

**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
RECORD OF EXECUTIVE / CHIEF OFFICER DECISION**

This form should be used to record key decisions made by Chief Officers and both key and other decisions made by individual Portfolio Holders. The contact officer will ensure that the signed and completed form is given to Democratic Services as soon as reasonably practicable after the decision has been taken.

Unless permission has been obtained from the Chairman of Council and the Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee that this decision be treated as a matter of urgency under Rule 12.19 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules, this decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in under Rule 7 of the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules or Rule 12 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules.

Portfolio	Finance
Subject Matter	Mobile Warden Schemes
Ward(s) Affected	Various
Date Taken	31/01/2021
Contact Officer	Lesley McFarlane, Development Officer, 01954 713443, lesley.mcfarlane@scambs.gov.uk
Key Decision?	No
In Forward Plan?	No
Urgent?	No

Purpose / Background

On 20 November 2020 the Grants Advisory Committee (GAC) met to consider how to allocate unspent money from the recent procurement and grant funding exercise to expand Mobile Warden Scheme (MWS) coverage across the district.

Of the £200k per annum previously allocated for 2 years, £140k was ringfenced for the procurement exercise aimed at achieving coverage in priority locations. The remaining £60k was allocated to a grant funding scheme to encourage the creation of community-led schemes. Both the procurement and the grant scheme were run midway through the financial year 2020-21, and consequently the funding has been apportioned as follows and runs into the financial year 2022-23:

6 months Oct 2020-March 2021
12 months Apr 2021-March 2022
6 months Apr 2022-Sept 2022

The procurement exercise delivered good value for money schemes which meant there was a total of £115,766 remaining across the 2 years (2020-21 and 2021-22). Of this, the Grants Advisory Committee recommended to the Lead Member for Finance the following:

- £40,000 should be set aside for the new fully-funded schemes to apply for in October 2022 when their 2 years of full funding is due to come to an end. This will give them an opportunity to apply for part funding which would otherwise not be available to them until April 2024 when the Council's existing 3-year MWS grant funding re-opens.
- £75,766 should be used across the established 3-year MWS grant scheme (April 2021-March 2024), increasing the fund from £27,000 per annum by £25,255.33 to £52,255.33 per annum.
- The budget allocation for MWS has remained unchanged for some years and it was agreed that a bigger fund would give existing schemes the opportunity to expand

their services and offer new schemes a source of seed funding, particularly should there be an increase in demand following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Declaration(s) of Interest

Record below any relevant interest declared by any executive Member consulted or by an officer present in relation to the decision.

Cllr Jose Hales, non pecuniary interest as a trustee of Melbourn Warden Scheme

Cllr Sue Ellington, non pecuniary interest as a trustee of Swavesey Warden Scheme

Dispensation(s)

In respect of any conflict(s) of interest declared above, record below any dispensation(s) granted by the Council's Monitoring officer or Civic Affairs Committee.

"None"

Consultation

Record below all parties consulted in relation to the decision.


"None"

Other Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection

The other options were discussed and rejected were:

To use the £115,766 across the three years from April 2021-March 2024 to provide an additional £38,588 per year in addition to the £27,000 already budgeted. Providing a total budget of £65,588.66/year. Consideration will still need to be given to resolve how the Council can support the 10 new schemes with part-funding when their full funding expires in Sept 2022.

Final decision	Reason(s)
To accept the recommendations of the Grants Advisory Committee (see above).	These decisions were considered in detail and recommended unanimously.

Signed	Name (CAPITALS)	Signature	Date
Portfolio Holder	John Williams		
Chief Officer	Gareth Bell		08/02/2021

Further Information

--