

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 11 April 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, and one individual grant to a young person which exceeds the £250 threshold that the District Youth Councils are authorised to approve, 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 (£)
Normandy Company Lancashire Army Cadet Force	Lancaster	Skills Training Day 2019 – Outdoor adventure training facility for a day	£1,500	£1,500
Inspiring Grace	Pendle	Purchase gym mats and 2 volunteers from StreetGames Youth Volunteering Workshops for a weekly martial arts jiu-jitsu project	£1,938	£1,400
Accrington Sea Cadets	Hyndburn	Sports clothing for waterborne activities/sailing club fees/outboard engine service and safe box	£1,802	£1,802
Brookfield Spaceplace/ Soundskills	Preston	Music workshops project for young people to write, produce and record their own tracks	£2,000	£2,000
		Total		£6,702

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

The reason for the reduced grant offer to Inspiring Grace is that the young people of the Youth Council felt there were cheaper alternatives for the gym mats.

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: £6,702

Grants to support individual young people: £666

Included in this total is one grant application which exceeds the £250 threshold the District Youth Council is authorised to approve. The grant is for £468 to purchase clothing and equipment the young person will need for an overseas school trip.

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	£39,157	£44,093
Grants to support individual young people	£27,750	£6,343	£21,407

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		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
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