

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date of Decision:	26 January 2016
Decision Title:	Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Other Bodies
Decision Reference:	7083
Report From:	Director of Policy and Governance - Corporate Services

Contact names: Louise Pickford Tel: 01962 847355
 Email: louise.pickford@hants.gov.uk
 Rob Carr Tel: 01962 847355 Email: rob.carr@hants.gov.uk

1. **Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report is to consider grant requests in two parts: Part One covers Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Other Bodies and Part Two covers a request for financial assistance from the Invest in Hampshire Fund.

2. **Part One - Grants To Voluntary Organisations And Other Bodies**

- 2.1 This report provides information on requests received from voluntary organisations and other bodies for financial assistance from the Policy and Resources grants budget. Details of these requests are outlined in Appendix 2.

3. **Budget Position**

- 3.1 Following commitments made at previous meetings, the Policy and Resources grants budget available at the meeting on 26 January 2016 is £71,266.

4. **Grants Criteria**

- 4.1 A copy of the criteria used for considering grants from the Policy and Resources grants budget is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

5. **Part Two - The Winchester Bible**

- 5.1 The Winchester Bible is thought to be one of the first Bible's in existence, dating back to the 12th Century. It was thought to have been commissioned around 1160 by Bishop Henry of Blois, the grandson of William the Conqueror.
- 5.2 Funding of £168,000 is being sought from the County Council to conserve and display the third of four volumes of the Winchester Bible ensuring its continued

longevity and providing greater access to the content for Hampshire residents and visitors. Fundraising will continue towards the final volume. Further details can be found in the application form attached as Appendix 4.

- 5.3 It is anticipated that the new 'Bible experience' being planned will increase visitor numbers from 300,000 to around 500,000 each year.
- 5.4 The Winchester Bible is an historically important artefact at a local and national level and its restoration and display will not only mean that this asset is properly conserved and accessible for existing and future generations of residents, but will also increase tourism into the area and the economic benefits that this brings. The County Council has a wider role to support and conserve key heritage assets and artefacts within Hampshire, which this funding will seek to facilitate.
- 5.5 In addition, the educational and economic benefits of the conservation and display of the Bible is consistent with other core activities for which the County Council has responsibility.

6. **Grants Criteria**

- 6.1 A copy of the criteria used for considering grants from the Invest in Hampshire Fund is attached as Appendix 3 to this report.

7. **Legal Implications**

- 7.1 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.

8. **Recommendations:**

- 8.1 That grants be awarded to those voluntary organisations and other bodies listed in the sums shown in attached Appendix 2.
- 8.2 That funding of £168,000 be awarded towards the conservation of the third volume of The Winchester Bible from the Invest in Hampshire Fund.

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.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY YOUTH BAND ASSOCIATION (HCYBA) (CG00010368)

The aims of HCYBA are to sustain, enhance and promote the musical opportunities of the three County Bands and Endangered Music Project, drawing young people from all backgrounds from across Hampshire.

The Bands currently have a membership of over 160 young people aged 8 - 18 years who have access to musical opportunities which not only provide benefits for the young person but the communities around them.

Financial assistance is being requested towards its Musical Instrument and Sheet Music Investment Programme.

Total Expenditure: £4,000 (Sheet Music – £800; Repairs - £1,200; Instruments £2,000)

Total Income: £1,800 – own funds

Shortfall: £2,200

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Leader of the County Council

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£2,200

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

This budget:

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

This is a countywide application.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: The Association and its musicians are great ambassadors for the County and have played at various venues across the country, including performances at the Royal Albert Hall. A grant is therefore recommended.

RECOMMENDATION

£2,200

TRINITY, WINCHESTER (CG00010250)

Trinity Winchester operates direct access to Drop-in and Women's Services at Bradbury House in the city for people in Hampshire who are vulnerable to the consequences of homelessness, addiction, physical/mental ill-health, poverty, social isolation and domestic abuse.

A grant of £60,000 is sought from the County Council towards its core costs.

Total Expenditure: £389,700 (staffing, premises, office costs and fundraising & publicity).

Total Income: £208,000 (incl £95,000 Winchester CC; £29,000 Hampshire Futures Group (both confirmed); £10,000 from OPCC (unconfirmed – March 16)).

Shortfall: £181,700 (Reapplying to Lottery and seeking contributions from other Trusts).

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£60,000 from 2016/17 over three financial years (£20,000 pa each year)

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

This budget:

Trinity received a funding package of £30,000 in 2013/14, £20,000 in 2014/15 and £10,000 in 2015/16.

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

Councillor Mather is in support of this request. Comments have also been sought from Councillor Tod.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Adult Services: To be reported at the meeting.

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: Trinity Winchester has previously received monies from this budget.

RECOMMENDATION

To be reported at the meeting

HECKFIELD MEMORIAL HALL (CG00010400)

Heckfield Memorial Hall owns two semi-detached cottages which are part of the historic Hall buildings, originally alms houses. One is occupied by the current caretaker. The other, after 60 years of tenancy now needs total re-development and extensive upgrading. Any grant would go directly towards this project.

At present, the Hall only has a very small surplus between hire income and routine expenses, leaving nothing for major repairs. The re-developed cottage would subsequently be let, providing a regular income for the Hall, putting it on a firmer financial footing.

Total Expenditure: £84,000 (£80,000 renovation costs; £4,000 fees)

Total Income: £78,500 (incl £30,000 own funds and £4,000p.a. for 3 yrs (uncommitted) from the Parish Council)

Shortfall: £5,500

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Policy and Governance

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£5,500

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

This budget:

Nil

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

Councillors Glen and Simpson are in support of this application, both of which have received separate grant requests. Cllr Glen has contributed £500 from his Member Budget.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance: A grant would help the organisation to renovate the cottage, which in future would provide a regular income stream for the community hall, putting it on a firmer financial footing. A grant of £2,250 is recommended subject to this sum being matched by Hart District Council.

RECOMMENDATION

£2,250 subject to this sum being matched by Hart District Council

FUNDING CRITERIA FOR INVESTING IN HAMPSHIRE

The following criteria should be taken into account when considering a request for funding.

1. Assistance will be considered only in response to direct applications from properly constituted organisations seeking assistance. The application must show that the organisation is properly and legally organised and has its own bank account. Funding would only be awarded if the proposal was to support activity within agreed County Council priorities.
2. Applications will only be considered for specific capital projects for the improvement or maintenance of significant assets or facilities within Hampshire, within agreed priorities and where other substantial funding exists.
3. The wider economic benefits to the residents of Hampshire should be considered together with any complementary benefits for Hampshire County Council. Awards would normally only be given to projects within the remit of Policy and Resources.
4. Awards will not usually be made in respect of applications from the following:-
 - Government Institutions
 - Schools
 - Overseas and out of County organisations which have no direct Hampshire involvement
 - Bodies requesting funds for onward distribution to other charities e.g. mayoral appeals, carnivals, fetes, or for their own fundraising events.
5. Applications will only be considered from faith groups where the application is in respect of a historically significant asset.
6. Apart from exceptional circumstances, the requesting body would be expected to provide their own funding towards the project.
7. As a general rule, grants in excess of £100,000 will not be awarded unless significant benefits and funding are available. In exceptional cases, where the benefits are significant and directly relate to services and functions close to the County Council's key objectives, then an award greater than the level above would be considered.
8. Given the longer term nature of capital projects, requests can be considered well in advance, but funding will only be released once evidence of capital expenditure has been provided to the County Council or other arrangements made consistent with the agreement of the Director of Corporate Resources

Investing in Hampshire – Request from Winchester Cathedral Trust

Applicant	Winchester Cathedral Trust		
Name / Location of Project	Restoration and display of the Winchester Bible		
Summary of Project / Bid	<p>The Winchester Bible is thought to be one of the first Bible's in existence, dating back to the 12th Century. It was thought to have been commissioned around 1160 by Bishop Henry of Blois, the grandson of William the Conqueror.</p> <p>The funding will seek to conserve and display one of the four volumes of the Winchester bible ensuring its continued longevity and providing greater access to the content for Hampshire residents and visitors.</p> <p>The process of unbinding, dry cleaning, repairing and stabilising the individual leaves of the Bible is specialist, intricate and painstaking work that is being undertaken by the Bodleian Library in Oxford, which in itself is one of the oldest libraries in Europe.</p> <p>Once the pages have been unbound and repaired, the pages will be digitised to enable wider enjoyment of the Bible for residents and visitors as well as for educational purposes, including a new 'Bible experience'.</p>		
Funding Requested	£168,000	Financial Year	TBD
Funding Arrangements (including matched funding)	<p>There are four volumes of the bible that need to be conserved and displayed. Fundraising has meant that two of the volumes are already in the process of being conserved and the contents digitised before being re-bound.</p> <p>Financial support has been requested from the Investing in Hampshire fund to conserve the third volume, whilst fundraising continues towards the final volume.</p> <p>Each volume costs around £168,000 and therefore this request represents 25% of the total cost of the restoration.</p>		
What are the benefits for Hampshire Residents?	<p>The Winchester Bible is an historically important artefact at a local and national level and its restoration and display will not only mean that this asset is properly conserved and accessible for existing and future generations of residents, but will also increase tourism into the area and the economic benefits that this brings.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the new 'Bible experience' being planned will increase visitor numbers from 300,000 to around 500,000 each</p>		

	year.
What are the complementary benefits for HCC?	<p>The County Council has a wider role to support and conserve key heritage assets and artefacts within Hampshire, which this funding will seek to facilitate.</p> <p>In addition, the educational and economic benefits of the conservation and display of the Bible is consistent with other core activities for which the County Council has responsibility.</p>
Any other relevant factors?	