

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

01 February 2018

Report of the Director of Public Health

**AWARD OF GRANT FUNDING TO ACTIVE PARTNERS TRUST FOR THE
PROVISION OF FUNDING TO ACTIVE DERBYSHIRE
Health and Communities**

1. Purpose of the report:

To seek approval to award grant funding to the Active Partners Trust in order for them to support the public health priority of increasing physical activity levels across Derbyshire.

2. Information and analysis:

Cabinet agreed on the 20 July 2017 to transfer funding and staffing associated with County Sports Partnership (CSP's) into a new shared legal entity called the 'Active Partners Trust' (APT). This organisation is a shared legal entity for 'Active Derbyshire' (formally Derbyshire Sport) and 'Active Notts' (formally Sport Nottingham). This new organisation, APT, is now a Company Limited by Guarantee and is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The former Derbyshire Sport, working closely with the former Sport Nottinghamshire, developed this new initiative in response to the Sports England national strategy 'Towards an Active Nation'. The Boards of these two organisations jointly commissioned an in depth feasibility study, considering the changing landscape nationally, and the need to make a bigger difference locally, to benefit each county's resident populations. The findings of this study highlighted the need for change in local provision and prompted the Board members from Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire to agree the following local strategic direction:

- That closer collaboration between the two counties would better enable Derbyshire Sport to implement its new strategy and deliver more effectively and efficiently for the benefit of local residents;
- That closer collaboration would be best achieved, by both counties vesting responsibility for the delivery of the CSP into a new shared legal entity, a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. This would offer greater opportunities for matched funding and shared learning.

- That the two counties show their commitment to the new legal entity by supporting the transfer of financial and workforce resources to it, and by working collaboratively to enable this; and
- That an independent and skills based Board will be able to meet the UK Code for Sports Governance, which would therefore make this new legal entity able to secure Sport England Lottery and Government funding for Derbyshire sporting activity, unlike the previously Council led County Sports Partnership.

The Cabinet Paper dated 20 July 2017 also noted the agreement in principle for on-going financial support by each of the District and Borough authorities to this new legal entity, and that all Derbyshire Local Authority Partners' funding will be ring fenced to be spent in Derbyshire.

Active Derbyshire support local volunteers and community-based leaders from all backgrounds to engage with target groups, encourage behaviour change, and nudge people into activity, as well as support them to continue. They also engage with a diverse range of volunteers, coaches and instructors, who are trained and supported to encourage people who are new to physical activity and sport. Often, and particularly in the outdoors environment, participation is free, and open to all. Information, marketing, campaigning and behaviour change approaches will be used by APT to encourage and support people to become, and stay, active, free of charge, close to home using their community assets, and building activity into everyday life.

Previously, core funding of £0.104m per year was provided to Derbyshire Sport by the Economy Transport and Communities (ETC) department. The responsibility for that funding is now with Public Health, and it is proposed to make grant payments to the new legal entity, APT, of £31,000 for the final 3 months of 2017-18, as payments for the first 9 months have already been made as part of the transfer of undertakings. This figure of £31,000, includes the final 3 months of the ETC payment, and £5,000 previously agreed from public health to support Active Derbyshire marketing. Funding worth £0.104m will then be made available for each of the following two years for 2018-19 and 2019-20 (subject to APT meeting the standards and outcomes required by the Council), to ensure future success of Active Derbyshire to promote the increase in activity levels across Derbyshire.

In addition to the funding outlined above, Public Health had previously agreed an additional £65,000 of funding to Active Derbyshire (Derbyshire Sport at the time) as part of the Derbyshire Inactivity Fund, this "one-off" additional amount of funding will be paid to Active Derbyshire to cover work that will be undertaken between January and March 2018.

The above funding will enable APT to be more effective in providing services to promote activity across Derbyshire. APT will encourage activity and will not be competing with other profit making organisations in Derbyshire. It is more likely that the success of encouraging more activity will result in greater participation at a number of sporting and community based venues in the county. A Service Level Agreement will be developed between Public Health and APT, which will outline the required actions and performance measures between the parties.

3 Social Value considerations:

There is a considerable body of evidence demonstrating the benefits of physical activity in terms of both treating and preventing diseases. Increasing physical activity improves health for those with chronic conditions, and prevents many common serious medical conditions.

The health improvements with physical activity are often greater than many drugs. The effect is seen with small amounts of physical activity: 30 minutes, 5 times a week. For children, 60 minutes per day is the recommended minimum. There are four main physical causes of most preventable ill-health. These “big 4” proximate causes are: poor nutrition, smoking, lack of activity and alcohol. These are also the four main physical causes of most premature deaths and of most inequalities in health. Lack of physical activity is the most recently recognised modifiable risk factor of all the large contributors to ill-health.

APT and its brand Active Derbyshire will play in key role in supporting Derbyshire residents to increase their physical activity levels to enable them to live healthy lives.

4. Financial Considerations:

An allocation from the Public Health budget of £96,000 (including the one-off £65,000 allocation to the inactivity fund) in 2017-18, and £0.104m in 2018-19 and 2019-20, is Derbyshire County Council’s contribution to support the work of the Active Partners Trust and Active Derbyshire in the county. The total over 3 years (January 2018 - March 2020), would be £0.304m. Active Derbyshire have already received 9 months payment for this financial year as part of the transfer from Sport Derbyshire to Active Derbyshire as agreed by Cabinet on the 20 July 2017.

5. Human Resources Considerations:

Any organisation providing services to children or vulnerable adults, approval of financial assistance is conditional on the existence within these organisations of appropriate statutory procedures assessing suitability to work with children or vulnerable adults.

6. Legal Considerations:

The Council is permitted to make such payments under the “General Power of Competence” set out in the Localism Act 2011. A grant agreement shall be used to set out the terms and conditions for which the grant is made to APT. The recipient of the grant is not contractually obliged to deliver the services, although the Council would seek to claw back the grant in appropriate circumstances were there to be significant non-performance of any grant conditions.

7. Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

8. Background papers:

Cabinet 20 July 2017, Derbyshire Sport – transfer of responsibilities (health and communities) Report of the Strategic Director - Economy, Transport and Communities.

9. Key Decision:

No

10. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

11. Officer's Recommendation:

That cabinet approve the award of grant funding totalling £0.304m to APT over a 27 month period, in order for it to support the public health priority of increasing physical activity levels across Derbyshire.

Dean Wallace
Director of Public Health