

Notice of:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Decision Number:	PH31/2023
Relevant Officer:	Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council
Date of Decision:	27 February 2023

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 G Coleman of Brunswick Ward has requested £3,000 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Boys and Girls Club to provide young vulnerable people from Brunswick Ward a safe and warm environment at the Club with food, drink and activities.
- 6.3 Councillor Brookes of Hawes Side Ward has requested £1,974.12 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Parks Department for the purchase and installation of new playground equipment at Crossland Road Park.
- 6.4 Councillor Critchley of Hawes Side Ward has requested £1,974.12 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Parks Department for the purchase and installation of new playground equipment at Crossland Road Park.
- 6.5 Councillor Benson of Layton Ward has requested £81.88 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Highways Department for the purchase and installation of a new Perspex cover for the Layton Noticeboard.
- 6.6 Councillor M Mitchell of Layton Ward has requested £500 as a ward councillor funding donation to Blackpool Stanley Rugby League Club for to supply 20 hoodies for those children attending the Club training sessions at Kingscote Park.
- 6.7 Councillor Campbell of Park Ward has requested £766.95 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Libraries Department for the purchase of new shelving for the Library @ the Grange.
- 6.8 Councillor Kirkland of Park Ward has requested £766.95 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Libraries Department for the purchase of new shelving for the Library @ the Grange.
- 6.9 Councillor Hugo of Talbot Ward has requested £1,100 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Community Safety Department for the purchase and installation of alley gates at the alley on Lyceum Avenue.
- 6.10 Councillor Smith of Talbot Ward has requested £1,100 as a ward councillor funding donation to the Community Safety Department for the purchase and installation of alley gates at the alley on Lyceum Avenue.

6.11 Councillor Jackson of Victoria Ward has requested:
(i)£813.43 as ward councillor funding donation to the Community Safety Department for the purchase and installation of alley gates at the alley on Hudson Road.
(ii)£4,292.06 as ward councillor funding donation to the Community Safety Department for the purchase and installation of alley gates at the alley on Houghton Avenue.

6.12 Councillor Robertson BEM of Waterloo Ward has requested £4,446.00 as a ward councillor funding donation to Enveco Waste Services to provide up keep and gardening maintenance together with the purchase and installation of a wooden gate and to supply 3 new litter bins for the green space at Bourne Crescent. This donation is subject to the provision of one year for the maintenance of the green space with no recurring funds to be committed.

6.13 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 27 February 2023

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 27 February 2023

23.0 Executive Members in attendance:

23.1

24.0 Call-in:

24.1

25.0 Notes:

25.1