

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet Member for Environment**
held on Monday, 13th January, 2014 in Committee Suite 1 & 2, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor D Topping.

Officers in attendance:

Glen Bubb – Transport Co-ordinator
Jenny Marston – Policy and Accessibility Manager
Chris Williams – Transport Manager
Cherry Foreman – Democratic Services Officer

19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

21 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

No members of the public were present.

22 TRANSPORT GRANT SCHEMES - APPLICATION ASSESSMENT AND DECISIONS ON AWARD

Consideration was given to the allocation of funding and vehicles in line with the associated Council policies, and to the approval of expressions of interest for large grants. It was reported that the organisations concerned had applied for assistance from the various schemes and a detailed assessment of each application had then been undertaken in order to assess it against the relevant criteria.

It was noted that the aim of the Transport & Accessibility Grant Scheme, and of the Vehicle Allocation Scheme, was to support community-led activities in the provision of improved access to essential services such as healthcare, shopping, leisure and other destinations important to local residents. It was reported that the applications recommended for award/shortlist best met the criteria in improving access to services, particularly for disadvantaged groups, with a high level of community involvement and proposals to sustain the project into future.

In October 2013 Cabinet had agreed the allocation of £250,000 for the Transport and Accessibility Grant Scheme from the approved 2013/14 base budget. The grant scheme operated two tiers of funding namely small grants up to £9,999 and larger grants of over £10,000. The value of the expressions of interest for large grants would be dependent on the subsequent submission of detailed Business Cases/Plans which were due to be submitted by 17 February 2014. At that same time the Cabinet had also agreed to allocate 9 Council-owned vehicles which were surplus to requirements to community and voluntary organisations. The

vehicles varied in age from 9 to 4 years old and the policy made it clear that the vehicles would be gifted in the condition as of the date of transfer. These donations would facilitate the development of community-led transport initiatives tailored to local needs. It was reported that the Council had received 11 applications and, following assessment, all 9 vehicles had been allocated; ten applications had been made to the LSTF Business Travel Planning Grant Scheme and of these it was recommended that nine were awarded.

The Portfolio Holder requested confirmation of the reasons why some of the applications had been deferred, declined or not awarded. It was noted that in the cases of deferral there was no reason why the application could not be resubmitted for further consideration at such time as the outstanding information requested could be provided. In addition particular reference was made to the following applications:

TAG 19 Cheshire Community Action – to be asked if it would be prepared to accept a small grant of under £9999 as this could be awarded immediately rather than proceeding to the next stage of its application for a larger grant of £11,086 which would necessitate a Business Plan submission.

TAG 13, 25 & 26 Poynton Town Council – as part of the detailed Business Plan to be submitted as stage 2 of the large grant application process, the Town Council was to be asked to provide as much information as possible on the involvement of, and the effect of, the application on the various other organisations involved for which the Town Council was acting as a broker for their involvement in the roll out of the proposals.

RESOLVED

1. That approval be given to the recommendations listed below regarding the outcome of each small grant application (up to £9,999) through the Transport & Accessibility Grant Scheme. The total value of the applications recommended for award is £80,408.

Ref No	Organisation	Recommendation
TAG 1	Community Transport, Macclesfield District	Defer - £9,999
TAG 2	Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership	Award £2,439
TAG 3	North Staffs Community Rail Partnership	Award £1,624
TAG 6	Crewe Christian Concern	Award £9,999
TAG 7	Audlem & District Community Action	Award £6,000
TAG 8	Goodwill Village Hall Association / CHALC	Not Award
TAG 9	Congleton Disabled Access Group	Award £9,999
TAG 11	Wishing Well Project	Award £8,350
TAG 16	Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership	Award £3,000
TAG 17	Disability Information Bureau (Macclesfield)	Not Award
TAG 18	Congleton Partnership	Award £9,999
TAG 20	Great Places Housing Association	Not Award
TAG 21	Peaks and Plains Housing Trust	Award £9,999
TAG 23	Odd Rode Parish Council	Award £9,999
TAG 24	Open Hands, Poynton	Award £3,000
TAG 15	Disley Parish Council	Award £6,000

2. That approval be given to the recommendations listed below regarding the short listing of expressions of interest for a large grant (over £10,000) through the Transport & Accessibility Grant Scheme, and that

the applicants be invited to proceed to submission. In addition that Cheshire Community Action be invited to accept instead the immediate award of a small grant (up to £9999) for which the information currently provided will suffice and no further submission of a Business Plan need be made. The total value of the applications recommended for short listing is £81,586.

Ref No	Organisation	Recommendation
TAG 25	Poynton Town Council	Shortlist £18,000*
TAG 26	Poynton Town Council	Shortlist £22,500*
TAG 13	Poynton Town Council	Shortlist £30,000*
TAG 19	Cheshire Community Action	Shortlist £11,086*
TAG 22	Community Transport, Halifax	Not Shortlist

* Note that the final award value depends on Business Plan submission so the figures above are indicative at this stage.

- That approval be given to the recommendations listed below regarding the allocation/offer of 9 surplus Council vehicles to community and voluntary organisations.

Ref No	Organisation	Recommendation
TAG 4	Rainow Parish Plan Implementation Group	Offer Vehicle
TAG 5	Crewe YMCA	Offer Vehicle
TAG 10	Congleton Disabled Access Group	Decline
TAG 12	Macclesfield Town Community Sports Trust	Offer Vehicle
TAG 15	Disley Parish Council	Offer Vehicle
TAG13	Poynton Town Council	Offer Vehicle
TAG 14	Calveley & Acton Primary Schools	Offer Vehicle
TAG 29	Congleton Partnership	Offer Vehicle
TAG 22	Community Transport, Halifax	Decline
TAG 28	Odd Rode Parish Council	Offer Vehicle
TAG 27	Central Cheshire Buddy Scheme	Offer Vehicle

- That approval be given to the recommendations listed below regarding the outcome of each application for an LSTF Business Travel Planning Grant. The total value of the applications recommended for award is £38,810.

Ref No	Organisation	Recommendation
LSTF 1	Cheshire Bespoke Ltd	Award £4,999
LSTF 2	Christian Concern	Award £3,925
LSTF 3	Leighton Hospital	Award £4,999
LSTF 4	Manchester Metropolitan University (1)	Award £4,999
LSTF 5	Manchester Metropolitan University (2)	Award £4,999
LSTF 6	South Cheshire College	Award £4,999
LSTF 7	Storage Boost (Crewe) Ltd	Award £4,750
LSTF 8	Trax Commercial Ltd	Defer - £4,750
LSTF 9	The Up and Under Group Ltd	Award £4,096
LSTF 10	The Up and Under Foundation Ltd	Award £1,044

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.15 am

Councillor (none)