

2 December 2022

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## PLEASE NOTE START TIME OF MEETING

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of **CABINET GRANTS PANEL** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER** at these offices on **MONDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 2022 at 4.00 pm** when your attendance is requested.

Yours sincerely,  
KATHRYN HALL  
Chief Executive

### A G E N D A

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- |    |                                                                                                              |                |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | To note Substitutes in Accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4 - Substitutes at Meetings of Committees etc. |                |
| 2. | To receive apologies for absence.                                                                            |                |
| 3. | To receive Declarations of Interests from Members in respect of any matter on the Agenda.                    |                |
| 4. | To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Panel held on 24 October 2022.                                  | <b>3 - 10</b>  |
| 5. | To consider any items that the Chairman agrees to take as urgent business.                                   |                |
| 6. | To receive representations from Members of the Council on the applications.                                  |                |
| 7. | Corporate Grant Schemes - Release of S106 Contributions.                                                     | <b>11 - 14</b> |

*Working together for a better Mid Sussex*



8. Microbusiness Grant Scheme 2022/23.

**15 - 18**

To: **Members of Cabinet Grants Panel:** Councillors N Webster (Chair), S Hillier (Vice-Chair) and J Belsey

**Minutes of a meeting of Cabinet Grants Panel  
held on Monday, 24th October, 2022  
from 4.00 pm - 4.47 pm**

**Present:** S Hillier (Chair)  
J Belsey (Vice-Chair)

R de Mierre

**Absent:** Councillors N Webster

**1. TO NOTE SUBSTITUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE  
RULE 4 - SUBSTITUTES AT MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES ETC.**

Councillor De Mierre substituted for Councillor Webster.

**2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from Councillor Webster.

**3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS IN RESPECT  
OF ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA.**

Councillor Hillier declared a personal interest in Item 9: Corporate Grant Schemes - Community Grants as he is the Chairman of the Bentswood Community Partnership who are a joint partner in the Bentswood Community Hub.

**4. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PANEL HELD ON 26  
SEPTEMBER 2022.**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 26 September 2022 were then approved as a correct record by those present at that meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**5. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS THAT THE CHAIRMAN AGREES TO TAKE AS  
URGENT BUSINESS.**

The Chairman confirmed he had no urgent business.

**6. TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ON THE  
APPLICATIONS.**

The Chairman confirmed that no representations were received.

**7. MICROBUSINESS GRANT SCHEME 2022/23.**

William Hawkins, Economic Development Officer, presented to the Cabinet Grants Panel eight micro business grant applications totalling £11,921. He noted that one application is for the hire of an apprentice and that both Ouh La La and Sussex Facilities Management Ltd have received grants in 2017 & 2019 respectively. He

added that Pera Midtown has not submitted all the required information in time for the Panel and therefore recommended it be deferred until that information is received. It was also confirmed that Cerowski Architects Ltd have requested to amend their request from £1,654 to £1,833 due to inflationary pressures on the equipment.

The applications which were recommended for consideration by the Panel are set out below:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose for which award is sought</b>	<b>Award Requested</b>	<b>Award Suggested</b>
Angie's Nails and Beauty	Haywards Heath	Apprentice	£1,500	£1,500
Men do Pilates	Hurstpierpoint	Website development and marketing	£2,000	£2,000
Sussex Facilities Management Ltd	Burgess Hill	Marketing	£908	£908
Cerowski Architects Ltd	East Grinstead	Purchase of new equipment	£1,654	£1,833
Seasons Art Class Haywards Heath	Haywards Heath	Marketing	£1,360	£1,360
Ouh La La	Haywards Heath	Renovation of new store	£2,000	£2,000
Clearthink Counselling	Hassocks	Purchase of new equipment	£499	£499
Pera Midtown	Burgess Hill	Marketing	£2,000	£0
<b>Total</b>			<b>£11,921</b>	<b>£10,100</b>

The Member noted the previous grant for Sussex Facilities Management Ltd and then the new grant before the Panel. She enquired what service will the company be providing.

The Economic Development Officer replied that the company goes to other companies and offer personal support, premises safety and methods to reduce energy consumption.

The Vice-Chairman sought clarification as to whether officers turn down applications due to the applicant targeting specific markets and if there is any evidence of discrimination.

The Economic Development Officer explained that business is just one branch of a wider business that offers Pilates however the branch before the Panel caters to just Men. He assured the Vice-Chairman that officers do consider whether there is any potential for discrimination.

The Chairman expressed delight in seeing an application for an apprenticeship and an application from the north of the District. He asked what business Seasons Art Class Haywards Heath offers to customers.

The Economic Development Officer confirmed that the business sells a 14 week art class course which is their main source of revenue and separately support community events and community exhibitions.

The Chairman noted that rent-free period is usually offered to business when they start their tenancy and questioned if Ouh La La is getting that as well as the grant.

The Economic Development Officer outlined that the business will be relocating to the Orchards Shopping Centre and will receive a three-month rent free period. He added that both officers and the landlord are happy with the arrangement.

## **RESOLVED**

The Cabinet Grants Panel agreed:

1. That a Microbusiness Grant of £1,500 be awarded to Angie's Nails and Beauty to fund the purchase of cleaning equipment.
2. That a Microbusiness Grant of £2,000 be awarded to Men do Pilates to support the development of new products.
3. That a Microbusiness Grant of £908 be awarded to Sussex Facilities Management Ltd to fund the purchase of a new heat sealer for product packaging.
4. That a Microbusiness Grant of £1,833 be awarded to Cerowski Architects Ltd to fund the purchase of staff training and registration for solar panel installations.
5. That a Microbusiness Grant of £1,360 be awarded to Seasons Art Class Haywards Heath to fund the hire of an apprentice.
6. That a Microbusiness Grant of £2,000 be awarded to Ouh La La to fund the hire of an apprentice.
7. That a Microbusiness Grant of £499 be awarded to Clearthink Counselling to fund the hire of an apprentice.
8. That **no** Microbusiness Grant be awarded to Pera Midtown as they had not submitted the required information in time for the Panel.

## **8. CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES - COMMUNITY GRANTS & COVID-19 GRANTS REVIEW.**

Regina, Community Development Officer, introduced the report which presented a review of the grants awarded in the financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21 and an analysis of how the funds were spent. The report covers the Community Grants and the COVID-19 grants.

The Chairman noted the issuance of grants totalling £101,557 with groups providing match-funding in excess of £580,000 which demonstrated how well the grants work. He enquired how St John's Felbridge has performed as an organisation since their grant was awarded.

The Community Development Officer replied that she only has a report on the spend of the organisation however confirmed that she will go back to them to confirm how well they have performed since the grant award.

The Member highlighted that the grants have helped 6,000 people and have assisted 10 groups in realigning their services and stated that it is the purpose of the grants.

The Vice-Chairman felt great to see the spread of applications from across the District. He asked how best the Council can communicate the good news to the wider public.

The Community Development Officer explained that the Council is reviewing their process as it does announce when money is issued however they found that a better story is when a granted project comes to fruition. She added that they are encouraging Parish Councils to promote project where it falls into their areas.

The Chairman sought clarification on the summary and the mention for one application for sport as he noted the applications from Crawley Down Phoenix Netball Club and East Grinstead Hockey Club.

The Community Development Officer clarified that the two organisations applied through a joint application.

The Chairman noted that no Member wished to speak so moved to note the report which was agreed unanimously.

## RESOLVED

The Cabinet Grants Panel noted the report.

## 9. CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES - COMMUNITY GRANTS.

Regina, Community Development Officer, introduced the report which presented to the Cabinet Grants Panel six Community Grant applications for consideration. She drew the Panel's attention to the application from Carers Support West Sussex which has initially requested £5,000 however the Assessment Team found it was closely aligned to the Council's priorities therefore it has recommended to be funded fully of £9,500.

The applications which were recommended for consideration by the Panel are set out below:

**Table 1: Applications recommended for award**

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Award Requested	Award Suggested
4Sight Vision Support	Newsletters in accessible format (large print, email, audio USB/CD or Braille) to be distributed across Mid Sussex.	£1,716.22	£1,716.22
Carers Support West Sussex	Project to identify and engage with male carers in Mid Sussex.	£5,000	£9,500
Family Support Work	Set up informal, drop-in group for isolated parents and carers of children at the Bentswood Hub.	£820	£820

	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£7,536.22</b>	<b>£12,036.22</b>
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**Table 2: Applications Considered but NO GRANT Award Recommended**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Purpose for which grant is sought</b>	<b>Award requested</b>
Group B Strep Support	Set up local campaign around raising awareness of Group B Strep Support in Mid Sussex.	£4,500
Kangaroos Mid Sussex	Fund Staff costs and activities for existing PALS Saturday Club	£5,000
The Daisy Chain Project	Redecorate office in Worthing.	£500
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

The Chairman highlighted that awarding the increased grant may set a precedent but noted that the application aligns with the Council's priorities.

The Vice-Chairman shared the Chairman's concerns and enquired whether the organisation had a plan to fundraise the full amount of the project.

The Community Development Officer explained that the organisation had a plan to fundraise in their application as well as use their own funding. However, the Assessment Team, upon review, found the work specifically targets male carers who currently have an underrepresentation in Council services therefore the Council considers it best to get the project off the ground as quickly as possible.

The Chairman alluded to the social care crises and highlighted that the role of carers in the community will be ever more important.

The Member asked what reserves the organisation has.

The Community Development Officer stated that organisations are allowed to have 6 months reserves, but they supported the full funding of the grant due to the gap of underrepresentation of males in the services which the Council is keen to address.

The Member sought further information of the research collected about the underrepresentation.

The Community Development Officer detailed the Council's contract with Age UK which is working to improve wider male participation so requires activities that will attract men.

The Chairman noted that males of the older generation often have less established community links.

The Vice-Chairman echoed the Chairman's comments and drew attention to the efforts of Age UK in encouraging more males to engage with their services. He expressed support for the recommendation.

The Panel were supportive of the application.

The Member referenced the application from 4Sight Vision Support and highlighted the considerable cost of producing and delivering newsletters.

The Chairman sought clarification as to whether they are aware they will not receive repeat funding.

The Community Development Officer explained that the newsletters are expensive as it is imprinted with braille and is designed in a sensory friendly format. She added that the organisation did a pilot and are now looking to enhance their offer. She also confirmed that the organisation is aware they cannot come for another grant.

The Member thought it was a brilliant idea.

The Chairman asked whether the organisation has plans for future funding.

The Community Development Officer replied that the decision was based on the presented plan and that they were not asked how they would make it sustainable.

The Chairman found all organisations to be excellent and noted that Kangaroos Mid Sussex receives funding from the Chairman's charity.

The Vice-Chairman requested an update from Family Support Work at the next meeting of the Panel to see how well their drop-in groups worked.

The Chairman noted no Member wished to speak so moved to vote on the applications.

The Panel were supportive of all applications.

## **RESOLVED**

The Cabinet Grants Panel agreed:

1. That £1,716.22 from the Community Grants Fund be released to 4Sight Vision Support to fund the production of newsletters in accessible format.
2. That £9,500 from the Community Grants Fund be released to Carers Support West Sussex to fund a project to identify and engage with male carers in Mid Sussex.
3. That £820 from the Community Grants Fund be released to Family Support Work to fund the setup of an informal, drop-in group for isolated parents and carers of children at the Bentswood Hub.

## **10. CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES - RELEASE OF S106 CONTRIBUTIONS.**

Elaine Clarke, Community Facilities Project Officer, presented the report which requested a release of S106 Contributions for consideration by the Cabinet Grants and a variation to the previous grant awarded to Haywards Heath Tennis Club. She added that the variation is a result of increased costs associated with bringing the electrical supply into the park and inflationary pressures however they have sought to reduce cost in other areas.



The Chairman expressed support for both the application and the variation and noted that inflation is a fact of life.

The Member drew attention to the unaudited accounts of Ashenground Community Centre which showed deficit of £21,000.

The Community Facilities Project Officer responded that the £21,000 is the deficit for the year and the organisation currently has £30,000 in reserve.

The Member referenced the number of employees and asked whether any are part-time.

The Community Facilities Project Officer confirmed that they are mostly part-time.

The Member enquired whether the s106 funds could be used to fund other projects.

The Community Facilities Project Officer explained that only one application had been received in respect of these s106 receipts and was therefore funded.

The Chairman noted that no Member wished to speak so moved to vote the application and recommendation.

The Panel were supportive of the application and recommendation.

## **RESOLVED**

The Cabinet Grants Panel agreed:

1. That £10,863 of S106 Contributions be released to Ashenground Community Centre to fund the purchase and installation of an Audio-Visual System to provide a low-cost Community Cinema.
3. That an additional £10,000 of S106 Contributions be released to Haywards Heath Tennis Club to enable the organization to deal with inflationary pressures and ensure delivery of their project to refurbish their clubhouse.

The meeting finished at 4.47 pm

Chairman

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## Corporate Grant Schemes (Release Of S106 Contributions)

**REPORT OF:** ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY  
**Contact Officer:** Elaine Clarke, Community Facilities Project Officer  
Email [elaine.clarke@midsussex.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.clarke@midsussex.gov.uk) Tel: 01444 477275  
**Wards Affected:** All  
**Key Decision** No

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### Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to present a request for the release of additional S106 Contributions toward the Ansty Community Sports Club (ACSC) project to refurbish the groundman's store and install new cricket nets at Ansty Recreation Ground.

### Recommendations

2. ***The Cabinet Grants Panel is recommended to:***
  - a) **increase the Release of S106 awarded to the Ansty Community Sports Club, to a maximum amount of £111,404.75 toward the cost of refurbishing the groundman's store and installing new cricket nets at Ansty Recreation Ground.**

### Background

1. In February 2021, the ACSC requested a grant toward the cost of renovating of the groundsman's store (Stage 3) and installing cricket nets (Stage 4) at Ansty Recreation Ground. At the time, the total project cost was estimated at £103,980 and Cabinet approved an award of £74,613.
2. The Cabinet report dated 8 February 2021 states that 'The Council has insufficient S106 receipts to meet the full funding request at present but the shortfall can be met when additional S106 contributions allocated to this scheme are received.'
3. The Council has subsequently received two further S106 contributions which are allocated to improvements to the ancillary facilities at Ansty Recreation Ground and the ACSC has applied to release these funds so they can go ahead with the planned works.
4. The projects have Planning approval (Ref: DM/21/3405) and the club has recently gone out to competitive tender to seek up to date quotes for the capital works; the revised costings are shown below:

	Feb 2021 Estimates	Nov 2022 Quotes
Stage 3, Groundsmans Store	£44,108	52,700
Stage 4, Cricket Nets	£59,872	£70,623
Totals	£103,980	£123,323

5. The schedule of works for the groundsman's store includes scaffolding, the removal of asbestos roofing, new pitched roof with velux windows and guttering, larch cladding, alterations to the windows and doors, changes to the internal layout, new electrics and plumbing.

6. The new two-lane cricket practice nets will have a 30-year warranty and the installation will require a cut and fill exercise to create an ECB compliant level, a drainage system with soakaway, pre-cast concrete kerbs, sub-base aggregate, geotextile membrane, synthetic surface, galvanized steel frame and netting.
7. The delivery of these two projects will be the final stages of the capital works programme to upgrade the recreational facilities at Ansty Recreation Ground.
8. This release of S106 contributions is made subject to the following special conditions:
  - a Supplemental Lease and a License to Alter is drawn up between the Council and the ACSC for the improvements to the Groundsman's Store
  - a suitable lease agreement for the cricket practice nets is drawn up between the Council and the ACSC, to the satisfaction of the Assistant Director, Commercial Services & Contracts
  - the project must be completed by December 2023

### **Financial Implications**

9. Release of S106 contributions is funded using financial receipts paid to the Council for the enhancement of capacity for sport, community buildings and other purposes, as a result of residential development.
10. This project is considered to represent an appropriate expenditure of s106 contributions from the agreements below:
  - Existing award – £73,208.05 (DM/16/1312 South of Rocky Lane) Formal Sport; £1,404.49 (DM/16/4496 Rookery Farm)
  - Additional award – £20,248 (DM/21/1524 Bridge Hall) Local Community Infrastructure and £16,544.21 (DM/19/5207 Rookery View) Community Buildings.

### **Risk Management Implications**

11. The main risks to the successful implementation of the decisions arising from this report would be the inability of the funded organisations to deliver those projects for which the Release of s106 has been agreed so grant offers are time limited.
12. A Contract is signed at the application stage by organisations seeking funding that details the terms and conditions under which the Release of S106 Contributions is given. In respect of the Release of S106 Contributions, the Council may also impose additional safeguards prior to payment. Funds are not released before evidence of project expenditure has been submitted.
13. It is considered that these measures mitigate the main risks from materialising and overall the risk of failure to deliver the outcomes arising from this report is considered low and well within tolerance levels.

### **Equality and customer service implications**

14. As part of the assessment process all of the organisations applying for funding from the Council have complied with the required conditions of funding and have the requisite policies and procedures in place including

any other relevant legislation.

### **Legal Implications**

15. The Council is not obliged to provide funding, but by virtue of section 1 of the Localism Act 2011, it is able to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area. This includes the incurring of expenditure, giving financial assistance to any person (or organisation) and entering into arrangements or agreements with any person.
16. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet Grants Panel is authorized to deal with the allocation of Section 106 monies.
17. This scheme conforms to the requirements of the s106 agreements and is therefore considered appropriate expenditure.

### **Sustainability Implications**

18. The provision of the Facility Grants programme supports the council's community leadership role in the delivery of local and UK sustainable development goals. Specifically, this service contributes towards:
  - SDG 3: (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages)
  - SDG 11: (Sustainable Cities and Communities)

### **Background Papers**

- Applications and associated documentation for the Release of S106 Contributions are held in Planning Policy.

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## MICROBUSINESS GRANT SCHEME 2022/23

REPORT OF:	Sally Blomfield – Assistant Director Planning and Sustainable Economy
Contact Officer	William Hawkins, Economic Development Officer <a href="mailto:William.hawkins@midsussex.gov.uk">William.hawkins@midsussex.gov.uk</a> (01444 477322)
Wards Affected	All
Key decision	No

### Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to ask the Cabinet Grants Panel to consider 20 Micro Business Grant applications for funding totalling £36,398.

### Summary

2. A summary of the applications to be considered and the recommendations from the Economy and Sustainability Team on the level of grant to be awarded to each organisation are set out in Table 1.

Table 1 – Business applicants and recommended award

Organisation	Location	Purpose for which award is sought	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Event Childcare Ltd	Burgess Hill	Marketing activity and website development	£1,933	£1,932
Costells Crafts Ltd	Haywards Heath	Purchase of equipment (start-up)	£386	£386
Samantha Pullen Counselling	Haywards Heath	Premises improvements and training	£1,705	£1,705
Certa MPS Limited	Burgess Hill	New CRM system	£2,000	£2,000
AQUAPAX - Just Drinking Water Ltd	Haywards Heath	New product development	£1,175	£1,175
Kitchens Bespoke Ltd	East Grinstead	Sales Training Consultant	£2,000	£2,000
Cuckfield Coffee Co.	Lindfield	Marketing / website / new equipment	£2,000	£2,000
My Kitchen Fitter	Haywards Heath	Marketing activity and website refresh	£2,000	£2,000
Burgess Hill Rugby Football Club	Burgess Hill	Premises improvements (solar lighting)	£1,200	£1,200
BizGen Solutions	Haywards Heath	Marketing activity	£2,000	£2,000
Bella June Flowers Ltd	Hassocks	Business development	£2,000	£2,000
Haywards Heath Business Association Limited	Haywards Heath	Video production and website development	£2,000	£2,000
Preece Accountancy Ltd t/a The Financial Management Centre	Burgess Hill	Business Coach	£2,000	£2,000

Organisation	Location	Purpose for which award is sought	Award Requested	Award Suggested
1 Middle Row	East Grinstead	Premises Improvement and marketing	£2,000	£2,000
Simbiotic Tree Care	Burgess Hill	Purchase of equipment	£2,000	£2,000
Church Road Dental Care Ltd	Burgess Hill	Equipment and training	£2,000	£2,000
Macen Associates Ltd	Haywards Heath	Website development	£2,000	£2,000
Archibal Creative Ltd	Burgess Hill	Purchase of equipment	£2,000	£2,000
Charlotte Wadley Makeup	Burgess Hill	Premises improvements (new treatment rooms)	£2,000	£2,000
Sussex Tech Support Ltd	Haywards Heath	Coding a quiz for businesses on cyber security	£2,000	£2,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>£36,399</b>	<b>£36,398</b>

- Each application has been assessed using an agreed matrix. There were three applications received that have not been recommended for funding and these are detailed in the Appendix.
- A summary of the applicants is provided at **Appendix A** and the criteria used to assess the bids is at **Appendix B**. All bids submitted meet the eligibility criteria.

### Recommendation

***The Cabinets Grants Panel are recommended to consider and agree the funding for each of the applications in Table 1, summaries of which are attached in Appendix A of this report.***

### Background

- This is the fifth meeting of the Cabinet Grants Panel to consider the 2022/23 Micro Business Grant Scheme. This is a county-wide scheme funded through the Economic Recovery Fund (ERF), via the West Sussex Local Enterprise and Apprenticeship Platform (LEAP), generated through retained business rates.
- A total of £500,000 was allocated to the seven districts and boroughs in West Sussex, with £71,428.57 allocated to Mid Sussex.
- Grants of up to £2,000 are available to assist micro businesses (defined as businesses with fewer than 10 employees) with projects that will help them grow or up to £1,500 to help with the costs of taking on an apprentice.
- Previously officers have implemented a system for returning applications, whereby businesses who have received a grant for two consecutive years must ensure a 'gap year' before being eligible again. This has been relaxed for the current round of the scheme to reflect the fact that the scheme did not operate in 2021/22. Instead return applicants are highlighted to the panel for their consideration within Appendix A.

### Assessment and Policy Context

- The applications received have been assessed using an agreed matrix. A summary of the assessment of each application is included within **Appendix A**, alongside a brief summary of each applicant.



10. Each application has been scored in accordance with the matrix in **Appendix B**, noting the extent to which each applicant meets the (only relevant) criteria. Applicants are required to demonstrate that their projects meet one of the following criteria:

- Reach new customers
- Increase the number of employees
- Introduce new products and services
- Improve business premises
- Improve business productivity.

11. All of the bids included in the paper have met the basic eligibility criteria for the grant scheme. All are properly constituted businesses with fewer than 10 employees and are located in the district.

### **Financial Implications**

12. The current Micro Business Grant fund stands at:

<b>Total fund allocated</b>	<b>Funds approved so far</b>	<b>Funds requested in this paper</b>	<b>Balance (if all bids in this paper are approved)</b>
£71,428.57	£37,230	£36,398	-£2,199.43

13. Should all grants be awarded, the total funding awarded will exceed the total allocated funds. Officers have identified funds from unclaimed previous awards in order to account for this.

### **Risk Management Implications**

14. The main associated risk to the successful implementation of the decisions arising from this report is the inability of the funded organisations to carry out the services, activities or equipment purchase for which funding had been awarded.

15. To minimise this risk all grant schemes led by the Economy and Sustainability Team are paid in arrears on receipt of invoices or other such evidence.

16. For apprenticeship grants the management of this risk requires the business to provide evidence that the apprentice noted in the application has formally started before funding is released.

17. Where applications reference physical works to properties, applicants will be required to ensure that the project has all the necessary permissions in place (including planning, building regulations, licensing and from landlords), prior to payment.

### **Legal Implications**

18. The Council is not obliged to provide grant funding, but by virtue of Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011, it is able to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area. This includes the incurring of expenditure, giving financial assistance to any person (or organisation) and entering into arrangements or agreements with any person.

### **Sustainability Implications**

19. The provision of the Micro Business Grants scheme directly supports the delivery of the Council's Sustainable Economy Strategy and associated UN Sustainable Development Goals. Specifically, Objective 5 of the Sustainable Economy Strategy: Encourage business start-ups, improve business survival rates and growth and the following UN Sustainability Goals; Goal 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth; Goal 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; Goal 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production and Goal 13 – Climate Action.

### **Background Papers**

20. Grant applications and associated documentation for the Micro Business Grant Scheme are held in the Economy and Sustainability Team.