

Notice of:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Decision Number:	PH31/2024
Relevant Officer:	Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council
Date of Decision:	7 March 2024

WARD COUNCILLOR FUNDING

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider applications under the Ward Councillor Grants Scheme.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To authorise the requests, as submitted.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The requests are in accordance with the Ward Councillor Grant initiative.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council’s approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 Not to approve the applications but this is not recommended as the requests are in accordance with the Ward Councillor Grant initiative.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is: “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”.

6.0 Background information

- 6.1 The Council's delegated budgets scheme allocates budgets of £7,000 to each Ward Councillor covered for the financial year 2023/2024. The funding for this scheme can be spent on supplementing funding public services, for the benefit of the local community.
- 6.2 Councillor Anita Cooper of Anchorsholme ward has requested:
(i) £1,123.80 as a ward councillor funding donation to Friends of East Pines Park, towards the cost of a remembrance bench and infrastructure for a Memorial Garden.
- 6.3 Councillor Paul Galley of Anchorsholme ward has requested:
(i) £1,123.80 as a ward councillor funding donation to Friends of East Pines Park, towards the cost of a remembrance bench and infrastructure for a Memorial Garden.
- 6.4 Councillor Tony Warne of Bispham ward has requested:
(i) £1,314 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Sea Cadets, towards the cost of Blackpool Sea Cadet community meeting room refurbishment.
- 6.5 Councillor Mel Fenlon of Bloomfield ward has requested:
(i) £150 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Centre for the Unemployed, towards the cost of advice sessions for Bloomfield residents.
- 6.6 Councillor Jim Hobson of Bloomfield ward has requested:
(i) £150 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Centre for the Unemployed, towards the cost of advice sessions for Bloomfield residents.
- 6.7 Councillor Dave Flanagan of Greenlands ward has requested:
(i) £800 as a ward councillor funding donation to Fylde Arboretum and Community Woodland, towards the cost of maintenance and upkeep of Fylde Memorial Arboretum and Community Woodland.
- 6.8 Councillor Julie Jones of Greenlands ward has requested:
(i) £147.60 as a ward councillor funding donation to Groundwork CLM, towards the cost of antisocial behaviour signage for North Blackpool Pond Trail.
- 6.9 Councillor Jon Bamborough of Ingthorpe ward has requested:
(i) £698.85 as a ward councillor funding donation to Community and Environmental Services, towards the cost of furniture for the reception area of Moor Park Leisure Centre.
- 6.10 Councillor Jo Farrell of Ingthorpe ward has requested:
(i) £698.85 as a ward councillor funding donation to Community and Environmental Services, towards the cost of furniture for the reception area of Moor Park Leisure Centre.

- 6.11 Councillor John Boughton of Layton ward has requested:
(i) £450 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Centre for the Unemployed, towards the cost of advice sessions for Layton Residents.
(ii) £840 as a ward councillor funding donation to Community and Environmental Services, towards the cost of Forest School activities in Kingscote Park.
(iii) £400 as a ward councillor funding donation to Community and Environmental Services, towards the cost of Active Blackpool sessions for children of Layton Ward.
- 6.12 Councillor Kath Benson of Layton ward has requested:
(i) £450 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Centre for the Unemployed, towards the cost of advice sessions for Layton Residents.
(ii) £840 as a ward councillor funding donation to Community and Environmental Services, towards the cost of Forest School activities in Kingscote Park.
(iii) £400 as a ward councillor funding donation to Community and Environmental Services, towards the cost of Active Blackpool sessions for children of Layton Ward.
- 6.13 Councillor Julie Sloman of Norbreck ward has requested:
(i) £1,170.64 as a ward councillor funding donation to 1st Norbreck Guides, towards the cost of the continued upgrade of Scout /Guide hut as a community hub.
- 6.14 Councillor Adrian Hoyle of Park ward has requested:
(i) £1,300 as a ward councillor funding donation to Broadway Stars Morris Dancers, towards the cost of costumes for young people who attend the Group from Park Ward.
- 6.15 Councillor Gillian Campbell of Park ward has requested:
(i) £1,522.53 as a ward councillor funding donation to 4th Blackpool Scouts Grange Park, towards the cost of funding for equipment and activities for all sections of Grange Park Scouting Group 2024.
- 6.16 Councillor Jason Roberts of Stanley ward has requested:
(i) £2,632.30 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Council's Engineering Services, Parks and Highways, towards 12 trees for the Tree Line on Highfield Road South Side Green Space.
(ii) £1,457.50 as a ward councillor funding donation to Enveco NW Environmental Services Ltd, towards additional waste bins for Stanley Ward.
- 6.17 Councillor Graham Baker of Stanley ward has requested:
(i) £4,558.30 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Council's Engineering Services, Parks and Highways, towards 12 trees for the Tree Line on Highfield Road South Side Green Space.
- 6.18 Councillor Diane Mitchell of Waterloo ward has requested:
(i) £963 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Illuminations Department, towards the cost of the Holy Trinity Christmas Tree South Shore (retrospective as unclear as to payment process for ordering trees).

- 6.19 Councillor Simon Cartmell of Waterloo ward has requested:
- (i) £1,000 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Centre For the Unemployed, towards the cost of ongoing costs and advice sessions for Waterloo residents.
 - (ii) £423 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Illuminations Department, towards the cost of Christmas lights on Waterloo Road (retrospective as unclear as to payment process for ordering Christmas lighting).
 - (iii) £520 as a ward councillor funding donation to Broadway Stars Morris Dancers, towards the cost of costumes for young people who attend the Group from Waterloo Ward.
 - (iv) £963 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Illuminations Department, towards the cost of the Holy Trinity Christmas Tree South Shore (retrospective as unclear as to payment process for ordering trees).

6.20 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 None.

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 The requests can be met through existing budgets, with no recurring costs being incurred.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Equalities considerations and the impact of this decision for our children and young people:

11.1 In the course of considering these specific ward councillor funding recommendations, the Council has explored any possible unintended adverse impacts on people because of shared characteristics protected by the Equality Act. The Council believes none of these proposed funding recommendations will have indirectly discriminatory effects. Finally, the Council has reflected on the overall aggregated expenditure for this financial year's ward councillor budget allocations and has taken appropriate steps to ensure schemes continue to reflect the wider communities of Blackpool.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 Ward councillor funding application forms.

ONLY APPLICABLE FOR REPORTS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE/CABINET MEMBER

15.0 Key decision information:

15.1 Is this a key decision? No

15.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

15.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

15.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

16.0 Call-in information:

16.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

16.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

17.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed:

Date approved:

18.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

18.1 None.

19.0 Executive decision:

19.1 The Leader of the Council agreed the recommendation as outlined above namely:

To authorise the requests, as submitted.

20.0 Date of Decision:

20.1 7 March 2024

21.0 Reason(s) for decision:

21.1 The requests are in accordance with the Ward Councillor Grant initiative.

22.0 Date Decision published:

22.1 7 March 2024

23.0 Executive Members in attendance:

23.1

24.0 Call-in:

24.1

25.0 Notes:

25.1