

Public Document Pack

Date of meeting Monday, 3rd March, 2014
Time 7.00 pm
Venue Committee Room 2, Civic Offices, Merrial Street,
Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 2AG
Contact Louise Stevenson

Grants Assessment Panel

AGENDA

PART 1 – OPEN AGENDA

- 1 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 1 - 2)
To agree as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December, 2013.
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive declarations of interest from Members on items included in this agenda
- 3 Community Chest** (Pages 3 - 8)
- 4 Small Grants** (Pages 9 - 20)
- 5 Cultural Grants** (Pages 21 - 78)
- 6 Voluntary Grant** (Pages 79 - 84)
- 7 URGENT BUSINESS**
To consider any business which is urgent within the meaning of Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act 1972

Members: Councillors Mrs Astle, Bannister, Mrs Burnett, Mrs Heames, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Peers, Mrs Rout, Miss Walklate and Mrs Winfield (Chair)

PLEASE NOTE: The Council Chamber and Committee Room 1 are fitted with a loop system. In addition, there is a volume button on the base of the microphones. A portable loop system is available for all other rooms upon request.

Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training/development requirements from any of the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.

Meeting Quorums :- 16+= 5 Members; 10-15=4 Members; 5-9=3 Members; 5 or less = 2 Members.

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 1

GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL

Monday, 9th December, 2013

Present: Councillor Mrs Joan Winfield – in the Chair

Councillors Bannister, Mrs Heames, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Peers, Mrs Rout,
Miss Walklate and Mrs Williams

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 September 2013 be agreed as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

3. COMMUNITY CHEST

The Panel considered a report informing it of Community Chest applications processed for the financial years April 2013 to March 2014.

The Panel also considered an application from Madeley Parish Council..

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Panel note the applications received and processed to date.

(b) That Madeley Parish Council be awarded a grant of £964.00 as applied.

4. SMALL GRANTS

Consideration was given to three applications for a Small Grant, included one deferred from the previous meeting. The applicant for Green Age (at Blore Heath Farm) attended the meeting to answer questions from the Panel.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the following grants be approved:

Organisation	£
Green Age (at Blore Heath Farm)	£1,500 (£1,000 from Small Grants budget + £500 from the Cultural Grants budget)

(b) That the application from The Alice Charity be deferred to the Panel's next meeting on 3 March 2014, in order to ascertain further information regarding referrals from other agencies.

- (c) That the application from North Staffs Pensioners Convention be deferred to the Panel's next meeting on 3 March 2014, in order to ascertain further information regarding the organisation's other funding.
- (d) That the recommended actions contained within the Grants Budgets 2014/2015 report be approved.

5. CULTURAL GRANTS

Consideration was given to three applications for a cultural grant.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the application from The Friends of Talke be deferred to the Panel's next meeting on 3 March 2014, in order to ascertain other funding the organisation may be in receipt of.
- (b) That the application from the North Staffs Symphony Orchestra be deferred to the Panel's next meeting on 3 March 2014, to which the North Staffs Symphony Orchestra will be invited to attend to answer questions from the Panel, in particular with regard to engagement with young musicians.
- (c) That the application from B'Arts be deferred, with a meeting to be organised between B'Arts and the Panel members at the Museum and authority to be delegated to the Chair regarding the awarding of any grant.

6. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business considered.

COUNCILLOR MRS JOAN WINFIELD
Chair

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE
GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL**

Monday 3rd March 2014

1. **HEADING** **Community Chest**

Submitted by: Sara Shuker

Portfolio: Resources & Efficiency

Ward(s) affected: All Wards affected

Purpose of the Report

To inform Members of Community Chest applications processed at the time of writing this report for the period April 2013 to March 2014

Recommendations

**Panel note the applications received & processed to date.
Panel to consider application from Maer & Aston Parish Council**

Reasons

Grants Assessment Panel's remit is to receive reports on Community Chest, and, if appropriate, determine whether applications meet the Council's Corporate Priorities and merit an award.

1. **Background**

1.1 58 Applications have been received for the financial year 2013/14 from 15 Locally Based Bodies: -

- A total of £29,737.25 has been granted from £42,154.07 applied for, if applications awaiting further information are granted there is £31,532.76 left in the Community Chest budget, which needs to be allocated by 31st March 2014 and there can be no carry forward balance as in previous years.
- 39 received full grants applied for and 9 received partial grant, 2 received no grant, 1 application was withdrawn, 6 are awaiting further information and 1 requires a panel decision
- Maer & Aston Parish Council have applied for Maer War memorial for a total of £500.00, however this application was submitted to Whitmore Parish Council for approval in which they have recommended the full amount for this application. Previously when Locally Based Bodies have applied themselves for Community Chest grants these have gone through the Grants Assessment Panel for consideration and to come out of their own budget, however, there is nothing writing to say that Locally Based Bodies cannot apply to each other. If this application was

awarded by the Grants Assessment Panel as understood before Maer & Aston Parish Council only have £25.00 left in their budget for this financial year.

There is to be another application from Maer & Aston Parish Council for the War Memorial from Chapel & Hill Chorlton Parish Council who is to recommend a grant of £360.00

2. **Issues**

2.1 1 Application has been received for a Panel decision from Maer & Aston Parish Council

2.2 Previously Locally based body applications have come out of their own budget, however panel to consider whether application from Maer & Aston Parish Council be funded from Whitmore Parish Council's Budget.

3. **Options Considered** (if any)

N/A

4. **Proposal**

4.1 Panel note the information on grants awarded to date in 2013/14.

4.2 Panel to consider application from Maer & Aston Parish Council.

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

6. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

6.1 All applications approved cover a range of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities

7. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

N/A

8. **Equality Impact Assessment**

N/A

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

9.1 A breakdown of current budgets for the Locally Based Bodies 2013/14

10. **Major Risks**

N/A

11. **Key Decision Information**

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

13. **Recommendations**

13.1 Panel note the applications received & processed to date.

13.2 Panel to consider application from Maer & Aston Parish Council

14. **List of Appendices**

15. **Background Papers**

15.1 Applications made from April 2013 to March 2014

15.2 Application from Maer & Aston Parish Council

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No.	REF.	PANEL7	Organisation/Project.	Deferred.	Date completed*	Applied for.	Granted.	Full or part	Total spend	Budget	Left	Report Form rec'd	
Audley	1 APC 1314 01		Audley Allotments Association/Secure Fencing for Audley Allotments		12.09.13	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	F					
									£1,000.00	£ 3,720.00	£ 2,720.00		
BB&W	2 BB&W 1314 01 3 BB&W 1314 02		Betley & District Village Hall/Steps from hall to stage Madeley First responders/Vehicle replacement		05.08.13 18.11.13	£500.00 £480.00	£250.00 £240.00	P P					
									£ 480.00	£ 1,117.62	£ 627.62		
C&HC									£0.00	£ 1,081.28	£ 1,081.28		
Chesterton	4 CCF 1314 01 5 CCF 1314 02 6 CCF 1314 03 7 CCF 1314 04 8 CCF 1314 05 9 CCF 1314 06 10 CCF 1314 07 11 CCF 1314 08 12 CCF 1314 09		3rd Chesterton Guides/Girlguiding activities Sugarcraft/Sugarcraft Recreational Art and craft group/Recreational art and craft group Salvation Army Parent & Toddler Group/Parent&Toddler The Crown Red Street FC/The crown red street fo Sporting Communities/Rugby World Cup Fit to Dance/Fit to Dance. Red Street Scout Group/10th Birthday Camp. Albert Bear Stay and play/		05.08.13 05.08.13 05.08.13 05.08.13 12.09.13 22.10.13 30.10.13 24.10.13 06.12.13	£500.00 £540.00 £1,000.00 £1,000.00 £846.00 £620.00 £712.00 £1,368.00 £830.00	£500.00 £540.00 £1,000.00 £1,000.00 £846.00 £620.00 £712.00 £0.00 £362.00	F F F F F F F Z P					
									£5,580.00	£ 5,580.00	£ -		
Clayton	13 CCC 1314 01 14 CCC 1314 02		Midsummer Mayhem/Midsummer Mayhem Newcastle Baptist Church/heating system		08.07.13 12.09.13	£500.00 £1,000.00	£500.00 £500.00	F P					
									£ 1,000.00	£ 2,005.60	£ 1,005.60		
Keele	15 KPC 1314 01		Parish Church of St John the Baptist Keele/Keele Pilgrim Fest		29.04.13	£150.00	£150.00	F					
									£150.00	£ 2,000.00	£ 1,850.00		
Kidsgrove	16 KTC 1314 01 17 KTC 1314 02 18 KTC 1314 03 19 KTC 1314 04 20 KTC 1314 05 21 KTC 1314 06 22 KTC 1314 07 23 KTC 1314 08 24 KTC 1314 09		Tom Lowe Amateur Boxing Club/Own Boxing ring Linley & Kidsgrove RUFC/Local fitness and recruitment project The Potteries Guinea Pig Rescue/Welfare and animal charity event St Thomas Church, Kidsgrove/The Wade Community Centre Kidsgrove Carnival Association/Summer Holiday Special Trinity Dance Troupe/2014 season Friends of Kidsgrove Station Gardens The Friends of Talke/The friends of Talke Probus Club of Kidsgrove/New website		24.06.13 05.06.13 04.07.13 04.07.13 12.08.13 01.07.13 12.08.13 12.08.13 06.12.13	£1,000.00 £875.00 £240.00 £1,000.00 £1,000.00 £1,000.00 £500.00 £1,000.00 £360.00	£1,000.00 £875.00 £240.00 £500.00 £1,000.00 £0.00 £500.00 £1,000.00 £360.00	F F F P F Z F F F					
									£4,475.00	£ 11,160.00	£6,685.00		
Loggerheads	28 LPC 1314 01 29 LPC 1314 02		Knighton Village Hall/Replacement stage curtains for soundproofing hall Ashley Memorial Hall/Memorial hall refurbishment phase 1 (toilets)		04.02.14 04.02.14	£1,000.00 £920.00	£1,000.00 £920.00	F F					
									£1,920.00	£ 1,920.00	£ -		
Madeley	30 MPC 1314 01 31 MPC 1314 02 32 MPC 1314 03		Madeley Tidy Group/Investment planting Vicarage Lane Madeley Madeley White Star FC/Madeley White Star FC Madeley Parish Council		22.07.13 12.09.13 09.12.13	£335.74 £700.00 £964.00	£335.74 £700.00 £964.00	F F F					
									£1,999.74	£ 2,000.37	£ 0.63		
M&Aston	33 MAPC 1314 01 34 MAPC 1314 02 35 MAPC 1314 03 36 MAPC 1314 04		Aston and Willoughbridge WI/Lightweight table Maer Village Hall/Installation of thermal insulation ceiling tiles and lights Maer & Aston Parish Council/Maer War memorial Aston Village Hall/Redecorating the Hall		17.09.13 13.01.14 13.01.14 13.01.14	£100.00 £450.00 £500.00 £450.00	£100.00 £450.00 £500.00 £450.00	F F F F					
									£550.00	£ 1,025.00	£ 475.00		
Marsh Hall	37 MHCC 1314 01 38 MHCC 1314 02 39 MHCC 1314 03 40 MHCC 1314 04		14th Basford Scout Group/Purchase of equipment due to restart of the scout section 7th Newcastle Brownies/New tables Wolstanton Bowling Club/Bowling green renovation Wolstanton residents association/Christmas in Wolstanton		29.04.13 18.11.13 06.12.13 05.02.14	£755.00 £74.97 £826.00 £500.00	£755.00 £74.97 £826.00 £500.00	F F F F					
									£2,155.97	£11,231.90	£ 9,075.93		
Ramsey Road	41 RRCC 1314 01 42 RRCC 1314 02 43 RRCC 1314 03 44 RRCC 1314 04		Castletown Grange/Get up and get on Knutton Community Centre/Help for heros Newcastle Staffs WMC/Senior Citizens christmas dinner K&S Out of school club/Let there be light		31.07.13 31.07.13 23.09.13 10.10.13	£900.00 £1,000.00 £1,000.00 £1,124.00	£900.00 £1,000.00 £1,000.00 £1,000.00	F F F F					
									£3,900.00	£ 5,121.10	£ 1,221.10		
Silverdale	45 SPC 1314 01 46 SPC 1314 02 47 SPC 1314 03 48 SPC 1314 04		74th Silverdale Scout group/Arts Project Silverdale tots (playgroup/Silverdale tots) The Raise project/ Silverdale over 60's/Over 60's club		01.10.13 22.10.13 01.10.13 30.10.13	£600.00 £500.00 £802.86 £1,000.00	£600.00 £500.00 £802.86 £317.14	F F F P					
									£2,220.00	£ 2,220.00	£ -		
Whitfield (formerly Harriet Higgins)	49 WCC 1314 01 50 WCC 1314 02 51 WCC 1314 03 52 WCC 1314 04 53 WCC 1314 05 54 WCC 1314 06		15th St. Giles' & St. George's Scout Group/New Beginnings-- CANCELLED Midsummer Mayhem/Midsummer Mayhem Staffordshire Knights Youth Marching Band/Purchase of Aluphone instrument Arch North Staffs/Morrison Till receipts DV awareness project Falkirk Grange- Aspire Renewal of TV licence ST Mary's Catholic PTA/Garden project		24.06.13 12.08.13 09.09.13 05.11.13 07.11.13	£880.00 £500.00 £1,000.00 £495.00 £145.50 £300.00	£0.00 £500.00 £1,000.00 £350.00 £145.50 £51.04	w F F F F F					
									£1,850.00	£ 5,649.56	£ 3,799.56		
Whitmore	55 WPC 1314 01 56 WPC 1314 02		Whitmore Art Group/Exhibition of arts and crafts Stalers Bowling Club/Repairs to equipment shed and replacing rotten timbers		13.05.13	£895.00 £415.00	£250.00	P P					
									£250.00	£ 1,031.28	£ 781.28		
Wye Rd.	57 WRCC 1314 01 58 WRCC 1314 02		BowBuddies Newcastle-under-Lyme Friendship Centre		07.05.13 24.06.13	£1,000.00 £1,000.00	£1,000.00 £1,000.00	F F					
									£2,000.00	£ 5,940.76	£ 3,940.76		
									£42,154.07	£29,737.25	£ 29,540.71	£ 62,804.47	£ 33,263.76

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NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE
GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL COMMITTEE**

Date Monday 3rd March 2014.

1. **HEADING** SMALL GRANTS.

Submitted by: Robin Wiles, Partnerships Officer (Community Development).

Portfolio: Resources & Efficiency.

Ward(s) affected: All bar two of the applications for consideration potentially affect all Wards.

One application primarily affects Silverdale & Parksite and Knutton & Silverdale Wards.

One application primarily affects Chesterton and Talke Wards.

Purpose of the Report

To consider applications submitted to the Small Grants scheme for the final quarter of 2013/14.

Recommendations (to be in bold)

Panel consider the applications submitted with a view to determining whether a grant should be awarded, and if so, at what level.

Panel receive information regarding Grants Budgets for 2014/15.

Reasons

Grants Assessment Panel's remit is to determine which of the grant applications meet the Council's Corporate Priorities and merit an award.

1. **Background**

1.1 The Small Grants budget for 2013/14 is £22,000.00.

1.2 Voluntary & Community groups can apply for a grant of up to £2,500.00.

1.3 At the previous Grants Assessment Panel meeting held on Monday 9th December 2013 one grant of £1,000.00 was awarded. To date, nine applications totalling £12,200.00 have been awarded, leaving £9,780.00 in the budget.

1.4 2 applications were deferred from the meeting held on Monday 9th December 2013, for further information to be obtained in respect of queries from the Panel.

2. **Issues**

2.1 Applications. 12 applications, including 2 deferred from the previous meeting, are for consideration at this meeting, at a total of £23,433.48. For further information about applications for consideration for this meeting, please see Appendix One.

2.2 Grants Budgets for 2014/15.

A discussion was held at the meeting held on Monday 3rd December 2013 about reductions in grants budgets for 2014/15.

The proposed 2014/15 budget will be formally approved by the Council at the end of February 2014. Confirmation of the grants budgets for 2014/15 will be brought to the meeting.

2.3 Underspend.

The Green Grants budget, as at 12th February 2014, shows an underspend of £2,051.06, with 2 applications totalling up to £500.00 pending. Please see Appendix 3.

There is also the likelihood of underspend in the Community Chest budget.

Any underspend will not be carried forward to 2014/15.

3. **Options Considered** (if any)

3.1 For each application, GAP can award:-

- Full grant.
- Partial Grant.
- No Grant.
- Decisions cannot be deferred since this is the final Panel meeting of the financial year.

3.2 At the meeting held on Monday 9th December 2013, recommendations were approved as to how to ameliorate the effects of grant budget reductions. The table below provides an update.

Action.	Update.
Reduce the maximum grant level, enabling more grants to be issued than if they stay as at present. As far as perceptions are concerned, this may be very significant.	Details to be agreed.
The apportionment of the overall budget between the different grants could be reviewed, with the potential to move funds between them or indeed to merge some grants.	For further consideration.
Review the criteria for all grants with a view to being more rigorous in our requirements and expectations.	Ongoing.
Working with voluntary & community sector partners (e.g. VAST) to provide more comprehensive & consistent funding advice & support.	Ongoing.
Open and transparent discussions with the voluntary & community sector to inform and explain about the reductions.	Presentation to Newcastle Voluntary Sector Forum, 26/1/14.

3.3 The Panel has the facility to move funds between grants budgets should there be a justifiable need. Given that any underspend will not be carried forward to 2014/15, it would be advisable that this be considered.

4. **Proposal.**

4.1 The applications received are from eligible organisations, and contribute towards meeting the Council's Corporate Priorities and the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

4.2 Projects (not organisations) that receive a grant in two successive years are required to take a break for the following year before they are eligible to apply again.

4.3 Members consider each application on its merits, taking into account other possible funding options that applicant may be able to apply to.

4.4 The Panel note the update in managing the reductions in grants budgets.

4.5 The Panel give the Chair authority to approve any reallocation of unspent funds in grants budgets as appropriate.

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

5.1 There may be other sources of funding to which applicants can be directed should they be awarded no grant, or a partial grant.

5.2 Grants previously awarded in 2013/14 could be legitimately given an additional award from unspent grant budgets unless there are good grounds not to. This might be preferable than the unspent funds being unused.

6. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

6.1 All the applications for consideration meet both Corporate Priorities and those of the Sustainable Community Strategy – please see the applications for further details.

7. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

7.1 Not applicable.

8. **Equality Impact Assessment**

8.1 All applications, if awarded, would be expected to have a positive impact on the communities that they benefit.

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

9.1 The balance in the budget for the Small Grants scheme is £9,780.00.

9.2 Applications submitted for this GAP meeting total £23,433.48, more than double the remaining balance.

10. **Major Risks**

10.1 Not Applicable.

11. **Key Decision Information**

11.1 All bar 2 applications potentially affect all Wards.

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

12.1 Not Applicable.

13. **Recommendations**

13.1 Members consider each application on its merits, taking into account other possible funding options that applicants may be able to access.

13.2 Members consider how best to manage the re-allocation of unspent grants budgets.

14. **List of Appendices**

14.1 Small Grant applications – details.

14.2 2013/14 Application Record.

14.3 Green Grants budget summary.

15. **Background Papers**

15.1 Copies of applications will be e-mailed to Panel members. Hard copies will not be made available to reduce printing costs, but can be viewed in advance - please contact Robin Wiles on 742493 or robin.wiles@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk.

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	COMMENTS
<u>Deferred from GAP meeting, 9th December 2013.</u>							
The Alice Charity.	SG 1314 10	£2,500.00.	<p>The Alice Charity is a Registered Charity, based in Silverdale, that provides social, emotional & financial support to families in need in Newcastle & Stoke. 31% of families referred “since June” were from Newcastle.</p> <p>They are seeking funds for their “Little Kindness” project to include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ £1,000.00 to provide 10 families with items needed such as furniture, white goods. ➤ £1,050.00 for 3 months rent. ➤ £150.00 for 3 months phone costs. ➤ £300.00 for 3 months volunteer transport expenses. <p>www.alicecharity.com</p> <p>A decision was deferred at the December 2013 meeting for further information; this is summarised in a Supplementary Report.</p>	c£10,000.00.	No.	£3,000.00 confirmed.	

SMALL GRANTS – REPORT TO GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL Monday 3rd March 2014.

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	COMMENTS
North Staffs Pensioners Convention.	SG 1314 11	£2,500.00.	<p>North Staffs Pensioners Convention is a member organisation representing the needs of older people across the area – currently they have 400+ members.</p> <p>They are seeking funds towards their running costs.</p> <p>www.greypowernorthstaffs.org.uk.</p> <p>A decision was deferred at the December 2013 meeting for further information regarding funding:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The 3 funding sources listed as “unconfirmed” would be income that NSPC would be receiving, but the amounts totalling £12,390.00 were estimates. Therefore, it would be fair to describe them as “confirmed”, but with the amounts as estimates of the amount anticipated. ➤ They would be receiving c£4,000.00 a year for the next 2 years from Stoke-on-Trent City Council – the precise amount has not been confirmed. 	£26,280.00.	No.	c£4,000.00 confirmed; c£12,390.00 confirmed.	
DEAFvibe.	SG 1314 12	£2,430.00.	<p>DEAFvibe are a Registered Charity run by and for people with hearing impairments in North Staffordshire.</p> <p>They are seeking funds to establish a base at Bradwell Lodge.</p>	£2,430.00.	No.	£945.00 unconfirmed.	
St. Luke's PTFA.	SG 1314 13	£950.00.	The PTFA for St. Luke's Primary School in Silverdale are seeking funds for a healthy eating & cooking project with children and their families.	£950.00.	No.	No.	Food Poverty and Health Funding may be a better option.

SMALL GRANTS – REPORT TO GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL Monday 3rd March 2014.

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	COMMENTS
Challenge North Staffs.	SG 1314 14	£2,052.00.	Challenge North Staffs is the local multiple agency hate crime partnership that is managed by Staffordshire North & Stoke-on-Trent CAB. They are seeking funds towards their core running costs for 2014/15.	£116,549.00.	Yes, 2012/13, £2,052.00.	£13,300, Staffordshire County Council, confirmed. Other funding unconfirmed.	
Disability Solutions.	SG 1314 15	£2,500.00.	Disability Solutions West Midlands are a Registered Charity based in Stoke. They are a user-led organisation that works across all disabilities. They are seeking funds for a 6-month pilot project, Shopping From Home, that would support disabled people living in the community to access affordable and nutritious food	£2,500.00.	Yes. 2011/12, £2,092.00. 2010/11, £2,500.00.	N/A.	
Samaritans of Stoke & Newcastle.	SG 1314 16	£1,500.00.	Samaritans of Stoke & Newcastle are a Registered Charity that provides support and counselling for people in distress and at risk of suicide. They are seeking funding towards an advertising van to promote their services.	£3,200.00 > £4,400.00.	Yes.	£2,100.00, Stoke-on-Trent City Council.	
Action on Hearing Loss.	SG 1314 17	£1,793.00.	Action on Hearing Loss (formerly RNIB) are a Registered Charity that provides services for people with a hearing loss. They are seeking funds for a “Newcastle Hear to Meet” project – provision of befriending groups in sheltered housing schemes across Newcastle, in partnership with Aspire Housing.	£4,193.00.	No.	No.	
Orme Centre Amateur Boxing Club.	SG 1314 18	£2,500.00.	The Orme Amateur Boxing Club have run from the Orme Centre for 30 years. The Orme Centre is closing at the end of March 2014; Staffordshire County Council have agreed for the club to continue to lease their part of the Centre after that date. They are seeking funds for 12 months lease and utilities until end of March 2015.	£5,300.00.	No	£1,500.00, Staffordshire County Council, confirmed. £1,600.00 unconfirmed.	

SMALL GRANTS – REPORT TO GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL Monday 3rd March 2014.

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	COMMENTS
Status Grow. Page 16	SG 1314 19	£702.48.	Status Grow is a community growing project based in Silverdale. They are seeking funds for the costs towards a “Cooking in the Community” project.	£1,411.05.	No.	No.	
North Staffs Special Adventure Playground.	SG 1314 20	£1,506.00.	North Staffs Special Adventure Playground is a Registered Charity, situated in Newcastle, that provides educational & recreational facilities for children and young people with a range of disabilities. They are seeking funds for replacement office IT.	£1,506.00.	Yes. 2012/13, £1572.00. 2011/12, £1,500.00.	N/A.	Grants in previous 2 years.
Red Street Community Centre Management Committee.	SG 1314 21	£2,500.00.	Red Street Community Centre is due to be refurbished between June & August 2014. They are seeking funds for replacement tables & chairs in line with this.	£2,500.00.	No.	N/A.	

BUDGET	REF.	DATE REC.	ACKNOWLEDGED	APPLICANT.	PROJECT.	APPLIED.	APPLIED BALANCE.	GRANTED.	%	£ 22,000.00	DEFERRED?	END DATE.	EVAL FORM.	C.R. ENTRY?	NOTES.	2011/12?	2012/13?
GAP.																	
June '13	SG 1314 01	23/05/13	24/05/13	Savana	Counselling.	£ 2,500.00	£ 19,500.00	£ 2,500.00	100%	£ 19,500.00		Jun-14				£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
June '13	SG 1314 02	24/05/13	24/05/13	Newcastle Ladsandads	New Storage Container.	£ 770.00	£ 18,730.00	£ 770.00	100%	£ 18,730.00		Jun-14				£ -	£ -
June '13/Sep '13	SG 1314 03	25/05/13	28/05/13	North Staffs LinkLine.	North Staffs LinkLine.	£ 2,500.00	£ 16,230.00	£ 2,500.00	100%	£ 16,230.00	Sep-13	Sep-14				£ -	£ -
Sept. '13	SG 1314 04	05/08/13	05/08/13	Audley Allotments.	A project to erect security fencing around Audley allotments.	£ 1,500.00	£ 14,730.00	£ 750.00	50%	£ 15,480.00		Sep-14				£ -	£ -
Sept. '13	SG 1314 05	14/08/13	14/08/13	Landau Ltd.	Cornerstone Café (Social Enterprise).	£ 2,400.00	£ 12,330.00	£ 1,200.00	50%	£ 14,280.00		Sep-14				£ -	£ -
Sept. '13	SG 1314 06	21/08/13	27/08/13	Newcastle Lions Club.	Message in a Bottle.	£ 800.00	£ 11,530.00	£ 500.00	62%	£ 13,780.00		Sep-14				£ -	£ 800.00
Sept. '13/Dec '13	SG 1314 07	21/08/13	27/08/13	Green Age (at Blore Heath Farm)	Craftermoons.	£ 2,323.00	£ 9,207.00	£ 1,000.00	43%	£ 12,780.00	Dec-13	Sep-14			Plus £500.00 for Cultural Grants = £1,500.00	£ 1,000.00	£ -
Sept. '13	SG 1314 08	21/08/13	27/08/13	Gifted Workshops.	Music Madness.	£ 2,500.00	£ 6,707.00	£ 1,000.00	40%	£ 11,780.00		Sep-14				£ -	£ 1,950.00
Sept. '13	SG 1314 09	26/08/13	27/08/13	Peter Pan Nursery for Children with Special Need	Fund a session appeal.	£ 2,460.00	£ 4,247.00	£ 2,000.00	81%	£ 9,780.00		Sep-14			Plus £1,000.00 for Cultural Grants = £2,000.00	£ -	£ -
Dec. '13	SG 1314 10	15/10/13	18/10/13	Alice Charity.	Little Kindness.	£ 2,500.00	£ 1,747.00				Mar-13					£ -	£ -
Dec. '13	SG 1314 11	19/11/13	20/11/13	North Staffs Pensioners Convention.	North Staffs Pensioners Convention.	£ 2,500.00	-£ 753.00				Mar-13					£ -	£ -
March '14	SG 1314 12	04/02/14	04/02/14	DEAFvibe.	DEAFvibe at Bradwell Lodge.	£ 2,430.00	-£ 3,183.00									£ -	£ -
March '14	SG 1314 13	04/02/14	04/02/14	St. Luke's PTFA.	After school cooking club/cook & eat family course.	£ 950.00	-£ 4,133.00										
March '14	SG 1314 14	04/02/14	04/02/14	Challenge North Staffs.	Challenge North Staffs.	£ 2,052.00	-£ 6,185.00										
March '14	SG 1314 15	06/02/14	07/02/14	Disability Solutions.	Shopping From Home.	£ 2,500.00	-£ 8,685.00										
March '14	SG 1314 16	07/01/14	10/02/14	Samaritans of Stoke & Newcastle	Van purchase.	£ 1,500.00	-£ 10,185.00										
March '14	SG 1314 17	10/02/14	10/02/14	Action on Hearing Loss.	Newcastle Hear to Meet	£ 1,793.00	-£ 11,978.00										
March '14	SG 1314 18	10/02/14	10/02/14	Orme Centre Amateur Boxing Club.	The Orme Amateur Boxing Sustainability Fund.	£ 2,500.00	-£ 14,478.00										
March '14	SG 1314 19	11/02/14	11/02/14	Status Grow.	Cooking in the Community.	£ 702.48	-£ 15,180.48										
March '14	SG 1314 20	12/02/14	13/02/14	North Staffs Special Adventure Playground.	Replacement of old office IT equipment.	£ 1,506.00	-£ 16,686.48										
March '14	SG 1314 21	12/02/14	14/02/13	Red Street Community Centre Management Ctte.	Red Street Community Centre Furniture Upgrade/Replacement.	£ 2,500.00	-£ 19,186.48										
						£ 41,186.48		£ 12,220.00									
					Average	£ 196,126.00		£ 1,357.78	70%								

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LOCAL AGENDA 21 ENVIRONMENTAL 'GREEN GRANTS' – 2013/2014

NO.	ORGANISATION	PROJECT	CURRENT STATUS
1.	Waveney Court (Amanda Stevenson)	To regenerate the garden and provide a focal point for the community	Cheque for £250.00 issued on 17.04.13
2.	Midsummer Mayhem (Cllr Elizabeth Shenton)	Holding the Midsummer Mayhem Event	Cheque for £250.00 issued on 20.6.13
3.	North Staffs Real Nappy Service (Jessica Norcup)	Sessions and demonstrations throughout the Borough	Cheque for £250.00 issued on 03.07.13
4.	Madeley Tidy Group (John Berrington)	Investment Planting (3 beds in Madeley Village)	Cheque for £250.00 issued on 18.07.13
5.	St. Wulstan's CP School (Mr R Stockton)	Wildflower/wild area	Cheque for £250.00 issued on 18.07.13
6.	Cedars Short Stay School (Tim Boylan)	Cedars Gardening Club	Cheque for £250.00 issued on 24.07.13
7.	St. Thomas Gardening Club (Wendy Birchall)	Reclaimed Rookery in the School Grounds	Cheque for £98.94 issued on 24.07.13
8.	St Mary's CP School (PTFA) (Philippa Crawford)	Development of the School Pond/Garden/Allotment/Wildlife Area	Cheque for £250.00 issued 23.10.13
9.	Maer & Aston Parish Council (Elena Sudlow)	Planting at Maer War Memorial	Terms & Conditions Issues 08.01.14
10.	Newcastle-under-Lyme Junior School (Kerry Tapp)	Junior School Gardening Club	Cheque for £100.00 approved on Civica 12.02.14
11.	Status Grow (Jayne Fair)	Encouraging wildlife to encourage higher yield	Terms & Conditions Issues 22.01.14

BUDGET SUMMARY – 2013/14 – up to 12.02.14

Budget for 2013/14 (£4,000)	£4,000.00
Total number of cheques issued to 12.02.14 = 9	£1,948.94
Current Balance	£2,051.06
Applications pending (assuming maximum amount applied for)	£500.00
Probable Balance	£1,551.06

JST/12.02.14

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REPORT TO GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL

Date: 4 March 2014
Title: Cultural Grants
Submitted by: Executive Director – Operational Services
Portfolio: Culture and Active Communities
Ward(s) affected: All

Purpose of the Report

To consider the attached applications for Cultural Grants.

Recommendations

- *To approve the recommendations as indicated in the report.*

Reasons

To support local art and community groups to develop cultural activities and events for the community.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The Council has always maintained its support to local organisations by providing a fund, which is allocated to cultural activities. This allows groups or organisations to apply for grants up to £1500 in any one year.

2. ISSUES

2.1 The list as shown in Appendix 1 identifies the Groups applying for funding this round.

3. OUTCOMES LINKED TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The organisations cater for the following Council Corporate Priorities:

- No. 1 – Creating a Cleaner, Greener and Safer Borough
- No. 2. - Creating a Borough of Opportunity
- No. 3. - Creating a Healthy and Active Community

4. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory or legal implications.

5. **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The amount allocated for 2013/14 is £14032.50. If all the grants are approved to the sum of £11500, this will leave a balance of -£5117.50.

6. **MAJOR RISKS**

Events may be unable to take place if funding is not available.

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

To approve the recommendations as indicated in the attached Appendix 1.

8. **LIST OF APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – list of organisations seeking grant aid
Appendix 2 – Spreadsheet of awards and balance 2013-2014

TM/13/14

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	RECOMMENDATION
The Friends of Talke	08/12/13	£1500	The Friends of Talke were established to raise awareness of the history of coal mining in the area and to raise money to erect a memorial to this lost industry, a lost village and over 300 men and boys who lost their lives in the 3 mines in the latter half of the nineteenth century.	£24,000	None	SCC £2000 (con) Com. Chest £1000 (uncon)	
North Staffs Symphony Orchestra	09/12/13	£1500	The NSSO has been existence since 1903 and provides access to affordable orchestral concerts. Their annual concerts season consists of two concerts in Newcastle and two in Stoke. Their application is to support the NSSO Annual Four-Concert programme 2012-13 . There are two concerts scheduled for Newcastle – at Wolstanton High School in Feb 2014 and July 2014. The grant would help cover conductor and musicians' fees and venue hire. The total budget for the Newcastle concerts is £3680.	£3,680 (nul concerts only)	£1000 (12/13) £1000 (10/11) £500 (08/09)	£2,740 Ticket/programme Sales & Subs (uncon)	
238 Squadron (Hartshill) Air Training Corps	11/03/13	£1500	The squadron consists of approx 30 cadets aged 13-18. The aim of the corps is to foster a practical interest in the RAF and aviation and to develop skills that would be both useful to service and civilian life, and a spirit of adventure. There application is for a Somme Battlefield Tour 2014 . They would like to take around 30 cadets to Passchendaele and the Somme battlefields. They will visit related museums, reconstructed trenches, cemeteries and memorials. They will participate in the Menin gate ceremony and will carry out a wreath laying ceremonies. The project will have a significant educational element and cadet will be both male and female and front all socio-economic backgrounds.	£6195.68	None	£4544 Cadet/staff contribution (unconfirmed) £3100 REME Veterans Association - confirmed	

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	RECOMMENDATION
Clayton Preschool Playgroup 24	12/03/13	£900	The preschool provides early year's foundation stage for children from 2 years and upwards from all socio economic backgrounds. They want to provide more outdoor and indoor play and to be inclusive. They are seeking funding to work with a willow artist Chris Oldham for three days to work with the children and staff to create willow sculptures and window displays at the preschool. Parental participation will be strongly encouraged supporting stronger community links.	£1000	None	None stated	
Newcastle Festival for Music, Speech and Drama	13/03/13	£1500	<p>Newcastle Festival for Music, Speech and Drama provides a platform for amateur music, speech and drama competitors to perform in public during two weekends in March each year. Performers from the age of six to adults perform before a mixed audience of parents, relatives, friends and general public and before adjudicators of internationals standing. The Festival seeks to develop the talents of those who enter, many of whom have never performed in public before. In 2013 more than 1600 individual performers and increased of 30% on the previous year. An equal number of family and friends support the Festival.</p> <p>In recent years the emphasis has been on younger competitors from 6-18 and open classes for adults.</p> <p>The festival is held over two weeks in March. For 2014 the festival has hired Newcastle College for the 15th, 21st and 22nd. They will also hire St John Fisher to use the large school hall to cater for bands and choirs.</p> <p>The Festival is manned by c.50 volunteers. The Festival always seeks to improve by seeking advice from adjudicators and visits to other festivals.</p> <p>The grants will assist with the adjudicators fees, printing, school/college hire.</p>	£6710	<p>£1000 in 2012/13</p> <p>£1500 in 2010-11</p> <p>£1200 in 2008/09</p>	<p>Entry fees, programme sales and admission totalled £4065.05 in 2013. Equivalent figure for 2014 not guaranteed.</p> <p>Barracks' Trust (unconfirmed)</p> <p>Strasser Foundation £350 (confirmed)</p>	

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	RECOMMENDATION
Parish of Audley Medieval Society	14/03/14	£600	<p>They are a living medieval and community group, based in Audley who provide educational and historical activities for the community. Founded in 2009 they run interactive activities for schools. Fundraising events and community groups.</p> <p>They are applying for assistance for their annual Medieval and Community event on April 12-13. This free to attend event gives the community the opportunity to learn about their history, try archery and experience hands on activities from the period. The event will be held on the Millennium Green, Castle Hill and for all age groups. They would like funding to pay for a storyteller, medieval minstrels and craft activities.</p>	£3772.58	£1349 in 2011/12	<p>£436</p> <p>Co-operative Community Fund (confirmed)</p> <p>Selling tables at the event £150 currently (confirmed)</p> <p>£1664</p> <p>PAMS fundraising (confirmed)</p>	
Fluxx	15/03/14	£1500	<p>The company organises community activities using the performing arts. The aim is to identify local concerns or themes and dramatise these, using debate, performance and improvisation. Most recently the company toured the Midlands during 2012 in which it delivered around 20 such events. This tour was funded by the Arts Council and by the Wellcome Foundation. We engaged with themes such as debt, loansharking, family relationships and planning issues. The tour visited the New Vic Theatre to deliver two sets of workshops and shows.</p> <p>Fluxx want to working with Aspire Sheltered housing residents on the Gameplan in Newcastle-under-Lyme project. Stage one will be two meetings with residents and creative workshops including music, role play and drawing. These periods will help to enlist the residents into the project for any concerns (positive or negative) they have to be identified. After this stage the company will devise an interactive event for the members based on observations. The performance will take place at the New Vic Theatre inviting 40 elderly participants to the event. The performance will explore the concerns identified and engage the participants in discussion.</p>	£1850	None	<p>£250 New Vic Borderlines (confirmed)</p> <p>£75 Fluxx (confirmed)</p> <p>£25 donations on the door (unconfirmed)</p>	

APPLICANT	REF	AWARD REQUEST	THE ORGANISATION AND ITS PROJECT	COST OF PROJECT	PREVIOUS AWARDS	OTHER FUNDING	RECOMMENDATION
St Mary's Catholic Primary PTA Page 26	16/03/14	£1000	<p>The Voice in a Million concert is taking place at Wembley stadium on March 12. The PTA want to take 30 children and 5 teachers to the event. Funds are needed for transport and T shirts (not optional). It will be an opportunity for children to sing and see life outside their community, gain social skills and learn to express their emotions through singing. They do not think any other Borough schools are attending.</p>	£1300	£51.04 (Community chest)	None	
Keele Drama Society	17/03/14	£1500	<p>For over fifty years Keele Drama Society has been performing both student written plays and plays written by famous playwrights. The society's aim has been to bring drama to students at Keele as well as in the local area. It has encouraged people who have never done any drama work before to write, act and work in supporting roles backstage.</p> <p>Keele Drama Society is planning to take a student written play to the Edinburgh Fringe. Before going to the Fringe we also intend to do performances at Keele and in the Newcastle under Lyme area. We are planning to work alongside youth groups and schools/colleges to promote drama within the curriculum by running workshops and performing the play to them before performing in Edinburgh.</p> <p>Everyone who will be taking part in the project is a student at Keele University and living in the Newcastle under Lyme area. Despite this everyone involved comes from various backgrounds, cultures and walks of life.</p> <p>The play would be shown in Edinburgh from the start of August and finish a week to two weeks later depending on funding. However, we will be showing the play at Keele and in the Newcastle area from May till then and delivering it to people in the community.</p> <p>The money we ask from you would go into sustainable resources that can remain and benefit the area. These include tech advancements, costumes, props, set and raising the profile in the local area. The idea of the play is that it can be replicated in the Newcastle area with the same script, costume, set and props that we acquired and imagined. This project is also in the hope that young people we come across will go on to create their own performances.</p>	£5000	None	£5000 Key Fund Grant (unconfirmed) £400 Keele Society Stripes (unconfirmed) £1000 Independent Trusts (unconfirmed)	

Appendix 2

BUDGET 2013/14

£ 14,032.50

GAP.	REF.	APPLICANT.	PROJECT	APPLIED.	GRANTED.	ACTUAL BALANCE.	NOTES.
10/06/13	01/06/13	Moseley Railway Trust	Tracks to the Trenches - 2014 WWI event	£1,500.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 12,532.50	successful
10/06/13	02/06/13	Friends of Talke Library	First World War Exhibition & Talks	£1,300.00	£ 500.00	£ 12,032.50	successful
10/06/13	03/06/13	Newcastle Town Centre Partnership	Global groove dance event	£1,500.00	£ -	£ 12,032.50	unsuccessful
10/06/13	04/06/13	Jude Theatre Company	Jude Arts Festival 2013	£1,500.00	£ -	£ 12,032.50	unsuccessful
SEPT				£0.00	£0	£ 12,032.50	
17/09/13	05/09/13	Staffordshire Knights Youth Marching Band	Purchase of a marimba	£1,500.00	£ 500.00	£ 11,532.50	successful
17/09/13	06/09/13	Newcastle Town Centre Partnership	Bottle cap film festival	£1,500.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 10,032.50	successful
17/09/13	07/09/13	Arts Keele	Creative Composition Project	£1,400.00	£ 1,400.00	£ 8,632.50	successful
17/09/13	Small Grants	Gifted Workshops	After school music workshops	£1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 7,632.50	successful
				£11,200.00	£5,400.00	£ 7,632.50	
09/12/13	08/12/13	Friends of Talke	Mining Memorial	£1,500.00	£ -	£ -	Deferred
09/12/13	09/12/13	North Staffs Symphony Orchestra	2 Symphony Concerts	£1,500.00	£ -	£ -	Deferred
09/12/13	10/12/13	B'Arts	Breadmaking Workshops	£750.00	£ 750.00	£ 6,882.50	Successful
			Blore Heath Farm Crafternoons	£0.00	£ 500.00	£ 6,382.50	successful
				£15,700.00	£ 8,650.00	£ 6,382.50	
04/03/14	08/12/13	Friends of Talke	Mining Memorial	£1,500.00	£ -	£ -	
04/03/14	09/12/13	North Staffs Symphony Orchestra	2 Symphony Concerts	£1,500.00	£ -	£ -	
04/03/14	11/03/14	Hartshill Squadron	First World War Battlefields Visit	£1,500.00		£ -	
04/03/14	12/03/14	Clayton playgroup	Willow Art project	£900.00	£ -		
04/03/14	13/03/14	NUL Festival Music Speech & Drama	Festival	£1,500.00	£ -		
04/03/14	14/03/14	Parish of Audley Medieval Society	Medieval Community Event	£600.00			
04/03/14	15/03/14	Fluxx	Gameplan Newcastle-under-Lyme	£1,500.00			
04/03/14	16/03/14	St Mary's Catholic Primary PTA	Voice in a million	£1,000.00			
04/03/14	17/03/14	Keele Drama Society	Edinburgh Fringe	£1,500.00			
				£0.00			
				£0.00			
				£0.00			
				£0.00			
				£27,200.00			

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NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

Grants Assessment Panel

Date 18th February 2014

1. **HEADING** Grants to organisations providing services to homeless people
- Submitted by:** Abid Razaq
- Portfolio:** Regeneration and Development
- Ward(s) affected:** All Wards

Purpose of the Report

To seek approval for the allocation of funding reserved for voluntary organisations that provide homelessness related services.

Recommendations

- That Members approve the recommended allocations.
- That a further round of applications be re-invited from the Voluntary Organisations and reported to a future meeting of this Panel.

Reasons

The Council offers grants to assist with the statutory requirement to provide free advice and information about homelessness and its prevention. A requirement is that each grant must align with the Council's adopted Homelessness Strategy. Therefore this report seeks to assess viability of each project, its impact and value for money.

1. **Background**

- 1.1 The Council's has allocated a budget of £15,000 for grants to organisations providing services to homeless people in 2014 -15. This assessment panel is requested to consider applications for grant assistance.
- 1.2 The Council has a statutory responsibility to provide free advice and information about homelessness and its prevention. These responsibilities can be discharged in a variety of ways. The main approach is through the Newcastle Housing Advice Contract (which is provided with Aspire Housing until April 2014) to provide homelessness advice and the maintenance of the housing register, it is acknowledged that many agencies provide invaluable support to those who have or may become homeless.
- 1.3 The organisations who have applied for grant aid provide very valuable, complementary services and should be seen as a vital part of the Council's overall strategy for dealing with homelessness and housing advice. The Housing Act 1996 refers specifically to the practice of giving grants in section 180, "Assistance for voluntary organisations", which allows a local authority to help voluntary (i.e. not for profit) organisations concerned with homelessness by providing grants.

2. **Issues**

- 2.1 The 2010 Homelessness Strategy sets out how the Council plans to address homelessness issues within the Borough. As part of the grant application each organisation has been asked to state how their service will meet the aims and priorities set out within the Homelessness Strategy.
- 2.2 Following on from previous years' grant allocations all organisations are required to sign a service level agreement and submit monitoring statistics, which enables the Council to monitor the service availability and take up from residents In the Borough.
- 2.3 Some of the organisation that have applied for funding this year have received funding in previous years and have been able to submit; monitoring information from the previous year's allocations There are organisations that have applied, which have not received funding in previous years and therefore, they have not been able to provide monitoring statistics. However, these organisations have been established for many years, have assisted the residents of the Borough and have a proven track record in the homelessness sector. Information of their work is also listed below.

3. **Options Considered**

- 3.1 £21,025.02 has been requested this year, which is above the amount of £15,000 allocated for these bids.
- 3.2 Six grant applications have been submitted for consideration. Each is listed below, giving the amount requested, the amount recommended by officers and a brief explanation.
- 3.3 The option considered is to allocate the available funding to grant applicants based upon viability, positive impact and value for money considerations.

4. **Proposal**

- 4.1 In assessing the grant applications, it has been decided that certain applications should not be awarded any funding.
- 4.2 There are other grant applications, which in principle have demonstrated that they will provide a service that will directly link in with homelessness prevention and the recommendation has been to approve these applications.
- 4.3 The applications received are as follows;

A) Arch - Elizabeth House Advice Service

Requested £ 2,525.02

Elizabeth House is based in the Borough and provides emergency and temporary accommodation to women and families experiencing homelessness. The application is to support the advice and information and signposting work which is carried out by the service. This service is particularly beneficial because it deals with enquiries out of regular office hours.

Total enquires for the Borough 2010 / 2011 (there quarters) = 22

Total enquires for the Borough 2011 / 2012 (there quarters) = 33

Total enquires for The Borough 2012 / 2013 (three quarters) = 33

Officers are therefore recommending awarding £2,525.02, the full grant requested.

A grant of £2507.50 was awarded last year to this organisation for this project.

B) Arch – Move-on & Stay Put Fund

Requested: £2,000

Arch is a registered charity that provides support, accommodation and advice services for a range of customers, all of whom are vulnerable or socially excluded, and have been affected by homelessness. Their customer group is diverse, and consists of customers of all ages including children and young people, who are living across North Staffordshire and Cheshire East.

The funding will be used for a 'Move-on & Stay Put Fund' which will give single homeless people who are moving out of supported accommodation, or are receiving floating support, basic items to sustain and maintain their tenancies. The fund has identified an itinerary of items such as toaster, microwave, kettle, single bedding set (including duvet), bath towels etc, which may be given to individuals, if they require such items to maintain their tenancies and do not have the financial means to purchase these items.

The application form states that *“previously, our customers were able to access a Crisis/Budgeting Loan, with which to buy the things they needed for a new home. However, since the implementation of the Staffordshire Local Crisis Support Scheme, local guidelines have shifted to focus on those in immediate hardship; with a high rate of recent applications refused, we realise the scheme is likely to only be able to provide emergency food packages and clothing.”*

Officers have gained clarification whether the fund will have a maximum limit on the level of monies that can be given to any one applicant. The organisation has stated that they will set a maximum threshold grant of 150.00 per applicant. This does not mean that each applicant will be given a limit of 150.00, as the award of the grant is needs assessed, but where particular customers with high needs require a number of items, which exceed £150.00, a selection of items will be made to the maximum sum of £150.00.

Officers are therefore recommending awarding £2,000, the full grant requested.

C) Restart – Saltbox

Requested £1,500

Restart – Saltbox seeks to address re-offending and prevent homelessness in North Staffordshire. The organisation states that it has 41 houses across the area, all of which are owned by local landlords who have entered into a contractual arrangement. Of these houses, 11 are within the Borough, which provide accommodation to four men and one woman. The organisation also works with a number of people who are vulnerably housed, to access a debt management service (Money Matters). Statistics for Money Matters show that over 85 people from the Borough in the past year have accessed this service.

Restart – Saltbox will use the voluntary grant to fund a trainer, who is specifically trained to provide debt advice and budgetary support in the Borough for clients and other people who are potentially homeless. This would be through regular training and where necessary, one-

to-one support to address specific debt problems. The service will run six group sessions in the Newcastle area throughout the year.

It is envisaged that a minimum of 28 people from the Borough will be assisted from this project.

Officers are recommending awarding the full grant of £1,500 requested.

D The Lyme Trust

Requested £5,000

The Lyme Trust is a voluntary charity based in Newcastle-under-Lyme, which provides supported accommodation for adults with a diagnosed mental health need, dual diagnosis and homelessness.

The grant application is for converting an unused space within 33 London Road into an additional bedroom, which will be used for emergency accommodation. It is intended that this will house homelessness applicants whom are owed a statutory duty for accommodation.

Officers believe that although, the intended project may be beneficial to residents, there were two issues:

- 1) The application form did not fully explain the proposals i.e. as to what space would be converted and how this will be done. It also did not include project plans / drawings. Given that the project is a proposal for significant refurbishment this information is important and in the absence of such information, judgements about viability and compliance with building and environmental regulations cannot be made. Clarification was sought from the applicant and they were asked to submit this information by the 14th February 2013, but were unable to do so.
- 2) The application form does not explain if the grant will be used to subsidise accommodation for homeless applicants. Emergency accommodation is usually provided by private institutions, which do so on a daily rental rate that is paid by housing benefit or by the applicant themselves if they have the financial resources to do so. It would be expected that where an organisation is seeking public subsidy for emergency accommodation, proposals should explain how this will lead to subsidised rents or some other form of additional value.

Therefore, the recommendation is not to approve this project under this particular grant at this time.

E) YMCA

Requested £5,000

YMCA North Staffordshire is a large provider of housing and accommodation services across North Staffordshire and provide floating support services across North Staffordshire and the Staffordshire Moorlands. The main focus of the organisation is young people with engage group ranging from 16 – 25.

The funding has been requested for a project whereby homeless prevention workshops would be delivered in 6 high schools across the Borough.

Officers believe that although the intended project will benefit residents – the project is seeking to provide a service that is commissioned under the 3rd Sector Commissioning framework. Homelessness Prevention for Young People aged 16 years and under & 16 years and over Service - a project that raises awareness about the realities of homelessness amongst young people. Therefore, the recommendation is not to approve this project under this particular grant. However, correspondence will be sent to the YMCA to make them aware of this current project under the 3rd Sector Commissioning framework.

Therefore, the recommendation is not to approve this project under this particular grant at this time.

F) ADS – Addiction Dependency Services – One Stop Service

Requested £5,000

ADS are a charity, which has been established for 40 years. ADS runs a number of drug, alcohol and prescription drug addiction services across the UK including Derby, City of Manchester, Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Leeds and Staffordshire. The services are open and held in community hubs that are free for people in the area to engage with.

The project is for funding to have a ‘one stop service’, for vulnerable people. ADS have a weekly surgery at the Salvation Army Offices in Newcastle under Lyme for individuals with complex needs. The proposal is to extend this by having a range of agencies present, thereby allowing individuals to approach and receive assistance on a range of issues.

Officers believe that although, the intended project may be beneficial, the application form did not contain any details about whether consultation had been undertaken with the agencies that were to attend the one stop service. This was a serious omission, as the success of the project is dependent on the attendance and the commitment of these agencies.

Following discussions with the applicant, an email was circulated by the applicant to these agencies informing them about the proposal and asking them to confirm interest. The applicant has subsequently stated that six agencies did so.

It is felt that the proposal have yet to decisively establish interest, to gauge whether the agencies have the resources to commit to a weekly session and thereafter to develop an appropriate project proposal based upon the responses received.

Therefore, the recommendation is not to approve this project under this particular grant at this time.

5. Reasons for Preferred Solution

5.1 The organisations who have applied and have been recommended for grant aid provide very valuable, complementary services and should be seen as a vital part of the Council’s overall strategy for dealing with homelessness and housing advice.

5.2 If the recommendations are accepted, the following grants will be approved:

Salt Box –	£1,500.00
Elizabeth House	£2,525.02
Arch – Stay Put Fund	£2,000.00

Total Approvals: £6025.02

5.3 This will leave an unspent balance of £8974.98. It is recommended that further round of applications to be sought and considered from the Voluntary Organisations in mid 2014.

6. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

6.1 Addressing homelessness fits within all the Corporate Priorities especially that of 'creating a Borough of opportunity'.

7. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

7.1 The Housing Act 1996 refers specifically to the practice of giving grants in section 180, 'Assistance for Voluntary Organisations', which allows a local authority to help voluntary (i.e. not for profit) organisations concerned with homelessness by providing grants.

8. **Equality Impact Assessment**

8.1 The Equality Impact Assessment has been completed on the Housing Strategy and the Homelessness Strategy.

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

9.1 The amount allocated for 2014/15 is £15,000.

10. **Major Risks**

10.1 Provision of these services for Borough residents may not be available if funding is not granted.

11. **Key Decision Information**

11.1 Services are available to residents from all wards within the Borough.

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

12.1 None

13. **Recommendations**

13.1 That Members approve the recommended allocations to the following:-

Salt Box –	£1,500.00
Elizabeth House	£2,525.02
Arch – Stay Put Fund	£2,000.00

13.2 That a further round of applications be invited from the Voluntary Organisations and reported to a future meeting of this Panel.

14. **Background Documents**

14.1 All the Grant Applications and the financial accounts provided are available from the Housing Strategy Team on request.