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**Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sports and Parks  
Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board**

**21 January 2016  
9 March 2016**

**Name of Cabinet Member:** Cllr Abdul Khan

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**  
Executive Director of People

**Ward(s) affected:**  
All

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

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**Is this a key decision?**  
No

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**Executive Summary:**

The Community Grant Fund is managed by the City Council's Community Development Service within the People Directorate. This report covers Round Two of Grant Fund awards for 2015/16, following on from Round One which closed on 30 May 2015.

In Round One, a total of £32,214 was awarded to 22 community and voluntary sector groups.

Round Two of the Grant Fund awards followed the same process as Round One with groups invited to apply for a maximum grant of £5000. Round Two 2015/16 Closed on 31 October 2015.

This report provides information and recommendations on applications received during Round Two of the process for 2015/16.

The Community Grant Fund has been a valuable resource for local community and voluntary sector groups and has supported the Council's Asset Based Working Strategy "Active Citizens, strong communities".

However, as part of the Connecting Communities Report to Cabinet on 26 November 2015, an allocation process was agreed for a one-off £500,000 Transition Fund to support delivery of the Connecting Communities approach as a whole; across its different phases. The Fund will support work with residents and communities in mitigating the impact of Council budget reductions and in developing new approaches to delivering support to communities within the City. Key criteria for award include the need for a clear plan for the proposals to deliver improved outcomes within available resources.

The Transition Fund will support community initiatives in a way that delivers savings designed to achieve the best value for money for Council taxpayers.

On this basis, on 5 January 2016, as part of a report on a series of changes to the grant payments that the Council makes to external organisations, the Council's Cabinet approved the reduction of the Community Grant Fund from £100,000 to £25,000 in 2016/17 with the remaining Grant Fund of £25,000 to be managed alongside and as part of the Transition Fund process outlined in the Connecting Communities Cabinet report.

The Community Grant Fund will reduce to nil thereafter.

As a result the Community Grant Fund will not operate from 2016/17 onwards and this will be the last report specifically in relation to the Fund.

**Recommendations:**

Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sports and Parks is requested to:

1. Approve payment of grants as recommended by the Officer Evaluation Panel as detailed in Table 1 of the report.

**List of Appendices included:**

1. Grant Criteria Document

**Other useful background papers:**

*None*

**Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

Yes – Communities and Neighbourhood Scrutiny Board (4) on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016

**Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

*No*

**Will this report go to Council?**

*No*

## **Report title: Community Grant Fund – Round two Award Decisions**

### **1. Context (or background)**

- 1.1 Round Two of the Council's Community Grant Fund for 2015/16 was opened on the 1 September 2015 and closed on 31 October 2015.
- 1.2 Round Two was promoted via the Community Development Services, flyers, noticeboards, by direct emails to all contacts and through Social Media including Twitter and the Council's website.
- 1.3 As well as being accessible on the Council website, hard copy applications were available at the Council House reception to ensure that they were available to anyone who may not have access to a computer.
- 1.4 In line with the process followed for Round One, an officer evaluation panel was established, to scrutinise Community Grant applications for completeness and compliance with application criteria and to inform recommendations for Grant award to Cabinet Member.
- 1.5 The Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sports and Parks will make all final decisions on Grant award.
- 1.6 During Round Two of the Community Grant application process, 95 applications were received with £325,102.13 worth of funding requests.
- 1.7 A total of £54,217 is recommended for Community Grant award (from approved requests for funding of £102,057.34) to 34 community groups and organisations.
- 1.8 From the Community Grant Fund of £100,000, £13,569 is therefore not recommended for allocation. This amount will be used to fund other corporate initiatives.
- 1.9 A total of 61 applications to the value of £223,044.79 are not recommended for Community Grant award. Applications are not recommended for approval for a number of reasons including:
  - Application criteria not being met including where applications have failed to evidence how they will meet the objectives of the scheme.
  - Lack of evidence of a plan for on-going sustainability.
  - Applications being incomplete or vague in content.
  - Monitoring criteria not met for previous Grant awards.
  - Where alternative potential funding streams identified.
  - Lack of evidence that project supports community cohesion.
- 1.10 All applicants that are not fully funded as a result of the Grant award process will be offered support from a member of the Community Development Service to further explore the viability of their project proposals and/or to seek other potential funding streams to enable them to be developed.
- 1.11 The Community Grant's aim has been to strengthen the voluntary and community sector through enabling local projects and events to be delivered; to enhance asset based provision; and to build resilience within communities.

- 1.12 All applicants are required to demonstrate through their applications how they will meet at least one of the objectives outlined in the table below through delivery of their project. This ensures alignment of outcomes with corporate objectives.

No	Objectives
1	Deliver projects that will make Coventry an attractive, cleaner and greener city
2	Support communities to become safer by developing networks and/or partnerships of communication, trust and co-operation
3	To improve health and wellbeing in the community
4	To reduce health inequalities in the community and across the city
5	To protect and support the most vulnerable in the local community
6	To develop active citizens in strong actively engaged and sustainable communities

- 1.13 On 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016, the Council's Cabinet approved a series of changes to the grant payments it makes to external organisations.
- 1.14 As part of this it was decided to reduce the Community Grant Fund from £100,000 to £25,000 in 2016/17 and for this remaining amount to be managed alongside and as part of the Transition Fund process outlined in the Connecting Communities report to Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015.
- 1.15 The Community Grant Fund will reduce to nil thereafter.
- 1.16 As a result the Community Grant Fund will not operate from 2016/17 onwards and this will be the last report in relation to the Fund.

## 2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 Table One below describes those Grant applications received that have been recommended for approval as well as the total amount recommended for approval, in part or in full.
- 2.2 Table Two describes those Grant applications that have been received but are not recommended for approval.
- 2.3 Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sports and Parks is recommended to approve the award of Grant funding described in Table One, all of which meet the approved Grant Application criteria (see Appendix 1) and at least one of the objectives.

**Table One: Applications recommended for award**

Ward	Project Name	Brief description of project	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Binley & Willenhall	PC brightness – John White community centre	To provide new IT equipment so that local residents have access to digital world in a friendly environment.	£4998	£3000

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Brief description of project</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Amount recommended</b>
Binley & Willenhall	Community crafting in Willenhall – Let's Get Crafty	To develop a larger craft group and support a growing number of mature residents to build confidence and reduce isolation.	£500	£500
Binley & Willenhall	Growing Communities – Willenhall Wildlife Ranger	To attract new users to the community allotment creating a productive asset for users.	£3051	£125
City Wide	Men's cooking and wellbeing – Men's shed	To run cooking sessions for men suffering from mental ill-health to improve wellbeing and confidence.	£2620	£2100
City wide	Out and About – explore the outdoors -Sunrise Community Solutions	Working with young people from vulnerable areas of Coventry – aiming to create a sustainable programme which builds confidence and cohesion.	£3230.10	£2000
City wide	Coventry AIMHS Veteran Service Group (VSG) - Coventry AIMHS Ltd	To support victims and veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and associated mental ill-health.	£4999	£2500
City Wide	Winter facilities/training Hardley Athletic	A new group who are supporting vulnerable young people. Providing opportunities to learn football skills and become part of a team.	£1300	£1000
City Wide	Community Café Forum – Coventry Warwickshire Association for the Deaf	Supporting refurbishment of a social meeting place for people with hearing impairments.	£5000	£2000
Earlsdon	Trinjen Stronger Together	To engage older people aged 50 plus living in Styvechale and surrounding areas that are socially isolated.	£646	£400
Earlsdon	Hearsall Earlsdon Residents Association (HERA) – restating	To continue to restore street signs. If completed this project gives a signal that there is a culture of	£1000	£800

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Brief description of project</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Amount recommended</b>
	Edwardian signs	'doing it for ourselves' and that residents have pride in the community and the city.		
Earlsdon	SENA (South Earlsdon neighbourhood association) – community woodland management	To continue with community project which enhances the natural local woodland – using volunteers to plant seeds and bulbs.	£539.35	£539
Foleshill	Older peoples day centre – Indian community centre	Providing a comfortable safe environment for older people to come together.	£4945	£600
Foleshill	Connecting communities - Ekta-Unity Voluntary Organisation	To support the local community to have a more inclusive, cohesive, self-supportive, happier and healthier society.	£3000	£1000
Foleshill	Creative Designs – Hope in Unity Ltd	Creative activities to bring people together, giving them a shared interest, encouraging social engagement and reducing the risk of isolation.	£3106.84	£1363
Longford	Growing community – New Start 4 U community interest company	To provide advisers and counsellors to support disadvantaged communities.	£4836	£2000
Longford	Bell Green Community Association – Tea for Two Hundred	To purchase a water heater which will enable this community group to continue to meet in a social welcoming environment, they work to reduce isolation and build a strong community.	£1034.80	£1034
Longford	Longford Short Football	An established project which is in need to replacing worn out equipment, this will support the group to become sustainable and support over 100 users.	£1850	£1250
Lower Stoke	'Green Gem' for Gosford Park – Friends of Gosford Park	To purchase outdoor gym equipment this will both improve the parks usage and users health.	£5000	£5000

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Brief description of project</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Amount recommended</b>
Lower Stoke	Feel Good Friday (family film night) – St Catherine’s church and pastoral centre	To offer families an environment where they can enjoy a family film with other families across Stoke Aldermoor encouraging cohesion.	£1978.49	£1600
Lower Stoke	Scout Group activities – 78 <sup>th</sup> Coventry Scout Group	A new scout group seeking equipment, to offer activities for it young members and attract more young people to join the group.	£4394	£822
Lower Stoke	Indoor games – Stoke Aldermoor community centre	To run family activities which will improve health, well-being and reduce social isolation.	£2550.80	£2550
Radford	Women’s workout – MALFH (More Active Living for Health)	Purchase equipment to provide active physical sessions to both male and female to improve health.	£4900	£60
Radford	First Aid training equipment – 2286 Arden squadron air training corps	To purchase first aid equipment which will in turn support training 60 plus cadets per year.	£750	£750
Sherbourne	Community regeneration of Nauls Mill Park - Friends of Nauls Mill Park	To host community events/activities in the park. Encouraging local people to take ownership and build a strong asset for future users.	£2875	£2875
Sherbourne	Art therapy for Dementia – Koco community resource centre	Facilitated therapist and volunteers will support participants in using art and crafts encouraging creativity and building confidence.	£2000	£1440
St Michaels	Spoke project – Motorvate Uk	Supporting young people to learn skills which will aid them to carry out bicycle maintenance – using their own bikes or bikes which have been donated to the project.	£5000	£800
St Michaels	Mountain Life – Lower Ford Street Baptist church	To run outdoor activities to teach young people outdoor skills whilst having fun in a safe environment. Building cohesion in this diverse community.	£2344	£2344

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Brief description of project</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Amount recommended</b>
St Michaels	Life skills through art – Arty Folks	Engaging with new residents and reducing the risk of loneliness, sharing new ideas and learning new skills.	£5000	£2000
St Michaels	Furniture and Household appliance - up-cycling – Love Coventry	To provide training and tools so young women can learn new skills, assisting them into paid work.	£2975	£2975
St Michaels	Creative writing course - Cherished	Providing create writing sessions for vulnerable women. The aim is to build self-esteem and confidence.	£3500	£1740
St Michaels	Laptop to put all breathe details on – Breathe Easy Coventry	To enable the group to keep electronic records ensuring that details are more secure, but also more easily accessible when needed.	£400	£400
Upper Stoke	Emergency and paediatric first aid courses – Learn2education centre	To provide first aid training to people connected to voluntary/community groups. Expected to reach over 40 people per year.	£3500	£3500
Upper Stoke	Being active, staying healthy, keeping safe – Enterprise Club for disabled people	To introduce new activities which will enhance the general health and wellbeing of users.	£3260	£650
Upper Stoke and Longford	Increasing testing and reducing new cases of HIV/AIDS – DumI International aid	To recruit a facilitator to run events, recruit volunteers and engage with communities across Coventry.	£4973.96	£2500
Total 34			£102,057.34	£54,217



**Table Two Applications not recommended for award**

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
Berkswell	Coventry 53 <sup>rd</sup> Berkswell Scout Group	Seeking funds towards a new scout hut – existing one is old and no longer fit for purpose. Outside city boundary.	£5000
Binley & Willenhall	To purchase a new trampoline –Central Galaxy Coventry trampoline club	Purchase additional trampoline which will enable more people to participate.	£5000
Binley & Willenhall	Music and Art – The Grangers club	Hire a musician and artists to show the group how to make their instruments, build skill and communications skills of the group.	£2385
Binley & Willenhall	GAA (Gaelic Athletics association) coaching in schools – Roger Casements GAA club	To introduce Gaelic football into Coventry schools – support new coaches from local University to gain experience.	£4814
Binley & Willenhall	Community Economic Development – The Highlife centre	To support local residents, business and services to achieve real economic change.	£4789.20
Binley & Willenhall	John White Community centre – Eye of the Tiger	Self- defence classes for women to build self-confidence.	£4470
Binley and Willenhall	163 Coventry Phoenix Squadron, air training corps	To purchase a trailer to transport essential equipment for outdoor activities and to double up as a security box to store equipment.	£2900
Cheylesmore	Cheylesmore Social Club Allotments Association – a Gardening Club for the Cheylesmore community	To be able to provide a safe environment for the allotmenters, plus the Cheylesmore community visitors invited into the allotment area.	£5000
Cheylesmore	Cheylesmore Good Neighbours	To develop an age friendly reusable model for self-sustaining groups whose members provide mutual support and encourage and drive further membership of like-minded individuals and socially isolated older people.	£3722
City – Hillfields, Willenhall, Woodend and Foleshill	Stop Hate Crime project – Coventry ethnic minority action partnership	Engaging with groups who are more at risk of being victims of Hate Crime – provide training and explain how to report Hate crime.	£5000

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
City Wide	Shiamak Dance – AB3D	To fund a renowned Bollywood choreographer to deliver 10 dance workshops.	£3885
City wide	Dare to Care – action for community empowerment and development	To fund a co-ordinator who will engage with 12 community leaders from the Black and Minority Ethnic community – improve the health of at least 24 people.	£3006
City wide	Keep calm and become a volunteer – Coventry and Warwickshire friend	To advertise for new volunteers who are able to support people with mental health.	£3895
City wide	Elders project – Tamarind centre	To provide activities for older Black and Minority Ethnic, predominantly Caribbean community.	£5000
City wide	Men's recovery shed and other stories – Men's shed	To make a short film which can be used to support organisations working with men in recovery.	£620
Foleshill	CSSVD – Coventry Shri Sidhi Vinayagar Devasthanam - dance	Aim to use Partha Nattiyam dance style as a mechanism to attract and engage young people in four age groups.	£2650
Foleshill	Shree Mandhata Samaj Coventry healthy lifestyle	To run sessions where people can attend and be healed using Sai Vibrionics, exercises to maintain good health.	£5000
Foleshill	Women's Pathways – FWT (Foleshill's Women's Training Ltd)	Using digital literacy to break down barriers within Black and Minority Ethnic communities – at the same time increase use of digital technology.	£4999
Foleshill	The Roma project	To purchase IT equipment, laptops, printer and rent – all will support an existing project with the main aim of supporting the Roma community.	£2418
Foleshill	My destiny in my youth – Pillar of Fire	A musical extravaganza for young people aged 13 to 24 years.	£3295
Foleshill , St Michaels	Free lunch on Jesus- RCCG Holy Ghost Zone Coventry	To deliver 600 hampers to families within Foleshill by 19 December 2015.	£5000
Henley	Building Stronger Relationships – Association Kuunga	To run 7 events for young women 16 – 25 years, to encourage cooking and healthy lifestyles.	£5000

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
	community in Coventry		
Holbrooks, Bablake and Radford	Street Aware-Sevenco training CIC	To support schools across Coventry in raising awareness of the effects of substance misuse.	£4950
Longford	Bell Green Craft Club	To purchase an embroidery machine – this would benefit all users and take the group to a new learning level.	£4495
Longford	Community group development – New Start 4 U community interest company	To support disadvantaged Eastern European communities and other countries.	£4968
Longford	Bell Green community Association	To purchase new lawn mower to improve centre outdoor environment.	£2199.99
Longford – city wide	Snowbies – activity club Coventry Ltd	To reduce isolation for the more mature child minders of Coventry.	£821.60
Lower Stoke	Deserving fund for disadvantage children – Coventry Sea Cadet Unit	To support young people from disadvantaged families to access training and courses.	£1000
Out of city	Ubuntu Festival – Mbola productions Ltd	Bringing people together to experience African arts and culture.	£1500
Out of City	Young leader/adult training – Girls Brigade Heart of England	To support a training weekend for young and adult leaders.	£160
Sherbourne	Mobile makerspace – Coventry Makerspace CIC	To take the programme to schools and communities, providing access to tools that they may not otherwise access.	£5000
Sherbourne	The Notables – Smile through music	To support the members of the Notables Band in their efforts and commitment to expand and improve their music and performance skills.	£5000
Sherbourne	The Notables – Reaching out through music	To enable members of the Notables Band to build bridges with the wider community through performing their music at several local festivals.	£3350

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
Sherbourne	Coundon Care Centre charity	To support the programme by funding rent and wages.	£5000
Sherbourne	Albany Theatre Trust – Spon End festival	To support a community festival by funding technical support.	£5000
Sherbourne	Youth mechanical workshop – Motorcycle Riders Association	To support young people to understand and maintain their motorcycles.	£3000
Sherbourne – St Micheals	Coventry AIMHS walking group	To support people with mental ill-health to continue with physical activities throughout the winter months.	£750
St Michaels	Reboot and Release – CSC Bardsley work club	To run two courses which will supporting unemployed people to build confidence and progress into work.	£5000
St Michaels	Succeed project – Working Activity To Change Hillfields (WATCH)	To provide training in radio and media to the unemployed by providing them with transferable skills.	£5000
St Michaels	Holiday activities for young children – Coventry Boys and Girls club	Activities for children aged 8 to 13 years including sports, drama, art and cooking.	£5000
St Michaels	Display stands and A boards – Charterhouse association Coventry	To have specially made ‘A’ Frame display boards to use during open days.	£1800
St Michaels	Arty- Folks – Starley house community	To run craft workshops for local residents and encourage the community to continue with the programme.	£2500
St Michaels	Routes to employment, job ready and medial training - Radio Plus (Coventry and Warwickshire Media Community Ltd)	To help with promoting 2016 programme to help up to 30 NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) young people.	£5000

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
St Michaels	Self – Health – Somali Cultural Resource centre	To run workshops and activities for men and women with the aim of improving their life styles and mental health.	£4930
St Michaels	Your little bit of good – Reconciliation team	To help build a culture of peace for Coventry and the wider world.	£5000
St Michaels – City Wide	Eyefull Media CIC	To produce an online film to promote third sector groups who support people with mental ill-health after leaving statutory services.	£3500
St Michaels – city wide	Arty Folks – social prescribing pilot project	To develop a ‘Social Buddies’ service to support existing service.	£4800
St Michaels - Longford	Reading Buddies – Abrahams seed	To appoint a project co-ordinator from existing trustees to work as a mentor for young children whose first language is not English.	£3993
St Michaels – Spon end, Cheylesmore, Earlsdon, Radford and Foleshill	The DMS (Destiny Moulding Summit) experience – RCCG CRA Coventry (Redeemed Christian Church of God Covenant Restoration Assembly)	To identify young people who are unemployed, under employed or at risk of unemployment and support them into work.	£3660
St Michaels and Foleshill	Geet Sangeet group – Amity Enterprises	To provide activities to people with Dementia.	£4450
St Michaels and Foleshill	Positive Connections	To support a festival – music, dance, poetry, storytelling and literacy workshops to promote diversity and social cohesion within Coventry.	£2900
St Michaels, Foleshill, Henley	Child at Heart – Rescue the Pure Children UK	Awareness raising programme to increase understanding of the impact of poverty on children in Coventry.	£2462
Upper Stoke	Kabaddi tournament Coventry – Coventry Asian sports federation	Annual one day event that attracts hundreds of participants and has been running since the 1960’s.	£5000
Upper Stoke, Foleshill	Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much - FC Eagles Coventry	To deliver 2 family days, providing activities for the family to try out together.	£2900

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
Upper Stoke, Longford,	Testing and Reducing new cases of HIV and AIDS – Dummi International aid	Seeking funds to pay for premises for 12 months.	£600
Wainbody – city wide	Finham community orchard – Coventry Tree Warden network	To create a community orchard with support from local residents.	£2650
Westwood	Forest school programme	To create woodland within the school grounds by purchasing trees and poor weather clothing for children.	£5000
Westwood	Group events – Tile Hill Village residents group	To improve community engagement by offering events/fetes and environmental improvements.	£2000
Whoberley	Inspiring Women – The Inspirational Club	To support women who are facing isolation through a change in life style.	£3845
Woodlands	The Garden project – Tile Hill North residents association	To purchase gardening tools with a view to tidying communal areas.	£1012
Woodlands – city wide	Young Peace Ambassadors – Normandy Day UK	Engage veterans and refugees with young people in Coventry.	£5000
Total 61			£223,044.79

### 3. Results of consultation undertaken:

- 3.1 No specific formal consultation has been undertaken for Round 2 of the 2015/16 Community Grant application process. The process has been undertaken in accordance with guidance and evaluation criteria developed as a result of consultation completed in 2013 and used for Community Grant Fund decisions since this point.
- 3.2 Positive impacts have been realised as a result of 2014/15 grant funding. Funding awarded to Knitting Needles, a group of older people meeting to chat, promote social interaction and reduce isolation is one example of this. The group were awarded £920, which they used to fund a more stable venue to meet in and plan future events such as a Christmas Fair and group knitting for local charities. They have since been nominated for a Queens Award for Voluntary Service and have worked with another local group to produce poppies to raise money for the British Legion.
- 3.3 A further example is Friends Community Café in Foleshill which was awarded £1350 from the Community Grant Fund to replace old equipment and support the group to continue operating. This has benefited the local community including families, single

parents, older people and people who are vulnerable and homeless. The Cafe opens each Saturday, 52 weeks of the year and provides a free meal to an average of 80 people.

- 3.4 The Community Development Service has also actively linked groups who have similar interests, resulting in two successful networking sessions. This is with the aim of building stronger more resilient groups who, by sharing information and possibly resources, can build a network which they can use to influence activities in their local neighbourhood.

4. **Timetable for implementing:**

- 4.1 Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified of the outcome of their Community Grant application subject to Cabinet Member approval. Grant funding will be paid to successful applicants by 31 March 2016.

5. **Comments from the Executive Director of Resources**

5.1 **Financial implications**

The total Community Grant Budget was £100k. A total of £32,214 was awarded during Round One and £54,217 is recommended for award as a result of Round Two. £13,569 has not been allocated.

5.2 **Legal implications**

In making Community Grants, the Council is exercising its general power of competence under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. The grants will be made under the de minimis rule for state aid purposes. A grant aid agreement will be entered into between the Council and the applicant organisations.

6. **Other implications**

6.1 **How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?**

The Community Grant Fund seeks to support voluntary and community sectors to:

- Improve Health and Wellbeing.
- Improve the local environment.
- Address community safety.
- Support and develop cohesive communities.
- Develop confidence and resilience within communities.
- Increase opportunities for volunteering

All of which support the Council's key objectives and priorities.

6.2 **How is risk being managed?**

Risk will be managed through the existing risk management processes and frameworks. The Community Development Service will undertake monitoring activity to ensure that all successful applicants appropriately utilise their grants in line with Cabinet Member (Culture, Leisure, Sports and Parks) approval.

### 6.3 **What is the impact on the organisation?**

The fund will build on existing strengths within communities to enhance confidence and resilience. In some cases, the projects described in this report will provide residents with alternatives to Council provided services, potentially reducing demand. This directly supports the “Locally committed” elements of the Council Plan.

### 6.4 **Equalities / EIA**

Equalities impact data is requested as part of the application process. This data is used to understand the impact of the Community Grant. To date, completed equality monitoring forms indicate that groups are offering services that are accessible and available to a variety of people from different cultures and communities across the city.

### 6.5 **Implications for (or impact on) the environment**

A small number of the projects described will have a positive impact on the local environment e.g. enhancement to natural local woodlands and park areas (under supervision/support from City Councils parks team).

### 6.6 **Implications for partner organisations?**

Partner organisations should realise a positive impact as a result of Community Grant funding awards. As communities’ confidence and skills grow they will be less reliant on some main stream services thereby freeing up resources.

#### **Report author(s):**

#### **Name and job title:**

Michelle McGinty, Head of Involvement and Partnerships

#### **Directorate:**

People

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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

<b>Contributor/approver name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Directorate or organisation</b>	<b>Date doc sent out</b>	<b>Date response received or approved</b>
<b>Contributors:</b>				
Maureen Metcalf	Community Development Team Leader	People	17.12.15	18.12.15
Usha Patel	Governance Services Officer	Resources	17.12.15	18.12.15
Helen Shankster	Insight Team	Chief Executives	17.12.15	18.12.15
Paul Jennings	Finance Manager	Resources	17.12.15	21.12.15
Pete Fahy	Director of Adult Services	People	17.12.15	22.12.15
<b>Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)</b>				
Gail Quinton	Executive Director	People	22.12.15	04.01.16



Ewan Dewar	Finance Manager	Resources	17.12.15	22.12.15
Carol Bradford	Solicitor	Resources	17.12.15	21.12.15
Mick Burn	Procurement	Resources	17.12.15	22.12.15
Members: Cllr Abdul Khan	Cabinet Member		7.1.16	7.1.16

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# **Coventry City Council's Community Grant Fund**

**Criteria 2015-16**

**Please read carefully before making an application**

## **Aim of the Community Grant Fund**

Coventry City Council has established a grant fund of £100,000 to spend during 2015-2016 on community projects. Grants will be available at the discretion of the Council through two rounds of funding throughout the year. A timetable for applications is detailed on page 5 of this document.

This funding is intended to help Voluntary and Community groups throughout Coventry develop their capacity and promote positive sustainable change in neighbourhoods. Projects will be expected to enhance the local environment and/or improve the general health and well-being of citizens of Coventry.

This grant fund complements and supports the Council's objective of encouraging residents to "do more for themselves" and increase self-sufficiency. This will help further the development of actively engaged, sustainable, resilient communities within Coventry.



## Objectives of the Scheme

This grant scheme seeks to achieve the objectives listed below through building on the strengths that exist in our communities. The application form will ask applicants to identify which of these objectives their project will contribute towards, and ask for details of how this will be achieved during the lifespan of the project.

- Deliver projects that will make Coventry an attractive, cleaner and greener city
- Support communities to become safer by developing networks and/or partnerships of communication, trust and co-operation.
- To improve health and wellbeing in the community
- To reduce health inequalities in the community and across the city
- To protect and support the most vulnerable in the local community
- To develop active citizens in strong actively engaged and sustainable communities

## Who can apply?

The grant fund scheme is only open to groups that are based in Coventry. Groups can be, for example, youth groups, community development groups, cultural organisations, community centre associations, women's groups, residents associations, tenants associations and other similar organisations.

The scheme is aimed primarily at projects to develop a culture of 'doing it for ourselves' to enhance community resilience and to leave a legacy which will ensure the change/improvement is sustained.

## **Eligible Costs:**

Grants may be awarded towards the cost of the following, provided they meet the objectives.

1. Organisation / delivery of events.
2. Seminars or discussion groups.
3. Projects that create sustainable change/improvements.
4. Renting appropriate facilities.
5. Resource materials.
6. Improvements to buildings / IT etc that enhance service delivery opportunities for local communities.
7. Action research and small publication costs.

**Please note: The maximum award payable to an organisation is £5,000 in any one funding round.**

## **Exclusions**

Grants will not be paid for:

1. Political or Religious activities
2. Retrospective events (things that have already happened)
3. Cash generative schemes (where an individual or organisation profits from the award)
4. Anything that the Council already funds
5. Single person activities
6. Furniture (Internal)



## Information on Application

Application forms will be available on line at the Council's website

<http://www.coventry.gov.uk/communitydevelopment>

or in paper copy from the Council House reception desk.

It is always best to apply as early as possible which will allow time for processing of the application, and for any enquiries to be made if necessary.

Organisations will be restricted to being awarded one grant per round. However, if a group has received funding in the past, they will need to demonstrate either that

1. This is an entirely new application with clear and differing objectives to previous applications
2. How additional funds will further develop and enhance earlier achievements for a project previously funded.

Applicants should understand that while careful consideration is given to each application, it may not be possible to fund all applicants to the extent requested, even if applications come within the criteria set out above.

## When to Apply

Round 1: Deadline for applications is 4pm on Sunday 31 May 2015

Round 2: Deadline for applications is 4pm on Saturday 31 October 2015

Details of where to send your application is marked clearly on the application form.



## Decision Making Process

No application will be looked at until after the closing date.

Any incomplete applications will be returned **without being considered** (but can reapply once fully completed)

Decisions will be made by the relevant Cabinet Member.

Decisions will be final with no appeals considered.

Successful candidates will be notified within 12 weeks of the deadline date, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

All successful applicants will be expected to monitor their achievements, and provide evidence of what the grant was spent on (keeping receipts and invoices is essential).

It is a condition of accepting a grant that within 12 months of receipt of the grant you will:

1. Let us know what the grant helped you to achieve
2. Tell us how your local community benefitted from you receiving the grant
3. Provide detail of how the grant was spent

A monitoring and evaluation form will be sent to all groups with their grant offer letter.

The grant offer letter will specify conditions of accepting the grant.