

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 01 December 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 third quarter of the 2014/15 financial year.

Executive summary:

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

Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club has requested £12,000 towards creating a five hole short golf course to help develop its golf academy. Full details are set out in Appendix A.

Titchfield Amateur Boxing Club has requested £25,000 towards a project to improve the layout of the sports changing rooms and to extend the boxing club. Full details are set out in Appendix B.

The Catisfield Scout Group has requested £30,000 towards a full refurbishment of the main scout hut following a structural survey. Full details are set out in Appendix C.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

That the Executive agrees the following matched funding awards:

- a) £5,000 to Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club;
- b) £25,000 to Titchfield Amateur Boxing Club; and
- c) £27,600 to the Catisfield Scout Group.

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:

£57,600 (the matched funding budget currently has funds of approximately £60,583).

Appendices: A: Matched Funding Application - Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club.
B: Matched Funding Application – Titchfield Amateur Boxing Club
C: Matched Funding Application – Catisfield Scout Group.

Background papers:

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Executive Briefing Paper

Date: 01 December 2014

Subject: Matched Funding - Quarterly 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 third 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 £90,583.

MATCHED FUNDING BIDS RECEIVED

Lee-on-the Solent Golf Club

10. A matched funding bid has been received from Lee-on-the Solent Golf Club for a sum up to £12,000 towards creating a practice area consisting of five small holes for their Junior Golf Academy.
11. The proposal will provide younger members of the community the opportunity to learn the skills of golf and thereby encourage them to get into the sport without any previous experience. The proposal will also benefit the older community by enabling them to continue to play golf on a smaller less demanding course.
12. The proposed junior golf area would be available to members only, but the club have significantly reduced their junior membership fees to encourage membership with fees starting at £10 per annum for Under 12's rising to £100 for the age group 15 – 17. The annual fee allows for unlimited access to the course. The details of the bid are set out in Appendix A.

Councillor Consultation

13. Both Councillor Kay Mandry and Councillor Christopher Wood are supportive of the application.

Titchfield Amateur Boxing Club

14. A matched funding bid has been received from Titchfield Amateur Boxing Club for a sum up to £25,000 towards the construction of a small extension to the rear of the building and to improving the layout of the sports changing rooms to provide a more efficient use of the space and an additional training area for the boxing club.
15. The proposal will allow the club to provide an area for fitness training in addition to the boxing specific area and provide the potential to provide boxing shows at this location. The details are set out in Appendix B.

Councillor Consultation

16. Both Councillor Tiffany Harper and Councillor Connie Hockley are supportive of the application.

Catisfield Scout Group

17. A matched funding bid has been received from Catisfield Scout Group for a sum up to £30,000 towards the demolition of one scout hut and a major refurbishment of a second one.
18. The proposal will provide a fit for purpose community facility in the Fareham West ward available both to local community groups along with improved facilities for the local children attending the scout group.
19. In august 2014, the scout group received a community grant of £2,400 towards the clearance of trees and the creation of an off road parking area. This formed phase one

of the project. Based on the agreed protocols for the Community Fund a second application should not be considered within 12 months of the first. The Executive are requested to consider waiving this requirement in this case as there has been some misunderstanding over the process and the works already carried out are part of this project. On this basis the requested amount should be reduced by £2,400 to £27,600.

Councillor Consultation

20. Both Councillor Nick Gregory and Councillor Leslie Keeble are supportive of the application.

MATCHED FUNDING BIDS “IN THE PIPELINE”

21. The Portchester Sea Scouts are considering a matched funding application for repairs to the floor of the premises at White Hart Lane, Portchester.

RISK ASSESSMENT

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

CONCLUSION

23. 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