

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO THE**  
**GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL COMMITTEE**

**Date: March 2 2017**

1. **HEADING** Sports Grants
- Submitted by:** Sport & Active Lifestyles Manager
- Portfolio:** Leisure Culture and Localism
- Ward(s) affected:** All.

**Purpose of the Report**

This report sets out information relating to funding applications received for the Sports Grants Programme for the fourth quarter of 2016/17.

**Recommendations**

The Councils Grant Advisory Panel considers the Sport Grants applications submitted and the recommendations Castle Sport, with a view to determining whether a grant should be awarded, and if so, at what level.

**Reasons**

That part of the Councils Grants Assessment Panel's remit is to consider the recommendations of Castle Sport regarding applications from individual athletes in the Borough.

1. **Background**

1.1 Newcastle Borough Council provides support services to help the Borough's most talented athletes reach their potential. Support starts at county level and goes through to athletes competing internationally. As the performance pathways for different sports vary hugely, each National Governing Body (NGB) of sport or the Sports Club is consulted to ensure that support is given at the right level. Disciplines not supported by the NGB or without clear performance pathways are not be eligible for support.

1.2 A variety of factors influence the level of support provided to an athlete. These factors include county, regional or national rankings, competition results (for individual sports) and selection for national and international teams (for team sports).

2. **Issues.**

2.1 Individual athletes from the Borough can apply for a Talented Athlete grant to support their training so long as their sport is a Sport England recognised sport. Sports Coaches can also apply for funding towards sport governing body coaching qualifications to assist local clubs in delivering high quality sporting activities.

2.2 ~~Fifteen~~Nine applications have been considered by Castle Sport for this round and the Information can be seen in Appendix 1a/b for consideration and approval by the Grants  
\_\_\_\_ Advisory  
\_\_\_\_ Panel.

2.3 At the last meeting of the Grant Advisory Panel it was agreed that £6,000 from the 2015/16 under spend should be ring-fenced to support the Borough's Festival of Sport planned to take place in May 2017. Significant progress has been made concerning the organisation of the Festival of Sport and a verbal update will be provided at the Grant Advisory Panel on 2 March 2017.

3. **Options Considered**

3.1 Support the recommendations of the Castle Sport who have scrutinised the applications in detail.

3.2 Refer applications back to the Castle Sport for reconsideration.

3.3 Reject the recommendations of the Castle Sport.

**Proposal.**

4.1 The applications received are from individuals who reside or attend sports clubs or schools in the Borough, and participate in eligible sports and that Castle Sports recommendations should be supported.

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

5.1 Castle Sport has expert knowledge of sports participation, and has scrutinised the Applications and their recommendations for grant are identified in Appendix 1.

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

6.1 Sporting activities leads to improvements in the individual's health & wellbeing and their contribution to their community.

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 individuals and the communities that they reside in.

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

9.1 The funding available for the talented athlete grants programme for the financial year 2016/17 is £19,000.

9.2 -The Grants Advisory Panel have awarded the following value of grants at their meetings during 2016/17:

- June £4,490
- September £4,020
- December £4,715

9.3 The value of grants being considered on 2 March 2017 identified in Appendix 1a/1b totals £5,450 bringing the total value of grants awarded in the financial year 2016/17 to £18,675. Should the Grants Advisory panel support this round of grant applications totalling £2,850 this will leave a balance for 2016/17 of £55.00.

9.3 The £6,000 previously allocated from the under spend in 2015-16 still remains reign fenced to for the Festival of Sport in May 2017

## 10. **Major Risks**

10.1 All risks associated with the allocation of talented sports grants are managed through the application and approval process.

## 11. **Key Decision Information**

11.1 Not Applicable.

## 12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

12.1 Not Applicable.

## 13. **Recommendations**

13.1 Members consider the recommendations from the Sports Advisory Council with a view to supporting those recommendations unless it is considered there is a good reason to do otherwise.

14. **List of Appendices**

Appendix 1 [a/b](#) Grant Recommendations from Castle Sport

15. **Background Papers**

15.1 Copies of applications will be e-mailed to Panel members in advance of the meeting. Hard copies will not be made available to reduce printing costs, but can be viewed in advance - please contact Lucy Taylor on 742615 or email [lucy.taylor@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.taylor@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk). Alternatively please contact Jeff Vernall on 742618 or email [jeff.vernall@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:jeff.vernall@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk)