

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE
GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL COMMITTEE

Date: 19 September 2016

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 second quarter of 2016/17.

Recommendations

Panel consider the Sport Grants applications submitted and the recommendations from the Sports Advisory Council, with a view to determining whether a grant should be awarded, and if so, at what level.

Reasons

Grants Assessment Panel's remit is to consider the recommendations of the Sports Advisory Council 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 An example of the current grant requirements individuals must fulfil to be successful for a grant can be seen at Appendix 1. However, in the future the Castle Sport is proposing to alter the grant conditions with those shown at Appendix 2 with the fundamental changes being the removal of the Grass Root Sports category and the introduction of a new Regional Sports category, along with amendments to the maximum amount of grant aid individuals can apply for.
- 2.3 Ten applications have been considered by Castle Sport for this round and the Information can be seen in Appendix 3.
- 2.4 Members of the Grant Advisor Panel will be aware that there was an underspend of circa £12,000 in 2015/16. Castle Sport have been considering how best to use this underspend to increase the profile of sport and physical activity in the Borough and requested that the GAP panel use £6,000 to support the delivery of a sports participation event in Lyme Valley Park in May or June 2017. Should members of the Grant Advisory panel agree to use monies to support the event a working group will be established to support the delivery of the event and with a view to additional funding and with a longer term aspiration of making this an annual event.

3. **Options Considered**

- 3.1 Support the recommendations of the Castle Sport who have scrutinised the applications in detail, and to support their recommendation to allocate £6,000 to support the delivery of a sports participation event in April or May 2017.
- 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. The Sports Advisory Council's recommendation should be supported.

5. Reasons for Preferred Solution

5.1 Castle Sport has expert knowledge of sports participation, and has scrutinised the applications in detail.

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 budget for the talented athlete grants programme for the financial year 2016/17 is £31,000 which includes a £12,000 underspend from 2015/16

9.2 Prior to this funding round £7,500 has been allocated to successful talented athletes. Applications submitted for this GAP meeting total £4,020.00, which would leave a balance of £19,480, and £13,480 should members of the Grant advisory Panel agree to support a sports participation event in April 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**

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. Alternatively please contact Jeff Vernall on 742618 or email jeff.vernall@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk.

16. **Management Sign-Off**

Each of the designated boxes need to be signed off and dated before going to Executive Director/Corporate Service Manager for sign off.

	Signed	Dated
Financial Implications Discussed and Agreed		
Risk Implications Discussed and Agreed		
Legal Implications Discussed and Agreed		
H.R. Implications Discussed and Agreed		
ICT Implications Discussed and Agreed		

Report Agreed by: Executive Director/ Head of Service		
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