

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

DECISION

Agenda Item No 9

meeting date: 29 MARCH 2011
title: VOLUNTARY GRANT APPLICATIONS 2011/12
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: TRUDY HOLDERNESS

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the allocation of voluntary sector grants as proposed by a sub-group of this committee, in accordance with the scheme approved in November 2006.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council has a number of grant schemes in operation including specific ones such as recreation grants, culture grants and sports grants to more general ones administered mainly by Policy and Finance Committee.
- 2.2 In November 2006 this committee approved a review of the way the Council administers general grants.
- 2.3 In accordance with the review a voluntary grant sub-group of this Committee was established to consider the applications received and recommend the allocation of funds to voluntary organisations.
- 2.4 In November 2010, current recipients and any other voluntary group who had indicated an interest in a voluntary grant were sent an application form, to be returned by 31 December 2010.
- 2.5 On 16 March 2011 Councillors M Ranson, R Sherras and A Knox met to consider the applications received. Councillor S Hore sent his apologies.

3 ISSUES

- 3.1 The Grant Pot available for 2011/12 is £94,340 which is a 3% increase on the previous years budget.
- 3.2 The Council received 14 applications totalling over £126,218. The sub group considered each application in detail.
- 3.3 After careful consideration of all grant applications received, the sub group recommends the allocation of grants as shown at annex 1, which are broadly affordable within the available budget.
- 3.4 Members of the sub group were keen to stress to applicants that whilst the council has been able to maintain the level of funding for 2011/12 the funding for the following financial year remains uncertain. They therefore requested that a draft letter be prepared for the successful applicants stressing the uncertain financial position for 2012/13. A draft of this letter is attached at annex 2 for approval by this Committee.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Approve the allocation of grants as proposed by the voluntary grant sub-group as set out in annex 1.
- 4.2 Approve the draft letter at annex 2

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

PF22-11/TH/AC
17 MARCH 2011

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION OF VOLUNTARY GRANTS

| | 2010/11 Grant Approved £ | 2011/12 Grant Requeste d £ | 2011/12 Grant Recommende d £ | Purpose of grant | Notes |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Goosnargh & Longridge Agricultural Society | 250 | 250 | 250 | To support the annual agricultural show | No application received – 2010/11 support used as an indication of funds required |
| Hodder Valley Agricultural & Horticultural Society | 250 | 250 | 250 | To support the annual agricultural show | |
| Chipping Agricultural Society | 250 | 250 | 250 | To support the annual agricultural show | Requested an increase if possible |
| Victim Support Lancashire Area Office | 1,500 | 3,000 | 1,500 | To support the provision of services in the Ribble Valley and also to maintain a local base, and to recruit and support local volunteers. | |
| Ribble Valley Shopmobility | 5,500 | 5,000 | 5,000 | To support the running costs of providing mobility scooters and mobility aids to Ribble Valley residents and visitors.. | |
| East Lancashire Women's Refuge Association | 6,400 | 10,000 | 7,000 | A contribution to the provision of services for children living at the refuge | Request to be sent regarding number of Ribble valley residents supported |

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE
ALLOCATION OF VOLUNTARY GRANTS

| | 2010/11 Grant Approved £ | 2011/12 Grant Requested £ | 2011/12 Grant Recommended £ | Purpose of grant | Notes |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Carers Link Hyndburn & Ribble Valley | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | To finance the costs of sustaining, managing and developing the support and services provided for adult and young carers residing in the Ribble Valley | |
| Home Start Ribble Valley | 3,160 | 3,160 | 3,160 | To support parents with at least one child under the age of 5, who are facing difficulties, enabling them to cope with the pressures they are facing and reduce the potential for family crisis and breakdown. | Year 3 of 3 Year agreement + request for extension for further year. Support recommended for one year only |
| Hyndburn & Ribble Valley CVS | 0 | 9,850 | 0 | To pay for a part-time development officer and give additional capacity for work with and support the VCFS in the Ribble Valley and enhance and support other areas of work. | |
| Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau | 57,000 | 71,838 | 60,000 | To cover core running costs of the organisation such as staff salaries, rent, general running costs, information subscriptions and volunteer expenses. | |

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE
ALLOCATION OF VOLUNTARY GRANTS

| | 2010/11 Grant Approved £ | 2011/12 Grant Requeste d £ | 2011/12 Grant Recommende d £ | Purpose of grant | Notes |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition | 750 | 1,000 | 750 | To support the cost of staging the competition in 2011 | Concerned that no other councils supporting, should be self financing |
| Ribble Valley - Crossroad Care | 13,500 | 13,500 | 13,500 | To assist the organisation with the high travel cost incurred because of the large rural area covered | |
| Whalley & District Historical & Archaeological Society | 0 | 500 | 0 | To ensure the survival of the organisation. | |
| Jobs Trials CIC | 0 | 4,620 | 0 | To support out-of-work adults become job ready | Company Nos 06977385 – Forward to regeneration section |
| Total Grants | 91,560 | 126,218 | 94,660 | | |
| Funds available | -91,560 | -94,310 | -94,310 | | |
| Shortfall | 0 | 31,908 | 350 | | |

ANNEX 2

Please ask for: Mrs T Holderness
Our ref: TH
Your ref:
Email: trudy. holderness@ribblevalley.gov.uk
Fax: 01200 414436

22 March 2011

Dear Applicant

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANT APPLICATION

On 16 March a sub group of members met to review the applications received for financial assistance from voluntary organisations.

The Council received 14 applications totalling over £126,218. Each application was considered in detail and after careful consideration the group made recommendations on the allocation of grants to the Policy and Finance committee. This committee met on 29 March 2011 and recommend that we offer you a grant of «grant» for the financial year 2011/2012.

Funds will be made available from 1st April 2011 and must be claimed in writing.

The council has maintained the level of funding available to voluntary organisations, with a 3% increase on 2010/11 funding of £94,310. However, the funding for 2012/13 is uncertain at the present time and so the council would like to highlight that this award of funding is for the financial year 2011/12 only.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate in contacting me Trudy Holderness on 01200 414436.

Yours Sincerely

TRUDY HOLDERNESS
Senior Accountant

«cred_name»
«addr1»
«addr2»
«addr3»
«addr4»
«addr5»
«pcode»