

# Community Chest Application Summary 2017/2018

Local Authority	St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Organisation	<b>YOPEY Befriender</b>
Amount Requested	<i>£8,000 for both schemes or £4,000 for 1 scheme</i>
Total Project Cost	£8,000
Match Funding	YOPEY won £25,000 in the national Aviva Community Fund awards in 2015.
Partnerships	We currently work in Bury St Edmunds with two secondary schools – County Upper and St Benedict’s – and two care homes – St Peter’s House and North Court
West Suffolk Bid?	Yes

## Key Points

- To give young people a fairer image and to heal the rift between generations. Many adults, especially the elderly, suspect and fear the young. In part this fear is created by the negative press about the young, portraying them as binge-drinking, drug-taking violent hoodies.
- To continue to run for a second year two YOPEY Befriender schemes between two schools and two residential care homes for the elderly in Bury St Edmunds.
- Project start: **Late 2016 to end of 2017**
- Project end: **End of 2017 but Potentially ongoing forever! If we demonstrate the benefits of YOPEY Befriender to the care homes, I believe they will contribute in future years.**

**St Edmundsbury Borough Council**  
**Community Chest Grant Application Form**  
**Part A**



Community Chest funding supports voluntary and community groups who make a contribution to improving the quality of life for people in West Suffolk. The information you provide will help us consider your application. If you have any questions, please give us a call on 01638 719763. Before completing this form, we ask you to please read the guidelines, which are available on:

<http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants.cfm>

Please return your completed, signed form and supplementary documents to:

[richard.baldwin@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:richard.baldwin@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

1. Name of your organisation(s):

YOPEY Befriender

2. Organisation address details

Address Ln1	Woodfarm Cottage		
Address Ln2	Bury Road		
Address Ln3	Stradishall		
City/Town	Newmarket	Postcode	CB8 8YN
Main phone	01440821654	E-mail	hello@yopey.org
Website	www.yopey.org		

Main Contact Person		Second Contact Person	
Title	Mr	Title	Ms
Forename	Tony	Forename	Jo
Surname	Gearing	Surname	Gross
Role	Founder	Role	Part-time administrator
Daytime Tel No.	01440821654	Daytime Tel No.	01440 821654
Mobile No.	07711255675	Mobile No.	
Email	tony@yopey.org	Email	jo@yopey.org
Address Details (if different from Org address)		Address Details (if different from Org address)	
Ln1	As organisation	Ln1	As organisation
Ln2		Ln2	
Town		Town	
Post Code	CB8 8YN	Post Code	CB8 8YN

## About your organisation

3. What local authority area(s) does your organisation work in?

We are currently running YOPEY Befriender schemes in Bury St Edmunds, Hertfordshire & Nottinghamshire, and starting new ones in Sudbury, Cambridge & Norwich

\*Community Chest funding is offered by both Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury councils. As the decision making process is different any projects applying for funding across West Suffolk, must apply separately.

4. What is the status of your organisation?

Registered charity	X	Charity number: 1145573
Applying for charitable status		
Company limited by guarantee		
Community Interest Company		
Part of a larger regional or national charity (Please state which one)		We are a West Suffolk-based charity that has been running befriender schemes in Hertfordshire and Nottinghamshire for 3 years, and Bury St Edmunds for 1 year.
Constituted Community Group		
Social Enterprise		
Other (Please specify)		

5. How many people are involved in your organisation?

Management committee	6	Service users	100s
Full Time staff / workers	1	Volunteers and helpers (non-management)	100s
Part Time staff / workers	10s		

6. What is the

purpose of your organisation? Please briefly describe why your organisation was set up, its aims and objectives and who primarily benefits from your organisation.

To give young people a fairer image and to heal the rift between generations. Many adults, especially the elderly, suspect and fear the young. In part this fear is created by the negative press about the young, portraying them as binge-drinking, drug-taking violent hoodies. To set up young people as Positive Role Models and encourage other young people to become Great Citizens by getting involved in, and leading, projects that benefit the wider community. We have been holding Young People of the Year campaigns and awards ceremonies since 2005. Our awards are known as 'YOPEYs' – Oscars for young people who give to others. In 2012 YOPEY became a charity. Since 2013 we have been running YOPEY Befriender schemes. This application is for the costs of continuing for a second year one or both of our YOPEY Befriender schemes that have been running in Bury St Edmunds for a year.

Maximum of 300 words

7. What was your organisation's total income for last financial year? £93,316
8. What was your organisation's total expenditure for last financial year? £44,081
9. Does your organisation have more than six months running costs? Yes
10. What are your organisation's current unrestricted reserves or savings? Less than £8,000
11. West Suffolk prioritises building resilient families and communities that are healthy and active. Please indicate which of the following areas your project contributes towards:
- A thriving voluntary sector and active communities who take the initiative to help the most vulnerable.
  - People playing a greater role in determining the future of their communities.
  - Improved wellbeing, physical and mental health.
  - Accessible countryside and green spaces.

**About your project – why are you applying for this funding?**

12. What do you want the funding for? Please be specific. Please note that 'project' is meant to describe the project for which you are seeking funding, and not your organisation.

**To continue to run for a second year two YOPEY Befriender schemes between two schools and two residential care homes for the elderly in Bury St Edmunds. As the first year's volunteers from County Upper and St Benedict's secondary schools leave these schemes to take their exams, we will recruit new volunteers from both schools, train them to relate to, and not fear, elderly people living with dementia. We will then support them in care homes to befriend the residents for a year. We will provide them with ideas for activities and projects they can do with the elderly residents, seek explanations to reassure the young people when the behaviour of the people with dementia affects them, and produce positive publicity about the schemes so the young people can become positive role models for their generation and the elderly generation will fear the young less. Long-term this will benefit West Suffolk society as the young will carry these skills into adulthood and when in the future relatives or friends get dementia – if you have two parents there is a 25 per cent chance one will get dementia – they will be better able to cope with this terrible, incurable disease and their relatives will be less of a burden on the state.** Maximum of 300 words

13. How has the project been developed out of the community's desire to improve the lives of local people? What evidence do you have that there is a need for this project? Please include sources of evidence, including any public/user/community consultation.

Bury St Edmunds is currently working towards becoming a dementia friendly community so it is appropriate it has young people volunteering in a dementia friendly programme. YOPEY's founder, administrator and a volunteer working with the Bury schoolchildren are Dementia Friends and will have taken Dementia Champion training by mid-November.

One in four people past the age of 80 have dementia. Many start dementia much younger. As we are living longer the number of people living with dementia can only get bigger. When this happens the phrase we hear most often is "I have lost my parent" as families abandon relatives with dementia as they cannot handle the changes in personality and being forgotten. But it doesn't have to be this way. Yes, dementia is a progressive disease – it will get worse – but there are things friends and relatives can do to help people with dementia. This scheme uses unrelated young people (sixth-formers and we have started to use Years 10) to go into care homes to befriend elderly residents. They do not judge the residents by their personality change as they did not know them before.

Despite living in communal accommodation many of elderly people in residential care homes are lonely, infrequently visited by relatives if at all, and about three-quarters have dementia.

Below is a link to research about loneliness among the elderly:

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/Documents/EN-GB/For-professionals/Research/Age%20UK%20Evidence%20Review%20on%20Loneliness%20July%202014.pdf?dtrk=true>

Maximum of 300 words

14. How will the project help local people to support one another?

We train the young people to relate to people with dementia. We take away the fear; we show them things they can do. They develop empathy and compassion and learn skills that they can take back to their families and into the wider community. If dementia strikes their families – if they have two parents there is a 25% chance at least one will develop the disease – they will be better able to cope than the present adult-aged population and could keep their parent/s with dementia out of the costly care sector for longer.

Maximum of 300 words

15. Are you working with any other organisations on this project? Yes

If yes, please state the names of these groups and the nature of the relationship.

We currently work in Bury St Edmunds with two secondary schools – County Upper and St Benedict's – and two care homes – St Peter's House and North Court

Maximum of 300 words

16. When will the project start?

Late 2016 to end of 2017

17. When will the project finish?  
ongoing?

End of 2017

or is the project

If this is an ongoing project, how will it be funded and continue going when the funding ends?

Potentially ongoing forever! If we demonstrate the benefits of YOPEY Befriender to the care homes, I believe they will contribute in future years. We will also ask the schools that participate to fundraise to contribute to the scheme continuing after the second year funded by St Edmundsbury Council and the Community Chest scheme. The first year was funded by a one-off grant from Aviva Community Fund which will not be repeated. YOPEY trialled this scheme with 2 homes and 3 schools in 2013. The company that runs the homes allowed YOPEY to expand this scheme to 4 homes and 6 schools in 2014. The same company, which owns all these homes, is now financing this for a 3rd year. Unfortunately this company does not have any care homes in West Suffolk while YOPEY is based in Stradishall, equidistant between West Suffolk's 3 main towns, Bury St Edmunds, Newmarket and Haverhill so ideally placed to work with West Suffolk schools and care homes. Schools involved in YOPEY Befriender schemes outside West Suffolk have said they could fundraise towards continuing their schemes so I do not see why West Suffolk schools could not do the same.

Maximum of 300 words

18. Which years funding are you applying for?

2017

19. How many people do you expect to benefit directly from the project on either a weekly, monthly or annual basis?

550 people (made up of school pupils & staff, residents & their families, care home staff. If you include people who hear about the scheme including the young people's families and fellow pupils this number will be over 1,000)

20. What results (including targets/numbers) do you expect to see as a result of the funding and how do these relate to the Community Chest funding criteria? If your project is health related how does it improve health outcomes for residents within community networks and beyond?

We measure the impacts of this project by giving certificates to the young people each time they pass a befriending milestone, eg 10 hours volunteering, 20 hours, 30 hours, 40 hours, completing a Life History of a person without dementia, completing a Life History of a person with dementia etc. Once training is completed we also stay in contact with the young people (through traditional (phone etc) and new means of communication (social media) to encourage them and support them to keep going to the care home.

We also measure the impacts by staying in touch with the care home's management and senior staff, and the schools' teachers and getting feedback on how the scheme is going.

We have surveyed the families of care home residents and received positive feedback. Surveying residents with dementia on the benefits of the scheme is for obvious reasons difficult but this is something we may tackle in the future.

Maximum of 300 words

21. What is the total cost of the project? £8,000

Please provide a full breakdown of the total cost of this project, including VAT if applicable along with any in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours.

Item or activity	Cost (£)
Ongoing for two schemes (normal set up for one is 5K)	
Recruitment of care home and schools involved	0 as already done
Training	
Publicity	3000
Support materials	1000
Mini awards ceremony at end	1000
Management of scheme for one year	1000
Savings due to this charity being based in West Suffolk mainly because there will be a lot less travel and we draw our freelancers locally. Eg It will cost a lot less to send a photographer from West Suffolk to West Suffolk than say Watford or Nottingham.	4000 -2000
<b>Total cost of items listed above:</b>	<b>8000</b>

22. How much funding are you applying to us for?

£8,000 for both schemes or  
£4,000 for 1 scheme

23. What funds have you raised so far for this project?

Source	Amount (£)
YOPEY won £25,000 in the national Aviva Community Fund awards in 2015. We were one of five good causes to come top out of over 3,000 nationwide. This money is being spent on five new schemes, including the two in Bury St Edmunds, in 2015/16 and will be used up by the end of 2016. If we are to continue these schemes we need to find new sources of funds, eg we have already received a grant to continue the scheme we are currently starting in Sudbury, Suffolk, but we have not been successful in securing new sources of funds, so far, for the two schemes coming to the end of their first year in Bury St Edmunds.	
<b>Total fundraising:</b>	

24. What other funders have you applied to for further funding for the project?

<b>Funder</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>	<b>Timescale for decision</b>
Suffolk Community Foundation Dementia Friendly Communities  IN CONCLUSION WE ARE LOOKING FOR A BALANCE OF £6,000 TO CONTINUE BOTH SCHEMES FOR ANOTHER YEAR, OR WE COULD RUN ONE SCHEME FOR ANOTHER YEAR WITH £2,000 FROM WEST SUFFOLK COMMUNITY CHEST ADDED TO THE £2,000 ALREADY RECEIVED FROM THE SUFFOLK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES FUND	£2,000	awarded
<b>Total:</b>	£2,000	

25. What other grants and contracts has your organisation received over the past year from either Forest Heath District Council or St Edmundsbury Borough Council?

**None**