



WARD MEMBER DECISION  
NUMBER

**WB/20-21/012**

**Decision taken by:**

**Ward Member for Hythe –  
Councillor Lesley Whybrow**

**Subject:**

Folkestone Rescue

**Executive/non-executive decision: Non-executive**

**Date decision taken:**

17 September 2020

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**Name and address of applicant(s):**

Russell Reilly,  
Folkestone Rescue,  
26-30 Tontine Street,  
Folkestone,  
Kent, CT20 1JU.

**Name and description of project:**

Lifeguard Safety Equipment - Each year Folkestone Rescue is called upon to help keep the general public and visitors of Folkestone safe while at the seaside and along the coastline. Our volunteer team give 100% day and night to respond to requests for help and in turn save lives. However, as a charity the increasing demand puts wear and tear on our kit and equipment which is in desperate need of replacement. With that in mind we are currently in the process of trying to raise funds by means of donations to help replace and update old equipment used by our volunteers while on duty. The equipment used is vital to our day to day operations as it allows us to keep our team safe and warm while saving lives. The support of our local councillors today would help provide everything they need and you could be an essential part in helping to save the next life.

**DECISION:**

**To provide funding of £335.50 to the above project.**

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**Reason for decision:**

Folkestone rescue has provided lifeguard and lifeboat cover for over 10 years and each year the demand on the service increases. Last year alone we responded to multiple emergencies sometimes only having minutes to get to a casualty. We also supported both the emergency services and multiple events in a safety capacity both on the coastline and in the water. Our volunteers between them put thousands of hours in keeping the local community of Folkestone safe especially during the busy summer holidays. The biggest challenge faced by our volunteers is that the sea can be a frightening place and Mother Nature can throw all sorts of weather conditions at you when you least expect it. Performing a rescue is a very challenging task and puts extreme pressure on our volunteers to do their best with the goal of saving lives and keeping the community of Folkestone safe. However with the right equipment & lifeboats the challenge of saving a person's life becomes something our lifeguards can handle.

**Declarations or disclosable pecuniary interest/any other significant interest:**

None

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**The decision set out above was made by me.**

**Signed:** Lesley Whybrow  
**Councillor Lesley Whybrow**  
**Ward – Hythe**

**17 September 2020**