

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS

REPORT BY HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To invite the Council Executive to consider applications for special project grants which have been received from Dechmont and Newton Community Councils.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Executive determines the applications received from Dechmont and Newton Community Councils as detailed in the appendix.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; making best use of our resources; and working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Section 22 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 and the Special Project Grant Guidelines
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	None.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	£3000 in the special project grant budget for financial year 2022/23.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

A special project grant scheme currently operates for community councils in West Lothian to allow them to carry out projects in their areas. Community councils can apply for a maximum of £750 special project funding in each financial year. There is no minimum grant. The total budget for financial year 2022/23 is £3000. Applications are dealt with on a first come first served basis. Community councils who retain more than £75 of their annual grant from the previous financial year are expected to contribute 10% towards projects less than £750.

Six valid applications have been received so far in financial year 2022/23. Of those, two were approved by Council Executive in November 2022, one in December 2022 and one in February 2023. The applications from Dechmont and Newton Community Councils are detailed in Appendix 1. The balance remaining in the budget for the current financial year is £829.60. The amount requested in the applications is £829.

If the applications are granted in full, there will be £0.60 remaining in the special project grant scheme budget. The scheme will open to applications again on 1st April 2023.

E. CONCLUSION

The special project grant scheme allows community councils to carry out projects which they consider to be of benefit to their area. It is recommended that the Council Executive determines the applications received from Dechmont and Newton Community Councils.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Minute of Meeting of the Partnership & Resources PDSP held on 18th February 2011.

Minute of Meeting of the Council Executive held on 22nd March 2011.

Appendices/Attachments: One

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Interim Head of Corporate Services

21 March 2023

APPENDIX

Application 1

Community Council	Project	Cost	Total Grant Requested
Dechmont Community Council	To produce a bi-annual community council newsletter	£600	£600

Comments

1. Dechmont Community Council wishes to produce a bi-annual community newsletter. They hope this will increase awareness of community issues; provide information on current and potential projects; create awareness of the roles and responsibilities of the Community Council and its members; and encourage greater involvement and participation in local community issues.
2. The village is home to many elderly residents who welcomed receiving information via a newsletter in 2018. It would not be possible to facilitate the production of the newsletter without financial assistance.
3. The community council will use the skills of members to create the newsletter content and to distribute the newsletter throughout the village.
4. The project is acceptable and meets the criteria for assistance.

Recommendation

That the Council Executive considers and determines the application received from Dechmont Community Council.

Application 2

Community Council	Project	Cost	Total Grant Requested
Newton Community Council	Towards the cost of purchasing and installing a community defibrillator.	£1300	£229

Comments

1. Newton Community Council wishes to install a defibrillator outside the community education centre for the community and passing motorists to use.
2. They have applied and been approved by St. John's Ambulance Service to have a defibrillator. They have already received donations totalling £825 towards the costs from Hopetoun Estate and Newton Community Education Association.
3. If the project is approved, the community council will pay the balance of £246 from their own reserves. The operational costs will be split between the community council and the community education centre.

4. The project is acceptable and meets the criteria for assistance.

Recommendation

That the Council Executive considers and determines the application received from Newton Community Council.