

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 2024/25
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 consider the requests and RESOLVE accordingly, including a potential additional budget allocation from General Fund Reserves in 2024/25.

3. Detail

Details of the grant applications received are included in the **Appendix** for consideration. The amount available for distribution in 2024/25 is as follows:

	<u>£</u>
Revenue Grant Aid Budget	168,800
Add: Additional budget (approved 1 October 2024)	30,750
Less: Grant Awards to Date	(152,950)
BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	<u>46,600</u>
Less: Estimated requirements for: Rent Awards and Related Commitments	(39,800)
Less: Total Grants requested in this report	(11,529)
FORECAST YEAR END DEFICIT	<u>(4,729)</u>

4. Key Decision

This report is not a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

Not applicable.

6. 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 2024/25 if the budget is not to be exceeded. The additional sums requested in this report, when compared to the previous year, would amount to £4,529 if all applications are fully supported.

There is only limited budgetary provision remaining in 2024/25. The total 'cash' grant requested in this report would over-commit the grant aid budget and potentially restrict the amount available to apply elsewhere. If Members were minded to approve the requests in full, an additional one-off revenue development of £5,000 would be needed to be funded directly from General Fund balances in 2024/25. This would also include a £200 grant recently made to a local sportsperson under delegated authority.

7. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

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.

8. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable.

9. Union Comments

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

There are no climate change implications identified in relation to this report.

11. 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.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is not a change to policy an equality impact assessment is not required.

13. Background Papers

Nil