

Report to County Councillor John Shedwick
Report Submitted by: Head of Democratic Services

Local Member Grants Scheme Application from:
Thornton Cleveleys Operatic Society

	Corporate communities;	Priorities:	Stronger
Electoral Division(s): Thornton & Hambleton;			
Contact: Local Member Grants, Democratic Services, Tel: (01772) 530078, LPTLocalMemberGrants@lancashire.gov.uk			

Summary

Purpose of the Report

This report presents an application from a local organisation requesting £500 towards a new boiler from the Local Member Grants Scheme.

Recommendation

County Councillor John Shedwick is asked to consider the request for grant funding as set out in the report.

Background

1. 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.
2. 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 John Shedwick total budget is set out in the financial section of the report.
3. Details of the requests for grant funding are shown below:

Full name of your organisation



Thornton Cleveleys Operatic Society

How much are you applying for? Minimum £100, Maximum £2000

£500

Which county councillors' electoral division(s) will your expenditure cover or benefit?

Name	Amount
Thornton & Hambleton (Cllr Shedwick)	£500

What are you going to spend the grant on?

A new boiler.

Date of your project / event or the purchase of goods

As soon as funds are available.

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

The society own their own rehearsal hall which is used for its own purpose 2 -3 times a week. In addition, it is used by other community groups in the area, specifically supporting young people in the area who attend different performing arts groups who hire the hall.

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

The amount of £500 will be used to offset some of the cost to purchase and fit a new boiler.

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.

Any additional costs will be made up from society funds.

If the application for a grant is unsuccessful, fund raising activities will be required to recoup the cost outlaid to replace the boiler asap to ensure the hall can continue to be utilised safely by our members and hirers.



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 the grant offers less, the same would apply and existing funds would be used and fund raising activities would need to be undertaken to recoup the cost.

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

- Yes
 No

Options and Proposals

4. There are three options available:
5. **Option One:** Approve the application in full for the amount requested.
6. **Option Two:** Approve the application in part for a reduced amount.
7. **Option Three:** Reject the application.

Consultations

8. This report has been written in consultation with Thornton Cleveleys Operatic Society and using the information provided in their application.

Context and Implications

Legal (including Human Rights)

9. In submitting their application, the organisation has signed the Local Member Grants Scheme Funding Agreement which sets out the terms and conditions of the grant. Those conditions include a requirement that any funding awarded to them will be used solely for the purposes set out in their application and this report.

Financial

10. An updated summary of spend in 2024/25 is shown below:

Budget for 2024/25		£2,000.00
C/F from 2023/24		£2.72
Refunds		£0.00
Total Grant Available in 2024/25		£2,002.72



Grant Allocations Already Approved	Thornton-Cleveleys Gala Committee	£491.75
	Wyre District Scout Council	£175.00
	Trinitas Day Choir	£200.00
	Neurokin Family	£210.00
	Amber Bee CIC	£250.00
		£1,326.75
Grant Remaining to be Allocated in 2024/25		£675.97
Grants Requests Submitted but not yet Approved or Rejected		
		£0.00
NEW REQUESTS	Thornton Cleveleys Operatic Society	£500.00
		£500.00
Total Grant Requests in Progress		£500.00
Value of Grant Remaining to be allocated in 2024/25 if all outstanding requests are approved		£175.97

Equality and Diversity

11. The Local Member Grants Scheme enables each county councillor to enhance the economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of people who live in their division. Applications for grant funding may relate to projects or activities that seek to benefit specific groups with protected characteristics.

Risk Management

12. No significant risks have been identified.

13. Following the receipt of grant funding, organisations are contacted for evidence to demonstrate that the money awarded has been spent in accordance with their application. The outcome of this monitoring activity is reported to the council's Audit, Risk and Governance Committee.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		



Part II Reason

14.N/A

