

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected:
All Divisions except Chorley
and Fylde

Neighbourhood Wellbeing Initiatives

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing has approached all county councillors inviting them to propose organisations and/or projects which they consider would improve wellbeing at neighbourhood level if funded by the County Council.

This report sets out the proposals that have been received for funding a range of such initiatives to be implemented by local stakeholder organisations.

Recommendation

The Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing is asked to approve funding for the wellbeing initiatives detailed in the report on the basis proposed and subject to appropriate grant funding agreements being agreed by the Director of Legal and Democratic Services.

Background

Public health development, improvement and reducing health inequalities have been a responsibility of Lancashire County Council (LCC) since April 2013. Ill health prevention and improving wellbeing of local communities are also key priorities for the local NHS organisations and the district councils across Lancashire.

The proposals set out in the report have been suggested by county councillors to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing as providing an opportunity to invest in a range of grass roots, community led wellbeing initiatives, with the proposed LCC funding utilised in some cases to lever in additional resources.

Unlike the processes applied to other established grants such as local member grants there has been no appraisal of the organisations or projects which have been proposed. However, going forward the Director of Public Health intends to

undertake an evaluation of those initiatives which are approved with a view to establishing their effectiveness and, in turn, develop evaluation criteria against which any further proposed initiatives can be judged.

In relation to the current proposals, where the proposed grant is above £10,000 it is recommended that if the Cabinet Member is minded to approve the grant then initially this approval is on an "in principle" basis and the applicant be required to provide sufficient information to the Council in advance of the grant being awarded to enable the Director of Public Health to evaluate the impact of the proposal to ensure that the project that it is funding will be effective and deliver value for money.

Where the Director of Public Health confirms that proposed grants are appropriate, the details submitted by applicants would then be included as part of the grant terms that applicants would be expected to agree to. Grant terms would also include reasonable monitoring requirements to allow transparency and to ensure that the grant funding is being properly spent and that the stated objectives are being met.

All applicants irrespective of the value of the grant would be required to submit a report upon completion of the project outlining how the money was spent and what the project achieved. This will allow the Director of Public Health to assess the success of the proposed initiatives and will be used to develop similar schemes in the future.

The proposals from community organisations requesting investment in initiatives across Lancashire are as follows:

Neighbourhood Wellbeing Initiatives

Scheme Title	Scheme description	Funding 2016/17
West Lancashire Pensioners Forum West Lancashire	Provision of a grant to support the Forum's work in reducing social isolation and improving social connectedness.	£1,000
Fylde Coast YMCA - Free Swimming Wyre	Provision of a grant to facilitate free swimming for local children at Fleetwood YMCA during school holiday periods.	£2,500
Westview Community Association – Duke of Edinburgh Scheme Wyre	To support the Association to register and acquire a direct licence to deliver the Duke of Edinburgh's awards programme, enabling young people engaged in local projects to gain nationally recognised awards.	£4,294
AAWAZ, Accrington - Support for Vulnerable Women Hyndburn	To work with approximately 15 women to provide holistic support and run a variety of activities including arts, crafts, reading groups, discussion groups and short outings to introduce them to local amenities, such as the leisure centre; to reduce isolation and barriers.	£7,600
Extreme Fitness, Nelson - Health and Exercise Programme East Lancashire	To run a structured health and exercise programme during the summer holidays for children who are overweight, improving confidence and self-esteem.	£8,100

Pendle Borough Council – Environmental Improvement, Nelson Pendle	Grant for environmental improvements in Nelson, including safer walking routes to school by improving back streets.	£15,000
Lazy Days Luncheon Club, Penwortham – Group Trip South Ribble	Provision of a grant for support to 98 pensioners from a number of luncheon clubs, for group trip and lunch; with the aim of reducing social isolation and encouraging interaction.	£1,500
Skerton Community Association, Lancaster – The Autumn Club Lancaster	Provision of a grant to provide a yearlong programme of activities and trips to reduce social isolation, and improve mental wellbeing and quality of life.	£4,500
West Lancs Crisis & Information Centre – Birchwood Junk Food Cafe/Move On Support West Lancashire	Provision of a grant towards the purchase a small van to assist with the delivery of 'Move on' (transportation of furniture & house hold items for young people setting up their own homes) and 'Junk Food Café' (collection of end date food) projects.	£3,500
Hapton Parish Council – Luncheon Club Hyndburn	Provision of a grant to provide a self-employed cook to the luncheon club for 12 months, with a view to the club subsequently becoming self-sufficient.	£2,040
Friends of Euston Park, Preston – Play Equipment Preston	Provision of a grant towards purchase of equipment for the children's play area.	£500
Acorn Recovery Projects, – Healthy Eating East Lancashire	To deliver a co-ordinated activity of healthy eating classes across a wide range of groups. With the aim of targeting BME communities, co-ordinate cooking classes with children, promoting healthy lifestyles, co-ordinate volunteering activities, supporting those who have completed the Acorn recovery programme and supporting those with learning disabilities and/or those with long term illnesses.	£18,000
Belmont Community Association, Burnley – Health and Wellbeing Activities Burnley	Provision of a grant to continue the programme of activities, including a luncheon club, dancing and keep fit sessions, to reduce social isolation.	£4,000
Migrants Wellbeing Association, Nelson – Reducing Social Isolation Pendle	To provide a series of events and gatherings (including coffee mornings, lunch clubs and weekend activities); to reduce isolation and improve social connectedness.	£8,400
Ultimate Strength & Fitness Limited – Independent Wellbeing Centre Pendle	To provide support to those with long term health conditions through a bespoke programme to address those with mild anxiety and depression, and building confidence.	£13,200
South West Lancashire Independent	To provide a series of four conferences providing advice, support and guidance on four key and relevant areas. Anti-Bullying, Scam Busting, Cyber Safety &	£5,000

Community Advice Network (SWLICAN) – Conference Programme West Lancashire	Mental Health in Young People.	
Peoples Umbrella for Learning, Socialising and Empowerment (P.U.L.S.E) West Lancashire	Provision of a grant to run a series of events and activities to combat loneliness and isolation especially for those with 'invisible' illnesses such as fibromyalgia and ME; together with signposting to financial, health and social support.	£5,000
Community Rooms CIC (T/A E Rooms), Skelmersdale – Wellbeing Through Music West Lancashire	To provide a number of free music workshops; and five free places for disadvantaged young people on a twelve week 'young guns' music project; to improve social, physical & emotional wellbeing through music.	£1,000
Garstang Memory Café, Garstang Wyre	To provide a grant to support those living with Dementia and their carers at the café, through provision of reminiscence items, craft supplies, visiting speakers, outings, music and entertainers.	£7,000
Burnley FC in the Community – Active Clarets Pendle	To address poor mental health and weight management through developing the 'Active Clarets' programme in Nelson.	£15,000
Hyndburn & Ribble Valley BME Forum Hyndburn	Provision of a grant to deliver a 40 week health and fitness programme (2 classes each week) to 100 people within the BME community.	£7,200
In-Situ-In-Place Pendle	Working with the Vernon Street Community Centre to deliver an art programme that includes a series of cinema screenings that reflect the local community and a 6 month artist in residence exploring the history of the local area.	£9,400
Arooj – Family Support Service East Lancashire	To develop and deliver a holistic and culturally specific support service to improve the health and wellbeing of BAME families affected by the involvement of a family member with either substance misuse or contact with the criminal justice system.	£15,000
Ethnic Minority Association – East Lancashire	The aim of the project is to engage, encourage and support BAME families and young people in East Lancashire to develop an innovative arts programme to address the barriers by increasing their participation in learning and helping them to become volunteers and challenging attitudes and perceptions, and improving mental health.	£10,500
Cue Foundation – Community Hub Pendle	Provision of a grant to fund a hub that will enable different parts of the community particularly women and young people to come together. The aim is to engage with these groups and deliver a series of workshops and focus groups which are the basis of bids to other organisations to support our local communities.	£8,300
Parish of Nelson Little Marsden Pendle	Provision of a grant to further the place of a successful music therapy project with those who suffer from dementia and other conditions which keep them house-bound or in need of community support.	£4,200

Life-Line Care 4 U Burnley & Pendle	Provision of a grant to tackle social isolation by holding regular luncheon clubs that will promote, social stimulation, peer to peer support, an increase in relevant signposting and a sense of purpose and belonging to individuals.	£7,200
Lancashire Amateur Sports Club - Active Youths Pendle	To provide a 30 week programme of fitness classes for young people aged between 7 and 16, to reduce obesity, improve health, increase physical activity and improve self-confidence.	£7,200
West Lancashire Debt Advice West Lancashire	Provision of a grant to provide on-going debt support to those with poor mental health; and provide training to volunteers.	£1,000
Nelson Football Club Pendle	Provision of a grant to increase sports participation and promote healthy living among children within the community football leagues.	£7,200
Cottam Community Association Preston	Grant to provide the installation a defibrillator and to replace furniture within the community centre.	£1,656
Pendle Leisure Trust Pendle	Provision of a grant to facilitate free swimming for local children during school holiday periods.	£21,510
Brierfield Volleyball Club Pendle	To organise a national volleyball tournament in Pendle to encourage uptake of the sport and other health initiatives.	£2,300
Leyland Methodist Church South Ribble	Provision of a grant to provide continued use of church coffee bar and community centre to local community groups.	£5,000
Total		£234,800

Consultations

The initiatives set out in the report have been proposed by county councillors.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

Any initiatives that are approved will be funded on a one off basis from the 2016/17 Public Health and Wellbeing budget.

Legal

Although each proposed grant is relatively low, consideration must be given in each case as to whether the funding contravenes the state aid rules. The de minimis exemption allows grants of €200,000 in any three year period to be given to an organisation.

However, in calculating whether the €200,000 ceiling has been reached *all* funding from public bodies to that organisation must be taken into account. Contravention of state aid rules can lead to action against the Council as well as the recipient. In

making grants to organisations, the Council should also notify recipients as to the need to include this funding in any future state aid de minimis calculation.

Should any of the proposals amount to the de minimis threshold being exceeded, it is possible that other state aid exemptions could apply. However, these must be formally assessed and recorded as all state aid other than that which is classed as de minimis must be reported to the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

If state aid rules are breached action may be taken against the public authority granting the aid or other organisations who consider they may have suffered a competitive disadvantage. Organisations may therefore be required to provide further details of the initiatives including a breakdown of how the grant funding is to be used. All grant funding made available by the Council will be subject to the recipient agreeing to binding terms as to its use. This will also include clawback provisions to address misuse of the funding or breaches of legal requirements including state aid rules.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A