

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE OLYMPIC LEGACY FUND GAME CHANGER AWARDS

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of the applications received for the 'Game Changer' strand of the Nottinghamshire Olympic Legacy Fund.
2. To seek approval for award recommendations.

Information and Advice

3. At Policy Committee on 17 October 2012, approval was given to establish a £1 million grant fund to respond to the legacy challenge created by the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. A further £700,000 of funding is recommended to form part of the Council's 2013/14 budget proposals.
4. The scheme is designed to support local sports clubs to retain and grow membership and focuses on supporting them to buy much needed equipment and/or to support small/medium sized capital improvements to facilities. There are two strands to the overall scheme:

Kick Start - grants between £500 and £10,000

Game Changer - grants between £10,001 and £50,000

5. In both schemes sports clubs will need to be able to demonstrate how the funding will be used to support increased participation and/or improve the performance of club members. As well as providing direct financial support, the grants scheme will also support club efforts to lever in additional matched funding from other sources.
6. Application forms and guidance notes for prospective applicants have been established as has a useful frequently asked questions document to assist sports clubs in the process. To support bids for Game Changer funding a template business plan has also been made available to clubs.
7. The scheme has been widely promoted using local media sources and the County Council website. Officers in the Council's sports development team have also used their links to local clubs, including a sports club database, to promote the scheme.

8. The closing date for all applications was 31 December 2012. Overall, the Olympic Legacy Fund scheme has attracted **187 applications** comprising **126 Kick Start** and **61 Game Changer**. The applications have been assessed using the criteria set out in the application documents.

Game Changer Awards

9. The Game Changer category of the scheme sought bids between £10,001 and £50,000. The criteria used to judge the applications was more detailed than those for the Kick Start awards and included the requirement for clubs to present a business case for their proposal. Also, as stated in the application process, bids that were presented with matching funding were looked on favourably. As with all awards, successful clubs will be required to sign legally binding agreements with the authority and projects will be monitored to ensure financial compliance. Game Changer awards being recommended for approval are presented in **Appendix 1**.
10. There are 45 awards for approval totalling £1,088,480. Four bids are being recommended for the full £50,000 award with the remaining bids recommended to receive between 25% and 75% of their funding request. 12 award applications have been deferred pending more information from the clubs and time required for further officers' analyses. Deferred applications will be considered at the Culture Committee meeting on 26 March 2013. Sufficient funding is available to progress these bids if they meet the criteria.
11. As some of the Game Changer proposals require planning permissions and the securing of matched funding, the awards are made 'in principle' to afford time for relevant conditions to be met. Funding offered by the County Council will not be released until the projects are agreed and in progress.

Other Options Considered

12. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

13. The applications recommended for approval meet the criteria set as part of the application process for Game Changer awards.

Statutory and Policy Implications

14. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

15. The cost of the Olympic Legacy Fund is to be met from the corporate contingency.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the recommended Game Changer awards, as listed in **Appendix 1**, be approved.
- 2) the recommendations be subject to an additional £700,000 of funding to support the applications being approved at County Council on 28 February 2013.

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Constitutional Comments (initials xx/02/13)

16.

Financial Comments (KLA 22/02/13)

17. The financial implications of the report are set out in paragraph 15 above and Appendix 1 attached.

Background Papers

£1 Million Olympic and Paralympic Legacy Fund – report to Policy Committee, 17 October 2012
Kick Start and Game Changer Application Forms
Kick Start and Game Changer Criteria
Kick Start and Game Changer Frequently Asked Questions Sheet
Eligible sports listing

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0137

