

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs
Date:	13 June 2019
Title:	Parish and Town Council Investment Fund: Fawley Parish Council – Application CG00017244
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Parish and Town Council Investment Fund (PTCF) application from Fawley Parish Council with the reference CG00017244, entitled 'Supporting Adults Health & Wellbeing through Supportive Physical Activities'. Detailed information regarding the application as presented to the Rural Programme Board is included in the Summary Assessment Form attached as Appendix 1.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that the Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs approves the PTCF award of £30,457 to Fawley Parish Council to support the application as referenced above.

Executive Summary

3. The PTC Fund aims to support local partnerships and provide pump priming investments to pilot new innovative ways of working. Successful applications will need to demonstrate how they build resilience within a local community and in response to the growing pressure on County Council services.
4. This project which will be delivered by Fawley Parish Council and fully supported by the Adults' Health and Care Demand Management and Prevention Team (DMPT), addresses a demonstrable need to expand the support it provides in keeping older people, and those with disabilities, active.

5. The two-year pilot project is intended to demonstrate the benefit of specialised medical fitness care, so as to reduce the need for in-house care for vulnerable members of the community.
6. The outcomes will inform the viability of additional rollout across Hampshire to benefit a larger number of residents. They will also demonstrate the effectiveness of the Fawley project in Social Prescribing and support the possibility for longer term funding from the NHS and Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Contextual information

7. The PTCF was established in November 2018 to support working partnerships with Parish and Town Councils, and local Community Groups. The aim of the fund is to provide pump priming investments to pilot new innovative ways of working, building resilience within a local community, and responding to the growing pressure on County Council services. Applications are fully assessed and approved by the partnering HCC Service, in this instance the Adults' Health and Care DMPT, and against the fund criteria (see Appendix 3).
8. Following previous requests by their local GP practice to assist on GP referrals (with over 24,000 registered patients), this project aims to encourage more vulnerable members of the community to remain in their own homes for longer, reducing reliance on in house care for older people, and those with disabilities.
9. Fawley Parish Council, in the north-east of the New Forest District, own the Gang Warily Community Centre. They have committed to make existing staff at the Gang Warily Community Centre available to deliver this project.
10. The project enables the Gang Warily Community Centre to expand the activities and equipment it provides, to support keeping older people and those with disabilities active. The fund award will be used to purchase additional specialist 'accessible fitness equipment' and train staff in GP referrals and additional specialised medical fitness care.
11. The project has gained strong support from DMPT, and from the Rural and Parish and Town Council Programme Board, as per the statements submitted in the summary form in Appendix 1.
12. The project is also well supported by County Councillor McEvoy as Fawley Parish Council's local member, and other working partners involved in the project (see Appendix 2), all of whom have provided written support for the project.

Finance

13. The PTCF was established in November 2018 with an availability of £500,000. The fund can offer both Capital and Revenue targeted investments to support to locally led initiatives which meet the criteria of the fund, usually up to £30,000 (see Appendix 3).
14. The total award sought is £30,467, to include £27,477 Capital funding to purchase additional accessible fitness equipment, and £2,990 in Revenue funding to train staff in GP referrals and additional specialised medical fitness care.
15. Were the organisation to receive the full amount requested - £30,467 this would leave £465,337 remaining in the PTCF account.

Performance

16. The pilot project spans a period of two-years, with four, six-monthly evaluation deadlines. The programme of work has been clearly set out with measurable targets against planned benchmarks. Ongoing monitoring is planned ensuring regular updates to the Rural Programme Board and Adults' DMPT.
17. Review of the applications Full Business Case and Summary Assessment Form (see Appendix 1) was undertaken by the Rural Programme Manager and supported in principle by the Rural Programme Board and Head of DMPT.

Future direction

18. Both the County Council's DMPT and Health and Care Team recognise and support the value which this innovative approach could deliver for users of services in the vicinity of Fawley and its wider catchment. Close monitoring of the programme will be employed to ensure the targets are met. The ongoing review of delivery will inform the viability of further rollout across Hampshire to benefit a larger number of residents.
19. The Adults' Health and Care Department are currently in the design phase of a county-wide 'Connector Project' which seeks to link users of services to local projects, groups and charities who may be able to meet their individual needs and grow these services where required.
20. The Connector Project has identified potential gaps in service provision for those with a physical disability seeking to improve their fitness and wellbeing. This proposal creates an opportunity to implement and measure the benefits of a pilot project to fill such gaps, which has the potential to be rolled out to other areas.

21. The 'NHS 10 Year Plan (2019)' placed significant focus on social prescribing in the community. Fawley Parish Council aims to use this 2-year pilot to measure and demonstrate proven effectiveness to position themselves for associated future funding from the NHS and Clinical Commissioning Groups.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND 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> EMPR Report – Parish and Town Council Investment Fund.	<u>Date</u> 26/09/2018
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u> NHS 10 Year Plan (2019)	<u>Date</u> 07/01/2019

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.)

Document

Location

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

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 by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

The project is expected to support referred members of the community free of charge, but also remains available to all members of the community, maintaining access to important services, and as such no negative impacts are anticipated.

Appendix 1.

Parish and Town Council Investment Fund 2019/20 - Summary Assessment Form

Organisation name:	Fawley Parish Council
Project title:	Supporting Adults Health & Wellbeing through Supportive Physical Activities
Project location:	Gang Warily Community Centre, Fawley
Total project cost:	£74,467
Amount requested:	£30,467
Match funding – cash:	£44,000 (staff salaries 22.2hrs/week for 2 years)
Match funding - volunteer hours:	
Match funding - in-kind:	
Match funding – total value	£44,000
AMOUNT RECOMMENDED:	£30,467

Eligibility checklist	Yes/No
Is the applicant a Parish or Town Council, or a Local Community Group, directly benefitting the local community, with clear management structure within its constitution or suitable governance/terms of reference?	Yes
Does the project/activity deliver against the scheme priorities (to build community resilience and ease pressure on HCC Services)?	Yes
Does the application have support from the local community and Parish/Town Council?	Yes

Project summary
<p>Fawley Parish Council own Gang Warily Recreation & Community Centre (GW).</p> <p>Following previous requests by local GP's to assist on GP referrals (which without this project they will be unable to deliver), this project allows for an expansion of the activities and equipment provided, to support keeping older people, and those with disabilities, active. The funds will be used to purchase additional accessible fitness equipment and train staff in GP referrals and additional specialised medical fitness care.</p> <p>The offering will be freely available to all members of the community who are referred, with additional availability of the community minibus where necessary.</p>
HCC – Officer Feedback/Comments (relevant Services)
<p>Peter Stokes - Strategic Development Manager – Demand Management and Prevention</p> <p>The Adults Health and Care team fully supports the piloting of 'connector services' where agencies connect residents with local services, groups, charities or other organisations who can meet their specific needs and provide the support they require. For this to work it is essential that there is a strong network of local services to connect to.</p> <p>Across the New Forest there is an identified gap in health and fitness provision for those with physical disabilities and mobility issues, which this scheme seeks to address. Value</p>

to HCC will be delivered through plugging this gap to ensure that people with physical disabilities and mobility issues have the same access to health, fitness and lifestyle support and guidance that other members of the population have ensuring they stay healthier, fitter and independent for longer.

Exercise, particularly condition and age appropriate strength exercises, can also help reduce the risk of falls. Falls are a key factor in hospital admissions in older people, and often lead to social care interventions once they are discharged from Hospital. By supporting the target populations identified, the referred individuals can have increased access to appropriate exercise and support, hence preventing falls, and the health and social care costs that result.

Being able to refer direct from HCC and GPs to a free service run by qualified instructors is innovative, and with strict targets and milestones set, will allow us to judge the benefit of rolling similar services out to other parts of the county with minimal risk.

Officer comments and recommendation

The project's Business Case presents a well-planned, well supported programme, targeting a real need identified and agreed by GP's and Social Care Services.

The programme has been clearly set out with measurable targets against planned benchmarks. Ongoing monitoring is planned ensuring regular updates to the PTC Fund team and Adults H&C.

Reasonable steps are being taken to deliver sustainability, demonstrated through the groups early discussions with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Adults believe this avenue provides a viable longer-term funding source after the two-year pilot, given the projects direct address to the NHS 10 Year plan of implementing permanent projects for 'Social Prescribing'.

In light of the above, and the substantial match funding investment by Fawley PC I would recommend the organisation is awarded the full £30,467 (the discretionary option for the Funds investment limits to include the additional £467).

Officer name: Sam Jones

Date: 20/03/2019

Local Member comments

Cllr McEvoy – 'Anything that supports keeping people in their own homes by improving their wellbeing, physical strength and mobility will be a considerable benefit to local residents'.

Appendix 2.

Supporting information received from other organisations involved or impacted in this project/initiative:

- **Gary Marsh - Dementia Advisor** – New Forest (East) Alzheimer’s Society
- **Jane Ward – Lead Dementia Friendly Hampshire**
- **Primary Care Development (South West) NHS West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group**
- **Paula Reaney, Team Manager**, New Forest East Community Team, Adults’ Health and Care, Hampshire County Council

Appendix 3.

Eligibility and criteria of the Parish and Town Council Investment Fund

To secure investment from the Fund, the local partnership should ensure:

- They include representatives from both the relevant PTC/s or CG and the relevant County Council service
- The scheme will deliver measurable results against the priorities of the Fund
- The scheme has a project or business plan along with any additional documentation deemed necessary by the County Council service involved. For example, safeguarding measures for schemes engaging social isolation, or design standards for rights of way projects. Templates and support will be provided as necessary
- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities for all members in the local partnership
- Clear demonstration that without support from the Fund the scheme would not be able to proceed at all or to the extent outlined in the application
- Applicants with significant funds in place or higher levels of reserves must demonstrate why investment from the Fund is needed
- It is recognised that applicants will have varying levels of resources and reserves, therefore some flexibility will be permitted in terms of the amount of match funding required. Schemes will be assessed upon the value and financial saving the scheme will create to the community and in support of County Council services
- If the scheme is ongoing, how it will remain sustainable after the initial investment has been made
- An effective monitoring and reporting process are in place, including a final review of the benefits of continuing and/or variability of wider roll out of the scheme to more communities