

Policy & Resources

Report Title:	Grants
Meeting Date:	3 November 2020
Contact Officer:	Cassie Pinnells, Acting Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider administering the Council Grant Award Scheme for 2020/21.

Background

2. The process for the Grant Award Scheme was originally due to commence on the 30 March 2020 and close on the 11 May 2020. This was delayed due to the CoVID Pandemic lockdown.
3. Community Groups may have already benefitted from Government support due to CoVID and are not able to yet operate to full capacity. Events have been cancelled due to required constraints, or by postponing will relieve pressure on Officer Workloads.
4. Deferring the Awards will allow community groups to be in a better position to see how their finances have been affected from the past year.
5. The timeline available to undertake a round of grant applications before the end of the 2020-21 and 2021-22 financial years are as follows:-

Time line for 2020-21 Grant Awards

Applications open: 1 December 2020
 Applications Close: 25 January 2021
 Award Panel meet: 8 February 2021
 Recommendations to Policy & Resources: 16 February 2021

Usual time line for the 2021/22 Grant Awards

Applications open: 29 March 2021
 Application Close: 10 May 2021
 Award Panel meet: 1 June 2021
 Recommendations to Full Council: 22 June 2021

Resource Appraisal

6. The 2020-2021 General Grant Budget £10,500.

7. As agreed under the terms of the Grant Award Policy, Citizen Advice will be claiming the £4,000 award for 2020-21. The Lighthouse award for 2020-21 of £1,500 was unclaimed due to the cancellation of the event.

Risk Assessment

8. There are no financial implications.

Legal Powers:

Where no specific grant making power exists in other legislation, and where, in the Council's opinion, the grant will benefit its area or any of its inhabitants, the General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011 will be agreed.

Recommendation:

- i) To consider administering the Council Grant Award Scheme for 2020/21.*
- ii) To approve the 2020/21 Grant Award budget is transferred to ear marked reserves.*