
Report to Emergency Decision Making Forum

Date of Meeting: 3 April 2020

Subject: Support to Voluntary Organisations

Report by: Strategic Director, Partnership & Performance

1.0 Issue

- 1.1. The corona virus is placing unprecedented demands on local voluntary organisations working tirelessly to provide support to individuals in our community. CTSI has been working to support local organisations but has identified a need to provide ongoing support to groups to assist with volunteer costs, such as fuel, equipment and in some instances food and other daily essentials. CTSI has already provided £500 of emergency funding to many of these community groups this week, and has asked if the Council can assist with further booster funding to ensure ongoing sustainability of these efforts until such times that other sources of national funding become readily available.
- 1.2. I have consulted with CTSI, and a sum of £20,000 is believed to be sufficient at this stage. Clackmannanshire Council was awarded a £465,000 Hardship Fund. Having consulted with the Chief Finance Officer, I believe that there is a case to use the Hardship Fund for this purpose.

2.0 Options and Impacts

2.1. Option 1

Provide an initial £20,000 funding from the Hardship Fund for the purpose outlined above. This could be reviewed in due course if necessary. The funding would be retained by the Council but released quickly in batches of up to £5,000 as requested by CTSI to disburse as need dictates.

Given these are trusted community groups already providing vital services at pace in a complex and ever changing environment, CTSI are in the process of putting in place a light touch monitoring system, e.g. asking groups to keep receipts for any expenditure but not detailed records. Given it is a trusted partner, it is suggested that we avoid additional monitoring and evidence demands above what CTSI is already putting in place.

Impact

This funding will allow these voluntary organisations to continue to provide vital and valued services to the community in the short term until such times as other, planned funding sources come on stream.

This support will assist the Council in its role as a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies legislation, and continues the Council's transformational aspirations to widen and develop its support for community resilience initiatives.

3.0 Recommendations

- 3.1. It is recommended that the EDMF agree option 1

4.0 Implementation

Task	Officer	Date
Advise CTSI that fund is available	SD, P&P	3 April 2020
Work with CSTI to promote support to community groups	SD, P&P	6 April 2020
Track expenditure to CTSI and monitor if further financial assistance is required.	SD, P&P	Ongoing

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes x
- 5.3. Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes x

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No x

6.0 Legality

- 6.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

Author(s)

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APPENDIX 1 - COVID-19 Response Flow v6: Process A

