

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 18 January 2018

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

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected:
All

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

That Cabinet 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

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 £250.00 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 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 recommended by District Youth Council
Explorer Scouts	Wyre	Various camping equipment, sports and games equipment	£1400
Vision (Rossendale)	Rossendale	Building works to improve access, including for wheelchair users	£2000
Carers Link Lancashire – Young Carers	Ribble Valley, Hyndburn	Outdoor activity workshop for young carers	£1417.20
Fleetwood Sea Cadets	Wyre	Kayaks and related equipment	£1600

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

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 Well being Service and in 2017/18 amounts to £111,000. The funding is divided between 12 districts, and 25% of each districts 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.

Awards made to 31 December 2017

	Total available for 2017-18	Grants Approved to date	Balance available
Grants to Third Sector organisations	£83,250	£14,548.30	£68,701.70
Grants to support individual young people	£27,750	£8292.10	£19457.90

The total amounts of awards recommended in this Cabinet report and supported by the Youth Council are as follows:

Grants to Third Sector Organisations: £6417.20

(There are no grants to individual young people above £250 in this period.)

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 2017-18	Grants Approved to date	Balance available
Grants to Third Sector organisations	£83,250	£20965.50	£62,284.50
Grants to support individual young people	£27,750	£8292.10	£19457.90

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

There is a budget of £111,000 for small grant awards within the Children and Family Wellbeing Service that will be utilised to fund the grant allocations detailed in this report.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A