

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 02 June 2014

Portfolio: Policy and Resources
Subject: **Matched Funding – Quarterly Report**
Report of: Director of Finance and Resources
Strategy/Policy: Grants Policy
Corporate Objective: All corporate objectives apply

Purpose:

To provide details of matched funding requests received by the Council during the first quarter of the 2014/15 financial year.

Executive summary:

During this quarter, the Council has received two matched funding requests as follows:

Holy Rood Church has requested £25,000 towards extending and upgrading its kitchen. Full details are set out in Appendix A.

Portchester Community School has requested £9,800 towards replacing all of the gym equipment in its fitness suite. Full details are set out in Appendix B.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

That the Executive agrees:

- (a) that matched funding of up to £25,000 be awarded for Holy Rood Church; and
- (b) that matched funding of up to £9,800 be awarded for Portchester Community School.
- (c)

Reason:

To act as an enabler, assisting the local community in making improvements to local community facilities, and introducing new facilities for the benefit of all age groups within the community.

Cost of proposals:

Up to £34,800 (the matched funding budget currently has funds of approximately £112,973).

Appendices: A: Matched Funding Application – Holy Rood Church
B: Matched Funding Application – Portchester Community School

Background papers:

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Executive Briefing Paper

Date: 02 June 2014

Subject: Matched Funding Report

Briefing by: Director of Finance and Resources

Portfolio: Policy and Resources

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to provide details of any matched funding requests received by the Council during the first quarter of the 2014/15 financial year.

BACKGROUND

2. On 8 March 2010, the Executive considered a report on the various discretionary grants provided by the Council. The report included details on each category of grant and the level of funding available. Members agreed to combine a number of grants into a single pot for the 2010/11 financial year onwards.
3. The report also highlighted the need for the Council to take a more coordinated approach in assessing matched funding requests in the future.
4. It was agreed that the procedure for applying for matched funding be changed so that bids would be considered by the Executive on a quarterly basis, by predefined dates, in order that applications could be prioritised.
5. It was also suggested that as matched funding requests are received, those "in the pipeline" are identified, as well as those submitted for formal consideration.

CRITERIA

6. The criteria for matched funding awards have been deliberately kept simple. The Council will consider any project which benefits the local community and/or improves the local environment.
7. Awards will only be made for capital projects and will not include on-going revenue funding.
8. The important fact about a matched funding application is that the sum being requested from the Council needs to be matched by the applicant and/or other agencies. This helps to ensure that there is a definite commitment and sense of ownership from the local community in both delivering the project and maintaining the facilities thereafter.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The current balance of the matched funding budget is approximately £112,973.

MATCHED FUNDING BIDS RECEIVED

Holy Rood Church

10. A matched funding bid has been received from Holy Rood Church for a sum up to £25,000 towards extending and upgrading its kitchen which has reached the end of its useful life and requires complete replacement.
11. The improvements would enable the church to continue to provide catering facilities to those members of the community who hire their rooms on a private basis and to encourage additional community use of the facilities. The details are set out in Appendix A.

Councillor Consultation

12. Ward Councillors Mrs Mandry and Forrest are fully supportive of the application.

Portchester Community School

13. A matched funding bid has been received from Portchester Community School for a sum up to £9,800 towards replacing the gym equipment in its fitness suite which is over 20 years old.
14. The improvements would enable more people to use the fitness suite and for the community to have access to a low cost facility in the Portchester area. There is no other such provision locally. The details are set out in Appendix B.

Councillor Consultation

15. Ward Councillors Fazackarley, Norris and Price are fully supportive of the application.

MATCHED FUNDING BIDS “IN THE PIPELINE”

16. There are no potential matched funding bids in the pipeline at the current time.

RISK ASSESSMENT

17. The risks and opportunities associated with each funding bid are considered on an individual basis and details are included in each assessment document.

CONCLUSION

18. This report sets out details for the matched funding bids received by the Council for the first quarter of the 2014/15 financial year.

Reference Papers:

- Report to the Executive on 8 March 2010 – Review of Discretionary Grants
- Report to the Executive on 17 May 2010 – Grants Review Update