

<b>Key Decision Required:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>In the Forward Plan:</b>	<b>No</b>
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## CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2013

### REPORT OF FINANCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO HOLDER

**A.6 BIG SOCIETY FUND**  
(Report prepared by Gill Burden)

**PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To update Cabinet on the Big Society funding allocated to date and the outcomes from the projects approved since January 2013.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- In January 2013, to improve transparency and increase member participation the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder established a Working Party to consider Big Society applications. The Portfolio Holder Chairs the Working Party and appointed Members to maintain a broad political balance. The decisions of the Working Party on allocation of funding are confirmed by a formal Portfolio Holder decision which is subject to the usual call in process.
- The Big Society Fund is now based on applications needing to assist in delivering the Council's priorities to address education, aspiration and skills amongst young people or develop projects to enable more people to engage in sporting activities and physical activity. The criteria for Big Society funding require projects to demonstrate exactly how they will deliver on at least one or both of these priorities as well as being considered of substantial community benefit or that there is a direct cost saving to the Council.
- Applicants are made aware that if successful at the first stage they will be expected to provide a detailed Project Plan as part of the second and final stage of the process and this will need to demonstrate wide community consultation and provide evidence of baseline and detailed performance indicators. Projects are required to submit quarterly monitoring reports were appropriate showing how they are delivering on the agreed performance indicators and a summary of progress to date.
- The Portfolio Working Party has met three times so far in March, May and July 2013 and has considered 19 Stage 1 applications and 3 Stage 2 applications. Of these, 2 have been awarded funding. There is a summary of the applications that have been awarded funding by the Portfolio Holder Working Party and their progress to date at Appendix A.
- There is a summary of all applications awarded funding since April 2011 at Appendix B.
- The progress and outcomes of new projects receiving funding will be reported to Cabinet at six monthly intervals.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:-

- a) That Cabinet notes the progress and outcomes for projects approved since January 2013.
- b) That the working party consider how to continue the ethos of the Big Society as the available funds decrease, through use of the Council's resources and, potentially, other organisation's resources.

## PART 2 – IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

### DELIVERING PRIORITIES

The Big Society funding supports projects that deliver the Corporate Goal to "*Help Children and Adults Achieve their Full Potential*" (Corporate Goal 3). In addition projects that receive funding will be assisting to deliver the priority from the Corporate Plan 2010 - 2016 to "*Ensure people have the knowledge and skills to secure good employment*".

### FINANCE, OTHER RESOURCES AND RISK

#### Finance and other resources

There was a total allocation of £643,000 of which £293,204 remains unallocated. Following consideration of the 155 applications received to date grant funding of £349,796 has been awarded to deliver a wide range of projects that have generated in excess of £1.26m of match funding in the form of either other funding secured by the projects or volunteer time attached to deliver the projects.

#### Risk

There is a risk that funding allocated to any group or organisation is not spent appropriately or in accordance with the purpose for which it was given. Although controls are already in place to mitigate this risk through the processes in operation, the Portfolio Working Party with cross council representation helps to bring enhanced scrutiny of the process providing increased transparency as to how funding is allocated.

### LEGAL

There are no legal implications.

### OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Consideration has been given to the implications of the proposed decision in respect of the following and any significant issues are set out below:

By reducing worklessness it is anticipated that the number of young people and adults who engage in unlawful behaviour will be reduced.

The actions set out have taken into account equality and diversity issues.

The actions will cover all wards.

## **PART 3 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION</b>
None

<b>APPENDICES</b>
<p><b>Appendix A: Summary of Big Society awards considered by the Portfolio Working Party to date and progress of approved applications</b></p> <p><b>Appendix B: Summary of all applications awarded funding</b></p>

## Appendix A

### Big Society Applications approved by Portfolio Working Party January – July 2013

No.	Applicant	Project	Request	Outcome	Progress
147	Chase Lane Primary School	New Changing Rooms, Gymnasium and Activity Studio. Completion of the above project to enable the site to be fully functioning for the wider community and to be able to deliver an extensive and varied programme of sports activities.	£30,000	<b>Approved</b> Project will be supported up to the £30,000 requested with an element of the £30,000 being an interest free loan repayable over a set period to be agreed with Project Lead, Panel Chair and Officers.	The Grant Offer has yet to be made as the school and Officers are negotiating the exact terms of the repayable element – a further update will be provided at the next review together with numbers of those benefitting and the range of activities being provided.
149	The Great Estate	<p>Capital funding towards the provision of a multi-use temporary structure on the site of the proposed s106 funded Community Centre on the St Johns Rd Clacton Development. Local residents have formed an Association to develop a range of activities for all ages to harness the enthusiasm of new residents to ensure their neighbourhood is a place to be proud to live in, eliminate anti-social behaviour and provide a catalyst for a cohesive neighbourhood including residents of both the private and CHP properties. They have secured match funding and volunteer time to deliver the projects for three years until such time as a permanent structure is completed.</p> <p>There is also a strategy for delivery of outcomes for the wider Bockings Elm area in line with TDC priorities which formed part of the Stage 2 submission that was approved.</p>	£18,680	<b>Approved</b> £18,680 awarded to take project forward. Land agreement to be confirmed for the temporary structure prior to any costs being incurred.	The Grant Offer has been made and accepted by the Great Estate Residents Group who have progressed with the strategy for delivery by ensuring they have become a constituted group. The additional funding required has been secured and the residents are submitting the planning consent required for the temporary structure. Whilst this is being processed the Youth Activities have commenced on the open space and residents in the vicinity are working together to ensure they are delivering a mix of activities covering all age groups. Further consultation will take place with older residents over the coming months and a programme of activities will be developed for delivery as soon as the temporary structure is sited.

## Appendix B

## Big Society funding to date at July 2013

No:	Date	Applicant	Project	BS Fund £	Match in £	Match in kind to date	In kind activity
12	05/04/2011	Little Clacton Village Hall	Refurbishment of hall	17,000	40,500	1,000	Volunteer time
13	05/04/2011	Volunteer Centre	Helping Hands	7,000	8,000	50,000	Based on 1/2 value of volunteer time for whole year
16	05/05/2011	Pier Ave Baptist Church	New provision/facilities	17,000	20,000	8,000	Volunteer time to staff new provision
18	06/04/2011	Volunteer Centre	Volunteering	26,602		47,736	Based on 2010 - 2013 registrations of new volunteers
27	18/04/2011	Thorington Parish Council	Litter Pickers	240		400	Volunteer time
48	19/05/2011	TYA	Battle of Bands	5,101		1500	Sponsorship of event and volunteer time
61	12/04/2011	Alesford Parish	Village Hall refurbishment	15,000	70,000	1,000	Volunteer time
77	08/08/2011	Churches Together	Street Pastor Scheme	8,487	1,000	4,000	Volunteer time
79	25/08/2011	Volunteer Centre	Helping Hands	16,012	8,000	50,000	Based on 1/2 the value of volunteer time for whole year
90	24/10/2011	Colne Housing	Foundry Court Co-Ordinator	£25,174	9,000	500	Volunteer time working with co-ordinator
110	05/03/2012	Dancing Giraffe	Website development	2,000		1,000	Volunteer time
109	05/03/2012	St Osyth Parish Council	Install Composting toilet	2,005	5,900	500	Volunteer time
107	29/03/2012	Harwich Rock School	Rock Club	9,495	20,000		Artist participation and build cost support
106	02/05/2012	Great Bromley Village Hall	Finish refurbishment	500		200	Volunteer time
135	16/10/2012	Inclusion Ventures	Youth activities	20,000	154,000		Project delivery
63	30/06/2011	CAB	Financial Capabilities	52,000	30,000	30,000	Volunteer time
136	17/10/2012	Colchester Institute	Building project	32,000	500,000		Skills Funding Agency £100k and Institute £400k
138	08/11/2012	Tendring Education Trust	Community Hopper	25,000	22,000	1000	Volunteet drivers trained
117	27/03/2012	Gt Bentley Village Hall	Contribution to Cooker	500	2,100		Additional facilities at village hall to extend usage
95	28/11/2011	St Andrews Church	Contribution to build costs	10,000	50,000		Proportion of other grants secured
126	25/05/2012	Clacton Sports Trust	Vista Road development	10,000		5,000	Additional sports provision and volunteer time
149	24/06/2013	The Great Estate	Community Centre	18,680	30,000	39,293	Funders p.a. and volunteer time both equated to 1 year
147	08/03/2013	Chase Lane Primary	Changing facilities	30,000	30,000	25,280	Coaching support and balance of finishing costs
<b>Total</b>				<b>349,796</b>	<b>1,000,500</b>	<b>266,409</b>	

23 funded to value of 349,796 with the smallest award £240 and the largest £52,000

**For every £1 of Big Society money spent the District benefited by nearly an additional £4**