

**REPORT TO:** Finance and Staffing Portfolio Meeting 19 December 2017  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Director, Health and Environmental Services

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## **Grants To Voluntary Sector: 6-Monthly Update Report**

### **Purpose**

1. To examine the delivery of grant programmes funded by the Council during quarters one and two of 2017/18.
2. This not a key decision because it reviews expenditure within current budgets. It has been brought before the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder following agreement within the Grants Review of 2013.

### **Recommendations**

3. It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder
  - (a) notes the delivery of all grant programmes within the scope of this report, as currently delivered; and/or
  - (b) highlights any concerns for further investigation or action; and/or
  - (c) agrees to request the return of funding from the Cambourne Church / Children's Centre for 2017/18 only; and/or
  - (d) agrees to reallocate the £4,000 from the Cambourne Church / Children's Centre for 2017/18 to the Community Chest; and/or
  - (e) agrees to include the Community Housing Fund and the Community Energy Fund in future grant reports.

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

4. All organisations receiving grant support, except Cambourne Church / Children's Centre, are on track to deliver the agreed outputs to time and to budget, achieving the objectives of the individual grant programmes. All recipients are being actively monitored.
5. Two additional grant schemes have launched or will launch in quarters three and four of the financial year. To ensure transparency and avoid potential duplication it is suggested that they are added to future grants reports.

### **Background**

6. This report provides an overview of grant aid from South Cambridgeshire District Council to the voluntary sector. Governance of these grants is split between various portfolios as indicated below:
7. The scope of this report covers the following grant funds:
  - (a) Supporting Parishes and Communities
    - (i) Community Chest (*Finance & Staffing*)

- (b) Voluntary Sector – Advice and other grants
  - (i) Service Support Grants (*Finance & Staffing*)
    1. Generalist and Specialist Advice
    2. Community Transport
    3. Independent Living
    4. Support Parishes and Communities
    5. Fit to Learn
    6. Homelessness Prevention (*Housing*)
- (c) Housing and Independent Living
  - (i) Mortgage advice (*Housing*)
  - (ii) Mobile Warden Scheme (*Health and Wellbeing*)
- (d) Planning and Economic Development
  - (i) Museum (*Planning*)
  - (ii) Wildlife Enhancement (*Planning*)
- (e) Young people
  - (i) Young People’s Partnership (*Health and Wellbeing*)
  - (ii) Elite Athlete Award Scheme (*Environmental Services*)

### **Considerations**

8. A summary report of progress during quarters one and two for all grant programmes is provided in Appendix 1. The summary also gives an officer opinion on the status against targets agreed within grant agreements.
9. Appendix 2 includes further detailed reports from grant recipients where provided in writing. Some grant recipients provide information verbally.
10. The Cambourne Church / Children’s Centre has reported that they are unable to progress their Fit to Learn project during 2017/18. This is due to capacity issues that are unlikely to be resolved within the financial year. They expect to be able to progress the project again in 2018/19.
11. There are a number of options that the Portfolio Holder could consider regarding the funding that will be returned by the Cambourne Church / Children’s Centre (£4,000). The Portfolio Holder could reallocate the funding to another project / recipient, return the funding to the General Fund or add it to the Community Chest, for example. In order to continue to benefit local communities during the financial year the simplest option would be to vire the monies into the Community Chest.
12. All funds under the closed capital grant schemes are either spent or have been re-allocated, and have therefore been removed from this report.

### **Options**

13. The Portfolio Holder could:
  - (a) note the delivery of all grant programmes within the scope of this report, as currently delivered; and/or
  - (b) highlight any concerns for further investigation or action; and/or
  - (c) agree to request the return of funding from the Cambourne Church / Children’s Centre for 2017/18 only or for 2017/18 and withdraw the 2018/19 offer of funding; and/or

- (d) agree to reallocate the £4,000 from the Cambourne Church / Children's Centre for 2017/18 to the Community Chest, return the funding to the General Fund or vire the amount to another budget; and/or
- (e) agree to include the Community Housing Fund and the Community Energy Fund in future grant reports.

### **Implications**

- 14. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk management, equality and diversity, climate change, community safety and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered:

#### ***Legal***

- 15. Arrangements are in place with grant recipients, which should be followed, if a variation or discontinuation of funding is agreed.

### **Consultation responses**

- 16. None.

### **Effect on Strategic Aims**

- 17. Ensure that South Cambridgeshire continues to offer an outstanding quality of life for our residents: the grant programmes promote a good quality of life for all residents, assisting directly or indirectly through voluntary organisations schemes which help overcome the challenges faced by residents imposed by age, infirmity, disability, low income or rurality.

### **Background Papers**

Leaders Portfolio Meeting, 1 Feb 2013

<http://moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=883&MId=5969&Ver=4>

Leaders Portfolio Meeting, 16 December 2016

<http://moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=883&MId=6680&Ver=4>

Leaders Portfolio Meeting, 28 January 2016

<http://moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=883&MId=6699&Ver=4>

**Report Author:** Siobhan Mellon – Development Officer  
Telephone: (01954) 713395