

Report title	S106 Englefield Green Minor Projects Fund
Report author	Chantal Noble, Community Development Manager
Department	Community Development, Community Services
Exempt	No

Purpose of report:
To Resolve

Synopsis of report:

- 1) **To provide contextual background information on the S106 funding received by the Council relating to the Runnymede Campus development, at Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green**
- 2) **To set out the proposed allocation of the S106 Englefield Green Minor Projects Fund in relation to the applications received**

Recommendation(s):

- i) **Members approve the recommended successful applications to the S106 Minor Projects Fund; and**
- ii) **Members approve the delegated authority to award a grant to Englefield Green Village Residents Association, following ongoing discussion and as outlined, to the Corporate Head of Community Services, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Community Services Committee.**

1. Context and background of report

1.1 In 2018, a planning application was approved by the Council, relating to the development of the Runnymede Campus, at Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green (planning ref – RU.17/1649).

1.2 As part of the planning conditions, requirements in relation to Section 106 payments were stipulated and cover expenditure incurred by both Runnymede and Surrey County Council and are summarised as follows:

Scheme	Value
Community Support Facilities	£400,000
Minor Projects Contribution	£85,253
Cycle Lane Link	£100,000
Real Time Bus Information	£15,000
Yellow Bus Scheme	£79,905
Monitoring Fee	£10,000
Travel Plan Audit	£6,125
Travel Vouchers	£100 (for each open market unit or affordable housing unit)

- 1.3 Since the existing Minor Projects grant scheme was launched a total of six applications have been approved, totalling £19,052. A summary of which is set out below.

Applying Organisation	Summary of Application	Amount awarded £
St Jude's C of E School	Swimming pool liner	5,000
Englefield Green Cricket Club	Cricket strip	3,402
EGVRA	Items for annual village fair	3,000
Draughtbusters	Draught excluding items	1,000
The Egham Band	Purchase of instruments	5,000
EGVRA	Eco friendly planters	1,650

Given the above grant awards, the remaining balance against the Minor Projects contribution is £66,201.

- 1.4 Maximum grants of up to £7,000 were available to resident groups, voluntary and community organisations, both based in or serving residents of Englefield Green, for funding for new projects or expansions to existing projects.
- 1.5 The criteria of the grant scheme focused on how the funding application will contribute to the health and wellbeing of Englefield Green residents following the priority strands of the corporate Health and Wellbeing strategy and Empowering Communities strategy.
- 1.6 Applicants were asked how they had identified the need for the project and how many individuals it would support.
- 1.7 Applicants were asked to confirm how their project would be sustainable in the future, given that there is a limited amount of funding from the S106 Minor Projects Fund.
- 1.8 Five new applications were received for the S106 Englefield Green Minor Projects Fund, to the total value of £28,449. This report sets out the Officer recommendations for approval.
- 1.9 A panel met on Thursday 9 November 2023 to review the applications and recommend to Community Services Committee the outcome of each application. The panel comprised Councillors Andrea Berardi, Trevor Gates, Chris Howorth, Chair of Community Services Committee, Scott Lewis, Vice-Chair of Community Services Committee, Tom Gracey, Leader of the Council, four Officers from Community Services and the Corporate Head of Planning, Economy and Built Environment.

1.10 Englefield Green Councillors who were unable to attend the meeting were asked for their feedback via email with the intention of including their feedback into the considerations of the panel in attendance.

2. Report and, where applicable, options considered and recommended

2.1 The panel recommended grants for approval as set out below:

Applying Organisation	Summary of Application	Amount awarded £
The Green Team	To develop green spaces and provide free vegetables and fruit to residents	6,749
The Englefield Green Memorial Trust	To correct levels within the Memorial walkway, renovate the Memorial Planters and seating area	7,000
The Journey Church	Building surveys and utility mapping surveys	7,000
The Journey Church	Health outreach coordinator for 75 weekly 3 hour drop-in sessions + 1 hour admin over an 18 month period	7,000

2.2 The above applications are supported by the panel for approval due to the detail in the application forms that both provide a clear link as to how the project will benefit residents of Englefield Green.

2.3 The panel recommended the following applications be rejected:

Applying Organisation	Summary of Application	Amount £
EGVRA	500 printed newsletters	700

2.4 The panel recommends rejecting the application for £700 from EGVRA for printed newsletters and recommending that EGVRA applies for funding to cover multiple editions of the newsletter. Given this, Officers are proposing to engage directly with EGVRA, with a view to agreeing to fund three editions of the newsletter at a value of £2,100. In doing so EGVRA will be informed that this is one off funding and that as a requirement of the funding, efforts to transition more residents to receiving the newsletter digitally will be made during the year funded.

2.5 Therefore, Officers are recommending that an award of £2,100 is delegated to the Corporate Head of Community Services, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Community Services Committee.

3. Policy framework implications

3.1 The delivery of both schemes in relation to the developer contributions for Englefield Green, look to engage residents, communities and local voluntary, community, and faith sector organisations in the shaping of community projects and infrastructure enhancements in Englefield Green. This supports the Council's corporate business plan against the theme of Empowering Communities.

3.2 Applications to both schemes will require projects to be linked to objectives within the Council's Health and Wellbeing strategy and Climate Change strategy.

4. Resource implications/Value for Money (where applicable)

4.1 The funding that will be allocated through both schemes has been received as part of the Section 106 contributions relating to the Runnymede Campus development. No additional funding, either one-off or ongoing, will be added to the process by the Council.

5. Legal implications

5.1 With Section 106 funding being specific to location and type of funding, the monies provided by the developer and held by the Planning department needs to be spent and allocated as per the agreed requirements. Any amounts un-allocated within the relevant period will be reimbursed to the payer.

6. Equality implications

6.1 The Council has a duty under the Equality Act 2010. Section 149 of the Act provides that we must have due regard to the need to;

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
- b) advance equality of opportunity
- c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share protected characteristics.

6.2 We should at all times act in a way that is non-discriminatory through our policies and procedures and interactions with people.

6.3 Whilst this report in itself has no direct impact on equalities the projects recommended for approval do. A number of these projects are focussed on supporting residents in the areas of relative deprivation in the borough.

6.4 If the panel recommendations are not approved by Community Services Committee it is possible that this could result in negative equality implications due to the lack of financial support to take forward some of these projects.

6.5 An Equalities Impact screening document was written during the course to approve the process of the S106 Minor Projects Fund to ensure that all within the Englefield Green community are both able to apply for funding or contribute to the engagement process, identifying possible infrastructure spend for the area.

7. Environmental/Sustainability/Biodiversity implications

7.1 Applicants to the fund are asked to state whether their project links to objectives within the Council's Health and Wellbeing strategy and Climate Change strategy.

8. Risk Implications

8.1 As identified in sections 5 and 6 above.

9. Timetable for Implementation

9.1 Should the recommendations be approved, Officers will begin to process the successful applications and distribute memorandums of understanding (MOU) to the successful applicants. Grant monies will then be distributed upon return of these MOUs.

10. Conclusions

10.1 The recommendations on the applications to the S106 Englefield Green Minor Projects Fund grant scheme outlined in the report have been proposed by the panel following the review of applications.

10.2 Awarding these grants will enable community organisations and individuals to support the residents of Englefield Green.

11. Background papers

[Englefield Green Section 106 Funding](#)

12. Appendices

None.