

EXETER BOARD FUNDING SUB-GROUP

Wednesday 19 July 2017

Present:

Councillor Edwards (Chair)
Councillors Aves, Bialyk, Denham, Hannaford and Leadbetter

Also Present:

Programme Manager - Communities, Community Officer and Assistant Democratic Services Officer (Committees)

1 **APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

2 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2017 were agreed.

3 **SUMMARY OF GRANTS AWARDED FOR INFORMATION**

The summary of grants awarded for 2015-16 and 2016-17 were noted.

4 **SUMMARY OF LOCALITY BUDGETS FOR INFORMATION**

The summary of Locality Budgets was noted.

5 **EXETER BOARD GRANTS CRITERIA**

The grants criteria was noted to assist in the decision making process for grant applications.

6 **APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

6a **Exeter Dementia Action Alliance**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £12,900 towards costs to ensure the Exeter Dementia Action Alliance work can be sustained and grow with sufficient funding to support further development. The funding application focuses on the transition to charitable status and the stability this process will give to grow in the long term.

Members recognised the good work of the Exeter Dementia Action Alliance, but that due to pressure on 2017/18 funds the application should be part-funded and other funding streams should be sought for the remainder of the amount requested. Exeter Dementia Action Alliance should be contacted to discuss delivery options with the agreed part-funding. It was recognised that groups in the city representing different agencies should be more coordinated to assist in becoming a dementia friendly city.

Agreed that the application is **part approved** for £6,000.

6b **Cygnnet Theatre**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £5,000 towards costs of a community play celebrating the history of the Royal Clarence Hotel and Exeter.

Members considered that this was more appropriate for arts funding.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it did not meet the criteria.

6c **Ubuntu Counselling Services**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £10,675 towards the creation of a Community Hub to provide improved access to services for BME communities.

Members expressed concern over the loss of funding for Ubuntu counselling services for Black and Minority Ethnic communities and the unknown reasons for this.

It was considered that this application did not support a coordinated strategic approach within the city and address the lack of cohesion in communities. The City Council are leading on a process to identify unmet needs within the BME community. Feedback would be made to the BME Forum with a discussion on the way forward. Faith Stafford from Ubuntu was welcome to take part in this review process.

Agreed that the application is **declined**.

6d **Stop Abuse for Everyone**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £8,256 towards funding planning, assessment and delivery of two evidence based NSPCC domestic violence programmes.

Members noted that SAFE no longer held the contract with Devon County Council for domestic abuse services, which is now delivered by Splitz Support Service and is appropriately scrutinised.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it is a potential duplication of services.

6e **Restore Support Network**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £6,500 to develop its 'My Pathway to Care' Project in Exeter offering mentoring support to all ex-prisoners over 50 years of age with care or health needs and are returning to Exeter.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it is a potential duplication of the work carried out by other agencies in the city that offer support to this client group.

6f **Exeter Disability Transport Service**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £2,000 to assist in purchasing a new minibus.

Members supported the work of the service and noted that £18,000 had already been confirmed towards the costs.

Agreed that the application is **approved** for £2,000.

6g **Somerset Business Agency CIC**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £5,000 towards providing suitable pre-recruitment support to unemployed residents in Exeter and the surrounding area – delivering a boot camp style confidence and personal development programme to candidates to prepare for employment, particularly focussing on the growing unemployed age group 25-49.

Discussion took place on the unemployment rate in Exeter which was currently very low. It was noted that a new project officer would be employed within the Exeter and Heart of Devon Employment and Skills Board, which would take on a strategic approach, and Members felt that this application would therefore be a duplication of services.

Agreed that the application is **declined**.

6h **Choices Pregnancy Centre**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £1,200 towards supervision for advisors, safeguarding training and DBS checks for new advisors and renewals.

Members noted that a grant of £500 had previously been awarded in 2016.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it is a potential duplication of NHS services and a grant had previously been awarded through Exeter Board. The applicants would be advised to submit an application for a city grant.

6i **Homemaker South West**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £10,000 towards providing a Money Advice Caseworker to deliver a surgery one day per week in various locations to provide local residents with advice and guidance on what benefits they are entitled to claim and the impact welfare reform may have on them, debt advice and budgeting.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it was a duplication of services provided by Citizens Advice.

6j **South West Regional Delivery Partnership**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £13,200 to deliver and link the Assets for Success programme with the ongoing Community Based Asset Development work in Exeter, including coaching course and resources.

Councillor Denham expressed an interest as she is known to the applicant.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it is a service that is provided by schools and does not fit the criteria of the Board.

6k **Exeter Community Centre Trust Ltd**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £3,702 to undertake a structural/load deflection test to determine whether steel supports and other structural works are needed for redevelopment of the top floor of the Exeter Community Centre.

Members recognised that funding that had already been provided to Exeter

Community Centre Trust as the building had been gifted from Devon County Council plus a significant amount of funding had been granted for the garden.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it did not meet the criteria. The applicants would be advised to submit an application for Exeter Community Forum Grassroots Grant.

6l **Superact CIC**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £6,680 to continue its creative activity programme with the homeless community, allowing for 26 sessions and mentoring for any musicians/artists who are currently part of the homeless community to find ways of using their creativity in positive ways.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as funding from the Exeter Board had previously been awarded and due to pressure on funds.

6m **Business Empowering Employment Programme (BEEP)**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £3,750 to run a BEEP Programme working with disengaged young people, continuing the work of the Rugby Empowering Employment Programme (REEP).

Members discussed the high success rate of the REEP and the value of this work. It was considered that a stipulation could be placed on any funding awarded that young people from Exeter are supported, but it was recognised that there may be instances where people may travel into Exeter for education purposes. In addition, information should be sought on the sustainability of the project. A letter could also be sent to business contacts requesting support for the scheme.

Agreed that the application is **approved** for £3,750, but that information is requested on the long term arrangements. Exeter Board should also be recognised in any publicity.

6n **Women of the World**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £5,288 to support the delivery of a volunteer training programme and WOWsers scheme that will run alongside the Women of the World Festival taking place in Exeter in October 2017.

Members noted that Lottery Funding had already been received and that this was part of a festival which would fit better within the arts.

Agreed that the application is **declined**.

6o **Exeter Local History Society**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £5,000 towards costs of 12 panels to form an exhibition to be held in the Exeter Guildhall to mark the anniversary of the Cathedral Yard fire.

Members noted that the venue had been provided free of charge through the City Council.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it did not meet the criteria.

6p **bthechange CIC**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £2,000 to provide Level 2 peer mentoring and conflict management training to support first time offenders and families.

Members noted the positive success rate of the programme and that training of volunteers will enable the programme to continue.

Agreed that the application is **approved** for £2,000.

6q **DYS Space Ltd**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £19,920 to deliver two sessions of youth work per week in Exwick and St Thomas communities, providing guidance and support on a range of issues and to signpost to more specialist agencies where needed.

Members clarified the background for funding for youth outreach services which had been committed in 2015. £25,000 had been transferred from Devon County Council for transition funds for youth services with match funding from Exeter Board which would then be split three ways between three projects (Phoenix Centre, Pendragon House and Westside Youth Centre). £25,000 Exeter Board contribution was split two ways for the Phoenix and Pendragon House applications as it was unclear at the time if or when the other application would be forthcoming. At the meeting on 9 June 2016, it was reported that Westside Youth Centre would not progress and therefore agreed that the remaining £20,833 would fund youth service engagement and outreach work with young people.

There is a gap in services for young people in this area of the city which is greatly needed. The project is for 12 months.

Agreed that the application is **approved** for £19,920.

6r **Exeter City Football in the Community**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £1,990 to extend delivery of the Our Kicks project to the Merrivale Road area of the city.

Members noted that Exeter City Football in the Community had been very effective in engaging with young people who had previously proved difficult to reach. This programme will run over the summer period.

Agreed that the application is **approved** for £1,990.

6s **WESC Foundation**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £10,000 to support the extension of the WESC Foundation's training programme for visually impaired young people by expanding to four more shops, a garden and horticulture business and barista coffee van by 2018.

Councillor Leadbetter declared an interest.

Members recognised the important work of the Foundation, but required reassurance that the project would be able to proceed if other funding was not successful.

Agreed that the application is **approved** for £2,000, subject to confirmation from WESC that they will be able to deliver the project.

6t **Exeter Hindu Temple, Cultural and Community Centre**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £3,000 towards the costs of a Community Diwali Dinner and Dance, a community building event.

Agreed that the application is **declined** as it did not meet the criteria. A suggestion would be made to the applicant that an application could be made for a locality or ward grant.

6u **Exeter Community Initiatives**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £5,975 towards a Project Coordinator to convene and facilitate a working group to establish a green space network.

Members noted that Exeter Community Initiatives had taken on the management of the Exeter Green Partnership Project worker until the end of July 2017 and to facilitate a further meeting of local people interested in creating a green space network of community groups. The Exeter Parks Watch/Exeter Green Partnership had previously been awarded grants through the Exeter Board.

Concerns were raised over whether the scheme was truly community led and that community groups should be leading it, with applications more appropriate to the Exeter Community Forum Grassroots fund – although these funds can only be accessed if it is community led (Exeter Community Initiatives is a charity). Community Builders would also link in with this work.

Agreed that the application is **declined**.

6v **Exeter Mosque and Cultural Centre**

The Sub-Group considered the application for £8,000 to extend the Mosque's security surveillance for its city wide community. This will extend CCTV to the front and highway element of the Mosque and the nearby primary school.

Members considered that this bid would be more appropriate for Police and Crime Commissioner funding and did not fit the criteria for a Exeter Board Community Grant Fund.

Agreed that the application is **declined** with the suggestion that the PCC is contacted for possible funding contribution.

7 **MONITORING FORMS FOR INFORMATION**

The Sub-Group noted the following monitoring forms which were circulated with the agenda:

- Exeter Community Forum
- Devon Arts in Schools Initiative (DAISI)
- Diversity Arts
- Exeter Community Transport Association
- Exeter Community Energy Ltd
- PaddleBoat Theatre

- Regen SW – Relight my Fire Festival 2015
- Exeter Dissenters Graveyard Trust
- Estuary League of Friends
- Honeylands Childrens Charity
- Ladysmith Community Toddler Group
- YMCA Exeter Community Projects
- Devon Domestic Abuse Support Service – Splitz Support Service
- Exeter Festival of Food and Drink
- Superact Community Interest Company
- Devon Disability Collective
- Julian House
- Personal Support Unit

8

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Exeter Board meeting on 13 July 2017 had agreed that a review would take place and an Away Day would be arranged for September.

In view of this and the limited funds available, it was felt prudent to advise future applicants that the next round of funding may be the last for the 2017/18 financial year, and appropriate changes would be made to the webpage.

(The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and closed at 3.31 pm)