



Report To: Leader's Portfolio Holder Meeting
Lead Officer: Director, Health and Environmental Services

27 November 2014

COMMUNITY CHEST: FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Purpose

1. To consider allocating an additional £10,000 to the Council's Community Chest for 2014/15 and consider the latest applications for funding from the grant funding scheme.
2. This is not a key decision, however, has been bought before the Leader following agreement at the Portfolio Holder meeting on 17 July 2014 to make decision on future Community Chest applications at his Portfolio Holder meetings.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Leader:
 - (a) agrees to receive the proposed virement of £10,000 from the Community Development budget into the Community Chest for allocation in 2014/15.
 - (b) considers all applications for funding that are set out in Appendix A of this report and makes a decision regarding the level of funding (£0 - £1,500) to be awarded for each or defer a decision if further information is required from grant applicants.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. The Leader makes all decisions regarding Community Chest grant funding applications unless there is a conflict of interest. On 17 July 2014 the Leader agreed to make decision on future Community Chest applications at his Portfolio Holder meetings.
5. The virement of £10,000 from the Community Development budget into the Community Chest for allocation in 2014/15 would enable consideration of applications that were already in development prior to the closure of the Community Chest.

Background

6. The Community Chest is grant funding available to voluntary and community sector groups, charities, parish councils and public sector bodies wishing to further improve quality of life in South Cambridgeshire. Applicants may apply for up to £1,500 for:
 - Improvements to community facilities (i.e. village halls / pavilions / play areas)
 - Repairs to historic buildings / monuments / memorials
 - The Tree and Hedge planting Scheme
 - Community Rights of Way (Parish Paths scheme)
 - Equipment / capital purchase
 - Materials

- Start-up costs (may include training of staff / volunteers, hall hire and other revenue costs).

The guidance notes and eligibility criteria for 2014/15 can be found at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/content/community-chest-grants-201314>

7. The total amount of funding made available in the Community Chest in 2014/15 was £52,000. In addition, £7,402.50 was carried forward from 2013/14 and £2,000 of unallocated Service Support Grant added on 25 September. The funding is allocated on a first-come first-served basis.
8. The Community Chest grant funding scheme was closed at the end of September 2014 following expenditure of all monies set out in paragraph 7.

Considerations

9. An additional £10,000 from the Community Development budget is available to be added to the Community Chest for 2014/15.
10. Depending on the decision regarding the allocation of a further £10,000 to the Community Chest, there are two applications for funding to be considered at this meeting. The applications were received between 12 September 2014 and 18 November 2014. The total funding requested equals £2,100. A summary of the applications can be found at Appendix A (copies of the application forms are available from the Sustainable Communities and Partnerships Team upon request).
11. Maps outlining the number of applications agreed by parish for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15 (to date) are included at Appendix B.

Options

12. The Leader may:
 - (a) agree to receive the proposed virement of £10,000 from the Community Development budget into the Community Chest for allocation in 2014/15.
 - (b) refuse the proposed virement of £10,000 from the Community Development budget and keep the grant scheme closed for the remainder of the financial year.
13. The Leader may consider all applications for funding that are set out in Appendix A of this report and
 - (a) award the amount of funding requested
 - (b) award an alternative amount of funding, including zero funding
 - (c) defer a decision if further information is required from grant applicants.

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:

Risk Management

15. Applicants are required to provide supporting documents such as copies of their constitution and quotes where applicable. Applicants must agree to the grant conditions before funds are released.

Consultation responses (including from the Youth Council)

16. Local members have been consulted on applications that directly affect their local area.
17. The Environmental Service Portfolio Holder has been consulted regarding the proposed virement of £10,000 from the Community Development budget into the Community Chest for allocation in 2014/15. He is in support of this approach.

Effect on Strategic Aims

18. The Corporate Aims are listed in the criteria and guidance notes for the Community Chest. Applications that meet our strategic aims are prioritised.

Background Papers

Where [the Local Authorities \(Executive Arrangements\) \(Meetings and Access to Information\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#) require documents to be open to inspection by members of the public, they must be available for inspection: - (a) at all reasonable hours at the offices of South Cambridgeshire District Council; (b) on the Council's website; and (c) in the case of documents to be available for inspection pursuant to regulation 15, on payment of a reasonable fee required by the Council by the person seeking to inspect the documents at the offices of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

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