

**Agenda Item No.**

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP, CULTURE AND  
TOURISM**

**6 December 2019**

**Report of the Executive Director for Commissioning, Communities and  
Policy**

**COMMUNITY PRIORITIES PROGRAMME**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To update the Cabinet Member for Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism on an additional project that has requested support from the Community Priorities.

**2. Information and Analysis**

At Cabinet on 24 May 2016, Members agreed to establish a £2.271 million Community Priorities Programme using one off resources identified from General Reserves. The Programme was initially established to run for two years targeting designated geographical areas. This involved devolving funds to a local level to support community activities, particularly activity which helped communities to help themselves, supported the Council's priorities and worked alongside the Thriving Communities approach.

The Community Priorities Programme aimed to support the development of projects which met real identified needs, supported communities and families, built community capacity and were sustainable. As a minimum all projects were required to:

- Support activity principally benefiting the designated LSOA
- Support the aims and objectives of the Thriving Communities programme
- Link into Thriving Communities activity in areas where work was currently being piloted where possible
- Be time limited and not require ongoing funding from the Council
- Complement, not duplicate other funding sources such as the Public Health Locality Fund, the members Community Leadership Scheme etc.
- Show how activity would be sustained beyond the life of the funding
- Meet an identified need which could be evidenced through for example, English Indices of Deprivation, the Derbyshire Quilt etc.

- Be delivered within agreed timescales
- Show how local people had helped in the design of identified activity or had been consulted/engaged
- Show what difference was being made.

On 5 September 2019 the Cabinet Member for Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism approved the return of unspent programme funds totalling £141,975 to General Reserves and confirmed the formal closure of the programme.

On 10 September 2019 an additional request for funding of £9,500 under the Community Priorities Programme was submitted by Councillor Simon Spencer. This project which is being undertaken by Youlgrave Parish Council is in urgent need of funding.

Youlgrave Parish Council has been undertaking a major project to replace the 1930 toilet block and store with a new store and toilets incorporating Youlgrave's first Radar key Disabled toilet. The project has suffered some unforeseen setbacks and further complications have increased the costs of the work required.

The majority of the funding for this work has been raised through an Honesty Box at Coldwell End Car Park set aside over 14 years. In addition they also received a £10,000 grant from Awards for All. They are now at the final fix stage and village contractors are supporting the project by carrying out work at reduced rates. Unfortunately the parish council has now run out of build budget. It has been estimated that they need another £9,500 to coat the walls and floors and carry out the electrical and plumbing work required to complete the building.

This additional project would bring the total spend throughout the life of the Community Priorities Programme to £2,138,525. It is recommended that any further projects that are identified by 31 December 2019, be reviewed on a case by case basis. Subsequently a further report will be brought to the Cabinet Member to confirm the amount of funding not committed that point in time, to be returned to the General Reserve.

### **3. Financial Considerations**

To ensure that there was compliance with the Council's Financial Regulations, all approved projects have been issued with standard conditions of grant and will be subject to monitoring and evaluation.

#### **4. Equality and Diversity Considerations**

The Community Priorities Programme will ensure that the funding set aside will be targeted to the most deprived and disadvantaged areas of the county.

#### **5. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered; legal, prevention of crime and disorder, environmental, human resources, health, property and transport considerations.

#### **6. Background Papers**

- The English Indices of Deprivation report to Cabinet - 3 November 2015
- Reserves Position report to Cabinet - 26 January 2016
- Community Priorities Programme report to Cabinet – 24 May 2016
- Community Priorities Programme report to Cabinet – 14 September 2017
- Community Priorities Programme report to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism - 5 September 2019
- Files held by Policy & Research

#### **7. Key Decision**

No

#### **8. Call-in**

Was it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report? **No**

#### **9. Officer's Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism:

1. Notes the additional project requesting funding of £9,500.
2. Notes the total programme spend to date of £2,138,525.
3. Review any further projects identified on a case by case basis.
4. Receives a further report to confirm the revised amount of unspent programme funds that will be returned to General Reserves.

**Emma Alexander**  
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