

Community Wellbeing and Housing



28 March 2023

Title	Verbal update deferred decisions relating to Annual Grant Awards 2023/24
Purpose of the report	To make a decision
Report Author	Kamal Mehmood, Strategic Lead Leisure and Community Development
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Exempt	No
Exemption Reason	N/A
Corporate Priority	Community
Recommendations	Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">agree the grants awards 2023/24 for decisions deferred by CWHC on 17 January 2023
Reason for Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Seeking agreement to award grants for 2023/2024 to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">enable several existing charities and voluntary organisations to continue to provide support, assistance, and other essential services for Borough residents.enable new organisations to begin to provide services that are needed.

1. Summary

- 1.1 On 17 January 2023 the Committee determined awards for grant funding applications for 2023/24 financial year. Decisions on five applications were deferred at the request of the Grant Funding Panel pending further information.
- 1.2 The committee asked for a verbal update at the meeting on 28 March to determine these bids.
- 1.3 In addition, a further application has come to light, in relation to Bagster Social Club that wasn't included in the original report. Details of the application are included in Appendix B.
- 1.4 However, given that the applicant is due to renew their lease with the council later in the year it was felt that it was premature to support their funding request to refurbish their kitchen until that matter of their lease has been resolved.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council has sought to maintain its funding again this year. The provisional budget is £249,250, of which £33,350 was carried forward from 2022/23.
- 2.2 In January grant funding totalling £210,919 was allocated leaving a balance of £38,331 available within year or to be carried forward into the subsequent financial year.
- 2.3 Appendix A sets out further information on the reasons for deferral and responses from organisations. A summary of recommendations is captured below. If approved the balance would reduce to £24,331.

Organisation	Amount requested	Recommendation
North Surrey Domestic Abuse Service	9,000	Support in part £6,000
Surrey Drug and Alcohol Care	3,000	Support £3,000
CREST Cancer Support CIO	20,000	Support in part £5,000
Staines Helping Hands	2,000	Refer to Ward Cllrs through Better Neighbourhood Grants
Sunbury Skiff and Punting Club	2,500	Reject on the basis that planning has not been granted.
Total	36,500	£14,000

3. Contact

- 3.1 The contact for queries relating to this report is Kamal Mehmood
K.Mehmood@spelthorne.gov.uk

Background papers: Annual Grant Awards 2023/24, 17 January 2023

**Appendices: A - Deferred Applications
 B - Bagster Social Club**

Appendix A



Organisation	Basis for deferral	New information	Amount requested (£)	Recommendation	Historic Award 2022/23
North Surrey Domestic Abuse Service	Pending clarification of outcome of other funding bids the organisation had declared in its funding application, as well as funding they receive from other LAs.	<p>Domestic Abuse is a major problem. The Family Centres and community groups often refer to DA as one of the major issues they are coming across, and it is understood that incidents of DA have increased with the cost of living crisis and pandemic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lloyds Bank Foundation application was unsuccessful. • Repeat funding multi-year request to Henry Smith Charity funding bid outcome pending. • 3 boroughs provide funding specifically for the Housing Independent Domestic Violence Advisor and Sanctuary projects. • They do not receive any other funding by specific borough currently. <p>This funding request is for the `Freedom Project`, `Power to Change` and a schools' workshop for young people affected by DA.</p>	9,000	Support in part £6,000	-
Surrey Drug and Alcohol Care	The organisation has gone from profit to deficit. The Panel didn't feel in a position to make a recommendation without a clear picture of what other drug and alcohol support is available locally.	<p>Surrey Public Health commented that they have had a long and positive experience of working with SDAC. There are high rates of alcohol and drug use in the Spelthorne area.</p> <p>Senior Public Health Leads commented</p>	3,000	Support £3,000	-

		<p>that SDAC are commissioned by SCC to provide a free confidential telephone helpline, which is predominantly manned by trained volunteers. They also fund them to provide a telephone/virtual counselling service for people affected by a drug-related death or non-fatal overdose. This consists of a series of structured counselling sessions with qualified counsellors, and a supervised virtual support group.</p> <p>SDAC also provide a highly successful telephone counselling service for harmful substance users and their families – This is funded through non-stat grants etc and this is the subject of this funding request. This is structured counselling with the aim of understanding why individuals are using substances and to promote recovery.</p>			
CREST Cancer Support CIO	<p>They have requested a significant uplift in funding which they attribute to late diagnosis of cancer cases as a result of the pandemic, however, the Panel suggested assurances should be sought before making any recommendation as the organisation has operated under a deficit for the past two years and funding awarded in previous years doesn't appear to be shown in their accounts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CREST confirmed that historic funding awards are included under fundraising income in the accounts. • They didn't receive any other funding other than that supplied by the council in 2021/22 and received for limited additional funding, £900 from Midas. • The majority of their clients 202 come from Spelthorne compared to 24 from Elmbridge and 49 in Runnymede, however, they do not receive any funding from either borough. • It is understood that SPAN and Social Prescribers are the main point of referrals from the council. The Social Prescribing Team said that they have not made any referrals in the last year 	20,000	<p>Support in part</p> <p>£5,000</p>	7,000

		and SPAN is delivered through Mole Valley			
Staines Helping Hands	This is a brand new organisation that has only been going a couple of months and not quite up and running yet. The Panel didn't feel in a position to make a recommendation of support until they are operational.	<p>The Community Development Manger commented: Whilst there are other 'good neighbours schemes' in the borough there is currently not one in Staines. It is understood that this has been a gap for many years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organisation has recruited 52 volunteers. However, they need support with a variety of start up costs including safeguarding training, DBS checks, insurance and marketing materials. • They have no other funding as yet. The volunteers have funded the phone bill and paper for advertising etc from their own pockets. 	2,000	Refer to Ward Cllrs through Better Neighbourhood Grants	-
Sunbury Skiff and Punting Club	The Panel deferred making any recommendation pending the outcome of the planning application, which at the time of consideration had yet to go to the Planning Committee. The Panel also requested information on membership and concessions to establish how accessible the club is to young people and to those from disadvantaged communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning permission has been rejected twice. • They are trying to work with SBC to resolve this as they need to store the wooden skiffs. • They are looking at options to increase junior membership, but this is dependent on having storage for boats and blades. • They currently have 4 junior members who are family members of adult members. • Open days are planned with Desborough Sailing Club to attract young rowers. • SSPC charge £50 for adults and £12 for children for annual membership, 	2,500	Reject on the basis that planning has not been granted.	500

		however, they now have to join Desborough Sailing Club which is £183 for adults and £25 for chid (child goes free if adult is a member).			
Total			36,500	14,000	
Balance remaining				24,331	

Appendix B

Name of Organisation	Purpose	Notes for Grants Panel	Grant Panel Comments	Grant requested	Recommendation
Bagster Social Club	Refurbishment of the kitchen as advised by Spelthorne Borough Council	<p>The organisation was awarded charity status in 1965. Bagster House is a council owned property on a 14 year lease to the club, which is due to expire at the end of August 2023.</p> <p>The council tenancy schedule notes that the applicant benefits from a subsidised rent valued at £2,500 per annum.</p> <p>The organisation has healthy sum in their accounts recorded as cash at bank noted in their accounts of 2021</p>	<p>Based on the fact that the organisation's lease is coming to an end this summer the Panel felt that the matter of their lease should be resolved before any grant is considered.</p> <p>The Panel were also mindful that funding was being sought to bring their kitchen facilities up to a suitable standard at the recommendation of the council.</p>	£15,000	Reject