

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health
Date:	27 September 2018
Title:	Demand Management and Prevention Grant Award
Report From:	Director of Adults' Health and Care

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1. Recommendation(s)

1.1. That approval be given by the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health to award the following grants:

- i) To award Age Concern Hampshire a grant totalling £60,000 over an eighteen month period between October 2018 and March 2020 as part of the Rural Connections Grant.
- ii) To award Good Neighbours Network a grant totalling £150,000 over an eighteen month period between October 2018 and March 2020 as part of the Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant.
- iii) To award Timebanking UK a grant totalling £15,000 over a five month period between November 2018 and March 2019.

2. Executive Summary

2.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for making grant awards to the voluntary and community organisations outlined in this report as part of the Demand Management and Prevention Programme.

2.2. The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) contributes to improving people's quality of life. The grants programme is one of the ways in which the County Council supports the sector to support people to live fuller more independent lives.

2.3. The report outlines a proposal for funding towards schemes to support vulnerable adults on the cusp of care within their local communities in Hampshire.

3. Contextual information

- 3.1. A voluntary organisation may be considered for grant aid from the County Council only if its services, projects or activities are in compliance with the aims and objectives, priorities and policies of the County Council.
- 3.2. Grants are awarded to support services that are better provided by the voluntary sector e.g. the mobilisation of community resources to help vulnerable people maintain their independence.
- 3.3. A grant is defined as a sum of money to support a particular activity. It does not usually cover the entire cost of the activity and it is legally considered to be a one-sided gift, rather than a payment in exchange for services.
- 3.4. Voluntary and community organisations provide valuable locally based services that are often rooted in the communities which they serve. Significant benefit is produced through this activity, often through voluntary action and focused towards activity that clearly assists in providing early intervention and prevention initiatives. Grant funding by the County Council contributes to, and helps sustain, this activity.
- 3.5. As grants are a contribution to service or activity costs the economic benefit to the department can be significant, leveraging in additional funding, the benefit of volunteer time and therefore providing good value for money to the authority.
- 3.6. Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold balances in excess of one year's running costs. Those organisations receiving recurring funding which hold in excess of three months' running costs, and where they cannot demonstrate through their reserves policy that these reserves are justified, may receive a reduced grant. To establish the level of reserves, organisations are required to provide a set of their latest accounts and annual report with their application and before grant payment is made – in the case of organisations with an income of £10,000 or above, these must be independently examined or audited. If organisations have reserves in excess of three months, we will apply the reserves policy which is inline with the Charity Commission's policy on these matters.

4. Demand Management and Prevention Programme

- 4.1. Prevention, incorporating Demand Management is one of the three key areas identified to achieve the Vision of Adults' Health and Care, as detailed in the Adult's Health and Care Strategy 2018.
- 4.2. The Demand Management and Prevention work will build on people's strengths, enabling them to improve their health and take more personal responsibility for looking after themselves with support from their family, friends and community network. The Council will encourage this by making the healthy choice the easy choice and developing accessible, inclusive and readily available information and advice services. The Council will also carry out targeted prevention work for certain groups of people who are most at risk of poor health to keep them well and to avoid or delay the need for

social care services. The Council will work with partners, in particular the NHS, GPs and the Voluntary sector to achieve the above aims.

- 4.3. In alignment with the overall Demand Management and Prevention Programme Strategy, the five year objectives for the Demand Management and Prevention Programme are:
- i. More people will be keeping fit and well in the community, reducing the need and demand for health and social care services.
 - ii. Information and advice via Connect to Support will be routinely accessed to enable people to make informed choices about their care and support.
 - iii. The County Council's contact centre will resolve the majority of client enquiries for help and support.
 - iv. Private pay care technology solutions will be routinely requested and provided.
 - v. Community support offers will be increasingly known about, better trusted and more widely used.
 - vi. Fewer people will be socially isolated or people will be better connected and Carers will be better supported.
- 4.4. The grants included in this report are designed to complement and help deliver the aim and the objectives of the Demand Management and Prevention programme.

5. Rural Connections Grant

- 5.1. The Rural Connections Grant will enable an organisation to provide a service that develops and supports local volunteers in rural settings to provide information and advice for vulnerable adults in their communities, and to facilitate connections with other services and assets (e.g. community amenities, buildings or people). In particular this includes reaching groups that are at risk of experiencing loneliness and social isolation.
- 5.2. The role of the organisation awarded the grant will be to:
- Recruit new volunteers and provide support to existing volunteers (e.g. DBS checks, training, peer support etc.)
 - Aid volunteers in making connections with their local assets in order to develop the service (e.g. by securing alternative funding, receiving referrals, helping with needs identification etc.)
 - Manage partnership with County Council (e.g. information sharing, outcome monitoring etc.)

- 5.3. There are currently over 50 trained volunteers operating in different rural locations across Hampshire. Last year these volunteers provided 1:1 assistances to over 1700 individuals and made contact with over 6000 groups and individuals. The service provided is preventative in nature, aiming to encourage and capacity-build so that people stay well and independent in their communities for as long as possible. This is of particular importance in rural communities where providing care is more challenging and costly. These volunteers are ideally placed to spot gaps in local provision and to be catalysts in developing a local response to fill these gaps.
- 5.4. The organisation selected for funding will expand the existing service to other rural areas of need as well as develop the service to meet the needs of other groups at risk of social isolation and loneliness (the service has traditionally focussed on supporting adults that are 50+). The selected organisation will work closely with the County Council to identify these additional rural areas, as well as working with the Council to develop outcome measures that can evidence the impact of scheme to both additional funders as well as the Council. In addition, the service is expected to work alongside and support the developing work with Town and Parish Councils. This is part of a wider corporate drive, which is seeking to support Town and Parish Councils in developing local strategies to prevent social isolation and meet other local community needs.

6. Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant

- 6.1. The Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant will enable an umbrella organisation to provide advice and support to a network of smaller local organisations whose purpose is to:
 - i) Support vulnerable individuals in the community so that those individuals maintain their independence leading to a reduced demand for council services.
 - ii) To work with these neighbourhood organisations so that they understand local needs and develop support to meet those needs.
- 6.2. The role of the organisation awarded the grant will be to promote, support and develop neighbourhood level groups so that they thrive by helping them provide safe, sustainable support to vulnerable individuals, provide advice to enable people to utilise their resources and assist them to develop support that meets the needs of their community.
- 6.3. There are over 120 neighbourhood level groups currently operating within Hampshire providing a wide range of services, such as befriending, social activities and transport assistance. Last year these groups supported around 27,000 Hampshire residents undertaking 161,500 interventions with over 4000 volunteers. This expected level of activity was supported by a grant of £100,000 to an umbrella organisation, with no direct County Council funding being provided to the individual groups. These interventions can, divert and

delay the requirement for social care services. Evaluations¹² of the neighbourhood level groups over the last two years showed strong improvements for individuals, in particular in greater use of community resources and increased independence. The organisation selected for funding will help support these existing groups to ensure they continue to best meet the needs of vulnerable residents in line with priorities of the County Council, through best practice, training and development.

- 6.4. We have identified areas of Hampshire where there are gaps and where it would be beneficial to either increase the capacity of existing neighbourhood level groups, or to develop new groups. The successful applicant will enable neighbourhood groups to engage in programmes designed to encourage changes in behaviour that have a positive effect on the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities (such as Trigger Tool, Connect5 and Making Every Contact Count).
- 6.5. Previously this grant has been awarded over a 12 month period. The grant award period has been increased to 18 months for this award, to align the end date with other Adult Health and Care grants awarded, and to the end of the financial year.

7. Timebanking Development Grant

- 7.1. Timebanking is a way for people and organisations to share skills with others in their community and be rewarded for it in time, rather than with money. For every hour of time a bank member gives they will 'deposit' one time credit, which they can 'withdraw' by receiving an hour of another members time for an activity when they are in need themselves. All activities are valued equally. Timebanking is recognised as an effective way of re-establishing neighbourliness and informal volunteering, and can achieve savings of over £1,300 per timebank member for the wider community, including in social care³. Volunteering can also benefit the volunteer, keeping people active, promoting physical and mental health and wellbeing, and strengthen local connections⁴. Additionally it can be demonstrated that a timebank operating for 1 year with 100 members could demonstrate improvements in members, such as feeling less isolated, equivalent to a social value of £850,000.⁵
- 7.2. In September 2017 Timebanking UK were awarded a Timebanking Development Grant of £63,500 until 31 October 2018 to further develop

¹ HCC, (July 2018) Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant – Evaluation Activity

² Kuyer, J., NEF Consulting (June 2017) Hampshire Supportive Communities Evaluation Framework

³ Department of Health, HM Government, (11 June 2012) Caring For Our Future: reforming care and support - white paper

⁴ Van Willigen, M., (2000) 'Differential benefits of volunteering across the life course', Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, 55B, S308–S318

⁵ Using Housing Association Charitable Trust Social Value Bank and Value Calculator, based upon impact studies of timebanks (Timebanking UK, 2016) in South Manchester, Paxton Green, Barnett and Peckham .

timebanking across Hampshire so that they ensure the involvement and supporting of vulnerable people by increase reciprocal support in communities, as well as developing confidence, social inclusion and improved wellbeing. Timebanking UK have been working with ten fledgling timebanks (located in Totton, Andover, Whitehill and Bordon, Fleet, Aldershot, Ringwood, Fareham, Gosport, Eastleigh and Basingstoke). The timebanks in Totton, Andover, Bordon, Fleet and Basingstoke have now launched and time exchanges have begun to take place, assisting people with tasks including helping in the home with tasks individuals can't manage on their own such as cleaning and gardening, as well as offering befriending and transport to appointments. The other five timebanks are making progress towards being launched in coming months, having identified key local stakeholders and held the primary planning workshops. In order to improve their sustainability the individual timebanks are responsible for finding funding from sources other than the Council for their ongoing operation.

- 7.3. The support provided by Timebanking UK has assisted the Timebanks with finding initial funding and helping them establish the processes and procedures required for their operation. The existing support provided by the current Timebanking Development Grant is due to finish on 31 October 2018. There is a risk to the sustainability of the initiative if this support were to end at this point. Considering the previous investment and the stage of development of the timebank network it is recommended that an additional grant is awarded. This grant would be £15,000 to cover the costs of the Timebanking UK Hampshire Network Manager for 3 days per week for a 5 month period between 1 November 2018 and 31 March 2019. A transition grant is proposed as an appropriate funding option to provide a time bound continuation of funds to Timebanking UK to continue their facilitation and coordination role for a further 5 months to increase the likelihood that the time banks will be in a mature enough position to be locally sustainable going forward without further financial support from the Council.

8. Finance

- 8.1. The grant proposals in this report will commit additional expenditure totalling £225,000 over an eighteen month period commencing in 2018/19. The expenditure has been profiled between years as follows: £85,000 in 2018/19 and £140,000 in 2019/20. Subject to approval of this report the total grants committed for payment will remain within the agreed, (2018/19) and anticipated, (2019/20) annual budget envelopes for the Demand Management and Prevention Programme.
- 8.2. Payments of both the Rural Connections and Neighbourhood Care and Support grant awards set out in this report will be made in two instalments for each year of the grant award. The first instalment will be paid following receipt of a signed grant agreement for the respective awards. The five-month grant to Timebanking UK will be made in one instalment following receipt of a signed grant agreement All grant agreements have conditions that enable the County Council to require repayment of the award or any

part of it if it remains unspent at the end of the grant period, or if there is a material breach of the grant agreement.

9. Risk Assessment and Management

- 9.1. The provision of grants to voluntary and community sector organisations by statutory bodies always presents a degree of risk. Specific risks that statutory bodies are required to manage include voluntary and community organisations accepting funding without providing any activity; organisations not delivering the service as expected; and there being an under spend on the expected activity. This applies to all grants however, larger grants represent a potentially higher risk to the County Council.
- 9.2. A number of mechanisms have been employed successfully over a number of years to mitigate and alleviate these risks. These include nominating a Liaison Officer from the County Council whose responsibility is to monitor how the grant is spent, specifying within the grant agreement that the grant is 'restricted' funding for the provision of the specified activity only and phasing the payment of grants over the course of the award duration.
- 9.3. All organisations awarded a grant sign a declaration stating they accept that grant funding can only be awarded for the given period and no commitment exists from the County Council to continue funding after this time, or in subsequent years.

10. Consultation and Equalities

- 10.1. It is for the Executive Member as decision maker to have due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 10.2 The Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant and the Timebanking Development Grant will have a neutral impact on groups with protected characteristics identified in the Equality Act 2010, as the grants to be awarded are targeting a similar range of people to grants awarded in the previous year. As a result it is likely that a similar number of individuals in each of the groups with protected characteristics will benefit. The Rural Connections Grant criteria have broadened to include all vulnerable people in rural communities, with similar previous grants being targeted at older people. This should enable younger adults and more people with disabilities to benefit.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Strategic Plan**

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	no
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Supportive Communities Grant Award	13 March 2018
Supportive Communities Grant Award	21 September 2017

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:

Describe the current service or policy:

The award of grants to the voluntary and community sector to support the sector to support people to live long, healthy and happy lives with the maximum possible independence, as part of the demand management and prevention programme and in-line with Adult's health and Care Strategy 2018. The three grants included in the paper are:

Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant, period of 3 October 2018– 31 March 2020 Total Pot: £150,000

Rural Connections Grant, period of 3 October 2018– 31 March 2020 Total Pot: £60,000

Timebanking Development Grant, period of 1 November 2018– 31 March 2019 Total Pot: £15,000

Geographical impact: All Hampshire

Describe the proposed change:

Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant: no change as this is the continuation of a similar amount of funding for similar needs to what was funded previously.

Timebanking Development Grant: This grant is to continue to provide funding but for a shorter period than before so that the timebanks established in the original term can receive further support to mature to become sustainable.

The Rural Connections Grant: a new grant that builds on previous grants to provide vulnerable older people in rural communities with information and advice, by extending the reach to all vulnerable adults living in rural communities and by seeking to actively connect people with other community assets.

Who does this impact assessment cover? : Service users

Has engagement or consultation been carried out?: Yes

Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform: In terms of the Timebanking Development Grant we have regularly met with organisation currently funded to support the timebanks. This has led to the recommendation to provide a further grant so that the timebanks established as part of this grant have additional support to become sustainable.

Age: Positive

Impact (required): The Rural Connections Grant will widen support to all vulnerable adults from previous grant awards which targeted the service at solely older people. In respect of the Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant and Timebanking Development Grant the impact will be neutral due to similar individuals will be reached to those supported by services offered by previous grants.

Disability (required): Positive

Impact (required): The Rural Connections Grant will widen support to all vulnerable adults, from previous grant awards which targeted the service at solely older people. This will likely mean that younger adults with disabilities could now benefit from the service. In respect of the Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant and Timebanking Development Grant the impact will be neutral due to similar individuals will be reached to those supported by services offered by previous grants.

Sexual orientation: Neutral

Race: Neutral

Religion or belief: Neutral

Gender reassignment: Neutral

Gender: Neutral

Marriage or civil partnership: Neutral

Pregnancy and maternity: Neutral

Poverty: Positive

Impact: The Rural Connections Grant will widen support to all vulnerable adults, from previous grant awards which targeted the service at solely older people. This could lead to more people in poverty being able to access support from the services provided.

In respect of the Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant and Timebanking Development Grant the impact will be neutral due to similar individuals will be reached to those supported by services offered by previous grants.

Rurality (required): Positive

Impact (required): The Rural Connections Grant will widen support to all vulnerable adults, from previous grant awards which targeted the service at solely older people. As this grant will support the delivery of support in rural communities this will likely lead to more people in a rural community being able to benefit as a result. In respect of the Neighbourhood Care and Support Grant and Timebanking Development Grant the impact will be neutral due to similar individuals will be reached to those supported by services offered by previous grants.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

The County Council has a legal obligation under Section 7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all decisions it makes on the prevention of crime. The proposal in this report aims to improve the safety of vulnerable Hampshire residents and reduce the risk of crime occurring

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

The Supportive Communities Grant Programme proposes to support local organisations providing services within local communities. This reduces the need to travel and therefore reduces both the carbon footprint and energy consumption.

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The proposal recognises the need to adapt to climate change and issues will be addressed throughout the period of the grant award through the monitoring of outcomes.