

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

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| Decision Maker: | Executive Member for Communities and Partnerships |
| Date: | 21 November 2014 |
| Title: | Have Your Say – Funding Requests |
| Reference: | 6242 |
| Report From: | Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services |

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1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this paper is to consider four funding requests from the Have Your Say budget.

2. Budget position

The balance available for allocation from the 2014/15 Have Your Say grant budget at 21 November 2014 is £200,000.

If grants were approved at the amounts being recommended a total of £60,000 would be committed from this budget, leaving £140,000 remaining.

3. Contextual Information

Have Your Say is a grant stream inviting applications to organise and run small scale community participatory budget events. These organisations, or delivery partners, must have the ability to operate such a scheme locally, and potentially link this with other resources for the community to make decisions regarding the funding of local projects. This will mean that the organisation holds an event for the community to decide which projects they want in their area by voting on them. The purpose is to allow local people to have a say and determine which local projects receive funding from the County Council in order to help improve their local environment, to support local groups or strengthen their community.

4. Grant criteria

A copy of the criteria used for considering grants from the Have Your Say budget is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

5. Legal Implications

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.

6. Recommendation

That grants totalling £60,000 be awarded to those organisations in the amounts shown in Appendix 2 to this report.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

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| Hampshire safer and more secure for all: | yes |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Maximising well-being: | yes |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Enhancing our quality of place: | yes |
| Corporate Improvement 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 from requesting organisations

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

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 under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

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.

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 characteristic connected to that characteristic;

Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic 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 which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

Equalities Impact Assessment:

See guidance at <http://intranet.hants.gov.uk/equality/equality-assessments.htm>

Inset *in full* your **Equality Statement** which will either state

- why you consider that the project/proposal will have a low or no impact on groups with protected characteristics or*
- will give details of the identified impacts and potential mitigating actions*

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

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.

3. Climate Change:

How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The initiatives proposed support the culture of self help and self reliance which may have been impacted by climate change.

FUNDING CRITERIA FOR THE HAVE YOUR SAY GRANT

The scheme will open 1 June 2014 and close 31 March 2015 (or earlier if funds have been used).

Grant criteria and eligibility

The schemes will *normally* need to meet the following criteria:

- **Majority** 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 **all** 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, (this 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 **wider** 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 * (**but excludes the grant award process**) 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.

Application Process

- Applications will be considered by the Executive Member for Communities and Partnerships. Views of your local County Councillor will be sought and taken into account.
- Organisations/groups applying to run a scheme must complete the appropriate application form, preferably using the electronic application process.

Financial issues

- Organisations are able to apply for a share of £200,000 in order to run a local “Have Your Say” event.
- It is envisaged that schemes are likely to be for between £2,000 - £2,500 for an area which a single County Councillor covers, and in multiples thereafter.
- Grant payments will be one-off, and there should be no expectation of future funding.
- The grants are expected to support projects and not to contribute to an organisation’s revenue costs. 5% of the County Council funding can be used as a contribution to the costs of administering the scheme, including the holding of events. Match funding from other organisations, to increase the size of a “Have Your Say” event is encouraged, but match funding is not a requirement.

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CHANDLER'S FORD PARISH COUNCIL (CG00006541)**PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT**

Chandler's Ford Parish Council is seeking financial assistance towards the cost of hosting the "Granted to You" event to cover two County Council divisions within the parish area (Chandler's Ford and Eastleigh West).

The event will allow local organisations to bid for funding from the Have Your Say pot and focus on hard to reach community groups in the parish as well as seeking applications from groups that are already linked to the parish Council.

It will be publicised locally and all local community contacts encouraged to make applications. Local contacts include community associations, special interest groups, clubs and societies, schools, voluntary groups and uniformed groups.

Total Expenditure: £10,150 (£10,000 grants - £150 admin)

Total Income: £5,150 (own funds)

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

£5,000 – 2012/13

£5,000 – 2013/14.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Both Chandler's Ford Councillors Davidovitz and Greenwood have been consulted and support this application.

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: This event was held last year from which several organisations benefitted from funds such as the Chandler's Ford First responders, Girl Guiding, Velmore Community Association, an Art Club, two community bands and facilities for a youth drop-in centre.

RECOMMENDATION

£5,000

HART VOLUNTARY ACTION (CG00006893)**PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT**

Hart Voluntary Action (HVA) is applying to run the Have Your Say grant programme. Based on the experience of the previous 2 schemes, HVA would work again with its County Councillors, Hart District Council, parish and town councils and its voluntary sector membership to deliver the "Have Your Say" grant scheme in the five County Councillor divisions in Hart.

Members of the public will be able to vote online, by post or visit its Have Your Say in Hart Facebook Page. The intention is to distribute at least 12 grants to support local initiatives on a one-off basis.

One such group has already made an initial approach to HVA about contributing to the next Have Your in Hart scheme should HVA be successful.

Total Expenditure: £12,500 (£12,000 grants - £500 communications/survey)

Total Income: £0

Shortfall: £12,500

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£12,500

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

£15,000 – 2012/13

£12,500 – 2013/14

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: All Hart Councillors have been consulted and support this scheme for the third year.

RECOMMENDATION

£12,500

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL (CG00007228)**PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT**

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and supporting partner, Basingstoke Voluntary Services, aim to deliver the 'Have Your Say' project. The purpose of this grant scheme is designed to enable voluntary and community organisations to help improve their local environment, to support groups or strengthen their community. Residents will then have the opportunity to determine which projects should receive funding through an open day (Decision Day), where they can vote for the projects they feel would most benefit their community. Three 'Decision Day' meetings will be held (March 2015), one in each of the following areas; Tadley, Whitchurch and Basingstoke town.

Total Expenditure: £41,875 (£38,750 grants - £3,125 admin/refresh)

Total Income: £16,875

Shortfall: £25,000

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£25,000

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

£25,000 in both 2012/13 and 2013/14

GENERAL COMMENTS

All Basingstoke County Councillors have been consulted and support this application.

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: These grants are expected to support projects and therefore a maximum of 5% of the County Council funding can be used as a contribution towards admin costs.

RECOMMENDATION

£25,000

COMMUNITY FIRST HEH (HAVANT AND EAST HAMPSHIRE) (CG00007470)**PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT**

Our project is to work in partnership with Havant Borough Council to hold four participatory budgeting events across the 7 designated County Council areas in the Borough of Havant.

Last year, events were with a more flexible drop-in approach which gave every resident the opportunity to vote for two projects. This method proved to be very successful with 48 groups receiving funding and over 500 members of the public voting across the four events. The aim is to use the same method this year, by holding four events in Havant, Hayling Island, Waterlooville and Leigh Park. At the event each resident is given a voting slip with two votes, to pick their projects.

Total Expenditure: £18,256 (£16,625 grants - £1631 admin)

Total Income: £756

Shortfall: £17,500

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£17,500

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

£27,500 – 2012/13

£17,500 – 2013/14

GENERAL COMMENTS

All Havant County Councillors have been consulted and the majority are in support of this application. Councillor Finch has yet to respond

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: These grants are expected to support projects and therefore a maximum of 5% of the County Council funding can be used as a contribution towards admin costs.

RECOMMENDATION

£17,500