

INNOVATE AND CULTIVATE FUND – ENDORSEMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS

To: Communities and Partnership Committee

Meeting Date: 17 December 2019

From: Sarah Ferguson: Assistant Director, Housing, Communities and Youth

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: N/A **Key decision:** No

Purpose: To provide the Communities and Partnership Committee with the outcome of the 29th November 2019 Innovate & Cultivate Fund (ICF) Recommendation Panel.

Recommendation: The Communities and Partnership Committee is asked to:

- a) Consider the recommendations of the panel;
- b) Confirm agreement to fund the following application through the Innovate funding stream:
 - Centre 33; and
- c) Confirm agreement to fund the following four applications through the Innovate funding stream, following fulfilment of the conditions listed in Section 2.2 of the report:
 - Switch Now CIC;
 - Red2Green;
 - Ormiston Families; and
 - People Potential Possibilities (P3).

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Innovation Fund was initially launched in November 2016. A review and refresh of the fund was carried out the following year resulting in the current Innovate and Cultivate Fund as agreed by Communities and Partnership Committee on 24 August 2017.
- 1.2 In accordance with Committee decision of 24 August 2017, a Recommendation Panel considers applications to the fund and is made up of three County Council Service or Assistant Directors, the Chief Finance Officer or Head of Finance, a senior officer involved in managing the fund, a representative of Cambridgeshire Community Foundation and five elected members from the Communities and Partnership Committee.
- 1.3 The fund is open to voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations based in and outside of Cambridgeshire and public sector bodies in Cambridgeshire to deliver projects and ideas that help address the needs of local residents.
- 1.4 There are two funding streams:
 - **Cultivate:** grants of £2,000-£19,000 aimed at encouraging local networks where people help themselves and each other. This is a single stage application process, where Communities and Partnership Committee consider the final recommendations of the panel before confirming award.
 - **Innovate:** grants of £19,001 - £50,000, for projects that demonstrate an innovative approach. This is a two-stage application process where second stage applicants present a more detailed project plan and quarterly activity and budget plans to the panel, after which the Communities and Partnership Committee consider the panel recommendations before confirming award.
- 1.5 All applicants to the fund are required to demonstrate a number of stated criteria including the following key criteria:
 - Project outcomes align with key funding priorities for Children & Families services, Adult Social Care or other council priorities
 - Projects show they will reduce pressure on council services and/or offer direct savings for the council,
 - Projects must be either new, or build on an existing project in a new location or with new beneficiaries.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 On 27th September the Recommendation Panel considered 19 stage one initial project proposals to the Innovate funding stream. The outcome of the panel was that 5 Innovate applications were invited to submit second stage details of their project proposals including detailed project delivery and finance management plans.

2.2 Applicants from the 5 projects attended the Recommendation Panel to present their projects and answer any questions from the panel members. The outcome of the panel is that all 5 Innovate applications are recommended for funding and are reported to this Committee for final decision, namely

- Centre 33
- Switch Now CIC
- Red2Green
- Ormiston Families
- People Potential Possibilities (P3)

2.3 Of those, the Recommendation Panel have discussed conditions of award of funding for 4 of the projects to take account of the information in the application, the presentations by the applicant and subsequent discussion with the Panel, service lead and finance team feedback. The conditions suggested by the Recommendation Panel are listed, will need to be accepted by the applicant in order for any award to be processed and are therefore reported to this Committee for final decision on that basis

- Switch Now CIC
 - Condition of award: to secure suitable premises accessible by public transport, as per application.
- Red2Green
 - Condition of award: to secure match or joint funding from Health partners who are likely to realise a return on this investment, utilising full support from CCC officers to broker those discussions.
- Ormiston Families
 - Condition of award: to secure match funding as stated in their application.
- People Potential Possibilities (P3)
 - Condition of award: to secure match or joint funding from Huntingdonshire District Council or other partners who would also benefit from the return on investment through this proposed project, utilising full support from CCC officers to broker those discussions.

2.3 The amount of funding committed to date is £1,008,593.75. If the Innovate applications recommended to the Communities and Partnership Committee within this report are approved, the total committed will be £1,249,496.25.

A summary of each of the recommended applications is detailed in **Appendix 1** attached.

3. ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 A good quality of life for everyone

The focus of the Fund is supporting people to live healthy and independent lives. It focuses upon the most vulnerable groups and enables a locally delivered approach which improves the outcomes for our citizens and communities, as well as to prevent and delay demand for statutory intervention.

3.2 Thriving places for people to live

The Fund affords opportunities for individuals and communities to develop their skills and resilience to undertake initiatives that improve and enable independence, health and well-being.

3.3 The best start for Cambridgeshire's children

A key focus of the Fund is to enhance delivery against this priority e.g. where the support of the voluntary and community sector could make a real difference to the lives of children and families, providing opportunities for the whole population to succeed and to enable improved outcomes.

4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Resource Implications

The resource implications are contained within the body of the report.

4.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

Although grants are exempt from procurement regulations, procurement advice has been taken on the grant application process and member involvement in recommending bids for award and final decision of award.

4.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

Legal advice has been taken in the setting up of this Fund and in the creation of the grant application and monitoring process.

4.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

The focus of this Fund on supporting the most vulnerable will mean this investment will make a positive contribution to issues of equality.

4.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

The plans for engagement and communication of this Fund are as agreed at 8th November 2018 Committee.

4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

Community empowerment sits at the heart of the Innovate & Cultivate Fund which enhances the opportunity for local community organisations to bid for projects which harness the energy of their community.

Members play a key role in considering each application on its own merits and against the fund criteria. The Communities and Partnership Committee receive recommendations for funding from the Recommendation Panel.

4.7 Public Health Implications

The Innovate and Cultivate Fund affords opportunities for individuals and communities to develop their skills and resilience to undertake initiatives that improve health and well-being. The approved projects also support interventions to support those most vulnerable to prevent their health and wellbeing needs escalating and service needs increasing.

Implications	Officer Clearance
<p>Communities and Partnership Committee on 17 January 2019 agreed that officer clearance for future reports of this type would not be necessary, given that the content is repeated except for the information on the actual applications being recommended for funding.</p>	

Source Documents	Location
<p>Cambridgeshire Community Foundation Innovate and Cultivate Fund application forms and guidance.</p>	<p>Application Form: https://ukcf.secure.force.com/forms/ICF</p> <p>Guidance: https://www.cambscf.org.uk/icf.html</p>

Innovate and Cultivate Fund

Innovate Fund applications recommended by the panel to the Communities and Partnership Committee for final decision.

Applicant and Project Name	Project Description	Amount of funding requested
Switch Now CIC Switch Now Vocational Training and Enterprise Hub	<p>Switch Now will establish a new centrally based Vocational Training and Employment Hub in Cambridgeshire to support and progress people with learning difficulties and disabilities towards employment.</p> <p>This new project will be to expand the services offered by Switch Now to a wider cohort of beneficiaries by developing an industrial unit in St Ives that will become a central Cambridgeshire hub focused on employment, training and support for people with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities. It will offer onsite vocational opportunities which may include a workshop for woodwork, an upcycling and enterprise work area, a kitchen/ community café facility. It will also aim to develop work opportunities with local voluntary organisations and businesses which will be supported by a dedicated Job Coaching team.</p>	£49,500
Centre 33 Extension of Someone to Talk to (STTT)	<p>This project will enhance Centre 33's existing 'Someone to Talk to' service through building support networks for young people and helping parents/carers get better support for the mental health needs of their children.</p> <p>Centre 33 supports young people, aged 8-25, across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The Someone to Talk To (STTT) service provides specialist support, including in-house counselling, advice around mental health, sexual health, housing and homelessness and employment and training.</p> <p>The STTT service is free, confidential, holistic and accessible and offers both emotional and practical support as well as acting as a gateway for young people who need more specialist support.</p> <p>The STTT service is provided across Cambridgeshire via free, drops-ins at 4 hubs (Cambridge, Huntingdon, Wisbech, and Ely). The STTT service also offers outreach services to young people who are particularly vulnerable, such as those in supported housing, in alternative education settings and care</p>	£49,182

	<p>leavers where the services are taken directly to them.</p> <p>The extension of this programme will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Build support networks of vulnerable young people through targeted group work (on topics such as job search, money management, resilience) and buddying schemes. o Support parents to be better equipped and able to offer their children support through access to an advice helpline, training (online webinars) and facilitation of parent support groups. 	
<p>Red2Green</p> <p>Stepping Stones</p>	<p>Red2Green will employ a Development Worker for its Stepping Stones project who will help clients with autism to better understand their mental health, and help them learn skills which will enable employment and independent living.</p> <p>The dedicated Development Worker will meet with clients once a week (groups and individually) to improve mental health by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running mindfulness sessions • Run short exercise & health eating sessions at the Community Cafe • Provide a diagnostic assessment of an individual's progression towards employability • Work with the Café Manager to identify a training programme for each client with the aim of moving towards employment. • Build skills to enable better sleeping patterns (40%-80% of autistic people have unhealthy sleeping patterns) • Run group sessions where clients share experiences of living with mental health issues and autism and develop peer support. <p>Stepping Stones is an innovative project as there is no service providing holistic support to autistic adults who are also living with mental health issues. The programme will develop learning styles that will raise self-esteem and confidence in managing clients' own mental health that will be monitored by the Outcomes Star, an evidence based monitoring tool that measures client progression towards agreed targets.</p>	£50,000

<p>Ormiston Families</p> <p>Small Steps Together</p>	<p>Small Steps Together is an early intervention perinatal mental health project that supports 175 women and their families in Fenland who are at risk of developing poor perinatal mental health. Building on the success of Ormiston Families' pilot in March, Whittlesey and Chatteris, the project will be expanded into Wisbech and offer a two tier programme of support.</p> <p>The tier one programme is a higher-level targeted approach with senior practitioners conducting home visits, targeting actions identified in the support plan, which could include housing support and benefit guidance. They will also guide the parent with activities to support children's development and family therapy if appropriate and ll encourage and accompany service users to groups that will benefit them. This one-to-one support is intensive, focused on specialised perinatal mental health. In this tier thr highly skilled team of accredited practitioners will deliver evidenced based accredited parenting programmes and therapeutic approaches.</p> <p>The tier two support programme is for those who do not require the more intensive approach but still need help. This is delivered by practitioners and trained volunteers. Each woman is matched with a volunteer peer supporter who will help the family through their support plan.</p>	<p>£50,000</p>
<p>People Potential Possibilities (P3)</p> <p>Working with hoarding behaviour</p>	<p>P3's 'Working with hoarding behaviours' pilot project will support a group of vulnerable people in Huntingdonshire that exhibit hoarding behaviours so they can live in a safe environment and lead healthier lifestyles, staying well for longer. By providing one to one dedicated support, this pilot will ensure clients receive the person-centred support needed to take small steps to change the way they live their life addressing the underlying problems that cause this ongoing behaviour.</p> <p>A dedicated coordinator and support worker will spend a year working with a small caseload of clients identified by the Cambridgeshire Hoarding Working group (Multi disciplinary Team - MDT) who have produced the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Multi Agency Protocol - Working with People who display hoarding behaviours. The Coordinator will help coordinate the MDT meetings, referral process and pre-determined case load from MDT partners including Cambridgeshire County Council, Fire Service, PCC, as well as supporting clients to deal with their behaviours.</p> <p>NOTE: Panel recommend a reduced offer of 'up to' the amount of return of investment anticipated for CCC (potentially £42k) with joint funding negotiated with Hunts District Council or partners for the remaining value.</p>	<p>£48,791</p> <p><i>[ICF to part fund along with contributions from partners]</i></p>