

INNOVATE AND CULTIVATE FUND – RECOMMENDED CULTIVATE APPLICATIONS

To: **Communities and Partnership Committee**

Meeting Date: **10 October 2019**

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

Electoral division(s): **All, with one application specific to Sutton**

Forward Plan ref: **For key decisions** *Key decision:* **No**

Purpose: **To provide the Communities and Partnership Committee with the outcome of the 27 September 2019 Innovate & Cultivate Fund (ICF) Recommendation Panel.**

Recommendation: **The Communities and Partnership Committee is asked to:**

Consider recommendations of the panel and confirm agreement to fund the following two applications through the Cultivate funding stream:

- **Sutton Parish Council**
- **Papworth Trust**

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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 8 project proposals to the Cultivate funding stream and 19 stage one project proposals to the Innovate funding stream.

2.2 The outcome of the panel is that 2 Cultivate applications have been recommended for funding and are reported to this Committee for final decision, namely:

- Sutton Parish Council
- Papworth Trust

The amount of funding committed to date is £979,104.75. If the Cultivate applications recommended to the Communities and Partnership Committee within this report are approved, the total committed will be £1,008,593.75.

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

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.

Officer Clearance

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.

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

Innovate and Cultivate Fund

Cultivate 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
<p>Sutton Parish Council</p> <p>Sutton Timebank</p>	<p>To employ a Timebank Coordinator in Sutton for 2 years, who will manage the scheme and encourage residents to participate.</p> <p><u>Full project description</u></p> <p>Sutton Parish Council proposes to set up and run a Time Bank for the village. The Parish Council will employ a part-time coordinator, who will be based at the Parish Council office, which is located in The Glebe Community Centre. The time bank will be available for all residents in the village.</p> <p>Time banking is a means of exchange where time is the principal currency, it will also enhance the use of the assets and resources that the community currently owns. It will develop social capital in the local community by building networks of people who give and receive support from each other and organisations. By taking part in the time bank members have the opportunity to learn something new, get practical help, meet new people and become more active.</p>	<p>£16,039</p> <p>Panel agreed to offer a reduced grant of £11,039.</p>
<p>Papworth Trust</p> <p>First Steps to Success</p>	<p>To run 'First Steps to Success' which will provide specialist support to help 15 adults with Learning Disabilities realise their aspirations, become 'work ready' and/or enter employment.</p> <p><u>Full project description</u></p> <p>FSTS is an employment project, designed to support the needs of adults aged 18 plus who have a Learning Disability (LD), helping them become employment ready and/or enter employment.</p> <p>One part-time Employment Advisor will support 15 adults with LD from the Day Service in Hawthorn Way, Cambridge. The project will target people from Cambridge and Cambridge South.</p> <p>FSTS supports participants to think differently when it comes to employment. Many adults with LD do not consider</p>	<p>£18,450</p>

	<p>employment as an option for them. In order to support this change, the Advisor will provide Information, Advice and Guidance to small groups of adults with LD, carers, family, friends via day services. The sessions will encourage and develop their thinking about employment as a future option.</p> <p>Participants identified with the potential to develop their employment skills will be referred into FSTS. Referrals are expected from day services, social care, Cambridge Regional College, Job Centre. The Advisor will carry out an initial assessment alongside the participant.</p> <p>The Advisor and participant will use the information discussed above to create individualised, small achievable goals.</p> <p>Support will cover a wide range of development areas all linked to work readiness and employment. For example, CV writing, interview techniques, confidence building, basic skills courses, work placements, or travelling independently.</p> <p>The Advisor will target potential employers helping them to understand the adaptations they could make to their work place to offer opportunities to adults with LD. FSTS will support employers to offer work placements, volunteering opportunities and ideally employment.</p> <p>The Advisor will also provide support to both employer and participant once employment is achieved.</p> <p>The length of time a participant can access FSTS is entirely dependent on their needs. Participants will end FSTS support once they have achieved their goals.</p>	
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