



## Council – 15 April 2019

### Community Facilities Fund

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#### **Purpose of report**

To ask Council to consider and approve proposals to provide a Community Facilities Fund (round 7) in 2019/20.

#### **Attachment**

Appendix 1: Timetable for round 7 of CFF

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#### **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 The Community Facilities Fund (CFF) was established in March 2013. Funded from our New Homes Bonus (NHB) reserve, it has awarded over £2m of funding across six rounds to projects creating new and updating existing community facilities.
- 1.2 The range of projects is extensive and includes: new children's play facilities, village hall improvements, new heating systems for community halls and landscape improvements.
- 1.3 The CFF has a detailed application and evaluation process, originally approved by Policy and Resources Committee (minute 167 - 10 September 2012). This ensures applicants meet specific criteria with their projects.

#### **2.0 Proposals for 2019/20**

- 2.1 The Community Facilities Fund Working Party considers applications to the CFF against the approved criteria and makes recommendations on grant awards to Policy and Resources Committee each year. Grants are awarded towards the end of the financial year and applicants have the following financial year in which to complete their projects and draw down their grant.
- 2.2 The current CFF application process is two-fold: all applicants first apply to an eligibility stage. If successful, a recommendation is made by the working party to P&R to approve the grant request if it's seeking £10K or less; for those seeking more than £10k and are successful at the eligibility stage, the working party recommends to P&R that they be invited to submit a second stage (full) application. Second stage applications are again evaluated and the working party makes its recommendations to P&R on awards.
- 2.3 With 2019/20 expected to be the final year of this council, the working party has considered the practicalities of running a final round this year. The working party feels there is scope to run a version of CFF but supporting projects with smaller amounts of funding. It proposes that a CFF round 7 (2019/20) is launched utilising the eligibility stage only. This basis of this would be:-
  - Applications are invited for projects seeking up to £10K; limited to one application per organisation or per precept authority and no requirement for

match-funding.

- As with previous rounds, the working party make recommendations on grant awards to the relevant decision-making committee.
- All projects must be completed and the CFF grant drawn down in full by 31st January 2020.
- The outline process for round 7 of CFF is at Appendix 1.

2.4 This proposal was discussed at the Policy and Resources Committee on 8 April and it was resolved to recommend that this proposal was taken to this Council meeting for agreement as an urgent item in order to facilitate speedy issuing of the grant round details to interested parties.

### **3.0 Equality and Diversity Implications**

3.1 An initial Equality Impact has been carried out and all equality and diversity implications are neutral. Neither a positive nor a negative impact has been identified. The initial Equality Impact Assessment can be accessed as a background document.

### **4.0 Privacy Impact Implications**

4.1 The CFF application and evaluation processes are established with appropriate data controls in place for dealing with personal data on application forms etc. No changes are required to these processes.

### **5.0 Legal Implications**

5.1 We are not statutorily bound to provide a CFF or similar grant funding scheme.

5.2 Any specific legal implications relating to individual projects would be outlined within that project's Grant Agreement.

### **6.0 Risk Management**

6.1 All CFF awards are subject to relevant terms and conditions set out in individual Grant Agreements for each project. This includes appropriate controls for any risks associated with each project.

### **7.0 Resource and Financial Implications**

7.1 As stated above the CFF is funded from the council's NHB reserve (stream 2). £150K is available to support round 7 of the CFF.

### **8.0 Constitutional Implications**

8.1 There are no constitutional implications arising from this report.

### **9.0 Implications for our Customers**

9.1 As with previous rounds of CFF, this round will be promoted through our website, Twitter feed and other communication channels.

## 10.0 Corporate Outcomes

10.1 The CFF contributes to the following corporate outcome:-




**Good quality of life** – local communities and residents benefit from new and improved facilities that increase opportunities to enjoy healthy and active lifestyles.

## 11.0 Recommendation

11.1 Council is recommended to

- (1) Approve a Community Facilities Fund (CFF) round 7 for financial year 2019/20, as set out above.

*(Reason – to continue with this council's programme of investing in community facilities to encourage residents to adopt healthier and active lifestyles)*

<b>Legal</b>	Power: Local Government Act 2000				
	Other considerations: None				
<b>Background Papers:</b>	EqlA initial screen				
<b>Person Originating Report:</b>	Mike Greenway, Community Partnerships Manager ☎ 01832 742244 ✉ mgreenway@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk				
<b>Date:</b> 9 April 2019					
<b>CFO</b> 10/04/19		<b>MO</b> 10/04/19		<b>CX</b> 10/04/19	



# Community Facilities Fund Round 7 process

Eligibility Application Form for all applicants.  
Deadline: **Friday 14 June 2019**

Officers check eligibility, size of grant and refer to Community Facilities Fund Working Party (CFFWP) and then make recommendations to the relevant ENC committee.

Those that do not meet the criteria will be notified that they will not proceed

Small grants £10,000 and under  
Successful applications of £10,000 and under, will be notified **July 2019**

Grants awarded subject to terms and conditions agreed

Projects completed and funds drawn down 31 January 2020