

Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Subject: Funding bids review

Date: 4 September 2023

Author: Democratic Services Manager

Purpose

To advise members of the different bids that the council have previously applied for and those that are planned to apply for in future.

To suggest the committee form a working group to consider the previous bid submissions and how we can best formulate them going forward to succeed in receiving funding.

Recommendation(s)

That the Overview and Scrutiny committee:

- a) Notes the details of the previous and upcoming bids; and
- b) Form a working group to complete a more thorough review of funding opportunities and subsequent bids.

1 Background

- 1.1 Following the recent unsuccessful funding bids, the committee has confirmed their intention to review the current bid funding process in an effort to aid in successful future bids.
- 1.2 Over the last few years, the council has unsuccessfully bid for funding from central governments schemes such as the “Levelling Up” programme. The first being in 2021 with a bid of around £20million which would have seen investment in Netherfield’s connectivity, repurposing Gedling’s vacant and underused shops, and invested into a leisure and culture hub in Arnold. The most recent bid was made in summer of 2022 for £50million, which would have been used to revitalise Arnold Town Centre.

The feedback from these bids have been provided to officers who are currently reviewing it in time for the next round of bids, which are expected to commence in Autumn. Members have expressed their wishes to review

this feedback and get an update from officers on how they implementing this, in an effort to ensure the councils is successful in its next attempt as securing the funding.

1.3 Other bids that the council have submitted recently are below:

- UK Shared Prosperity fund - £2.9m secured which is planned to be used to build a new sports pavilion at Lambley Lane Recreation Ground, expand CCTV in crime hotspots in areas including Calverton, provide community grants to local charities and groups, the installation of new changing places/public toilets at King George V Playing Fields in Arnold Town Centre, development of the first floor of the AMP, as well as providing business and retail advisor support to businesses in the Borough.
- In addition the £2.9m UK Shared Prosperity fund, some match funding was also received from Changing Places and the Football Foundation to support the King George V toilets and Lambley Lane play area projects. The amounts received from these sources were £40k and £70k respectively.
- D2N2 LEP funding to support the development of four new business units at Hill Crest Park, Calverton. The development is aimed at Small to Medium Sized Enterprises (SME's) and is anticipated to create an additional 18 jobs. The development will include the fitting of PV panels to the roof of the new units, as well as the existing units. The original bid was for £694k, which has been reduced to £641k. The Council has been successful in being shortlisted for the funding, which has been reduced to £641,491 as D2N2 has decided to shortlist 3 instead of 2 projects – this is scheduled to be agreed by their Investment Board on 07/09/2023 and the Council will then be required work up a Treasury Green Book compliant business case with D2N2 for agreement in October 2023.
- Community falls prevention – £6,970 secured from Nottinghamshire CCG

1.4 Upcoming bids that the council are due to submit are below:

- Levelling up fund – round 3 – anticipated to be announced in September/October
- We have submitted an expression of interest in the Football Foundation Home Advantage scheme – no funding commitment at this stage.
- We have registered an interest in the Arts Council's Creative Places and People programme – no funding commitment at this stage
- We have submitted an application to the Sport England Swimming Pool Fund Phase 1 to support the increase in energy and other costs we have faced – awaiting outcome.

2 Proposal

That the committee note the details of the report and agrees to form a working group to complete a thorough review of funding bid applications and future opportunities.

3 Alternative options

The Committee could determine not to do any further investigation into the bids and leave it to officers to review, however this would go against the committees wish to find ways of aiding in the councils aims of achieving successful funding bids in future.

4 Financial implications

There are no additional costs for the Council arising from the report. The costs of Council officers assisting with this work is met from existing resources.

5 Legal implications

None.

6 Equalities implications

None.

7 Carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications

There are no carbon implications as a direct result of this report.

8 Appendices

None.

9 Background papers

None.

Statutory Officer approval

Approved by:

Date:

On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer

Approved by:

Date:

On behalf of the Monitoring Officer