

Response to Request for Information

Reference: FOI 7375
Date: 3 February 2017
Type of request Freedom of Information Request

Community safety partnership councillor budgets

A Cambridgeshire's Community Safety Partnership on 18 October 2016, Cambridgeshire County Council officer Sarah Ferguson stated:

"We've put a little bit of money aside to give [Councillors] some money in their pocket to do small local things."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PK2kDec_WGg&t=44m28s

In relation to this, could you please release:

1. Documents describing the scheme referred to.

Working with the first cohort of Councillors as Community Connectors; a small grants scheme was made available to their local communities. The aim of the fund was to address local and Council priorities, with the intended outcome of community groups, coming together, developing resilient and effective relationships.

The small grant opportunity sought to:

- Build community resilience and enable community networks to have a more active role in delivering support and services which meet their local needs.
- Create an opportunity for Councillors as Community Connectors to build capacity and increase connections within their communities through the development of ideas, projects, events or initiatives which will deliver a sustainable or permanent change to the way people support themselves and others in the community.

The small grants scheme was presented to meetings of Councillors as Connectors during the autumn of 2015. Ideas generated through this work and any subsequent bids made were considered by an independent panel, which did not include the County Councillors. Grants were then awarded according to whether the criteria had been sufficiently met.

Please see accompanying document FOI_7375_APP1, which is a document containing information and guidance for Councillors as Community Connectors, and FOI_7375_APP2, which is the application form for projects.

2. The budgets allocated to each Councillor.
3. Information on each item of spending by Councillors under this scheme, including the Councillor responsible, the amount and brief description.

Four applications were received, of which three were successful.

£10,500 was awarded in total.

Councillor	Project	Amount paid	Details
Cllr Van de Ven (Melbourn)	Melbourn Community Edible Gardening project	£4,000	Paid in 2015/16. Application from Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group.
Cllr Downes (Brampton)	Brampton Community Good Neighbour Watch Scheme	£1,500	Paid in 2015/16. Application from Cllr Simon Jordan, Brampton Parish Council.
Cllr Reeve (Ramsey)	Ramsey Community Skills Club	£5,000	Paid in 2015/16. Application from Ramsey Christmas Lights Group.

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