

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Personnel Policy

**GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS,
CHARITABLE BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN SPORTS,
THE ARTS AND DISABILITY MATTERS 2023/24**

1. Purpose of Report

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

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

1. **Consider the requests in Appendix 1 and RESOLVE accordingly**
2. **NOTE the award of a grant made through the use of the Chief Executive's urgency powers detailed in Appendix 2.**

3. Detail

Details of the grant applications received are included in the appendix for consideration. The amount available for distribution in 2023/24 is as follows:

	<u>£</u>
Revenue Grant Aid Budget	168,800
Less: Estimated requirements for:	
Citizens Advice Broxtowe	73,750
Rent Awards and Related Commitments	43,300
Less: Grant Awards to Date	6,500
BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	<u>45,250</u>

The provision in respect of rental and support costs for tenants of Council-owned properties includes: Age Concern Eastwood, Toton Coronation Hall Community Association, 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts, 2nd Kimberley Scout Group, Phoenix Community Foundation, Bramcote Cricket Club, Stapleford Community Association, Eastwood People's Initiative, 5th Stapleford Scout Group and Chilwell Community Association.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

Any grant awards will be met from the established grant aid budget shown in the table above. Members are reminded that they will need to suitably constrain grant awards in 2023/24 if the budget is not to be exceeded. The total 'cash' grant requested in this report is £13,500. The additional sums

requested in this report, when compared to the previous year, would amount to £1,500 if all applications are fully supported.

5. Legal Implications

The Council is empowered to make grants to voluntary organisations by virtue of Section 48 Local Government Act 1985 (as well as other legislation). Having an approved process in line the legislation and the Council's Grant Aid Policy will ensure the Council's compliance with its legal duties.

6. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable.

7. Union Comments

Not applicable.

8. Climate Change Implications

There are no comments from the Interim Head of Environmental Services in relation to this report.

9. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any [OFFICIAL (SENSITIVE)] information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

As there is no change to policy an equality impact assessment is not required.

11. Background Papers

Nil.

APPENDIX 1

Applications

The following grant applications have been received for consideration in 2023/24:

		<u>Grant Award 2022/23 £</u>	<u>Grant Request 2023/24 £</u>
Hope Nottingham	1	12,000	12,000
Nottinghamshire Army Cadet Force (Eastwood Detachment)	2	-	1,500
		Total	<u>13,500</u>

1. HOPE NOTTINGHAM

Hope Nottingham is project that is operated from Hope House at the Boundary Road Community Centre in Beeston. The project has around 300 regular users, with approximately 800 individuals benefitting from the service each year.

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 2010, local ministers agreed that Hope NG9 should be merged with Hope Nottingham. The charitable objects of Hope Nottingham are the relief of poverty, sickness and distress and to advance the Christian faith.

The services offered by Hope Nottingham are primarily aimed at crisis intervention and transformational support and include a free drop-in café, advice centre, foodbank, job club, literacy group, elderly friendship club, a 'food club' offering low-priced surplus fresh food), a youth well-being café, parent and toddler group and support to a small network of related foodbanks.

Financial Information

Hope Nottingham has provided the latest accounts for the year ended 30 June 2022 for scrutiny. The charity separates its accounts between restricted fund and unrestricted funds.

Total income generated amounted to £359,221 (2021: £476,531) which mostly related to grants and donations. Significant restricted and unrestricted grants (in addition to those from this Council) were received from Nottinghamshire County Council (£55,505), Nottingham City Council (£39,000), The Trussell Trust (£41,040) in addition to private individual donations totalling £113,317.

Total expenditure amounted to £379,267 (2021: £384,148) which included salaries and associated employer costs (£262,274) for an average of 12

employees with no employee receiving more than £50,000 during the period, and miscellaneous premises expenses and other operating costs.

Total funds as at 30 June 2022 were £265,134 (2021: £285,180) including unrestricted funds of £187,756 (2021: £219,811). Total cash at bank and in hand was £256,777 (2021: £278,621).

As the formal financial statements of Hope Nottingham are over 12 months old, an update has been provided as to the current position of the organisation. Hope Nottingham has stated its current level of reserves to be approximately £190,000.

Applications for annual funding to other grant-awarding bodies are currently in progress with Nottinghamshire County Council (£10,900), Beeston Consolidated (£18,000), Tesco Community Grants (£5,000) and other smaller trusts (approximately £10,000 total).

Grant Aid Request

For 2023/24, Hope Nottingham has requested a grant of £12,000 towards the general cost of operating the projects. Such an award would be in line with the Council's Grant Aid policy for the following key reasons:

- Hope Nottingham is based within Broxtowe.
- The services provided by Hope Nottingham benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- Hope Nottingham targets the needs of disadvantaged sections of the community.

An award, if approved, would be met from the established Grant Aid budget shown in the table at the head of this report. The Council has regularly supported Hope Nottingham, with the grants awarded in the past five years being as follows:

2022/23	£12,000
2021/22	£10,000
2020/21	£10,000
2019/20	£10,000
2018/19	£4,000

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.

2. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE (EASTWOOD DETACHMENT)

Nottinghamshire Army Cadet Force ('NACF') is the Nottinghamshire 'branch' of the Army Cadet Force (ACF), a national, voluntary, uniformed youth organisation with origins dating back to 1860.

The mission of the Army Cadet Force is to help its cadet members develop both personally and physically by providing a wide range of fun, exciting, challenging and adventurous opportunities, some of them on a military theme. Young people involved in the Army Cadet Force have the opportunity to challenge themselves to learn more, do more and try more. It also inspires them to aim high and gives them the skills, values and attitudes to go further in life, no matter what they aim to do. The Eastwood detachment of the NACF (to which this application relates) has approximately 40 members, all of whom live within Broxtowe.

NACF has been given a 'once in a lifetime' chance to send some of its cadets to Camp Troodos in Cyprus October 2023. During this visit the cadets will take part in:

- Engage with the local Army Cadet Unit at Epi.
- Visit the Resident Infantry Battalion.
- Visit RAF Akrotiri and engage with elements from the 84 Sqn RAF.
- Cultural visits to local villages and historical sites
- Various AT (Adventurous Training) activities including scuba diving.
- Representing UK Army Cadet Forces overseas.

The Eastwood detachment has plans to send four of its cadets to this camp.

Financial Information

The NACF does not maintain its own set of annual accounts as it is a component of the national Army Cadet Force. Accordingly, no detailed financial information relating directly to either NACF or the Eastwood detachment is available for scrutiny. NACF has, however, provided the Council with copies of bank statements for May and June 2023, which demonstrate regular income and expenditure in line with what may be expected for a group of this size and nature. The closing cash balance as at 29 June 2023 was £2,710.

Grant Aid Request

For 2023/24, NACF has requested a grant of £1,500 towards the cost of sending the four selected cadets to Camp Troodos in Cyprus October 2023. Such an award would be in line with the Council's Grant Aid policy for the following key reasons:

- The Eastwood detachment of NACF is based within Broxtowe.
- The services provided by NACF benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- The activities of NACF provide educational and co-curricular benefits to local young people.
- Uniformed Groups such as NACF are a specific category of organisation welcomed to apply for Grant Aid.

APPENDIX 2Use of Urgency Powers – Award to MishMash Productions

An application was received in late May 2023 from a local non-profit community music organisation, MishMash Productions, for financial support for the delivery of a series of 'pop-up proms' concerts to be held across Broxtowe during the summer.

The application was considered by officers to be in line with the Council's policy and corporate priorities. Through discussions with MishMash Productions, it was established that in order to be able to make the necessary arrangements for the delivery of the concert series in time for the summer holidays, certainty over the funding of the programme was required in advance of the next available meeting of this Cabinet. It was also noted that the group had prepared its application earlier in the year, however, submission was delayed due to the Borough election period through April and May.

Accordingly, the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition, exercised her urgency powers to make an award of £3,900 to MishMash Productions in order to ensure that the group would be able to make the necessary arrangements for the pop-up proms in time for the summer holiday period.