

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Decision to approve grant aid to eligible organisations under the community spaces capital grant scheme		
Date of decision:	20 th October 2025		
Decision maker:	Corporate Director Community Wellbeing		
Authority for delegated decision:	Cabinet decision authorising the spend for community grants and to delegate authority to the Corporate Director Community Wellbeing to draw down the funding and to take all operational and budgetary decisions to implement the recommended option 13 November 2024 Decision - Community Spaces Capital Grant Scheme - Herefordshire Council		
Ward:	Countywide		
Consultation:	Capital Finance Manager Head of Law-Corporate		
Decision made:	Decision to offer the following voluntary organisations within Herefordshire a grant to make improvements to their community hubs and assets across the County. The grant amount approved in total is £1,922,992.20 This is within the agreed budget of £2million.		
	Name of Organisation	Project Title	Amount of Grant Awarded
	Holme Lacy Village Hall	Revitalising Holme Lacy Village Hall	£65,963.60
	Revive Community Cafe	Revive Café Lift Installation and Reconfiguration of First Floor Space	£209,000.00
	Eardisland Village Hall	Eardisland Community and Wellbeing Hub	£103,281.35
	Pen Y Bryn Animal Sanctuary	Pen Y Bryn Community Facility Improvements	£50,429.00
	The Core Skate Hereford CIC	The Core	£38,500.00
	The Open Arms	Open Arms Kington (OAK)	£250,000.00
	Ledbury Food Bank	Ledbury Food Bank Unit 6 refurbishment	£225,195.87
	Our Lady's Community Space	Our Lady's Community Space Redevelopment	£200,000.00
	Hinton Community Association	The Hinton Wellbeing Hub	£181,490.00
	Llanwarne Village Hall	Llanwarne Village Hall Improvements	£108,693.00
	Leominster Scout Hut	Leominster Scout Group Headquarters	£80,716.55
	Halo Bromyard Centre	Bromyard Community Wellbeing Hub	£159,822.83

	Putson Baptist Church	The Putson Big Front	£249,900.00	
	TOTAL AWARDED		£1,922,992.20	
Reasons for decision:	<p>The 13 November 2024 Cabinet Member decision identified the community spaces capital grants as an important project.</p> <p>The aims of the grant scheme are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. transform and improve existing/unused buildings for community benefit b. create improved spaces for communities to connect and for events and activities to be delivered c. increase opportunities for people to access integrated services in their community d. target areas of health inequalities and deprivation <p>The objectives of the grant scheme are to ensure that the projects are multi-purpose and flexible and provide an inclusive space for services and activities for all ages, allowing the community to connect and host a range of activities and services that are used by everyone through an all age/whole family approach. They will also support and enhance the delivery of statutory services at a local level and be located in areas of need, with demonstrated community engagement involvement in the projects.</p>			
Equality Considerations	<p>Grant programme was advertised and made available to any eligible Organisation within Herefordshire.</p> <p>All applications were considered by an independent appraisal panel</p> <p>Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:</p> <p>A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. 			
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	Risk		Mitigation	
	Time Frame- There is a risk that projects will not be completed by the end date (31 March 2027)		Ensure applicants provide schedule of works and maintain regular coms with project team at each stage of practical works.	
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Do not utilise the funding for this scheme. This is not recommended because the delivery of enhanced community hubs and spaces will support the council's plan and ambitions by enabling residents to realise their potential, to be healthy and to be part of great communities who support each other.			

Details of any declarations of interest made:	None
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Hilary Hall.

Signed

Date: 21/10/2025