Derby City Council

COUNCIL CABINET
14 February 2018

Report of the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism

ITEM 17
Addendum

Libraries Strategic Review: Funding to support Community Managed Libraries

SUMMARY

1.1 Two 'one-off' pots of funding have previously been identified to help support the establishment of Community Managed Libraries (CMLs).

1.2 In order to maximise the opportunities for the 10 CMLs to deliver maximum benefit to the communities they serve, the funding available in these two one-off grant pots needs to be used flexibly. This will have no additional cost to the Council.

RECOMMENDATION

2.1 To authorise the addition of the £90k Pump Priming Fund to the CML grant pot from the budget risk reserve.

2.2 To authorise the addition of the £24,750 from the Delivering Differently "LIDO budget allocation" to the CML grant pot.

2.3 To agree that both sums, once combined within the CML grant pot, may be bid for annually during the four year period up to March 2022.

2.4 To delegate to the Strategic Director of Communities and Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism, authority to approve the allocation of the sums thus added to the CML grant pot.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 To enable the available Libraries Review project support funds to be used flexibly, in order to help ensure the successful establishment of an ambitious CML initiative.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Pump Priming Fund

4.1 In July 2017 Cabinet agreed "Option B *Plus*", a new service delivery model for libraries in the city which would include the creation of 10 Community Managed Libraries (CMLs). Under Option B *Plus* an annual Grant pot of £175k would be available between April 2018 and March 2022. Cabinet also agreed the creation of a one-off Pump Priming grant pot of £90k, to be used to support successful applicants to launch their CMLs during 2018/19. This was originally identified as a transfer of surplus for financial year 2018/19 within the 2017/18 – 2020/21 Medium Term Financial Plan, but it is now recommended that we use the earmarked budget risk reserve to fund the £90k..

4.2 The Council's CML Expression of Interest process was launched on 4 September 2017 and closed on 4 December 2017. Applications have been subject to rigorous scrutiny by the Evaluation Panel sub-group of the Libraries Review Project Board. The evaluation process is now reaching its final stages.

4.3 To assist the flexible delivery of the proposals, it is proposed that the £90k Pump Priming Grant is made available for applicants to apply for until March 2022, rather than being restricted to 2018/19 only.

4.4 It is proposed that the scope of the Fund be broadened to enable it to be used flexibly to help support the delivery of the proposals described outlined in applications.

Delivering Differently Budget

4.5 In autumn 2017 a sum of £24,750 was set aside in the Council's Delivering Differently budget to support groups of people who may wish to come together to bid to run their local library. The funding would have been used to pay for support from a Local Infrastructure Development Organisation (LIDO).

4.6 In the event, no bids were received against this funding allocation.

4.7 Allocating the sum of £24,750 to the CML grant pot would help ensure the project is built on strong foundations, and that the ambitious community benefits are realised.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 The recommendation to adjust the availability and use of the Pump Priming Fund will not increase the overall cost to the Council. This flexibility outlined in this report

increases the likelihood of all the community benefits being delivered successfully across all four years of the project.

5.2 The recommendation to make the Delivering Differently allocation of £24,750 available to the applicants to bid for until March 2022 will not increase the overall cost to the Council. This flexibility increases the likelihood of all the community benefits being delivered successfully across all four years of the project.

Legal officer	Olu Idowu – Head of Legal Services
Financial officer	Don McLure – Interim Strategic Director of Resources
Human Resources officer	Liz Moore – Head of HR
Estates/Property officer	Jayne Sowerby-Warrington – Head of Strategic Asset Management and Estates
Service Director(s)	Claire Davenport – Director of Leisure, Culture and Tourism
Other(s)	Richard Boneham – Head of Audit Partnership Phil Derbyshire – Head of Property Design & Maintenance Ann Webster – Lead on Equality and Diversity

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 As set out in the report.

Legal

2.1 The report proposes the virement of approved budgets to enable more flexible usage beyond the scope of the uses it was originally anticipated they would be put to. It also proposes increasing the period of access to the funds from one to four years. The net effect would be an increase in the overall CML grant fund, over the initial four years, from £700,000 to £814,750. That increase necessitates executive approval in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, but otherwise raises no new legal implications.

Personnel

3.1 None arising directly from this report.

IT

4.1 None arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

5.1 None arising directly from this report.

Health and Safety

6.1 None arising directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

7.1 None arising directly from this report.

Property and Asset Management

8.1 None arising directly from this report.

Risk Management and Safeguarding

9.1 None arising directly from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 None arising directly from this report.