

Report of the Shipley Area Co-ordinator to the meeting of Shipley Area Committee to be held on Wednesday 8th November 2023

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Subject:

Allocation of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority grants to community groups to support climate change in the Shipley Area.

Summary statement:

Bradford Council is working in partnership with the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin, and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to offer grants to community groups to support climate friendly projects as we work towards a net zero carbon region. This report summarises the applications received from eligible local organisations, across the Shipley Constituency and makes recommendations from the Grants Advisory Group on allocation.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

Decisions will need to be made in line with Equal Rights legislation. This will require Area Committees to assess the potential equality impact of any decisions they make.

David Shepherd
Strategic Director, Place
Phone: 01274 434748/433761
E-mail: david.shepherd@bradford.gov.uk

Portfolio: Abdul Jabar
Neighbourhoods and Community Services

Report Contact: Damian Fisher
Shipley Area Co-ordinator
Phone: (01274) 437146
E-mail: damian.fisher@bradford.gov.uk

Overview & Scrutiny Area: Corporate

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Bradford Council is working in partnership with the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin, and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to offer grants to community groups to support climate friendly projects as we work towards a net zero carbon region. This report summarises the applications received from eligible local organisations, across the Shipley Constituency and makes recommendations from the Grants Advisory Group on allocation.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 These grants support communities that may struggle to achieve net zero on their own and aims to inspire real change to reduce carbon emissions and also sustainable behaviour change in communities' raising awareness with regards the Climate emergency. The funding is focused on activities that will make a meaningful and lasting difference to the carbon footprint in communities.

The grants of between £5,000 and £50,000 will support community proposals for:

- **Energy** – local clean and flexible energy solutions
- **Building** – healthy, affordable and efficient community buildings
- **Transport** – walking, cycling and public transport
- **Nature** – green and climate ready nature and biodiversity solutions

And include projects such as:

- Developing locally generated clean energy schemes, producing onsite energy/renewable energy, for example solar panels, wind turbines
- Making community buildings resilient to climate change and increased fuel costs, through insulation, A-rated appliances, LED lighting or heat pumps – reducing consumption and promoting good practice to local residents
- Reducing car and fossil fuel usage by making it more appealing to cycle, walk or use public transport.
- Finding ways of working with nature, such as preserving or increasing biodiversity in our green spaces, strengthening the link between residents and nature through access to green space, local food growing, and creating opportunities for people to connect with nature.

Projects will be community led driven by an understanding of local needs, developing ideas with communities.

The application process was in in two stages subject to WYCA requirements. Stage one was an expression of interest, and stage two a detailed application. Organisations were invited to submit a detailed application subject to the Grants Advisory Groups approval to go to the next stage.

There were 13 expressions of interest that were reviewed by the grants advisory group on 20th September 2023. With a total fund of £73,800 and expressions of interest totalling over £500k the grants advisory group had to make some difficult decisions as to which applications to put through to the second stage and being mindful not to waste bidders time and a priority on those bids they felt would make

the most impact on carbon reduction/biodiversity.

Four applications were recommended to submit full applications. These are shown in appendix 1 with the amounts recommended for approval. All funding must be spent by December 2024 and a report on each project together with copies of receipts evidencing how all the money was spent. An evaluation will also be carried out by WYCA by March 2025.

- 2.2 The minimum grant value any organisation could apply for in each constituency was £5,000 and the maximum grant value was up to £50,000.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 None

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 Shipley has an overall allocation of £73.800.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- 5.1 There are no specific risk management or governance issues.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

- 6.1 There are no legal appraisal issues to highlight.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1.1 The District Plan and Locality Plan is underpinned by sustainability goals. As the priorities have been set using the District Plan, the outcomes achieved from this funding help us achieve our district goals on sustainability.

7.2 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.2.1 The work planned with community groups on decarbonisation and supporting biodiversity initiatives is shown in Appendix 1

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.3.1 There are no community safety implications arising from this report.

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

- 7.4.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

7.5 TRADE UNION

- 7.5.1 There are no trade union implications arising from this report.

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

7.6.1 This funding will to reduce the carbon footprint across the constituency and support priorities in the ward plans 2023 to 2025.

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE LOCALITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

7.7.1 To support the delivery of priorities in the Shipley Locality Plan.

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

7.8.1 The benefits of these projects will impact people of all ages across the constituency.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

7.9.1 There are no issues arising from this report.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 There are no not for publication items.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 To agree the proposals for the allocation of funding outlined in Appendix 1.

9.2 To amend the proposals for the allocation of funding

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the Area Committee agree the proposals for the funding allocations as outlined at Appendix 1.

10.2 That the Grants Advisory Group be thanked for their work with this funding.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – Proposed allocation of funding.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 None