

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 5

meeting date: 2 APRIL 2019
title: CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANTS
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: VAL TAYLOR

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider the allocation of concurrent function grants for 2018/19.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and Priorities:

- In accordance with the corporate strategy objective "to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area". This report will provide a means for providing a high quality environment, including safe, clean parks and open spaces.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 In November 2017, this committee considered a revised Concurrent Function grant Scheme, which combined the previous Parish Lengthsman scheme with the concurrent function grant scheme.

2.2 The combined scheme continues to give grant assistance for those Parishes/ Town Councils who provide services in their areas, which elsewhere are provided by the Borough Council.

2.3 The Council has agreed to support Parish and Town Council net revenue expenditure on the following concurrent functions.

- Burial Grounds
- Bus Shelters
- Footpaths
- Footway Lighting
- Litter Collection
- Dog waste bins
- Parks and play areas
- Parish Lengthsman

2.4 Under the revised scheme concurrent function grants continue to be paid to parishes at 25% of eligible concurrent function expenditure.

2.5 For those parishes previously in receipt of a separate Parish Lengthsman grant the following transitional protection applies:

Year	Protection of Previous Parish Lengthsman Grant Paid (or actual net expenditure on Lengthsman if lower)
2017/18	100%
2018/19	100%
2019/20	75%
2020/21	50%
2021/22 and thereafter	25%

2.6 These transitional arrangements are in place to help support parishes previously in receipt of a separate parish lengthsman grant by enabling a gradual and smooth transfer into the combined scheme.

2.7 This year is the final year that parishes previously in receipt of the separate parish lengthsman grant will receive 100% transitional protection. From 2019/20 the grant will gradually reduce until grant payments in respect of parish lengthsman duties are made in line with all other concurrent grant expenditures, being 25% of eligible net revenue expenditure.

2.8 Given that the intention of the combined scheme is to ensure fairness and equality in the processing of grant claims across all parishes, it is recommended that if during the transition phase a circumstance should arise where the amount of parish lengthsman grant payable under the transitional arrangements is less than what would be payable under the concurrent function grant scheme, i.e. less than 25% of total net lengthsman expenditure, then the higher of the two amounts would be processed for the grant claim.

2.9 An annual revenue budget allocation for the combined scheme in 2018/19 has been approved of £31,280.

3 ALLOCATION OF 2018/19 GRANT

3.1 In October 2018 all Parish Councils were sent a concurrent function grant application form for 2018/19. It included an invitation to apply for a grant, with applications to be returned to the Borough Council by 21 December 2018.

3.2 24 applications were received, with eligible net revenue expenditure totalling £87,929 (See Annex 1).

3.3 Final allocations proposed for Committee approval at 25% of net eligible expenditure and including transitional arrangements for those council's previously in receipt of a separate parish lengthsman grant total £26,029 (See Annex 2).

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – a total budget of £31,280 is available to fund the grants requested and the proposed expenditure is within this balance.
- Technical, environmental and legal – no implications identified
- Political – no implications identified

- Reputation - the matter covered links to the Council's ambitions and priorities to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.
- Equality and Diversity – the scheme is open to all parish and town councils.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That Committee approve the payment of grants to parish council's as detailed in Annex 2 and totalling £26,029.
- 5.2 That Committee agree that where transitional arrangements are in place the amount payable to parish council's in future years should be no lower than 25% of total eligible net parish lengthsman expenditure, subject to the cost of the overall scheme not exceeding available budget.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PF23-19/VT/AC
25 MARCH 2019

CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANT APPLICATIONS – 2018/19

Nos	Parish / Town Council	Burial Grounds	Bus Shelters	Footpaths	Footway Lighting	Litter Collection	Dog Waste Bins	Parks and Play Areas	Parish Lengthsman Gross	Sub-Total	External funding	Net Expenditure
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	Aighton Bailey/Chaigley							1,925		1,925		1,925
2	Barrow	145				182		678	1,000	2,005		2,005
3	Billington & Langho	1,228						2,677	3,609	7,514		7,514
4	Bolton By Bowland								7,495	7,495		7,495
5	Bowland Forest(Higher)							1,512	115	1,627		1,627
6	Chatburn					840		1,984		2,824		2,824
7	Chipping		50					3,852		3,902		3,902
8	Clitheroe			684		1,824		1,888	3,228	7,624		7,624
9	Gisburn							1,078	2,305	3,383	-250	3,133
10	Grindleton		9						914	923		923
11	Longridge					4,105		5,394		9,499		9,499
12	Mellor	300				739		1,646		2,685		2,685
13	Newton in Bowland							471	1,765	2,236	-600	1,636
14	Pendleton								300	300		300
15	Read		40			182	1,655	1,012	900	3,789		3,789
16	Ribchester							300	1,934	2,234		2,234
17	Rimingon & Middop							1,250		1,250		1,250
18	Sabden	350					65	717	4,000	5,132		5,132
19	Simonstone					329		310	714	1,353	-96	1,257
20	Waddington			378				4,582		4,960		4,960
21	West Bradford							986	1,130	2,116		2,116
22	Whalley	2,798							2,638	5,436	-250	5,186
23	Wilpshire			1,196				2,993	4,282	8,471	-250	8,221
24	Wiswell	74						298	500	872	-180	692
	Sub-Total	4,895	99	2,258	0	8,201	1,720	35,553	36,829	89,555	-1,626	87,929

ALLOCATION OF CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANT – 2018/19

Nos	Parish / Town Council	Burial Grounds	Bus Shelters	Footpaths	Litter Collection	Dog Waste Bins	Parks and Play Areas	Parish Lengthsman excl separate grant	Sub-Total eligible expenditure	External funding	Concurrent function grant at 25%	Parish Lengthsman grant	Total grant payable
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	Aighton Bailey/Chaigley						1,925		1,925		481		481
2	Barrow	145			182		678	1,000	2,005		501		501
3	Billington & Langho	1,228					2,677	3,609	7,514		1,879		1,879
4	Bolton By Bowland							separate	0		0	2,000	2,000
5	Bowland Forest(Higher)						1,512	115	1,627		407		407
6	Chatburn				840		1,984		2,824		706		706
7	Chipping		50				3,852		3,902		976		976
8	Clitheroe			684	1,824		1,888	3,228	7,624		1,906		1,906
9	Gisburn						1,078	separate	1,078		270	1,000	1,270
10	Grindleton		9					914	923		231		231
11	Longridge				4,105		5,394		9,499		2,375		2,375
12	Mellor	300			739		1,646		2,685		671		671
13	Newton in Bowland*						471	separate	471		118	1,165*	1,283
14	Pendleton							300	300		75		75
15	Read		40		182	1,655	1,012	900	3,789		947		947
16	Ribchester						300	1,934	2,234		559		559
17	Rimington & Middop						1,250		1,250		313		313
18	Sabden	350				65	717	separate	1,132		283	2,000	2,283
19	Simonstone				329		310	714	1,353	-96	314		314
20	Waddington			378			4,582		4,960		1,240		1,240
21	West Bradford						986	separate	986		247	500	747
22	Whalley	2,798						separate	2,798	-250	637	2,000	2,637
23	Wilpshire			1,196			2,993	4,282	8,471	-250	2,055		2,055
24	Wiswell	74					298	500	872	-180	173		173
	Sub-Total	4,895	99	2,258	8,201	1,720	35,553	17,496	70,222	-776	17,364	8,665	26,029

* Newton in Bowland: Lengthsman grant reduced to 100% of net expenditure where this is lower than grant available