

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 12 October 2017

Report of the Head of Service, Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected:
All

Awarding of Small Grants to Third Sector Groups which are Registered with the Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service, including Grants to individual young people (Appendix 'A' refers)

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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 Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service.

Recommendation

The Cabinet is recommended 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 Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service, as set out in Appendix 'A'.

Background and Advice

In Lancashire, there is already a process for third sector groups which are registered with the Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help 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 £250.00 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 £250.00, then the Cabinet will be asked to consider these.

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 money is made available annually 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 to support learning and development.

The full amount of the grant money made available by the Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service in this financial year 2017/2018 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.

The amount available to be awarded to third sector organisations in the 2017/2018 financial year is £83,250. The amount available to be awarded to individual young people is £27,750.

Previously, the former Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools has approved the awarding of a total of £5,500 to registered voluntary organisations, leaving a remaining balance of £77,750.

The details of recent applications received by the registered third sector groups are attached at Appendix 'A'. The District Youth Councils have met to consider these applications and their recommendations are as listed in Appendix 'A'.

If the Cabinet agrees to the recommendations of the Youth Council on the registered voluntary organisation applications, a total of £2,000 will now be awarded. This leaves a balance for the financial year of £75,750.

Previously, the former Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools has noted or approved the awarding of a total of £3,292, as recommended or approved by the Youth Council, to individual young people to support learning and development, leaving a remaining balance of £24,458 for the 2017/2018 financial year.

If the Cabinet agrees to the Youth Council's recommendations, a total of £1,586 will have been awarded this month, for grant applications from individual young people. This leaves a balance for the financial year of £22,872.

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.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A