

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel

17th June 2019

TITLE:	Councillors' Community Initiative Fund
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Councillor Michael Bowen - Portfolio Holder for Communities, Leisure, Parks, Sport, Countryside and Housing
CONTACT OFFICER:	Mark Forrester - Head of Democratic & Community Services
WARDS INVOLVED:	(All Wards);

**Appendices Attached – Appendix 1: CCIF 2019/20 Guidance Notes.
Appendix 2: CCIF End of Year Report 2018-19**

1. Reason for the Report

1.1 To provide an update on the use of the Councillors' Community Initiative Fund in 2018/19

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The Councillors' Community Initiative Fund provides every Member with the ability to use a grant allocation of £500 to address community issues in their wards.

2.2 An application form and guidance notes are published on the Council's website together with a record of each year's grant expenditure.

2.3 In 2018/19 £27,992 was spent supporting a total of 108 projects/organisations.

3. How this report links to Corporate Priorities

3.1 **The Fund is linked to our aims:** Help create a safer and healthier environment for our communities to live & work **and** Protect and improve the environment

4. Detail

- 4.1 The Councillors' Community Support Scheme (Support Scheme) was introduced by the Council in 2014. The Support Scheme aims to support Members in their wards as effective community leaders: (1) identifying community issues or concerns and (2) addressing these issues through their ability to influence service provision and/or their ability to facilitate community self-help.
- 4.2 The Councillors' Community Initiative Fund is one element of the Support Scheme. The Fund consists of a budget of £500 which every councillor can allocate in the form of a grant to support activity by local people that will improve the wellbeing of their communities.
- 4.3 Through this grant fund the Council wants to encourage more people to work together - volunteering their time to work for common beneficial purposes. To be eligible to apply projects and activities must:
- Be run by volunteers from the local community or a Parish Council
 - Benefit the local community

This Fund can support:

- one-off events or ongoing projects
 - capital items or revenue costs
 - new projects or existing projects
- 4.4 A grant application form and guidance note (**Appendix 1: CCIF 19 -20 Guidance Notes**) are on the Council's website. End of year reports are also published on the website for each year of operation. (**Appendix 2: Councillors' Community Initiative Fund End of Year Report 2018-19**).
- 4.5 Completed application forms are received and checked by the Democratic and Community service team, to ensure compliance with the rules, following which the Portfolio Holder for Communities, Leisure, Parks, Sport, Countryside and Housing is asked to consider approval of the grant.
- 4.6 The deadline for applications this year is Friday, 31 January 2020.
- 4.7 The total annual budget for the Support Fund is £28,000. In 2018-19 £27,992 was spent. The Fund was used by members to support a total of 108 projects/organisations during 2018-19.

Mark Trillo

Executive Director (People) and Monitoring Officer

**Web Links and
Background Papers**

Location

Contact details

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