

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date:	14 December 2016
Title:	Rural Delivery: Approvals for funding
Reference:	7889
Report From:	Director for Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for grant funding to be awarded from the Community Challenge Fund 2016/17.
- 1.2. One grant application has been received for funding totalling £10,000. The application is in accordance with the revised Rural Delivery priorities approved by Cabinet in March 2014.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. The revised County Council Rural Delivery priority actions were agreed by Cabinet in March 2014 (report 5684). These include supporting community resilience, rural transport, self-help, communications and economic development.
- 2.2. The Community Challenge Fund was established to support community led projects that help deliver against the Rural Delivery priority actions. The re-launch of the Community Challenge Fund was approved by the Executive Member for Policy and Resources at his Decision Day in July 2014 (report 5940).
- 2.3. The application has been reviewed by Departmental colleagues, Councillor Edward Heron, the Lead Member for Rural Affairs, and Councillor Rob Humby, the Executive Member for Environment and Transport, who are supportive of the recommendation.

3. Finance

- 3.1. The Community Challenge Fund budget for 2016/17 is £31,400. £18,050 of this budget has already been allocated, approved by the Executive Member

for Policy and Resources at his Decision Day in April 2016 (report 7282) and September 2016 (report 7747).

- 3.2. One new application to the Community Challenge Fund has been received for funding totalling £10,000 (see paragraph 4).

4. Community Challenge Fund application

- 4.1. The Community Challenge Fund offers small grants to support groups and organisations in rural Hampshire and small market towns. Projects must deliver measurable results against one or more of the scheme priorities: community resilience, rural transport, self-help, communications and economic development. Funding approval is sought for one application, which supports the rural transport, community resilience and self-help priorities of the scheme.

Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus, £10,000 requested (grant reference 11846)

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus has been in operation since 1982. Organised and delivered by a team of volunteers, it offers scheduled weekly and monthly services from the local area to Romsey, Salisbury, Andover, Winchester and Southampton. Public transport does not offer such a service locally and the community bus is therefore well used allowing members of the local community to attend appointments (e.g. dentist, opticians), do banking and shopping etc.

The current vehicle is ageing and increasingly unreliable and a replacement is needed to ensure this service can continue to support the community. A third of the cost of the replacement bus is being sought through the Community Challenge Fund, contributions are also being secured from the Borough Council (£1,000) and both Parish Councils (£8,000).

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus is vital to the local community, helping them to maintain important links to key services and prevent rural isolation. To ensure a reliable service can continue to be delivered it is recommend that the full amount requested (£10,000) be awarded.

5. Recommendation(s)

- 5.1. It is recommended that the Executive Member for Policy and Resources approves the application to the Community Challenge Fund set out in paragraph 4 of this report, for funding totalling £10,000.

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>
Rural Delivery Strategy funding proposals	7747	September 2016
Rural Delivery Strategy funding proposals	7483	June 2016
Rural Delivery Strategy funding proposals	7282	April 2016
Rural Delivery Strategy funding proposals	5940	July 2014
Hampshire County Council's Rural Delivery Strategy	5684	March 2014

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>
None	

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:

- a) The proposals are expected to have a high positive impact on people living in rural areas. No negative impacts are anticipated.
- b) Revised priorities for the County Council's Rural Delivery Strategy were agreed by Cabinet in March 2014 (report 5684) with priority actions supporting community resilience, challenging rural isolation and loneliness, rural transport, self-help, communications, and economic development. An equality impact assessment of specific projects or funding requests is requested when necessary.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. Support for more vulnerable groups and the infrastructure and networks to deliver it will reduce isolation and exposure to criminal acts. More vibrant and active communities are likely to suffer less crime and anti-social behaviour.

3. Climate Change:

3.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? The provision of community transport in rural areas reduces the need for individual car journeys.

How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? The initiative proposed supports the culture of self-help and community resilience in rural areas.