

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2021
<b>Title:</b>	The Leader's Community Grants
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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### Purpose of this Report

1. The report considers five applications for grants from the Leader's Community Grant Fund 2021/22.

### Recommendation

2. That the Executive Member for Policy and Resources approves grants totalling £34,200 from the Leader's Community Grant Fund 2021/22 to cultural and community organisations in Hampshire as outlined in Appendix 1.

### Executive Summary

3. Five organisations have applied for grants through the Leader's Community Grant Fund 2021/22 and the funds requested total £40,067. The report considers each of the applications and recommends awards totalling £34,200. The recommended awards can be met from within existing budget provision.

### Contextual Information

4. The purpose of this grant stream is to fund projects which provide community benefit and help local communities thrive and/or to help local organisations become financially self-supporting and not reliant on public sector funding. Full details, including what the County Council can and cannot fund, are set out in Appendix 1.

5. Five organisations have applied for funding from this grant stream in 2021/22. Details are set out in Appendix 1. The funds requested total £40,067.
6. Three organisations, (Springwood Community Partnership, King Arthur's Way Community Association and Wecock Community Association), were previously funded under the Recreation and Heritage Community fund. This fund provided core funding to specific groups serving areas of particular need.
7. Applications are made in the year prior to the funding award. Applications from these organisations had previously been invited this year for funding in 2022/23 *before* the changes were made to grant schemes. Following the changes, these three applications have been redirected to the Leader's Community Grants on an exceptional basis for one year only. An additional £8,000 has also been requested for Springwood Community Partnership for in-year funding in 2021/22 as they were unable to make their application in time last year due to the impact of Covid-19 and subsequent management changes on the organisation.

## **Finance**

8. The recommended awards can be met from within existing budget provision.

## **Consultation and Equalities**

9. A high-level Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. The grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality.
10. The corporate terms and condition of grant require that any organisation in receipt of funding shall ensure that at all times it complies with the Equality Act 2010 if applicable and shall ensure that it does not discriminate against any person or persons on the basis of race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, age or otherwise.

## **Climate Change Impact Assessment**

11. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

12. The carbon mitigation tool decision tree indicates it is not suitable for the assessment of a programme. The decisions in this report are financial decisions in relation to a programme of one-off grant opportunities. Therefore, the tool is not suitable for this Climate Change Impact Assessment and has not been used.

### **Other Key Issues**

13. Legal Implications: The Council has wide powers under Section 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to provide recreational facilities and to contribute by way of a grant or loan towards the expenses incurred by voluntary bodies in providing such facilities and activities.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	no
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<a href="#">Leader's Community Grants – Revised Criteria and Management</a>	8 July 2021

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

2.1. A high-level Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. The grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality.

## Grant Funding to Culture and Community Organisations, 2021/22

Organisation (District / Division)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
RM Garden Memorial Stones Appeal Committee (Countywide)	<p>The application is to erect granite stone memorials to Royal Marines and other service men and women in the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts in the Royal Marines memorial garden. The erection of two memorials will acknowledge the sacrifice of those who gave their lives during these conflicts. The garden is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including to the disadvantaged, disabled and wheelchair-bound and is run by a team of volunteers. Persons of all ethnicities and religions visit the Garden for quiet contemplation and prayer. The organisation expects to generate £890 through fundraising and a further £650 from donations via the Royal Marines Charity and is seeking £1,200 to complete the Iraq and Afghanistan memorials in readiness for the major events due to take place over the next two years.</p> <p>As this is a countywide application no local member was consulted.</p> <p><b>It is recommended that RM Garden Memorial Stones Appeal Committee is awarded £1,200.</b></p>	£1,200	£1,200
11th Eastleigh (North Stoneham) Scout Group (Eastleigh/ Eastleigh South)	<p>The organisation seeks funding for £2,867 to contribute towards venue hire, the purchase of equipment, volunteer expenses and to provide funding towards insurances, leader training and safeguarding costs. The organisation has committed £7,180 of its own funds and a further £1,000 has been provided from their parent organisation. Additionally, they have secured £1,000 from Highwood Group and are awaiting the result of a further £1,750 of grants from other trusts. If the application was not supported, the organisation would have to restrict its outdoor education programme. Councillor Irish was invited to comment.</p> <p><b>As the organisation is from a Countywide Group (Scouts) and applications are not usually considered unless they are for a specific purpose i.e., a trip or annual celebration it is recommended that the application is not supported as it does not fit the scheme criteria.</b></p>	£2,867	£0

Organisation (District / Division)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Springwood Community Partnership (Havant / Waterloo and Stakes North)	<p>Serving an area of significant multiple deprivation, ranked in the top 5% in Hampshire and the top 20% in England, this is a small sized community association with good user consultation and involvement in the development and delivery of projects and activities. Services are particularly targeted to local vulnerable groups including older people, those at risk of social isolation, children and young people and low-income families. The organisation has match funding of £10,000 from Havant Borough Council and expects to generate an income of £55,200 from room hire and a lunch club. The organisation was unable to seek funding opportunities last year and was impacted by COVID-19. This application therefore comprises £8,000 unclaimed award from last financial year (which was carried over from the previous Recreation and Heritage Community Fund) and £8,000 for this financial year.</p> <p>Councillor Briggs supports the application.</p> <p><b>It is recommended that the organisation is awarded £16,000 on condition that this is the last year of funding. Future applications may be considered for project based work.</b></p>	£16,000	£16,000
King Arthur's Way Community Association (Test Valley / Andover West)	<p>This is a small community association serving a community in the top 15% most deprived areas in Hampshire and the top 40% in England. It develops and delivers a range of activities and projects to address local needs including drop in advice groups, job club, food bank, IT skills and activities for vulnerable groups including children and young people and older people. The organisation has committed £8,000 of its own funds. It has secured £3,500 from Test Valley Borough Council and expects to generate £5,000 through hall hire but states that this has been impacted by COVID-19.</p> <p>Councillor Donnelly supports the application.</p>	£8,000	£5,000

Organisation (District / Division)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
	It is recommended that the organisation is awarded £5,000 (this matches previous years' funding) on condition that this is the last year of funding. Future applications may be considered for project based work.		
Wecock Community Association (Havant / Cowplain and Hart Plain)	A large community association, this organisation delivers a wide range of activities and services to address the social and economic needs of the area which is ranked in the top 1% most deprived areas in Hampshire and the top 20% in England. There is a strong volunteering ethos in the centre with over 60 volunteers of all ages. It provides activities for children and young people, older people, skills development and work experience for volunteers, job club, , adult and community learning, charity shop, community café, along with IT access. The organisation has committed £4,000 of its own funds. It has secured £42,608 from The National Lottery Communities fund for £63,900 from miscellaneous grants and donations. It expects to generate £58,800 through room hire, and other activity earnings. Councillor Bains supports the application. It is recommended that the organisation is awarded £12,000 on condition that this is the last year of funding. Future applications may be considered for project based work.	£12,000	£12,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>£40,067</b>	<b>£34,200</b>