

Revenue Grants 2021/22

Summary

The Executive is asked to consider the revenue grant payments to voluntary organisations for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Portfolio - Support & Safeguarding

Date consulted: 15th December 2020

Wards Affected - All

Recommendation

The Executive is advised to RESOLVE that

- (i) the following Revenue Grants for 2021/22 be awarded to:
 - a. Surrey Heath Citizens Advice (CASH) – £80,000;
 - b. Voluntary Support North Surrey - £30,000;
 - c. Surrey Heath Age Concern - £10,000;
 - d. Camberley Central Job Club - £7,000
 - e. Catalyst Support - £1,500;
 - f. The Hope Hub - £31,500;
 - g. VSNS-Time to Talk - £10,000;
 - h. Basingstoke Canal Authority - £10,000;
 - i. Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership - £10,000;
 - j. Surrey Heath Sports Council - £3,500;
- (ii) the other in-kind benefits provided to organisations be noted;
- (iii) all grants be subject to Service Level Agreements;
- (iv) the Autism Trust grant decision to be delegated to the Executive Head of Transformation in consultation with the Support & Safeguarding Portfolio Holder to clarify the local benefit of this application;
- (v) no Revenue Grant be awarded to Penificent Ltd, Camberley Care Trust, Camberley Cricket Club, or Creative Mind Community;
- (vi) Surrey Heath Arts Council's decision not to apply for a Revenue Grant for 2021/22 be noted; and
- (vii) No Revenue Grant be awarded to Lightwater Connected but the organisation be invited to re-apply next year.

1. Resource Implications

- 1.1 The Council funds a number of voluntary organisations which either work in partnership with the Council or perform functions on the Council's behalf.
- 1.2 At the Executive meeting on the 11th September 2019 a revised scheme was ratified and this was introduced from the 1st April 2020.
- 1.3 Annex A provides a breakdown of relevant information relating to funds sought plus a grant amount that Officers suggest is awarded.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The Council Revenue Grant Scheme is open and transparent and enables any organisation who delivers services within Surrey Heath that is fulfils all governance requirements and helps the Council to meet its long and short term strategy as outlined within our 5 year Plan to apply for funds.
- 2.2 The Council values the work undertaken by our voluntary organisations enormously with our indicative annual budget (to be ratified in February 21) of £200,000 plus support in kind, which can include office space, and car parking. This is a clear demonstration of the Council's ongoing community commitment to local organisations who provide crucial services within Surrey Heath. Introduced from April 2020 for a 3 year period as part of the review is are ring fenced funds for 3 organisations who work with the Council: Citizens Advice Surrey Heath, £80,000 Blackwater Valley Partnership and the Basingstoke Canal Authority, £10,000 each.
- 2.3 Service level agreements were introduced in 2013 enable the Council to set out targets and outcomes to be achieved throughout the year and for those who are already funded details are summarised in Annex B. Officers use the agreements to monitor the performance of organisations throughout the year. Grant payments are authorised following receipt of a satisfactory monitoring report.
- 2.4 The Council follows the principles of the Surrey Compact, an agreement that supports how partners behave, engage and work together in the statutory, community, voluntary and faith sectors.
- 2.5 The grant support to voluntary organisations is a discretionary function of the Council and the Executive therefore has the option to vary the level of support to organisations, or to withdraw funding for some or all of the grants. The following funding options are therefore presented as part of this report.

3. Supporting Information

Citizens Advice Surrey Heath

- 3.1 Citizens Advice Surrey Heath (CASH) as a the result of the Covid pandemic has adapted its service from its office base at Surrey Heath House which was

and open to personal visits from 10am-4pm, Monday –Thursday, plus an outreach service at Windle Valley, and Chobham Village Hall.

The staff and volunteers now deliver the service virtually from their homes, or in the office on the phone, following the social distance guidance which results in them seeing very few clients face to face. The manager, Kate Sawdy is testing a new video technology at present, due to some clients having difficulty in being able to manage the technology.

- 3.2 In September 20, a total of 531 clients were supported with advice and information, of these 6% were face to face, 69% phone advice, and 25% received online advice via email and web-chat.
- 3.3 From April 2020 the service level agreement included supporting a minimum of 30 clients per day, with result of 29.5 people receiving support each day, which is a fabulous result in the circumstances.
- 3.4 The office location within Surrey Heath House, maximises working relationships with all agencies co-located in the Council offices. CASH is a well-managed local organisation that has worked hard to build a good platform in which to secure funding bids which helps to retain its sustainability. The revenue grant being sought represents 35% of its annual turnover.
- 3.5 A key partnership project, relates to social prescribing and this works with the Council, Surrey Heath Clinical Commissioning Group, Surrey Heath Primary Care Network and Voluntary Support North Surrey, the aim is to improve the wellbeing of local residents. This has resulted in Citizens Advice being able to offer an improved integrated clinical, social and community care service.

The other raft of services also remain which include: administering of the local Crisis Care scheme, funded by Surrey County Council, and the newly introduced Hardship Scheme, which is funded by this Council. Health watch Surrey, Citizens Advice are the champion for health and social care in Surrey Heath, where they provide a platform for a voice of the local residents to be heard relating to their experience of the health provision. Surrey Welfare Rights Unit, they provide the advisors with support and guidance in relation to very complex cases, and changes to the benefit system. Pension Wise, Besom Foodbank referrals, and Local Solicitor Support, Military Veterans listening project, Frimley Fuel Allotments, Accent Housing, energy advice and many other areas outlined within their application.

Total annual costs are estimated at £232,707 in 2021/22 which reflects an increase, which most is attributed to the additional resources required to deliver the Social Prescribing project. The unrestricted reserves recorded at the 31st March 2020 recorded an increase of £19,938 to £114,543.

This is one of the three ring fenced organisations and it is suggested that a grant of £80,000 is approved subject to a service level agreement.

The Council provides benefits in kind, which consists of: the office facilities valued at £25,000 for the office space within Surrey Heath House, plus the

staff and volunteer car parking which is provided without cost to the organisation.

Voluntary Support North Surrey

- 3.6 The Voluntary Support North Surrey (VSNS) role is to support the community and voluntary organisations in Surrey Heath, which totals in-excess of 400 local not for profit groups within this Council area. VSNS also operate in Runnymede, and Spelthorne. VSNS actively engages in partnership working, examples of this are: being part of the local Surrey Heath Prepared (SHP) support to help meeting the local needs during the Spring lockdown, and continuing to support the legacy organisations since the closure of SHP from the 1st July 20.

VSNS also develop and promote volunteering opportunities and this has been boosted this year with the Surrey Heath Prepared volunteers using the services provided by the applicant. For the for the period up until the end of September 20, the group referred 2586 applications, in their capacity as a volunteer bureau, and from this the end user 'not for profit organisations' have benefitted from 552 placements. The SHP surge has resulted in just over 2000 referrals, leading to 300 placements, which is included the above paragraph.

The organisation supports local charities with specialist funding advice, governance issues, and training this is provided at no cost to any organisation who seeks it. The group work hard to provide regular newsletter updates to the 800+ addresses to their network.

A vetting and barring service for local voluntary organisations is provided, and for the year ending 31/3/2020, 105 checks locally in Surrey Heath were undertaken.

The organisation also delivered 10 training courses which were all free relating to volunteer recruitment/management/law, digital/traditional/legacy fundraising and trustee training.

The organisation has a visiting and befriending arm designed to meeting the needs and high level of demand within Surrey Heath. This is offered to all age groups, and will complement the existing provision provided by Surrey Heath Age Concern and other local agencies within this area see 4.1.

The staffing levels that provide the service in 3 boroughs equates to 5 FTE.

The operating costs estimated for the financial year 2021/22 are just under £472,763. The unrestricted reserves are estimated at £35,000 attributed to an under spend on staff costs from another borough. There is a £150,000 ring fenced amount which is held by Surrey Community Foundation which provides small grants throughout the year to local organisations.

It is recommended that a grant award of £30,000 is approved, subject to the delivery of an agreed service level agreement.

VSNS are located in the Ian Goodchild Centre, along with Camberley Care and others. Discussions are ongoing as to the existing lease agreement renewal which is due to expire in the spring of 2021, with discussions ongoing to extend for a further year at present.

Surrey Heath Age Concern CIO

- 3.7 With the support of approximately 120 volunteers and up to three part-time members of staff, Surrey Heath Age Concern (SHAC) delivers a range of services for those aged 50+ within Surrey Heath.

The Rainbow Café opening this year has been affected by the pandemic restrictions which has impacted the income of the charity. However the Charity Manager has successfully bid to the Council Covid-19 scheme which awarded £6,000 plus a further £10,000 in Council tax relief plus others such as Johnson Wax, Surrey Heath Prepared, Surrey Community Foundation, and Frimley Fuel.

The Rainbow Café is now managed directly by a part-time manager who has been furloughed during the facility being closed. The Management Team will open the Café as soon as it is safe to do so, when the pandemic risk has subsided.

In the meantime the 57 befriending volunteers have eased the isolation for many older vulnerable people within our community by picking up the telephone to make regular calls, and this was clearly recognised by Surrey Heath Prepared who provided a grant of £1,200 in July.

A tailor made new database has been established to manage client information more efficiently and securely and referral forms have been updated to obtain more information of the elderly person resulting in better matches.

Further successful bids in applying for grants help meeting the costs of the dedicated befriending officer also help the income for this organisation.

This organisation provided support to 62 isolated clients in September 20, following Government guidance relating to Covid. The waiting list presently stands at 4. All of these clients are older, lonely, isolated people who are living alone.

Services relating to Tea and Chatter, have been suspended until it is safe to resume.

SHAC is not affiliated to Age UK and acts independently from of the national organisation. Costs are expected to be £57,600 in 2021/22. The organisation recorded £57,972 as total unrestricted reserves at 31st March 2020.

It is suggested that a grant of £10,000 is considered, subject to a Service Level Agreement which is to include continuing to work collaboratively with the V&B scheme operated by Voluntary Support North Surrey.

The Rainbow Café annual lease has a benefit of £10,000, plus up to £2,850 in The Square car parking for staff and volunteers, when the café is open.

Camberley and District Job Club

- 3.8 This organisation has received revenue funding since 1st April 2016. Its aim is to provide training and support to local people who are unemployed.

The ONS Labour Market profile for Surrey Heath shows that from May 2019-June 2020 the local unemployment figures are recorded at 1,300 which equates to 2.8% of the population, compared to 3.4% in the South East and 3.9% in the rest of Great Britain. The NOMIS data for the same period shows the 976 are long-term unemployed and never worked.

The unemployment numbers are high for Surrey Heath in comparison with previous years.

The job club client numbers recorded in September 2020 at 6 were significantly impacted from the Covid Pandemic and the numbers of clients supported in both 2018 and 2019.

From April 2021 the club are working to provide a blended support for job seekers using face to face contact and distant support via telephone and video contact. It is intending to re-open the core activity of the Monday morning drop-in session at High Cross Church where support, and one to one assistance relating to CV writing, and confidence building, are provided. The referral method to its service is varied and can be from the Job Centre Plus, churches, and self-referrals.

With the increase in unemployment numbers it is anticipated that this voluntary group will be very busy next year providing vital support to those who are vulnerable within our community.

The applicant has advised that it intends to extend its involvement with young people.

From April to October 20, 53 clients were supported. In November a further 8 clients have been helped virtually.

An estimated total number of people who have found employment through the Club is estimated at 10 (YTD) 7 have moved out of the area and 1 is returning to college.

The overall costs forecasted for 2021/22 is estimated at £16,000 which will covers the administrator and room hire charges, with other costs linked to the operation. The club has reserves of £3,886.

It is suggested that an award is made of £7,000 to enable the organisation to provide the support needed locally of those who seek work the period 2021/22.

The council does not provide any benefits in kind to this organisation

Catalyst Support

- 3.9 In 2017, Catalyst introduced a new initiative in Surrey Heath that provided a mental health and well-being community football team, called 'the Welcome Wizards' this is aimed at improving mental health.

The scheme operates from Frimley Lodge Park and uses one of the 3G football pitches twice a week to provide this to service to a minimum of 16 people which over the year benefits around 120 people. During the lockdown pandemic restrictions this has impacted upon the team being able to meet and was not operated during either lockdown. The scheme has opened during September 20 and so far £1,000 has been paid from the £4,000 grant awarded.

This scheme is unique to this area in that no other service like it operates.

The annual costs to deliver the project for 21/22 are estimated at £1,500 as the 3G court hire costs have reduced, and the full grant amount is sought. The applicant has significant reserves, but the majority are restricted, due to the delivery of their commissioned contracts. The service is accessed via self-referrals or existing clients. The Welcome Wizards are part of the Surrey FA disability league with Catalyst hosting in previous years an annual tournament which is very popular, it is hoped that this will be re-introduced in 2021.

This type of service provision targets those who are most vulnerable within our community, and it can often be the start of an improved quality of life, through building confidence and self-belief by reducing isolation.

It is suggested that a grant of £1,500 be awarded subject to a service level agreement being reached that will aim to extend the service providing greater benefits without cost.

Penificent Ltd– New Application

- 3.10 Penificent's proposed projects aim to restore and replenish the minds of young people that are facing hardship which are currently emphasised by the Covid-19 pandemic. Penificent does this by running workshops based around the use of creativity and in particular comics in schools, youth groups, sports associations and other establishments.

The applicant believes that by utilising and distributing their comic books to schools and young people would be emotionally and mentally empowered. This would be achieved by working directly with local schools.

The group is based in Southwark, and advises that it has been active in neighbouring boroughs and districts but no detail is available to this. The group is set-up as a social enterprise, but no supporting financial papers were provided with their application. £40,000 are sought to deliver their project to 200 students in Surrey Heath.

It is suggested that this grant application be declined at the present time due to insufficient information being provided within their application.

Lightwater Connected – New Application

- 3.11 Lightwater Connected is an umbrella group representing 3 separate village organisations which at the time of the application had not formalised this arrangement as an entity in their own right.

The applicant seeks a grant of £5,000 to contribute towards the estimated annual costs of £6,500 to enable them to meet the annual costs of Lightwater Care, LIVE and the Lightwater Resilience Plan. The aim of the groups is centred in providing the community and network support to meet the local need, whether this is driving duties, shopping, prescription collection, local events, information and signposting.

The application received is incomplete and without any financial information as this is in-process, this however is required to enable a full evaluation of the scheme.

It is suggested that the Council decline the application this year, but would welcome a further application when the group becomes a formalised group.

Camberley Care Trust – New Application

- 3.12 Camberley Care Trust is a voluntary organisation that is very well established locally in the Camberley and Frimley area. The types of service provide a crucial life line to those who are older and isolated. The Covid impact has been considerable with the volunteers availability and a year on year comparison shows a reduction of up to 90% with the car service, the handyperson service show a slight reduction from 24 in 2019 to 20 in September 20.

Camberley Care have benefitted from a Covid-19 grant of £2,500 and a Surrey Heath Prepared grant of £1,900, and a lottery grant of £1,000.

The applicant seeks a grant of £10,000 to contribute towards their annual costs which are estimated at £44,000 for the next financial year.

This organisation is very fortunate to have significant unrestricted reserves of £144,867 at the 31st March 2020, and the Council Chief Accountant has confirmed that since that time the reserves have increased from the financial information received with the application.

It is suggested that the Council decline the application this year, due to needing to prioritise our support to organisations who hold significantly less unrestricted reserves. The Council would like to thank and commend the support that is provided by this group

The Autism Trust UK

- 3.13 This locally based independent charity received its first revenue grant from the Council in April 20. The lockdown restrictions have impacted upon the services provided, however through the use of technology the training has continued but the service user numbers for the ASDAN employability programme has reduced to 4 with 3 being supported from other areas, leaving 1 person from Surrey Heath benefitting.

The other main element is an on-line support service which has continued during the lockdowns and has helped an average of 14 people per month, however the applicant advises that it is not possible to collect data relating to the location of the enquirer, so we are unable to confirm those who have benefitted locally as the charity although based in Surrey Heath its area covers England and Wales.

Additional to the revenue grant the Autism Trust has received a Covid-19 grant of £500, plus a £10,000 business rate refund.

The organisation are seeking a grant to help towards the recruitment of 2 part-time learning support assistants to support the practical activities focussing upon Independence Training. This has originated from the applicant applying for and successfully selected as the organisation to be offered a community space at the Camberley Railway station. Although still at an initial stage it is hoped that this location can be used as an evening or weekend social and friendship group space for adults with autism who thrive from social interaction but prefer not to frequent public houses and environments which cause them sensory issues.

Currently there are 3 people registered on this course, and it is hoped this will be expanded by up to another 2, the applicant has not advised how many pupils live locally within Surrey Heath.

It is suggested that the Council delegate the decision to the Executive Head of Transformation and the Support and Safeguarding PH an award of a maximum of £5,000 following further information relating to the benefits to local Surrey Heath clients.

The Hope Hub

- 3.14 The Hope Hub have provided services to local residents who are homeless or at the risk of becoming so since 2018, and have relocated in to the porta cabin behind the library in Knoll Road in May 2019. The service also works with those in poverty, and need food parcels, breakfast/refreshments/lunch and emergency items such as toiletries, and clothes, plus shower and laundry facilities. With the lockdown the offices that were open daily from Tuesday – Friday, now provide a service twice weekly to support those in need. The Hope Hub seek an unrestricted grant of £40,000 to support the frontline work via their service pathway. It is noted that this increase is in part due to the end of the original 3 year grant awarded by the Council Housing team of £30,000 per annum. This grant does not include other service support that relates to the Night stop project.

In September 2020, the Hope Hub supported 72 Surrey Heath clients and 11 non-SHBC clients from which 6 are high level complex needs, 37 have mental health difficulties, and 7 are ex-offenders. Most clients have require intense support relating to 1:1 case work, debt management, employment support and peer mentoring.

The applicant seeks to remain agile and flexible so that it can respond to the needs of the service users within our community. Discussions are ongoing

with the NHS/CCG in respect of further contributions to retain the mental health case worker for 21/22.

The Hope Hub has 10 members of staff, with costs annual costs estimated at £198,539, unrestricted reserves at 31st March 20, were £66,426 and the Councils Chief Accountant has confirmed that the surplus recorded in September 20 was £91,000 with a bank balance of £172,000. A Covid-19 grant was awarded at £6,000 in May 20.

It is suggested that the Council offer a grant of £31,500 to meet the demand in relating to supporting those who are homeless, and wherever possible its prevention and all awards will be subject to a service level agreement. Discussions are ongoing with the Councils Housing Team who have confirmed that the remaining £8,500 will be contributed to the Hope Hub to ensure the services are retained to those who are most vulnerable.

Voluntary Support North Surrey – ‘Time to Talk’ Project

- 3.15 Voluntary Support North Surrey (VSNS) supports the community of voluntary organisations within Surrey Heath, which totals in excess of 400 local not for profit groups.

The VSNS work with the SHCCG and Citizens Advice who deliver the social prescribing and integrated care project in Surrey Heath. The success of this and the Single Point of Access service has resulted in a sharp increase in demand for a visiting and befriending project.

Early in 2019 VSNS launched a service to meet this need, entitled ‘time to talk’ which looks to recruit and train volunteers who are willing to befriend those who are vulnerable without an age restriction in Surrey Heath. This scheme works collaboratively with the V&B service offered by Surrey Heath Age Concern to those aged 50+, and both services are working hard to recruit new volunteers to help meet this local demand. With the Covid lockdown restrictions this year has seen a switch to telephone befriending and an increase in demand due to the self-isolation of those who are clinically extremely vulnerable. At the end of March 20, this project had 25 volunteers visiting 25 clients, in November 20 this has increased to 42 volunteers befriending 46 clients with no waiting list.

The service costs £45,000 per year to operate, and VSNS seeks a contribution of £10,000 to develop this further working collaboratively with Surrey Heath Age Concern for the period 2021/22.

It is suggested that the Council offer a grant of £10,000 to meet the demand in this area that will help to alleviate loneliness within Surrey Heath. The award will be subject to a service level agreement.

Basingstoke Canal Authority

- 3.16 The Basingstoke Canal Authority (BCA) manages and maintains the 32 mile long canal which serves Mytchett, Deepcut, and Frimley and Camberley (4.5km of canal is within the borough). The canal is a Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI) and forms a significant part of the local blue/green

infrastructure of the borough, providing recreational benefits to residents such as walking, cycling and kayaking. The canal centre based in Mytchett also acts as a local tourist attraction providing historical interest, events and activities.

The BCA works alongside The Basingstoke Canal Society to enable projects on the canal, ranging from new moorings and paths to events and boat rallies. According to the 2011 Census, 85,845 people live within 5 miles of the canal and 700,000 live within a 30 minute drive.

People and cycle counters located between the Canal Centre and Frimley Lodge Park show that from 1st April to the 10th Nov 2020, 110,021 people used this area of towpath. This figure is up on previous years, likely due to the increased number of people using the towpath to exercise during lockdown periods. Conversely camp site users and canal centre visitors were around half their usual levels due to the pandemic.

As part of their application the BCA highlight how they meet all of the Council's 4 'P's within the five year strategy, in particular that keeping the canal in good condition fits perfectly with SHBC's 'Place' objective by enhancing and protecting green spaces and encouraging active recreation. The BCA also advise they help keep the borough a safe place to live as they manage water levels to protect residents and regulate use of the Canal by issuing boating, angling and other recreational licences.

Other benefits provided include a hugely diverse ecological benefit and a large volunteer programme including over 60 'lengthsmen' walking a section of the canal every week.

The BCA is founded on partnership between 9 local authorities including Surrey Heath and is reliant on annual contributions from these partners, although it also supports itself through various income streams. The general reserves for the BCA at 31/3/20 were £697,089, up slightly from £691,509 on 31/3/19, but the impact of the pandemic means a loss of £92,000 is projected for the year ending March 2021 with a further projected loss of £83,000 to March 2022.

This is one of the ring-fenced organisations and it is recommended that a grant of £10,000 be approved subject to the delivery of a service level agreement.

Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership

- 3.17 The Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership (BVCP) restore and manage the Blackwater Valley's Countryside to maximise its value for outdoor recreation, landscape, wildlife and healthy living by involving and co-ordinating the work of local authorities, communities and landowners.

BVCP also work with the environment agency to identify improvements to the River Blackwater to reduce the risk of flooding and improve water quality, in addition to working with Surrey CC to improve cycle pedestrian routes in Surrey Heath and the adjacent districts.

While it is not possible to count users at every site, BVCP do monitor use with counters on the Blackwater Valley path and major sites, with two counters in Surrey Heath. In September 2020 usage figures were measured at 6,800 visits, but the monthly count during spring lockdown had reached 16,000 with annual use estimated at c. 96,000 visits.

BVCP stress that by being able to co-ordinate projects across political boundaries, raise funds and support partners and community organisations to carry out work, a great deal more can be achieved to benefit residents of the Valley than by any one partner working in isolation. If the partnership did not exist, the vast majority of work would still need to be carried out but at each individual partner's expense. BVCP argue that investing in the partnership provides best value for money through economy of scale.

In their annual report BVCP advise that their £10,000 contribution this year has enabled them to deliver £39,883 of work in Surrey Heath. The annual report details a number of areas where BVCP has provided valuable support such as improving access (e.g. clearing vegetation at various locations within the borough), engaging the community through tasks such as hedge-laying and litter picking, increasing biodiversity, maintaining areas of greenspace and work on developing new sites.

While over £2million has been paid by SHBC in relation to Hawley Meadows SANGS, this money sits with Hampshire County Council to look after the site in perpetuity. Only the interest on this figure can be used by Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership and even then this is restricted to the Hawley Meadows site and can only be spent on items which are classed as above and beyond 'usual' works.

The balance on the reserve account at 31/3/20 was £116,813, up slightly from £114,409 on 31/3/19. Funding comes from local authorities and income from site management and project work. As a minimum, a balance equivalent to three months of forecasted operating costs (c. £73k) must be held in reserves should the Partnership ever be wound up.

This is one of the ring-fenced organisations and it is recommended that a grant of £10,000 be approved subject to the delivery of a service level agreement.

Surrey Heath Sports Council

- 3.18 The function of Surrey Heath Sports Council is to promote sport and physical activity in the borough by financially supporting eligible residents (via the awarding of grants) and encouraging participation across all sports recognised by Sport England. The Sports Council works with key partners such as National Governing Bodies, the County Sports Partnership, Active Surrey and local schools.

The Sports Council help the Borough Council meet its priorities by encouraging resident's live more active, happier and healthier lives. The Sports Council also draw attention that the awarding of grants are of particular importance in order to help the borough's young people fulfil their potential.

Four types of grant are awarded by the Sports Council. Aspiring athletes (at county standard or above) are supported with the cost of training and competition, coaches are supported with up to 50% of the cost of coaching qualifications (if the beneficiaries will be within the borough), local clubs are supported with initiatives that will engage new people into sport and grants are also awarded to support those who face financial hardship.

The Sports Council are requesting support to the value of £3,500, in line with their 19/20 award. The Sports Council awarded £3,127.50 in grants in the previous year, with the relative reduction in awards reflecting a reduction in applications due to the suspension of sport. The Sports Council expect to award £3,750 in grants in 2021/22.

The balance carried forward as of 31/10/20 was £4963.10, up slightly from £4,590.60 on 31/10/19.

It is recommended that a grant of £3,500 be approved subject to the delivery of the service level agreement.

Surrey Heath Arts Council

- 3.19 The Surrey Heath Arts Council evaluate applications for support from Surrey Heath-based individuals and organisations, awarding small grants (in addition to the experiences and expertise from its members) to help applicants fulfil their artistic or cultural aspirations. The Arts Council are reliant on SHBC Revenue Grant Support to be able to provide their own grants.

Due to the impact of the pandemic, the Arts Council do not feel it right to apply for 2021/22 as their activity has been so quiet and this year's grant remains almost untouched. The Arts Council wished for it to be acknowledged within this report that they will be looking to apply again in the future once we return to some sort of normality.

Creative Minds Community – New Application

- 3.20 Creative Minds Community are part of the Creative Minds Collective. In 2016 Creative Minds opened the Youth Theatre at Camberley Theatre under the name Creative Minds Academy and in 2019 established the Creative Minds Community which was formed as an outlet for Community Events and Theatre Projects.

Grant funding is being sought to support Creative Minds Community in hosting the '24 Hour Musical 2021', which recruits community players (some with no experience whatsoever) to rehearse and put on a fully staged and costumed musical in just 24 hours. The final show is attended and supported by friends, families, colleagues and community members, and in previous years (excluding 2020 which was hosted virtually) the show has sold out its maximum capacity of 200 at Camberley Theatre.

Creative Minds Community aim to provide an inclusive atmosphere made accessible for anyone in the community, where the production values and final product are as important as the opportunities offered to the audience, cast and crew. Each production may benefit a chosen charity by way of donation, gift or performance and in 2021 this will be 'Acting for Others', a charity supporting theatre workers impacted by the pandemic.

Creative Minds Community are requesting support to the value of £5,000 towards their show costs which are anticipated to be in the region of £6,300. While formal audited accounts have not been provided, a bank statement shows balance at bank on 31/03/2020 was £12.43.

While it is acknowledged this has been a very difficult year for the theatre industry, It is recommended not to provide a grant in this instance as participants pay to take part in the 24 hour musical and tickets are sold to cover production costs (if a performance is possible in 2021). With funding requests generally greater than the amount of funding available, it is considered there may be other organisations within this report where funding would be more appropriately distributed.

Camberley Cricket Club – New Application

- 3.21 Camberley Cricket Club are constituted as a 'community benefits society' (not-for-profit) with the aim of providing opportunities to local residents of all ages and abilities to learn, participate or simply enjoy the game of cricket.

The club has a substantial membership with 120 senior and 135 junior members. In particular junior membership has grown by over 30% in the past two years as more children, particularly girls, have taken up the sport. The club is currently looking to invest in new outdoor nets and other infrastructure to improve facilities which will allow even more children to take part, and within their application acknowledge the role the club plays in improving health and wellbeing within the community.

The club also hire out the facility for occasions such as wakes and celebrations (excluding periods of closure mandated under Covid-19) and provide an area for residents to walk with their dogs for regular exercise. Eleven local societies/groups use club facilities to hold their meetings with users including the U3A, Rotary club, various fitness and art classes and local resident bodies (although usage has been affected by the pandemic).

Income is primarily generated through subscription fees, room hire, affiliate income and profit from the bar. The largest items of expenditure include 'cricket costs', salary & NICs, ground maintenance and wider repairs and maintenance.

Camberley Cricket Club are applying for £6,000 towards forecasted 2021/22 costs of £124,000 (this figure includes £15,000 of depreciation). Unrestricted reserves at 31/03/2020 were £14,265 having made a small profit of £631 over the year. The club also has significant fixed assets as owner of their site and a

deposit account with £47,000 of grant funding though this can only be used towards a new outdoor net facility.

The crucial role sports clubs play within the Surrey Heath community should not be understated, but it does not appear the club would be dependent on SHBC grant funding and with total funding requests greater than the amount of funding available, it is recommended not to provide a grant in this instance.

It is recommended the club consider an application to the Council's Community Fund grant scheme as an alternative for support with the development of their outdoor net facility and associated infrastructure improvements.

4. Options

- 4.1 The Executive has the option to;
- i) Fund the organisations in line with the "2021/22 Proposals" to include awards and the delegated recommendation decisions to be finalised by the Executive Head of Transformation and the Portfolio Holder for Support and Safeguarding as outlined in column in Annex A, all of which are subject to the delivery of service level agreements;
 - ii) Fund the organisations applications at a greater or lesser percentage of their requested sums;
 - iii) Not fund any of the organisations.

5. Proposals

- 5.1 It is suggested to approve as outlined in 4.1.1 above.

6. Corporate Objectives and Key Priorities

- 6.1 The funding of voluntary organisations allows the Council to meet its objectives to:
- Work in partnership with local organisations to provide support to the community and diverse open space and recreation facilities.
 - Understanding and supporting local voluntary groups.
 - Significantly contribute to civic pride through the provision of events and green spaces.
 - Work in partnership with the voluntary and third sector to extend opportunities in the Borough.
 - Encouraging greater involvement from local clubs and organisations including volunteering.

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

- 7.1 The organisations support vulnerable people with information, advice and/or funding and increase participation in activities to improve social inclusion.

8. Environmental Impact

- 8.1 Providing support to a number of these organisations helps protect the borough's environment.

9. Officer Comments

- 9.1 The proposals as set out in Annex A will maintain the Council's commitment to recently grant funded organisations. Despite this and our ongoing commitment, we are not able to guarantee future funding levels.

Annexes	Annex A. Grant application summary & proposal Annex B. 20/21 Service Level Agreement performance to date
Background Papers	All grant application forms
Author/contact details	Jayne Boitoult - Community Partnership Officer Jayne.boitoult@surreyheath.gov.uk Ben Sword - Commercial and Community Development Manager Ben.sword@surreyheath.gov.uk
Head of Service	Louise Livingston - Executive Head of Transformation Daniel Harrison - Executive Head of Business

ANNEX A - Grant Application, Summary & Proposals

Organisation	Grant Use	2020/21 GRANT AWARD	Grant Request 21/22	% of Annual Overall Running Costs	2021/22 PROPOSALS	Other Council in-kind benefits for the year ending 31/03/20
Surrey Heath Citizens Advice (CASH)	Helps people from within the community to resolve their legal, money and other problems.	80,000	80,000	35.0%	80,000	Offices £25,000 & Car parking no specific cost
Voluntary Support North Surrey	The service has a number of roles including developing volunteering, providing advice on governance and funding for voluntary organisations.	30,000	31,000	8.0%	30,000	Office subsidy £8,400 Car parking £2,350
Surrey Heath Age Concern	Provides a coffee shop in Camberley for use by the 50+ age group, a visiting and befriending service and an information signposting and support service.	10,000	20,000	17.8%	10,000	Tea room 10,000 Car parking £2,850
Camberley Central Job Club	Provision a Job Club facility within Camberley that includes a dedicated course helping clients return to work	6,000	9,984	44%	7,000	N/A

Organisation	Grant Use	2020/21 GRANT AWARD	Grant Request 21/22	% of Annual Overall Running Costs	2021/22 PROPOSALS	Other Council in-kind benefits for the year ending 31/03/20
Catalyst support	Provision of a community football team to help with mental health and health and wellbeing	4,000	1,500	100%	1,500	N/A
Penificent Ltd	Running workshops in schools with comics to encourage creativity	N/A	40,000	7%	Decline	N/A
Lightwater Connected	Umbrella organisation representing 3 village organisations – not formalised yet	N/A	5,000	77%	Decline and invite to apply next year	N/A
Camberley Care Trust	Car transport service and handyman service	N/A	5,000	23%	Decline	
The Autism Trust	To recruit two part time learning support assistants to enable the expansion of the horticultural therapy	10,000	10,000	18.4%	Defer 5,000	N/A

Organisation	Grant Use	2020/21 GRANT AWARD	Grant Request 21/22	% of Annual Overall Running Costs	2021/22 PROPOSALS	Other Council in-kind benefits for the year ending 31/03/20
The Hope Hub	To provide a service to those who are homeless or preventing homeless, and a crisis care fund.	17,000	40,000	12.9%	31,500	£18,500 office subsidy
VSNS – Time to Talk	To provide a visiting and befriending service 'time to talk'	10,000	10,000	22.2%	10,000	N/A
Sub Total (Part 1)		£167,000	£252,484		£176,500	£67,100

Organisation	Grant Use	2020/21 GRANT AWARD £	Grant Request 21/22	% of Annual Overall Running Costs	2021/22 PROPOSALS £	Other Council in-kind benefits for the year ending 31/03/20
Basingstoke Canal Authority	Revenue support in maintaining facilities.	10,000	10,000	3.5%	10,000	Not Applicable
Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership	Revenue support in maintaining the facilities offered to residents and visitors to the Blackwater Valley	10,000	10,000	3.9%	10,000	Not Applicable
Surrey Heath Sports Council	Distribution of small grants locally to gifted and talented athletes and coaches	3,500	3,500	100%	3,500	Not Applicable
Surrey Heath Arts Council	Distribution of grant aid to promote the arts in the borough	1,500	0	0%	0	Not Applicable
Creative Minds Community	Support delivery of '24 Hour Musical' 2021	N/A	5,000	79.3%	0	Not Applicable

Camberley Cricket Club	Providing opportunities to local residents of all ages and abilities to learn, participate or enjoy the game of cricket.	N/A	6,000	4.8%	0	Not Applicable
Sub – total (Part 2)		£25,000	£34,500		£23,500	
TOTAL (Part 1 & 2)		£192,000	£277,984		£200,000	

Annex B: Service Level Agreements – The Outcomes to Date (2020/21)

Organisation	Service Level Agreement	Achievements
Citizens Advice Surrey Heath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver the changing needs as outlined within your Business Development Plan 2019-22 as attached in Annex A, and any subsequent versions introduced to reflect the changing local trends and priorities: • To continue to develop joint funding bids where appropriate to meet local priorities: • To increase the average daily numbers of clients interacted with to 30: • To acknowledge the support of the Council in all publicity: • To maintain independently examined accounts to be provided as requested by the Council: • To continue with a community fundraising strategy, that builds the organisational financial independence. • To assist where necessary with the Surrey Heath Poverty/Project Initiative. • To work collaboratively when relevant with any agency/voluntary organisations such as Camberley and District Job Club, The Autism Trust and others. • To be fully inclusive from an internal and external perspective. 	<p>Achieved - ongoing</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Broadly achieved within the Covid restrictions</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved within the Covid restrictions</p> <p>Achieved – ongoing</p> <p>Achieved – ongoing</p> <p>Achieved</p>

<p>Voluntary Support North Surrey</p>	<p>The Provider agrees to deliver the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver the outcomes and outputs specified within the 2020/21 Partnership Funding Agreement with SCC/the CCGs/Runnymede BC/Spelthorne BC. • To supporting community groups in the Old Dean. • To support the organisation and operation of the Surrey Heath Show. • To promote awareness of the services offered by VSNS, by attending a minimum of 8 community events, and look to exploring this via social media. • To maintain an office base within Surrey Heath that is available from 9-4pm, Monday to Friday. • Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity. • To undertake fundraising that builds VSNS financial independence. • To retain all existing service standards within Surrey Heath, pending any alteration and/or expansion of provision and/or area. • To continue to promote the Surrey Heath Lottery at all appropriate events attended. • To assist where necessary on any other relevant projects i.e. poverty 	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>Achieved.</p> <p>Cancelled this year due to Covid lockdown Some achieved within the social distancing restrictions Achieved – although now operated remotely</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved.</p> <p>Achieved</p>
<p>Surrey Heath Age Concern</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collaboratively with VSNS, TTT on V& B service in maximising the impact to recruit and retain volunteers. • Introduce a maximum waiting time of 2 months from the time of referral with 85% of clients receiving a service to reduce isolation. • To recruit new volunteers as necessary to achieve the above. • Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity. 	<p>Yes, achieved</p> <p>Achieved – waiting list of 4</p> <p>Achieved. Achieved. Achieved.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain audited accounts to be provided as requested by the Council, to retain your community fundraising strategy, building your financial independence. • To introduce an accurate system to monitor the user numbers at the Rainbow Café (and if possible where they come from). • 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>In progress within the restrictions of both lockdowns.</p>
Camberley Central Job Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide employment training for those in high need within Surrey Heath, and to work with partners such as JCP to prioritise the support for those who have been unemployed for the longest periods, 6 months and longer, with a progress report to be provided at the end of each quarter. • To provide accurate information on the outcomes of the services provided: numbers of those who have found work, numbers of clients seen, referral information, who, and numbers, with a progress report to be provided at the end of each quarter. • Over the period of this SLA for 70 to find work through this service with CJC providing evidence of this achievement. • For those who represent the organisation to retain a professional standard at all times when working with partners. • Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity. • To work collaboratively with the Hope Hub and CASH and other local groups where work areas overlap. • To complete the newly introduced, monthly annual plan on time. • Maintain accounts, to be reviewed by a qualified auditor as requested by the Council. 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No, but the accounts are checked by an independent auditor</p> <p>Yes</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To further develop a community fundraising strategy that reduces the financial dependence from the council, specifically this year to source separately the costs to meet the cost of the replacement ICT equipment and the Carers or any other Work Fayre event. • To increase the numbers attending the weekly drop-in sessions on a Monday morning to an average of 22. • 	<p>Working towards</p> <p>No as the club has been shut to face to face meetings during the lockdown periods</p>
Basingstoke Canal Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20,000 volunteer hours worked on the canal each year with 150 volunteers regularly engaged on a range of activities to support the canal. • Increase the percentage of income generated by the BCA over the next year to reach 30% of total income. • Achieve 30,000 annual visits into the canal visitor centre, acting as a hub for visitors to the canal in Surrey Heath • Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity. • Maintain audited accounts to be provided as requested by the Council. 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p>
Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners planners and leisure officers to increase public greenspace in the Valley including new SANG sites. • Manage the Hawley Meadows/Blackwater Park SANG and Swan Lake Park SANG both used by SHBC. Produce annual reports for these sites. • Organise and lead 150 conservation projects within the Valley for local volunteers, involving 1,500 people, at least 15 projects involving 100 people in Surrey Heath. 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Not Achieved (due to pandemic)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to partnership budget as agreed by BVCP members committee with at least £220,000 raised additional to core LA contributions. • Value of volunteer activity in direct support of BVCP activities to be £150,000. Work to the value of £7,500 will be undertaken on sites within Surrey Heath Borough. • Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity. • Maintain audited accounts to be provided as requested by the Council 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved</p>
The Autism Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide accurate information on the total number of clients who have sought a service, identified in to various categories, such as: service for both long and short Asdan courses, number of coffee mornings hosted with attendance numbers, Lego and Craft Clubs, and advice and support, where possible to identify those who reside in Surrey Heath and in other areas. progress report to be provided at the end of each quarter. • Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity. • To make contact and where possible to work collaboratively with Voluntary Support North Surrey, Citizens Advice and Camberley and District Job Club plus any other local groups where mutual benefits exist where your work areas overlap.. • Maintain accounts, to be reviewed by a qualified auditor as requested by the Council. • To further develop a community fundraising strategy that reduces the financial dependence from the council. • To attend 10 community type events during the year to increase awareness of your organisation. 	<p>Achieved – clients that have benefitted in SH very limited with ASDAN course = 1 Coffee mornings restricted due to Covid The Information service provided extends to England and Wales with no facility to identify the home area - 14</p> <p>Partially</p> <p>Contact made, no partnership working as yet</p> <p>Not known as yet</p> <p>Fundraising ongoing</p> <p>Restricted due to Covid</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To distribute a minimum of two rounds of marketing/communications with local schools, GP's etc. To retain the ASDAN service option throughout the year. 	<p>Restricted due to Covid</p> <p>Restricted due to Covid only 1 client benefitted in Surrey Heath</p>
Catalyst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To deliver the Welcome Wizard football sessions, for males and females for 48 weeks at the all-weather court in Frimley Lodge Park. To organise and deliver an annual football tournament. To promote the availability of this service, share information with the Hope Hub amongst other Surrey Heath not for profit groups. To actively search for alternative funding streams. To confirm/review new referral methods to ensure that an inclusive approach is adopted to improve accessibility. To achieve an average of 25 clients per session. To provide quarterly statistics on the service developments, which include details of: user numbers, their location, and referral routes and gender. 	<p>No – due to covid – only operational for Sept 20 and re-started from 04/12</p> <p>No due to Covid No due to not running</p> <p>Unclear</p> <p>No</p> <p>No – 16 Partially</p>
The Hope Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £10,000 to be used specifically to contribute to salary costs to employ a part-time Case Worker to include Outreach and covering the whole of Surrey Heath for the full period or the grant. Confirmation the post is filled and the work pattern: to provide client numbers seen, the referral method if applicable, the location and outcome. Outreach may be carried out by any competent frontline member of staff and accompanied by a key Volunteer at times. To fund the crisis provision gap for the remainder of Surrey Heath that is not covered by the grant payments from by Frimley Fuel Allotments. To provide client numbers, locations, and costs. 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Achieved where possible</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide quarterly statistics on the service and user numbers of the Hope Hub services. • To assist where necessary on any other relevant projects throughout the year. 	Achieved Achieved where possible
Time to Talk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the service provision for a further 12 months until 1st April 2021 • Work collaboratively with Surrey Heath Age Concern by maximising the impact to recruit and retain volunteers. • Increase volunteer numbers to 40 (20 at present) • Introduce a maximum waiting time of 2 months for 85% of those referred to be offered a service, meeting their needs and requirements. • To adopt a fully inclusive approach. • To assist where necessary on any other relevant projects throughout the year. 	Achieved Achieved Achieved Achieved Achieved Achieved
Surrey Heath Sports Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist 8 talented sports people at County level and above with financial support • Assist 4 clubs and/or those living and coaching in Surrey Heath by subsidising coaching courses • Provide hardship bursaries to people with financial barriers to participation in sport. • Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity. • Maintain audited accounts to be provided as requested by the Council 	Achieved Not Achieved Achieved Achieved Achieved
Surrey Heath Arts Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award grants to individuals and organisations connected with the arts so they can develop their work • To sponsor activities which promote the arts at community events such as the Surrey Heath Show • Actively promote and lead an Arts Council event as part of our strategy to attract younger members on to the Surrey Heath Arts Council 	Not achieved (due to pandemic) Not Achieved (due to pandemic) Not Achieved (due to pandemic)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acknowledge the support of the Council in all its publicity.• Maintain audited accounts to be provided as requested by the Council	Achieved Achieved
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