

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
27 November 2012

Subject: GRANTS FOR COMMUNITIES

All Ward(s)
Leader of the Council: Councillor Huxtable

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval in principle to develop a scheme to encourage the development of empowered and engaged communities in line with the Big Society agenda, through the provision of grants to local communities in Hambleton. This will be facilitated through the provision of £100,000 through the One-Off Fund.
- 1.2 The Council is already working with the Northallerton & District Voluntary Sector to employ a development officer Nicky Smith to provide advice and support to communities who are looking to access funding to develop and deliver local projects.
- 1.3 The provision of grants for communities will compliment this initiative and provide opportunities for funding where options have become limited. Feedback from a funding fair held at beginning of October provided the council with evidence that the provision of grants for community projects would provide valuable support that will directly meet community needs.

2.0 DECISIONS SOUGHT:

- 2.1 To approve in principle the development of a grant scheme for communities and to commit £100,000 from the One-Off Fund.

3.0 LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES:

- 3.1 One of the Council's priorities is to encourage our residents to become more involved in making decisions and delivering services which impact on their local communities. Through the provision of a grant scheme we will help people to come together to take decisions, shape their area and improve their communities.

4.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

- 4.1 Risk in approving the recommendation:-

Risk	Implication	Prob*	Imp*	Total	Preventative action
Communities will not respond positively to the scheme.	The scheme has little or no impact on the local community	3	4	12	Manage the development of the scheme to identify risks early and conduct a strong awareness raising campaign amongst local communities in collaboration with other partners.

4.2 Risk in not approving the recommendation:-

Risk	Implication	Prob*	Imp*	Total	Preventative action
Communities are not empowered or engaged in local projects	Decline in the quality of life in the local area	3	4	12	Examine other opportunities for working with partners in supporting the development of local communities

Prob = Probability, Imp = Impact, Score range is Low = 1, High = 5

Overall the risk of agreeing with the recommendations outweighs the risks of not agreeing them and is considered acceptable.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Through the provision of direct support to communities, the Council is able to have a positive impact on quality of life within the district, which includes social, economic and environmental benefits.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND EFFICIENCIES:

6.1 A one-off payment from the Service Improvement Reserve will be required to enable the delivery of the scheme:

Revenue Effects	2012/13 £	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £
Cost of		50,000	50,000	0
Financed by:				
Service Improvement Reserve		50,000	50,000	0

7.0 SECTION 17 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998:

7.1 Supporting community engagement and empowerment and the delivery of local projects should have a positive impact on the reduction of crime and disorder within the district.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

8.1 The Cabinet support the principle of:

- (a) the development of the grants scheme; and
- (b) the commitment of £100,000 from the One-Off Fund.

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Background papers: None
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