

Report to County Councillor Ron Woollam
Report submitted by: Head of Service Legal, Governance and Registrars

Electoral Division affected:
Preston North;

Local Member Grants Scheme Application from:
Our Lady and St Edward's Catholic Primary School PTA

Contact for further information:
Local Member Grants, Tel: (01772) 530078, Legal and Democratic Services,
LPTLocalMemberGrants@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report presents an application from a local organisation requesting £1500 towards the cost of creating a community garden area from the Local Member Grants Scheme.

Recommendation

That consideration be given to the request for grant funding as set out in this report.

Detail

On 16 December 2021, Full Council approved the reintroduction of the Local Member Grants Scheme. Under the scheme, each county councillor has been given a specific budget which they can spend to enhance the economic, social, and environmental well-being of people who live in their division. Following the reintroduction, using powers in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Leader of the County Council has authorised individual county councillors to take formal decisions on behalf of the county council.

For the financial year 2024/25, each county councillor has a budget of £2000. Each councillor can also carry forward a maximum of £200 that was unspent in the previous financial year. County Councillor Ron Woollam's total budget is set out in the financial section of the report.

Details of the requests for grant funding are shown below:



Full name of your organisation	
Our Lady and St Edward's Catholic Primary School PTA	
How much are you applying for? Minimum £100, Maximum £2000	
£1500	
Which county councillors' electoral division(s) will your expenditure cover or benefit?	
Name	Amount
Preston North (Cllr Woollam)	£1500
What are you going to spend the grant on?	
<p>Creating a community garden area including a polytunnel, with fruit and vegs plants within. Several low-level planters for vegetables, a shed to keep all equipment in, a fence and gate to help keep the area tidy. Garden equipment for the children to use within lessons.</p>	
Date of your project / event or the purchase of goods	
Monthly on-going garden sessions to get the scheme up and running by September 2024, then the area will be used daily within school lessons.	
How will the money benefit people in the councillor(s) division(s)?	
<p>We are holding several 'love my school community garden' events where pupils and their families, past students and the parish of OLSE as well as anyone local to the school who would like to get involved can come along and help create an area of new raised beds with a polytunnel and growing areas where the children can learn about fruit and veg and how to grow and care for them, teaching about healthy eating and the importance of it, as well as how to prepare meals with fruit and veg in them.</p> <p>The fruit and veg grown will be used in lessons and made into food hampers for those less fortunate in the community who need it most.</p> <p>The new area will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bring the families, parish, and community of OLSE together creating bonds and friendships as well as forming a positive neighbourhood environment. - Improve overall knowledge of all volunteers from children to adults on gardening and 	



growing, nurturing, and caring for fruit and veg.

- Enhance wellbeing of children at school through opportunities to grow and care for fruit and veg in lessons and in their lunch time and afterschool gardening club.
- Help promote healthy living.
- Help local community with seasonal fruit and vegetables box donations.

Please give a detailed breakdown of your expenditure for your activity / equipment.

Poly tunnel £750
Trestle benches £300
Seeds £50
Soil & compost £210
Growing equipment £100
Garden equipment £90

If you are not asking for the full amount of the cost of your activity / equipment, please give us details of where the rest of the funding is coming from. Please also explain what you will do if we give you the grant, but you do not get the other funding.

We will be carrying out several fundraising events throughout the year to help raise more money for this project. Over the last few years, we have held a sponsored walk, summer and winter fairs, Easter bingo evenings, Film nights, discos. The main PTA funding events have raised funds to pay for external play gym equipment in the school yard, external play equipment (like skipping ropes, various balls and racket and circus games), indoor wet play games, school sports kits for children representing the school, leavers hoodies, various author visits, science days, history days to name a few, if we don't get the full amount through this grant we will carry on with our other fundraising events.

If the councillor offers a grant of less than you have asked for, please explain below how that will affect your proposal – for example, will you still be able to complete your project or purchase, will you scale the project back, or seek funding elsewhere?

We will raise more money through other means of our fundraising events and do the project in stages.

Will the activity involve members of your organisation having significant contact with children or vulnerable adults?

- Yes
 No

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:



Risk management

No significant risks have been identified in relation to the proposals contained within this report.

Finance

An up-date of spend in 2024/25 is shown below:

Budget for 2024/25		£2,000.00
C/F from 2023/24		£0.00
Refunds		£0.00
Total Grant Available in 2024/25		£2,000.00
Grant Allocations Already Approved		
		£0.00
Grant Remaining to be Allocated in 2024/25		£2,000.00
Grants Requests Submitted but not yet Approved or Rejected	Rosemary and Time CIC	£100.00
		£100.00
NEW REQUESTS	Our Lady and St Edward's Catholic Primary School PTA	£1,500.00
		£1,500.00
Total Grant Requests in Progress		£1,600.00
Value of Grant Remaining to be allocated in 2024/25 if all outstanding requests are approved		£400.00

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
None		

