

| Report of | Meeting | Date |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chief Executive (Introduced by the Executive Member for Early Intervention) | Executive Member Decision | 16 th October 2020 |

ALLOCATION OF SMALL COMMUNITY GRANT FUNDING 2020/21

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report is provided for the Executive Member for Community Services to consider and approve the allocation of Small Community Grant Funding for 2020/21

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the recommendations at paragraph 21 be approved, subject to agreeing and signing grant agreements with the organisations listed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

3. This report presents the allocation for 2020/21 of Small Community Grant Funding for approval by the Executive Member for Community Services.

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| Confidential report Please bold as appropriate | Yes | No |
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|--|-----|-----------|
| Key Decision? Please bold as appropriate | Yes | No |
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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Reason Please bold as appropriate | 1, a change in service provision that impacts upon the service revenue budget by £100,000 or more | 2, a contract worth £100,000 or more |
| | 3, a new or unprogrammed capital scheme of £100,000 or more | 4, Significant impact in environmental, social or physical terms in two or more wards |

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

4. To provide Small Community Grant Funding to allow local voluntary, community, and faith sector organisations to deliver services in the borough which contribute towards the Chorley Council priorities.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

5. Not to award these organisations with the grant as requested.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

6. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all | x | A strong local economy | |
| Clean, safe and healthy homes and communities | x | An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area | x |

BACKGROUND

7. Chorley Council recognises the valuable role that voluntary, community and faith groups play in enhancing the life of people in Chorley. The provision of small community funding provides a route to enable these organisations to make this delivery possible, where other funding provision may not be available.
8. The main objective of the small community grant fund is “to enable voluntary, community and faith groups to enhance the life of people in Chorley, supporting better outcomes.”
9. It was agreed to continue with a limited timeframe of applications being made to the funding available.
10. An annual funding budget of £5000 was allocated to support these grants.
11. The application process for the allocation of Small Community Funding would usually open in April/May for a period of approx. eight weeks. The delivery of the grants has been delayed due to impact of COVID-19 and the emergency work the council had to undertake in response to the pandemic and to best support our residents
12. This year the funding opened in August for a period of 4 weeks and closed on 9th September 2020
13. Criteria for the scheme would remain the same as previous years:
 - The organisation is a voluntary, community or faith sector group operating within the borough of Chorley
 - The organisation has a group bank account
 - The organisation/project is based on local need
 - The organisation has not had a Councillor Community Grant awarded for the same financial year
14. Due to the impact of Covid-19 it was agreed that funding would be targeted to help the voluntary sector provide a much-needed service during the current situation. The fund would welcome applicants who demonstrate how their application for funding will enhance the life of people in Chorley, supporting better outcomes and meet one or more of our key priorities below
 - Provide opportunities that address food poverty
 - Provide opportunities that help encourage residents to be more active
 - Provide employment or education opportunities
 - Provide support to make residents more digitally connected
 - Provide peer support opportunities for those experiencing difficulties
 - Provide opportunities to addresses social isolation
 - Provide support for those experiencing financial hardship

15. The scheme is managed through the Communities Team and applications and recommendations to be considered and decided by the Executive Member (Early Intervention).
16. Fifty-Five (55) applications were received by the closing date on 9th September 2020
17. An evaluation team assess and evaluate the applications against set scoring criteria and recommendations are made. These applications demonstrate clear alignment with the brief in terms of a well scoped project and defined outcomes in relation to council priorities.
18. All applications to be advised of the decision, setting out agreements to those who have been successful and upon the receiving of those agreements, funding will be awarded.
19. To help ensure confirmation of funding allocated and spent, successful applications will have a set period for the funds to be spent by 28th February 2021. This will enable us to evaluate and ensure expected outcomes from organisations involved were achieved.
20. This year a number of applicants have been able to be supported and directed to other funding, particularly new Covid-19 targeted funding that has been available regionally. Many local community organisations have been successful in their bids, enhancing provision to support Chorley residents

RECOMMENDATIONS

21. The recommendations include 17 grants for approval.

| Organisation | Amount Funded |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Chorley Panthers RLFC | £388.00 |
| St Marys PCC, Eccleston | £375.00 |
| Chorley Peer Support | £325.00 |
| Run Fit Chorley | £340.00 |
| Euxton Parish Church Community Centre | £270.00 |
| Hillside Methodist Church | £494.00 |
| Coppull Junior Bowling Club | £300.00 |
| 1st Clayton Brook Scout Group | £234.84 |
| Croston Old School | £309.00 |
| Mawdesley Bowling Club | £335.00 |
| Shooting Stars Fan Club | £250.00 |
| Brindle St. James Church | £375.00 |
| Friends for You | £250.00 |
| Clayton Green Scouts Association | £161.49 |
| 1st Wheelton Brownies | £250.00 |
| Lancashire TAAG | £200.00 |
| Eccleston Parish Council | £250.00 |
| Total Funding | £5,107.33 |

22. Appropriate monitoring will be undertaken for each of the successful applicants relevant to the level of funding provided.

23. The organisations which were unsuccessful in securing funding will be offered further support to enable them to explore alternative funding sources.
24. If these recommendations are approved, grant agreements will be developed and monitored at conclusion.
25. Grant agreements will include a clause stating the necessity for funding to be used in Chorley and for the benefit of Chorley residents.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

26. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

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| Finance | ✓ | Customer Services | |
| Human Resources | | Equality and Diversity | |
| Legal | ✓ | Integrated Impact Assessment required? | |
| No significant implications in this area | | Policy and Communications | |

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

27. The £5k allocation has been included in the 2020/21 revenue budget

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

28. The Grant awards are made in accordance with agreed processes.

CHRIS SINNOTT
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE / DIRECTOR (EARLY INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT)

| Report Author | Ext | Date |
|-----------------|------|------------|
| Bernie Heggarty | 5818 | 12/10/2020 |

Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of this report, I approve the recommendation(s) contained in Paragraph 2 of the report in accordance with my delegated power to make executive decisions.



Dated: 8/12/20

Councillor Beverley Murray
Executive Member for Early Intervention