

Community and Voluntary Sector Grants Review

Cabinet report CAB3079, 12 December 2018.

Addendum

PURPOSE

This addendum provides the proposed responses to the questions raised at Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 October 2018 and Town Forum on 14 November 2018 with regard to the Community and Voluntary Sector Grants Review. These proposals relate to Recommendation 2 of the main Cabinet report.

PROPOSED RESPONSES:

That:

1. Priority Outcome Fund -:
 - 1.1. To inform the priority outcomes Town Forum members are asked to identify any specific requirements in relation to town ward residents for inclusion in the grant criteria to be set before launch in April 2019.
 - 1.2. The Town Account funds applications that are predominately for town residents i.e. applications that have in excess of 72% town ward residents as beneficiaries.
2. Small Grant Award Allocation
 - 2.1. The Small Grant Panels are set up based on the proposed grouping of wards based on size of population and geographical / area relationship that includes one for town wards.
3. The responses to requests for information in Table 1. be noted.

QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION REQUESTED:

The Cabinet report (CAB3079) Community and Voluntary Sector Grants review was considered at both Overview and Scrutiny Committee (15 October 2018) and Town Forum (14 November 2018)

The following is a summary of the responses to the questions raised and requests for more information.

Table1.

Point	Response
(a) That clarity be sought about how Town Forum funding would be kept accountable and separate from District funding without disadvantaging town area organisations.	<p>A method for allocating town account funds based on service being predominately for town ward residents is proposed for the Priority Outcomes Fund.</p> <p>Town Forum members will be asked to identify any specific needs of town ward residents for inclusion in the priority outcomes being established for the grant criteria.</p> <p>See details in Supporting Information section 1</p>
(b) That the approach to organisations leasing property or land from the Council be brought back to Committee.	<p>Discussion has been held with Head of Estates:</p> <p>The preferred approach, for transparency, is to require tenants to pay market rent and have support for property as an aspect of the grant process / award.</p> <p>However an approach will need to be developed for consideration.</p>
(c) That consideration be given to more frequent than annual reporting for larger organisation.	<p>Grant recipients will be required to report on the delivery of the funded service / activity and this will be a minimum of six monthly. Frequency of reporting will be dependant on and appropriate to the size of grant awarded</p> <p>An annual report will be presented to provide an overview of the grant programme as a whole covering Priority Outcomes, Crowd Funding, Small Grants etc. to demonstrate the total impact and outcomes achieved as a result of the Council's funding.</p>
(d) That detail about how changes to priorities and unforeseen requirement are dealt with be provided.	<p>A comprehensive evidence base is being compiled on which the outcomes will be based. This data will be monitored and checked annually to ensure it is still relevant and that other needs have not presented that should be addressed.</p>

Point	Response
	<p>If there is a need to change the outcomes this will be built in to the performance reviews with the service providers. Their input on this from a user and customer perspective will also help shape any necessary changes.</p> <p>The grant agreements will include a clause that allows for such changes to be incorporated.</p> <p>The proposed Flexible Grant pot will allow for support for services in rapid response to crisis, policy changes, legislation changes and unforeseen need etc.</p>
(e) That consideration to be given as to how the Council consults with residents whose needs are not met at the current time.	<p>The priorities for the new grant programme will be based on a comprehensive evidence base from a variety of sources so as to identify a range of community and residents' needs. The objective of this it to encourage different / new service providers to apply for grants based on their ability to support the priority outcomes.</p>
(f) That in respect of small grants, a map be provided showing areas covered by each centre and that consideration be given to the provision to consider awards in private alongside networking.	<p>A method for grouping wards around centres is proposed based on a proportional share of the District's population and sensible geographical closeness /relationship.</p> <p>A process for the award of grants is also proposed which includes a private discussion for Grant Panel members on applications.</p> <p>See details in Supporting Information section 2.</p>
(g) That support and advice be provided to assist smaller organisations and marginalised communities in particular in accessing grants.	<p>A new service specification for community, voluntary sector development and support is to be issued which will include the need to support the organisations and groups identified.</p>

SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

Section 1. Priority Outcome Fund

Proposed Response:

That:

1. To inform the priority outcomes Town Forum members are asked to identify any specific requirements in relation to town ward residents for inclusion in the grant criteria to be set before launch in April 2019.
2. The Town Account funds applications that are predominately for town residents i.e. applications that have in excess of 72% town ward residents as beneficiaries.

Principles

One of the objectives of the grant review is to create a new grants programme that is simple, transparent, fair and equal for all eligible applicants.

To achieve this:

- New, simple to understand eligibility criteria will be issued with the funding calls.
- A clear set of priorities and outcomes will be published for services providers to align their activities to.
- Assessment criteria will be published so applicants can see how their bids will be scored.
- All applications will be objectively assessed against the same criteria.
- Applicants will receive feedback on the assessment.
- Funding awards will be based on the assessment scores. All applications must reach a minimum score to ensure quality. If the fund is oversubscribed priority will be given to the highest scoring applications.

Priority Outcomes

A set of detailed priority outcomes based on available social and economic data, including Indices of Multiple Deprivation, Winchester Physical Activity Insight report 2018 is being developed to support the Council's Strategic Priorities and proposed target outcomes.

Proposed response:

To inform the priority outcomes Town Forum members are asked to identify any specific requirements in relation to town ward residents for inclusion in the grant criteria to be set before launch in April 2019.

Town Account allocation

It should be noted that expenditure will only be considered as 'special expenses' (Town funded expenditure) where it meets the requirements of Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. In summary, in order for a special expense to be levied it must meet the definition of being a concurrent function. Therefore, a special expense is one incurred, if the function carried out by the Council is in only part of its area, but the same function is also carried out in another part of the district by one or more parish councils (Local Government Finance Act 1992, S35(2)(d)). The list of items within special expenses is published in the Council Tax Resolution which is approved by Council each February.

In order to simplify the initial identification of grants to be considered as special expenses, the following is recommended (to note that the above criteria will also be applied before any final recommendations are made):

Town Account Special Expenses requires that funds are for services that are predominately for town residents. As the town wards have 36% of the District's total population, to qualify as predominantly benefiting town ward residents, it is proposed that the percentage of service beneficiaries should be double the share of resident population.

Source: Mid-2017 Population Estimates for 2017 Wards

Winchester District total resident population	123,879	
Town Wards total resident population	44,495	= 35.9% of total resident population

Proposed response:

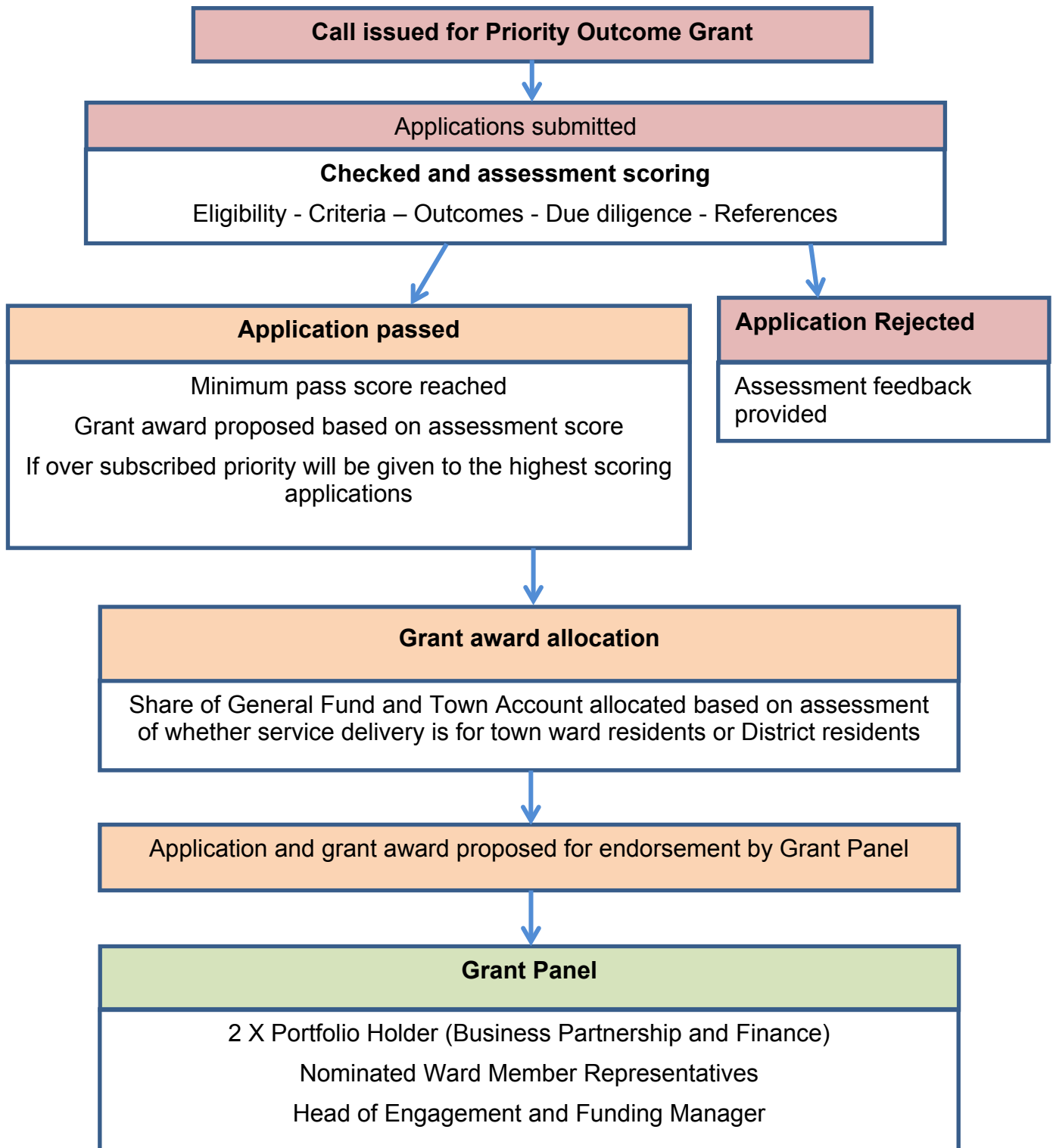
The Town Account funds applications that are predominately for town residents i.e. applications that have in excess of 72% town ward residents as beneficiaries.

The table below gives some (theoretical) worked examples of how this would apply:

	Grant Request	Percentage of District residents as service beneficiaries	Percentage of Town residents as service beneficiaries	Town Account Allocation	General Fund Allocation
Org. 1	£12,500	55%	45%	0	£12,500
Org. 2	£8,000	22%	78%	£8,000	0
Org. 3	£10,000	67%	33%	0	£10,000
Org. 4	£13,000	20%	80%	£13,000	0
Org. 5	£15,000	50%	50%	0	£15,000
Org. 6	£14,300	78%	22%	0	£14,300
Org. 7	£12,700	100%	0%	0	£12,700
Org. 8	£9,000	90%	10%	0	£9,000
Org. 9	£7,000	46%	54%	0	£7,000
Org. 10	£15,000	10%	90%	£15,000	0
Org. 11	£13,400	15%	85%	£13,000	0
Org. 12	£14,500	75%	25%	0	£14,500
Totals	£144,400			£49,000	£95,000

Decision Process Proposal

The following chart is a flow diagram of the proposed process by which all applications will be objectively assessed and grant awards offered.



Section 2: Small Grants Allocation

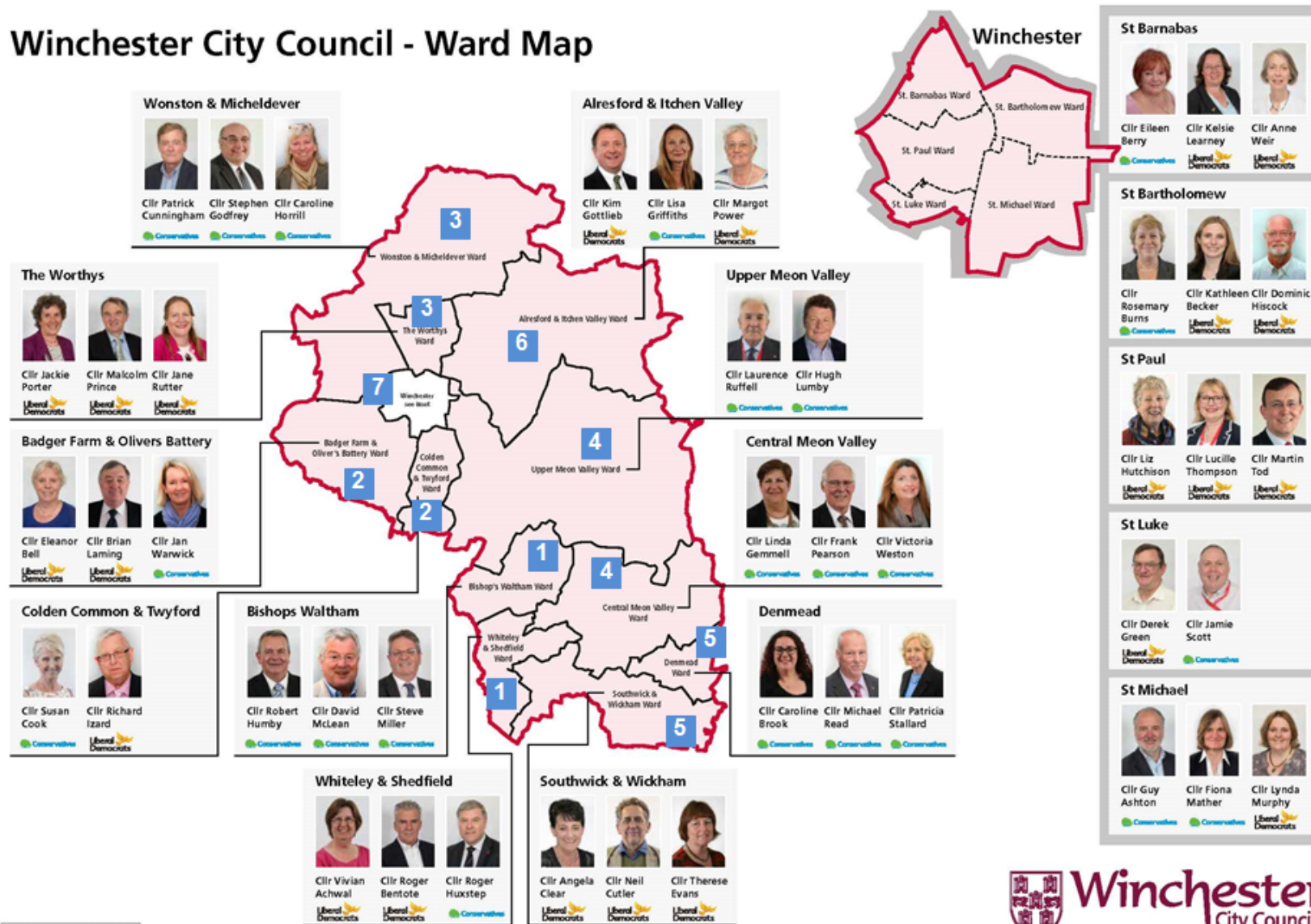
Grouping of ward allocations based on size and location

Ward locations	Individual ward population	Combined ward population	% population of the District excluding Town	Grant allocation based on population	Grant pot based on % population	No of grants available
1 Bishop's Waltham Whiteley and Shedfield	7,886 6,503	14,389	18.10%	£6,335	£6,500	13
2 Colden Common and Twyford Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery	5,719 8,277	13,996	17.60%	£6,160	£6,000	12
3 Wonston and Micheldever The Worthys	7,573 6,024	13,597	17.10%	£5,985	£6,000	12
4 Upper Meon Valley Central Meon Valley	5,429 8,834	14,263	18.00%	£6,300	£6,500	13
5 Southwick & Wickham Denmead	6,930 7,446	14,376	18.10%	£6,335	£6,500	13
6 Alresford and Itchen Valley	8,763	8,763	11.10%	£3,885	£3,500	7
District total excluding Town:		79,384	100%	£35,000	£35,000	70
7 Town Ward grants		44,495		£5,000		10

Source: ONS 2017 mid year population estimates

Small Grants – Panel Allocation Locations

Winchester City Council - Ward Map

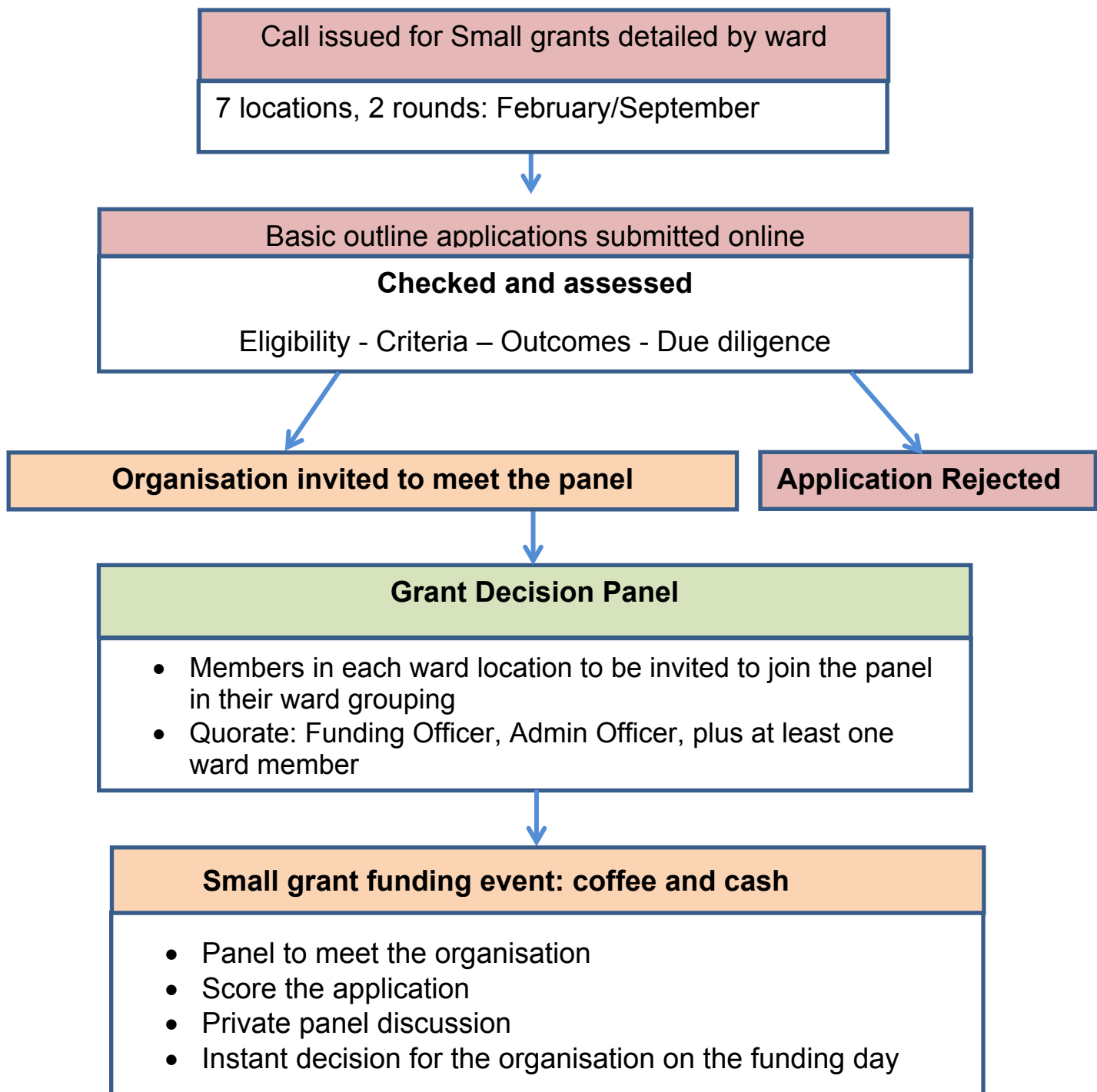


LIST OF WARD MEMBERS, GROUPINGS AND SUGGESTED VENUES

1	Bishops Waltham	Suggested venue
	Cllr Humby Cllr McLean Cllr Miller	Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham Whiteley and Shedfield - Reading rooms, Shedfield
	Whiteley and Shedfield	
	Cllr Achwal Cllr Bentote Cllr Huxstep	
2	Colden Common	
	Cllr Cook Cllr Izzard	Colden Common Community Centre Badger Farm Community Centre
	Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery	
	Cllr Bell Cllr Laming Cllr Warwick	
3	Wonston and Micheldever	
	Cllr Cunningham Cllr Godfrey Cllr Horrill	South Wonston Hall Tubbs Hall, Kingsworthy
	The Worthys	
	Cllr Porter Cllr Prince Cllr Rutter	
4	Upper Meon Valley	
	Cllr Ruffell Cllr Lumby	Upham Village hall Swanmore village hall
	Central Meon Valley	
	Cllr Gemmell Cllr Pearson Cllr Weston	
5	Southwick & Wickham	
	Cllr Clear Cllr Cutler Cllr Evans	Wickham Community Centre Denmead Community Centre
	Denmead	
	Cllr Brook Cllr Read Cllr Stallard	
6	Alresford and Itchen Valley	
	Cllr Gottlieb Cllr Griffiths Cllr Power	Alresford Town Council offices
7	Town Area	
	Cllr Scott Cllr Learney Cllr Berry Cllr Becker	Guildhall

Joint wards will have one grant meeting in each location

SMALL GRANT AWARD PROCESS



Panel ward allocation groupings:

- 1 Bishops Waltham/Whiteley & Shedfield
- 2 Colden Common & Twyford / Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery
- 3 Wonston & Micheldever / The Worthys
- 4 Upper Meon Valley / Central Meon Valley
- 5 Southwick & Wickham / Denmead
- 6 Alresford & Itchen Valley
- 7 Town wards