

# DECISION NOTICE

Notice is given that the following decision has been taken under the Provisions set out in the Council's Constitution

- Decision maker:** Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Integration
- Date:** 6 November 2017
- Decision in the matter of:** Connected Community Centre Social Franchise Applications Round 2
- Decision:** To determine the awarding of social franchise status to seven applicants for the second round of grants for 2017/18 in line with Cheshire East Council's revised Social Franchise Model.

**Background:** On 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015, the Cabinet Member for Communities approved a pilot social franchise model for Community Hubs. A model was adopted and monitored for development. Cabinet agreed to a set of changes based on learning from the pilot franchise model in the Connected to Services report on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Detailed amendments to the franchise model were then approved by the portfolio holder for Finance and Communities on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

The grants are for 2 years only and within that time the Council will be supporting the Connected Communities Centres to establish sustainable funds and activities to continue to provide local residents with a range of priority tackling services.

The Council has the power to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. In exercising the power the Council must satisfy its public law duties. An application process is a clear statement of the criteria that the Council is applying.

Franchises and grants to reserve the use of facilities for the delivery of early intervention and prevention services are being awarded to defined organisations following an application process and against set criteria. By entering into a formal grant agreement with the Council the organisations activity can be monitored and required to report back to the Council upon their compliance with the franchise requirements and expenditure of the grant. The decision making process was delegated to the Portfolio Holder in order to ensure that

decisions can be made expeditiously and at the appropriate level.

The £5,000 grant payment will be made in four singular £1,250 payments, paid in advance made over two years to each of the seven proposed franchisees. A grant offer agreement will be used which will allow Cheshire East to recover funds if necessary, this will be funded from the Connected Communities Centres reserves which were approved as part of the Connected Communities Strategy by Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016. This will amount to £17,500 per year for two years equating to £35,000. There is sufficient funding in this earmarked reserve for up to 30 Connected Community Centres.

**Background Documents:**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer.

**Approved:**

Signed .....  
Councillor Janet Clowes (Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Integration)

**Date:**

6 November 2017

**Advising Officer:**

Signed .....  
Dan Coyne (Community Development Officer)