

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
<b>Date:</b>	25 January 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 two 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 up to £16,350 from the Leader's Community Grant Fund 2021/22 to cultural and community organisations in Hampshire as outlined in Appendix 2.

#### Executive Summary

3. Two organisations have applied for grants through the Leader's Community Grant Fund 2021/22 and the funds requested total £16,341. The report considers each of the applications and recommends awards totalling up to £16,350. 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. Two applications have been submitted for consideration. The first application is from Alton Climate Action Network (ACAN) for a sustainable living outreach pilot. The amount requested is £6,341. The second is from the Licoricia of Winchester Appeal for a community interfaith event to mark the unveiling of the Licoricia of Winchester statue. The amount requested is up to £10,000. Details are set out in Appendix 2.

## **Finance**

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

## **Consultation and Equalities**

7. A high-level Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. The grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality.
8. 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**

9. 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.
10. 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**

11. 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**

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

## Leader's Community Grants – Criteria

### What is funded?

The purpose of the scheme is to fund one-off, time limited projects which:

- provide community benefit and help local communities thrive
- help local organisations become financially self-supporting and not reliant on public sector funding

Proposals will be particularly welcomed where they can demonstrate how they:

- respond to the [Climate Emergency](#), as declared by the Council in June 2019
- reduce demand for Council services

Proposals must support the priorities and outcomes of Hampshire County Council's [Serving Hampshire - Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2021](#). It forms the cornerstone of all strategies and plans across departments and service areas. It features four key aims:

- Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity
- people in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives
- people in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment
- people in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities

Applications can be made for over £1,000 to a maximum of £25,000 and may be for activity costs and/or capital costs. Applications in excess of £25k will occasionally be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Secured match funding or clear evidence of seeking match funding is highly desirable. Organisations should have also applied to local District or Parish Councils where local funding opportunities exist.

Supporting documentation will be required for all applications.

### Who can apply?

Organisations wishing to apply must be properly constituted with clear and effective governance and management structures. They must be delivering activities or services that benefit Hampshire residents. Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold unallocated reserves in excess of one year's running costs. Where it is judged that unallocated reserves are unreasonably in excess of what is required or not allocated for legitimate purposes, those organisations may receive a reduced grant. All organisations are expected to have an agreed reserves policy that addresses their financial risk.

The following organisations are not normally funded under this scheme:

- individuals

- services provided solely within the unitary authority areas of Portsmouth City Council and/or Southampton City Council
- other local authorities, including District, Parish and Town Councils
- commercial/profit making organisations
- schools, including pre-schools and colleges
- large, national organisations or 'household name charities', including local branches
- political parties or groups affiliated with a political party or from lobbying/campaigning organisations.
- Applications will only be considered from faith groups who can demonstrate their facilities are open and used by the local community other than for church related activities and then only for works in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act
- Requests may be considered from County wide groups (e.g. Guides, Scouts, Hampshire County Youth Orchestra) for specific trips e.g. for an international jamboree or cultural tour. Individual requests will not usually be considered.
- Self-help by organisations is encouraged, and therefore grants are normally only a percentage of the sum required to complete a project.

### **When to apply**

Applications are welcomed at any time and will be dealt with on a 'first come, first served' basis. Recommendations for awards will be taken to the next available Executive Members decision day. This may be up to three months after the application is received, in line with meeting schedules.

Projects should be well developed, with match-funding secured, and any supported projects will normally be expected to commence within six-months of the decision date. All applicants for building works will be expected to evidence freehold or to have obtained permission from the landlord. If required, applicants will also be expected to have obtained (or engaged in the process of) planning permission and/or listed buildings consent (if appropriate) to carry out the works before applying.

### **What is not funded?**

The following projects are not funded under this scheme:

- the purchase of land
- capital works that have already been carried out - we cannot retrospectively fund projects; grants are awarded for works to be carried out in the future
- general running costs of organisations - these grants are not intended to replace shortfalls in service delivery budgets or replace funding for other support you may be able to obtain, or that you have obtained from us in the past
- ongoing staff costs - we may fund a fixed-term member of staff or consultant to carry out a time-limited piece of work
- repeat applications to cover previously funded activities/annual applications for the same activities
- profit-making or fund-raising activities, or onward distribution of funds

- projects which meet the aims of other Hampshire County Council grant schemes - where relevant, applications may be transferred to more appropriate schemes
- applications for £1,000 or less - where relevant, these should be directed to the Members' Devolved Grants Scheme.

Organisations will not be awarded more than one grant per financial year and previously funded projects must be completed before a new application is made. Previous levels of Council funding will be taken into account when assessing applications.

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

Organisation (District / Division)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Alton Climate Action Network (ACAN) (Alton Town/East Hampshire)	<p>The organisation seeks funding for a sustainable living outreach pilot project, led by a one-year fixed-term project manager of 12 hours/week. The project aims to benefit residents by providing them with the opportunity to reduce their carbon footprint and thereby contribute to the global effort against climate change. Although the project is a pilot, the organisation has planned the project in full, accounting for risks and have a previous track record of delivering successful outcomes through various initiatives including a complex work programme based on the principles of organisational networking and community action. The pilot will run in the Whitedown ward which has strong community support including local councillors and community leaders. After the pilot has completed any lessons learnt will be shared with volunteers who will be able to replicate the project in the remaining wards of Alton, providing longer term sustainability to the project and its expected outcomes.</p> <p>ETE was consulted. Feedback provided suggested that the scheme was too broad for the Waste Prevention Fund, although commented that encouraging funding for climate change initiatives through other schemes may benefit the reach of such programmes within the community”.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £100 of its own funding along with a further £100 from its parent organisation. They have also secured £1,000 from Cllr Joy and a further £2,148 from Alton Town Council.</p> <p><b>Councillor Joy supports the application.</b>  <b>It is recommended that Alton Climate Action Network (ACAN) is awarded £6,350.</b></p>	£6,341	£6,350
The Licoricia of Winchester Appeal (Winchester Eastgate/	<p>The organisation seeks funding for a high-profile interfaith event comprising the unveiling of the statue of Licoricia of Winchester at Winchester Discovery Centre. The event will be attended by representatives of local communities, national organisations, faith groups and institutions. A prominent national figure will be unveiling the statue. The grant will cover the hire of Winchester Discovery Centre, educational displays, an element of site preparation and</p>	£10,000	£10,000

## Appendix 2

Organisation (District / Division)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Winchester)	<p>the production of a video to commemorate the unveiling as part of the outreach programme. Licoricia was a prominent member of Winchester's medieval Jewish community and the project aims to promote tolerance and the value of diversity within the community whilst providing an educational focus about Winchester's medieval Jewish Community. The statue will also benefit Winchester's cultural offer.</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiscock fully supports the application.</b>  It recommended that the organisation is awarded up to £10,000 (upon receipt of invoices).</p>		
<b>Total</b>		<b>£16,341</b>	<b>£16,350</b>