

<b>Notice of:</b>	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
<b>Decision Number:</b>	PH49/2022
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	25 July 2022

**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? 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 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 2022/2023. The funding for this scheme can be spent on supplementing funding public services, for the benefit of the local community.

6.2 Councillor Blackburn of Brunswick Ward has requested £9,200 as a councillor funding donation to St Thomas' Church for the purchase and installation of a small building/pod within the grounds of the Church to allow private counselling and well-being sessions.

6.3 Councillor M Mitchell of Layton Ward has requested £300 as a ward councillor funding donation to Enveco Environmental Services for the clearance and removal of rubbish from the unadopted alleyway to the rear of Annesley Avenue.

6.4 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.

**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 July 2022

**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 25 July 2022

**23.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

23.1

**24.0 Call-in:**

24.1

**25.0 Notes:**

25.1