

Central and South Mid Sussex County Local Committee

Community Initiative Funding

12 March 2019

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Ref: CSMS11(18/19)

**Key Decision:
No**

Part I

**Electoral Divisions:
All in Central and
South Mid Sussex CLC
Area**

Recommendation

- i) That the Committee considers the pitches made to the Community Initiative Funding as set out in Appendix A and pledge funding accordingly.

Proposal

1. Background and Context

The Community Initiative Fund (CIF) is a County Local Committee (CLC) administered fund that provides assistance to local community projects. Bids should show evidence of supporting one or more of The Five Ways to Wellbeing - a set of evidence-based actions which promote people's wellbeing. They are: Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning and Give.

The terms and conditions, eligibility criteria and overall aim of the CIF have been agreed by all CLC Chairmen and they, along with details of the Five Ways of Wellbeing, can be found on the County Local Committee pages of the West Sussex County Council website using the following link

http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/your_council/meetings_and_decision-making/county_local_committees/community_initiative_funding.aspx

For projects to be considered for funding they must upload their project idea to the West Sussex Crowd (www.westsussexcrowd.org.uk) funding platform and pitch to the Community Initiative fund.

2. Proposal

That the Committee considers the pitches to the Community Initiative Funding as set out in Appendix A.

Pledges will be considered in the preparation and fundraising stage. When considering pitches in the preparation stage, decisions are subject to the applicant receiving full verification from locality and starting fundraising by the end of the financial year.

3. Resources

For the 2018/19 financial year, Central and South Mid Sussex CLC had a total of £40,112.92 for allocation, of this £27,112.92 is still available for allocation. Details of awards made in the current program and previous financial year are included in Appendix B.

There are seven new pitches for consideration by the Committee.

One pitch is in fundraising stage with a total project cost of £9,152.00.
One pitch is in fundraising stage with a total project cost of £8,510.00.
One pitch is in fundraising stage with a total project cost of £101,300.00.
One pitch is in fundraising stage with a total project cost of £4,012.00.
One pitch is in fundraising stage with a total project cost of £2,505.00.
One pitch is in fundraising stage with a total project cost of £3,093.00.
One pitch is in fundraising stage with a total project cost of £5,533.00.

These are outlined in Appendix A and can also be viewed at:
www.westsussexcrowd.org.uk

CIF is intended for applications up to £5,000.

Factors taken into account

4. Consultation

Before a project can be added to the West Sussex Crowd it must be eligible for the [Spacehive](#) platform, and then before beginning crowd funding must be verified by [Locality](#). This involves inspecting the project to make sure it's viable and legitimate. The Democratic Services Officer, in consultation with the local County Councillor, will preview all projects that have then gone on to pitch to the Community Initiative Fund to ensure they meet the criteria.

District and Borough Council colleagues are consulted on whether applicants have applied to any funds they administer. In addition, some CLCs have CIF Sub Groups that preview pitches and make recommendations to the CLC.

5. Risk Management Implications

There is a risk in allocating any funding that the applicant will not spend some or all of it or that it might be spent inappropriately. Therefore the terms and conditions associated with CIF provide for the County Council to request the return of funds.

6. Other Options Considered

The pitching process asks for information about whether a project could proceed if the organisation only received 90 per cent of the funding applied for. The CLC is invited to take this into consideration in deciding the level of any award.

The Committee do have the option to defer or decline pitches but must give valid reasons for doing so.

7. Equality Duty

Democratic Services Officers consider the outcome intentions for each pitch. It is considered that for the following pitches, the intended outcomes would:

- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

The CLC in considering any pitch should be alert to the need to consider any equality implications arising from the bid or the way the money is to be used if any are indicated in the information provided.

8. Social Value

The criteria for the Community Initiative Funding asks applicants to evidence support for one or more of the Five Ways to Wellbeing - a set of evidence-based actions which promote people's wellbeing.

9. Crime and Disorder Act Implications

The applications for decision contain projects that will positively benefit the community and contribute toward the County Council's obligations to reduce crime and disorder and promote public safety in section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

10. Human Rights Act Implications

The County Council's positive obligations under the Human Rights Act have been considered in the preparation of these recommendations but none of significance emerges.

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Background Papers: Pitches are available to view on www.westsussexcrowd.org.uk