

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016**

1. **HEADING** Community Chest
- Submitted by:** Irene Lee
- Portfolio:** Resources & Efficiency
- Ward(s) affected:** All Wards affected

**Purpose of the Report**

To inform Members of Community Chest applications processed to date for 2015/16.

**Recommendations**

**Panel note the applications received & processed to date.**

**Panel determine whether to award a grant, and if so how much, in response to an application submitted by a LBB.**

**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.**

**LBBs cannot determine their own applications which are referred to the Panel for decision.**

1. **Background**

1.1 At the time of writing (15/02/16), 62 applications have been received via 14 Locally Based Bodies at a total of £38,409.66.

1.2 31 applications have received the full amount applied for, 15 received a grant below the applied amount, 13 received no grant, 1 is awaiting final approval, and 1 is pending decision of this Panel. Grants totalling £25,383.49 have been issued which is 59% of the total available budget of £43,000.00.

1.3 Of the 13 applications that have received no grant, 11 did not meet the criteria, 1 could not be funded due to insufficient funds in the budget, and 1 was withdrawn.

2. **Issues**

2.1 To date, £17,616.51 of the budget remains unspent – 41% of the budget. 3 LBB's have significant funds in their budget as yet unspent. The deadline for applications to be received and processed is 28<sup>th</sup> February 2016, of which there are several applications anticipated and therefore the final balance can be reported to the meeting.

2.2 An application from Audley Parish Council, as a Locally Based Body requires a Panel decision.

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

N/A

4. **Proposal**

4.1 Panel note the applications processed to date.

4.2 Panel note the level of unspent funds in the budget, and consider the implications thereof.

4.3 Panel determine whether to award Audley Parish Council a grant.

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

N/A

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 41% of the budget remains unspent to date. Any unspent funds at the end of the financial year will not be carried forward to 2016/17.

9.2 Any significant level of unspent funds presents a risk that the budget for 2016/17 will be reduced commensurately.

9.3 The underspent from 14/15 was 44.3% and this year's is anticipated to be considerably less.

10. **Major Risks**

N/A

11. **Key Decision Information**

N/A

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

N/A

13. **Recommendations**

13.1 Panel note the applications processed to date.

13.2 Panel note the level of unspent funds in the budget, and consider the implications thereof.

14. **List of Appendices**

14.1 Community Chest spend to date 2015/16.