Caroline Hunt Community Development Officer

Recommendation

1. To agree to spend a total of £1,500.00 split 50:50 between Youth EMR (339) and Community Choices - Isolation & Loneliness (402/4629) to fund children from the parish who are already registered to attend the Draycott Sports Camp on the Holiday Activities Fund (HAF). This funding enables those children to stay until the end of the day in line with children who are funded privately.
2. To consider adding this as a budget aspiration for future ongoing youth engagement £1,500.

Background

Draycott Sports Camp was established in 2014, becoming a reputable provider of sports provision for children in Swindon. The business encourages children to be physically active within a fun, friendly and exciting atmosphere. Over the last eight years, Draycott Sports Camp has attracted over 2,500 children to their holiday sports camps and after school clubs. The camp attracts children from all over Swindon and the surrounding areas. Higher volumes of children attend are from Oakhurst, Tadpole Farm Garden Village, Abbey Farm, Redhouse, St Andrew's Ridge, Haydon End, Taw Hill and Groundwell.

HAF Scheme – Swindon Borough Council

Draycott Sports Camp has been a supporter of the Swindon Borough Council HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) Scheme, since Easter 2021. The HAF Scheme is an incentive to get eligible children to be more active, by being involved in physical activities to develop resilience, character, and wellbeing. Draycott Sports has attracted hundreds of children over the last year and a half, where families have applied using their HAF entitlement. It has been successful and Draycott Sports are looking forward to welcoming more families over the summer period.

Swindon Borough Council provides families with up to four hours of funded childcare each day. Due to this, the children who attend Draycott Sports Camp join from 9:00-13:00. These hours have been chosen so that the children can stay for a funded lunch, before being collected to go home. During each HAF holiday period, the organisers receive numerous requests from parents for their children to stay at the camps until 15:00 hours each day. This is the standard length of camp day offered to all. Presently, due to the lack of funding available for these extended hours, the organisers charge the HAF parents for these additional hours. However, those



parents are generally unable to pay for their children to stay, meaning it is clear amongst peers who is HAF funded and who is not.

Draycott Sports Camp would like to be able to offer HAF parents funded childcare until 15:00 each day. Based on recent numbers of approximately 40 eligible children per day, a grant of £1,500.00 will help support these families who live within Haydon Wick and attend Oakhurst, St Francis, Orchid Vale, Haydon Wick, and Greenmeadow primary schools.

Parish Residents

Draycott Sports would be able to supply the Council with a list of addresses (postcodes) of the children who have benefitted, so we can fully review the spread of funding. Draycott Sports has pledged that should the number of children wishing to attend increase, this funding gap would be covered by them to ensure no child misses out.

Draycott Sports is looking for our support in this area so that they can make a difference and give something back to the children in our local neighbourhoods.

Considerations

The Council has funded similar programmes already this financial year:

- Allstarz starts in September £450.00 for six weeks of junior football and adult walking football sessions. Up to 40 attendees. Will return to Trent Road or possibly Mouldon Hill.
- BEST this has commenced and will benefit 40 children for 5 weeks in two-hour sessions. Taking place at the Haydon Centre.

However it was recently acknowledged that the Council has not held any similar activities in Oakhurst/Priory Vale area.

Financial Impact

There is £2,709.95 available in the Youth EMR budget and £12,000 in the Community Choices budget.

Diversity Impact

This will support some of our families most in need of support.

Ongoing costs

This is currently a one-off proposal with no future years budget impact unless the Council commit as part of future aspirations.