

INNOVATE AND CULTIVATE FUND - RECOMMENDED CULTIVATE APPLICATIONS

To: Communities and Partnership Committee

Meeting Date: 4th July 2019

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

Electoral division(s): All (particularly Gamlingay, Sawston & Shelford and The Hemingfords & Longstanton)

Forward Plan ref: For key decisions *Key decision:* For key decisions

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

Recommendation: Communities and Partnership Committee is asked to consider recommendations of the panel and confirm agreement to fund the following 8 applications through the Cultivate funding stream:

- Sawston Parish Council
- Cambridge Acorn Project CIC
- Cambridgeshire Early Years Teaching School Alliance (Huntingdon Nursery School)
- The Edmund Trust
- Arthur Rank Hospice Charity
- Community Care Matters Gamlingay CIC
- Disability Cambridgeshire
- Hemingford Hub

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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 larger projects that demonstrate an innovative approach. This is a two-stage application process where applicants present a more detailed project plan and quarterly activity and budget plans to the panel, after which Communities and Partnership Committee consider the final recommendations of the panel 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, be either new, or build on an existing project in a new location or with new beneficiaries.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 On 27th June the Recommendation Panel considered 17 project proposals to the Cultivate funding stream.
- 2.2 The outcome of the panel is that 8 applications have been recommended for funding and are reported to this Committee for final decision, namely:
 - Sawston Parish Council
 - Cambridge Acorn Project CIC
 - Cambridgeshire Early Years Teaching School Alliance (Huntingdon Nursery School)
 - The Edmund Trust
 - Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

- Community Care Matters Gamlingay CIC
- Disability Cambridgeshire
- Hemingford Hub

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
Communities and Partnership Committee agreed on 17th January 2019 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>Sawston Parish Council</p> <p>Timebanking</p>	<p>To employ a Timebank Coordinator in Sawston for 2 years, who will manage the scheme and encourage residents to participate.</p> <p><u>Full project description</u> A Timebank is an exciting way for local people to come together and help each other by exchanging knowledge, support and skills. In a Timebank everyone's time is equal. Regardless of the skills or expertise being exchanged, one hour equals one hour. The Timebanks are fully inclusive, with a dedicated and enthusiastic co-ordinator encouraging everyone to get involved. Timebank Co-ordinators match people's skills, arrange time exchanges and keep a record of all the members' "banked" hours. A Timebank member can choose to spend two hours of their time helping an older person to the local shops and in return spend those two hours on any activities which other Timebank members are offering, whether it be gardening, IT support or companionship.</p>	<p>£12,000</p>
<p>Cambridge Acorn Project CIC</p> <p>Tetris Emotional Wellbeing Project</p>	<p>To expand an existing project to reduce emotional distress in 50 children by employing a sessional practitioner to work with children, families and schools.</p> <p><u>Full project description</u> Our project targets CCC's Funding Priority B (Children and Families) under Theme 1 and Theme 2. Since January 2018 we have been developing a new project using the video game Tetris to help reduce emotional distress in vulnerable children, and in their families. There is robust scientific evidence for using Tetris to reduce emotional distress (e.g. Holmes et al. 2008; Iyadurai et al. 2017) and our pilot project has yielded some very strong initial results which we are keen to build on.</p> <p>There are currently three protocols which we have developed and we want to further test and strengthen our evidence base, and reach more vulnerable children and families, by expanding the project. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 work for children experiencing emotional distress at a 	<p>£18,450</p>

	<p>low, non-specialist, level (i.e. Early Help).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed groupwork protocol for children and young people experiencing emotional distress where groupwork may be more appropriate than 1:1 work (particularly where there are ongoing difficulties with relationships and with communication) • An open groupwork, 'drop-in', model where children and young people can access the support when they need it (as opposed to traditional methods of ongoing weekly support which may be unhelpful for some young people). • Family work, where there are difficulties around attachments and/or parents and carers are struggling to manage the behaviour of their children. We have had some positive results where playing the game together can result in reduced distress and improved communication. <p>By using these different protocols in different contexts, we aim to reach more disadvantaged children and young people and respond to the early presentation of emotional distress in schools and thereby reduce the burden on CCC services. We also hope to collaborate with a local university on this project, thereby strengthening its scope and impact and we have already engaged in initial conversations to positive effect.</p> <p>We aim to base the project in a local high-needs school (North Cambridge Academy), however to also offer the intervention in other high-needs schools in Cambridge (particularly the North and the East of the city) and in South Cambs as an additional resource around early intervention to reduce school-originated referrals to Early Help (and beyond into specialist services).</p>	
<p>Cambridgeshire Early Years Teaching School Alliance (Huntingdon Nursery School)</p> <p>Managing behaviour in the Early Years (STEP Therapeutic Approach)</p>	<p>To train early year's practitioners to use the STEP therapeutic approach so they can manage child behaviour.</p> <p><u>Full project description</u></p> <p>CEYTSA aims to support and provide research based high quality training for early year's practitioners in settings in identified areas. In the knowledge that STEP is being offered to primary schools in Cambridgeshire, our aim is to provide the same level of training to early year's practitioners. By enabling practitioners to support children to regulate their own behaviour by implementing a consistent approach that will improve transition to school. The strength of the STEP approach is that all staff in each setting will be trained in the same way at the same time, which will lead to GLDs (Good levels of development) in PSED (Personal, social and emotional development) prior to school entry. STEP training in PVI's (Private, voluntary and independent) will replace Team Teach, the former local authorities approach to behaviour management.</p>	£8,735

	<p>CEYTSA plan to implement the STEP approach in response to increasing school exclusion of younger children. The nature of the work in early years is such that access to intensive training is limited by cost and release time, thus our plan is to work cooperatively with Cambridgeshire STEP coordinator and Cambridgeshire SEND lead(Rebecca Salmon) to provide whole setting training as this has been identified as the most successful, sustainable training model.</p> <p>The STEP approach aims to support the development of inclusive practice by using a therapeutic approach to behaviour management. CEYTSA has four trained STEP tutors who have adapted the programme to respond to the needs of younger children in early year's settings with the aim of complimenting the primary school STEP programme. Once training has been delivered, setting staff are offered regular surgery-style support by STEP tutors to monitor and embed this inclusive approach. By working with clusters of settings a network structure will be developed for future continuous professional development and refresher training.</p>	
<p>The Edmund Trust</p> <p>Young People's Befriending</p>	<p>To expand a befriending service into East Cambs and Fenland, for the benefit of 50 young people with learning disabilities and their families.</p> <p><u>Full project description</u> Expanding our befriending service for young people with a learning disability from its current base in Cambridge City/South Cambridgeshire into East Cambridgeshire and Fenland, where considerable unmet needs exist and expanding the age limit to 30 to respond to those still in transition.</p> <p>Young people with a learning disability often feel isolated from their local community, and lack independence, confidence and self-esteem. Many live at home with their parents and have limited opportunities to socialise with people outside of their family unit, try new activities or join clubs. Our Befriending Service will give these young people the chance to socialise and participate in leisure activities, helping them develop life skills and knowledge, improve their health and wellbeing (including reducing obesity and improving their mental health) and cope better with key transition points in their lives, like changing school or moving to independent living.</p> <p>Our current service provides support to 35 young people in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire (and 50 parent carers)/year, with many continuing to need support year on year, and young adults also supported where appropriate. This project will expand the project to reach another 25 young people with a</p>	£17,498

	<p>learning disability/year (50 over two years) experiencing extreme social exclusion in rurally deprived Fenland/East Cambs where opportunities for the whole community are limited, disadvantaging learning disabled young people; plus 40 parent carers/year (80 over 2 years).</p> <p>Recruitment and training of volunteers will be managed by our Volunteer Services Co-ordinator, who will ensure all volunteers are appropriately checked and trained for working with children and vulnerable young people with a minimum commitment requested of one year, providing an appropriate platform for new relationships to be built. Our Befriending Co-ordinator will then meet with each volunteer to assess their interests, capacity, age and location and 'match' each with a young person who has similar interests, thus ensuring both parties enjoy and get the most out of their time together.</p> <p>Each befriender will then visit the young person fortnightly at a time that suits the young person and provide friendship and practical support to get out into the community, enabling them to participate more widely in leisure activities of their choice, including going to art classes, museums, the cinema, the theatre, sports clubs, gyms and other activities with other people in the community, and supporting each young person to develop confidence, social skills, independence and life skills so they can maximise their potential. Through the project, young people will be supported to develop new, sustainable connections and friendships with other people e.g. through being supported to join clubs. The project will also provide a regular and reliable period of valuable respite to parents or carers who also experience a range of social and economic disadvantages, mainly the result of the time needed and stress generated by their all-consuming carer role (e.g. many don't have time/capacity to gain paid work outside of their caring role and many don't have the chance to access community opportunities due to a lack of time and money, isolating them and putting strain on their other family relationships).</p>	
<p>Arthur Rank Hospice Charity</p> <p>Befriending Project - for people with life-limiting conditions</p>	<p>To employ a project coordinator who will develop and manage a befriending scheme where volunteers will meet patients in their homes</p> <p><u>Full project description</u></p> <p>It is common for people with a life-limiting condition and those who are at the end of their lives to feel very isolated and lonely. Their conditions may mean that they are less able or unable to leave the house and those who have lost a partner or have few or no friends, carers or relatives living nearby may spend long periods of time on their own. The great majority of these people</p>	£18,677

	<p>are in the over 65 age group.</p> <p>At the Hospice, our current day therapy service aims to support individuals with their condition and to provide a social setting where they can meet with and talk to others. However, these services within the unit are heavily subscribed to and there are often waiting lists, so they are limited to a set number of weeks per patient. Where possible, we endeavour to ensure that patients can continue to be supported through future access to services, but there are often periods where patients lose their interaction and support network. In addition, there are sometimes challenges for patients travelling to the hospice and there are times when this will not be possible.</p> <p>We have heard from patients that, following a course of day therapy, they greatly miss the sessions and the opportunity to meet and talk to people that these provide. They miss the interaction with staff, volunteers and with other patients going through similar situations.</p> <p>We would therefore like to set up a scheme for volunteers to visit people in their own homes, through a befriending service which would be coordinated by a member of staff within the Hospice. This would aim to reduce the feelings of isolation and loneliness felt by people who are coping with life-limiting conditions and provide social support at what is often a hugely challenging time in people's lives.</p> <p>A key part of this scheme will be the recruitment of a project coordinator who will develop and coordinate the service, including working with day therapy colleagues to identify patients who may benefit from the service, recruiting and working with volunteers who will make the visits and ensuring that the service runs smoothly and effectively.</p> <p>We are very fortunate at the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity to have a large number of volunteers (over 500) who support our work in a range of different ways. We anticipate that some existing volunteers would be interested in being a part of a new befriending service and also that we will need to recruit new volunteers. When volunteers visit patients, their main focus will be to provide companionship and social interaction. They will also be able to support patients with small household tasks such as cleaning, gardening and picking up shopping. Where possible, volunteers will be matched with patients in their geographical area so that they can discuss and advise on any additional support available nearby, such as community café events and other social gatherings.</p>	
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Community Care Matters Gamlingay CIC	To provide a personal service to carers and older people which will help increase care provision within the local community.	£10,720
Community Care Matters Gamlingay	<p><u>Full project description</u></p> <p>This local initiative is an innovative model for diversifying the care provision within our community.</p> <p>The socially aware CIC business provides a personal service to carers and vulnerable adults and families to ensure that support to continue living at home can be readily accessed.</p> <p>It was far too difficult for me to provide my dementia suffering, incontinent and poorly mobile mother with the care in the home she deserves, worked so hard to facilitate and could reasonably afford. No-one was available to help me find independent carers, there was no information about where to look or point of contact for carers and the cared for to link up.</p> <p>As a result I encouraged carers to become self-employed providing them with information and support needed to make that 'big step toward independence'. This includes navigating the registration process, legal requirements, record keeping, submitting a tax return, DBS application, CPD opportunities etc. Self employment is attractive to high quality carers since they earn a good income, experience feelings of self-worth by 'making a difference', can select their own work schedules improving their work/life balance, have time with clients they require and contribute to community provision for those they care for. All benefits that while working for care agencies or care homes they do not receive.</p> <p>This work has developed into the voluntarily run carer network that exists today.</p> <p>The vulnerable adults and/or their families are offered a choice of carers to accommodate their needs for an introductory fee. The business could provide a paid for service to assist in the selection process. This personalized service gives control of their care needs, the opportunity for continuity of care, a high quality of care and the opportunity to remain living in their own homes. This is something that, in my personal experience, was sadly impossible to find for my mother.</p> <p>The initiative has, in the past year, successfully supported approximately 15 carers into self-employment and linked them with several local families.</p> <p>The organisational demands are now too great for one volunteer member of the community to sustain its development. The next stage in progression is to employ a part-time staff member to support the consolidation of infrastructure for the business, role</p>	

	<p>out a greater awareness campaign and develop the funding opportunities for what is proving to be a popular and well appreciated initiative.</p> <p>As a CIC the aims are not for profit and any excess income would be used, after paying staff, to provide the cared for with continued contact with the community, subsidized care for those unable to pay and/or CPD as appropriate.</p> <p>It is proving to be a project that demonstrates best practice in caring for our aging population that is service driven rather than the current profit driven models that people are disaffected with.</p>	
<p>Disability Cambridgeshire</p> <p>Specialist Mental Health benefits Caseworker</p>	<p>To recruit a specialist case worker to support 100 adult clients who have mental health issues or autism with financial and benefits advice.</p> <p><u>Full project description</u> Our project aims to reduce the poverty of people with MH issues and autism. MH can affect concentration, ability to process information and memory, can be particularly disadvantaged when trying to use the benefit system and need specialist help to get the financial support needed. Half of people in problem debt will also be experiencing a mental health problem, which can make it harder to understand forms, to ask for help in person or over the phone, and to locate and access benefit advice.</p> <p>We will to reach out to people, help them complete their applications correctly and at an earlier stage. So they can avoid going through a DWP appeals process, but of course, support them through their appeals process if need be. Although our specialist caseworker will be contracted to work 1.5 days a week, because of the outreach program and possible court dates they will need to be flexible in their work schedule.</p> <p>We understand that this client group needs reassurance and support, therefore making relationships is key to the success of the project. Our specialist caseworker will work proactively with local support groups and professionals and collaborating with them to help people understand their entitlements and know how to get support from us and in turn be able to signpost our clients to agencies who can help them.</p>	£18,000
<p>Hemingford Hub</p> <p>Hemingford Hub's Good Neighbour</p>	<p>To run a good neighbour scheme which aims to help 30 adults at risk in the local community</p> <p><u>Full project description</u> Hemingford Hub is setting up a Good Neighbour Scheme to bring</p>	£2,380

Scheme	<p>together a group of village volunteers to provide any help needed by the more vulnerable residents in our locality. This covers those who are frail, either through age or disability, those who feel isolated or lonely, which covers people of all ages, and those unable to undertake simple tasks or socialise without a helping hand.</p> <p>This includes older people, the disabled, single parents, young mothers or those suffering from illness, whether permanent or temporary.</p> <p>The tasks we envisage providing for those who ask for or are identified as in some need are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving carers some respite for a few hours • Visiting those who can't get out so easily for a cup of tea or a chat • Offering to help with pets • Organising coffee mornings • Providing simple tasks, such as changing a light bulb • Offering help with IT • Informal lessons on making the most of mobile phones and tablets • Running simple errands, ie shopping or collecting prescriptions • Help with providing emergency meals if the person is neglecting their own well-being • Being a conduit for the professional caring services, such as Care Network Cambridgeshire, with an ear to the ground should more help be needed. <p>All these tasks and requests were identified from the baseline quantitative market research. The questionnaire was delivered to all Hemingford Grey's households. A 23% response rate was achieved.</p> <p>The most valued tasks were as mentioned above. The overall interpretation of the findings is that social interaction and a community that cares, strikes a note with respondents. The age range of the responses was from the upper age quartile of the population. Namely those who were worried about growing older in a community with cutbacks in social care provision, a preceived ailing NHS and with a fear of being socially isolated by dwindling public transport services. The cut-back on local buses was a particularly worrying outcome for those facing giving up their cars and their independence.</p> <p>In the next couple of years HH hopes to address these other major issues with plans on how to overcome such concerns.</p>	
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