

Cabinet

14 November 2019

Early Intervention, Prevention and Community Capacity Fund 2019/20 – Tranche 3 Allocations

Recommendation

That Cabinet approve two projects to be funded from the Early Intervention, Prevention and Community Capacity Fund at a cost of £144,000 as follows:

- Engaging Communities in wellbeing interventions – Grapevine (£46,000),
- Bedworth Sports Club Multi-use facility development (£98,000)

1. Background

- 1.1. Cabinet approved the operational and governance process for the Early Intervention, Prevention and Community Capacity Fund (EIPCCF) at its meeting on 11 April 2019. The agreed process involves evaluation, against criteria agreed by Cabinet, by a Panel and the Revenue Gateway Group before applications are considered by Corporate Board who then recommend projects to Cabinet for approval.
- 1.2. Two tranches of bids, totalling £616,000, have been approved to date. The third tranche of bids have been received and have been through the agreed governance process. The projects recommended for approval are set out in Section 2 of this report.

2. Executive Summary and Analysis

- 2.1. Five bids to the EIPCCF were received in Quarter 3 and have now been through the evaluation process. Following the evaluation process two of the five bids are recommended for approval, with a total call on the Fund of £144,000. The following paragraphs provide a description of each bid recommended for approval, the funding proposed and the views of the Evaluation Panel on the proposal.

2.2 Engaging communities in design and delivery of health and wellbeing interventions (Grapevine) - £46,000 (Approved: score 74%)

This bid requested one-off funding to meet two specific needs:

- provide additional capacity to develop 8 local partnership plans over the period of a year as part of delivering the statutory joint strategic needs assessment (JSNA); and
- bring into Warwickshire a successful and evidence-based model of engaging people particularly within rural communities.

The cost of the scheme is £46,000 (£8,000 in 2019-20 and £38,000 in 2020-2021).

The good work of Grapevine was acknowledged along with their track record of mobilising community interest and solutions based around ownership by County, District or the Local Community.

There were clear benefits arising from the proposal in terms of the long-term capacity created from engaging with developing leaders who can roll out the work and build sustainability in their areas. The project aims to be self-sustaining by developing community engagement and development skills in County Council staff as well as helping local communities to acknowledge areas where they should be helping themselves.

As a proof of concept as well as providing business intelligence the project provides metrics around the success of the engagement model and should help in the development of future engagement models.

2.3 Bedworth Sports Club Multi-use facility development - £98,000 (Approved: score 80%)

This proposal will provide one-off funding for a pilot project to improve the health and wellbeing of communities in Bedworth by providing a multi-use sports facility to increase engagement in physical activity. This will help local residents improve their health and wellbeing, enjoy life, achieve and live independently – and ultimately help reduce demand on social care and other services. The project contributes to the WCC strategic outcome: ‘Communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent.’

The project will develop and refurbish the existing old courts and deliver a county standard and multi-sports facility for casual tennis and league playing of netball as well as other activities, in particular to attract females and less able-bodied people, many of whom do not partake in any physical activity currently. Floodlighting will be provided to allow usage into the evening.

As landowners Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) will be acting as the key player and their project management skills have been approved to procure and deliver the project and then hand over the management and operation to the Sports Club, extending the Club's existing long-term agreement for self-management to include these facilities. The responsibility for long term maintenance will pass to the Borough Council upon completion.

The cost to the County Council of the scheme is £98,000.

There is an acknowledged risk that this bid could set a precedent for other third sector organisations to approach the County Council for funding. This has been mitigated by the way the scheme has been designed. It will be a proof of concept to provide the Authority with robust metrics regarding the link between sporting activity and health and wellbeing both anecdotally and through service usage metrics. The area of Bedworth has been chosen because it is an area of deprivation.

The allocation from the County Council will leverage further funds from the NBBC and from Sport England's Community Asset Fund. The project is being managed by NBBC and is sustainable thereafter with maintenance in the future being funded by NBBC. There is no future financial risk to or commitment from the County Council.

The scheme will provide useful business intelligence to Warwickshire as well as enhancing the health and wellbeing of local residents.

2.4 Whilst two bids have been or are being recommended for approval this quarter, the Panel did consider three other bids. Cabinet asked to be informed of bids that are not being recommended for support and this information is outlined below.

- **Voice 2 Action - £23,000 (Rejected – score 47%)**

The proposal was to commission *Escape Arts* to engage and build positive relationships with young people across identified rural areas in Warwickshire, so they are able to respond to the JSNA and inform the development of new services moving forward using a multi-media arts youth bus. The Panel reached the recommendation to reject the bid at this stage because it was for one-off piece of work and there was no evidence of prior engagement with the Council's Arts Officer or how the proposal dovetails with the new Heritage and Culture strategy or the wider County Council approach to working and engaging with young people across the organisation. Based on the feedback provided the Service are considering whether the proposal could be developed as an

alternative pilot aligned to the Grapevine bid to make an all-encompassing approach to the JSNA intelligence process across the various age groups.

- **50 things to do before you are five - £48,000 (Rejected– score 45%)**
The proposal was to bring in an application that families and nursery staff can access directly from electronic devices as an approach to helping them to engage in free, simple, local area-based activities and experiences with the children in their care. The Panel's concerns with the bid were that the funding was for an annual subscription with no source of funding for future years, it was unclear how the project would reach the target demographic, or how any targeting would be achieved and it was unclear how the proposal linked to Warwickshire's digital strategy or could be made available county wide.
- **Building a creative health social prescribing system - £285,000 (Rejected – overall score 45%)**
This proposal was for a range of workforce development activities to facilitate a cultural shift and to build awareness amongst the health and care workforce of the benefits of incorporating 'Creative Health' (arts-based initiatives) into the local social prescribing offer. This would be done through training to the primary care workforce and creative providers, prioritised for social prescribing link workers and care navigators, and the core delivery of an arts-based programme that would provide community organisations with a strong platform from which to build their evidence base and apply for external funds to support longer-term delivery.

Both the Panel and Corporate Board were supportive of the objectives but felt there was a need for a more holistic approach to meeting the organisations objective's in relation to social prescribing as part of an overall approach to early intervention and prevention and have asked for this to be developed. In assessing this proposal: it was unclear how the programme of training and activities linked to the existing core functions and activities of services; there were concerns about future funding uncertainty and the reputational risk to the Council if activities are withdrawn at a later date; and the difficulty in understanding how the proposals dovetailed with the Heritage and Culture arts strategy before such a large programme of arts-based support is rolled out as part of a package of early intervention.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1. The EIPCCF initially consisted of a £2.0 million allocation, of which £0.5 million is recurring, made as part of the 2019/20 budget. If Cabinet agree to the recommendations in this paper, then the financial position of the Fund will look as follows:

	£'000
Allocations Approved to date:	
Enhanced Time-banking	125
Good Gym	23
Community pop-up hubs for the visually impaired	14
Parents in Mind	74
Development of a perinatal mental health Health Visitor cadre	200
Community capacity building through a consolidated directory of community assets and social prescribing services	100
Community Health Champions	80
Total Approved to Date	616
Schemes recommended for approval in Tranche 3:	
Grapevine Engaging Communities project bid	46
Bedworth Sports Club	98
Tranche 3 Total	144
Agreed Allocation	2,000
Remaining Funding	1,240

- 3.2. Several other bids are in the pipeline to be considered for the next sitting of the Panel and these will come forward to Cabinet for approval in January.

4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1. There are no specific environmental implications as a result of the information and decisions outlined in the report.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1. None.

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