



# ADUR DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Executive Member for Health & Wellbeing**  
**26 February 2018**

**Decision to be taken on or after**  
**6 March 2018**

**Key Decision: No**  
**Ward(s) Affected: All**

## **Adur Community Grants - Allocation of Funds for round two 2017/18**

### **Report by the Director for Communities**

#### **Executive Summary**

##### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This report requests the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing to consider the allocation of the 2017/18 Adur Community Grants budget. This is the second round for this financial year, the deadline was the 26th January 2018. There were eleven applications received, totalling £42,692. The standard of applications was high and many focused on delivering some key priorities for Adur.

##### **2. Recommendations**

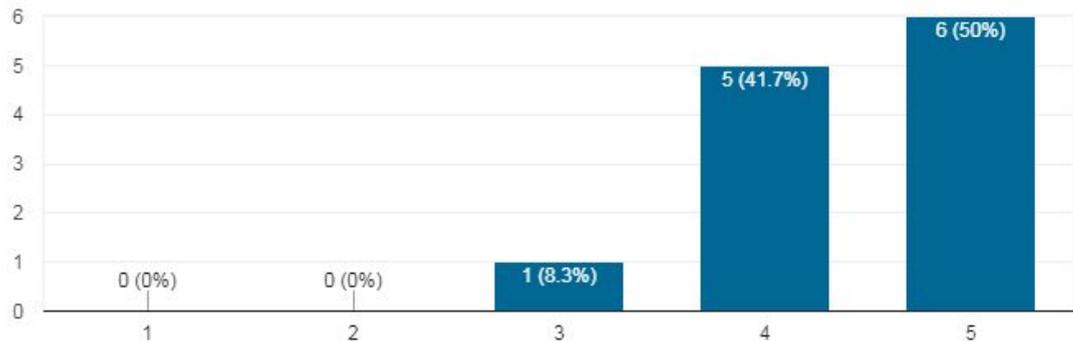
- 2.1. The Council Officer responsible for Adur Community Grants provides further information in this report recommending that seven of the eleven applications are funded in this round.

### 3. Context

- 3.1. There is no legal obligation for the Council to provide financial or other support to Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises (VCSE). The Council, however, provides financial assistance to VCSEs in two ways; through contracts to deliver specific services or projects, and through Adur Community Grants. Additionally, the Council offers discretionary rate relief and subsidised rents to groups.
- 3.2. Adur Community Grants have been in existence for over ten years and in this time have given in excess of £600,000 to 180 groups. In April 2017, the criteria for Adur Community Grants was reviewed to ensure that it met both the strategic priorities of the Council in '*Platforms for our Places*' and the departmental aims of the Communities and Wellbeing Team cited in the '*Intelligence & Evidence Framework*'.
- 3.3. The new criteria and form can be found [here](#).
- 3.4. There have been two rounds this financial year, the first in July 2017. At this round, there were ten applicants and four were funded. The feedback on the process from groups was positive.
- 3.5. A further ambition of the grants review was to connect the VCSE with Council Officers, [Community Works](#) (our local CVS), community or networking groups and any other relevant people; with the aim to strengthen the groups and to raise awareness of the project or service they provide. This has been happening since the last round in July. Indeed, it has also been good to hear anecdotally that Community Works have been supporting groups to apply for Adur Community Grants and this is evident in the standard of the applications for this round and that groups have carefully read the priorities for the area.
- 3.6. The new administrative process is still being tweaked but is working well. Before April 2017, applicants were asked to submit a word form and this was changed to a google form at this time. This has helped efficiency for Council Officers when the application forms come in. Feedback was taken on-board that google forms doesn't allow you to stop and start, therefore a word document was also provided so that groups could prepare then copy and paste if they needed to. One of the eleven groups commented that they didn't like the google application form for this reason. However, overall, the feedback of the grants process has been positive:

### How would you rate our grants process so far?

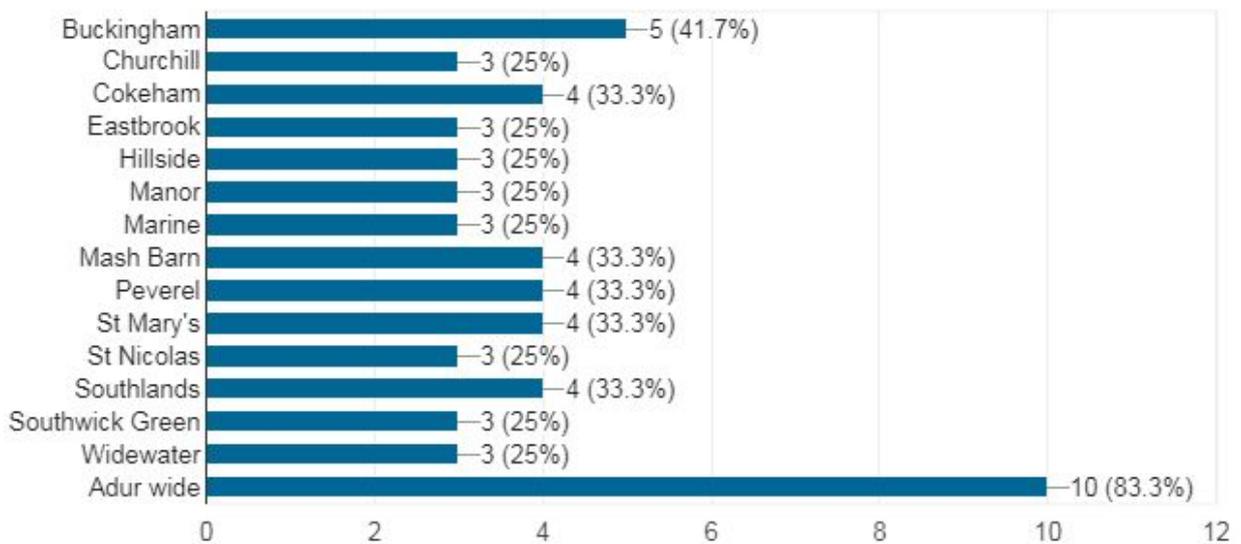
12 responses



- 3.7. Applicants were received from a variety of organisations, suggesting some great and innovative projects covering all Adur wards:

### In which Adur areas will the project be delivered? (please tick all that apply)

12 responses



#### **4. Issues for consideration**

- 4.1. Please refer to Appendix 1 for a summary of the eleven groups requesting funding and links to the organisations' websites.
- 4.2. The Communities and Third Sector Lead would hereby like to make the following recommendations to the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing:

##### **Application one - not fund**

Whilst the organisation naturally encourages healthier lifestyles for younger people, paying for equipment and a course will not explicitly reach the priorities stipulated in the grants. It is also felt that subs, sponsorship or crowdfunding may be a better way to finance this project.

##### **Application two - not fund**

SASBAH, without a doubt, provide much appreciated support to local people and their families associated with these conditions. Adur Community Grants were able to make a donation to these services in January 2017, and upon further review the group have been well-supported by grant-providers in West Sussex for over five years. SASBAH are members of Community Works and it's recommended that specialist support around sustainable fundraising is provided.

##### **Application three - fund**

Superstar Arts is a well-regarded charity in Worthing and the Council recognises that many of those involved will travel from Adur. The recommendation is to fund the project, on the proviso that the exhibition also takes place in Adur, perhaps at the Shoreham Centre and Council Officers will lend support to help achieve this.

##### **Application four - fund**

This project sounds innovative and is a gap in service provision in Adur. The recommendation is to fund and Council Officers to help link them up with other services working with this cohort, such as the Integrated Prevention and Early Help team. For note, Cllr Simmons sits on the Trustee Board.

### **Application five - not fund**

Cruse are a fantastic charity working tirelessly locally. Adur Community Grants were able to make a donation to these services in January 2017, and upon further review the group have been well-supported by West Sussex grant providers for over five years. Cruse are members of Community Works and it's recommended that specialist support around sustainable fundraising is provided.

### **Application six - fund**

Time to Talk deliver some great work and are becoming a regular referral path for other services including the Communities and Wellbeing Team. Funding this project will specifically hit the Council's priority of helping older people and those who are lonely or isolated. If possible, it would be good if the group could prioritise and focus support to help people in the Council's priority wards. Additionally, they can be connected to Adur and Worthing Councils' staff volunteering programme.

### **Application seven - defer to next round**

The Council had a contact with '[Disabled Go](#)' who delivered a similar service. The recommendation is to defer this application until the next round to check the status of this work and priority going forward.

### **Application eight - defer to next round, further clarification needed**

It is recommended that the organisation provide further details of who would run the project, their qualifications and experience to mechanically repair wheelchairs before consideration of the project. The recommendation is for the Council Officer and Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing to visit the charity.

### **Application nine - fund**

Sustainable Sussex has an excellent track-record in Worthing and it's exciting to see them bring this project now to Adur, which will have a positive impact on the immediate local community and local residents.

### **Application ten - fund**

The organisation clearly provide a lifeline to Adur's young carers and the grant would no doubt reach some additional young people who may otherwise have missed out on this great opportunity. Council Officers to also help link them up with other services working with this cohort, such as the Integrated Prevention and Early Help

team.

### **Application eleven - fund**

The group have made strong efforts to reduce all possible costs to project delivery by re-negotiating their storage with local businesses. Using a grant to help alleviate this cost appears a good use of money, so that all efforts and fundraising can be used helping residents that need it most.

## **5. Engagement and Communication**

- 5.1. The completed application forms were initially reviewed by the Communities and Third Sector Lead against the priorities and using local knowledge and experience. They were then shared with colleagues in the Communities and Wellbeing Team for feedback. In some instances, some advice was sought from Community Works, the Council's contracted Infrastructure Support Organisation. Additionally, there is a summary of grant funding that partners update, and this was referred to check for double-funding and to see what groups may have received in total over the last few years.
- 5.2. The engagement and communications with groups interested and applying for the grants has been open and transparent. All information is clear and kept up to date on the Councils' website and communication is maintained through the process with groups mainly via email but also by phone.
- 5.3. Adur Community Grants were advertised on the Councils' website, on social media, in local press, local networks, via elected Members and through Community Works and all their communication channels.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1. The total budget for Adur Community Grants at the start of the financial year was £51,141.00. There were four groups funded in round one, totalling £14,548.70. The total remaining for round two, is therefore £36,592.30.
- 6.2. If the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing agrees the recommended funding, this would total £23,990.00 and leave £12,602.30.

- 6.3. There were two projects (totalling £9,800) which were deferred from Round One to this Round pending further information or clarification, and should they wish to be funded, there is budget to allow this.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1. Section 173 Local Government Act 1972 provides that if Council is considering expenditure for which there is no other statutory power then a Local Authority may incur expenditure which in their opinion is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it or all or some of their inhabitants. The Council must ensure that the direct benefit accruing to its area or residents is commensurate with the expenditure incurred.
- 7.2. There is no legal obligation on the Council to provide financial or other assistance to the voluntary and community sector. However, the Council recognise the vital part played by voluntary groups in the life of the District. The Council does have the power to provide financial assistance to the sector under Section 1 Localism Act 2011 which provides that the Council have the power to do anything that individuals generally may do, providing no other legislation exists to prevent it.
- 7.3. Section 111 Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Council shall have power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.
- 7.4. A contract will be entered into by each successful group, with the Council, before any money is released.

### **Background Papers**

Platforms for our Places

Communities and Wellbeing Team's Evidence and Intelligence Framework

### **Officer Contact Details**

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## Sustainability & Risk Assessment

Sustainability has been considered and no issues identified. In terms of a risk assessment and ensuring groups are operating in a safe way, successful groups sign a contract before the money is released. This is the contract they return:

1. No other funding has already been obtained to deliver this specific project.
2. The grant will only be used for the project described on the application form and subject to the stipulated conditions. Any further changes must be agreed by Adur District Council (ADC) before proceeding.
3. The project will start within six months of receipt of the grant and any unused money will be returned to ADC.
4. We will comply with all laws regulating the way we operate, the activities we undertake, the staff we employ and the goods we buy.
5. We have a **Safeguarding Policy** and relevant **Insurance** to carry out the project and will send copies of these to ADC. We will ensure that staff and volunteers have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check if required.
6. We will act in a fair and open manner and without discrimination at all times.
7. We understand that the grant is made inclusive of VAT.
8. We accept that ADC may need to share information about the grant under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. ADC also has the right to publicise the grant and related project as they see fit. We will acknowledge ADC as a funder and use ADC's logo if appropriate.
9. ADC has the right to withdraw the grant at any time. For example, if the conditions or detail in the application form aren't met, if any law is broken in the delivery of the project and if the Council's name or reputation is brought into disrepute.
10. We will provide an evaluation within one month of the project end date.

### 1. Economic

Adur Community Grants have been re-aligned to the Council's priorities under Platforms for our Places and the Communities and Wellbeing Team's Intelligence and Evidence Framework, and plays a part in helping the area reach its economic potential by support the VCSEs.

### 2. Social Value

Funding these groups has a big social impact, often helping to reach the hardest or most vulnerable residents.

## **2.2 Equality Issues**

In the funding criteria, it is stipulated that no group will discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual orientation.

## **2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

Matter considered and no issues identified.

## **2.4 Human Rights Issues**

Matter considered and no issues identified.

## **3. Environmental**

Matter considered and no issues identified.

## **4. Governance**

Successfully funded organisations will be expected to self-govern but through the contract that must be signed before the funds are released, the Council protects itself by asking groups to have insurance, safeguarding policies and the ability to withdraw the grant if if any law is broken in the delivery of the project and if the Council's name or reputation is brought into disrepute.

## Appendix 1 - summary of groups requesting funding

**1. Application one - [Zodiac Allstars](#)**

£2,000 towards cheerleading equipment for 150 members.

**2. Application two - [SASBAH](#)**

£3,000 to fund the support services for those with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus which includes a social programme, buddy scheme, training and work experience centre and a local support group.

**3. Application three - [Superstar Arts](#)**

£530 to showcase and celebrate the work of the artists and musicians with learning disabilities, who are supported by this group.

**4. Application four - [Outset Youth Action](#)**

£5,000 to support disadvantaged youth people back into further education, training or employment through tailored support packages which includes volunteering and social action.

**5. Application five - [Cruse Bereavement Care](#)**

£3,702 to contribute to the running of its core bereavement support services helping bereaved people living in the Adur District.

**6. Application six - [Time to Talk Befriending](#)**

£5,000 to develop their befriending, advocacy and social prescribing work in Adur for those who are 65+ and are experiencing loneliness and social isolation. The project also encourages local residents to volunteer by being connected with an older people in their local neighbourhood.

**7. Application seven - [Adur Access and Mobility Group](#)**

£5,000 towards the review and upkeep of 'Access Adur', a local directory designed by and for the local community - particularly to help those with accessibility challenges.

**8. Application eight - [Adur Access and Mobility Group](#)**

£5,000 towards a Community Workshop to provide a large trailer at community events to help repair wheelchairs and offer advice on maintenance.

**9. Application nine - [Sustainable Sussex](#)**

£5,000 to relocate Sussex Chilli Farm (a social enterprise supporting those with learning difficulties, mental and physical challenges, the over 50s and those long-term unemployed) from Worthing Leisure Centre to Sompting (Peverel), Adur. The money will help with relocation costs and off-grid power systems.

**10. Application ten - [Carers Support](#)**

£3,460 to fund 20 places for young carers to attend a bespoke summer camp in July 2018.

**11. Application eleven - [Shoreham Foodbank](#)**

£5,000 towards the annual storage of food that has been donated which will go on to be made into emergency food parcels for Adur residents. This costs £850 per calendar month.