

COMMUNITY ACTION DERBY GRANT FUNDING UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR 2019-2020

Report of the Director of Housing Services

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the 2018/19 grant award to Community Action Derby, following the Operational Boards recommendation to grant award £20,000 in 2018/19 to support volunteering opportunities for residents living on estates that we manage and seeks approval for continued funding at the same level for 2019/20.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note grant funding outcomes of our partnership with Community Action Derby from September 2018-August 2019.
- 2.2 To approve a further grant of £20,000 to Community Action Derby for Derby Homes for the period September 2019 – August 2020 to support Derby Homes volunteering aims and objectives, subject to the approval of Derby City Council.
- 2.3 To note Derby City Council's partnership with Community Action Derby.

3. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To maintain momentum of volunteering within Derby Homes and their communities.

4. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 4.1 From September 2018 – June 2019 working with Community Action Derby, the £20,000 grant has supported:
 - 4,722 Hours of volunteering to support local organisations
 - 86% percentage of people placed into volunteer roles
 - 54 Number of voluntary organisations received advice on volunteering
 - 33 volunteers, 6 sessions of 11 people - Number of Derby Homes residents engaging in training
 - 1 Number of Derby Homes groups that received advice on volunteering

There is still one quarter of results to report on at the time of this report.

- 4.2 As well as this, Derby Homes and Community Action Derby partnered with Move

More Derby, DHA and Derby City Council to host a hugely successful Annual Volunteer Celebration Event. The event was hosted at St Martin's Church and Community centre on 4 June 2019. The event held plenty of entertainment such as poetry written by Matthew Fowler (A Derby Homes tenant and part of Customer Voice), a volunteer rap performed by Community Action volunteers and an amazing song and dance performance from Steps for the Future. The event received over 150 nominations for the 10 categories which is the largest ever received, showcasing the benefits of partnership working.

4.3 Community Action Derby is the lead infrastructure organisation in Derby and the Volunteer Centre will continue to provide a volunteer brokerage service to support Derby Homes encourage volunteering in its communities. We seek to approve continuing to support this offer through a grant of £20,000 over a 12 month period to Community Action Derby.

4.4 On review of last year working with Community Action, we have agreed a programme moving forward that would both complement Derby Homes and Community Action Derby, if approved:

- 100 years Human library event with DHA.
- Frequent Training in at least 2 Derby Homes Community rooms.
- Volunteers Event June 2020
- Employer Supported Volunteer Scheme
- 'Health Check' volunteer review for Volunteering and recruitment in Derby Homes including Operational Board and the Customer Voice (subject to Governance Committee approval)
- Capturing the following Key Performance Indicators:
 - Derby Homes' residents placed into volunteer roles
(This can be our residents placed into a city wide role)
 - Derby Homes' residents placed into employment following volunteering
(This can be our residents placed into a city wide role)
 - Monetary value of Derby Homes Volunteers
(Return on Investment)
 - Number of volunteers recruited into Derby Homes Community Rooms
(This does not have to be our resident but any volunteer using our community rooms for activities with residents)
 - Number of Derby Homes groups that receive support, advice and training on volunteering
 - New Groups supported into Volunteering
 - Number of residents information received from Derby Homes
(Information passed on from the CECDT as potential volunteers)
 - Community Action hours spent working with Derby Homes Volunteers/ residents
(This can include training and support as well as initial contact time)
 - Successes of the quarter
(Good news stories or any progress with particular volunteers or resident groups)

4.5 Derby Homes would recommend strengthening volunteering in Derby through partnership working in order for opportunities in the communities to flourish. By Derby Homes providing funding to Community Action Derby (CAD), CAD would be able to provide support, advice and training on behalf of Derby Homes whilst

allowing Community Action Derby to use their resource to match volunteers based on their skills, abilities and requirements. Community Action Derby currently work with the Customer Voice to enhance their IT skills and scrutiny training.

- 4.6 Other benefits of working with Community Action Derby include:
- Supporting Derby's only National Volunteer Quality Award (VCQA) accredited volunteer centre in Derby. As a VCQA centre it only advertises quality volunteer opportunities
 - A more coordinated offer of Volunteering across Derby City.
 - Support for Derby Homes to enable employees to engage in volunteering and giving something back to their community through the Employer Supported Volunteer Scheme.
 - Delivers against Derby Homes Strategic Aims and Values
 - Supports raising the profile of Derby Homes in the City and demonstrates the commitment of Derby Homes to its employees and communities
 - It limits the risk to Derby Homes for liability as Community Action Derby have a robust framework and governance for volunteers.
- 4.7 Community Action Derby are able to provide support coordinating an Employee Supported Volunteer Scheme. At this stage, the employee volunteer scheme is in development with the Customer Engagement and Community Development team and is to be agreed by the Senior Management team. The scheme will be able to be recorded as a KPI by Derby Homes to demonstrate our investment into Derby's communities.
- 4.8 The grant funding will be monitored through the development of Derby Homes' relationship with Community Action Derby and reported quarterly.
- 4.9 Derby City Council's support for Community Action Derby has been in review of the Crowdfunding scheme, which was approved by Cabinet on 18 June 2019. Derby City Council Cabinet agreed to provide an alternative approach to supporting community led projects under a new project called 'Match Fund Derby'.
- 4.10 Match Fund Derby creates a local match funding model which would be open to all fundraising activity used by groups in Derby, such as awards from trusts and foundations, lottery grants and local fundraising activity, as well as crowdfunding. Approval for awards would remain with the Council, but management of the fund is undertaken by Community Action Derby. Responsibilities include marketing, liaison with applicants, assessments of applications, managing funding relationships and reporting.
- 4.11 Further to the match funding model, Derby City Council and Derby Homes work with Community Action Derby on the Stronger Communities Board. This Board has been successful with its purpose and implementation as a group of organisations working to deliver stronger communities in Derby. It is recommended that this grant would directly contribute towards the Council's strategic objective of building stronger communities by investing in the voluntary sector working towards a resilient and safer City.
- 4.12 In summary, this grant would allow the city's volunteering offer to be strengthened through partnership with Community Action Derby, reinforces an Employee Supported Volunteer Scheme, supports the Council's wider strategic objective of

Stronger Communities and allows the Customer Engagement and Community Development team a robust strategy and review for voluntary customer engagement.

5. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 The implications of creating resource in house to manage volunteers on behalf of Derby Homes created a risk involving insurance and liability. It was preferred to support an established company with existing governance, framework and training to minimise the risk to Derby Homes.
- 5.2 Do nothing - this was felt to limit opportunities within the voluntary sector and not in line with the Councils and Derby Homes strategic objectives.

IMPLICATIONS

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 This strategy was developed through consultation with the Community Development Manager and the Arts Development Manager at Derby City Council.

7. FINANCIAL & BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The £20,000 will be funded from the Corporate Initiatives budget within Derby Homes

8. LEGAL AND CONFIDENTIALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Derby Homes Memorandum states:

“(18) 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.”

9. RISK

- 9.1 This use of Community Action Derby limits the risk to Derby Homes volunteers as a robust framework of training and support will be available for Derby Homes.
- 9.2 There is a risk of damaging the relationship and profile between Derby Homes, Derby City Council and Community Action Derby by not supporting this strategic direction after conversations.

10. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Community Action Derby is overseen by Derby City Council's Health and Well-being board, ensuring equalities implications are robustly monitored citywide.

11. POLICY REVIEW IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 This Grant will be reviewed annually in line with Derby Homes' policies.

12. COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 Grants that Derby Homes propose need to gain approval of Derby City Council prior to formal award.

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

Personnel
Environmental
Health & Safety

If Board Members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact:

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Background Information: None
Supporting Information: None

This report has been approved by the following officers where there are financial or legal implications:

Head of Service (Operational Board reports) Head of Governance and Corporate Services	Taranjit Lalria	6 August 2019
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