



EARLY HELP GRANT
REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE – COMMUNITY DIRECTION

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform Executive of an additional external funding stream via Leicestershire County Council (LCC), which has been delegated to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council to distribute. The Early Help Grant funds small scale projects predominantly led by the voluntary sector which aims to provide young people with positive activities. This scheme, successfully managed by HBBC, has been operational for a number of years. The amount of funding made available Hinckley and Bosworth in 2014/15 has increased above the anticipated allocated budget, therefore, Officers require approval for the creation of a supplementary budget for the 'Early Help Grant'.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That, Executive agrees to the following;

- 2.1 Welcomes the securing of this additional external £36,103 grant aid funding for the 'Early Help Grant' scheme for 2014/15.
- 2.2 As per the Council's financial regulations set out in section 5, Executive approves the supplementary income and expenditure budgets for £36,103 for 2014/15.

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

- 3.1 Early help and intervention is a county and local key priority. This funding has been devolved to localities across Leicestershire to ensure funds are directed to specific local projects which benefits young people aged 11-19yrs.
- 3.2 The amount of funding received in previous years:

2011/12	£29,480
2012/13	£29,438
2013/14	£29,435

- 3.3 Over 50 local projects have received funding since 2010. The scheme has achieved numerous outcomes including:

- Young people experiencing the effects of worklessness, giving support to find work, develop skills and take part in non conventional qualification programmes.
- Young people with mental health, drug or alcohol difficulties supporting them to develop through various services such as counseling services and focused support programmes
- Reduced the risk of entering the criminal justice system through mentoring and diversionary activities
- Supported families with disabled children giving positive developmental support respite and opportunities to develop independence.
- Supported young carers to have independence and feel valued as individuals.

4. EARLY HELP GRANT

- 4.1 The amount allocated to Hinckley & Bosworth at the budget setting time for 2014/15 was anticipated to be £29,430. This amount was uplifted to £65,533 therefore, the difference being £36,103
- 4.2 There is clear governance to ensure this funding is allocated in the most effective way and to the most vulnerable young people. The governance structure is via the locality 11-19yrs Partnership and then approved by the Hinckley and Bosworth Think Family Partnership.
- 4.3 Conditions of the funding included the signing of a service level agreement with Leicestershire County Council. The administration for the funding is, led by Cultural Services.
- 4.4 It should be noted that all costs associated with this scheme will be met via the external funding grant.
- 4.5 Executive should note that it is likely that H&B will not receive any further Early Help Grant funding in 2015/16 due to the financial pressures being experienced by LCC.
- 4.6 The voluntary sector are currently being consulted on this matter, which is being led by LCC.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (AQ)

	Current Budget 2014/2015	Additional Budget 2014/2015	Total
Income Budget	-29,430	-36,103	-65,533
Expenditure Budget	29,430	36,103	65,533

All costs associated with the scheme will be met from the grant funding. Due to the amount of grant funded expenditure of £36,103, in accordance with the financial procedure rules, this is requiring Executive approval.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [EH]

A Service Level Agreement with LCC has been signed. In order to ensure that the funding is not able to be reclaimed, the terms of the agreement must be adhered to.

7. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This project will assist the Council in achieving the following key priorities:

- Reduce the impact of poverty and Improve health and wellbeing
- Sustain economic growth
- Give children and young people the best start in life
- Move towards early intervention and prevention

8. CONSULTATION

A key criteria of funding is consultation and involvement of young people, monitoring visits and follow up evaluations from the projects are also a requirement of grant funding.

9. RISK IMPLICATIONS

None specific for this report.

10. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

All the projects funded have very clear positive outcomes for young people across the Hinckley and Bosworth Locality meeting local priorities for early help.

11. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications

Background papers: None
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