

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date of Decision:	21 June 2018
Decision Title:	Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Other Bodies and Investing in Hampshire funding
Report From:	Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Transformation and Governance - Corporate Services

Contact names: Rob Carr and Louise Pickford

Tel: 01962 847508

Email: rob.carr@hants.gov.uk

01962 847355

louise.pickford@hants.gov.uk

1. Recommendations:

- 1.1 That a grant of £25,000 be awarded to the Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust from the Policy and Resources grants budget, as outlined in Appendix 2 of this report.
- 1.2 That funding of £35,000 be approved from the Investing in Hampshire Fund to help meet the additional costs associated with preparing for and attending public or civic events at which the Hampshire Music Service are invited to perform.
- 1.3 That a sum of £50,000 be awarded from the Investing in Hampshire Fund to the Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium towards the cost of the 1 in 5 project.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report is to consider requests received for financial assistance from the Policy and Resources grants budget and the Invest in Hampshire Fund. Details of these requests are outlined in paragraph 5 below and in Appendices 2 and 3 to this report.

3. Budget Position

- 3.1 The Policy and Resources budget allocation for 2018/19 is £227,000. The grants budget available at the meeting on 21 June 2018 is £227,000.

4. Grants Criteria

- 4.1 A copy of the criteria used for considering grants from the Policy and Resources grants budget and the Invest in Hampshire fund are attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

5. Investing in Hampshire Fund

Hampshire Music Service

- 5.1 The Hampshire Music Service (HMS) has a proud history within the County Council and has been supported financially in the past in order to ensure that many young people have the opportunity to benefit from the work undertaken by the HMS.
- 5.2 The HMS operates as a business unit and has been very successful in generating the income to cover its costs. This is particularly through it successfully achieving its status as a Music Hub for the area following a radical revision by central government of how such services should be structured and funded centrally. On behalf of HCC and in liaison with our partnership with Hampshire schools, including at the Schools Forum, the Children's Services Department has continued to provide additional direct financial support. Inevitably this has had to be tapered over recent years, through successive transformation programmes and in the light of the central changes. HMS has managed these changes effectively and whereas the revenue cash support has had to be reduced there remains a strong body of "in kind" supports provided by Children's Services.
- 5.3 On a day to day basis, the department and the service are confident that it will be able to continue to cover its costs and continue to be able to provide an excellent service to Hampshire schools and children. However, a key feature of the HMS is the opportunity to show case, at public and civic events, the talent that is successfully and repeatedly developed within the young people that are able to take advantage of the experience and reputation of the HMS. A recent and most exceptional example of this approach was Hampshire at the Hall last April, when Hampshire young performers filled the Royal Albert Hall in a magnificent event. As well as a unique and memorable experience for the children, the event brought great credit on the County Council and Hampshire.
- 5.4 Whilst this represents a positive opportunity for all those involved and means that a much wider audience can get to appreciate the work of the HMS, this does also have the disadvantage of placing an additional financial strain on the HMS in order to take part in these types of events.
- 5.5 It is therefore recommended that additional financial support from the Investing In Hampshire Fund of £35,000 is approved in the current financial year to help meet the additional costs associated with preparing for and attending public or civic events at which the HMS are invited to perform.
- 5.6 This will be reviewed on annual basis in order to ensure that sufficient financial support is provided to the HMS in order for them to continue to promote and represent Hampshire in the positive way that they always have.

Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium

- 5.7 The Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium have embarked on an ambitious project to transform the Science Centre into a national beacon for accessibility in science, technology, engineering and maths and to become the benchmark science centre promoting inclusivity.
- 5.8 The £3.4m scheme will provide new and improved facilities including a live science theatre and will create a new and exciting 400 m² multi-sensory and interactive STEM exhibition, widening engagement and participation, particularly for children with disabilities.
- 5.9 Funding of £2.4m has already been secured from the Wellcome Trust's Inspiring Science Fund and Winchester City Council has agreed to contribute £50,000 towards the remaining funding target of £1m.
- 5.10 A contribution at the same level has also been requested from the County Council and the detail is set out in Appendix 3. It is recommended that an Investing In Hampshire award of £50,000 is approved towards this exciting project.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 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**

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:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
None		
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<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 and Director of Corporate Resources - 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. Religion is one of the specified protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. The grant to HIHCT is likely to be of benefit predominantly to communities in Hampshire where the grant is to enable wider community use of church facilities and also for maintenance of the fabric of Christian churches.

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.

FUNDING CRITERIA FOR INVESTING IN HAMPSHIRE

The following criteria should be taken into account when considering a request for funding.

1. Assistance will be considered only in response to direct applications from properly constituted organisations seeking assistance. The application must show that the organisation is properly and legally organised and has its own bank account. Funding would only be awarded if the proposal was to support activity within agreed County Council priorities.
2. Applications will only be considered for specific capital projects for the improvement or maintenance of significant assets or facilities within Hampshire, within agreed priorities and where other substantial funding exists.
3. The wider economic benefits to the residents of Hampshire should be considered together with any complementary benefits for Hampshire County Council. Awards would normally only be given to projects within the remit of Policy and Resources.
4. Awards will not usually be made in respect of applications from the following:-
 - Government Institutions
 - Schools
 - Overseas and out of County organisations which have no direct Hampshire involvement
 - Bodies requesting funds for onward distribution to other charities e.g. mayoral appeals, carnivals, fetes, or for their own fundraising events.
5. Apart from exceptional circumstances, the requesting body would be expected to provide their own funding towards the project.
6. As a general rule, grants in excess of £100,000 will not be awarded unless significant benefits and funding are available. In exceptional cases, where the benefits are significant and directly relate to services and functions close to the County Council's key objectives, then an award greater than the level above would be considered.
7. Given the longer term nature of capital projects, requests can be considered well in advance, but funding will only be released once evidence of capital expenditure has been provided to the County Council or other arrangements made consistent with the agreement of the Director of Corporate Resources

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLANDS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST (HIHCT)
(CG00015757)

A sum of £25,000 is being sought by the Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust to enable it to award smaller grants to churches within Hampshire to help with their individual one-off projects.

The Trust considers applications for grants and loans from churches of all denominations which are members of 'Churches Together', for work to preserve, maintain or repair the fabric of the church, including modifications for disabled access or for health and safety reasons.

Total expenditure: £89,000

Total income: £64,000 (including fundraising and subscriptions)

Shortfall: £25,000

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Director of Transformation and Governance – Corporate Services

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

£25,000

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

This budget: Grants of £25,000 have been awarded from this budget over the last five years (last awarded Dec 2017).

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBER

This is a countywide organisation.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Transformation and Governance – Corporate Services: A grant would support the County Council's strategic objective of enabling people in Hampshire to enjoy a rich and diverse environment by enhancing and protecting Hampshire's heritage and culture and maintaining the unique character of the County.

RECOMMENDATION:

£25,000

Investing in Hampshire – Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium

Applicant	Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium		
Name / Location of Project	1 in 5 Project		
Summary of Project / Bid	The project seeks to transform the existing Winchester Science Centre into a national beacon for accessibility in science, technology, engineering and maths and to become the benchmark science centre promoting inclusivity.		
Funding Requested	£50,000	Financial Year	TBC
Funding Arrangements (including matched funding)	<p>The total cost of the project is estimated to be £3.4m and an award of £2.4m has already been given through the Wellcome Trust's Inspiring Science Fund.</p> <p>The Science Centre is looking for further contributions to meet the £1m target that remains and Winchester City Council has agreed to contribute £50,000.</p> <p>A similar amount has been requested from Hampshire County Council to support the project.</p>		
What are the benefits for Hampshire Residents?	<p>Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) continue to have a high profile in academic terms due to workplace skills shortages in these sectors.</p> <p>The Science Centre and Planetarium are used widely by Hampshire Schools and residents alike and the focus on providing improved physical, intellectual and economic access to STEM subjects is consistent with the County Council's aims and objectives.</p> <p>The project will create a new and exciting 400 m2 multi-sensory and interactive STEM exhibition, widening engagement and participation, particularly for children with disabilities and will continue to contribute to the economic prosperity of the area by increasing visitor numbers to Winchester and Hampshire as a place to visit.</p>		
What are the complementary benefits for HCC?	The strong focus on education and learning at the Science Centre supports the work of Hampshire County Council as an education authority and the proposed outreach work with hard to reach groups will target over 200,000 additional people per year.		

Any other relevant factors?	The significant £2.4m support that is being provided by the Wellcome Trust's Inspiring Science Fund is likely to attract national attention and provides excellent publicity for the Science Centre and the area alike.