

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES**LOCAL COMMUNITIES FUND SMALL REVENUE RECOMMENDATION****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of the report is to seek approval to the award of Revenue Funding – Small Grants under £5,000 that supports the delivery of the Council Plan through meeting the Local Communities Fund (LCF) 2022 – 26 criteria.

Information

2. Since March 2022 Communities Committee, 6 Small Revenue applications have been received and assessed against the criteria of the fund. 5 of which have been approved by the Cabinet Member for Communities.
3. At its September 2021 meeting, Communities Committee approved a new approach to encouraging applications for revenue small grants funding on a rolling basis.
4. For revenue small grants, applications are invited from organisations to help fund activities that address identified needs, encourage innovation to strengthen communities and supports vulnerable residents, the programme aims to encourage local networks where people help themselves and each other to be resilient, neighbourly, healthier, and safe.
5. LCF small revenue applications are invited throughout the year on a rolling basis. 5 have been recently approved by the Cabinet Member for Communities.
6. The final recommended application is a Small Revenue Application for £5,000 by Inspire, a Community Benefit Society to support the delivery of the Newark Book Festival. The festival showcases literature in a range of arts and heritage buildings in Newark & Sherwood. The artistic programme includes family learning, education, authors, community, and outreach events. The funding will contribute towards venue hire, technical support and supporting volunteers. The application is supported by Councillor Keith Girling.
7. This application is being brought to the Leader for consideration as the Cabinet Member for Communities sits on the Board of Directors of Inspire and has therefore declared an interest.
8. Applications for LCF awards should demonstrate how they contribute to achieving the Council's ambitions for helping our people to live healthier and more independent lives; supporting communities and families; keeping children, vulnerable adults, and

communities safe; protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint which creates empowered and self-sufficient local communities and in turn supports the voluntary and community sector to grow and thrive.

9. The key funding principles of LCF, agreed by Communities Committee are:

- Member led – Members take the lead for decision making on design of the scheme, and approval of awards.
- Takes a corporate and coordinated approach – decisions are aligned to the Council's ambitions, priorities and outcomes sought.
- Recognises the role of the sector – values the enormous contribution made.
- Takes account of any Compact's in place that set out the nature of our relationship with VCS.
- Is proportionate at all stages – including a simple application process, simplified monitoring etc.
- Makes the best use of digital technologies.

Other Options Considered

10. Not to recommend this application for funding.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The application recommended for funding as outlined in **Paragraph 8** to this report meets the published criteria and priorities for the LCF 2022-26 and therefore this project contributes to the wider strategic priorities of the County Council. The recommended application has the support of a Nottinghamshire County Councillor.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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

13. If the application for **£5,000** from Inspire is approved then **£30,440** will remain to be allocated for minor revenue LCF grants for the remainder of the 2022/23 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Leader:

- 1) Approves the **£5,000** application for revenue funding.

Derek Highton
Service Director, Place and Communities

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Mark Walker, Group Manager, Trading Standards and Communities, 0115 977 2173

Constitutional Comments (EKH 04/07/2022)

14. The Leader has the authority under L.9 to exercise the powers of a Cabinet Member, and therefore is able to consider the report and recommendation

Financial Comments [SES 05/07/2022]

15. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 13 of the report.

16. The report proposes approval of the award of £5,000 to be funded from the Local Communities Fund (LCF).

17. An amount of £30,440 will remain to be allocated for minor revenue LCF grants for the remainder of the 2022/23 financial year.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- Newark West