

Decision taken by: **Ward Member for East Folkestone–
Councillor Michelle Keutenius**

Subject: Cheriton Baptist Church

Executive/non-executive decision: Non-executive

Date decision taken: 2 March 2020

Name and address of applicant(s):

Dave Barker
Minister/Trustee
Cheriton Baptist Church
Quested Road
Folkestone
CT19 4BY

Name and description of project:

Urban pastors

Urban Pastors seeks to transform lives and help to create safer communities. Operating mainly in Folkestone and Cheriton on a Friday evening, Urban Pastors engage with people who have been out partying; speak with the homeless and helping them with basic provisions (such as hot drinks, emergency survival bags, extra clothing, toiletries); listen to, support and sign post people facing difficult situations; help to keep young people safe. Urban Pastors also go into three local secondary schools during lunchtimes which is great for building bridges with the young people who the Urban Pastors also meet on the streets. Urban Pastors support a number of local community events such as Folkestone and Cheriton Christmas Light Switch On, Cheriton Light Festival, Folkestone Charivari, Community Carols, Radnor Park Fun Fair. Urban Pastors is largely run by trained volunteers. The team has a total of 14 volunteers, with 6-10 Urban Pastors out on a Friday and team of 2-3 in schools.

DECISION:

To provide funding of £150 to the above project.

Reason for decision:

..... provide the justification for your project (max 200 words)

The team leader for Urban Pastors regularly attends Community Safety Unit meetings; this helps the Urban Pastors to target locations and people/groups of people that have been highlighted to the CSU. On the Friday nights when the Urban Pastors are out on the streets they are in communication with those watching the town CCTV, and are regularly asked to attend specific areas. They are also called upon by local restaurants, shops and security guards to respond to individuals or groups causing a disturbance or in need of assistance. We work closely with the police, who sometimes stop Urban Pastors and ask them to respond to a situation before they get involved.

Declarations or disclosable pecuniary interest/any other significant interest:

None

The decision set out above was made by me.



Signed:

**Councillor Michelle Keutenius
East Folkestone**

2 March 2020