

Notice of:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Decision Number:	PH50/2020
Relevant Officer:	Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council
Date of Decision:	25 November 2020

WARD FUNDING

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider applications under the Ward 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 Grant initiative.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? Yes

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? No

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 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 £15,000 to each Ward covered for the financial year 2020/2021. The funding for this scheme can be spent on supplementing funding public services, for the benefit of the local community.
- 6.2 Councillors Brookes and Critchley of Hawes Side Ward have requested £3,000 as part funding to the Environmental Services Department for the provision of a NEAT Officer to work over 4 wards to provide additional services together with Highfield, Victoria and Waterloo Wards.
- 6.3 Councillor Hunter of Highfield Ward has requested £3,000 as part funding to the Environmental Services Department for the provision of a NEAT Officer to work over 4 wards to provide additional services together with Hawes Side, Victoria and Waterloo Wards. This application is submitted as a solo application due to Cllr Mrs Henderson MBE being unable to provide a signature due to her current illness.
- 6.4 Councillors Benson and Mitchell of Layton Ward have requested £1,500 to provide 100 mixed Christmas Hampers for distribution to families in Layton Ward who are in need of help with food in a scheme administered by a local business group.
- 6.5 Councillors Jackson and Owen of Victoria Ward have requested £3,000 as part funding to the Environmental Services Department for the provision of a NEAT Officer to work over 4 wards to provide additional services together with Hawes Side, Highfield and Waterloo Wards.
- 6.6 Councillors D Scott and M Scott have requested:
(i)£1,395.80 as funding to the Hindu Society's Shop4All in Need Project to provide Co-ordinators and volunteer services for those in isolation and in need during the Covid-19 Pandemic.
(ii)£1,060 as funding to Holy Family Primary School for the purchase of 4 mini ipads to support pupils with their learning.
- 6.7 Councillors O'Hara and Robertson BEM of Waterloo Ward have requested £3,000 as part funding to the Environmental Services Department for the provision of a NEAT Officer to work over 4 wards to provide additional services together with Hawes Side, Highfield and Victoria Wards.
- 6.8 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:

11.1 In the course of considering these specific ward 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 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 funding application forms.

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 25 November 2020

21.0 Reason(s) for decision:

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

22.0 Date Decision published:

22.1 25 November 2020

23.0 Executive Members in attendance:

23.1

24.0 Call-in:

24.1

25.0 Notes:

25.1