



REPORT TO: Leader's Portfolio Meeting
LEAD OFFICER: Director, Health and Environmental Services

29 January 2015

Voluntary Sector Service Support Grants (Community Transport theme) Applications for Decision

Purpose

1. To decide the grants to be awarded to applications for a second wave of funding from the three year Service Support Fund (2013/14-2015/16) under the theme of Community Transport.
2. This is not a key decision.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Leader of the Council agrees to make the following decisions:

Awards to be made to the following Community Transport Operators:

Community Transport Organiser / Operator	FY 14/15 (£)	FY 15/16 (£)
CareNetwork	215	4,835
HACT	1,388	
The Voluntary Network / 3CT	2,023	
Totals	3,626	4,835

Reasons for Recommendations

4. The table given in Appendix A summarises the applications, indicating assessment score and ranking and reasons for the awards recommended.

Background

5. On 28 March 2013 the Leader agreed the application criteria and arrangements for three-year service support grants for the voluntary and community sector (VCS). The grants were for the period 1 July 2013 – 31 March 2016.
6. Following the assessment and approval of applications in May 2013, the initial round of applications did not result in the full allocation of funds available under the

Community Transport theme (Joint Leader, Planning Policy and Localism and Environmental Services Portfolio Holders Meeting 23 May 2014).

7. The unallocated funds were held in reserve for later release, to meet the changing transport needs of the district, particularly in view of the effects of the programmed restructure of subsidised bus services known as “Cambridgeshire Future Transport”.
8. On 27 November 2014 the Leader agreed a second round of applications (open between 8 December 2014 and 19 January 2015) to provide support for the delivery of Community Transport services to the district. Approximately £8,500 is available allocation for the remainder of the programme, which ends 31 March 2016.

Considerations

9. The recent round of applications have been assessed, scored and ranked by officers at the Council. The scoring criteria is set out in the guidance note for applicants.
10. Activities eligible for funding remain as per those agreed at the outset of the programme (Planning Policy and Localism Portfolio Holders Report 21 March 2013):
 - Delivery of existing community transport services within South Cambridgeshire and to residents of South Cambridgeshire.
 - Engagement with geographic communities or user groups to
 - promote existing services to increase take up of provision
 - develop new services which meet identified need.
 - Organisations developing the quality and capacity of community transport schemes.
 - Development of learning networks to advance good practice and cooperation among Community Transport providers.
11. The district of South Cambridgeshire is not currently served by any one Community Transport Operator, but rather operators which are based outside the district and include parts of the district within the geographic area they serve.

Options

12. The Leader could agree the awards as recommended, vary or refuse the awards, or request the applications be reviewed.

Implications

13. There are no significant implications.

Consultation responses (including from the Youth Council)

14. No consultation responses were sought.

Effect on Strategic Aims

Aim 1 – Ensure that South Cambridgeshire continues to offer an outstanding quality of life for our residents

15. The support for Community Transport services helps ensure that residents, irrespective of disability, age, infirmity or lack of private transport, can access vital services and participate in the social activities which contribute to quality of life.

Background Papers

Planning Policy and Localism Portfolio Holders Report 21 March 2013
<http://modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1024&MId=5951&Ver=4>

Joint Leader, Planning Policy and Localism and Environmental Services Portfolio Holders Meeting 23 May 2014
<http://modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=883&MId=6132&Ver=4>

Report Author: Clare Gibbons – Development Officer
Telephone: (01954) 713290