

CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES (Release of S106 Contributions)

REPORT OF: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY
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Wards Affected: All
Key Decision No

Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to

1. Present a request for the release of S106 Contributions for consideration by the Cabinet Grants Panel, Assessment Report attached in Appendix A.

Summary

2. Details of the applications to be considered and the recommendation from the Grants Assessment Group on the level of financial assistance to be awarded is detailed as follows:

Release of S106 contributions

Organisation	Purpose for which award is sought	Total Project Cost	Award Suggested
Copthorne Sports & Community Association	Acoustic cladding	9,906	9,906
Bolnore Village Community Partnership	Acoustic wall	8,326	8,326
TOTAL		£ 18,232	£ 18,232

Recommendations

Members of the Panel are requested to consider and decide upon:

- a) the recommendation for the above applications, a summary of which is attached in Appendix A.***

Background

3. Applications for the Release of S106 contributions are assessed against a set of standard criteria, as detailed in the General Guidelines for Voluntary and Community Groups, to ensure a consistent approach.

Assessment Process

4. Applications are assessed against four key criteria – Council priorities, evidence of need, finances, impact and benefits. The maximum possible score for excellent applications which fully meet all the criteria is 12.

5. Information is shared with representatives of the Grants Assessment Group and with the relevant Town and Parish Councils as appropriate.
6. All organisations have met the necessary criteria, i.e. are fully constituted voluntary and not for profit organisations and have provided relevant information to support their application.

Financial Implications

7. 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.

Risk Management Implications

8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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

11. 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

12. 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.
13. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet Grants Panel is authorized to deal with the allocation of Section 106 monies.

Sustainability Implications

14. 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 10: (Reduce inequality within and among countries)
- SDG 11: (Sustainable Cities and Communities)

Background Papers

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