

**OPERATIONAL BOARD
25 FEBRUARY 2021**

ITEM A3

DERBY ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS (DACP) GRANT 2021 – 2022

Report of the Head of Housing Management

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 To conditionally grant fund the Derby Association of Community Partners (DACP) at the annual level of £7,400 for the financial year April 2021 to March 2022.
- 1.2 To support the continuation of an earmarked £20,000 a year from the Customer Engagement and Community Development budget for additional projects and delegate the approval of these to the Managing Director of Derby Homes and the Vice Chair of the Operational Board.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 Subject to consent from Derby City Council and based on the conditions outlined in 4.7, approve for Derby Homes to award a grant in the sum £7,400 to the DACP for the financial year 2021/22.
- 2.2 Subject to consent from Derby City Council, Derby Homes provisionally earmarks a further £20,000 funding in 2020/21 to the DACP, subject to Managing Director of Derby Homes and Vice Chair of the Operational Board approval.

3. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To enable the DACP to fulfil its role supporting the interests of customers and communities in Derby.

4. MATTER(S) FOR CONSIDERATION

- 4.1 The Derby Association of Community Partners (DACP Ltd) is a voluntary tenant federation that exists to coordinate all housing related issues in Derby, by creating a joint voice for any organisation or group that has a relationship with a housing provider in the city.
- 4.2 The DACP has a working relationship with Derby Homes who were set up in 2002 by the City Council as an arm's length management organisation and is the largest provider of social housing in Derby with about 12,500 properties.
- 4.3 The DACP has excellent, national recognition and representation as members of TPAS (Tenant Participation Advisory Service), TAROE (Tenants and Residents of England) and regularly works with other housing providers and tenant federations across the country.

- 4.4 The main business of the DACP is effectively coordinating information, feedback, ideas, opportunities and good practice between the representative Partners it's made up of and Derby Homes. It also facilitates volunteering across the city and advocates the sharing of resources between themselves and the housing providers they work with.
- 4.5 The DACP also facilitates funding activity for the third sector in Derby. Their independent status means they are well positioned to coordinate small scale funding for projects in Derby.
- 4.6 Over the last year, the DACP has undergone governance changes and is in the process of a review to ensure it remains aligned to serve the communities of Derby. As such, the DACP has been reviewing its memorandum and articles, governance and funding criteria in coalition with their new volunteers. The DACP is drafting its new memorandum and articles and looking to consult with its volunteers to make sure the group is up to date and aligned to Derby's needs for the future. The full review is anticipated to be completed during the beginning of the financial year 2021/2022.
- 4.7 The proposal is to conditionally approve funding for the DACP considering the following measures have been completed successfully:
- review and implementation of their memorandum and articles
 - final decision on the Chair, Vice Char and Treasurer of the DACP
 - decision on the structure of the company (proposed to be a company limited by guarantee)
 - agreement by the DACP to the standard terms and conditions within the grant agreement document supplied by Derby Homes
- 4.8 Despite the changes over the past year with DACP volunteers and the impact of the coronavirus, the DACP has used the £7,400 Grant from 2020/21 towards training and expenses as well as using some of the £20,000 for helping community groups. The following table outlines the grant applications that have been considered this year for community initiatives.

4.9

Name of Group	Application Grant Amount
St Peter's Church Food Parcels	£2,000
Rykneld Bowling	£865
Shelton FC	£3,000
All Christians Together	£2,400
New Zealand Community Group Roof	£3,000
Fusion Scape	£1,370
Enthusiasm MUGA	£2,000
Chaddesden Bingo	£145
Sporting Communities	£300
AJ Education	£780
Sunnyhill Football Club (awaiting decision)	£955.70
Total amount spent	£16,815.70

Applications declined/withdrawn	
Tintagel Close (no longer required, application withdrawn)	£148.00
M-Prez (Project stopped running due to Covid, so application withdrawn)	£2,488
Sacred Bean (declined applications)	£2,500
Fundamental (event cancelled due to Covid)	£2,500
Polski Link (declined application)	£2,400
Total amount declined	£10,036
Total amount of applications received	£26,815.70

- 4.10 Due to the impact of the coronavirus, nearly all community activities have not been able to function as expected. Although this has impacted the amount of requests the DACP has received for funding, it is important to consider the importance that future requests for the funding may have on any need in Derby's communities, whether it is for resilience, group welfare or for support with food distribution.

5. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Specific funding of £7,400 in 2021/22 is available from the Customer Engagement and Community Development budget for the annual DACP contribution.
- 5.2 Additionally, the Customer Engagement budget has £84,500 to allocate to various projects & initiatives in Derby.
- 5.3 It is proposed to earmark £20,000 of this (£84,500) budget for any future grant applications that the DACP bring forward in 2021/22 and any on hold from 2020/21.
- 5.4 The process for the proposed additional grant of up to £20,000 to be awarded to the DACP, to support schemes / projects coming to Derby Homes for consideration will be documented on every occasion a grant is made along with the reason for the award by the Customer Engagement and Community Development team.
- 5.5 The award will consider the merits of the application and demonstrate how it furthers Derby Homes. Grants applications will be determined by the Managing Director and the Vice Chair of the Operational Board. This is subject to Derby City Council allowing the further grant of £20,000.

6. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 To continue with the usual grant of £7,400 subject to Council approval and completion of conditions outlined in paragraph 4.7.

7. LEGAL AND CONFIDENTIALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Derby Homes Memorandum states:

“(22) Subject to the prior written consent of the City Council to make donations, grants or loans or provide services or assistance to such persons and

organisations and on such terms as the Board shall think fit to further the objects of the Organisation.”

8. COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Consent will be sought and required from Derby City Council for all grant payments made.
- 8.2 It is proposed to get outline approval from Derby City Council for up to £20,000 further grant funding to the DACP. This will then enable a quick turnaround of approvals to the DACP on any grant requests that are received and approved by the Managing Director and Vice Chair of the Operational Board.

9. RISK

- 9.1 There is a risk that not funding the DACP would cause reputational damage to Derby Homes as the DACP has excellent, national recognition. Further to this, community groups in Derby are aware of the DACP and look towards the DACP to help enable community groups; groups that will need support, due to the impact of the coronavirus, to continue to sustain through a financially difficult period and if the grant is not approved, the impact of this may be detrimental to the communities of Derby.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report:

Consultation
Personnel
Environmental
Equalities Impact Assessment
Health & Safety
Policy Review

For more information please contact:

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Background information: None
List of appendices: None

This report has been approved by the following

Managing Director	Maria Murphy	15.02.2021
Finance Director/Derby Homes Accountant	David Enticott or Michael Kirk	19.01.2021
Company Solicitor	Taran Lalria	19.01.2021
Head of Service	Lorraine Testro	19.01.2021