

Public
Key Decision - Yes

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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| Title/Subject Matter: | Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025 |
| Meeting/Date: | Grants Panel – 23 April 2025 |
| Executive Portfolio: | Executive Councillor for Place - Councillor S Conboy Executive Councillor for Communities, Health and Leisure - Councillor S Howell Executive Councillor for Climate and Environment - Councillor L Davenport-Ray |
| Report by: Planning | Head of Policy, Performance and Emergency |
| Ward(s) affected: | All |

Executive Summary:

Huntingdonshire Futures sets out a vision to make Huntingdonshire a better place to live, work, and visit over the next 30 years. The Huntingdonshire Futures grants support this vision by enabling communities to deliver events and activities.

The 2025 version of the grant scheme focuses on just the Pride in Place journey. Grants of £500 - £2,500 are available for activities, and events that showcase and celebrate Huntingdonshire's communities, heritage, and cultural identity.

Community groups and organisations requiring financial aid to deliver projects that support Pride in Place are invited to apply from 24 March 2025. Applications must be for projects based in Huntingdonshire and where a significant majority of beneficiaries are Huntingdonshire residents.

This activity supports our commitment from the Corporate Plan to “explore how place strategy priorities are transformed into practical delivery.”

The total budget for 2025/26 is £40,000.

Recommendation(s):

- a. To consider applications submitted to the Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025 funding programme to date and determine whether they meet award criteria.
- b. To decide which applications will be allocated funding.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline details of the applications received from groups or organisations representing Huntingdonshire communities for project funding from the Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025. Applications from community groups and organisations who would like to support the District Council in achieving priorities that have been set out within the Corporate Plan for 2023-28:

- Improving the quality of life and for local people
- Improving the happiness and wellbeing of residents

2. WHY IS THIS REPORT NECESSARY?

- 2.1 In setting the Council budget for 2025/26, £40,000 was set aside for the Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025.

- 2.2 From the commencement of the 2025/26 financial year, the panel has committed £17,086.00 to applicants, leaving £22,914.00 available for the remainder of 2025/26.

- 2.3 The maximum amount that can be applied for is £2,500.

Successful applicants will be required to complete an evaluation of their project later in the year which demonstrates the impact of the funding.

- 2.4 The Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025 will close on 30 June 2025 or once all funding has been allocated, whichever is the sooner.

3. ANALYSIS

- 3.1 Appendix 2 of the report provides a summary of applications that have been received since the last meeting. In establishing the Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025, funding criteria will be used, and it is against these criteria that the applications have been assessed.

4. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS

- 4.1 The funding awarded for the 2025 scheme must be used against projects applied for and approved in 2025.

5. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 5.1 At ongoing meetings of the Grants Panel, Members will determine which projects should be allocated funding. Officers will then advise all applicant organisations of the outcome.

5.2 Groups or organisations awarded funding must be able to confirm that their project can be delivered within the 2025 calendar year.

5.3 If the applicant no longer requires the grant or the Grants Panel decide that the criteria can no longer be met, the District Council will cancel the award.

6. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

6.1 The Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025 links directly to the Council's Corporate Plan 2023-28, specifically the following priorities and outcomes:

- Improving the quality of life and for local people
- Improving the happiness and wellbeing of residents

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025 is advertised by the Council through a wide range of media including the District Council website, press releases and social media. Further communications will be made to advertise the funding available in 2025/26.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The funding of £40,000 allocated to the Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025 is within the Council's approved budget.

9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

9.1 Applications recommended for consideration demonstrate that they satisfy the eligibility criteria set by the Council for the Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025.

10. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 - [Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme - Funding Criteria - Huntingdonshire.gov.uk](https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

Appendix 2 - List of applications received, with officer comments.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Huntingdonshire Futures Grant Scheme 2025 Funding Criteria

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