

## **Hambleton District Council**

**Report To:** Cabinet

**Date:** 1 December 2020

**Subject:** **Making a Difference Grants**

**Portfolio Holder:** Leisure and Communities  
Councillor Mrs B S Fortune

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

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### **1.0 Purpose and Background**

- 1.1 Following the success of the Making a Difference Grants' programme over the last six years, whereby £125,000 was made available each year to assist community projects, it is proposed that £250,000 is allocated to finance the 2021/22 Making a Difference Grants programme in light of the exceptional difficulties experienced by our communities in 2020.
- 1.2 The Making a Difference grants will be awarded using the following approach:
- a) Elected members clustered into the 5 geographical sub-area panels will be allocated a £50,000 budget to award to grant applications from their area.
  - b) Grant applications will be assessed and prioritised against the criteria and timetable set out in Annex A.
  - c) Successful awards will invest in worthy local community projects which help improve the quality of life for residents of Hambleton and which support the work of the voluntary and community sector.
- 1.3 The five sub-area panel recommendations will be considered by Cabinet for approval.

### **2.0 Link to Council Priorities**

- 2.1 The fund will potentially link to all the Council priorities as every grant awarded will need to address at least one of the Council priorities.

### **3.0 Risk Assessment**

There are no unmanageable risks associated with this report.

### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Overall budget is limited to £250,000 and it is proposed that this comes from the One-Off Fund.

## **5.0 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There is a legal responsibility upon the council to ensure that this funding is only allocated to projects that can meet the terms and conditions of the grant scheme and to ensure that the funds are used for the purpose approved.

## **6.0 Equality/Diversity Issues**

- 6.1 This grant scheme will seek to help Hambleton District Council actively reduce inequalities in Hambleton by funding community projects and initiatives that will make a difference to people's lives.

## **7.0 Recommendation**

- 7.1 That Cabinet approves an allocation of £250,000 from the One-Off Fund to be used to fund a 2021/22 Making a Difference Grants programme, applying the criteria and timetable set out in Annex A.

Steven Lister  
Director of Leisure and Communities

**Background papers:** None

**Author ref:** LW

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## “MAKING A DIFFERENCE” GRANT PROGRAMME CRITERIA AND TIMETABLE

### Criteria

Elected Members meet as 5 geographical sub-area panels to assess applications using the following selection criteria:

- The applicant is a not-for-profit organisation that is constituted with a bank account
- The project meets at least one of the council priorities
- There is clear evidence of need including community involvement
- The project will make a difference to people’s lives
- The project represents value for money with regards to the number of beneficiaries
- The grant requested is for no more than 75% of the scheme costs (capital or revenue) and that a minimum of 25% is secured as match funding in cash
- That the grant can be spent by 31 March 2022. Any exceptional variances to this will require the approval of the Director of Leisure and Communities in consultation with the Leisure Portfolio Holder.

The Council priorities are as follows:

- **Priority 1:** Driving economic vitality.
- **Priority 2:** Enhancing health and wellbeing.
- **Priority 3:** Caring for the environment.
- **Priority 4:** Providing a special place to live.

### Exclusions

The following groups are not eligible for funding:

- Individuals
- Businesses
- Statutory organisations (excluding Parish Councils)

### Grant value

The minimum grant award will be £2,000 and the maximum £25,000.

### Timetable

14 December 2020	The grants scheme is approved and launched
31 January 2021	Deadline for applications
w/c 1 March 2021	Member panel meetings
13 April 2021	Cabinet approval of grants
30 April 2021	Deadline for project delivery

Any exceptional variances to this will require the approval of the Director of Leisure and Communities in consultation with the Leisure Portfolio Holder.