

Item 15 - Community Grant Scheme Guidelines Review

The attached report was considered by the People & Places Advisory Committee on 14 June 2022. The relevant Minute extract is below.

People & Places Advisory Committee (14 June 2022, Minute 12)

The Community Projects and Funding Officers presented the report which outlined the proposed changes to the Council's Code of Practice for Grant-making, which focused on speeding up and making the process of applying easier. They also explained there would be biannual meetings of officers involved to share best practice.

The proposed changes to the Community Grant Scheme Guidelines would better adhere to the new code of practice and be in line with current processes, with particular attention to how the lower grant limit of £500 was raised to £1000 to allow the scheme to provide meaningful grants in the current economic climate. The assessment criteria for applications were also updated.

They explained that further work would be undertaken with support from the Legal team to reduce the timescales of grant-making, and that this would be the subject of a future report.

The Committee discussed the limits on funding regarding the boundaries of the District, and it was clarified that grants were only given for work within the District.

Resolved: That

- a) the revisions to the Council's Code of Practice for Grant-making be noted;
- b) the recommended actions, as set out in paragraphs 8 - 14 of the report, be noted;
- c) the revisions to the Community Grant Scheme Guidelines, as detailed in Appendix B, be noted; and
- d) it be recommended to Cabinet that the above revisions and actions be approved.