

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES**

**25 March 2021**

**Report of the Director of Public Health**

**UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND**  
**(Health and Communities)**

**1. Purpose of the Report:**

To provide an update on organisations supported through the Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

**2. Information and Analysis:**

The ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic has seen many organisations across Derbyshire working to ensure the basic needs of the most vulnerable residents are met, and it has become apparent that a number of community and voluntary sector organisations have insufficient resources to maintain their current level of response. In addition, supporting the clinically extremely vulnerable, social isolation and requirement for activities to comply with social distancing guidance have compelled many organisations to quickly adapt their service delivery model to operate within the guidance, often requiring additional resources to enable this.

On 24 June 2020, the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities approved the establishment of a Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund to support voluntary and community sector organisations in mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on local communities, and to work to improve the health and wellbeing of local populations. Funding of up to a maximum value of £2,000 is available for constituted groups and £250 for non-constituted groups.

The Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund is funded from the Public Health Grant. For this reason, all applications must be linked to the current Public Health work programme, for example to support mental health and emotional wellbeing, increase social connectedness, or to prevent demand on statutory services. This will allow the Public Health Emergency Fund to run concurrently with other corporate grant schemes, whilst retaining a clear focus on improving public health outcomes.

Authority for approval of applications was delegated by the Cabinet Member to the Director of Public Health, with quarterly update reports in respect of organisations funded to Cabinet Member meetings. This is the third such quarterly update covering organisations who have received funding from 22 December 2020 to 22 February 2021.

In addition to the 59 organisations that have already been funded, additional applications, detailed below, have also been reviewed and approved for funding. Funding decisions are made by a panel comprising of an Assistant Director in Public Health, a Public Health Lead and a Health Improvement Practitioner, before ratification by the Director of Public Health. The following organisations have been approved for funding:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Application details</b>	<b>Funding approved</b>
Broken Beauty	Chesterfield and Bolsover	Low level mental health peer support utilising a digital platform on a one to one basis.	£2,000.00
Junction Arts	Chesterfield, Bolsover and NE Derbyshire	Young Carer's online art club during February half term	£1,745.00
Cancer Buddies	Derbyshire wide	Emotional support to cancer patients, survivors and their carers	£1,737.58
Hilton Guides	South Derbyshire	Zoom licences and annual insurance to enable sessions to continue throughout the pandemic.	£395.10
Relate	South Derbyshire	Funding to cover costs for Zoom licences and additional laptops for counsellors.	£2,000.00
Glossop Arts	High Peak	Provision to young people 11-18 yrs old who are not accessing school or training to access Arts project at February half term utilising virtual approach.	£2,000.00
Lane End Farm	High Peak	Purchase a polytunnel to offer additional outside sessions for young people and provide mental health support	£1,979.25

Headway	Countywide	Outdoor COVID secure activities for young people with a brain injury.	£1,955.00
Remedi Victim Support	Countywide	Purchase 2 x laptops with relevant licences and software to enable our volunteers to assist with the support needs of clients remotely.	£2,000.00
Bolsover Woodland Enterprise	Bolsover	Equipment for raised beds to support people with learning and physical disabilities access gardens and allotments	£1,000.00
Swadlincote Community First Responder	South Derbyshire	Purchase kit and undertake marketing to increase the number of first responders to support COVID-19 response.	£1,800.00
Crich Patient Participation Group	Amber Valley	Produce and distribute a newsletter which highlights the services and support available and encourages other COVID safe ways to stay in touch and help others.	£1,356.00
Hope Animal Rescue	Countywide	To be able to arrange appropriate foster placements for pets whilst their owners are unwell or hospitalised as a result of COVID-19.	£2,000.00
Ticknall Cricket Club	South Derbyshire	PPE and equipment to make sports club COVID secure	£1,980.00
Barlborough School House Trust	Bolsover	Create COVID secure venue to allow groups which reduce social isolation to operate	£1,950.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>£25,897.93</b>

### 3. Financial Considerations:

The overall value of the Emergency Fund is £0.200m and to date £98,973.52 has been awarded to Derbyshire organisations. Funding will be met from the Public Health Reserve.

**4. Human Resources Considerations:**

The funding will enable local providers to deliver projects and services. Derbyshire County Council accepts no employment or future redundancy liability, with all employment and related matters to be managed by the providers.

**5. Legal Considerations:**

The Council's Financial Regulations allow grants of up to £0.100m to organisations to be approved by Cabinet Member. The Council's Constitution allows for Cabinet Members to delegate authority to officers to undertake the powers afforded to them by the Constitution. The Council's standard grant agreement shall be used to set out the terms and conditions for which the grants are made, which provides for clawback of funding in certain circumstances and shall also provide that the Council is not liable for any employment liabilities.

**6. Other Considerations:**

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

**7. Background Papers:**

[Update on COVID-19 Emergency Fund – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member Committee report](#)

[Establishing a Public Health Emergency Fund to support the response to COVID-19 – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member Committee Report.](#)

[Update on COVID-19 Emergency Fund – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member report \(February 2021\)](#)

**8. Key Decision:**

Yes

**9. Is it required that the Call-in period be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed within this report?**

No

## **10. Officers Recommendation:**

That the Cabinet Member:

- i. Notes the allocation of the Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund to date.
- ii. Continues to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to approve awards of no more than £2,000 to individual organisations.
- iii. Receives details of further recipient organisations on a quarterly basis.

**Dean Wallace**

**Director of Public Health**