

874/19 Small Grants Proposal 05/05/2020

Proposal

To use the small grants programme to support organisations that are helping people during the coronavirus outbreak.

Current situation

Our current policy states grants are available to '***help to vulnerable groups, e.g. people on low incomes, elderly, organisations working with participants who have a disability***'

This phrase would cover any organisations helping through the outbreak.

Recommendations for speeding up the grant allocation

- Waiting for committee meetings delays the allocation of grants. Council to consider allowing the appropriate committee members to express their support/non-support by email. The grant would be allocated when over 50% of members have expressed support.
- Reduce the administrative burden and practical barriers for applicants. Allow organisations that have been awarded a grant in the last 4 years to just complete the application form (without supplying the supplementary documentation).
- For new applicants allow them to submit documents without requiring a signature. (It may be difficult for them to get documents signed).
- Allow councillors some discretion in applying the small grants process for this financial year.