

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	9 March 2018
<b>Decision Title:</b>	Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Other Bodies
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Transformation and Governance - Corporate Services

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### 1. Recommendations:

1.1 That the following recommendations on the grant requests received be approved:

- a) Wessex Cancer Trust - Nil and suggest the Trust approach the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation for possible grant aid.
- b) Hampshire Gardens Trust- £17,000p.a. for a period of 3 years from April 2018.

1.2 That the amended criteria (guideline 6 in Appendix 1) to allow for requests to be made from faith groups for small one-off projects be approved.

### 2. Executive Summary

2.1 This report is to consider two requests received for financial assistance from the Policy and Resources grants budget. Details of these requests are outlined in Appendix 2 to this report.

### 3. Budget Position

3.1 Following commitments made at previous meetings, the Policy and Resources grants budget available at 9 March 2018 is £64,505.

### 4. Grant aid to faith groups in Hampshire

4.1 The current guidelines state that funds can only be awarded to faith groups for works in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act (no.6). Experience

has shown this can be quite restrictive to organisations. In order to allow the necessary flexibility and to ensure that the maximum possible community benefit is derived from these funds, it is recommended that this restriction be removed and that in future grants should be considered for small one-off projects.

- 4.2 A copy of the amended guidelines being recommended for approval is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

## 5. **Legal Implications**

- 5.1 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.

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

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
None		
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<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 Transformation 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 may 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 are for small one-off projects.
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.

**WESSEX CANCER TRUST (CG00015268)**

Following a £3,400 grant from this budget in 2016 to install computers at its 4 centres (Chandler's Ford, Cosham, Hythe and Winchester), Wessex Cancer Trust (WCT) is now seeking further grant aid of £4,800 to purchase 12 desktop computers for its head office in Eastleigh.

To date, WCT have not approached any other organisations for grant aid.

**Total cost:** £4,800

**Income:** £0

**Shortfall:** £4,800

**APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:**

Director of Transformation and Governance – Corporate Services

**AMOUNT OF REQUEST**

£4,800

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

**This budget:**

Sept 2016 - £3,400 – purchase computers

**COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER**

This organisation covers the Wessex region and as such there is no local member.

**GENERAL COMMENTS**

**Director of Transformation and Governance – Corporate Services:** Neither this nor the previous request has shown any use of its own funds or any other forms of fundraising, including approaching other local authorities, bodies and trusts. Given that WCT has already received a grant from this budget, it may be appropriate to suggest they approach the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation for possible grant aid.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Nil and suggest the Trust approach the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation for possible grant aid.

## **HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST**

Hampshire Gardens Trust (HGT) has over many years supported the County Council with a number of key projects, particularly those with a historical garden significance. The Trust has also provided valuable help through its volunteers in researching and recording information relating to historic garden sites in Hampshire.

HGT received an annual service fee of £17,000 from the County Council to assist with this research and recording which expired at the end of March 2015. Recognising the support the Trust gives to projects and schemes at sites which are within the County Council's own programmes and activities, a three-year grant package of £17,000p.a. from this budget was agreed.

The Trust is seeking a further three-year grant agreement of £20,000 p.a from April 2018.

### **APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:**

Director of Transformation and Governance – Corporate Services

### **AMOUNT OF REQUEST**

£20,000 p.a. for a further three years from April 2018.

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

#### **This budget:**

April 2015 – three-year grant agreement of £17,000 p.a.

### **COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER**

This is a countywide organisation.

### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

**Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services:** The Trust is an active and important group and I would support continued funding of £17,000 p.a. for three years from April 2018 as it clearly links in to the County Council's Corporate Strategy and will help people in Hampshire to enjoy a rich and diverse environment.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

£17,000 p.a. for three years from April 2018