

ISLE OF ANGLESEY CHARITABLE TRUST

COMMITTEE	ISLE OF ANGLESEY CHARITABLE TRUST
DATE	12 DECEMBER 2018
TITLE OF REPORT	LARGER GRANTS AWARDING PROCESS
PURPOSE OF REPORT	To agree the process for the awarding of larger grants including determining the level of funding available and the process for monitoring grants awarded
REPORT BY	TREASURER – ISLE OF ANGLESEY CHARITABLE TRUST
ACTION	Resolve to accept the recommendations put forward by Officers of the Trust

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Since 2016, the Trust has awarded larger grants with an open invitation extended to organisations to submit applications for assistance. In 2018, a total of 34 applications were received and 14 organisations were successful, with grants of between £6,000 and £66,414 awarded, with £349,768 of grants awarded in total.
- 1.2. A report detailing the progress made in respect of each project is included as a separate item on this Committee's agenda.

2. CONTINUATION OF AWARDING LARGER GRANTS

- 2.1. The purpose of the Trust is to use the fund to the benefit of the people of Anglesey in accordance with the objectives of the Trust. The awarding of the larger grants has contributed to achieving this objective, however, it could be argued that this method of distributing the funds is not a strategic way of allocating funds and may not result in the greatest benefit to the residents of Anglesey, i.e. applications are assessed on their individual merits and whether they meet the Trust's criteria rather than on how they integrate to meet a wider strategic objective for the Trust.
- 2.2. The current Trust cannot employ its own staff and, as a result, there is a limit on what can be achieved and distributing grants in this way is probably the best the Trust can achieve given the current resources. Moving to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) will allow the Trust to reconsider how it uses its funds to achieve the greatest benefit to the people of Anglesey.
- 2.3. It is, therefore, proposed that the larger grants process is followed again in 2019 and is subject to review by the CIO as to whether the awarding of larger grants continues thereafter.

3. FUNDING LARGER GRANTS

- 3.1. The Investments and Contracts Committee met on 6 November 2018 and, following consideration of the performance of the investment portfolio over the preceding 12 months and after consideration of the risks and the need to maintain the value of the fund at a level that generated sufficient annual income, the Committee recommended that the sum to be made available for larger grants should remain at the 2018 level i.e. £350,000.

4. APPLICATION PROCESS FOR LARGER GRANTS

- 4.1. The application process in 2018 worked well, with a high number of applications received following advertisements placed in local newspapers and also the widespread use of social media (Twitter and Facebook) and by using the Council's own website to advertise the opportunity.
- 4.2. The application process ran from mid December 2017 to 31 January 2018, with applications being considered by the Regeneration Committee in February and March 2018 and ratified by the full Trust on 17 April 2018.
- 4.3. Given that this process worked well, it is proposed that it works in the same way in 2019.

5. QUALIFYING CRITERIA

5.1. At its meeting on 13 September 2016, the Trust resolved that:-

- an organisation can make applications for assistance with running costs but the organisation must be able to clearly demonstrate in their application how the organisation will ensure the future financial viability of the project once the funding from the Trust ceases;
- an organisation that has previously received a small grant can apply for a larger grant but an organisation cannot receive a small grant and a larger grant in two consecutive years and that only one small grant and one larger grant will be awarded in any rolling five year period.

5.2 At its meeting on 12 December 2017, the Trust further resolved that applications can be made by organisations who have received funding within the previous five years, but that these applications will only be considered once all other applications have been considered and that funding is still available.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. The Trust is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

1. That larger grants are allocated again in 2019 and that CIO, once set up, reviews whether awarding larger grants continues from 2020 onwards.
2. That the sum of £350,000, as recommended by the Investments and Contracts Committee, is allocated to fund the larger grants in 2019.
3. That applications are invited immediately with a closing date for applications being 31 January 2019.
4. That applications received are considered by the Regeneration Committee at its meeting on 13 February 2019, following the criteria set out in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 of this report, with the recommendations of this Committee being considered by the full Trust on 16 April 2019.