

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	21 January 2013
Title:	Culture and Community Activity Grants
Reference:	4580
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks approval from the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation for £118,010 of Culture and Community Activity grants to cultural, recreational and community organisations across Hampshire. £6,450 of the funding is for 2012/13 and £111,560 is for 2013/14.
- 1.2. The report also seeks approval for £41,100 of Culture and Recreation Investment Fund grants for 2013/14, as set out in Appendix 4.
- 1.3. It also seeks approval from the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation to award a grant to the Countryside Education Trust, the sum to be met from the Policy and Resources Grants budget.

2. Culture and Community Activity Grants

- 2.1. The Culture and Community Activity grant is one of five new grants streams set up in May 2012 following an extensive review of grants.
- 2.2. The purpose of this grant stream is to provide general support to groups and organisations which encourage and provide opportunities for individuals and communities to participate in community focussed, cultural and recreational activities. Full details, including what the County Council can and cannot fund, are set out in Appendix 1.

- 2.3. 44 organisations have applied for funding and the details are set out in Appendices 2 and 3 along with comments from the local County Councillor, where these have been received.

3. Applications from different organisations

- 3.1. In the past only arts/culturally based applications have been eligible for this type of funding. One of the aims of the new grants system was to change the criteria to enable a wider range of organisations to apply for a grant and this is what is now beginning to happen.

4. Application received from the Countryside Education Trust

- 4.1. An application for grant aid of £5,000 has been received by the Leader of the Council from the Countryside Education Trust in Beaulieu towards replacing their ageing minibus. In view of this organisation being within his Division, the Leader has deputed consideration of this item to the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation.
- 4.2. It is felt that this minibus will allow children and young people from Hampshire to access educational opportunities, which are successful and of high quality, they otherwise may not have.
- 4.3. In view of the above a grant of £5,000 to the Countryside Education Trust is recommended.

5. Other key issues

- 5.1. Legal Implications: The Council has wide powers under Section 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to provide recreational facilities and to contribute by way of a grant or loan towards the expenses incurred by voluntary bodies in providing such facilities and activities.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1. That the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation approves the Culture and Community Activity Grants of £6,450 for 2012/13 and £111,560 for 2013/14.
- 6.2. That the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation approves the Culture and Recreation Investment Fund grants of £41,100 for 2013/14.
- 6.3. That the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation approves a grant of £5,000 to the Countryside Education Trust towards its replacement minibus, the sum to be met from the Policy and Resources Grants budget.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Exec Member for Culture and Recreation		20 January 2012
Exec Member for Culture and Recreation		14 May 2012
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. A high level Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. It identified that the proposed changes to the grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality by creating a more open and transparent funding programme.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. Not applicable.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

Not applicable.

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

Not applicable.

Hampshire County Council Grant Guidance Notes for Culture and Community Activity Grants (Culture, Communities and Business Services - CCBS)

Purpose

The purpose of the Culture and Community Activity Grants is to provide general support to groups and organisations which encourage and provide opportunities for individuals and communities to participate in community-focused, cultural and recreational activities.

This programme funds projects and proposals which support the priorities and outcomes in Hampshire's 'Open for Business' Plan 2011-13 which are most relevant to CCBS. These are:

- Improved quality of life for all, particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged.
- Enhance community engagement and partnership working – strengthening and empowering communities.
- Enhance Hampshire's environment and promote sustainability.

Grant Eligibility Criteria and Who Can Apply

We will fund organisations and services who fulfil the following criteria:

- The services, projects or activities of the organisation support the priorities detailed above.
- The organisation has a clear management structure within its constitution or suitable governance/terms of reference.
- The organisation must be able to demonstrate that without the support from Hampshire County Council the activity/event would not be able to proceed at all or to the extent outlined in the application.
- Organisations with significant funds in place or higher levels of reserves must demonstrate why funding from Hampshire County Council is needed.
- The organisation must have actively sought funding from other sources, including district, borough, town or parish council funding. Priority will be given to applications which have partner funding in place from other sources.

All successful applicants will be required to provide appropriate reporting and/or monitoring for their service, projects and/or activities.

Funding criteria

Culture and Community Activity Grants will fund up to a maximum of £5,000.

We can match fund business sponsorship up to £500. The sponsorship you are receiving must be monetary, we can not match fund any in kind sponsorship, e.g. free/subsidised marketing. Match funding must be a minimum of £200 per business and businesses must be first time sponsors. Maximum of one application per organisation per year.

Financial Eligibility

Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold unallocated reserves in excess of one year's running costs. In cases where reserves held exceed this level a reduced level of funding may be agreed. All charitable organisations are expected to have an agreed reserves policy that addresses their financial risk.

What do we fund?

- Any high quality project that delivers measurable results against the objectives set out above.
- Countryside access and rights of way projects.
- Conservation projects to benefit the habitat or species particularly important to a site.
- Community, cultural or recreational projects, activities or events that provide opportunities for local people to become involved.
- Match funding for business sponsorship (please see Funding Criteria below)

What we can't fund

- Individuals
- Further or higher education fees, personal development or training fees for individuals
- Curriculum based activities
- Building based capital works
- Capital schemes – i.e. buying instruments, equipment or uniforms.
- Setting up an organisation
- General running costs of an organisation
- Profit making events/activities
- Services, projects or activities solely within the unitary authority areas of Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council
- Uniformed groups such as Scouts, Girl Guides etc

Please note we cannot retrospectively fund works or projects that have already been carried out. Grants are issued for works or projects to be carried out in the future.

When can I apply for a grant?

Culture and Community Activity Grants are available all year round.