

Report To: Charity Committee

Date of Meeting: 29th March 2021

Report Title: Foreshore Trust Large Grants programme recommendations

Report By: Victoria Conheady, Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture

Key Decision: Yes

Classification: Open

Urgency provisions were utilised for this report and it was agreed earlier due to the requirement to notify approved grant applicants as soon as possible in time for them to set up new services for the financial year beginning April 2021.

Purpose of Report

To present the recommendations of the Grant Advisory Panel (GAP) in respect of applications for the Foreshore Trust Large Grants programme.

Recommendation(s)

1. Consider for approval for the Foreshore Trust Large Grants programme the recommendations of the GAP as set out in Appendix 1 (with projects listed in Appendix A)
2. Agree budget provision as detailed in Appendix A.

Reasons for Recommendations

The Grant Advisory Panel has appraised the merits of the applications received for the Large Grant support and has made a number of recommendations for grant awards that can be funded from the available 2021-2024 budget.

Background

1. The Foreshore Trust Large Grants programme is a scheme for voluntary and community groups offering a service within Hastings & St. Leonards.
2. The call was open from 25th September 2020 to 6th November 2020
3. For this particular round the applicants were asked to consider their response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. £161,667 is available in the 2021-2022 financial year and is forecasted to be £181,667 each year for the following two years totaling £525,000 by 2024
5. Applicants were asked to enter their requested amounts of Foreshore Trust large grants programme grants for Option A (full amount) and B (reduced amount) for each financial year bearing in mind the possible reduced amount of grant funding available in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024.
6. An additional £20,000 (included in the forecasted £181,667) will be made available each year in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 to fund the 'Golden Thread' mental health and wellbeing agenda. All applications at this stage were asked to show how they plan to address this theme, with an emphasis on working in partnership with the other funded organisations

Large Grants Awards 2021-2024

7. The process used to invite and evaluate grant applications was in accordance with the protocols agreed by the Charity Committee in December 2014.
8. The Panel met via Microsoft Teams in November 2020 to discuss the respective merits of each application. Its recommendations are set out in the report from the Panel Chair (Appendix 1).
9. All of the applications for funding were assessed in terms of the organisations' ability to deliver their proposals, how closely the proposed activities demonstrated value for money and matched the priorities of the Charity Committee and the specifications of the Large Grant programme.
10. In total, six projects are recommended for approval at various levels of funding.
11. Grants are required to be spent and accounted for on an annual basis by March 2022, March 2023 and March 2024. The amount recommended totals £161,411 per year.

Policy Implications

12. The Foreshore Trust's Grants Schemes support activities that impact positively on the social and economic wellbeing of residents in the Borough, as well as assisting organisations in delivering a range of activities for local people that might otherwise be unavailable.

Wards Affected

All

Policy Implications

Reading Ease Score: 13.8

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	Y
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	N
Risk Management	N
Environmental Issues & Climate Change	N
Economic/Financial Implications	Y
Human Rights Act	N
Organisational Consequences	N
Local People's Views	N
Anti-Poverty	N
Legal	N

Additional Information

Appendix 1 – Report by the Chair of the Grants Advisory Panel with the Panel's recommendations (Appendix A).

Officer to Contact

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