

REPORT TO MEMBERS		
1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Communities & Cohesion issues Delegated Powers
2.	Date:	28th January 2013
3.	Title:	Rotherham One Town One Community Small Grants (All Wards)
4.	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

The report provides an overview and update on the “Rotherham One Town One Community Small Grants” initiative and seeks approval for awards for the financial year 2012/2013.

6. Recommendations

6.1 To note the report.

6.2 To agree awards for small voluntary and community sector organisations as detailed in the report at paragraph 7.3.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Rotherham One Town One Community (OTOC) Small Grants Programme

Rotherham's One Town One Community initiative demonstrates that people from diverse backgrounds and of all ages in Rotherham get on well together and share the same values and aspirations.

It promotes and celebrates the values that unite people in Rotherham: the values of fairness, understanding, mutual respect and a desire to achieve the best for Rotherham and the local communities in which we live.

A number of strands and themes were developed to support the OTOC programme including a small grants initiative which was looking to promote local grass roots community activity that would support the Rotherham OTOC principles: cohesion, integration, shared values, challenging discrimination, and bringing people from different backgrounds together.

In the past, initiatives have included: Interfaith activity (bringing people together of different faiths and no faith); intergenerational work (bringing together younger and older people to tackle local issues); and intercultural engagement (bringing young people together from different cultures). It has also been used to support activity and materials that challenge prejudice & discrimination through myth busting & public education.

Under the current programme a maximum grant of £1k was made available.

The small grants programme aims to support small, independent community groups who do not have any major source of income or employ any paid workers. Thus groups managed by statutory bodies or other large organisations were not be funded. Similarly there were a range of exclusions such funding was not made available for: party political purposes; purely religious purposes; individual applicants; a party, equipment or related costs; staffing costs.

Due diligence enquiries were made on applicants and audit trail of spend was a condition of grant.

Under phase one of the programme applications were received in November 2011 and January 2012 and grants awarded by a Panel chaired by the Cabinet for Communities & Cohesion and advised by a representative from the voluntary and community sector and Rotherham Partnership.

7.2 2011/12 small grants awarded (phase 1)

The panel approved £13k was awarded in small grants to the following groups:

Group	Summary Description
Kilnhurst Action Group	Contribution towards improving community facilities and use by the wider community
WRAP Rotherham	Course for mental health service users
Rotherham Free liners Angling Association	Social and recreational programme for socially disadvantaged people
Rotherham Older People's Forum	Older people's day event
Mini Millers Club	Set up a pre school/start to play

	activity club – target disadvantaged communities
Acorns to Oaks	Showcase the work of adults with learning difficulties through theatrical performances.
Rotherham in Root	Start up assistance
Richmond Park TARA	Contribution towards improving community facilities and use by the wider community
Bharat Integration Group	Contribution to Holi inclusion event 2012
Swinton Fitzwilliam Mutual Association	Young people designed community artwork project to rejuvenate estate
AWSAG	Cultural Awareness Programme
Active Independence	Contribution towards two events focusing on personalisation
Youth in Action	Community engagement activities focusing on young people
RESCO	Support hard-to-reach communities and individuals facing barriers to employment
Rotherham Diversity Festival	Research project to capture the public views of Rotherham Diversity Festival
Pioneer Social Enterprise Ltd	Volunteer programme and training that addresses employment issues for ex-offenders
Transupport	Promotional activity for support group
Friends of Thornhill School	A parenting programme helping new families integrate in the area
GreenAsh Community TARA	Community action day in Rawmarsh
Oak Trees TARA Group	Contribution towards activities for supported living tenants
Steps Productions	To help address social isolation for elderly residents
Ferham Community Group	"Good citizens" scheme to encourage community involvement

7.3 2012/13 small grant applications for consideration/approval (phase 2)

A balance of £3k remains to be awarded in the current financial year and expressions of interest have been received from the following groups:

Group	Summary Description
Assist Rotherham	Support for asylum seekers and refugees
Bharat Integration Group	Contribution to Holi inclusion event

	2012
St James Parochial Church Council	Support people with mobility impairments or other vulnerable people to access the centre.
Early Days Playgroup	Support for children with disabilities access play scheme

8. Finance

As per report.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Applicants were required to complete application and monitoring forms and the standard contract conditions for grants applied. This minimized any risk to the authority.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

As per report.

11. Background Papers

Rotherham One Town One Community Progress Report 2, July 2010.

12. Contact Names:

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