

# **Briefing note**

To: Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board

**Date:** 9 March 2016

**Subject:** Community Grant Fund – 2015/16 Round Two Award Decisions

### 1 Purpose of the Note

1.1 To share the outcome of Round 2 of the Community Grant Fund award process for 2015/16 with Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board.

#### 2 Recommendations

2.1 To note the impact of the Community Grant Fund.

## 3 Information/Background

- 3.1 The Community Development Service has managed the Community Grant Fund since the beginning of 2014. Funding has been awarded through two application processes during each financial year.
- 3.2 For 2015/16, the total available was £100k.
- 3.3 The Community Grant Fund has been a valuable resource for local community and voluntary sector groups and has supported the Council's approach to asset based working to develop strong communities.
- 3.4 The Fund will cease with effect from 2016/17 following a Cabinet decision on 5 January 2016 to reduce it by £75k and for the remaining Grant Fund of £25k to be managed alongside and as part of the Transition Fund process for one year only.
- 3.5 This decision was taken as part of a report on a series of changes to the grant payments that the Council makes to external organisations.
- 3.6 The Community Grant Fund will reduce to nil thereafter.
- 3.7 The Transition Fund will focus on supporting residents and local communities in developing new approaches to delivering support and mitigating the impact of service reductions.
- 3.8 The Community Development Service will continue to support community groups to develop in a variety of ways including advice on potential alternative funding opportunities.

## **Appendices**

Cabinet Member Report - Community Grant Fund – 2015/16 Round Two Award Decisions, 21 January 2016

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