

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE
GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL COMMITTEE

Date: 19 December 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 third quarter of 2016/17.

Recommendations

The Councils Grant Advisory Panel consider 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 Nine applications have been considered by Castle Sport for this round and the Information can be seen in Appendix 1 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 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 provide to the Grant Advisory Panel on 19 December 2016.

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 £31,000, including a £12,000 underspend from 2015/16.

9.2 Prior to this funding round £13,449.00 has been allocated from the fund (£11,130 has been paid). Applications submitted for this GAP meeting total £4,715.00 which would leave a balance of £6,836.00, (taking into account £6,000 allocated to the Newcastle Festival of Sport) should members of the Grant advisory Panel agree to support the recommendations.

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

