

REPORT TO: Grants Advisory Committee 17 December 2021

LEAD CABINET MEMBER: Councillor John Williams, Lead Cabinet Member for Finance

LEAD OFFICER: Jeff Membery, Head of Transformation, HR and Corporate Services

Children and Young People's Grant: Funding Applications

Executive Summary

1. The purpose of this paper is to present applications from organisations and groups seeking funding to support initiatives and schemes to promote wellbeing for children and young people, which build social capacity, address disadvantage and equality of opportunity. The Grants Advisory Committee should then make recommendations regarding grant awards to the Lead Member for Finance.

Key Decision

2. Is this a Key Decision? – No.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Grants Advisory Committee considers all applications for funding that are set out in Appendix A to this report and makes a recommendation to the Lead Cabinet Member regarding the level of funding (£4,000 - £8,000) to be awarded for each or defer a decision if further information is required, or reject an application if it doesn't comply with the grants' criteria.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. The Grants Advisory Committee's role is to consider and make recommendations to the Lead Cabinet Member responsible for Finance, or Cabinet as appropriate, including, but not limited to:
 - a) Reviewing the Council's grants schemes to ensure they reflect Council priorities.

- b) Designing any new or revised grants schemes, including consideration of criteria and guidance applicable in respect of each scheme.
- c) Considering applications made under the Council's grants schemes.

Details

5. The Children and Young Peoples grant scheme is a pilot grant fund making best use of unspent funds for the expansion across the district of the Mobile Warden Schemes (as agreed at Grants Advisory Committee in August 2021). Applications were open to voluntary and community sector groups, charities and public sector bodies wishing to further improve quality of life for the children and young people of South Cambridgeshire. Applicants were invited to apply for sums £4,000 - £8,000 with the objective that the initiative/activity or project must deliver one or more of the following:
 - Help children, young people and their communities to develop their own initiatives and by doing so contribute to their own resilience and well-being and that of their community
 - Motivate and empower other children and young people and their community members to take part and, by doing so, develop social capacity.
 - Develop opportunities for children, young people and their families to engage in positive activity which is beneficial to their physical and mental health and well-being
 - Address social disadvantage and equality of opportunity.
6. Guidance notes and eligibility criteria can be found at Appendix B.
7. The total amount of funding made available is £38,000.
8. Sixteen applications were received, totalling **£92,944.33**.
9. Fourteen applications were considered eligible to receive funding within the criteria, totalling £82,920.33. Officers have scored the applications against each of the objectives in appendix C and officer comments are available in appendix D.
10. Two further applications were received from Northstowe and Trumpington Scouts groups, each requesting funds for capital expenditure. Officers reviewed these and it was considered more appropriate to redirect these groups to the Council's Community Chest Fund.
11. Of the fourteen applications, eight address mental health, two address food/diet, two address anti-social behaviour and one is non-specific.

12. The panel was made up of 3 council officers, using a tried and tested scoring matrix to assess the application against the aims and objectives of the fund. This is now available for Member review and recommendation on awards.

Options

13. The Grants Advisory Committee should consider each application for funding as set out in Appendix A to this report and could recommend to the Lead Cabinet Member to:

- 14.
- 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 the applicant, or
 - d. reject an application, stating the reason for this.

Implications

15. There are no significant implications

Risks/Opportunities

16. Applicants are required to provide supporting documents including copies of their constitution, financial accounts and quotes where applicable. Applicants must agree to the grant conditions before funds are released.

Consultation responses

17. Some applications have been supported by the County Council's Youth and Community Co-ordinator for South Cambridgeshire.

Effect on Council Priority Areas

18. Ensure that South Cambridgeshire continues to offer an outstanding quality of life for our residents: the children and young people grant scheme aims to promote a good quality of life for residents, assisting directly in supporting individual wellbeing, addressing social disadvantage, promoting equality of access to services, thereby creating social capital within our communities.

Background Papers

Grants Advisory Committee Meetings

<https://scambsmoderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=1096&Year=0>

Appendices

Appendix A: Officer panel scores

Appendix B: Application criteria and scoring matrix

Appendix C: Offices score for each objective

Appendix D: Project summaries and officer comments

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