

INFORMATION

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS' LIAISON COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 5

meeting date: 14 NOVEMBER 2013
title: CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANT SCHEME
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: TRUDY HOLDERNESS

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To increase Parish Councils' awareness of the concurrent function grant scheme.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 A number of years ago Ribble Valley Borough Council introduced a concurrent function grant scheme. This would give financial assistance to those Parishes/Town Councils who provide services in their areas, which elsewhere are provided by the Borough Council.

2.2 In these instances there is an element of 'double taxation' i.e. the Council taxpayer pays for the service in the charge from the Borough Council and then again in the parish element of the Council Tax.

2.3 Since the introduction of the scheme less than half of Parish Councils in the Borough have applied for the grant.

3 CONCURRENT FUNCTIONS GRANT SCHEME

3.1 The Council will support Parish and Town Council **net revenue expenditure** (excluding VAT) on the following concurrent functions:-

- ❖ Burial Grounds
- ❖ Bus Shelters
- ❖ Footpaths
- ❖ Footway Lighting
- ❖ Litter Collection
- ❖ Dog Waste Bins
- ❖ Parks and Play areas

Examples of expenditure claimed under each of these categories are shown at Annex 1.

3.2 The Council will not support administration costs, expenditure on capital expenditure or large one off items through the scheme. Examples of what would be classed as capital expenditure are:-

- ❖ Fixing memorials
- ❖ Landscaping Projects
- ❖ Laying turf

- 3.3 Support will be at a rate of 25% of eligible net revenue expenditure from the previous financial year, subject to the overall cost of the grant scheme to the Borough Council not exceeding £20,000 p.a. If claims exceed this then grants would be scaled back to the funds available. (See Annex 2 for summary of claims for 2013.)
- 3.4 At the beginning of the financial year all Parish/Town Councils are sent a grant application form. The completed application must be returned to the Director of Resources by 31 May each year certified by the Parish Clerk. Any grant sought over £1,000 must include supporting documentation with the application for example copies of invoices and Lengthsman timesheets
- 3.5 Once the allocation of grants has been approved by the Council the Parish Clerks are informed of the grant payable and the date it is to be paid.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The Concurrent Function grant scheme was introduced in April 2009. Since then a total of 21 Parish Councils have benefited from the scheme by £72,877. We believe that whilst the scheme has been a real success we are concerned that many Parish Councils do not apply for assistance and we would urge all Parish Councils to review their expenditure to see if they would be eligible to apply for a concurrent function grant. If you are at all unsure please contact Trudy Holderness, extension 4436.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PCL1-13/TH/AC
18 OCTOBER 2013

Background papers:
Concurrent Function Grant Scheme – November 2008

For further information please ask for Trudy Holderness, extension 4436

EXAMPLES OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE

BURIAL GROUNDS

- ❖ Contribution to maintenance of church yard
- ❖ Joint burial precept
- ❖ Monthly ground maintenance contracts

BUS SHELTERS

- ❖ Cleaning of bus shelters
- ❖ Repairing of glass

FOOTPATHS

- ❖ Path clearance
- ❖ Parish Lengthsman work

FOOTWAY LIGHTING

- ❖ Repairs
- ❖ Replace bulbs

LITTER COLLECTION

- ❖ Parish Lengthsman work
- ❖ Monthly litter picking contracts

DOG WASTE BINS

- ❖ Parish Lengthsman work

PARKS AND PLAY AREAS

- ❖ Monthly playground inspections
- ❖ Repairs to playground equipment
- ❖ Grass cutting (Private contractor / Ribble Valley BC)
- ❖ Contributions to recreation associations

CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANT APPLICATION 2013/14

Nos	Parish / Town Council	Burial Grounds £	Bus Shelters £	Footpaths £	Footway Lighting £	Litter Collection £	Dog Waste Bins £	Parks and Play Areas £	Sub-Total £	Reduced Claim By Parish Clerk £	Project Work / VAT £	Total £	2013/14 Grant (25%) £
-	Aighton Bailey/Chaigley								0.00			0.00	0.00
1	Billington & Langho	1,183.40				3,425.71		14,523.91	19,133.02		-13,573.00	5,560.02	1,390.00
2	Bolton By Bowland			432.00		1,189.00		2,682.00	4,303.00	-303.00		4,000.00	1,000.00
3	Bowland Forest(Higher)							1,854.10	1,854.10			1,854.10	463.53
4	Chatburn					674.00		1,682.42	2,356.42			2,356.42	589.11
-	Chipping								0.00			0.00	0.00
5	Clitheroe							1,818.36	1,818.36			1,818.36	454.59
6	Gisburn					156.00		750.00	906.00			906.00	226.50
7	Grindleton			2,767.21					2,767.21			2,767.21	691.80
8	Longridge					6,000.00		3,000.00	9,000.00			9,000.00	2,250.00
9	Mellor					2,093.43		2,439.18	4,532.61			4,532.61	1,133.15
10	Newton in Bowland						111.69	319.87	431.56			431.56	107.89
11	Pendleton							300.00	300.00			300.00	75.00
12	Read						701.34	4,827.82	5,529.16			5,529.16	1,382.29
13	Ribchester					1,741.00		573.00	2,314.00			2,314.00	578.50
14	Sabden	350.00	36.00	810.80		1,677.00	962.00	1,418.82	5,254.62			5,254.62	1,313.65
-	Salesbury								0.00			0.00	0.00
15	Waddington	850.00		196.00		121.74		2,069.87	3,237.61			3,237.61	809.40
16	Whalley	3,510.58				4,164.00		4,401.00	12,075.58			12,075.58	3,018.90
17	Wilpshire							1,245.00	1,245.00			1,245.00	311.25
18	Wiswell	204.00						1,033.00	1,237.00			1,237.00	309.25
		6,097.98	36.00	4,206.01	0.00	21,241.88	1,775.03	44,938.35	78,295.25	-303.00	-13,573.00	64,419.25	16,104.81