

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 7 March 2019

Report of the Head of Service - Children and Family Wellbeing Service

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Awarding of Small Grants to Third Sector Groups which are Registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, including Grants to Individual Young People

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Executive Summary

This report outlines the work of the District Youth Councils in their role in recommending grant monies to third sector organisations which are registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to consider and approve the recommendations of the District Youth Councils on the applications for grants from third sector groups which are registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, as set out in the report, and determine the awards it wishes to make.

Background and Advice

In Lancashire, there is already a process for third sector groups which are registered with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service, to apply for small grants for the development of the organisation, and for the young people within those organisations who may need help to fund a specific project, i.e. funding for a trip or group activity.

Individual young people can also apply for funding, if they are in need of financial support, which will aid their development and learning, i.e. attendance on an educational course and equipment needed. If these grants are £250 or less, the District Youth Council has the authority to approve these. Should any applications be received from individual young people which are for more than £250 then currently the Cabinet is asked to consider these, taking into account the views of the District Youth Council.

The details of recent applications received by the registered third sector groups are as follows:

Organisation	District	Summary of Purpose	Amount applied for (£)	Amount recommended by District Youth Council (£)
Streetwise Youth Group	Fylde	Streetwise urban fitness is a 3 month project to engage young people to participate in activities	£1,500	£1,500
Nelson FC in the Community	Pendle	Community activities project October 18 – March 19	£2,000	£0
Clitheroe & District Amateur Swimming Club	Ribble Valley	Swim teacher courses to upskill older swimmers who would benefit personally from the project but will allow the club to expand what is done in the community and as a club	£1,980	£1,980
1 st Upholland Scout Group (51 st Ormskirk)	West Lancashire	2 canoes that are more suitable for beginners, floatation devices and securing straps	£2,000	£2,000
1 st Morecambe & Heysham – The Boys' Brigade	Lancaster	Sailing instruction and participation at Tower Wood to boost a young person's self-confidence	£650	£650
Fishwick Rangers Y&C Development Scheme	Preston	Educational Enhancement Programme	£2000	£2000
Barnoldswick FC	Pendle	25 match footballs	£250	£250
Spring into Action	Hyndburn	Host an 'Inclusion Week' during February half term to provide positive activities for children and young people with learning disabilities	£905	£905
		Total		£9,285

The District Youth Councils have met to consider these applications and have recommended approval of the amounts above based on their assessment.

The Youth Council has recommended that no funding be granted to Nelson FC in the Community, due to this being a retrospective application and it not being considered to be the best value for money. In addition, there are other very active providers in Pendle offering the same opportunities for the young people.

The final decision on the amount to be approved lies with Cabinet.

Both sets of grants can be made under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, which states that "Every local authority is to have the power to do anything which they consider is likely to achieve any one or more of the following objectives:

- The promotion or improvement of the economic well-being of their area
- The promotion or improvement of the social well-being of their area, and
- The promotion or improvement of the environmental well-being of their area.

Section 2 (4) (b) of the 2000 Act includes a specific power to give financial assistance to any person under the well-being provisions.

A sum of grant funding is made available for registered third sector groups. This is to support individual groups or units not supported financially by the county council, and to support individual young people's learning and development. It is currently administered through the Children and Family Wellbeing Service and the 2018/19 annual amount is £111,000. The funding is divided between 12 districts, and 25% of each district's allocation is ring fenced for individual young people's applications. Of the total funding available of £111,000, £83,250 is available to third sector organisations and £27,750 to individual young people.

The total amounts of awards recommended in this report are as follows:

Grants to Third Sector Organisations: £9,285.

Grants to support individual young people: £3,271.

Included in this total are three grant applications which exceed the £250 threshold the District Youth Council is authorised to approve. One grant application is for £435 for transport tickets to enable the young person to complete an 8 week rail engineering and track maintenance course in Salford. These qualifications will give the young person an opportunity to undertake an apprenticeship at the end of the course. The second application for £345 is from a young person to fund a festival film production project, to develop their personal learning in regards to all aspects of filmmaking and the third application for £500 is to help a young person with para international swimming training costs.

If these awards are approved by Cabinet, the total allocation of awards and the balance of funding available will be as follows:

	Total available for 2018-19	Grants Approved to date	Balance available
Grants to Third Sector organisations	£83,250	£32,456	£50,794
Grants to support individual young people	£27,750	£5,677	£22,073

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

If these grants are not approved then work to positively engage young people by the voluntary organisations may be at risk.

Financial

The full amount of the grant money made available by the Children and Family Wellbeing Service in this financial year 2018/2019 is £111,000. This is divided between the 12 districts, and 25% of each of the districts' allocation is ring fenced for individual young people's applications.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A