

Agenda Item

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

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

**19 January 2021**

**Report of the Managing Executive Director**

**MEMBERS' COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SCHEME**

**1 Purpose of Report**

To allocate additional resources to the Members' Community Leadership Scheme (MCLS) to enable members to support local communities during the Winter.

**2 Information and Analysis**

The Scheme allocates to each of the 64 County Councillors an annual fund of £3,860 which can be used to support local projects and activities in their Divisions.

At the end of each financial year (except an election year), any unspent balance is carried forward to the next financial year and a 'new year' balance of £3,860 is allocated.

On 23 April 2020, Cabinet considered and approved a report which provided an additional allocation of £3,860 to Members to support their local communities throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, assisting with the recovery and delivery of social, economic, health, environmental and cultural services to support quality of life in communities.

As 2021 is an election year, it was agreed that the additional allocations of funds would not be made after 1 December 2020 and that all members MCLS accounts would be capped at £1,000 on 1 December 2020, to ensure that all Members had an equitable amount to spend in the last quarter of the 2020-21 financial year.

As at 30 November 2020, a total of 664 applications had been received and approved which were aimed at supporting local organisations and activities through the pandemic period.

The Council recognises that communities have had a pivotal role during the pandemic and the Council Plan ambition is to ensure that the Council continues

to work with communities, sharing responsibility for improving their areas and supporting each other.

In these unprecedented circumstances and with the introduction of the recent further lockdown measures, it is considered vital to continue to support residents and communities during this difficult period. It is therefore proposed that each Elected Member be provided with an additional allocation of £1,000. This will be added to the existing balance that remained in each individual Members account following the 1 December 2020 deadline. Members can continue to submit applications using the same process as is currently in place. Applications will have to be received on or before 14 March 2021.

Any unspent balance as at 14 March 2021 will be returned to the General Reserve.

### **3 Financial Considerations**

Following the additional allocation of funds, the total amount of unused balances as at 30 November 2020, which includes where the cap has been set at £1,000, is £84,555. The potential total costs of the new proposal is £64,000, which can be met from the unused balances.

### **4 Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal and human rights, equality of opportunity, health, environmental, transport, property, crime and disorder and social value considerations.

### **5 Background Papers**

Members Community Leadership Scheme – Cabinet 23 April 2020.

### **6 Key Decision?**

No

### **7 Is it necessary to waive the call-in period?**

No

### **8 Officer's Recommendation**

That the Cabinet Member approves the allocation of additional resources to the Members' Community Leadership Scheme by providing an additional £1,000 to each Elected Member.

**EMMA ALEXANDER**  
**Managing Executive Director, Commissioning, Communities and Policy**