

Please ask for:
Vanisha Mistry

3 December 2021

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend a meeting of the WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL GRANTS BOARD to be held on Monday 13 December 2021 at 7.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, The Campus, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL8 6AE.

Yours faithfully



Governance Services Manager

AGENDA
PART 1

1. **SUBSTITUTION OF MEMBERS**
To note any substitution of Board Members made in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.
2. **APOLOGIES**
To note any apologies.
3. **MINUTES**
To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2021 (previously circulated).
4. **NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER ITEM 7**
5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
To note declarations of Members' disclosable pecuniary interests, non-disclosable pecuniary interests and non-pecuniary interests in respect of items on the Agenda.
6. **COVID-19 RELIEF GRANTS 2021/22 - ROUND TWO** (Pages 3 - 6)
Report of the Head of Community and Housing Strategy detailing the applications for COVID-19 Relief Grants.

7. SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN, IS OF SUFFICIENT URGENCY TO WARRANT IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Board is asked to resolve:

That under Section 100(A)(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting for Items 9 and 10 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100(A)(3) and Paragraph 3 (private financial or business information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

In resolving to exclude the public in respect of the exempt information, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

PART II

9. COVID-19 RELIEF GRANTS APPLICATIONS 2021/22 (Pages 7 - 68)

Exempt application forms for COVID-19 Relief Grants 2021/22.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF A CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT NATURE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Circulation: Councillors R.Lass (Chairman) J.Lake
R.Trigg (Vice-Chairman) S.McNamara
L.Brandon J.Skoczylas
L.Chesterman F.Wachuku
A.Dennis

D.Bell (Executive Member, Resources)

Head of Community and Housing Strategy (S.Chambers)
Press and Public (except Part II Items)

If you require any further information about this Agenda please contact Vanisha Mistry, Governance Services by email – democracy@welhat.gov.uk

Agenda Item 6

Part I

Main author: Bianca Moreira

Executive Member: Cllr Fiona Thomson

All Wards

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL GRANTS BOARD – 13 DECEMBER 2021 REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY AND HOUSING STRATEGY

GRANT AWARD FROM CONTAIN OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT FUND

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 An opportunity arose to be part of a joint bid to Hertfordshire's Health Protection Board, for money from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) to enhance the council's Community Grants programme and help support capacity within local charitable and voluntary organisations in connection with covid19 infection control and recovery.
- 1.2 The council was successful in a joint bid considered at the Health Protection Board on 25 May 2021. As a result, the council has been awarded £100,000 to distribute as grant support to local charitable and voluntary organisations, who meet the criteria of the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) scheme.
- 1.3 Cabinet agreed that that the grants should be made available through the community grant programme and overseen by the Grants Board.
- 1.4 Covid-19 Relief Community Grants are limited to a maximum of £10,000 per application.
- 1.5 The amount of £40,430 was awarded to five applicants in the first round of funding for this Covid-19 Relief Community Grants.
- 1.6 The balance of £59,570 is now available to the council and will need to be issued by 31 December 2021.
- 1.7 The total of £64,809.32 has been applied for in this second and final round of funding for the Covid-19 Relief Community Grant Applications.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 Grants Board to agree which applications for Covid-19 Relief Community Grants meet the criteria for the COMF and how much they should each receive.
- 2.2 The total value of all seven applications exceeds the budget available. Members are reminded that they are not able to award more than £59,570.
- 2.3 Members are able to fully fund, part fund or not fund at all any of the applications that have been received.

3 Explanation

- 3.1 Applications for this Covid-19 grants will need to demonstrate that they meet the criteria set out by the COMF as below. We expect this to include activities such as (this list is not exhaustive):
 - Delivery of essentials for those in self-isolation

- Involvement in main testing and tracing programme in the mitigation against and management of local outbreaks of COVID-19.
- Target testing for hard-to-reach groups out of scope of other testing programmes.
- Additional contact tracing
- Enhance communication and marketing during the pandemic
- Targeted interventions for specific sections of the local community and workplaces
- Harnessing capacity within local sectors (e.g., voluntary, academic, commercial)
- Deploying additional resource for compliance, enforcement, restrictions, and guidance
- Community based support for those disproportionately impacted such as the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) population.
- Providing initial support, as needed, to vulnerable people classed as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable who are following guidance.
- Support for rough sleepers.

3.2 There are seven applications totalling £64,809.3 for Covid-19 Relief community grants to be reviewed:

COVID-19 Grant- Organisations	Amount seeking
Future Living Hertford	£10,000
Forever Young People	£9,900
Mind in Mid Herts	£9,918.20
St John of God Hospitaller Services	£10,000
Welwyn Hatfield Community and Voluntary Services	£5,000
Welwyn Rugby Club	£10,000
Welwyn Hatfield Women's Refuge and Support Services	£9,991.12
Total:	£64,809.32

Implications

4 Legal Implication(s)

4.1 There are no direct legal implications connected with this report.

5 Financial Implication(s)

5.1 The council has been awarded £100,000 to support a community grants programme. This is in addition to the current budget for community grants.

5.2 The amount of £40,430 was awarded to five applicants in the first round of funding for this Covid-19 Relief Community Grants, leaving a balance available of £59,570.

5.3 In total £64,809.32 has been applied for in this round of Covid-19 Relief community grant funding from seven applications.

6 Risk Management Implications

- 6.1 Reputational Risk – not having sufficient demand for the fund, thereby having funds unspent and a potential reputational risk of not making best use of the opportunity.
- 6.2 The council has advertised the funds widely and promoted a simple and flexible application process. £64,809.32 have been applied for in this round which is £5,239.32 above the remaining funds available.
- 6.3 Risk Score Likelihood Low; Impact Low to Medium. Overall risk score Low.

7 Security & Terrorism Implication(s)

- 7.1 In complying with the Prevent duty Local Authorities need to ensure that publicly owned resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views.

8 Procurement Implication(s)

- 8.1 There are no procurement implications. The funds will be issued as grant payments.

9 Climate Change Implication(s)

- 9.1 There are no climate change implications.

10 Human Resources Implication(s)

- 10.1 There are none arising from this report.

11 Health and Wellbeing Implication(s)

- 11.1 The fund is likely to have a positive impact on health and wellbeing, as it will support voluntary and charitable organisations to prevent covid outbreaks and to support vulnerable residents.

12 Communication and Engagement Implication(s)

- 12.1 The availability of the fund has been widely advertised together with the relevant criteria.

13 Link to Corporate Priorities

- 13.1 The subject of this report is linked to several of the council's recently adopted priorities especially around a sense of community where people feel safe.

14 Equality and Diversity

- 14.1 An EqIA was not completed because this report does not propose changes to existing service-related policies or the development of new service-related policies.

Name of author
Title
Date

Bianca Moreira
Community Partnerships Manager
23 November 2021

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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