

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted for the Officer or Executive Member

No

Any conflict with any Member of the Panel and the bodies concerned **[No]** *If yes indicate who and what below*

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Resources

1. DECISION TAKEN

The provision of funding of **£2,930** from the Coronavirus Community Support Fund. The funding will assist organisations to meet the needs of the local community response to the Covid-19 pandemic. This funding is for the following applications:

£2,930 – to **Growing Resilience in Teens (GRIT)** To run the programme for 12 -14 young people currently on the waiting list as outlined in 8.1

2. DECISION TAKER

Service Director: Resources, in consultation with the Executive Member – Finance and IT- Cllr Ian Albert.

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

8th April 2021

4. REASON FOR DECISION

4.1 The Community Support Fund seeks to support essential services which find themselves under increased pressure owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This funding will support three specific areas in the first instance. These are:

- Provision of food and essentials
- Mental Health support (including loneliness caused by isolation)
- Domestic Abuse support

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are no alternative options being proposed other than those detailed within the text of this report.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

- 6.1 The Members of the Community Facilities Capital and District Wide Revenue Grant panel and Executive members for Community Engagement and Finance and IT were consulted via a virtual meeting held on Wednesday 24th March 2021.
- 6.2 Consultation with the respective officers and external bodies/groups has taken place with regards to these funding applications.

7. FORWARD PLAN

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1	Applicant	Growing Resilience in Teens; GRIT
	Project	To run the programme for 12 -14 young people on the waiting list
	Sum requested	£2,930
	Total project cost	£3,506
	Joint funding	£576 from other fundraising activities
	NHDC Policy met	Yes
	Council Priorities	Build thriving and resilient communities

GRIT is a doctor led program set up in 2017 that combines non-contact boxing with coaching and mentoring. They are a team of people dedicated to improving the mental health and wellbeing of teenagers through an innovative program designed to help reduce anxiety and self-destructive behaviours by building resilience.

Weekly sessions take place at Elite Fitness in Hitchin (when restrictions allow). During lockdown, sessions were run remotely using Zoom, WhatsApp and other platforms.

The demand for the program has greatly increased over the Winter particularly throughout the last tier 4 lockdown. The increased demand, along with reduced capacity has led them to plan an additional GRIT programme in the Spring in parallel to the existing programme. This will allow them to run a programme for 12-14 additional young people who are already on their waiting list.

They currently run one programme per week but would like to increase to two to catch up with the demand and they are applying for funding towards the additional cost.

The programme is open to all teenagers in North Hertfordshire. They have relationships with the Hitchin, Baldock and Letchworth secondary schools who all refer teenagers on to the programme.

The GRIT programme also benefits the mentors (ranging in age from 23 to 80 years old) who receive in-depth training, support groups and have reported the positive effect that being part of GRIT has had on their lives.

The demand for the GRIT programme has increased due to the Pandemic and young people being particularly vulnerable to social isolation due to the lock down and school closures. In addition, the programme has had to reduce the numbers on each course

to allow for social distancing measures and when necessary have had to operate the programme virtually.

Those participants who have only had remote sessions will be offered the chance to complete the full programme in person when the restrictions are lifted.

It has also been difficult to undertake the usual fundraising activities as it's not been possible to organise fundraising events, leading to additional financial pressure on the charity.

All Members indicated their support for the application, and on being put to the vote it was agreed to recommend the award of £2,930 from the Coronavirus Community Support Fund.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. Following an urgent delegated decision by the Chief Executive on 3 April 2020¹ the uses of the Reserve have been extended to include “support the response to and reduce the impact of major incidents”. This allows it to be used for discretionary spend in response to Covid-19. The referenced delegated decision also “***noted that any discretionary spend in respect of Covid-19 will be approved by the Service Director: Resources as Budget Manager, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and IT***”.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The total of funding recommended by in this report is £2,930 taking the total amount that has been recommended by the grant panel to £87,430

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no relevant risk entries that have been recorded on Pentana Risk, the Council's performance and risk system. Individual events should have their own risk assessments in place to mitigate any health and safety issues. Whenever a request for grant funding for equipment is received, the recipient of the funding will be advised to obtain insurance for the item to avoid a repeat request for funding in the event of the equipment being stolen or damaged. There are no pertinent risk implications for the Authority associated with any items within this report.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2 All projects that are assigned to the Grant Panel for funding are assessed to ensure that they do not negatively impact on any part of the local community. The only deviation to this is where a minority or marginalised group may specifically receive funding or allocation of resources to address a particular area of need or ‘gap’ in provision.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The Social Value Act and “go local” policy do not apply to this decision.

14. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

14.1 There are no pertinent Human Resource implications associated with any items within this report.

15. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

15.1 There are no pertinent Environmental Implications associated with any items within this report

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

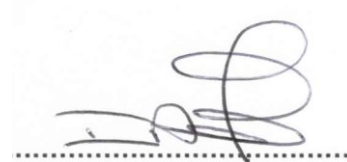
Officers have received and approved the grant application, mission statement and accounts. Covid 19 Special Reserve Fund 2020 (Community Grants) Protocol.

NOTIFICATION DATE

9th April 2021

Signature of Executive Member Consulted

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Date ...April 2021

Signature of Decision Taker



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Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS