

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs
Date:	19 September 2019
Title:	Parish and Town Council Investment Fund: Hayling Island Youth Hub – Application CG00019666
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 the Hayling Island Volunteers, with the reference CG00019666, entitled 'Hayling Island Youth Hub'. 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 approve s the PTCF award of £18,030 to the Hayling Island Volunteers to support the application as referenced above.

Executive Summary

3. The PTCF 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. It has been identified by youth workers and the Police and Crime Commissioner's office that low-level youth crime such as vandalism, antisocial behaviour and littering in Hayling Island is being driven by boredom and is something for which the community are keen to find a solution.

5. The Hayling Island Volunteers have completed a comprehensive study of the needs of 247 members of the island youth in collaboration with local schools. Following the survey, the package of needs identified consists of: Youth Hub, Homework Hub, and detached youth work, and a Youth lead Forum tasked with continuing to shape and enhance the combined offering.
6. This pilot project, The Hayling Island Hub, will be delivered by the Hayling Island Volunteers, supported by the Adults' Health and Care Demand Management and Prevention Team (DMPT) and Children's Services, and 'Y Services', a registered youth charity and HCC's contracted supplier for youth services work. This application joins together HCC, local volunteers and the local youth community in such a way as to allow the youth to drive and expand the needs identified above (5).
7. The Hayling Island volunteers have pledged to devote a total of 800 hours time over the nine month pilot project, which together with funds committed of £2000 from the Police and Crime Commissioner, totals £8720 in match funding contribution, equivalent to 34% of the project cost.
8. Over time, it is anticipated that this opportunity will reduce reliance on HCC funded children's services and increase overall educational attainment, whilst also addressing the issue of low-level youth crime. The outcomes will be invaluable to Children's Services in being able to measure the benefits of allowing a youth forum to be directed by the youth members, supported by an enthusiastic volunteer team and qualified youth workers.

Contextual information

9. 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 (DMPT), and against the fund criteria (see Appendix 3).
10. This project has already demonstrated the eagerness of young adults on the island to engage with shaping their own provision and futures. Sixteen enthusiastic young adults are taking part in the Youth Forum on a regular basis and will seek to grow this group further and ensure that it continues to accurately reflect their desires. In addition, partnerships have been established with local businesses and other organisations (see Appendix 2) which will offer the young people an opportunity to broaden their skillsets and enhance their CVs in areas previously not open to them e.g. events management.

11. The nine-month project will trial:

- Youth Forum: An engagement exercise to hear the views of the youth of Hayling, both on the provision provided and the additional needs which are not currently being met. The forum is a chance to shape services ensuring this is more than just a youth-lead initiative but a youth-run one which always remains relevant.
- Hayling Youth Hub: From the results of the survey, it has been established that there is a great need for recreational facilities on the island. The hub which will run from 2 established fully accessible community centre locations, 2 nights a week, will provide a safe, relaxed and social environment for young people with activities and social areas.
- Hub for Homework: From the results of the survey it is clear that there is a need for a quiet space for the youth to complete homework away from some of the challenges which many face at home and with technology to support this. The hub will be staffed with volunteers who will also be able to use the space for other identified activities.
- Detached Youth Work: There are a group of young people on the island who struggle to engage with current services and authority but have as much right to use and often an even greater need for the activities outlined above. The Detached Youth Worker, supplied by Y Services, will seek to engage with these individuals in line with HCCs Youth Work Policies and Guidelines, to ensure that they are given every opportunity to be included.

12. 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.

13. The project is well supported by County Councillor Lance Quantrill as local member for Hayling Island, and by the Police and Crime Commissioner who has also contributed financially towards the project.

Finance

14. 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).

15. The total award sought is £18,030 in revenue funding to cover the cost of support youth workers, equipment and venue costs for the nine-month long pilot.

16. Match funding has been secured through a contribution of £2,000 from the Police and Crime Commissioner, together with extensive pledged volunteer support with an equivalent financial value of £6,720.
17. Were the organisation to receive the full amount requested, this would leave £448,273 remaining in the PTCF account (pending two further applications also seeking approval with a combined value of £47,820, this would leave £400,453)

Performance

18. The pilot project spans a period of nine months, within which are four evaluation milestones, providing regular updates to the Rural Programme Board, Children's Services and Adults' DMPT. The Full Business Plan has clearly set out measurable targets against each of the work areas listed above.
19. Review of the application's 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

20. Both the County Council's DMPT and Health and Care Team recognise and support the value which this innovative approach could deliver for the island youth community of Hayling Island. Close monitoring of the programme will be employed to ensure the targets are met. The benefits for the youth of the island will also benefit HCC by continuing to survey what young people want and what services they would actively engage with, allowing us a deeper insight into what drives youth engagement in projects, and how to address known needs in this demographic.
21. Once the pilot is completed, ongoing running costs have been calculated at £10,000 per annum. The Hayling Island Volunteers are confident that planned local fund-raising by the volunteers and members of the youth forum, with the support of their Partners, will be able to continue the provision if the pilot project is deemed to be a success.

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>	<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>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.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>

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 a known sector of the youth community in a defined area, and as such no negative impacts are anticipated.

Appendix 1.

Parish and Town Council Investment Fund 2019/20 Funding assessment form

Organisation name:	Hayling Island Hub
Project title:	Hayling Island Youth Hub
Project location:	Schools and Community Centres on Hayling Island
Application reference:	CG00019666
Total project cost:	£26,750
Amount requested:	£18,030
<i>Match funding – cash:</i>	
<i>Match funding - volunteer hours:</i>	(800 hours volunteer time pledged for the pilot) £6,720
<i>Match funding - in-kind:</i>	(PCC discretionary award) £2,000
Match funding – total value	£8,720
AMOUNT RECOMMENDED:	£18,030

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>The Hayling Island Hub run by Hayling Island Volunteers, a local community resident's group, have identified a need for the provision for children and young adults in the 11-16 age bracket, which is free of charge, easily accessible and meets the needs of this fast-changing demographic.</p> <p>Low level youth crime such as vandalism, antisocial behaviour and littering has been identified by youth workers and the Police and Crime Commissioners office as being simply driven by boredom and is something which the community are keen to address.</p> <p>The Hub would like to bring together a package of provision for the youth in the community, which based on a comprehensive survey of 247 individuals, they said they needed and would actively engage with. It is crucial that this provision has both fun, social and interactive elements, but is also educational and the chance for young people to build on their skills and knowledge. It is also believed it is vital that children not only shape the formation of the project but</p>

are instrumental in the running and ongoing operation of it, to ensure it remains fit for purpose and to encourage ownership.

Following the survey, the package of identified needs consists of the following, properly supported by contracted Youth Services provided by 'Y Services' (a registered youth charity and HCC's contracted supplier for Youth Services work); a Youth Forum, Youth Hub, Homework Hub, and detached youth work.

HCC – Officer feedback/comments (relevant Services)

Peter Stokes - Strategic Development Manager – Demand Management and Prevention

The benefits for the youth of the island will also benefit HCC first and foremost by continuing to survey what young people want and what services they would actively engage with allowing us a deeper insight into what drives youth engagement in projects and how to address known needs in this demographic. Hayling Island is a relatively isolated community which mirrors some of the challenges in other rural areas of Hampshire, for example the New Forest and this data will be valuable in enabling HCC to role out services in similar demographic areas.

HCC Children's' Services have long understood the challenges facing some children in their homes and the knock-on impact which this can have on educational attainment. The Homework Hub and Youth Hub will allow children space to express themselves, upskill and hopefully develop their ambitions and goals. Over time, it is anticipated that such opportunities will reduce reliance on HCC funded children's services and increase overall educational attainment.

This project has already demonstrated the eagerness of young adults on the island to engage with shaping their own provision and futures and with partnerships already built with local businesses will offer young people an opportunity to broaden their skillsets and enhance their CVs in areas previously not open to them e.g. events management.

Both Adult's Services and Children's Services departments believe that this application provides excellent value for money for the benefit which it will bring to all sections of the community with a long-term plan for sustainability beyond this funding application. The passion which local councillors have shown for changing the issues which they see in their communities will make for a great partnership with HCC departments and we fully support the application.

Officer comments and recommendation

Sam Jones – Rural Affairs Programme Manager

This project's Business Case presents a well-planned, targeted youth programme, focussing on a new way of working with the real involvement of the youth in a known youth provision target area for HCC.

The programme has been clearly set out with measurable targets against planned benchmarks. Regular monitoring is planned with updates to the PTC Fund team, Children's Services, and Adults H&C.

In light of the above, and the efforts made to source free community support, as match funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner and substantial pledged volunteer time I would recommend the organisation is awarded the requested £18,030.

Local Member comments

Cllr Lance Quantrill has been involved in the project since inception and has provided firm written support.

Appendix 2.

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

- Local primary and secondary schools
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – providing ongoing monitoring of low-level youth crime, and a £2000 donation to the costs of the project.
- Community groups such as the local rotary club, men's shed and voluntary organisations.
- Citizens Advice bureau – free training, Budget planning and management
- Disability Charity – free training, Diversity and Inclusion training covering all protected characteristics
- Local events company – free events planning training to support the Youth Hub to fund raise for future years.
- Y services – HCCs contracted supplier for youth services work

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