

CABINET MEMBER DECISION

(23 July 2021)

KEY DECISION: YES

FUNDING THE COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SECTOR

1. Decision:

1.1 That funding is awarded on a one plus one plus one year basis (subject to performance and funding availability) as below:

- MHA Communities - £120,000 for Enabling people in later life and shaping our community
- CASES – £64,980 for Equipping volunteers and organisations to increase advice and service provision
- Support Staffordshire – £82,000 for a Thriving Voluntary Sector across Lichfield District
- Transforming Communities -£24,800 for Places of Welcome (2 year funding applied for)
- Royal National institute for Deaf - £32,200 for Lichfield Hearing Health, Support, Information and Connectivity in the Community
- CRUSE - £20,100 for Cruse Bereavement Care
- Pathway - £17,600 for an Economic Abuse specialist, with an additional £12400 from new Burdens DA funding
- Phoenix Counselling Service - £18,120 for counselling service
- Spark - £34,875 for Grow and Thrive
- Friends 2 Friends - £19,700 for Friends combat susceptibility
- Lichfield Arts -£17,800 for Fuse, ongoing outreach and community engagement
- Liberty Jamboree - -£34,875 for Liberty on Board
- Staffordshire Care Farming - £1950 – to increase participation from Lichfield District in the Wellies Project

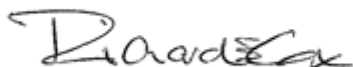
2. Statement of Reasons:

- 2.1 A commitment has been made to give funding of £200k to the Voluntary and Community Sector over a three year period from 2021 to 2024. This is broken down as:
- £23k per year for small grant funding (distributed through We Love Lichfield)
 - £28k contributed to the pilot Local Councillor Community Fund, Funding in Year 3 will be dependent on the outcome of the pilot review.
 - £489k committed to larger scale VCS funding. This includes some funding over two years and others 3 years
- 2.2 The 21-24 funding prospectus identified that the council wanted to fund projects/activities that will impact on the 5 strategic plan outcomes and set out the criteria against which applications would be assessed and the weighting which would be applied. The prospectus also incited new or innovative approaches and organisations working together with Lichfield District Council to combine skills and expertise.
- 2.3 A panel of officers met to score applications against the published criteria, with recommendations then made to the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement. Two applications were considered by member panel meetings where the funding applied for exceeded £40k.
- 2.4 Applications were ranked in accordance with the application criteria and funding allocated on that basis.
- 2.5 A review of the pilot Councillor Local Community Grant will take place in 2023 to identify the difference the funding has made. In the event that the funding has been oversubscribed further funding may need to be identified. In the event that not all the funding has been allocated there may be some further funding to allocate in Year 3.

3. Any Alternative Options:

- 3.1 Options considered could have awarded the full amount of funding according to the position ranking but that would have meant some valuable projects with a specific community focus could not be funded.

Signed:



Cabinet Member for Community Engagement

Date of Decision: 23 July 2021