



REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- FC23/076

Committee:-	Finance and Governance Committee
Date:-	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	Core Funding Grants
Wards Affected:-	All

### 1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval to make three core grants as detailed in the report

### 2. Recommendations

That an annual grant be offered to the following organisations for a three year period starting 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to support their core costs

- Kettering Foodbank £ 2000
- Accommodation Concern £1500
- Kettering Homestart £1500

### 3. Information

3.1. At its last meeting, this committee agreed to set aside £5000 of its annual grants money to support selected local organisations with their core costs, recognising that this was often the hardest element of fund raising that they encountered. The three organisations above had been supported over the last two years by the Town Council on each occasion that they had applied and it was agreed that core funding would assist their financial stability and operational effectiveness.

3.2. Discussions with the three organisations had identified the following elements they wished to put the Council's money towards:-

**Kettering Foodbank** – buying food. Purchased food (as opposed to donations) amounted to £500-£1000 a month depending on demand. The Council's grant would help reduce the deficit they were currently experiencing as food purchase costs had increased because of inflation and through rising demand.

**Accommodation Concern** – a complete refresh of promotional materials. Whilst demand had also increased, there was still evidence that Accommodation Concern could have better visibility and awareness and this was a task that needed doing for some time. A fresh area of core business will be identified for funding each year.

**Kettering Homestart** office rental costs - these have increased compared to previous years.

- 3.3 To provide certainty, it is suggested that a three year agreement be reached with each organisation. This would not rule out mid term changes, if circumstances changed and would not necessarily tie the hands of the new Council after the May 2025 elections should there be a wish to change the council's grants policies thereafter.
- 3.4. Acceptance of this grant would preclude those organisations from applying for any other shorter term funding from the Council, which all three bodies understand and accept.

#### **4. Consultation and Engagement**

All three organisations have been consulted on the best way they can be supported by the Town Council.

#### **5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications**

The Council has a total of £20,000 for voluntary sector support.

#### **6. Climate change implications**

None.

#### **7. Policy Implications**

The Council's policy is make best use of its resources.

#### Background Papers

None