

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date of Decision:	12 December 2013
Decision Title:	Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Other Bodies
Decision Reference:	5279
Report From:	Director of Policy and Governance - Corporate Services

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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 The report also considers a request for funding from The Anvil Arts Trust in Basingstoke

2. Budget Position

- 2.1 The balance available for allocation from the 2013/14 grant budget at 12 December 2013 is £89,488, after grants approved at the last decision day, commitments made in previous years and sums earmarked for specific purposes.

3. Grants Criteria

- 3.1 A copy of the criteria used for considering grants from the Policy and Resources 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. Recommendation:

- 5.1 That grants totalling £55,000 from the Policy and Resources grants budget as outlined in Appendix 2 of this report be approved.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

5.2 Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	No
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
5.3 Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
5.4 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

Application forms 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

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLANDS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

The Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust is seeking grant aid from the County Council to allow it to award grants to churches to repair their buildings, making them, in most cases, much more useful to the local community.

Typical projects include installing modern kitchens, providing spaces for meetings, improving toilet facilities and adding disabled access.

Total Expenditure: £105,000

Total Income: £53,120

Shortfall: £51,880

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Leader of the Council

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£50,000

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

This budget:

July 2013 - £300 – hire of musicians for fundraising event

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

This is a Countywide organisation and therefore no local member.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: Requests from faith groups are normally only considered for works in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act. Awarding these monies would allow churches in Hampshire to apply to the Trust for works in relation to the fabric of the building or other activities.

RECOMMENDATION

£25,000 in 2013/14 and 2014/15

TRINITY, WINCHESTER

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

Trinity Winchester operates direct access Drop-in and Women's Services at Bradbury House in the city which provides help and support to people in Hampshire who are homeless and vulnerably housed. It is for these core costs that a contribution of £60,000 is sought from the County Council.

Winchester City Council is contributing £97,000.

Total Expenditure: £385,100

Total Income: £331,710

Shortfall: £53,390

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Leader of the Council

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£60,000 over three years

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

This budget:

Sept 2010: £30,000 in 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

Councillors Tod and Fiona Mather are the local members.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: This organisation received a three-year grant of £30,000 p.a. towards its running costs. Due to the current economic climate, it is recommended that a tapering grant package be awarded on the basis of £30,000 in 2013/14, £20,000 in 2014/15 and £10,000 in 2015/16, which will allow the organisation time to secure increasing funding from other sources.

RECOMMENDATION

£30,000 in 2013/14, £20,000 in 2014/15 and £10,000 in 2015/16

THE ANVIL ARTS TRUST, BASINGSTOKE

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

The Anvil Arts Trust runs The Anvil (concert hall), The Haymarket (theatre) and The Forge (studio) in Basingstoke. The Anvil is an international classical concert hall, recognised as one of the best 5 in the UK. It presents world famous artists in classical music and other performances including comedy, popular dance and musical theatre. Annual audience attendance to events is approximately 177,000 and 9,278 participants in activities.

The Trust works with schools both in formal education and informal settings from infant school through to higher education. This also includes projects with young people who have specific needs or difficult to reach with more targeted projects, often working with a range of partners including Kala the Arts and Proteus.

At the time of application the lease for the building was due for renewal. The Anvil Trust has received £1,089,528 from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council towards their costs.

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Executive Member for Culture, Communities and Countryside

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£83,100 in 2014/2015

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

Councillor Criss Connor has been consulted.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services: Anvil Arts is also recognised as a flagship organisation within the Arts and Museums Service Strategic Plan 'Connecting Communities to Excellence'. It is recommended the Anvil Trust is awarded £81,440 for 2014/15 (a 2% reduction on the 2013/14 grant award). **This grant is awarded on the condition that a lease for the building is signed and in place by 31 March 2014.**

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: This request was due to be considered by the Executive Member for Culture, Communities and Countryside at his meeting on 4 December. The Executive Member has since declared an interest in this item and can no longer take the decision. In accordance with Paragraph 2.3 of Part 3 of the County Council's Constitution, the Leader has agreed to take this decision on the Executive Member's behalf.

RECOMMENDATION

£81,440 in 2014/15 subject to a lease for the building being signed and in place by 31 March 2014. This sum to be met from the Culture and Recreation Investment Fund in 2014/15.