

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET		
SUBJECT:	COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS 2019/20 ROUND 1		
DATE OF DECISION:	20 AUGUST 2019		
REPORT OF:	CABINET MEMBER FOR GREEN CITY AND ENVIRONMENT		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>Community Chest is the council's small grant scheme and currently awards grants of up to £2,500 to community groups in the city. Grants are awarded twice a year by the Cabinet Member for Green City and Environment, following recommendations from the cross-party Community Chest Grant Advisory Panel. The budget for the year is £100,000, which is divided approximately equally between the two rounds.</p>			
<p>Early in 2019 it was decided to offer mini-grants for community celebration events as a sub-section of Community Chest. The Celebration Grants offers grants up to £500 and applicants may apply for both the Community Chest and Celebration grants, providing it is for different events/activities.</p>			
<p>Applications for both grants are accepted from local community groups and small voluntary organisations for a wide range of projects which contribute at least one of the council's four priority outcomes.</p>			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	To agree the recommendations for 2019/20 round 1 grants made by the cross-party Community Chest Grant Advisory Panel as set out in appendix 1.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	All the applications have been considered by the cross-party Community Chest Grant Advisory Panel, which has made recommendations on which should receive funding. All applications recommended for funding contribute to at least one of the council's priority outcomes and will enable the applicants to continue to provide activities for the benefit of their communities.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	The option of not recommending funding was considered and rejected as it would not meet the council's aims of supporting local people to engage in community action.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	Community Chest is the council's small grants scheme and has been running for more than 30 years. It is periodically reviewed to ensure it continues to		

	meet the needs of local community groups. Projects/activities must contribute to at least one of the council's four priority outcomes.
4.	In January 2019, it was decided to temporarily offer a smaller grant within the Community Chest grant scheme and budget. The Celebrations Grant offered grants up to £500 for one-off community events held to celebrate recognised local, national and international events. The scheme proved popular with local community and voluntary groups and it was decided to continue offering the Celebrations Grants in 2019/20, following the same timetable and decision making process as the rest of the Community Chest grants.
5.	Both grant schemes have two rounds this year, six months apart, with the budget split roughly equally between both rounds. In 2019/20 the overall budget available is £100,000. The decision maker for both grant schemes is the Cabinet Member for Green City and Environment, following recommendations by the cross-party Community Chest Grant Advisory Panel.
6.	Each application is first checked by a technical appraiser to ensure both the project and the applicant meet the Community Chest or Celebrations Grant criteria and minimum standards for grant funding. Further information or clarification is requested where necessary. All applications are then submitted to the cross-party Community Chest Grant Advisory Panel for consideration.
7.	Applications for round one of the 2019/20 Community Chest and Celebrations grant schemes were submitted by 30 April 2019. In total 30 applications were received – 25 for Community Chest and 5 for the Celebrations Grant. The total requested was £50,640. The Community Chest Grant Advisory Panel met on 18 July 2019 to consider all 30 applications.
8.	The Grant Advisory Panel has recommended full or partial funding for 22 applications, totalling £36,195. Of the 8 applications that are not being recommended for funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 application was transferred to another grant scheme (where it was fully funded) • 4 applications are recommended to be deferred to the next round • 3 applications are recommended to be declined due to missing documents, poor value for money and activities having already taken place before the grant decisions are made.
9.	A list of all applications with full details of the recommendations and reasons why for each one is attached at Appendix 1.
10.	The second round of both the 2019/20 Community Chest and Celebrations grant schemes are open for applications, with a deadline of 31 October 2019.
11.	After Round 2 of the 2018/19 Community Chest grants there was a remainder of £21,229. In addition to this, one previous Community Chest grant recipient returned their funding after their project fell through, leaving £23,569 Cabinet agreed (15 January 2019) to delegate authority to the Director of Quality and Integration to award the remainder of the 2018/19 Community Chest budget. Applications were invited for the Celebrations Grant and some additional Community Chest grants. A list of the grants awarded is available in Appendix 2 and is also publically available on the council website within the 'grants awarded' database: http://www.southampton.gov.uk/people-places/grants-funding/grants-awarded.aspx

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
12.	The total Community Chest budget for the year (including the Celebrations Grant) is £100,000, split approximately equally between two rounds. The recommendations for round one total £36,195, leaving £63,805 for the second round of grants. This is within the allocated budget.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
13.	None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
14.	The legal power for the Council to establish, administer and make awards from the Community Chest grant fund is provided by the Localism Act 2011. Subject to certain statutory restrictions, none of which apply in this case, Section 1 gives the Council “power to do anything that individuals may do” which includes making grant funding contributions to worthwhile projects and activities that supports the work of the Council and / or contributes to the well being or benefit of the community or city residents.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
15.	In awarding grants under this scheme the Council has had regard to the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010, including the need to assess all applications having regard to the public sector equality duty set out in s.149 of the Act and to ensure that the application process is fair, transparent and designed to eliminate unlawful discrimination against those who have protected characteristics. Grants are also assessed having regard to s.17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998 and the extent to which they contribute to the elimination of crime and disorder in the City together with all other relevant legislation.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
16.	The risks of fully funding, part funding or not funding each application were considered as part of the Grant Advisory Panel’s discussions. The recommendations listed in Appendix 1 are considered to be low risk.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
17.	The recommendations in this paper support the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy (City Strategy), the Council Strategy 2016-2020, key partnership strategies such as the Safe City Strategy and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy as well as Level 1 strategies of the Council.
KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	List of recommendations for Community Chest grant 2019/20 Round 1

2.	List of Celebrations Grants and invited Community Chest grants awarded 2018/19
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Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	Approach to Voluntary Sector Funding, Equality and Safety Cumulative Impact Assessment – updated July 2019
2.	Data Protection Impact Assessment – updated July 2019

Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	Yes
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Data Protection Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	Yes
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Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	
2.	