

## RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

### **PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted for the Officer or Executive Member  
**[NO]**

Any conflict with any Member of the Panel and the bodies concerned **[YES – Cllr Ruth Brown. However, she declared her interest in relation to grant 1.1.8 and didn't vote.**

**The Executive Member and decision maker attended but did not vote on the recommendations]**

### **SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Legal and Community**

#### **1. DECISION TAKEN**

1.1 The approval of the allocation **Community Investment Fund** funding of:

1.1.1 **£17,500** to GROWING RESILIENCE IN TEENS towards hiring a fundraiser.

1.1.2 **£11,036** to ACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY towards a sports mapping project, on condition that a robust safeguarding policy is received.

1.1.3 **£9,500** to GREEN HEAT COOP towards a home energy and retrofit advice service, on condition that a robust safeguarding policy is received.

1.1.4 **£19,610** to CREATE COMMUNITY / GREEN CARE AT NORTON towards a volunteer manager and a facilities manager / grounds maintenance and expanding cut flower growing.

1.1.5 **£7,052** to HOME-START ROYSTON AND SOUTH CAMBS towards training 10 new home-visiting volunteers and home visit service.

1.1.6 **£16,600** to THE CREATIVE MENTAL HEALTH CHARITY POETS IN towards spreading the mental health provision they offer across all of North Herts.

1.1.7 **£12,500** to BALDOCK ALLOTMENT AND LEISURE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION towards redeveloping an unused plot of land to create 30 half plots, on condition that all relevant permissions are received.

1.1.8 **£6,200** to ROYSTON MUSEUM TRUST towards a freelance educational consultant to develop three two-hour sessions aimed at local pupils.

#### **2. DECISION TAKER**

2.1 Cllr Alistair Willoughby, Executive Member for Community and Partnerships, in consultation with the Service Director – Legal and Community.

#### **3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:**

**13 February 2024**

#### **4. REASON FOR DECISION**

4.1 The **District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel** held on 5 February 2024 considered funding applications from Growing Resilience in Teens, Active in the Community, Green Heat Coop, Create Community / Green Care at Norton, Home-start Royston and South Cambs, The Creative Mental Health Charity PoetsIn, Baldock Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association, and Royston Museum Trust, and recorded their recommendation to the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships for the formal commitment of Community Investment Fund monies via the delegated authority process.

#### **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 There are no other reasonable alternative options.

## **6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)**

- 6.1 Consultation has taken place with the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel members in a closed meeting on 5 February 2024. Members are in favour and recommend that the Community Investment Fund budget should be used for this purpose.

## **7. FORWARD PLAN**

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

## **8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 The grant applications were considered by the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel on 5 February 2024.

- 8.2 This delegated decision confirms that the recommendation made by the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel members was accepted by the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships, and Service Director on applications 1.1.1-1.1.8.

- 8.2.1 With regards to 1.1.2 and 1.1.3, funds to be released on condition of receipt of robust and adopted safeguarding policies.

- 8.2.2 With regard to 1.1.7, funds to be released on condition of receipt of permission from Hertfordshire County Council for access to their land for completion of works.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The Executive Member has delegated authority to make these Executive decisions under section 14.6.9(b)(ii)A 5 of the constitution, in consultation with the Service Director: Legal & Community. That decision will be subject to a five clear working day call-in period, following publication in the Members Information Service (MIS) and on the Council's website.

- 9.2 These grants have been assessed against the Subsidy Control Act 2022. Two of these grants (Green Heat Coop and Royston Museum Trust) relate to enabling the provision of goods and services that are also available commercially. As part of their grant submissions, both organisations have confirmed that it is likely that these grants can be awarded under Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) within the Subsidy Control Act. After this decision is taken, the organisations will be written to again to get formal confirmation that MFA can still be applied. Once this is received then the grant payment can be made.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1. The available Community Investment Fund budget is **£100,000**.
- 10.2. The eight grant applications total **£99,998**. If the grants are awarded as outlined in 1.1.1-1.1.8, the remaining balance will be **£2**.

## **11. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 Good Risk Management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to

respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered.

- 11.2 There are no relevant risk entries that have been recorded on Ideagen Risk, the Council's performance and risk system. Individual events should have their own risk assessments in place to mitigate any health and safety issues. Whenever a request for grant funding for equipment is received, the recipient of the funding will be advised to obtain insurance for the item to avoid a repeat request for funding in the event of the equipment being stolen or damaged. There are no pertinent risk implications for the Authority associated with any items within this report.

## **12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 12.2 Community Investment Fund monies are awarded to groups that clearly demonstrate positive impact on the community and wider environment. The projects outlined in this report seek to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

## **13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to the matters contained within this report, as there are no recommendations on procurement.

## **14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 14.1 There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report.

## **15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 15.1 The activities of the Community & Partnership team are covered by existing budgets.

## **16. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 16.1 Terms of Reference for the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel can be found on the Council's website <https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/council-constitution>.

- 16.2 [Community Investment Fund Policy and Criteria](#)

- 16.3 [Community Grants Policy, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023](#)

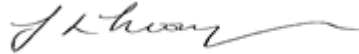
- 16.4 [Notes of the Panel meeting](#)

## **17. APPENDICES**

- 17.1 See website links above.

## **NOTIFICATION DATE**

**16.2.24**



Signature of Service Director Consulted .....

Date: 13.2.24

Signature of Executive Member for Community and Partnerships



Decision Taker .....

**Please Note:** that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.  
Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS