

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date of Decision:	01 November 2013
Decision Title:	Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Other Bodies
Decision Reference:	5250
Report From:	Director of Policy and Governance - Corporate Services

Contact name: Louise Pickford

Tel: 01962 847355 Email: louise.pickford@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to consider applications received for financial assistance from the Policy and Resources budget whose details are outlined in Appendix 2 to this report.
- 1.2 This report also gives details of a request received from East Hampshire District Council from the Have Your Say budget.

2. Budget Position

- 2.1 The balance available for allocation from the 2013/14 grant budget at 1 November 2013 is £109,488, after grants approved at the last decision day, commitments made in previous years and sums earmarked for specific purposes.
- 2.2 The balance available for allocation from the Have Your Say budget, prior to the next decisions being taken in late October/early November is £182,500.

3. Grants Criteria

- 3.1 A copy of the criteria used for considering grants from the Policy and Resources and the Have Your Say grants budgets are attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 Subject to certain restrictions, the County Council has the power under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that individuals generally may do including the power to give grants.

5. Recommendations:

- 5.1 That grants totalling £20,000 from the Policy and Resources grants budget as outlined in Appendix 2 of this report be approved.

5.2 That a sum of £17,500 be awarded from the Have Your Say budget to East Hampshire District Council towards the running of its community grant events.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

5.3 Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	No
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
5.4 Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
5.5 Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	

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.)

DocumentLocation

Applications form received from organisations

Director of Policy and Governance - Corporate Services

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1 The application procedure includes equalities monitoring information as agreed as part of the corporate review of grants programmes and procedures. Further information can be found on individual requests.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. The County Council has an obligation under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all decisions it makes on the prevention of crime. The proposals in this report aim to improve the wellbeing of Hampshire residents and reduce the risk of crime occurring.

FUNDING CRITERIA FOR THE POLICY AND RESOURCES GRANTS

The following criteria should be taken into consideration when preparing a submission for funding. They are intended as guidelines and not prescriptive rules

1. Assistance will be considered only in response to direct applications from properly constituted organisations seeking assistance. You must show in your application that your organisation is properly and legally organised and has its own bank account.
2. Where appropriate, applications will be referred to the relevant service department (e.g. Adult Services, Culture, Communities and Business Services, Children's Services, etc.) for consideration.
3. Preference will be given to applications for specific projects or activities rather than 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.
4. Grants will not usually be made in respect of applications from the following:-
 - District or Parish Councils
 - Government Institutions
 - Schools
 - Overseas and out of County organisations which have no direct Hampshire involvement
 - Branches or organisations assisted centrally with a sum from the County Council
 - Bodies requesting funds for onward distribution to other charities e.g. mayoral appeals, carnivals, fetes, or for their own fundraising events.
5. Applications will not be accepted from political parties or groups affiliated with a political party or from lobbying/campaigning organisations.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Where possible self-help within organisations should be encouraged and to this end, grants are normally a percentage of the sum required to complete the project.
9. As a general rule, grants in excess of £5,000 will not be awarded.
10. In general only award grants to projects which are taking place in the same year as application for funds

FUNDING CRITERIA FOR THE HAVE YOUR SAY GRANT

The scheme will open 1 June 2013 and close 31 March 2014 (or earlier if funds have been used).

Grant criteria and eligibility

The schemes will need to meet the following criteria:

Support of your local County Councillor(s) prior to submitting a “Have Your Say” scheme application.

The successful scheme should actively encourage the submission of proposed small scale grass roots community projects in the local area.

A transparent screening process will need to be established in order to assess the legality and viability of the proposals, and to ensure those projects which are not viable or deliverable do not proceed to the public decision/event/vote. Examples of unsuitable projects include, (but is not an exhaustive list): those which are political, campaign driven or form part of a pressure group; and those that do not embrace diversity and community cohesion. Applications from religious groups may be considered, but the application must show that the project will bring wider community benefit.

There should be a mechanism for the public to determine how funds are allocated to projects (e.g. event or voting system).

Any awards made must recognise the County Council’s funding under the heading of “Have your Say”.

Local County Councillors must be involved in the eventual grant award and the County Council is likely to promote publicly, grants awards.

The applicant will be accountable to the County Council for the successful delivery of any funded projects and will be required to monitor the outcomes from the successful projects and provide a report to Hampshire County Council upon the conclusion of the scheme.

Any funds not allocated by applicants or awards not applied to the successful projects within the agreed period must be returned to the County Council.

There is flexibility on the way a “Have Your Say” event is run as long as each scheme meets the above criteria.

Who can apply?

Applications can be made by constituted organisations for running an event(s) within the administrative County of Hampshire.

BE YOUR BEST FOUNDATION (GLOBAL ROCK CHALLENGE) (CG00004088)

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

The Be Your Best Foundation is seeking funding to stage its Global Rock Challenge events during March/April 2014 at the Southampton and Portsmouth Guildhalls.

It is expected that around 3,000 young people from Hampshire (aged between 7 and 18 years) will participate in these events, with a further 6,000 people who are relatives/friends of the performers. The participants will experience benefits in many areas, including, increased self-esteem, improved teamwork skills, better relationships with peers and teachers, improved attendance in school, reduced use of tobacco, alcohol and illegal substances and reduced anti-social behaviour

Total Expenditure: £126,500 (venue hire, staffing, prizes, etc)

Total Income: £127, 500, although only £40,000 is confirmed. Some of the shortfall will be made up from, ticket sales and merchandise.

Shortfall: N/A

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£5,000

GRANTS PREVIOUSLY AWARDED BY OTHER EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND CONSIDERATION GIVEN BY OTHER LOCAL MEMBERS

This organisation has received £5,000 from this budget over a number of years towards this event.

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

This is a county-wide organisation and therefore there is no local member.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Children's Services: A request for funding is also being considered by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services at his meeting on 24 October - £3,000 is being recommended. A further contribution from this grants budget may be appropriate as the events will be of benefit to a large number of young people within Hampshire.

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: In view of nature of the events, it is recommended that the applicant also approach the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Public Health for possible grant aid.

RECOMMENDATION

£5,000

JUBILEE SAILING TRUST (CG00004142)

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

Jubilee Sailing Trust (JST) is seeking a contribution towards providing subsidies for Hampshire residents in 2013/14. JST work in partnership with various other agencies to identify voyage crew both able bodied and disabled.

Grant requests are also being submitted to other local authorities within Hampshire, including Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils.

Total Expenditure: £155,000 (provision to all Voyage crew based on 310 Hampshire residents receiving £500 subsidy)

Total Income: £7,000 (includes £2,000 from Members' budgets and £2,000 from parish council)

Shortfall: £148,000

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£20,000

GRANTS PREVIOUSLY AWARDED BY OTHER EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND CONSIDERATION GIVEN BY OTHER LOCAL MEMBERS

This budget: JST received £10,000 in March this year towards 2012/13 subsidies

Cllrs Budgets: Total of £2,000 from Cllrs Perry, Bennison, Glen, Wall and Staplehurst.

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

This is a Southampton based organisation and therefore there is no local member.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Children's Services: This request is also being considered by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 24 October - £7,000 is being recommended. It is encouraging that the organisation makes efforts to secure other funding to reduce the cost for individuals and it is evident that the project benefits a large number of Hampshire residents, however it is unclear how these opportunities are targeted to those most at need. Should a contribution be awarded, it may be appropriate to attach a condition that the funding supports vulnerable adult groups, similar to the way Children's Services contribute funding.

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: JST has already received £10,000 from this budget this year and has also been secured funding from Members' devolved budgets.

RECOMMENDATION

£5,000 on condition that the funding supports vulnerable adult groups

UK YOUTH (AVON TYRELL) (CG00003714)

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

UK Youth (Avon Tyrrell) is seeking financial assistance to support the running of a local community gardening/conservation project called 'Eco-health' at its outdoor activity centre in Bransgore.

'Eco-health' was set up in 2009 with largely Big Lottery Funding, which ended in 2012. Since then it has relied on its own fundraising to remain sustainable. The project is run four days per week for adults with mental health issues, particularly those in secondary care. It provides opportunities for people to learn new skills, get back into work or training, to build confidence, relationships, fitness, well-being and self-esteem as well as helping to reduce the associated stigma in the wider community.

Since it started four years ago, 40 full time and 60 part-time people from Hampshire have benefitted.

Total Expenditure: £70,000 (staffing, materials (£5,000), office expenses, etc)

Total Income: £55,000 (£20,000 – own funds; £2,000 – Hampshire Learning and £25,000 from Trusts (**unconfirmed**); sales of goods and kit donations

Shortfall: £5,000

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£5,000

GRANTS PREVIOUSLY AWARDED BY OTHER EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND CONSIDERATION GIVEN BY OTHER LOCAL MEMBERS

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

The local member Councillor Rippon-Swaine has been consulted.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Adult Services: This department is familiar with the work of this project, which appears to achieve good outcomes for service users in terms of preparing them for employment. The service complements the Wellbeing Centres that are commissioned by the County Council and supporting people with these service users back into employment is a priority identified in our Joint Commissioning Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

£5,000

WINCHESTER EXCAVATIONS COMMITTEE

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

Winchester Excavations Committee is seeking a grant of £5,000 from the County Council towards the cost of completing the production of volumes on 'People', 'Atlas', 'Minsters', 'Castle', 'Ceramics' and 'Roman Venta' within the Winchester Series. It is also hoped that publication of 'Animals' and the remaining three books will follow shortly thereafter.

Research and editorial work on the remaining books is dependent upon funding to provide accommodation, editorial and administrative assistance, and the payment of technical services, such as indexing and drawing.

Total Expenditure: £83,000 (accommodation, technical/admin support, drawing/editing costs).

Total Income: £51,000 (including donations/sales)

Shortfall: £32,000

The Committee has also approached Winchester City Council for funding

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Leader of the Council

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£5,000

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBERS

The local councillors Fiona Mather and Martin Tod have been consulted on this application.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: Over a number of years the County Council has substantially contributed towards the cost of a number of these volumes going to print. In view of the significance these publications have to the history of Winchester and Hampshire as a whole, it is recommended that a final grant of £5,000 is recommended. This would then allow the Committee time to find alternative sources of funding.

RECOMMENDATION

A final grant of £5,000 towards the publication of further volumes within the Winchester series.

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL (CG00003812)

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

East Hampshire District Council is seeking funding towards its “Approved by You Participatory grant funding scheme”

The Council intend to improve the capacity building opportunities this year by inviting those groups who are bidding for funding to set out a market type stall prior to the vote in order to allow for networking opportunities and to give those members of the public who are voting an opportunity to find out more about the projects and make a more informed choice. Up to 40 organisations will benefit from this funding. It is envisaged that four events will take place - one in each area during a calendar month

Total Expenditure: £22,300 (venue hire, grants (£5,000 for each of the four areas), marketing/admin).

Total Income: £2,300 – own funds.

Shortfall: £20,000

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£20,000

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBERS

All East Hampshire County Councillors (Councillors Carew, Clarke, Cowper, Harvey, Kemp-Gee, Joy and John West) support this application.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: The scheme is operated from four community forum areas within the district and has the full support of the local members. The events proved highly popular last year and some useful feedback was obtained. It is hoped to build on this and make the scheme even more successful.

A grant of £17,500 (based on £2,500 per division) is recommended from Have your Say budget in 2013/14.

RECOMMENDATION

£17,500 be awarded to East Hampshire District Council from the Have your Say budget in 2013/14.