

<b>Notice of:</b>	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
<b>Decision Number:</b>	PH54/2022
<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>	1 September 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? 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 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 Hobson of Bloomfield Ward has requested £500 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Carnival towards the costs of a stage for the event. This is a retrospective application as the requested costings from the organisers were delivered late in the day due to the administration of the event.
- 6.3 Councillor G Coleman of Brunswick Ward has requested £1,650 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Boys and Girls Club towards the supply of food for meals for the young people attending the Club youth sessions for a 10 week period.
- 6.4 Councillor Hugo of Talbot Ward has requested £1,048.97 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Illuminations Department for the holiday lighting upgrade on Charnley Road.
- 6.5 Councillor Smith of Talbot Ward has requested £1,048.97 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Illuminations Department for the holiday lighting upgrade on Charnley Road.
- 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.

**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 1 September 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 1 September 2022

**23.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

23.1

**24.0 Call-in:**

24.1

**25.0 Notes:**

25.1