

<b>Report to:</b>	Grants Advisory Committee	27 June 2024
<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr John Williams, Lead Member for Communities	
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Gareth Bell, Communications and Communities Service Manager	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No	

## Long Term Health Condition Grant end of year report 2023/24 and proposal for 2024/25 scheme

### Executive Summary

1. Grants Advisory Committee (GAC) agreed at committee in August 2023 to allocate £13,000 to Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE) and Leisure Centre groups offering physical activity programmes to support people living with chronic long-term conditions (LTCs) across the district.
2. This report provides GAC with an end of year update from each VCSE and Leisure Centre group as to how these funds were spent and the outcomes delivered.
3. This report also proposes to repeat the grant in 2024/25 using this year's already allocated and available budget for physical activity.

### Recommendations

4. It is recommended that Members of the Grants Advisory Committee:
  - a. note the content of the report relating to the outcomes of the grant scheme in 2023/24 and offer comments and/or make recommendations to the Lead Member for Resources as appropriate.
  - b. recommend to the Lead Member for Resources that £9,000 from the available and allocated budget for physical activity 2024/25 be ringfenced to repeat the grant programme to support people living with chronic long-term conditions across the district.

## Reasons for Recommendations

5. 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.
6. As detailed in the sections below, the grant programme has been successful in securing new, and maintaining existing, classes for people with long term conditions to access.
7. If the new scheme is agreed, applications will be presented to GAC in the meeting of the 29<sup>th</sup> August, so recommendations can be made to the Lead Member for Resources.

## Details

8. The LTC grant scheme was a fund that made best use of the £13,000 for the expansion of activity and support for people living with a chronic long-term conditions across South Cambridgeshire. This sum included some unspent funding from the 2022/23 budget for physical activity.
9. Applications were open to VCSE's and Leisure Centre groups, looking to deliver condition-specific activity and sessions for participants that wanted to improve their activity levels. The aim was to enable people to manage their condition on a day-to-day basis and help improve quality of life, through better management of the condition and their mental health.
10. This activity supports the health and wellbeing priority to "*create environments which give people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be*".
11. Applicants were invited to apply for sums up to £2,000, with the objective that their proposal or project must deliver one or more of the following:
  - i. Re-start/establish any classes/session/activity that stopped because of the covid pandemic.
  - ii. Start a new class/session/activity.
  - iii. Maintain an existing programme of class/session/activities where the need for additional funding can be demonstrated.
  - iv. Train existing and new staff to deliver classes/sessions/activities as per aim i, ii or iii above.

12.9 applications were funded, totalling £13,000. A table of awarded applicants can be found in Appendix A.

13. This funding has resulted in 135 new participants across the 9 different programmes, supporting various Long-Term Conditions.

14. On an average weekly basis, 211 participants are attending sessions across the sessions run by the 9 recipients of funding. This highlights the success and sustainability of the sessions. Some were existing sessions better promoted, others were new classes. People with LTCs were required to pay for the classes where charges apply. However, the grant ensured appropriate classes were available locally.

15. These activity sessions are important for physical and mental wellbeing, and for the social benefits they bring to each participant. Appendix B has a table of the awarded applicants, and the benefits felt at each programme, as described by participants.

16. Following the success of the grants and the positive impact on participants, it is proposed to repeat this grant in 2024/25 using £9,000 of the already allocated and available physical activity budget. £13,000 was available last year due to budget being available from the previous financial year.

## **Options**

17. The Grants Advisory Committee could:

- i. Note the content of the report relating to the outcomes of the grant scheme in 2023/24 and recommend to the Lead Cabinet Member for Resources to fund the LTC grant scheme for 2024/25.
- ii. Note the content of the report relating to the outcomes of the grant scheme in 2023/24 and recommend to the Lead Cabinet Member for Resources not to fund the LTC grant scheme for 2024/25, giving reasons.
- iii. Note the content of the report relating to the outcomes of the grant scheme in 2023/24 and recommend to the Lead Cabinet Member for Resources to defer a decision about a scheme for 2024/25 if further information is required, giving details.

## **Background Papers**

Grants Advisory Committee Meetings

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

## **Appendices**

Appendix A: Table of awarded applicants

Appendix B: Table of participation benefits

## **Report Author:**

Ben Truett – Physical Activity Locality Coordinator

Email- [Ben.Truett@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Ben.Truett@scambs.gov.uk)

Telephone: (01954) 713374