

CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES - RELEASE OF S106 CONTRIBUTIONS

REPORT OF: HEAD OF CORPORATE RESOURCES
Contact Officer: Elaine Clarke, Community Leisure Officer
Email elainec@midsussex.gov.uk Tel: 01444 477275
Wards Affected: All
Key Decision No

Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to

1. Provide an update regarding the allocation of s106 receipts to community projects and a summary of project progress, attached in Appendix A.
2. No new applications were submitted to the 10 January deadline for consideration in this funding round.

Recommendations

3. **Members of the Panel are requested to consider and decide upon the following recommendations:**
 - a) **Sheddingdean Baptist Church**
 - extend special condition to secure project funding to Mar 2022, and project completion by March 2023
 - b) **Burgess Hill Town Council**
 - extend project completion to December 2021
 - c) **St Francis Social and Sports Club**
 - Stage 1: extend special condition to secure project funding to June 2021, and project completion by October 2022.
 - Stage 2: extend special condition to secure match funding to Mar 2022, project completion by Mar 2023
 - d) **East Grinstead Rugby Club**
 - extend project completion by December 2021
 - e) **Haywards Heath Rugby Club**
 - extend special condition to secure project funding to June 2022, and project completion by June 2023
 - f) **Haywards Heath Tennis Club**
 - to present revised proposals and secure match funding by March 2022, project completion by March 2023 (subject to Cabinet Grants Panel approval of revised scheme)

Background

4. 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.
5. Work has continued on the delivery of capital improvements at

community and sports facilities funded through the Release of s106 awards but as a consequence of the Covid19 pandemic, many venues have had to close, contractors schedules have been disrupted and site visits have been difficult to organize. In addition, match funding has been scarce as many external funding bodies have understandably redirected their resources to support Covid-19 emergency relief and recovery and traditional fundraising activities for many organisations have not been permitted under government restrictions.

6. A number of projects have, therefore, been unable to meet the deadlines agreed by the Cabinet Grants Panel, prior to the Covid19 pandemic, as conditions of funding. This paper seeks approval to vary these dates and provide extensions of time to allow more time for fundraising and project delivery.

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.
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 risk 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.

Background Papers

- Applications and associated documentation for the Release of S106 Contributions are held in the Community Services, Policy and Performance Section.