

REPORT TO: Grants Advisory Committee and Finance
Portfolio Holder/Cabinet
LEAD OFFICER: Director, Health and Environmental Services

21 June 2018

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY SECTOR: 6-MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT

Purpose

1. To examine the delivery of grant programmes funded by the Council in 2017-18.
2. This not a key decision because it reviews expenditure within current budgets.

Recommendations

3. The Grants Advisory Committee is asked to review the report and make recommendations to the Portfolio Holder to inform his decision-making.
4. It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder/Cabinet
 - (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 reallocate the £4,000 from the Cambourne Children's Church/Cambourne Children's Centre Fit to Learn project 2018/19 to the Community Chest.

Reasons for Recommendations

5. 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.

Background

6. This report provides an overview of grant aid from South Cambridgeshire District Council to the voluntary sector.
7. The scope of this report covers the following grant funds:
 - (a) Supporting Parishes and Communities
 - (i) Community Chest
 - (b) Voluntary Sector – Advice and other grants
 - (i) Service Support Grants
 1. Generalist and Specialist Advice
 2. Community Transport
 3. Independent Living
 4. Support Parishes and Communities
 5. Fit to Learn

6. Homelessness Prevention

- (c) Housing and Independent Living
 - (i) Mortgage advice
 - (ii) Mobile Warden Scheme
- (d) Planning and Economic Development
 - (i) Museum
 - (ii) Wildlife Enhancement
- (e) Young people
 - (i) Young People's Partnership
 - (ii) Elite Athlete Award Scheme

Considerations

8. Funding agreements for grants provided through the Service Support Grants programme are for three years, subject to satisfactory performance at annual review. This report is on the second year for funding agreements for 2016-19. Monitoring and reporting on grants takes place at six monthly intervals.
9. A summary report of progress including an officer opinion on status against agreed targets is provided in Appendix 1.
10. A summary of Community Chest applications granted in 2017/18 are provided in Appendix 2.
11. Further detailed reports as provided by recipients of Service Support Grants are provided in Appendix 3.
12. A report from the Farmland Museum is provided in Appendix 4.
13. Cambourne Church/Children's Centre was unable to progress its Fit to Learn project during 2017/18 due to staffing issues. It had been hoped that these would be resolved and that the project could be continued in Year 3. However, at the time of writing this report it had not been possible to contact the new Head of Centre despite repeated attempts.
14. During 2018/19 a review of the Service Support Grants will need to take place to inform future decisions regarding the scheme, which is just entering Year Three of the three year grant agreements. A review of Citizens Advice Bureaux (CABx) will also take place following concern regarding access to CAB services by some residents.

Options

15. 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 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.

Implications

16. 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

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

Consultation responses

18. None.

Effect on Strategic Aims

19. 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>

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