

Report to:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Relevant Officer:	Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council
Date of Decision/ Meeting	

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 £7,500 to each Ward Councillor covered for the financial year 2021/2022. The funding for this scheme can be spent on supplementing funding public services, for the benefit of the local community.
- 6.2 Councillor Cain of Bloomfield Ward has requested £125 as a ward councillor funding donation to Environmental Services for the site clearance and repairs to fencing at Seaside Way.
- 6.3 Councillor Hobson of Bloomfield Ward has requested £125 as a ward councillor funding donation to Environmental Services for the site clearance and repairs to fencing at Seaside Way.
- 6.4 Councillor R Scott of Greenlands Ward has requested £400 as a ward councillor funding donation to Fylde Memorial Arboretum and Community Woodland for continued maintenance and grass mowing for the next 6 months.
- 6.5 Councillor Wing of Greenlands Ward has requested £400 as a ward councillor funding donation to Fylde Memorial Arboretum and Community Woodland for continued maintenance and grass mowing for the next 6 months.
- 6.6 Councillors Hugo and Smith of Talbot Ward have jointly requested £6,993.24 as funding to the Street Cleansing Department for the employment of a Neighbourhood Environmental Action Team (NEAT) Officer for one year to cover Bloomfield, Brunswick, Talbot and Tyldesley Wards.
- 6.6 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 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

19.0 Executive decision:

19.1

20.0 Date of Decision:

20.1

21.0 Reason(s) for decision:

21.1

22.0 Date Decision published:

22.1

23.0 Executive Members in attendance:

23.1

24.0 Call-in:

24.1

25.0 Notes:

25.1