

20 April 2022**Agenda Item: 8**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES

LOCAL COMMUNITIES FUND (LCF) CAPITAL - RECOMMENDATIONS

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Members' 'approval in principle' to the award of funding that meet the Local Communities Fund (LCF) 2022 – 26 criteria for Capital funding.

Information

2. On 15 September 2021 the Communities Committee approved the development and launch of a discretionary funding programme which will contribute to the work and ambitions of the Authority to cover the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2026.
3. The LCF is a discretionary financial contribution awarded by Nottinghamshire County Council to contribute to and support the delivery of non-statutory activities and that help to achieve to achieve the Council's priorities as set out in the Council Plan 2021-2031.
4. Applications for LCF awards should demonstrate how they contribute to achieving the Council's ambitions for healthy and thriving communities; a greener future and a prosperous and growing economy which creates empowered and self-sufficient local communities and in turn supports the voluntary and community to grow and thrive.
5. The key funding principles of LCF, agreed by this 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.
6. Capital awards feature a two-stage process starting with an expression of interest submitted via the relevant County Councillor for endorsement. This is a rolling annual programme of applications, with a match funding requirement, and a maximum £20k award.

Capital Criteria

7. To be eligible to apply for LCF capital support assessment has considered that the programme is aimed at creating opportunities that support local communities and residents to be healthier, greener, and prosperous. Applications were invited which demonstrated that the investment would contribute to:
- Helping to address local priorities e.g., improving access to new or existing services, such as sports and leisure, protecting the environment, reducing loneliness, improving physical and mental health.
 - Improving local places and spaces that are important to communities.
 - Bringing people together and involve them in the design and implementation.
 - Encouraging the development of assets and projects that help to address climate and environmental change, or at least, to minimise any potential negative impact on the environment.

Applications to be Considered

8. At its March meeting Committee approved 12 Capital awards to the value of £133,048.
9. There has been a further 14 Capital applications totalling £169,395, if approved this would give a total committed spend of £302,443. The annual 2022/23 budget for Capital is £500,000.
10. **Appendix 1** provides a summary of the applications received and ready for consideration and approval by the Committee.

Other Options Considered

11. None

Reasons for Recommendation

12. The applications recommended for funding as listed in Appendix 1 to this report meet the published criteria and priorities for the LCF 2022-26 and therefore these projects contribute to the wider strategic priorities of the County Council. The recommended applications have the support of a Nottinghamshire County Councillor.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. 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

14. 14 applications have been received for capital funding. It is recommended that these are awarded as set out in **Appendix 1** to this report to the value of £169,395

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee

- 1) Approves 'in principle' £169,395 of applications for funding as recommended in **Appendix 1** to this report.

Derek Higton
Service Director, Place and Communities

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

Constitutional Comments (LW 22/03/2022)

15. Communities Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report.

Financial Comments (GB 17/03/2022)

16. It is proposed that the £0.169m capital allocations set out in this report will be funded from the £0.500m 2022/23 Local Communities Fund which is already approved in the Communities Committee capital programme.

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

- All .