



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

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REPORT TO RESOURCES COMMITTEE

REPORT AUTHOR	Colin Hill Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
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Date	17th November 2021
SUBJECT	Grant – Disability Support Calderdale

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To advise Members that the Resources Committee considered a grant request for £4,413.50 from Disability Support Calderdale and wish to support this request in full.
2. Under the Council's Scheme of Delegation, the Resources Committee can only approve grants up to £3,000 and subject to being within existing budget provision.
3. The Resources Committee consider this to be a very worthwhile cause and recommends that Full Council approve the award of this grant in full.

BACKGROUND

4. Disability Support Calderdale fills an important gap to provide both technical knowledge and independent advice for vulnerable residents of Todmorden in supporting their efforts to rightly claim justified benefits, otherwise denied for them
5. Their success rate is remarkable having obtained some £315,000 of benefits in the last 12 months for Todmorden residents.
6. Their ongoing financial viability depends upon securing grant funding. It is perhaps testimony to their resourcefulness and effectiveness, that over the last three years they have secured grants of approximately £63,000 from some 14 funding bodies.
7. The wish to hold a number of sessions to better inform residents and provide opportunity to engage by holding at Todmorden College, Art Sessions, 1-3pm, 1/10/21, 15/10/21, 29/10/21, 12/11/21/ 26/11/21 and 10/12/21 and art sessions and 3 more benefit information sessions up to March 2022 and at Todmorden College, 1-3pm 22/10/21, 19/11/21 and 17/12/21 – Information sessions about benefits, first session will relate to PIP, then ESA and Universal Credit.
8. All supporting papers have been evidenced to the Town Clerk/Resources Committee.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. The total project cost is £6,213.50 including volunteer hours. Against this their request for £4,213.50 at 29% contribution does not meet our expectation of 50% contribution but is at the discretion for Members to approve.
10. The amount requested is within existing budget provision.

RECOMMENDATION

11. That Members accept the contribution of 29% toward project cost as an acceptable variation to the normal requirement of 50%.
12. That Members approve a grant be made in an amount of £4,413.50

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

13. Full Council approval is required to award grants in excess of £3,000

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

14. This award in full, would vary the terms of the Discretionary Grants Policy

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

15. None from this report.

CLIMATE CHANGE:

16. None arising from this report

IMPACT EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

17. The sole purpose of this organisation is to represent the interest of disabled persons.

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

18. Appendix 1 - Grant application
Appendix 2 - Todmorden Statistics

FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Colin Hill