

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL DECISION RECORD VERSION 6. MAY 2024

Reference Number (taken from Sharepoint entry) 155
Officer Completing the Form: Jane Chuhan
Lead Director: Dawn Adey
Subject: Core funding grants programme 2025-26

Details of Decision: *Please provide a brief explanation as to what decision was made, including any financial implications. This should be done in easy to understand, non-technical language - as this wording will appear on the website for the public to read. Also please remember all staff will be able to see this document.*

This decision record documents allocation of core funding grants in 2025-26 which total £389,218. There are thirteen grants in total, the largest individual award being £195,000.

1) Strategic Fund direct awards:

	Organisation	Total grant award 2025-26
1	Citizens Advice	£195,000
2	Play to the Crowd	£144,500
	Totals	£339,500

2) Priority Outcome Fund grant awards:

	Organisation	Total grant award 2025-26
1	Winchester Youth Counselling	£7,040
2	MHA Communities – Winchester	£6,660
3	Youth Options	£6,505
4	Winchester Go LD	£6,006
5	Home Start Hampshire	£5,840
6	Winchester & District Young Carers	£4,020
7	Home-Start Winchester & Districts	£3,726
8	The Carroll Centre	£3,570
9	Unit 12 CIC	£2,611
10	Winchester Radio	£2,240
11	Footprints Project	£1,500
	Totals	£49,718

Type of Decision: (please tick. see reverse for definitions)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Key Decision (Executive) & Subject to Call-In (see section 2A on reverse of this form) Note, these decisions are published on winchester.gov.uk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Significant Operational Decision (see section 2B (1) on reverse of this form). Note, these decisions are published on winchester.gov.uk
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Decisions to be Published (see section 2B (2) on reverse of this form) Note, these decisions are published on winchester.gov.uk
<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Decision (see section 3 on reverse of this form)

Reason for the Decision: *A brief overview of your reasons for taking this course of action.*

The core grant awards and performance agreements to voluntary organisations for the three-year period 2022-2025 came to an end on 31 March 2025.

Cabinet on 12 February 2025 (CAB3494) delegated authority to the Corporate Head of Economy & Community to allocate the grants for one further year from the general fund in the financial year 2025-26, in consultation with the Cabinet member for Communities & Wellbeing. This one-year extension will allow the TC25 grant review outcomes to conclude and be communicated, and any future community grant schemes developed. All strategic and priority outcome grants funded by the general fund are being continued for one further financial year at the 24-25 level. The allocation of this funding to the relevant organisations is subject to our annual outcomes and financial due diligence checks.

The Town Forum approved at their meeting on 11 November 2024 that a grants budget saving would be achieved in part by a reduction of £2,500 each in core grant contributions to Citizens Advice and Play to the Crowd (WTF332).

Cabinet on 12 February 2025 (CAB3494) agreed that £2,500 from the Town Forum reserve would be allocated to Citizens Advice in 2025/26 to provide a one year only compensation for the reduction in core funding from the Town Forum.

A summary of the sources of funding for the core grants is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Sources of funding for Strategic and Priority Outcomes Fund grants

	2025/26
General Fund	
Strategic Fund grants	£302,000
Priority Outcome grants	£49,718
Town Forum	
Citizens Advice	£20,000
Play to the Crowd	£17,500
Total	£389,218

At Full Council on 27 February the level of general fund budget for 25-26 was agreed as set out in CAB3494.

Alternative Options Considered & Rejected: *All alternative options considered need to be outlined here. Please include detail of any representations received. This will include your response to any alternatives suggested by those making representation and the reasons why these alternatives were rejected.*

A new open call scheme to award grants was discounted as it made sense and was considered more efficient to wait for the conclusion of the TC25 grant review to inform the basis for future funding schemes. Therefore a continuation of grants at the current level from the general fund was deemed to be the most equitable and efficient method of awarding funds for 2025-26.

Supporting Information: *If your decision relates to delegated authority derived from a specific Committee resolution, please confirm the name of the Committee, the date of the meeting and paste the resolution into this box.*

Background Papers

CAB3494 - General Fund budget 2025/26 – 12 February 2025

That Cabinet approve:

13. That authority be delegated to the Corporate Head of Economy and Community, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to devise and agree:

a. The Community and Voluntary Sector grant programme funding criteria, detailed outcomes, application processes and assessments and the allocation of grants.

WTF336 - Winchester Town Account Budget for 2025/26 – 23 January 2025: minutes of the meeting point 6 (3)
"Agrees a one-off budget for 2025/26 of £2,500, funded by the Town Reserve, to be allocated to additional funding for Winchester Citizens Advice;"

WTF332 - Town Forum Grants Programme Update - 11 November 2024

Declared Officer and/or Member interests: *List any conflict of interest declared by any Cabinet Member who was consulted by the officer which relates to the decision and, in respect of any declared conflict of interest, any note of dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer.*

No conflict of interest to record

Departmental Review		
Legal review:	<i>Tick this box to confirm legal team have reviewed proposed decision</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Murphy
Finance review:	<i>Tick this box to confirm finance team have reviewed proposed decision</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darren Kennedy
Other review:	<i>Tick this box to confirm any other departmental review of proposed decision (and specify department)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Sector Equality Duty:	<i>Tick this box to confirm you have considered the PSED requirements (see section 4 on reverse of this form)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are the details of the decision open or exempt?

Open

Part Exempt. Please expand

Exempt. Please expand

Decision Taker (name): *This needs to be the specific Officer or Cabinet Member who holds the delegation within the constitution/or referred to by a committee*

Decision Taker (Signature):

Date: 22/04/25

Susan Robbins, Corporate Head of Economy & Community



Call In dates (key decisions only) and Implementation date:

Commencement of call in: (date)	Click here to enter a date. <i>(Please refer to Dem Services for this)</i>
Last date for call in: (date)	Click here to enter a date. <i>(Please refer to Dem Services for this)</i>
Planned Implementation Date:	Click here to enter a date.