

Report of the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

**GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS,
CHARITABLE BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN SPORTS,
THE ARTS AND DISABILITY MATTERS 2018/19**

1. Purpose of report

To consider requests for grant aid in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Grant Aid Policy.

2. Applications and financial position

Details of the grant applications received are included in the appendix for consideration. The amount available for distribution in 2018/19 is as follows:

	<u>£</u>
Revenue Grant Aid Budget	168,800
Less: Estimated requirements for:	
Citizen's Advice Broxtowe (see agenda)	73,750
Outstanding Rent Awards/Others	44,850
Less: Grant Awards to Date	11,250
BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	38,950

Members are reminded that they will need to suitably constrain grant awards in 2018/19 if the budget is not to be exceeded. The total amounts requested in this report for 2018/19 total £10,500. The additional sums requested in this report, when compared to the previous year, would amount to £6,000 if all applications are fully supported.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to CONSIDER the requests and RESOLVE accordingly.

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX

Applications

The following grant applications have been received for consideration in 2018/19:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>App'n Ref</u>	<u>Grant Award 2017/18</u> £	<u>Grant Request 2018/19</u> £
Nuthall Age Concern Day Centre	1	500	500
Hope Nottingham	2	4,000	10,000
		Total	10,500

Age Concern Organisations1. NUTHALL AGE CONCERN DAY CENTRE

Nuthall Age Concern Day Centre was established in 1974 and is based at The Spinney on Laurel Crescent in Nuthall. The group generates its membership from the Nuthall area and currently has 30 people using its services.

Nuthall Age Concern Day Centre provides welfare facilities and companionship in a social environment to local elderly residents and those with infirmity. The group meets on a weekly basis, offering a wide variety of activities such as social events and activities, bingo, speakers (including representatives from care homes, health and safety, police and fire services), quizzes, music and singing, keep-fit and festive parties. The group will provide its members with transport to and from the venue if required.

For the year ended 31 March 2018, income totalling £3,829 was derived from grant aid (from this Council), donations, subscriptions and proceeds from special events. Expenditure of £3,947 mainly related to transport, insurances and the cost of running events and activities. Cash at bank and in hand as at 31 March 2018 had reduced to £702.

The Council has supported Nuthall Age Concern Day Centre for many years, with the grants awarded in the past four years being as follows:

2017/18	£500
2016/17	£500
2015/16	£500
2014/15	£325

For 2018/19, Nuthall Age Concern Day Centre has requested a similar grant of £500 towards its transport and insurance costs. The group indicates that its transport costs have increased in recent years because a shortage of volunteer drivers that has resulted in a greater reliance on private taxi firms to provide transport for its members.

Caring Organisations Category

2. HOPE NOTTINGHAM

Hope Nottingham (also known as the Hope Café) is operated from Hope House at the Boundary Road Community Centre in Beeston. The project has around 200 visitors per week, with around 1,200 individuals benefitting from the service each year. Hope House has developed from a basic drop-in café to being a holistic community hub providing wide ranging support to help people out of crisis and empower them to contribute positively to their community.

The Hope Café was originally established in 2005 as part of Hope NG9, the Christian church working together to bring 'Hope to the NG9 area through social action, backed by prayer and word'. From November 2010, local ministers agreed that Hope NG9 should be merged with Hope Nottingham. The charitable objects of Hope Nottingham are to advance the Christian faith and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress amongst the people of Nottingham and surrounding areas

Hope Nottingham provides a free community support café with holistic support for homeless and vulnerably housed adults to overcome poverty crisis and entrenched deprivation. The project aims to meet basic needs of food, clothing and furniture, provide a listening ear and offer individual mentoring and support with a view to having a positive transformation on the lives of those in need and to enable the positive social re-integration of socially excluded people.

In addition to providing food and friendship, the project aims to mentor its users by providing life skills training and creative activities. The project also acts as a hub to which its users can directly access support from specialists on issues such as housing, debt, benefits, substance and alcohol abuse and health.

Hope Nottingham continues to work with the Council, police, CAB and support agencies in order to meet the needs of its users and the local community. All the expert delivery partners are expected to source their own funding for their input. The various services are integrated together to enable those with complex needs to address several issues simultaneously, as the most effective way to make progress and to avoid falling through gaps in service provision.

The facilities at Hope House also extend to providing a Job Club to help the long-term unemployed back into work and a Youth Club that provides positive diversionary activities for young people.

The key headlines received from Hope Nottingham in 2017/18 included:

- Improving the health and well-being of local residents
- Providing over 1,600 food parcels in Broxtowe
- Supplying over £15,000 worth of financial assistance to buy specific items such as cookers and washing machines to 100 households
- Providing community based volunteer opportunities for local residents
- Providing more accessible independent information, advice and support for the most vulnerable Broxtowe residents

- Providing employment support and training to around 300 people to enable them to make progress in helping themselves out of poverty relating to welfare, low income, debt, unemployment, dysfunctional lifestyles, mental illness and domestic violence
- Directly supporting individuals in overcoming or avoiding homelessness, with others indirectly supported by referral to mainstream services and partners
- Supporting long-term unemployed local residents through the Hope Job Club, referred by the job centre, with assistance in completing online job searches/applications and creating positive CV's. This work has assisted 16 long-term unemployed residents into full and part time work.
- Establishing two small in-house social enterprises teaching people practical skills and enabling them to begin earning an income.

Hope Nottingham has provided the latest accounts for the year ended 30 June 2017 for scrutiny. The charity separates its accounts between restricted fund and unrestricted funds. Total income generated amounted to £231,972 which mostly related to grants, donations and rental income from use of the church and centre. Total expenditure amounted to £239,887 which included salaries and associated employee costs (£178,981 for an average of seven employees with no employee receiving more than £60,000 during the period), premises expenses and other operating costs. Unfortunately, the charity was the victim of an email scam that resulted in £10,060 being paid incorrectly. Procedures have since been reviewed and tightened to reduce the risk in future. Total funds as at 30 June 2017 were £9,515 including unrestricted funds of £7,936. Total cash at bank and in hand had fallen to £11,670.

In 2018, grants have been offered and/or received from Nottinghamshire County Council (£11,900), Nottingham and Derby Methodist District Fund (£13,200), Beeston Consolidated Charity (£18,000) and smaller grants from other Trusts. The charity continues to acknowledge the regular financial and volunteer support it receives from individuals, church and community, local businesses, local authorities and grant making organisations, without which it could not continue to operate.

The Council has regularly supported Hope Nottingham, with the grants awarded in the past four years being as follows:

2017/18	£4,000
2016/17	£4,000
2015/16	£4,000
2014/15	£4,000

For 2018/19, Hope Nottingham has requested an increased grant of £10,000 towards the cost of operating the project. Members should note that the grant aid policy requires that grant awards of £5,000 or above may be subject to a Service Level Agreement.