

**Report to County Councillor Jean Parr**

**Report submitted by: Head of Service Legal, Governance and Registrars**

**Electoral Division affected:**  
Skerton;

**Local Member Grants Scheme Application from:**

St John's Hospice, Lancaster

Contact for further information:

Local Member Grants, Tel: (01772) 530078, Legal and Democratic Services,  
[LPTLocalMemberGrants@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:LPTLocalMemberGrants@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Brief Summary**

This report presents an application from a local organisation requesting £200 towards the cost of the purchase of essential items for the in-patient unit 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 Jean Parr's total budget is set out in the financial section of the report.

Details of the requests for grant funding are shown below:



<b>Full name of your organisation</b>	
St John's Hospice, Lancaster	
<b>How much are you applying for? Minimum £100, Maximum £2000</b>	
£200	
<b>Which county councillors' electoral division(s) will your expenditure cover or benefit?</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Skerton (Cllr Parr)	£200
<b>What are you going to spend the grant on?</b>	
<p>This year St John's Hospice is seeking funding of £2000 to support the purchase of essential items for our in-patient unit and to uphold the wellbeing of patients from across our local communities.</p> <p>Items that we would purchase with the grant include:</p> <p>Quilts and pillows  Quilt covers, pillowcases and sheets  Fleece blankets  Towels and flannels  Nightwear  Laundry bags</p> <p>These basic items are so important in ensuring that patients, while they stay with us, are offered maximum comfort and dignity during their final weeks and days.</p> <p>We aspire for the hospice to be a place of peace and to feel homely, reducing the clinical feel as much as possible and providing a calm and caring environment.</p> <p>Our bedding needs to meet our health and safety and infection control policies, for example being fire retardant and in the case of duvets and pillows, wipeable.</p> <p>Regular, intense laundering makes stock replenishment an ongoing expense. Supporting this year's cost would be of enormous benefit to St John's Hospice.</p> <p>In addition to bedding and towels, we carry a stock of nightwear to make sure that if patients require additional ones, and family are not able to supply them, we ensure the dignity of our patients by having appropriate items in stock in a variety of sizes.</p>	
<b>Date of your project / event or the purchase of goods</b>	



The hospice will purchase the items as soon as we have secured funding, this will be during the 2024-25 financial year.

**How will the money benefit people in the councillor(s) division(s)?**

This grant and the purchase of these essential items will bring benefit to our patients and their families from across the councillors' divisions, ensuring we maintain our patients' comfort and dignity as they approach the end of their life.

St John's Hospice provides palliative care and support to adults with life-limiting conditions from across North Lancashire. In 2023-24 we supported 1076 patients with 85% of the hospice's service provision being in the Members' divisions.

Our services in these areas included our In-patient Unit, Hospice at Home, Clinical Nurse Specialists, complementary therapies, home respite, night sits, social work and bereavement support.

Our In-Patient Unit is a 13 bedded unit. In 2023-24 it was used by 209 patients with the average length of stay being 16 nights.

The money granted to the hospice will support the costs of purchasing specialist supplies which in turn will help our local community patients to be more comfortable as they approach the end of their life. It will help ensure that the hospice can provide the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

St John's Hospice receives just 25% of its funding from statutory sources and relies on support from individual supporters, grants and community fundraising to keep our doors open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

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

St John's Hospice needs to replace essential items on our in-patient unit - quilts and pillows, bedding (quilt covers, sheets & pillowcases), fleece blankets, towels, flannels, pyjamas & nighties at a total cost of £2965.30.

We are asking if the Councillor would kindly donate £200 towards this overall total.

**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 plan to apply to the following organisations in addition to the Local Members Grants Scheme to support the ongoing costs of these essential items – Hospital Saturday Fund and the Albert Hunt Trust.



**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?**

If a councillor offers a grant of less than we have asked for we will seek funding elsewhere as the funding request is for items essential to the comfort and care of our patients which supports the palliative care that the hospice provides to people from across North Lancashire.

**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
<b>Total Grant Available in 2024/25</b>		<b>£2,000.00</b>
Grant Allocations Already Approved		
		£0.00
<b>Grant Remaining to be Allocated in 2024/25</b>		<b>£2,000.00</b>
Grants Requests Submitted but not yet Approved or Rejected	The Bay International Film Festival	£200.00
	Citizens Advice North Lancashire	£200.00
		£400.00
NEW REQUESTS		
		£0.00



<b>Total Grant Requests in Progress</b>	£400.00
<b>Value of Grant Remaining to be allocated in 2024/25 if all outstanding requests are approved</b>	£1,600.00

### List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
None		

