

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES**APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS TO THE COVID PARTNERSHIP SOCIAL RECOVERY FUND AND THE COMMUNITY HUB FOOD PLAN FUND****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Committee approval for applications for funding over £5k from the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund or the Community Hub Food Plan Fund.
2. To update Committee for oversight purposes of applications for funding for £5k or less from the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery or the Community Hub Food Plan Fund.

Information**The Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery and the Community Hub Food Funds**

3. The Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee approved £800k to support the development of the Community Hub Food Plan from the Contain Management Fund in January 2021. The £1m Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund was approved by Communities Committee in June 2021.
4. At the September 2021 Communities Committee, Members approved the governance and distribution principles for both funds, including a £50k small projects element to both.
5. A 2 or 3 stage approval process dependant on application value was approved. Firstly, all applications would be channelled through the appropriate Needs Assessment group or the Food Insecurity Network for consideration and endorsement by those with appropriate operational expertise.
6. Stage 2 agreed was that the LRF Humanitarian Assistance Group (HAG) (whilst in operation), would play a key role in giving either partnership endorsement or approval (depending on value) to ensure a whole systems approach to applying the funding that built on the partnership collaboration established during the pandemic.
7. For applications over £5k endorsed by the HAG, stage 3 agreed was that they would be brought to this Committee for formal approval. Those under £5k approved by the HAG could be immediately actioned, but with full details reported to Committee for appropriate Member oversight.
8. At its November meeting, the Committee:

- Approved applications more than £5k for both the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund (£297,565) and the Community Hub Food Plan Fund (£136,190).
- Reviewed for oversight purposes applications £5k or under that had been given endorsement by the HAG, for both the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund (£8,050) and the Community Hub Food Plan Fund (£28,086).

Applications to Consider

9. **Appendix 1** to this report contains the details of applications over £5k that have been given endorsement by the HAG for both the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund (£610,182) and the Community Hub Food Fund (£282,817). This report seeks Committee approval of these applications.
10. **Appendix 2** to this report contains details of applications £5k or under that have been given endorsement by the HAG, for the Community Hub Food Plan Fund (£8,280). There were no applications in this period under £5,000 for the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund. This report invites the Committee to review these applications for oversight purposes.

Evaluation of the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund

11. The proposals already approved or recommended for approval in this report means that £916k of the original £1m budget for the Social Recovery Fund would have been applied.
12. Members will be aware that the approach used to identify need and suitable proposals for funding to address was a new one, and very much a partnership endeavour, built on the knowledge, understanding, and active engagement of partners.
13. Given that we are now approaching the end of the original funding, it is proposed that an evaluation of the awards is undertaken to assess its impact and to identify any gaps that may remain. If any gaps are identified, it is proposed that officers develop more work to address those gaps and bring proposals to a future Committee.

Other Options Considered

14. Not approving the applications over £5,000. Not undertaking an evaluation of the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund.

Reasons for Recommendations

15. The applications recommended for approval have been reviewed and endorsed by the relevant Needs Assessment Group or the Food Insecurity Network as meeting pandemic related needs presenting in our Communities. They have been further reviewed and endorsed by the broader Community Support partnership through the HAG to ensure a joined-up system approach.

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. 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

17. **Appendix 1** seeks the approval for £610,182 of applications from the £1m Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund. It further seeks approval of £282,817 of applications from the £800k Community Hub Food Fund.
18. **Appendix 2** details no applications under £5,000 approved by the HAG from the Social Recovery Fund and £8,280 from the Community Hub Food Fund
19. If all applications in **Appendix 1** are approved by Committee, added to those previously approved Committee and those approved in **Appendix 2** and previously approved by the partnership, the balance remaining in the Covid-19 Partnership Social Recovery Fund is £84,203 and in the Community Hub Food Fund £344,627.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 1) Approves those applications for funding recommended in Appendix 1;
- 2) Reviews and endorses those applications set out in Appendix 2 that have already received partnership approval; and
- 3) Approves officers to undertake an evaluation of the Covid-19 Social Recovery Fund and bring a paper with proposals to a future Committee meeting based on the findings of that work.

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Constitutional Comments (EP 30/11/2021)

20. The recommendations fall within the delegation to Communities Committee by virtue of its frame of reference.

Financial Comments [RWK 01/12/2021]

21. The financial implications are set out in paragraphs 17 to 19 of the report. The applications for funding detailed in the report will be funded from existing budget provisions.

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 .

APPENDIX 1

Recommended Projects for Approval – Social Recovery Fund (over £5,000)

Organisation	Project Summary	Amount Recommended	Location
Mansfield Palace Theatre	A 15-week social meeting project to support physical and mental wellbeing. Funding will enable the project to continue into the new year. It will pay for room hire, tutor and community transport costs.	£7,000	Mansfield
Eastwood People's Initiative	A community-led project to set up a mental health & community hub in Eastwood to bring the community together and empower it. This will pay for volunteer training and expenses, tools for their men in sheds project and heavy-duty outdoor equipment.	£5,755	Broxtowe
Create You Arts	An Arts on Prescription approach to support 20 Care/Adopted Children and families through mentoring. Providing a creative guide to support families to access therapeutic and attachment building activities, referrals will come from NCC social workers. This will pay for volunteer training, expenses, and co-ordination.	£12,100	Mansfield
The Sporting Memories Foundation	A 1-year project providing 3 clubs for residents who live with Dementia, depression, or reduced mobility. The clubs will provide opportunities for exercise, activities, and interaction to improve physical and mental wellbeing. This will pay for volunteer training expenses and community transport costs.	£21,350	Broxtowe
Bassetlaw Action Centre	A partnership application from Bassetlaw Action Centre, Aurora, and Bassetlaw Citizens Advice, seeking funding to employ 1.5 Volunteer Coordinators (0.5 each partner). The post(s) would recruit and support new volunteers to the partner organisations.	£59,154	Bassetlaw
Age UK Nottingham & Nottinghamshire	Funding will pay for a co-ordinator post to enable the One Step At A Time (OSAAT) South Notts project to continue for a further 12 months to build on essential work already in place.	£24,495	Broxtowe, Gedling
NIDAS Nottinghamshire Independent Domestic Abuse Service	To support the delivery of a specialist support service for children and young people (5-25) who have experienced/witnessed abuse within the	£59,962	Mansfield

	family home. This will pay for 2 FTE posts for 12 months to reduce a 25% increase in demand on the service as a result of Covid.		
YMCA Newark & Sherwood	To provide weekly sports sessions for 48 weeks for the Gypsy Romany families in Newark and Sherwood, who have been particularly affected as a result of the pandemic. This will pay for community development and outreach time to support these families.	£13,170	Newark & Sherwood
Nottinghamshire YMCA	To co-design a weekly resident-led activity programme for young homeless people in Mansfield. The activities are targeted at promoting a healthier lifestyle to improve physical and mental well-being. This will pay for an Engagement Coach, venue, kit, and facility hire.	£17,802	Mansfield
Nottingham Forest Community Trust	To deliver a 1-year tackling loneliness programme for around 100 older people and those socially isolated. It will enable them to safely take part in physical activity sessions, targeting their general health and fitness, it will include health walks and mobility exercises. This will pay for a project co-ordinator, venue, kit, and facility hire.	£14,900	Newark & Sherwood
Ten Fifty	To support the re-launch and delivery of "club-nights" for learning disabled and autistic people who have struggled over the past 18 months becoming, more marginalised, lonely, and fearful of social interaction. Helping users re-connect with their community and feel more confident to start socialising again. This will pay for an event planner, door staff and volunteer expenses.	£5,000	Mansfield
Ashfield Voluntary Action	A 12-month project supporting up to 2300 individuals who are frail or living with Dementia (and their carers) to access efficient and targeted support. Funding is for 3 part time posts: This will enable a well-co-ordinated approach ensuring those who need support can access it, leading to increased independence in the community.	£22,513	Ashfield
Hope Community Services	To fund a Digital Support worker - specifically working with homeless people in Bassetlaw.	£20,500	Bassetlaw
Social Action Hub	The project aims to provide a range of workshops, life skills and counselling to help rebuild confidence, self-worth and reconnect young people in their community. This will pay for volunteer training and expenses.	£8,100	Newark & Sherwood
Trent Bridge Community Trust	To deliver 5 x 90-minute sessions per week for 47 weeks focussed on improving physical and mental health of 3 distinct groups	£64,477	Rushcliffe

	(Men/Women/people living with Dementia including carers). This will pay for a mental health co-ordinator, sessional coaches, venue, and equipment hire.		
City Arts	A project engaging people 55+ who are isolated, lonely, and experiencing mental health issues by providing weekly social and creative sessions, outdoors in green spaces. This will pay for a project co-ordinator to engage with and target between 80-120 residents, offering weekly sessions over a 6-month period.	£8,060	Gedling
Active 4 Today Ltd	Providing a weekly private swim session where older people with additional needs can come with support workers/carers/family members to help them gain access to the pool and feel comfortable in the environment. The funding would cover pool hire over 2 years.	£8,840	Newark & Sherwood
Phoenix Farm Open Door Project	To appoint a Covid Recovery Income Support Worker for 12 months providing 25 hrs of support each week.	£7,279	Gedling
Lifespring Church & Centre	Building on the Food Support Programmes delivered by Lifespring funding is requested to launch and support a new Memory Café (Supporting those living with Dementia and carers) and an Autism Unlimited support group for families where there is autism. This will pay volunteer training and expenses, overheads for 2 venues and operating costs.	£19,300	Newark & Sherwood
From the Heart Charity	To create a community hub to deliver services to help the charity support struggling families with clothing, food parcels, furniture, sensory toys, activities, and health & fitness programmes. This will pay for a part time co-ordinator and admin support.	£15,218	Bassetlaw
Farmeco Community Care Farm	To deliver 3 projects (Nature Care, Create with Nature and Experience Days) supporting 300+ people over a 12-month period. Providing structured support to people with less complex mental health problems, social isolation and those experiencing financial difficulties. this will pay for a co-ordinator, admin support, mobility equipment and transport costs for those on low incomes.	£29,980	Newark & Sherwood/ Rushcliffe
The Centre Place	To provide a mental health and well-being worker, supporting young people aged 11-25. The aim of this service is to build resilience, enable the young people to build coping strategies and to equip them with the tools to manage their mental health.	£25,435	Bassetlaw

Netherfield Forum	To support with some of the costs associated with converting a former GP practice into a wide-ranging community hub providing a new Youth Centre, which will also house Scouts, Guides, Rainbows and Brownies and Autistic Youth Group, Disability Sports, Karate, Performing Arts, all supported by NCC Youth Services.	£49,910	Gedling
Fernwood Parish Council	To open and financially support 12 months of a Youth Club every Friday for Young People aged 10-16 in Fernwood. This will pay a Youth Worker, 2 Youth Support Workers, venue and equipment hire	£7,000	Newark & Sherwood
Alzheimer's Society	Dementia Friendly Communities and engagement. To employ a countywide Community Engagement Officer for 2 years – the post will aim to establish a "Dementia Friendly Nottinghamshire". The role will include auditing GP Practices, care homes etc and make recommendations for improvement.	£82,882	Countywide
	Total	£ 610,182	

Recommended Projects for Approval – Community Food Fund (over £5,000)

Organisation	Project Summary	Amount Recommended	Location
Bassetlaw CVS	Food Insecurity Coordinator post and establishment of a Bassetlaw wide Food and Sustainability Network (FAST)	£42,453	Bassetlaw
Cotgrave Community Garden	To support additional staff costs and wider development of the project which provides food distribution, social eating, and mental health support.	£26,200	Rushcliffe
Family Action	To deliver 45 social eating events across 5 venues in Mansfield District. Providing tuition, networking and health and well-being support. To contribute to staffing, food and running costs.	£20,713	Mansfield
Gedling Borough Council	Reconnecting through the Food Programme – A 12-month partnership programme aiming to engage with 1500 people. Building on existing networks and partners and developing new venues and organisations to using food and nutrition to combat loneliness and isolation. This will pay	£25,000	Gedling

	for project co-ordination costs, volunteer training, expenses, and food costs.		
Hope Community Services	Homeless hostel provider looking to establish a garden to work with residents to produce fresh food and improve health and well-being of residents. This will pay for a part time project gardener and gardening tools.	£12,584	Bassetlaw
Ladybrook Enterprises	Mansfield Community Share project offering a range of services with food and nutrition plays a significant part of their offer through Food Parcels and Social Eating. These services are used as a catalyst to support & engage people to address poverty, social isolation, low level mental health issues and loneliness. This will pay for 1FTE Project Worker and 1.5 Community Services Manager/Worker and management costs.	£42,488	Mansfield
Let's All Eat	Meet and Eat Project –Supporting people in receipt of food parcels to learn basic cooking skills. This will pay for staffing, food and venue hire costs.	£13,650	Ashfield
Mansfield CVS	To continue to deliver a food hub distribution centre for the next 12 months. This will contribute to staffing, food and venue hire costs.	£7,752	Mansfield
Muddy Fork	Muddy Fork Good Food Pantry are looking to expand growing capacity on site and increase the distribution of fresh fruit and veg through links with local families in need and partnerships with local organisations. This will pay for staffing and equipment costs.	£9,000	Bassetlaw
Newark & Sherwood District Council	Primary Schools Early Learning and Educational Growing Programme – this will provide a growing kit in partnership with Newark college for every Primary School in Newark & Sherwood.	£10,004	Newark & Sherwood
Ollerton Community Garden Project	Expansion of existing Community Garden and development of a series of social eating events. This will pay for food growing equipment and social eating costs.	£5,527	Newark & Sherwood
Rhubarb Farm	To meet the costs of developing a Crop to Drop project – extending existing fresh food provision to new neighbourhoods across Bassetlaw and Mansfield. This will contribute to staffing, the purchase of a chiller van, fuel, and vehicle maintenance.	£35,046	Bassetlaw/ Mansfield

SEWA DAY	Foodbank providing culturally specific food parcels for vulnerable families – funding will support storage and food costs. This will pay volunteer recruitment, training, expenses, food costs, transport costs and equipment.	£22,400	Rushcliffe/ Broxtowe
Venner Nutrition	Healthy Food Happy Communities project in partnership with Home Start – will work with families and pay for providing healthy plant-based food boxes, learning about new foods, how to shop affordably, how to cook in an easy way, how to eat a healthy diet that the family will love and discover new recipes.	£10,000	Countywide
	Total	£282,817	

APPENDIX 2

Previously Approved Projects – Community Food Fund (under £5,000)

Organisation	Project Summary	Amount Approved by the Partnership	Location
1 st Balderton Scout Group	Start-up costs to develop a community garden to grow food.	£1,500	Newark & Sherwood
Ashfield District Council	To supplement the Holiday Activity & Food provision in the 5 most deprived areas in Ashfield. By purchasing additional activity packs, 4-hour activity sessions and a hot meal for 200 children	£4,980	Ashfield
Ruddington Pantry	Start-up project aimed at providing access to surplus food in a low-cost community friendly environment and using volunteers in a community hub to support people experiencing loneliness and isolation	£1,800	Rushcliffe
	Total	£8,280	