



Date: 31 July 2017

Title: Request for Funding

Purpose of the Report: To consider a request from local volunteers to fund the print costs for an information leaflet for older persons.

Contact Officer: Sarah Sandiford, Head of Democratic and Central Services

Corporate Objective/s	n/a	
Implications:		
Financial	√	See 3.5
Human Resources	x	
Operational/Service delivery	x	
Procedural/Legal	x	
Risk/Health and Safety	x	

1. RECOMMENDATION

Should members be minded:

- 1.1 To approve funding of up to a maximum of £620 for the one-off print costs associated with an information leaflet for older persons, developed by local volunteers.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Committee will recall that the Town Council was approached in the summer of 2015 by representatives of the local GP Surgery Patient Participation Groups, with regard to the creation of an information leaflet for older persons.
- 2.2 Put together by a small group of volunteers, the information booklet was aimed at older people without internet access or other means to source information, and would largely be distributed by health visitors and GP practices.
- 2.3 As a non-constituted group without its own bank account, the PPG volunteers would not be eligible to apply for a Town Council General grant through the usual grants process.
- 2.4 Following consideration of the merits of the proposed project, the Town Council agreed to fund an initial print run of 4,000 copies of the booklet, at a cost of approximately £1200.

- 2.5 The leaflet was also made available online, with links from at least one of the town's main GP practice websites.
- 2.6 At the Policy and Finance Committee on 21 October 2015, one-off funding was agreed, on the understanding that the group would attempt to raise funds by other means for any future printing costs, in order for the project to be self-sustaining.

3. UPDATE

- 3.1 During the Spring of 2017, contact has been received from the volunteer group with a request to consider further funding for the project.
- 3.2 The majority of booklets printed have now been distributed and a number of updates are required. The group is hoping to do the required editing and organise a print run of a further 4000 copies in the autumn of 2017.
- 3.3 As an unconstituted group, options for funding remain limited. However, the group has approached The Rotary Club of Leighton-Linslade for half the cost of the printing (£620).
- 3.4 A decision is expected from the relevant committee of The Rotary Club by Monday, 24 July.
- 3.5 The Policy and Finance Committee is asked to consider the request for funding the remaining £620 required for the printing of the booklet.
- 3.6 At the time of writing, £5,825 of the £10,000 General Grants budget for 2017-2018 remains available. As reported to the Grants Sub-Committee of 8 May 2017, it is also anticipated that funds of approximately £2,000 will be returned to the Grants budget from an unspent Guaranteed Grant provided to FORTAILL (which has now ceased to exist).

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider Town Council support for this project, which would enable the provision of information to older residents in and around the parish, many of whom may be unable to source information in other ways.

End.