

Shadow Executive (Cabinet)

Title of Report:	Recommendations from Grant Working Party: 5 November 2018: Community Chest Funding – 2019/2020	
Report No:	EXC/SA/18/014	
Report to and date:	Shadow Executive (Cabinet)	27 November 2018
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Lead officer:	Davina Howes Head of Families and Communities Tel: 01284 757070 Email: davina.howes@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Purpose of report:	On 5 November 2018, the Grant Working Party considered the following substantive item of business: (1) Consideration of Community Chest Funding – 2019/2020 Recommendations emanating from (1) above are provided for the Shadow Executive’s consideration below.	
Recommendations:	It is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> that: (1) the allocation of Community Chest funding for 2019/2020, as previously approved in 2017/2018 as part of two-year funding agreements, be noted, (paper CAB/SE/17/071 refers) namely:	

(a)	Our Special Friends:	£6,000
(b)	Suffolk West Citizens Advice	£182,000
(c)	Relate Norfolk and Suffolk	£5,000
(d)	St Nicholas' Hospice Care – Bury St Edmunds	£6,533
(e)	St Nicholas' Hospice Care – Haverhill	£8,909
(f)	HomeStart Mid and West Suffolk	£10,000
(g)	REACH Community Projects	£10,000
(h)	Suffolk Cinema Network	£3,500

(2) the allocation of Community Chest funding for 2019/2020, as detailed in Report No: GWP/SE/18/002, be approved, namely:

(a)	HomeStart Mid and West Suffolk	£9889.85
(b)	Mentis Tree CIC	£10,775
(c)	Bury St Edmunds Concert Youth Band	£3,290
(d)	Millennium Farm Trust – Artful Farm	£6,800
(e)	Honington and Sapiston Village Hall	£3,240
(f)	Stradishall Village Review Group	£13,926

(3) subject to the budget setting process for 2020/2021, and subject to the satisfactory submission of evidence-based reports detailing the benefits and success of each individual project in 2019/2020, the allocation of Community Chest funding for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021, be approved, namely:

	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
(a) Gatehouse	£10,000	£10,000
(b) Suffolk Accident and Rescue Services (SARS)	£5,000	£5,000
(c) Bury Drop in	£12,288	£12,288
(d) REACH Community Projects (<i>separate project to that detailed in (1)(g) above</i>)	£9,360	£9,360
(e) The Voluntary Network – Community Transport	£14,337	£15,800
(f) Haverhill Community Trust	£24,371	£25,168
(4) No Community Chest funding for 2019/2020 be awarded to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Leading Lives; (b) The Voluntary Network – Connect and Support; (c) Aspect Living- Meals on Wheels; (d) EPIC Dad; (e) Families and More – Growing Against Violence; (f) Fresh Start – New Beginnings; (g) Survivors in Transition; (h) Lions Club, Bury St Edmunds; and (i) Multicultural Women’s Group, Bury St Edmunds Limited. 		
(5) The Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities, in consultation with the Grant Working Party, be asked to exercise his existing delegated powers for making individual portfolio holder decisions, to make a decision(s) on utilising any unallocated 2019/2020 Community Chest funding to projects, as appropriate and justifiable and to a maximum of £21,403.35 as set out in paragraph 1.7.9.		

Key Decision:		<i>Is this a Key Decision and, if so, under which definition?</i>	
<i>(Check the appropriate box and delete all those that do not apply.)</i>		Yes, it is a Key Decision - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		No, it is not a Key Decision - <input type="checkbox"/>	
		(ii) result in any new expenditure, income or savings of more than £100,000 in relation to the Shadow Council's revenue budget or capital programme.	
		Some of the decisions made by the Shadow Executive are also however, subject to the budget setting process for 2020/2021 (the budget for 2019/2020 has already been approved.)	
The decisions made as a result of this report will usually be published within 48 hours and cannot be actioned until five clear working days of the publication of the decision have elapsed. This item is included on the Shadow Executive (Cabinet) Decisions Plan.			
Consultation:		• See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Alternative option(s):		• See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Implications:			
Are there any financial implications? If yes, please give details		See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Are there any staffing implications? If yes, please give details		See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Are there any ICT implications? If yes, please give details		See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Are there any legal and/or policy implications? If yes, please give details		See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Are there any equality implications? If yes, please give details		See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Risk/opportunity assessment:		<i>(potential hazards or opportunities affecting corporate, service or project objectives)</i>	
Risk area	Inherent level of risk (before controls)	Controls	Residual risk (after controls)
See Report No: GWP/SE/18/002			
Ward(s) affected:		All Wards	
Background papers:		Grant Working Party: 5 November 2018 Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	
Documents attached:		None	

1. Consideration of Community Chest Funding – 2019/2020
(Report No: GWP/SE/18/002)

1.1 Report No: GWP/SE/18/002 was considered by the Grant Working Party on 5 November 2018. The report provided a number of applications submitted for Community Chest funding in the 2019/2020 financial year.

1.2 Applications for Community Chest funding for 2019/2020 closed on 28 September 2018. A total of 21 applications were received from a wide variety of organisations as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report No: GWP/SE/18/002.

1.3 The Community Chest budget for 2019/2020 is £281,483. There is also £95,139.20 also available for allocation through carried over unspent funds from previous years. A total of £231,942 of the 2019/2020 budget was committed in 2017 for second year funding to a variety of organisations as listed in Recommendation (1) for noting by the Shadow Executive.

Community Chest Budget :	£281,483.00
Funds already allocated	£231,942.00
Carried over funds	£95,139.20
Remaining Budget	£144,680.20

Applicants can apply for a maximum of two years funding.

1.4 There are a number of potential synergies between the applications and as such they were grouped in the following categories for consideration by the Working Party:

- Health
- Family support
- Counselling
- Advice, advocacy and support
- Arts, sports and young people
- Community activities

1.5 Each application had been summarised within the appropriate category listed above, with the full applications attached as appendices to the report. Each application was required to be evaluated in accordance with the eligibility and selection criteria set out, and was considered in turn, as follows:

1.6

Appendix attached to Report No: GWP/SE/18/002	Organisation	Amount Requested
Health		
3	Gatehouse	2019/20: £10,000 2020/21: £10,000
4	Leading Lives	2019/20: £14,000 2020/21: £2,000
5	Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS)	2019/20: £5,000 2020/21: £5,000
6	The Voluntary Network – Connect and Support	2019/20: £14,340 2020/21: £14,340
7	Aspect Living – Meals on Wheels	2019/20: £10,853.50 2020/21: £0
Family support		
8	EPIC Dad	2019/20: £7,968 2020/21: £0
9	Families and More	2019/20: £30,000 2020/21: £0
10	HomeStart Mid and West Suffolk	2019/20: £9,889.85 2020/21: £0
Counselling		
11	Fresh Start – New Beginnings	2019/20: £11,600 2020/21: £11,600
12	Mentis Tree CIC	2019/20: £10,775 2020/21: £0
13	Survivors in Transition	2019/20: £13,590 2020/21: £13,590
Advice, advocacy and support		
14	Bury Drop In	2019/20: £12,288 2020/21: £12,288
15	REACH Community Projects	2019/20: £9,360 2020/21: £9,360
16	The Voluntary Network Community Transport	2019/20: £14,337 2020/21: £15,800
Arts, sports and young people		
17	Bury St Edmunds Concert Youth Band	2019/20: £3,290 2020/21: £0
18	Lions Club, Bury St Edmunds	2019/20: £3,000 2020/21: £0
19	Millennium Farm Trust	2019/20: £6,800 2020/21: £0
20	Multicultural Women’s Group, Bury St Edmunds Limited	2019/20: £6,990 2020/21: £0
Community activities		
21	Honington and Sapiston Village Hall	2019/20: £3,240 2020/21: £0
22	Haverhill Community Trust	2019/20: £24,371 2020/21: £25,168
23	Stradishall Village Review Group	2019/20: £19,052 2020/21: £0

1.7 **Consideration of Grants and Recommendations: Summary**

1.7.1 The Working Party considered the following applications fully met the eligibility and selection criteria and supported the allocation of the full amount for each project in 2019/2020, as applied for:

- (a) Bury St Edmunds Concert Youth Band;
- (b) Millennium Farm Trust – Artful Farm;
- (c) Honington and Sapiston Village Hall; and
- (d) Stradishall Village Review Group (for a reduced amount of £13,926, see 1.7.5 below).

1.7.2 The Working Party considered that the following applications met the eligibility and selection criteria and were satisfied that funding should be recommended to be allocated for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021, as applied for:

- (a) Gatehouse;
- (b) Suffolk Accident Rescue Services (SARS);
- (c) Bury Drop in;
- (d) REACH Community Projects;
- (e) The Voluntary Network – Community Transport; and
- (f) Haverhill Community Trust.

In respect of the above organisations, they would be asked to submit an evidence-based report (in addition to the usual monitoring reporting), detailing the benefits and success of their individual project in 2019/2020 so a re-assessment can be made before releasing funding for 2020/2021.

1.7.3 Regarding the application submitted by HomeStart Mid and West Suffolk for support towards funding the delivery of its Birth and Beyond project in Bury St Edmunds, the Working Party considered that whilst it was minded to grant the £9,889.85 funding that had been applied for in 2019/2020 only, further information was required before committing. As the work appeared to be a diversification from the type of service usually offered by HomeStart in that delivery of this project seemed to duplicate the service previously provided by the County Council's SureStart programme, Members felt that this project should be offered outside of Bury St Edmunds, particularly in villages that formerly provided Childrens' Centres.

The Working Party recognised the benefits of the project and considered it met the eligibility and selection criteria; however, it felt that it could not fully commit to an allocation until reassurance was given that the project would be provided in the wider area.

1.7.4 Regarding the application submitted by Mentis Tree CIC to support Young Carers aged between 10-24 years, a group who experience disadvantage through isolation, non-identification and mental health issues relating to their caring role, the Working Party considered that whilst it was minded to grant the £10,775 funding that had been applied for in 2019/2020, further information was required before committing. The Working Party recognised the important work of this project but wished to obtain further details of the Children in Need funding including the reasons for this funding source agreeing to support the project; and whether the organisation had worked in partnership with the well-known established Suffolk Young Family Carers organisation.

1.7.5 Regarding the application submitted by Stradishall Village Review Group for support towards funding facilities on its playing field for community use, the Working Party initially expressed concern that two thirds of the entire project cost had been sought from Community Chest funding and therefore the organisation needed to be encouraged to seek further alternative match funding sources.

The Working Party recognised the benefits of the project and considered it met the eligibility and selection criteria; however, it felt that an allocation of £13,926 in 2019/2020 instead of the £19,052 that had been applied for was a more appropriate amount as this would fund 50% rather than 68% of the total project cost.

1.7.6 The following applications were not supported on this occasion and have therefore not been recommended for funding:

- (a) Leading Lives;
- (b) The Voluntary Network – Connect and Support;
- (c) Aspect Living- Meals on Wheels;
- (d) EPIC Dad;
- (e) Families and More – Growing Against Violence;
- (f) Fresh Start – New Beginnings;
- (g) Survivors in Transition;
- (h) Lions Club, Bury St Edmunds; and
- (i) Multicultural Women’s Group, Bury St Edmunds Limited.

1.7.8 Reasons for this included:

- not meeting the eligibility and selection criteria;
- the quality of the application;
- lack of justification for the amount of funding requested and how it would be utilised;
- similar projects already existed in St Edmundsbury, therefore some projects could be consolidated with other existing organisations through effective collaborative working;
- whether the objectives of the project would benefit sufficient numbers of the community; and
- projects could be funded by alternative funding sources.

If the Working Party’s recommendations are approved by the Shadow Executive, the officers will provide individual feedback to those applicants that have been unsuccessful.

1.7.9 Subject to approval, a total of £21,403.35 will remain available in the St Edmundsbury Community Chest Fund for 2019/2020. In previous years, this balance, if left unspent could be carried forward to the next financial year; however, as Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council would no longer exist following the creation of West Suffolk Council from 1 April 2019, this will not be possible this year. The Working Party therefore considered it appropriate for St Edmundsbury’s Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities to exercise his individual decision making powers, in consultation with the Grant Working Party, to utilise the remainder by allocating suitable funding to other projects that may come forward or to increase the amount of funding already granted to those organisations listed above if it was considered appropriate and justifiable.