

Report Title:	Council Funding For Local Organisations 2018/19
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	Yes - Part II - Not for publication by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
Member reporting:	Councillor S. Rayner, Lead Member for Culture and Communities and Councillor Saunders Lead Member for Finance
Meeting and Date:	Cabinet - 8 February 2018
Responsible Officer(s):	Alison Alexander, Managing Director
Wards affected:	All

REPORT SUMMARY

1. This report deals with grants to voluntary organisations. It recommends that the recommendations of the Grants Panel held 9 January 2018 be approved, and the decisions be minuted in Part I.
2. These recommendations are being made because organisations receiving grant funding will be able to provide or continue to provide services to the public, and to facilitate and co-ordinate events for the benefit of the local community.
3. The Grants base budget for 2018/19 (subject to Council approval in February 2018) is £300,000, this is an 188% increase in the base budget since 2014-15. The 2018/19 budget for Kidwells Trust grants is £15,000 (based on interest earned over a 12 month period).

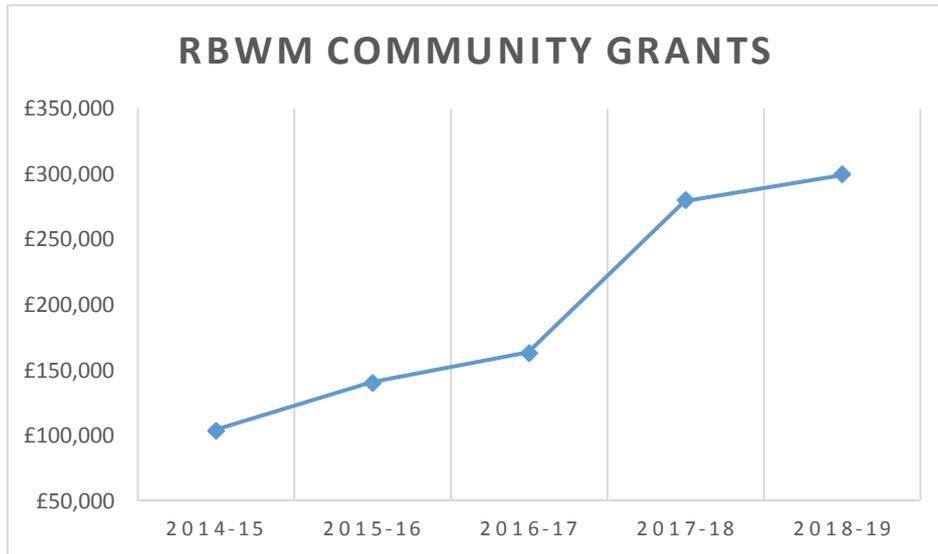
1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

RECOMMENDATION: That Cabinet:

- i) **Approve the recommendations of the Grants Panel held 9 January 2018, as detailed in the attached Grants Panel Minutes (Appendix A)**
- ii) **The decisions be minuted in Part I.**

2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2 Funding applications are divided between grants awarded from the grant allocation approved as part of the budget build and those awarded from the Kidwells Trust Grant. Applicants can apply for grants to support capital projects and revenue. The Grants Panel can recommend if they feel a service level agreement is required. In 2014-15 Council agreed to award a base grants budget of £104,000 (excluding Kidwells). In comparison the 2018/19 budget is recommending to Council that the base budget is £300,000 (excluding Kidwells). The table below shows the increase in community grants made available over the last five years.



2.1 Table 1, below, shows the number of grants that have been awarded and the average amount over the last five years. It should be noted that prior to 2017/18 organisations could apply for both annual grants and quarterly grants (where the maximum that could be applied for was £1000). In 2017/18 the process was changed to two rounds of grant allocations with delegated authority for interim applications, with no limits on the amount applied for.

Table 1:

Year	No. of grants awarded	Ave. grant awarded
2014-15	62	£1,677
2015-16	66	£2,121
2016-17	75	£2,173
2017-18	91	£3,076
2018-19	TBC	£5287*

2.2 *For 2018/19 the Grants Panel is recommending for the first round of community grant allocations that £163,909 be awarded between 31 organisations. This leaves £136,091 left in the community grants budget for the remainder of 2018/19.

2.3 The Kidwells Trust Grant can be used to assist organisations in increasing cultural activity and providing facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare.

2.4 Some grant applications can be awarded and funded directly via the service because the activities supplement some of the non-core services already provided by the Council and these require service level agreements.

2.5 In addition to grants mentioned above in order to capitalise on a match funding opportunity from central government, the former Hutchinson '3' funding was transferred to the Berkshire Community Foundation (BCF) through the Grassroots Grants Endowment Match Challenge (GGEMC) fund. Through this scheme the BCF had the opportunity to access funding to match corporate donations for the establishment of a sustainable endowment fund, ring-fenced for the benefit of the Windsor and Maidenhead area. Agreement

was reached to establish an expendable endowment fund of £252,000 created by a donation of £126,000 from '3' to the BCF, and thereby attracting £126,000 of match funding from GGEMC. The BCF agreed to take responsibility for administering this new fund. The Annual Grants Panel considers the proposals by BCF for allocation of funds for endorsement only and coordination purposes.

2.6 The organisation in receipt of a grant is required to demonstrate through written evidence that the financial award was spent according to the application and the outcomes achieved as a result of the grant awarded. Organisations in receipt of awards in excess of £5,000 are required to sign an agreement before the finances are released. Each Grants Officer is responsible for ensuring that the agreements are sent out, signed and returned before payment is authorised.

2.7 When considering grant applications, Members take into account:

- The expected benefits for residents and local communities.
- How the benefits align with the council's key strategic priorities and objectives.
- If the organisation is properly constituted and non-political.
- That the organisation has demonstrated they have sought to raise funds from other appropriate sources and that voluntary assistance is maximised.
- The capacity and credibility of the organisation to deliver the expected benefits using the grant and other funds the organisation is likely to have available.

2.8 In allocating funding Members consider the following categories to be priorities:

- Project Dependent funding, i.e. an organisation that is dependent upon grant support for the project only
- Seed funding or 'support in kind', i.e. a new organisation that is dependent upon support for a defined period, after which it will not be dependent upon the Royal Borough's grant support

2.9

Table 2: Options

Option	Comments
To consider the recommendations of the Grants Panel and confirm funding as appropriate. This is the recommended option	The recommendations of the Grants Panel are contained within the attached Minutes of the Panel meeting (Appendix A)
To amend the recommendations of the Grants Panel	Members may wish to amend some of the recommendations of the Grants Panel.
Members may wish to allocate no funding at all.	Members are entitled not to agree any of the Grants Panel recommendations and allocate no funding at all to the annual community grants initiative

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Table 3: Key Implications

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
Percentage of grant funds provided to local groups during 2018/19	Below 100%	100%	N/A	N/A	Revenue grants paid from 2/4/18 onwards. Capital / Kidwells grants are paid on receipt of confirmed purchase / expenditure
Service Level Agreements in place for all grants £5,000 or over	Below 100%	100%	N/A	N/A	2/4/2018

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

- 4.1 The budget for community grants is £300,000 (subject to Council approval in February 2018). The budget for Kidwells Trust grants is £15,000 (based on interest earned over a 12 month period). Any funding remaining unallocated following the Annual Grants Panel is made available for allocation by the Grants Panel held in September each year, along with interim grants through awarded delegated authority to the Chairman in consultation with the Head of Communities, Enforcement and Partnerships.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The legal power for the Council to establish, administer and make awards from the various grant funds as described in this report is provided by the general power of competence contained in Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. Subject to certain statutory restrictions, none of which apply in this case, Section 1 gives the Council “power to do anything that individuals generally may do”.
- 5.2 In considering this report Cabinet must be mindful of the requirements imposed by the public sector equality duty in accordance with Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.
- 5.3 Grants are awarded in accordance with the adopted Grants Criteria. Service Level Agreements (SLA) are monitored by appropriate Grants Officers for compliance.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Table 4: Risks

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
The Council is justly proud of its many and varied links with partner organisations in the Borough, both large and small, and part of those links is to assist with funding where appropriate. The recommendations of the Grants Panel have been based on the approved criteria and the available funding in the draft budget. By not allocating funds, the Council may put at risk its relationship with many of its partner organisations.	Medium	Grants Panel provided with full details of each application	Low

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 7.1 The grants awarded by the Panel have been assessed to ensure they link with the Strategic Priorities of the council, and to encourage local voluntary and third sector organisations to enhance opportunities and support for residents. Grants over £5,000 require an equalities statement as part of their Service Level Agreement.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Advertisements were placed in local newspapers inviting voluntary organisations to apply for grant funding, along with publicity on Twitter, Facebook, Around the Royal Borough, and through WAM Get Involved. Application forms, together with full details of the scheme, are also available to download from the council's website.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

9.1

Table 5

Date	Details
09 January 2018	Grants Panel meeting
08 February 2018	Cabinet considers recommendations of the Grants Panel
20 February 2018	Full Council considers council budget for 2018/19, including grants. Applicant organisations are advised of the outcome of their grant application thereafter.
2 April 2018	Approved (revenue) grants paid out
Ongoing	Capital/Kidwellls grants paid out on receipt of confirmed purchase / expenditure

9.2 Implementation date if not called in: Grants will be paid out from 2 April 2018 onwards

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Minutes of Grants Panel meeting held on 09 January 2018 (Part II)

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

11.1 Further details on the grants process can be found at:
https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200156/community_grants/728/grants_to_voluntary_organisations

12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Commented & returned
Councillor S Rayner	Lead Member for Culture and Communities	11/01/18	11/01/18
Councillor MJ Saunders	Chairman of the Grants Panel	11/01/18	11/01/18
Alison Alexander	Managing Director	11/01/18	11/01/18
Mary Kilner	Head of Law and Governance	11/01/18	11/01/18
Richard Bunn	Chief Accountant	11/01/18	
David Scott	Head of Service	10/01/18	10/01/18

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type: Key	Urgency item? No
Report Author: David Cook – Democratic Services Team Manager 01628 796560	