

**GRANT PAYMENTS TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS 2014/15**

<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Cllr R M Deed</b>
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Grants and Funding Officer</b>

**Reason for Report:** To seek Members approval for the level of grant awards to external organisations for 2014/15.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (a) That Members endorse the 2014/15 levels of grant funding for external and charitable organisations as set out in Appendix 1; and**
- (b) That Members approve the 2014/15 budget allocation to the Seed Fund.**

**Relationship to Corporate Plan:** The allocation of grants provides support to external agencies delivering services that advance the Council's corporate priorities. Grant allocations tend to be most closely aligned to the Empowering our Communities priority, although they also have a bearing on other strategic objectives, such as Economic Development and Housing.

**Financial Implications:** The scope of the report incorporates realigning annual grant awards to 14 external organisations. This includes (a) maintaining grant allocations to agencies providing services that (i) support the district's most vulnerable residents, and (ii) contribute significantly to the quality of life of residents; (b) decreasing grants allocations to agencies where the Council's grant support has been assessed as non-essential; and (c) reducing the amount of funding available for Seed Fund awards.

The realignment of grant awards takes into account an anticipated reduction in government grant for 2014/15.

**Risk Assessment:** Decreases to selected agencies introduced within a short period of time may lead to closure of a valued organisation or have a negative impact on the activities and services provided to residents. It could also result in adverse publicity for the Council. Significant reductions in established grant allocations may risk a challenge from (a) external organisations under public law and/or (b) the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out for each of the 14 external organisations that have had their annual grants for 2014/15 reviewed.

Failure to realign grant allocations to (i) reflect changed priorities associated with the Council's strategic objectives, and (ii) the economic downturn, bears the risk of the Council being perceived as out of touch with residents' needs and its reputation being damaged.

## **1.0 Introduction**

1.1 The 2014/15 financial year marks the third year in the current three year review to align grant allocations to external organisations against the Council's corporate priorities.

1.2 The review of grants to external organisations for 2014/15 continues to enact the recommendations of the Community Well Being Policy Development Group of 21 June 2011 that:

“The Council review and reassess the overall grants budget, realigning grant allocations to fit more appropriately with the Council's strategic priorities and adjusting grants to organisations assessed as lower priority to free up a budget for ‘seed’ funding.”

The review also takes into consideration additional in-kind support provided by the Council including leasing arrangements and rental subsidies.

1.3 In 2011/12 the Council's grant programme supported 25 agencies. For 2014/15 this will have been reduced to 14.

1.4 During the review period the Council also introduced a Seed Fund budget to provide financial help for new community initiatives and draw additional funding into the district.

1.5 In September 2011 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued a Best Value Statutory Guidance setting out the government's expectations for local authorities considering changes to funding for local voluntary and community groups. DCLG has confirmed that this guidance is still relevant.

1.6 The guidance allows local authorities the flexibility to exercise appropriate discretion in considering the circumstances of individual cases, while advocating the need to:

- Avoid passing on disproportionate reductions by not levying larger reductions to the voluntary and community sector as a whole than they take on themselves;
- Give at least three months' notice of any reduction or termination of funding to both the organisation and public/service users; and
- Make available all appropriate information in line with the government's transparency agenda.

1.7 The Council also has a duty to assess the impact of any reductions in funding to vulnerable groups under the Equality Act 2010.

## **2.0 Grant Review Process**

2.1 Arrangements for assessing grant allocations to external organisations have remained consistent during the three year review cycle, with the same Member/officer group applying the same criteria as in previous years.

2.2 Agencies are assessed against:

- How the services they provide meet the Council's corporate strategic objectives as set out in the Corporate Plan 2012-15;
- Detailed service and performance data;
- Three years' worth of accounts;
- A current business or development plan, or strategic objectives for the next twelve months;
- Impact on services of a percentage grant reduction; and
- An analysis of the social, economic and environmental benefit of the services provided.

2.3 In addition, the following factors are taken into account during assessment:

- Whether front-line services are provided for vulnerable or at risk residents and in particular those that are affected by changes to the welfare system;
- The individual circumstances of each organisation;
- Additional 'in kind' support including leasing arrangements; and
- Value for money for taxpayers.

2.4 The need to identify savings in anticipation of a reduction in the Council's government grant settlement for 2014/15 and 2015/16 was a further factor in the review. The Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer is budgeting for a 12.8% decrease in government grant for 2014/15 and assuming a 10% reduction in 2015/16.

2.5 The 2014/15 assessment has also considers additional ways in which the Council provides in-kind and financial assistance to grant funded organisations. Three agencies in receipt of an annual grant during 2013/14 have received a rent subsidy for the use of Council owned property. This is reflected in Appendix 1, while all agencies in receipt of a rental subsidy or non-grant support valued in excess of £1,000 are listed in Appendix 4 in order to show the true value of the Council's financial assistance.

Officers are reviewing rental subsidies on an on-going basis as leases become due for renewal.

2.6 In the 2013/14 assessment, external organisation in receipt of an annual grant were divided into three groups:

- Group 1 – defined as providing essential services to residents that represent a strong strategic alignment with the Council's objectives.

- Group 2 – defined as providing important services to residents that represent some strategic alignment with the Council's objectives;
  - Group 3 – recognised as providing valued but non-essential services to residents that represent a weak alignment to the Council's objectives.
- 2.7 In addition, four of the eight agencies listed in Group 1 were considered to provide services to the district's most vulnerable residents at risk of being adversely affected by changes to the welfare benefits system. These were identified as 'Priority Group 1' agencies.
- 2.8 As grant support for Group 3 agencies will be discontinued in 2014/15, agencies have now been categorised into the following groups:
- Priority Group 1 – defined as providing essential services, particularly to the district's most vulnerable residents at risk of being adversely affected by changes to the welfare benefits system;
  - Group 1 – defined as providing either essential or important services to residents that can demonstrate a strong correlation to the Council's strategic objectives; and
  - Group 2 – defined as providing important services to residents that represent some strategic alignment with the Council's objectives.

### **3.0 Seed Fund**

- 3.1 The Council introduced a new grant scheme named the Seed Fund in 2012/13. The aim of the fund is to provide start-up funding for new community initiatives that could be sustained over a long period.
- 3.2 Grants are available for up to three years with an incremental year on year reduction to encourage financial sustainability. The Council's contribution is pegged at a maximum of 40% of the overall project cost in order to attract investment into the district.
- 3.3 In two financial years the Council has invested £74,235 in the Seed Fund, of which £44,700 has been allocated. 26 applications have been received and of these 9 have been awarded a grant. A full list of applications to the programme and decisions on funding is provided in Appendix 3.
- 3.4 As there have been fewer applications to the Seed Fund in 2013/14 than in 2012/13, £29,535 is still available for allocation for the remainder of the current financial year and 2014/15. To reflect this lower demand on the Seed Fund it is proposed that the scheme should be decreased by £26,610 for 2014/15. With a saving of £7,260 from grants to external agencies, this would represent a saving of £33,870 towards the Council's budget deficit for next year.

## 4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 Grant allocations to external agencies continue to follow the recommendation of the Community Well Being Policy Development Group of 21 June 2011 (see paragraph 1.2). Four agencies are listed as providing essential services to the district's most vulnerable residents while demonstrating a strong alignment with the Council's strategic priorities. These are listed in Priority Group 1. The remaining ten agencies have been assessed as providing either essential or important services and are listed in Group 1 and Group 2. Following the completion of the initial three year review cycle and/or circumstantial changes, grant support for 4 agencies will officially cease on 31 March 2014. These agencies are listed in Group 3.
- 4.2 A list of all agencies, their respective categorisation and proposed level of grant funding for 2014/15 is detailed in Appendix 1. The appendix also provides information on:
- 2013/14 grant awards;
  - The financial and percentage value of any grant decrease; and
  - Additional subsidies provided during 2013/14; and
- 4.3 In undertaking this review, the Cabinet Member for Community Well Being has taken account of the government's Best Value Statutory Guidance (see paragraph 1.5).
- 4.4 The Council's base grant budget for the 2013/14 financial year is £233,870. This is divided between grants to external agencies and the Seed Fund. Subject to the recommendations of the report being approved, the grant profile for the period 2011/12 to 2014/15 is as follows:

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Annual grants to external organisations	240,290	217,675	191,960	184,700
Seed Fund	0	32,325	41,910	15,300
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>240,290</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>233,870</b>	<b>200,000</b>

- 4.5 Agencies whose annual grant is scheduled for reduction from 1 April 2014 will be afforded the opportunity to submit a written appeal against the Council's decision. The Grants and Funding Officer will continue to be available to assist organisations to adapt to a reduced grant settlement where appropriate.
- 4.6 Rental subsidies to two agencies in receipt of an annual grant may be subject to change pending the conclusion of discussions on lease renewal terms with the organisations in question and subsequent assessment by officers.
- 4.7 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed for each organisation and these are summarised in Appendix 2.

- 4.8 A list of all Seed Fund applications and awards for 2012/13 and 2013/14 to date is provided in Appendix 3.
- 4.9 A list of all agencies in receipt of a rental subsidy or non-grant support greater than £1,000 during 2013/14 is provided in Appendix 4.

**Contact for more information:** Paul Tucker (Grants and Funding Officer, ext. 4930; email: [ptucker@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:ptucker@middevon.gov.uk)).

**Circulation of the report:** Management Team, Cllr R M Deed, Head of Communities and Governance, Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer, Community Development and Regeneration Manager.

## **APPENDIX 1 GRANT ALLOCATIONS FOR 2014/15**

**Table 1 Priority Group 1 Agencies**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Grant 2013/14</b>	<b>Proposed Grant 2014/15</b>	<b>% +/-</b>
<b>Age UK Tiverton, Cullompton and District</b>	4,500	4,500	0
<b>Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT)</b>	5,000	5,000	0
<b>Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) ☆</b>	50,000	50,000	0
<b>Community Housing Aid Nightstop Service</b>	2,500	2,500	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62,000</b>	<b>62,000</b>	<b>0%</b>

☆ **CAB:** £14,500 is deducted at source by the Council for the rental of office space and phone lines in Tiverton Town Hall and Crediton Town Hall

**Table 2 Group 1 Agencies**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Grant 2013/14</b>	<b>Proposed Grant 2014/15</b>	<b>% +/-</b>
<b>Crediton and District Community Transport</b>	7,560	7,500	-1%
<b>Grand Western Canal</b>	45,000	45,000	0
<b>Involve – Voluntary Action in Mid Devon</b>	16,000	15,000	-6%
<b>Tiverton and District Community Transport ☆☆</b>	17,100	17,000	0.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85,660</b>	<b>84,500</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>

☆☆ **Tiverton and District Community Transport:** received an annual grant of £11,500 plus a contribution of £5,600 towards rent in 2013/14. The annual market rental valuation of premises leased from the Council is £10,000. Officers are negotiating the terms of the renewal of the lease with representatives of this agency.

**Table 3 Group 2 Agencies**

Agency	Grant 2013/14	Proposed Grant 2014/15	% +/-
<b>Blackdown Support Group</b>	250	200	-20%
<b>Crediton Arts Centre</b>	1,000	1,000	0
<b>Community Council of Devon</b>	2,250	1,750	-22%
<b>Market Centre Youth Drop In, Tiverton</b> ☆☆☆	3,000	3,000	0
<b>Sunningmead Community Association</b>	1,000	750	-25%
<b>Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life</b> ☆☆☆☆	27,500	27,500	0
<b>Tourism Information Service (Mid Devon Museum)</b> ☆☆☆ ☆	4,000	4,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,000</b>	<b>38,200</b>	<b>-2%</b>

☆☆☆ **Market Centre Drop-In:** leases property from the Council at a peppercorn rent of £5 per annum. The market valuation is £4,000. The level of grant plus rental subsidy in 2013/14 is therefore £7,000. Officers are negotiating the terms of the renewal of the lease with representatives of the Market Centre Youth Drop-In, Tiverton.

☆☆☆☆ **Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life:** took on the provision of a Tourist Information Service on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013.

**Table 4 Group 3 Agencies**

Agency	Grant 2013/14	Proposed Grant 2014/15	% +/-
<b>Common Players</b>	300	0	-100%
<b>Mid Devon Transport and Access Group</b> ☆☆☆☆☆	2,250	0	-100%
<b>Villages in Action</b>	2,500	0	-100%
<b>Voluntary Support Scheme</b> ☆☆☆☆☆☆	250	0	-100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100%</b>

☆☆☆☆☆ **Mid Devon Transport and Access Group:** forum is no longer active.

☆☆☆☆☆☆ **Voluntary Support Scheme:** agency dissolved at the beginning of 2013/14.



**Table 4 Summary**

<b>Group/Fund</b>	<b>Budget 2012/13</b>	<b>Budget 2013/14</b>	<b>Proposed Budget 2014/15</b>	<b>% +/-</b>	<b>Saving from 2013/14</b>
<b>Group 1</b>	62,000	62,000	62,000	0	0
<b>Group 2</b>	93,600	85,660	84,500	-1.5%	1,160
<b>Group 3</b>	45,500	39,000	38,200	-2%	800
<b>Seed Fund</b>	16,575	5,300	0	-100%	5,300
	32,325	41,910	15,300	-63%	26,610
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>233,870</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>33,870</b>

## APPENDIX 2

### EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS - Grants Review 2014/15

<b>Name</b>	<b>Paul Tucker (Grants and Funding Officer)</b>
<b>Service or Function</b>	<b>Grants Review 2014/15</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Community Development and Regeneration</b>
<b>Head of Service</b>	<b>Amy Tregellas (Head of Communities and Governance)</b>
<b>Date of Assessment</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> October 2013</b>

#### Background

The Council currently provides grants to 19 voluntary and community sector and other not-for-profit organisations that supply a range of services across the district. The total grants budget for the current financial year (2013/14) is £233,870, comprising £191,960 in annual grants to organisations and a Seed Fund budget of £41,910. The Council is looking to continue to reduce the overall grants to individual agencies for 2014/15 financial year in order to:

- align grant awards more clearly to the Council's strategic aims and objectives; and
- continue to provide a Seed Fund budget to support the development of new community initiatives.

In order to minimize any adverse affect on services provided to vulnerable individuals, officers have carried out a detailed assessment of the impact of any grant reductions to the various organisations.

In undertaking this process the Council has a legal duty to:

- Eliminate discrimination and promote equality in service delivery and employment; and
- Ensure value for money for taxpayers' money.

#### Consultation

During the period of the review grant recipients have been asked to complete a self-assessment form providing information about:

- The services they deliver;
- Their desired outcomes and the level of outputs;
- How the aims and objectives of their organisation match MDDC's corporate aims and objectives;
- The possible effect of 10%, 25% and 50% reductions in the level of grant;
- Any additional social, economic or environmental benefits they might provide

Organisations were also asked to submit annual accounts for three complete years and a business plan or other development profile. The impact assessments from the consultation are noted in the individual assessments below.

## **Actions to limit any adverse effects**

To limit the adverse effects on vulnerable individuals of any proposed grant reductions the following factors were taken into consideration as part of the grant review process:

- The need to maintain front-line services as far as possible;
- The need to protect essential services to the most vulnerable and in particular those residents that are likely to be affected by the changes to the welfare benefits system;
- Having due regard to the financial stability of the organisation.

Where grant reductions have been recommended, the support of the Grants and Funding Officer will be offered to help organisations find alternative sources of funding

## **Analysis for Individual Organisations**

### **1. AGE UK TIVERTON, CULLOMPTON and DISTRICT (formerly AGE CONCERN)**

**Services:** Provides a range of information and advice services, day care, luncheon clubs, one-to-one support and foot care services to residents over 50 & their carer's.

**Users:** Residents over 50 & their carer's.

**MDDC Funding:** £4,500 pays for core running costs, specifically the role of Chief Officer (representing 2% of total income).

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

#### **Equality Analysis:**

- Age UK provides important information and advice services and essential day care and luncheon club provision to residents over 50 and their carers – many of whom are particularly vulnerable;
- Reductions to grant level may well adversely affect essential services to vulnerable Individuals;
- Age UK is a strategic voluntary sector partner, and is involved in the Equality Forum, and Local Strategic Partnership

#### **Grants Review**

- Age UK was assessed as Priority Group 1 – providing essential services, strategically aligned to MDDC corporate aims

#### **Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Maintain current level of grant at £4,500

### **2. BLACKDOWN SUPPORT GROUP**

**Services:** A range of social and health-related services to residents of the Blackdown Hills, including volunteer visiting, advocacy, foot care, transport to medical appointments and lunch and tea clubs.

**Users:** Residents of Blackdown Hills in social or medical need.

**MDDC Funding:** £400 – cost of staffing telephones to take requests for services (less than 1% of funding).

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Blackdown Support Group provides services to vulnerable and isolated individuals of all ages in a rurally dispersed area;
- Any reductions to the grant level is unlikely to cause a major adverse affect to vulnerable individuals because of the low level of grant award, however it may create a climate in which it becomes more difficult to raise funding;
- The level of grant is low, but helps to lever in funding from a number of other public bodies

**Grants Review**

- The Blackdown Support Group was assessed as Group 2 – providing important services to residents that represent some strategic alignment with the Council's objectives.

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Reduce grant to £200 (-20%).

### **3. CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

**Services:** Provides free legal information and advice on social welfare issues, including financial literacy, debt advice and welfare benefits uptake.

**Users:** People needing legal advice – particularly people in financial difficulties, on benefits or in debt

**MDDC Funding:** £50,000 including £14,500 for rental and phone costs for offices in Tiverton and Crediton.

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- The Citizen's Advice Bureau provides services to a particularly vulnerable group of Residents;
- Reductions to grant level may well adversely affect essential services to vulnerable individuals following changes to the welfare benefits system

**Grants Review:**

- The Citizens Advice Bureau was assessed as Priority Group 1 – providing essential services that show a strong strategic alignment with the Council's corporate objectives.

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Level of grant to be maintained at £50,000.

### **4. CHURCHES HOUSING ACTION TEAM (CHAT)**

**Services:** Provides independent housing advice to those in housing need.

**Users:** Those who are or may be in danger of becoming homeless.

**MDDC Funding:** £5,000 towards core running costs (representing 2% of income).

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- CHAT provides important information and support services to particularly vulnerable individuals, often young people;
- Reductions in grant may adversely affect essential services to vulnerable individuals.

**Grants Review:**

- Dealing with homelessness is one of the statutory responsibilities of the Council;
- CHAT was assessed as Priority Group 1 – providing an essential service which contributes to one of the core functions of the Council and can show good alignment to the Council's corporate objectives.

**Review Recommendation 13/14:**

- Continue to fund at current level of £5,000.

## **5. COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF DEVON (CCD)**

**Services:** Information and advice to voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations particularly on village halls, parish plans, and advocacy.

**Users:** Rural communities, Parish Councils, Parish Plan groups and Village Halls.

**MDDC Funding:** £2,250 towards community buildings services in Mid Devon (representing less than 1% of CCD's total income)

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Reduction of grant will not affect directly the wellbeing of vulnerable individuals, but may indirectly affect their access to community engagement processes and community buildings.

**Grants Review:**

- Assessed as Group 2 – providing important services to residents that represent some strategic alignment with the Council's objectives.
- MDDC grant represents less than 1% of CCD's total income and a reduction of grant is unlikely to impact on the financial stability of the organisation

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Reduce level of grant to £1,750 (-22%)

## **6. COMMUNITY HOUSING AID (CHA)**

**Services:** Provides emergency accommodation for young people at risk of sleeping rough.

**Users:** Young people aged 16-25.

**MDDC Funding:** £2,500 contributes to running costs of Nightstop, Devon (representing approximately 2.4% of income)

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Community Housing Aid provides essential overnight accommodation to a particularly vulnerable group of individuals aged 16-25.
- Reductions to grant level would adversely affect the availability of this essential service to vulnerable individuals in the district.

**Grants Review:**

- Dealing with homelessness is one of the statutory responsibilities of the Council;

- Assessed as Priority Group 1 – providing essential services that contribute directly to one of the core functions of the Council and can show strong alignment to the Council's corporate objectives.

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Continue to fund at current level of £2,500.

## **7. CREDITON and DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT COMPANY (CDCTC)**

**Services:** Ring & Ride, Voluntary Car Scheme, Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle.

**Users:** Rurally isolated, wheelchair users, sick and infirm

**MDDC Funding:** £4,060 towards core running costs, plus £3,500 towards Ring & Ride, totalling £7,560.

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Crediton & District Community Transport Company provides important transport links for vulnerable individuals, particularly the elderly, sick and infirm who are unable to use standard public transport;
- Reductions to grant level over 25% may well adversely affect essential services to vulnerable individuals.

**Grants Review:**

- Assessed as Group 1 – defined as providing either essential or important services to residents that can demonstrate a strong correlation with the Council's strategic objectives, and having added value in terms of the economic benefit to Crediton town.

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Round down level of grant to £7,500 (-1%).

## **8. CREDITON ARTS CENTRE**

**Services:** Arts-based classes, workshops and courses; hosting professional theatre companies and musicians, significant umbrella organisation for community events in Crediton.

**Users:** All residents

**MDDC Funding:** £1,000 towards core running costs representing approximately 4% of total income.

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Crediton Arts Centre does not provide an essential service to vulnerable individuals  
Reductions in grant would not specifically affect vulnerable individuals

**Grants Review:**

- Assessed as Group 2 – providing important services to residents that represent some strategic alignment with the Council's objectives, and had added value in terms of the economic benefit to Crediton

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Maintain grant level at £1,000.

## **9. GRAND WESTERN CANAL**

**Services:** Managing and maintaining the Grand Western Canal and its assets

**Users:** All residents and visitors to the district.

**MDDC Funding:** £45,000

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- The Grand Western Canal has made great improvements to the accessibility of the canal to people with physical disabilities in recent years. However, it does not provide an essential service to vulnerable people.
- Reduction to the grant would not impact on vulnerable people directly – but may reduce the Canal's ability to maintain and/or improve access.

**Grants Review:**

- Grand Western Canal was assessed as Group 1 - defined as providing either essential or important services to residents that can demonstrate a strong correlation with the Council's strategic objectives.
- Grand Western Canal provides a good match against MDDC corporate aims particularly in terms of managing the environment and supporting local businesses (tourism).

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Maintain grant at £45,000.

## **10. INVOLVE – VOLUNTARY ACTION IN MID DEVON**

**Services:** Infrastructure support services to voluntary and community sector.

Advocates on behalf of the voluntary and community Sector (VCS) locally. Provides a volunteer centre for the Tiverton and Cullompton area and hosts a number of community projects.

**Users:** Voluntary and Community Organisations many of which work directly with vulnerable individuals.

**MDDC Funding:** £16,000 toward core running costs, principally posts of Chief Officer and Development Worker

**Potential effect of reductions:**

Please refer to Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Works directly with VCS organisations that provide support for vulnerable individuals;
- Reduction in grant would weaken the necessary infrastructure support for voluntary and community sector in the district and affect the ability of organisations to meet the needs of vulnerable individuals.

**Grants Review:**

- Involve was assessed as Group 1 - providing either essential or important services to residents that can demonstrate a strong correlation with the Council's strategic objectives.
- Involve is recognised as a key strategic VCS partner – the Council acknowledges the significance of retaining voluntary sector infrastructure support at a time of increasing importance of the sector and the need to support those organisations that work with the most vulnerable and marginalised.

- Involve's services continue to be subject to review as part of discussions with other Devon Council's for Voluntary Services about how infrastructure support is provided to the charitable sector across the county, and this may significantly impact on the nature of the organisation in 2014/15.
- **Review Recommendation 14/15:**
- Reduce funding to £15,000 (-6%)

## **11. TIVERTON MARKET CENTRE YOUTH DROP-IN**

**Services:** Provides youth drop-in and advice and support to young people.

**Users:** Young People, particularly the disengaged and hard-to-reach.

**MDDC Funding:** £3,000 to support core running costs (this represents about 4% of total income) plus lease premises valued at £4,000 currently at a peppercorn rent.

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- The Market Centre provides important services to disengaged young people.
- Reduction of the grant may mean a reduction of service to disengaged young people at a time when Devon County Council is reviewing its youth work provision.

**Grants Review:**

- The Market Centre was assessed as Group 2 – providing important services to residents that represent some strategic alignment with the Council's objectives.

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Maintain grant at £3,000.
- Review rental arrangements as part of renewed lease.

## **12. SUNNINGMEAD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**Services:** To maintain and manage Sunningmead Community Centre.

**Users:** Residents of Tiverton in particular residents of Canal ward.

**MDDC Funding:** £1,000 towards youth activities, volunteer and staff training, and expenses.

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Sunningmead Community Centre provides services in a particularly deprived area of Tiverton;
- Reductions in grant would not jeopardise the financial stability of the organisation, but may reduce services for children and young people

**Grant Review:**

- Assessed as Group 2 – providing important services that show some alignment with corporate priorities

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Reduce grant to £750 (-25%).

## **13. TIVERTON and DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (TDCTA)**



**Services:** Ring & Ride services in Tiverton and Cullompton, Mid Devon Shopmobility, voluntary car scheme, accessible transport, community minibus hire.

**Users:** rurally isolated residents, and residents unable to use public transport due to infirmity. TDCTA's client base is predominantly elderly residents.

**MDDC Funding:** £8,000 towards core running costs and manager's salary, plus £3,500 for Tiverton Ring & Ride. In addition the Council allocates a grant of £5,600 towards cost of rent for Shopmobility. Total: £17,100.

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Tiverton & District Community Transport Association provides essential services to a particularly vulnerable group of residents – those with physical impairment or disability. Users are generally elderly residents.
- Reductions to the grant may well affect the services provided to vulnerable individuals.

**Grants Review:**

- Assessed as Group 1 – providing either essential or important services to residents that can demonstrate a strong correlation with the Council's strategic objectives.

**Review Recommendation 14/15**

- Round down grant allocation to £17,000 (-0.5%)
- Continue to review rental subsidy as part of lease renewal

#### **14. TIVERTON MUSEUM OF MID DEVON LIFE (MUSEUM SERVICES)**

**Services:** Museum services.

**Users:** All residents & visitors to Mid Devon.

**MDDC Funding:** £27,500 pays for salary of full-time Museum Director/Museum Development Officer for the whole of Mid Devon.

**Potential effect of reductions** (from self-assessment):

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

**Equality Analysis:**

- Tiverton Museum is an important cultural and tourist facility for the district, but does not provide services primarily directed towards vulnerable residents.

**Grants Review:**

- Tiverton Museum was assessed as Group 2 – providing important services to residents that represent some strategic alignment with the Council's objectives.
- Major reductions in the grant level will endanger the museum's status as an accredited museum;
- In October 2013, the Museum took on the provision of Tourism Information Services for Tiverton and district.

**Review Recommendation 14/15:**

- Maintain grant at £27,500.

#### **15. TIVERTON MUSEUM OF MID DEVON LIFE (TOURISM SERVICES)**

**Services:** Information services to residents and visitors of Mid Devon

**Users:** All residents & visitors to Mid Devon

**MDDC Funding:** £4,000 towards salaries and running costs.

**Potential effect of reductions:**

Please refer to the Impact Assessment Matrix at the end of this appendix.

### Equality Analysis:

- The Tourist Information Service does not work specifically with vulnerable residents and therefore there are no equality implications

### Grant Review:

- The review recognised that the provision of a tourist information service has moved from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 from the Tourist Information Centre in Phoenix Lane to the Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life.

### Review Recommendation 14/15:

- Maintain grant at £4,000.

## **APPENDIX 2 – IMPACT ASSESSEMENT MATRIX**

AGENCY	10% GRANT REDUCTION	25% GRANT REDUCTION	50% GRANT REDUCTION
AGE UK TIVERTON CULLOMPTON & DISTRICT	<b><u>£4,500⇒£4,050</u></b> Chief Officer would need to focus on securing replacement funding.	<b><u>£4,500⇒£3,375</u></b> Chief Officer would need to focus on securing replacement funding and would be unable to give as much time to external liaison and partnership building Reduced hours for Information and Advocacy service Less focus on prevention services and focus on existing	<b><u>£4,500⇒£2,250</u></b> Unable to support any external meetings due to reduced hours of Chief Officer Information and Advocacy service reduced hours Unable to attend any external groups or partnership meetings
BLACKDOWN SUPPORT GROUP	<b><u>£250 ⇒ £225</u></b> Take funding from reserves to maintain the service	<b><u>£250 ⇒ £188</u></b> Raise current charges for clients	<b><u>£250 ⇒ £125</u></b> Could threaten services that are currently free to service users, currently only costing minimal volunteers expenses e.g. volunteer visiting.
CAB (CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU)	<b><u>£50,000⇒£45,000</u></b> Could continue to provide a service within present opening hours but would have to reduce the number of volunteers and resources available.	<b><u>£50,000⇒£37,500</u></b> Closure of Cullompton outreach office and consider running the Crediton office as an outreach.	<b><u>£50,000⇒£25,000</u></b> Closure of both Cullompton and Crediton services and review what could be provided out of the Tiverton office.
CAC (CREDITON ARTS CENTRE)	<b><u>£1,000 ⇒ £900</u></b> Risk of other funders following suit Some risk of current services being reduced	<b><u>£1,000 ⇒ £750</u></b> Increased risk of other funders following suit Reduction in Administrator's hours	<b><u>£1,000 ⇒ £500</u></b> Increased risk of other funders following suit Reduction in Administrator's hours

AGENCY	10% GRANT REDUCTION	25% GRANT REDUCTION	50% GRANT REDUCTION
		Some inability to provide current level of services	Inability to provide current level of services including community events (e.g. Crediton Festival) Perceived lack of belief in the value of the Arts Centre within the wider community).
CCD (COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF DEVON)	<u>£2,250⇒£2,025</u> No information provided	<u>£2,250⇒£1,687</u> No information provided	<u>£2,250⇒£1,125</u> No information provided
CDCTC (CREDITON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT COMPANY)	<u>£7,560⇒£6,804</u> No information provided	<u>£7,560⇒£5,670</u> No information provided	<u>£7,560⇒£3,780</u> No information provided
CHA (COMMUNITY HOUSING AID)	<u>£2,500⇒£2,250</u> Impact on the number of hosts available at any one time. Reduced recruitment of new hosts and ability to support existing hosts may result in increased youth homelessness.	<u>£2,500⇒£1,750</u> Impact on the number of hosts available at any one time. Reduced recruitment of new hosts and ability to support existing hosts may result in increased youth homelessness.	<u>£2,500⇒£1,250</u> Impact on the number of hosts available at any one time. Reduced recruitment of new hosts and ability to support existing hosts may result in increased youth homelessness.
CHAT (CHURCHES HOUSING ACTION TEAM)	<u>£5,000⇒£4,500</u> Any reduction in Strategic Grant would affect CHAT's financial stability at a time when other Trusts are reducing their donation.	<u>£5,000⇒£3,750</u> Any reduction in Strategic Grant would affect CHAT's financial stability at a time when other Trusts are reducing their donation.	<u>£5,000⇒£2,500</u> Any reduction in Strategic Grant would affect CHAT's financial stability at a time when other Trusts are reducing their donation.
GRAND WESTERN CANAL	<u>£45,000⇒£40,500</u> Will result in reducing standards of maintenance and customer service. Improvements are already largely reliant on securing external funding and the Friends Group has been very successful in helping with this. However, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to find	<u>£45,000⇒£33,750</u> This would endanger one of the Canal Ranger positions, resulting in all non-essential work, events, healthy walks, interpretation and information improvements, website updates and invasive plant control being cut.	<u>£45,000⇒£22,750</u> This would trigger a complete rethink on how the site is managed. Intensive management of the site undertaken by the Canal Ranger Service would cease and focus would revert to maintaining public safety. The most noticeable changes would be that the canal

AGENCY	10% GRANT REDUCTION	25% GRANT REDUCTION	50% GRANT REDUCTION
	external funding schemes which will fund the basis maintenance and repairs central to the safe and welcoming management of the site.		channel would choke up with weed and the amenity areas would be cut much less frequently. Maintenance of non-essential site infrastructure (noticeboards, non H&S signs, benches, the Visitor Centre) would decline and these items would not be replaced once they have to be removed. Declining standards of maintenance are likely to trigger a vicious cycle whereby vandalism and graffiti spread along the canal.
<b>INVOLVE – VOLUNTARY ACTION IN MID DEVON</b>	<b><u>£15,000⇒£13,500</u></b> Service provision is already down to the absolute minimum. A further 10% reduction to Involve's core funding would seriously jeopardise its ability to deliver and would destabilise the agency at a point when it is seeking to maximise the district's benefit from a range of County developments and would be likely to result in the withdrawal of one of Involve's key services.	<b><u>£15,000⇒£11,250</u></b> A loss of £4,000 would result in seriously jeopardising Involve's ability to deliver and would destabilise the agency at a point when it is seeking to maximise the district's benefit from a range of County developments and would result in the withdrawal of one of Involve's key services. It may also lead to further staffing reductions and may make sustaining the current skills/experience base impossible.	<b><u>£15,000⇒£7,500</u></b> A loss of £8,000 at this point is likely to be too much to absorb alongside other losses and may destabilise Involve alongside delayed grant payments from partners. Cash flow implications may force closure as an increased level of reserves would be needed to sustain minimal service levels.
<b>MARKET CENTRE YOUTH DROP-IN, TIVERTON</b>	<b><u>£3,000⇒£2,700</u></b> Risk other funders will follow suite. More pressure to find alternative funding from different sources.	<b><u>£3,000⇒£2,250</u></b> Risk other funders will follow suite. More pressure to find alternative funding from different sources.	<b><u>£3,000⇒£1,500</u></b> A bigger risk of other funders following suite due to lack of local support. Greater pressure to replace the funds from alternative

AGENCY	10% GRANT REDUCTION	25% GRANT REDUCTION	50% GRANT REDUCTION
			sources especially in the current financial climate.
SUNNINGMEAD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	<u>£1,000⇒£900</u> No information provided	<u>£1,000⇒£750</u> No information provided	<u>£1,000⇒£500</u> No information provided
TIVERTON MUSEUM OF MID DEVON LIFE	<u>£27,500⇒£24,750</u> Director's (Curator's) post would become part-time (4.2 days per week). This would impact adversely on the management on the museum, visitor services, management of the new Tourist Information Service, and reduce capacity for marketing, fundraising and income generation. It would also impact on the local economy and, overall, would lead to a spiral of decline to the service(s) the museum offers.	<u>£27,500⇒£20,625</u> Director's (Curator's) post would become very part-time (3.5 days per week). It would not be possible for a part-time member of staff to manage the Museum and all of its services. The Museum would be unable to manage the new Tourist Information Service. Core services would severely suffer and be reduced.	<u>£27,500⇒£13,750</u> The Director's (Curator's) post would reduce to 2.3 days per week. The Museum would not have the staffing capabilities to run the Tourist Information Service or to successfully undertake marketing or fundraising activities. The visitor experience would decline and the Museum would not have the capacity to run any special exhibitions or events (which help to generate income).
TDCTA (TIVERTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION)	<u>£17,100⇒£15,390</u> No information provided	<u>£17,100⇒£12,825</u> No information provided	<u>£17,100⇒£8,550</u> No information provided

## APPENDIX 3 ALL SEED FUND APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2012 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2013

**Table 1 – ROUND 1 SEED FUND APPLICATIONS JUNE 2012 – RESULTS OF GRANT AWARD PANEL MEETING 21 JUNE 2012**

A maximum of £16,000 Grant was available for this stage of the SEED Fund. Each application was assessed against the Council's Corporate Objectives (as contained within the Corporate Plan 2012-2015) and the sustainability of the projects/organisations.

#	APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Seed Fund Year 1 2012/13	Seed Fund Year 2 2013/14	Seed Fund Year 3 2014/15
1	AGE CONCERN CREDITON & DISTRICT  <u>Decision:</u>	To employ a supervisor who will manage volunteers promoting the well-being of people aged 50+ in Crediton and isolated areas. Beneficiaries are supported in their own home with each receiving a support plan tailored to their needs. Support includes form filling, shopping, prescription collection, light gardening.  <b>GRANT DENIED</b> The application failed to give sufficient evidence of need and the sustainability of the project.	5,000	3,000	2,000
2	AGE UK TIVERTON, CULLOMPTON & DISTRICT  <u>Decision:</u>	Providing a free 50+ Guide to Services for people in later life, containing information about local services available in the community. Involves working in partnership with other agencies to disseminate information.  <b>GRANT DENIED</b> It was felt that this project did not offer sufficient value for money. The project would require substantive sponsorship and advertisement to keep it sustainable.	4,200	2,890	2,372
3	CHERITON FITZPAINE PARISH HALL COMMITTEE  <u>Decision:</u>	A full refurbishment of the hall and improvements that will include joining the hall to the adjacent telephone exchange, recently purchased by the hall management committee, via a new entrance lobby. The telephone exchange will become a small meeting room. The project includes a new roof, insulation, new double glazed windows, new heating system, new toilets (including a disabled toilet), committee/meeting room, rewiring; car park.  <b>GRANT AWARDED: Funded First Year Only (Phase One)</b> The Panel agreed that this project meets some of the Corporate Objectives and would benefit the Cheriton Fitzpaine community. However, there were concerns over the detail of	5,000	4,000	3,000

#	APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Seed Fund Year 1 2012/13	Seed Fund Year 2 2013/14	Seed Fund Year 3 2014/15
		work proposed and how well lasting it would be. The Panel agreed to contribute towards Phase 1 of the project and suggest the group reapply for further funding for Phase 2.			
4	CREDITON ARTS CENTRE	A new community music festival for Crediton and the surrounding area with musicians playing in shops, cafes, on the street, Farmer's market, Leisure Centre and other locations around the town involving all genres of music. The event also includes activities in the bandstand and at Newcombe Meadows, workshops. Intended to be an annual event to draw people into the town and develop its profile locally.	1,600	0	0
	<u>Decision:</u>	<b>GRANT AWARDED:</b> It was felt that, although the event is for one day of the year, the project met several of the Corporate Objectives and would play an important role in the cultural life of Crediton.	1,000	0	0
5	CULLUMPTON COMMUNITY CENTRE	To make a 'community space' available to residents. This would be a small room that would be either free or available to use for a small contribution. The aim is to help new groups develop in the town.	5,000	4,000	3,000
	<u>Decision:</u>	<b>GRANT DENIED</b> There was a general consensus that the Consortium should be applying for any grant funding instead of the Centre itself. It wasn't clear how the additional room would benefit the local community with the timetable of activities already established. There were also concerns about the Centre's financial stability. The Panel recommended that the Community Centre come to an arrangement with the Consortium regarding facilities.	0	0	0
6	DEVON CAROUSEL PROJECT	To fund collaborative workshops with the early years community to deliver storytelling, movement, music, visual art and film activities. The aim of the project is to build confident and competent families and improve children's life chances during their early years.	5,000	4,000	3,000
	<u>Decision:</u>	<b>GRANT DENIED</b> The project is outside the scope of the Corporate Priorities and it was felt did not offer sufficient value for money.	0	0	0

7	FRIENDS OF GRAND WESTERN CANAL  <u>Decision:</u>	<p>To develop a small parcel of land in the Burlescombe area to provide an amenity picnic site, orchard and reed bed. The full project consists of: five picnic tables/benches; fruit trees and labelling; provision of a pond 'dipping' platform; plants for 'dipping' pond; interpretation board; signage associated with the site including a 'welcome' board.</p> <p><b>GRANT AWARDED:</b> It was felt that, although the project is not focussed on a deprived area of the District, it is offering a free service that all age groups of the community can enjoy. The application proposes that a number of different volunteer groups have offered to keep up maintenance, which increases the sustainability of the project.</p> <p>(Panel Member JBS declared a personal interest and abstained from discussion and decision-making for this application)</p>	3,165	0	0
8	MORCHARD BISHOP PRE-SCHOOL  <u>Decision:</u>	<p>To build a new pre-school facility attached to Morchard Bishop Primary School reception class. This would allow the pre-school to extend its opening hours, provide care for a larger number of pre-school children and provide breakfast club and after-school club facilities for primary school children.</p> <p><b>Decision Deferred</b> The project does not meet the target age group and the application did not provide sufficient cash-flow projections. The Panel recommended the Pre-School reapply for SEED funding when they have secured other funding sources for the project.</p>	5,000	0	0
9	OLD HEATHCOAT SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTRE  <u>Decision:</u>	<p>To employ a part-time Activities Co-ordinator following the completion of the new multi-purpose activity area and climbing wall. The Activities Co-ordinator would organise events, workshops, co-ordinate volunteers, promotion and liaison. Funding is also sought to help purchase ancillary equipment such as climbing helmets and ropes.</p> <p><b>GRANT AWARDED:</b> The Project meets several of the Council's Corporate Priorities, being aimed at 8-18 year olds in a deprived area of the district. The Community Centre has sufficient capital backing for the project to ensure sustainability.</p>	5,000	3,000	1,000
			4,500	3,000	1,000



10	TIVERTON MUSEUM OF MID DEVON LIFE  <u>Decision:</u>	As part of its strategy to maximise income streams, the museum has employed a retail consultant to review all aspects of its in-house shop. This project is to implement the consultant's recommendations by making the shop more attractive, widen the merchandise available for sale and increase the stock.  <b>GRANT AWARDED: Conditional upon other funding being awarded</b> It was felt that although this project did not meet many of the Corporate Objectives it was a worthwhile scheme with the ability to generate additional income for the Museum.	3,186	0	0
11	UBUNTU COUNSELLING SERVICES  <u>Decision:</u>	To provide face-to-face counselling for BME individuals in Mid Devon. This is described as a culturally sensitive service which addresses the psychological, health and well-being needs of the BME community in the district.  <b>GRANT DENIED</b> It was felt that the information provided contained poor evidence in support of the application. The income information was not obvious from the presentation therefore it was not possible to establish the level of value for money the project would provide. There were concerns about investing in a Devon-wide project as opposed to a project specifically for Mid Devon. The Council already has good communication with other minority groups set up in the District. Need was not substantiated.	5,000	4,000	3,000
			0	0	0
		<b>TOTAL Applied For</b>	<b>48,651</b>	<b>25,090</b>	<b>17,372</b>
		<b>TOTAL Granted</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>

**Table 2 ROUND 2 SEED FUND APPLICATIONS OCT 2012 – RESULTS OF GRANT AWARD PANEL MEETING 15 OCTOBER 2012**

A maximum of £16,000 Grant was available for this stage of the SEED Fund. Each application was assessed against the Council's Corporate Objectives (as contained with the Corporate Plan 2012-2015) and the sustainability of the projects/organisations.

#	APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Seed Fund Year 1 2012/13	Seed Fund Year 2 2013/14	Seed Fund Year 3 2014/15
1	COLDHARBOUR MILL	<b>Turbine Project</b> A preliminary investigation for the ground works in the water wheel pit to installation of a	5,000	0	0

	<b>Decision:</b>	water turbine <b>GRANT DENIED</b> The applicant failed to provide the supporting information requested. Also it was felt that the project is commercial and does not meet the Council's corporate aims.	0	0	0
2	COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF DEVON	<b>Mid Devon Community Enterprise Boost Programme</b> To provide a package of support for social and community enterprises and entrepreneurs in Mid Devon. <b>Decision Deferred Pending Further Information</b> The accounts submitted are 19months old. There was some concern over a potential conflict of interest with funding already provided to involve for a similar service. The Panel agreed to meet with Involve to discuss.	5,000	4,000	3,000
3	CREDITON ARTS CENTRE	<b>Crediton Festival 2013</b> A 6 week Cultural Festival across the town from 1 June to 14 July involving local groups and business <b>Decision Deferred Pending Further Information</b> There were some concerns that it would appear as though Mid Devon District Council was the sole funder for Crediton Festival due to having already approved funding for the Festival from the High Street Innovation Fund. There needs to be more income generation and projected income generation. There was also some concern over lack of supporting evidence including up-to-date accounts. The Panel recommended that the applicant not receive funding from this phase of the SEED funding, but to come back to us at the next phase for any residual costs needed, on the proviso that they provide up-to-date accounts and financial forecasts	4,000	1,000	0
4	CREDITON METHODIST CHURCH	<b>Full Time Youth Worker</b> To employ a qualified detached youth worker to serve Crediton and Silverton for 3 years initially <b>GRANT AWARDED FOLLOWING DEFERRED DECISION:</b> There were issues over sustainability. Doesn't seem to be much input pa from Crediton Town Council or Academy. At this point in time only have 7.3% of funds.	5,000	4,000	3,000
	<b>Decision:</b>		3,500	2,500	1,500

		The Panel felt this project was good in that there is no overlap with Devon County Council youth work. Also there is evidence of need and the project meets the Council's corporate aims. However, there was little evidence of sustainability for this project. It was recommended that the Panel meet with Crediton Methodist Church to discuss sustainability and funding later this year.			
5	CULLOMPTON TOWN COUNCIL	<p><b>Christmas Lights Purchase</b> To replace the need for rented lights with purchased state of the art LED display and 35 Christmas Trees for High Street shops</p> <p><b>GRANT DENIED</b> The applicant had failed to answer all the questions in the application form. The Panel felt that this was not a suitable funding scheme for Christmas lights and should funding be awarded there would be an inconsistent approach to support provided to local councils for this.</p>	5,000	3,000	2,000
	<b>Decision:</b>		0	0	0
6	ORCHARDS LIVE	<p><b>Pressing for Apple Juice in Mid Devon</b> Purchase apple pressing equipment to promote the use of locally owned fruit for apple pressing</p> <p><b>GRANT DENIED</b> This project does not meet the SEED funding criteria and has tenuous links to the Council's corporate aims. It was recommended that the applicant consider applying for TAP funding instead.</p>	680	0	0
	<b>Decision:</b>		0	0	0
7	PLOUGH AND SHARE CREDIT UNION	<p><b>Mid Devon Growth Initiative</b> To reopen and develop Credit Union service points in Crediton, Cullompton and Tiverton</p> <p><b>GRANT DENIED FOLLOWING DEFERRED DECISION</b> The Panel appreciated the benefits of this project including. However, there were concerns over the financial information provided in that the accounts are not up-to-date and the information they contain show that the company has high expenses and is asset rich; this questions their need for external support. The Panel recommended that we ask the applicant to come Back next year with up-to-date figures (2011/12) and talk informally about process.</p>	4,000	0	0
	<b>Decision:</b>		0	0	0

8	TIVERTON MUSEUM	<p><b>Raising the Banner</b> Improve street visibility of the Museum through banners and improved graphics</p> <p><b>GRANT DENIED</b> The Panel felt that the SEED funding was not the appropriate funding source for this project.</p>	1,014	0	0
9	UFFCULME PARISH COUNCIL	<p><b>Uffculme Central</b> To draw up plans for the regeneration of Uffculme Square and Aylsford Gardens</p> <p><b>GRANT DENIED</b> The Panel felt that the SEED funding was not the appropriate funding source for this project. Also the applicant had not provided all of the supporting information and the project does not meet the Council's corporate aims.</p>	2,600	0	0
10	UNITE – CARERS IN MID DEVON	<p><b>Support services for volunteers and carers in Mid Devon</b> Partnership project with Age UK to raise awareness of the service available to carers in id Devon, recruit volunteers and organise support events</p> <p><b>GRANT AWARDED:</b> his is a rural project to address isolation issues and meets several of the Council's corporate aims.</p>	2,600	2,600	0
		<b>TOTAL Applied For</b>	<b>34,894</b>	<b>14,600</b>	<b>8,000</b>
		<b>TOTAL Granted</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>1,500</b>

**Table 3 – ROUND 3 SEED FUND APPLICATIONS JUNE 2013 – RESULTS OF GRANT AWARD PANEL MEETING 19 JUNE 2013**

A maximum of £32,940 was available for allocation at this round of the SEED Fund. Each application was assessed against the Council's corporate strategic objectives (as contained within the Corporate Plan 2012-2015) and the sustainability of the projects/organisations.

#	APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Seed Fund Year 1 2013/14	Seed Fund Year 2 2014/15	Seed Fund Year 3 2015/16
1	<b>CHERITON FITZPAINE PARISH HALL</b>  Decision:	Resourcing of Phase II, which involves linking the former telephone exchange to the hall and converting to new toilets, including facilities for the disabled and wheelchair access, a new kitchen, a new committee/small meeting room and a new entrance foyer. The scheme has planning permission.  <b>GRANT AWARDED:</b> This project had a good plan and the provision of an improved, refurbished parish hall was seen as an important component of the social fabric for Cheriton Fitzpaine. The bid to the Community Council of Devon was seen as key. The parish hall is sustainable. The maximum the panel felt it could award was £7,000, as £5,000 had already been awarded to Phase I of this project last year.	5,000  5,000	4,000  2,000	0  0
2	<b>CREDITON COMMUNITY BOOKSHOP</b>  Decision:	This application was from a planned not-for-profit Independent Provident Society that aims to take over the existing Crediton Bookshop at 100 High Street and operate it as a community bookshop. £44k start-up capital is required, of which £34,000 has been raised, mainly through a community share issue.  <b>GRANT DENIED</b> A good idea and would be a good addition to Crediton high street. Our £10k contribution would effectively be for the project's working capital. Some concern about figures: (1) Itemised income of £2k for Tourist Information Point – this was originally a 2 year agreement with the bookshop owner for 2 years and has now come to an end. It shouldn't be in the business plan. (2) The owner is on the Management Committee and is receiving rent. This was considered to be a conflict of interest. (3) Figures don't quite add up. Historic expenses have decreased from £22k to £9k from 2010 to 2012, but not explained why. The business case should be more focussed on non-sales such as readings, rather than sales. There's nothing in the projected income and expenditure account for establishing a website. The	5,000  0	3,000  0	2,000  0

		project appears to have such strong community support that it is likely to go ahead regardless of MDDC Seed Fund support.				
3	<b>MORCHARD BISHOP PRE-SCHOOL</b>  Decision:	<p>Funding is required to build a new pre-school facility attached to Morchard Bishop Primary School reception class. This would allow the pre-school to extend its opening hours, provide care for more pre-school children, as well as provide breakfast and after-school club facilities for primary school children. The pre-school would own the building and lease the school.</p> <p><b>GRANT APPROVED:</b> The project has responded well to the panel's recommendation following its application to the Seed Fund last year by securing much of the funding required for the project. It may have undersold its income from breakfast and afterschool. Generally regarded as a very necessary project for the Morchard Bishop area. Will very likely be self-sustaining once built.</p> <p>Grant award is conditional on clarification of lease arrangements.</p>	5,000	0	0	0
4	<b>TIVERTON COMMUNITY ARTS THEATRE</b>  Decision:	<p>TCAT has applied to the Seed Fund to improve seating facilities from 210-300 seats, improve the toilet block, especially for disabled and wheelchair users, improve signage and lighting from Bolham Road and along the drive from the car park, and improve the structure of the stage opening (the proscenium arch) and stage front.</p> <p><b>GRANT DENIED</b> Recognised as a good community project, but problematic in the sense that the society was making changes to a building it doesn't own and there appeared to be insufficient safeguards in place to protect the facility for community benefit. Poor accounts offering no breakdown of expenditure. We would need a much better breakdown of income and expenditure before we could commit public monies to the scheme, but would encourage an application once the lease arrangement has been satisfactorily clarified. Does Tiverton need another theatre? What is the impact on the New Hall?</p>	5,000	4,000	0	3,000
5	<b>WILLAND ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB</b>	Part of a phased project to provide an additional community facility in Willand. The football club wants to build a new changing area for players, officials and for community use. This would allow the old changing rooms to be converted to a toilet block, including disabled access. The existing toilets are located in the centre of the function room. These would be removed, providing a larger space for social events and community activities. Planning permission has been granted.	5,000	0	0	0

	<b>Decision:</b>	<b>GRANT DENIED</b> Club has contributed only £2k of own monies following major grant from Viridor. Club has been making an annual loss in recent years, thereby raising questions about its long-term viability (activities on football side are weather dependent). Accounts not sufficiently up to date and figures appear inconsistent. Very low membership fees – possible room for increases. Very little in terms of club hire indicates that alterations are largely for club use rather than to benefit the wider community (letter of support from Village Hall Management Committee suggests it may not see the project as competition). Does Willand need another community facility? The club has no dissolution clause in its club constitution and rules.	0	0	0
		<b>TOTAL Applied For</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>
		<b>TOTAL Granted</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>0</b>

**APPENDIX 4 Agencies in Receipt of a Rental Subsidy or Non-Grant Support greater than £1,000 during 2012/13**

Agency	Rental Subsidy 2013/14
Crediton District of the Guides Association	1,400
Crediton Swimming Club	13,374
Crediton United Football Club	c. 2,500
Crediton Youth Football Club	1,100
Thorverton Association Football Club	1,125
Tiverton Adventure Play Association	1,375
Tiverton and District Community Transport Association	10,000
Tiverton Aqua Club	1,864
Tiverton Market Centre Ltd (Youth Drop-In Service)	3,995
Tiverton Swimming Club	51,224
Tiverton Tourist Information Centre ☆	15,000
West Exe Rovers Association Football Club	1,060
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104,017</b>

☆ Tiverton Tourist Information Centre ceased trading on 30 September 2013