

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND

Meeting date: 15 March 2023

From: Assistant Director – Customer and
Community Services

INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 *The report presents grant applications in excess of £5,000 for consideration and approval from the 2022-23 budget. Note that grant applications under £5,000 are also included for information and where funding has previously been awarded to the applying organisation which would take the full amount applied for over £5,000.*
- 1.2 *The report presents any proposals from the Environment Fund, regardless of the amount.*
- 1.3 *The report also presents the current budget position as of 22 February 2023.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 *The Copeland Local Committee has both executive and non-executive duties as set out in the County Council's constitution.*
- 2.2 *Copeland Local Committee is committed to the following priorities:*
 - *Improving outcomes for young people*
 - *Encourage individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive*
 - *Improved accessibility to services and opportunities*

2.3 The following Public Health priorities have also been adopted for 2022-23:

- **Healthy lifestyles and behaviours**
- **Mental wellbeing**
- **Impacts of covid-19**
- **Health inequalities**

2.4 Copeland Local Committee has one overarching key theme proposed by the Children and Young People's Partnership which is:

- **Improving outcomes for young people**

2.5 The work of the local committee contributes to the achievement of the Council Plan 2018-2022 vision which is to be

- **A Council that works with residents, businesses and communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources.**

2.6 The outcomes of this vision are:

- **People in Cumbria are healthy and safe**
- **Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving**
- **The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone**

2.7 There are no negative equality implications arising out of the recommendations of this report.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members note the contents of the report.

3.2 Members approve and ratify grant recommendations that exceed £5,000.

3.3 Members agree that an amount of £3,209 allocated to Hensingham Day Centre and Grassroots Garden Centre during financial year 2022/23 from the Environment Fund be decommitted and returned to the Environment Fund budget to be allocated to other schemes. This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £25,000 not being fully spent.

3.4 Members agree that an amount of £4,000 allocated to Cumbria Adult Learning during financial year 2018/19 from the 0-19 Universal Services

be decommitted and returned to the 0.19 Universal Services budget. This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £27,801 not being fully spent.

4.0 BACKGROUND

GRANT APPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This report sets out the detail of grant applications received, under the relevant budget headings, that exceed £5,000 for approval by local committee. In some cases, the proposed allocation is for less than £5,000 but has been included as these are additional grants which take the total to an organisation over £5,000.
- 4.2 The Copeland Grants Panels, held in January and February, considered a number of applications. Members are asked to note allocations previously agreed and ratify those that exceed £5,000.
- 4.3 Appendix 1 details the grants awarded throughout 2022-23.
- 4.4 For information, the current financial statement as of 22 February is attached for reference at Appendix 2.

GENERAL PROVISION

- 4.5 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,774 from General Provision (£1,334 from the ring-fenced Social Prescribing Enabling Fund with the remaining £1,440 from General Provision) to Age UK for the Muncaster Shed Project for the purchase of tools and equipment to enable Social Prescribing activities at the venue.

The project meets the following priorities: -

- Improving accessibility to services and opportunities
- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive

- 4.6 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,850 from General Provision (£2,850 from the ring-fenced Social Prescribing Enabling Fund) to West Cumbria River's Trust Walkmill Green Gym to enable volunteers to work on site in the outdoors with both physical and mental health benefits as part of a Social Prescribing project.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.7 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £3,366 from General Provision (£3,366 from the ring-fenced Social Prescribing Enabling Fund) for Phoenix Art Group to enable the group to attract new members from a diverse range of backgrounds and encouraging engagement through free taster sessions and heavily subsidised membership fees.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.8 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £357 from General Provision to Copeland Primary Care Network for Copeland Stroke Prevention Group. The group wish to purchase a portable printer and consumables to take to community events where they can print off screening results to give to members of the public.

The project meets the following priorities:

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.9 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,000 from General Provision to Active Cumbria to purchase Activate Bags to facilitate physical activity at venues in Copeland such as the Warm Spot venues.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.10 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £1,968 from General Provision to Together We to develop a Cognitive Behaviour Therapy programme to help people manage physical conditions such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.11 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £10,000 to Egremont Area Regeneration Partnership (Florence Arts Centre) to purchase energy

efficient infra-red heaters to enable greater usage of the building and to heat the space more efficiently.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

0-19 UNIVERSAL SERVICES

4.12 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £3,911 to Shackles Off Youth Project from 0-19 Universal Services towards the purchase of laptops headphones and laptop bags to assist young people as part of a Reconnect Project supporting those applying for training, college or employment.

The project meets the following priorities: -

- Improving outcomes for young people.

4.13 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of up to £3,914 to South Whitehaven Youth Partnership from the 0-19 Universal Services budget to support a new pilot 'healthy eating and cooking' project to be delivered in Woodhouse to two Youth Clubs.

The project meets the following priorities: -

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.14 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,937 from 0–19 Universal Services to Overend Childrens Home to purchase a range of entertainment, sport and fitness equipment.

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.15 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,928 from 0–19 Universal Services to North Allerdale Development Trust to create and run a pilot scheme for young people aged between 8-16 who have been misplaced from their own country due to conflict,

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.16 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,000 to Lowca Parish Council from 0-19 Universal Services budget to replace outdated play equipment at East Road play area.

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.17 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,000 to Phoenix Youth Project from 0-19 Universal Services budget to purchase new laptops.

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

COST OF LIVING BUDGET

4.18 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £1,000 from Cost of Living Community Support to Howgill Family Centre on behalf of Baby Basics to purchase vouchers to support families in need.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

4.19 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,500 from Cost of Living Community Support to Howgill Family Centre to purchase vouchers which can be issued to families to support those in need during the cost of living crisis.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

COMMUNITY WASTE PREVENTION

4.20 At Grants Panel Members recommended a grant of £705 from the Community Waste Management to Millom Network Centre towards the purchase of composting equipment to facilitate a community composting project and allow sustainability of the community growing spaces.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

ENVIRONMENT FUND

4.21 A budget of £200,000 was agreed at full Council on 10 February 2022 to be distributed for schemes which fit within the scope set out below:

- enhanced verge maintenance
- tree maintenance / replacement
- footpath maintenance
- nature recovery
- biodiversity improvements
- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

4.22 Working with the Community Development Team, projects proposed by Members have been developed with the relevant partners and organisations. The following projects have been agreed informally with Members and now requires formal ratification of Local Committee.

- £9,000 to West Cumbria Rivers Trust, Longlands for interactive interpretation and tree management on site at Longlands Cleator.
- £9,870 to West Cumbria Rivers Trust, Walkmill for conservation management and wildlife habitats including setting up plant nursery planting and tree management at Walkmill Community Woodland Moresby.
- £9,054 to Millom Town Council for Sensory Garden planting and benches in Millom Park.
- Up to £1,959 for memorial benches in towns in Copeland to mark the Cumbria County Council Copeland Local Committee.

GRANT AMENDMENTS - ENVIRONMENT FUND

4.23 In 2022/2023 financial year Copeland Local Committee 22 November 2022 listed at paragraph 4.12 recommended a grant of up to £25,000 to the County Council's Hensingham Day Centre and Grassroots Garden Centre for pathway and access improvement.

4.24 Members are advised the full allocation has not been spent and the underspend of £3,209 be decommitted and be returned the Environment Fund budget to be allocated towards other schemes.

GRANT AMENDMENTS - 0-19 UNIVERSAL SERVICES

4.25 In 2018/19 financial year Copeland Local Committee recommended a grant allocation of £27,801 to Cumbria Adult Learning from 0-19 Universal Services for the Young People into Employment scheme.

4.26 Members are advised the full allocation has not been spent and the underspend of £4,000 will be decommitted and returned to the 0-19 Universal Services Fund to be allocated towards other schemes.

5.0 OPTIONS

5.1 In respect of the recommendations 3.2 to 3.4, Members have the option to:

- Agree the recommendations or not

As this is the last meeting of Copeland Local Committee, it will not be possible to defer the decision to a later meeting. Any decisions of £5,000 or less can still be made by the Chair in consultation with the Area Manager before 27 March 2023.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 All grants detailed in the report have been included in the financial statement at Appendix 2, as they have either been to the Grants Panel or are below the £5000 threshold for Local Committee approval, so should Members choose to approve them, the funds available to spend will remain as on the financial statement. (TC 27/02/2023)

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Members have decision making power under the Constitution to agree and ratify grant recommendations that exceed £5000. During the financial year 2022/3 a grant allocation of £25000 was allocated to Hensingham Day Centre and Grassroots Garden Centre. By inference Members have power to agree that an amount of £3,209 so allocated be decommitted and returned to the Environment Fund budget to be allocated to other schemes (Recommendation 3.3). This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £25,000 not being fully spent.

7.2 Members have decision making power under the Constitution to agree and ratify grant recommendations that exceed £5000. During the financial year 2018/19 a grant allocation of £27801 was allocated to Cumbria Adult Learning. By inference Members have power to agree that an amount of £4000 so allocated be decommitted and returned to the 0.19 Universal Services budget (Recommendation 3.4). This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £27,801 not being fully spent.

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report presents the current budget allocated to local committee for 2022-23 as at 22 February 2023 together with the grant applications received that are over the threshold requiring local committee approval.

Simon Higgins
Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services

March 2023

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Grant Summary

Appendix 2 - Local Committee Budget 2022-23

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision

Yes*	
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Key Decision

	No*
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

		N/A*
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Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

	No*
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If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

		N/A*
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?

	No*
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If so, give details below.

Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A*
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A*
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N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

[including Local Committees]

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

REPORT AUTHOR

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