

## **Cover Report for Eastern Area Committee Funding Scheme – round two**

### **Introduction**

The Eastern Area Committee has been allocated a total of £40,000.00 for the financial year 2022/23. At the Eastern Area Committee Meeting on Thursday 29 September 2022, £27,237.00 of funding was allocated. Committee Members agreed that the unallocated funding of £12,763.00 should be made available for external organisations via a second funding round with a focus on the cost-of-living crisis.

The process proposed by the Area Committee Review Working Group, and agreed by Area Committee Chairs, was to carry out a scoring process on applications received for Area Committee Funding. The deadline for the second round of applications was Thursday 3 November 2022 and £36,893.00 of bids were received for consideration by the Committee. This means that there are £24,130.00 worth of bids in excess of allocation. All applications have been assessed for eligibility by officers and a scoring process carried out.

Three impartial officers have independently considered each application and given them a score against the criteria set out in the Applicant Guidance Notes. Each criteria was scored as follows High – 3, Adequate – 2, Limited – 1, None – 0. All three officer scores were added together and presented to Committee Members in Appendix 1. Also attached to this paper is the summary report on applications received which contains the full text provided by applicants describing projects/activities (Appendix 2). Committee Members were given the opportunity to challenge the scores and request a review. No challenges were received.

### **Proposal**

Having considered the summary report and supporting papers, along with the scoring and background information, officers would like to submit 4 options for allocating funds for the Committee to vote on.

Part of the reason for the Working Group's recommendation that impartial officers should score bids based on criteria agreed in advance by Members was to create a degree of separation between the Committee's decision-making on the one hand and Members with a disclosable interest in a bidder (e.g. involvement with a community group or membership of a parish council) on the other. Members who have a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in any of the bids should declare it in the usual way and will be able to vote, as long as the voting is on the basis of the presented options, as this is unlikely to result in any Member having a bias. However, in the event that the Committee agrees to vote on amendments to these options, favouring (and by implication disfavouring) certain bids, Members with a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in the favoured bid(s) should not take part in the vote.

### Option 1:

This option would allow the two highest scoring applications, who both scored 24, to receive 50.725% funding from the scheme. That would leave £0.60 of funds unallocated at year end. This will ensure the annual allocation is not exceeded:

Applicant	Score	Funding request	Proposed allocation
Faversham Umbrella – EAC031	24	£12,700.00	£6,442.07
Brogdale CIC – EAC035	24	£12,460.00	£6,320.33
Abbey Physic Community Garden – EAC033	23	£5,600.00	£0
Painters Forstal Community Association – EAC030	20	£1,543.00	£0
Faversham Salvation Army – EAC034	20	£1,150.00	£0
Friendly Faces of Kent – EAC029	19	£3,040.00	£0
Teynham Parish Council – EAC032 (linked to project ref EAC029)	19	£400.00	£0
<b>Total</b>			<b>£12,762.40</b>

### Option 2:

This option would allow the three highest scoring applications, to receive 41.492% funding from the scheme. That would leave £0.07 of funds unallocated at year end. This will ensure the annual allocation is not exceeded:

Applicant	Score	Funding request	Proposed allocation
Faversham Umbrella – EAC031	24	£12,700.00	£5,269.48
Brogdale CIC – EAC035	24	£12,460.00	£5,169.90
Abbey Physic Community Garden – EAC033	23	£5,600.00	£2,323.55
Painters Forstal Community Association – EAC030	20	£1,543.00	£0
Faversham Salvation Army – EAC034	20	£1,150.00	£0
Friendly Faces of Kent – EAC029	19	£3,040.00	£0
Teynham Parish Council – EAC032 (linked to project ref EAC029)	19	£400.00	£0
<b>Total</b>			<b>£12,762.93</b>

### Option 3:

This option pays out 34.594% to all applicants regardless of their score but ensures that all bids receive an award. That would leave £0.22 of funds unallocated at year end. This will ensure that the annual allocation is not exceeded:

Applicant	Score	Funding request	Proposed allocation
Faversham Umbrella – EAC031	24	£12,700.00	£4,393.44
Brogdale CIC – EAC035	24	£12,460.00	£4,310.41
Abbey Physic Community Garden – EAC033	23	£5,600.00	£1,937.27
Painters Forstal Community Association – EAC030	20	£1,543.00	£533.79
Faversham Salvation Army – EAC034	20	£1,150.00	£397.83
Friendly Faces of Kent – EAC029	19	£3,040.00	£1,051.66
Teynham Parish Council – EAC032 (linked to project ref EAC029)	19	£400.00	£138.38
<b>Total</b>			<b>£12,762.78</b>

### Option 4:

So that all possible options are presented for Committee Members to vote on, the final option is to award no funding to any of the applicants. As the funding cannot be rolled forward to the year 2023/24, the unallocated £12,763.00 of funding would be recorded as a saving for 2022/23.

Eastern Area Committee Members are invited to vote on the above options.

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 November 2022