

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date of Decision:	21 September 2015
Decision Title:	Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Other Bodies
Decision Reference:	6860
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 This report is to consider requests received for financial assistance from the Policy and Resources grants budget. Details of these requests are outlined in Appendix 2 to this report.

2. **Budget Position**

- 2.1 Following commitments made at previous meetings, the Policy and Resources grants budget available at the meeting on 21 September 2015 is £114,066.
- 2.2 With regard to paragraph 2.1 above, following the last Decision Day in July, a request was received from the Romsey Dementia Action Group towards “Demfest”, a one-day festival to raise awareness of dementia, being held at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens on 6 September.

In view of the timings involved, on 17 August 2015, the Director of Policy and Governance agreed, in consultation with the Executive Member, to award a grant of £1,600 towards the costs of this event. These costs included marketing, equipment hire, website development, etc. The figure quoted in paragraph 2.1 takes this grant into account and is being reported here for noting 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. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 5.1 That grants totalling £18,300 be awarded from the Policy and Resources grants budget to those organisations listed in Appendix 2 of this report.
- 5.2 That the grant of £1,600 awarded to Romsey Dementia Action Group towards the cost of the “Demfest” event held at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens on 6 September 2015 be noted.

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

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	Yes
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
None		
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	
None		

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>
Application forms and correspondence received from organisations	Director of Policy and Governance - Corporate Services

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. 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.

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

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) 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.

1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

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:

The proposals in this report aim to improve the wellbeing of Hampshire residents and reduce the risk of crime occurring.

3. Climate Change:

There is no significant link to Climate Change as a result of this decision.

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 grants will only be awarded to projects which are taking place in the same year as application for funds.

CHICHESTER HARBOUR TRUST (CG00008787)**PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT**

To assist with the management and administrative costs associated with the conservation of the very special landscape and wildlife habitats of 240 acres of land in sites spread around Chichester Harbour, some of which are in Hampshire and some in West Sussex.

Total Expenditure: £28,000 (management and administrative costs in 2012)

Total Income: Not known

Shortfall: Not known

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST:

£8,000 for 2015/16 and 2016/17

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

Jan 2014 - £8,000 in 2014/15

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

Councillor Frank Pearce is a member of the Chichester Harbour Conservancy Trust.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance: Chichester Harbour Trust has previously received grants from the County Council (2005 – 2007). Support is also provided to the Trust by West Sussex County Council and the Chichester Harbour Conservancy Trust..

When this request was considered in 2014, the intention was to provide this grant over three years. This request is supported to enable the Trust to continue its important conservation work and it is therefore recommended that further payments of £8,000 are awarded in 2015/16 and 2016/17.

RECOMMENDATION

£8,000 in 2015/16 and 2016/17

THE BLUE LAMP TRUST - BOBBY SCHEME (CG00009134)

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

The Blue Lamp Trust is seeking a donation of £10,000 towards the cost of running its “Bobby Scheme”, which provides home security and peace of mind for the elderly and vulnerable who have been the victims of burglary. The Trust receives referrals from the Police, Fire Service and local authorities to provide home security and safety hardware.

Each security/safety upgrade averages at £10 and this sum would provide 1,000 upgrades.

Total cost: £61,000

Total income: (further details awaited)

Total shortfall:

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST:

£10,000

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

This organisation has received a grant of £5,000 from this budget for the last 3 years.

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

This is countywide organisation and therefore there is no local member.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: Previous awards from this budget have been £5,000. Should a grant be awarded it is recommended that the Trust also approach the district/borough councils in the areas they work for possible grant aid.

RECOMMENDATION

£10,000 and approach other local authorities in the areas they cover

TO HONOUR A PROMISE (MORN HILL PROJECT) (CG00009415)**PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT**

A sum of £300 is being sought for a directional plaque to be placed outside the Great Hall, to honour those service personnel of the British, Commonwealth and American Armies who passed through Winchester Morn Hill Camps on their way to fight for our freedom in the Great War 1914-18.

Total cost: £300

Total income: £0

Total shortfall: £300

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST:

£300

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

Oct 2012 - £6,000 – “To Honour a Promise” Project

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

Councillor Jackie Porter has been involved with this project.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: The Morn Hill memorial project received a grant of £6,000 from this budget in 2012. This grant was used to place interpretation boards overlooking the site to commemorate the troops that passed through this site. Earlier this year, the organisers returned an underspend of approximately £2,000 and now they wish for a sum of £300 to provide this memorial plaque outside the Great Hall. In the circumstances, it would be appropriate to release these funds.

RECOMMENDATION

£300