

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Performance, HR and Partnerships
Date:	18 March 2022
Title:	Annual Core Infrastructure Grants to Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations
Report From:	Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Adults' Health and Care

Contact name: Graham Allen

Tel: 03707 795574

Email: graham.allen@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

1.1 That the Executive Member for Performance, HR and Partnerships:

- i. gives approval to award a grant of £495,990 to Community First to support the Hampshire Councils for Voluntary Sector Network, for the year 2022/23, and;
- ii. gives approval to award a grant of £63,000 to Citizens Advice Hampshire for the year 2022/23.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1 The County Council supports the infrastructure of Hampshire's VCS through funding to the Hampshire Councils for the Voluntary Sector (CVS) Network. This comprises eight organisations which cover the whole of the county. In the current year Community First has been funded by the County Council as the lead organisation. Community First has then worked in partnership with the other seven CVSs, passing on funding and working with them to achieve specific outcomes set out in the grant agreement.

2.2 The County Council also has a longstanding partnership with Citizens Advice Hampshire (CitAH). CitAH delivers training and development to around 250 paid employees and 500 volunteers across 14 local Citizens Advice offices. It also provides specialist advice lines on employment and welfare and maintains a single point of contact between local Citizens Advice and wider strategic partners. It should be noted that since Covid CitAH volunteer numbers have dropped by approximately 50%.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1 Not to offer and award the grants contained within the report. This option was rejected because the voluntary sector has been a crucial partner to the County Council throughout the pandemic, and their support to the residents of Hampshire has been enabled by the ongoing provision of an infrastructure

grant. Based on evidence of impact to-date, it is proposed that core infrastructure grant funding continues throughout the 2022/23 financial year.

4 Conflicts of interest:

4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5 Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: None

6 Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: Not applicable

7 Statement from the decision maker:

Approved by:

Date:

Councillor Stephen Reid
Executive Member for Performance, HR and
Partnerships

18 March 2022