

Committee: Cabinet

Date:

Title: Members New Homes Bonus Spend and Recipients 2022/23

Thursday, 16
March 2023

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Maggie Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Health, Youth, Public Safety, Emergency Planning and liaison with the Police and Fire & Rescue Service

Report Author: Adrian Webb, Director - Finance and Corporate Services
awebb@uttlesford.gov.uk
Tel: 01799 510421

Key decision:
No

Summary

1. This report provides details of the 2022/23 New Homes Bonus Member Ward Initiative grant allocations.

Recommendations

2. To note the report

Financial Implications

3. There are no additional implications for the District Council's budget.

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	Funding allocations are made in consultation with the relevant communities
Community Safety	Some of the allocations have community safety benefits
Equalities	No specific implications
Health and Safety	Some of the allocations have health and safety benefits

Human Rights/Legal Implications	No specific implications
Sustainability	No specific implications
Ward-specific impacts	No specific implications
Workforce/Workplace	No specific implications

Situation

6. In April 2011 the Council introduced the Members New Homes Bonus Scheme whereby each year each Member receives a sum of money to be spent in their Ward.
7. In terms of governance, the way in which the scheme works is that the Leader delegates to each Ward Member power to undertake executive functions within their Ward, which they can fund from their New Homes Bonus allocation.
8. The amount given to each Member has varied over time
 - a. 2011/12 was £1,000
 - b. 2012/13 – 2014/15 was £2,000 per annum
 - c. 2015/16 – 2016/17 was £3,000 per annum
 - d. 2017/18 onwards is £2,000 per annum
9. The full criteria for the scheme is set out in Appendix One. Key points include:
 - a) It has to be spent for the direct community benefit of the member's ward.
 - b) Any unspent allocation can be carried forward to the following year, providing the amount is less than 50% of the allocation for that year. If it exceeds 50% of the in-year allocation only 50% shall be carried forward. In the year prior to a district council election there is no carry forward.
 - c) In the year prior to the district council elections allocations must be spent by 31 December.
 - d) It must not commit the Council to expenditure in future years.
 - e) The member must not have a disclosable pecuniary interest or a personal and prejudicial interest in the organisation receiving the award, and must declare any personal interest which is not prejudicial.

- f) In a district council election year the money only becomes available from 1 June (i.e. to the newly elected Member)

10. Appendix Two sets out the total amount of monies allocated by councillor for the 2022/23 financial year.

11. Appendix Three gives a breakdown of recipients by councillor.