

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Technical Assistance Grant Programme 2022-23</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Leisure &amp; Development Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>15 February 2022</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For Decision</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities
Outcome	Develop & promote stable and cohesive communities
Lead Officer	Funding Unit Manager

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	£30k (Subject to 2021-22 rate Setting Process)
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>YES/NO</b>
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

**The purpose of this report is to recommend the introduction of a Technical Assistance Grants Programme for the 2022-23 period.**

## **2.0 Background**

Every year Council agrees an annual programme of grants. The grant funding programmes target resources to meet identified need and further Council's objectives as outlined in Council's Corporate Plan and individual Service Strategies.

In October 2022 Council agreed to 17 Grant Programmes for the 2022-23 grant period. Council further agreed the concept of a Technical Assistance Grant programme for the purpose of assisting organisations to develop their community or sporting facilities projects and progressing them through feasibility, design and product development stages.

Council requested the Funding Unit Manager to bring back a report with the parameters and criteria for the Technical Assistance grant programme.

## **3.0 Overview of the Technical Assistance Grant Programme**

### **3.1 Purpose of the Grant Programme**

To support community based organisations with researching the need for a capital project and to examine it against the key principles of eligibility, feasibility, value for money and deliverability. If a project is viable, the successful group will be in a position to apply for grant funding from a range of funders to develop capital projects where the need is identified and viable.

### **3.2 Amount available in Grant-aid**

75% of total project costs up to a maximum of £5,000 will be available. The financial support available may not cover all costs associated with the requirements of the group for the development of the project. Where this is the case, the applicant organisation is required to cover any shortfall from their own resources.

### **3.3 Eligible Costs**

- Research / Consultancy Costs – to develop the project proposition/to support the development of a Feasibility Study.
- Professional fees or other associated costs which may be required including design, architect, quantity surveyor, chartered surveyor and structural engineers.
- Technical Development – in assessing basic technical feasibility, innovative design.

### **3.4 Ineligible Costs**

- Applications are not open to individuals.
- Private businesses / commercial / statutory / regional sector organisations.
- Any works, studies or technical support whose focus does not actively meet a community need.
- Clubs or organisations which have restrictive memberships.
- General Revenue funding.
- Capital works.
- Legal fees.
- Any applicant/facility/site which has successfully received funding from Councils Capital Grants Programme will be ineligible to apply for funding for 5 years after

completion of the previous project. In this instance, the completion date will be the date the last payment was made to you from Council. The condition applies jointly to the facility of previously supported schemes as well as applicant organisation.

### 3.5 Criteria for Assessment

The following criteria will be used for evaluating applications:

	Criterion			
1	<b>Match Funding:</b> Evidence that 25% match funding is in place.		Not Scored: Pass / Fail Criteria	
		(0-5)	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Available Points</b>
2	<b>Feasibility:</b> Why the study/work/project is required, what needs are being met, how these were identified, beneficiaries, outputs and outcomes?		X5	25
3	<b>Deliverability:</b> Details of location, timeframe, management (include specific details on who will manage and review it)		X2	10
4	<b>Value for Money:</b> Estimated total cost. Costs must be reasonable, relevant and present value for money.		X3	15
	<b>Total Maximum Score</b>			<b>50</b>

Projects must achieve a minimum threshold score of **70%** in order to be successful.

### 4.0 Timeframes

The grant programme will open mid-April 2022 and will close on 30 June 2022.

### 5.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council the Technical Assistance grant for the 2022-23 period.

It is recommended that it is named the Project Development Grant to more accurately reflect the grant purpose.