

## Corporate Grants Report 2014 - 2015

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### Purpose of the Report

To inform members of the overall spend on voluntary sector grants in 2014/15.

### Public Interest

Our successful grants programme supports voluntary and charitable organisations, not-for-profit groups, parish or town councils and other organisations with ideas to improve local quality of life. This can include anything from covering the cost of hiring a room/pitch or equipment to help to start new activities, to creating or improving local recreation facilities and refurbishment of community halls and meeting.

### Recommendations

That Members to note the report.

### Background

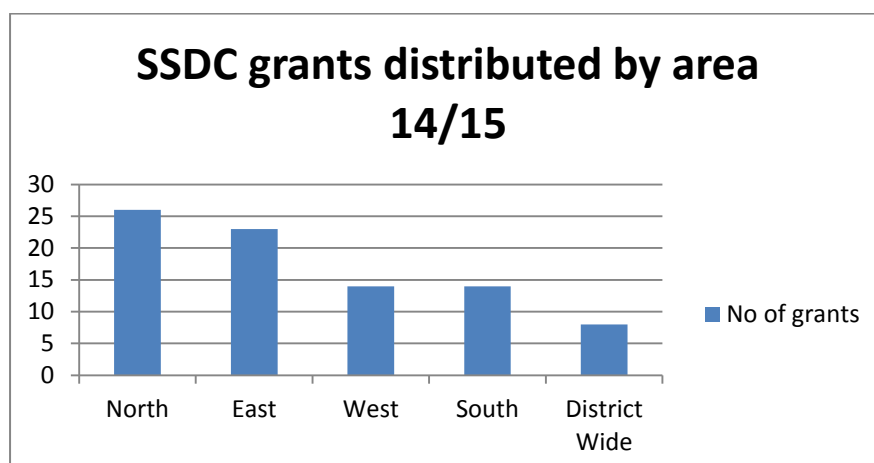
Each year SSDC supports a wide range of voluntary and community sector organisations through both on-going partnership funding (via Service Level Agreements) as well as one-off grants. Area Community grants are agreed by either the Area Development Manager and Ward Member(s) or the Area Committees, and District Wide funding by District Executive.

### Grant funding for 2014/2015

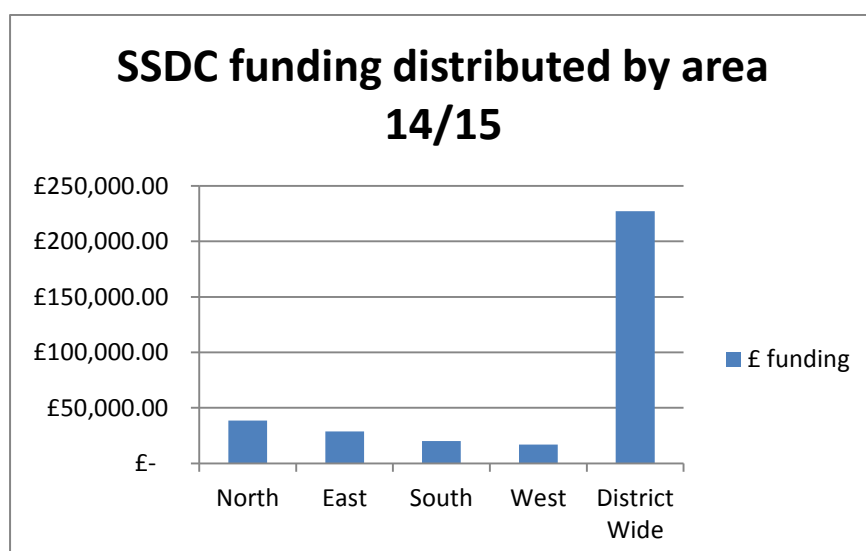
In 2014/2015 SSDC awarded:

	Total no of grants awarded	Total £ amount of grant awarded
Area Community grants	68	103,711
District Wide funding	3	203,990
Community Health & Leisure Youth Development funding	9	900
Funding for Arts organisations	4	15,150
Equalities & Diversity funding	1	8,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>331,751</b>

Total number of SSDC grants distributed by area for 14/15:



Total SSDC funding distributed by area for 14/15:



#### Grant funding comparisons 2014/2015 against 2013/2014

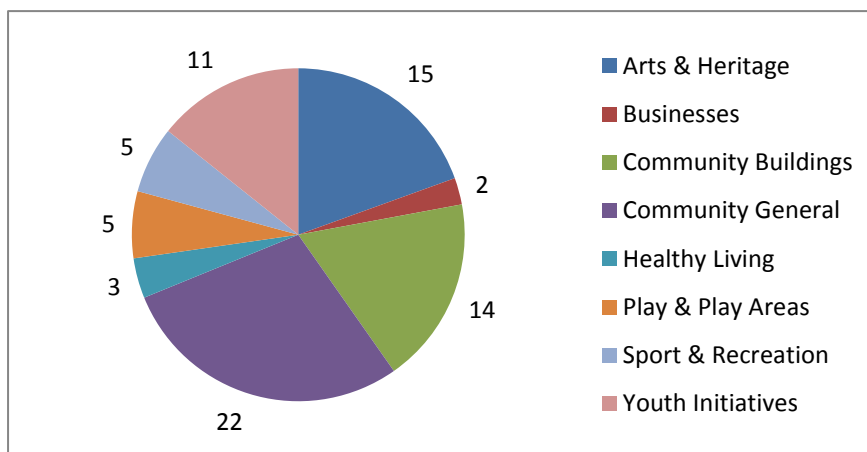
	2013/2014		2014/2015	
	Total no of grants awarded	Total amount of grants awarded £	Total no of grants awarded	Total amount of grants awarded £
Area Community grants	66	143,608	68	103,711
District Wide funding	3	203,990	3	203,990
Community Health & Leisure Youth Development funding	10	2,090	9	900
Funding for Health & Well-being (Arts)	4	16,755	4	15,150
Equalities & Diversity funding	1	8,000	1	8,000
	<b>84</b>	<b>374,443</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>331,751</b>

## Area Community grants

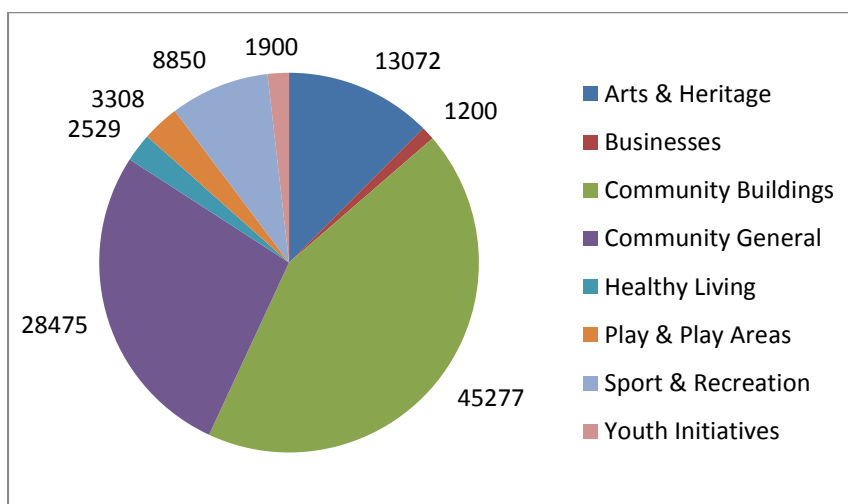
The total project costs supported from the Area community grants budget was **£523,251** indicating that for every **£1** invested, **£4** of external funding is secured for the voluntary sector and community projects in South Somerset. Community grants are either for one-off grants or funding agreed under a Service Level Agreement.

By Area	Total no of grants awarded	Total £ awarded	Total £ project costs	% awarded against project costs	Total £ Parish & Town council contribution
North (35 parishes)	23	38,196	178,026	21	22858
East (48 parishes)	20	28,601	150,826	19	9738
West (33 parishes)	13	16,895	47,564	36	5096
South (9 parishes)	12	20,019	146,835	14	7478
	<b>68</b>	<b>103,711</b>	<b>523,251</b>		<b>45170</b>

Total number of grants awarded across the areas for 14/15 by theme:



Total £ funding awarded across the areas for 14/15 by theme:





## Key

Categories	Colours <i>(for further detail please refer to Risk management strategy)</i>
R = Reputation	Red = High impact and high probability
CpP = Corporate Plan Priorities	Orange = Major impact and major probability
CP = Community Priorities	Yellow = Moderate impact and moderate probability
CY = Capacity	Green = Minor impact and minor probability
F = Financial	Blue = Insignificant impact and insignificant probability

## Council Plan Implications

Focus Four: Health and Communities

*We will continue to provide country parks, the Octagon Theatre, support local play areas and community buildings.*

*We will continue to help communities to identify their own needs and priorities in order to take more control over shaping the places where they live and work. Our dedicated area teams and area committees ensure that we are well placed to work creatively with partners (at a parish, district or county level) to support practical ways for people to influence or take control of important local facilities and services.*

## Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

If community facilities are not provided close to where people live or shop, traffic movements and traffic congestion will increase with subsequent increases in carbon emissions.

## Equality and Diversity Implications

An accessible community building will be of positive benefit to all groups. Local community facilities can play a vital role in reducing health inequalities, social isolation and may contribute towards community cohesion.

## Privacy Impact Assessment

N/A

## Background Papers

District Executive – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015, Area Committee grant reports

## **Projects supported by the Area Community Grant scheme 2014/15**

Our successful community grants programme supports voluntary and charitable organisations, not-for-profit groups, parish or town councils and other organisations with ideas to improve local quality of life. Our main programme of community grants can fund up to 50% of your project costs with a maximum of £12,500 per project.

### **Area West – Chard Town Team - Medieval event**

**Project costs - £1,950**

**SSDC award - £500**

The 2014 Chard Medieval Fair was organised to celebrate the return of Chards historic market charter by the District Council. The event was such a success that it has now become firmly established as an annual summer festival for the Town.

Chard Town Team enlisted the assistance of many local groups to organise the numerous events that were staged over the two days of the fair. Highlights included live music, fire walking, fire juggling and the lighting of the beacon.

Funding support enabled the Chard Town Team to hire entertainers, generators and children's amusements, to ensure the fair was one of the community highlights of the summer.

### **Area West – Chard & District Carnival Club – Purchase of pedestrian barriers and marshal training**

**Project costs - £4,800**

**SSDC award - £750**

Chard Carnival Club now in its 46<sup>th</sup> year and has become an established tradition for the Town. To date the club has raised over £95,000 for local charities including children's hospice South West, Chard community hospital and local schools. The Carnival also attracts over 5000 spectators each year, providing a boost to the local economy.

To ensure public safety, the carnival committee sought grant funding towards road closure training for members of the committee and the purchase of 15 pedestrian barriers.

The carnival went on to be a great success with funds raised for local charities and the newly trained marshals able to assist at 7 additional Somerset carnivals.

### **Area North – Chilthorne Domer Recreational Trust – Improvements and refurbishment to pavilion building**

**Project costs - £15,506**

**SSDC award - £6,000**

Chilthorne Domer Recreational Trust is a registered charity and occupies land leased by the Parish Council. The freehold is owned by South Somerset District Council.

The trust is responsible for the playing field which includes a football pitch and outdoor play equipment as well as a pavilion building. The village primary school which is immediately next to the playing field regularly uses both the field and pavilion.

Following a complete refresh of the trustee body in April 2010 the trust has fully reviewed the condition of the pavilion building and playing field and has taken a phased approach to improvements. There is a strong commitment to continuing with these improvements and making the building fully accessible and more comfortable for all users.

Area North arranged for Access for All (formally South Somerset Disability Forum) to carry out an access review that has helped to inform plans for remodelling some of the internal areas of the pavilion. The grant from Area North will assist with replacement double glazing, roof repairs and insulation and an insulated room divider. This will greatly assist with the trustee's aim to reduce energy costs in order to keep hire charges at an affordable level.

### **Area North – High Ham Parish Council - Purchase and installation of an automated external defibrillator**

**Project costs: £2,624**

**SSDC award: £900**

High Ham is a rural parish, located 4-5 miles from the nearest town centre with the nearest 24 hour A&E departments 25-30 minutes' drive away, making it unlikely that the Ambulance Trust's published target response time of eight minutes would be met. Figures from the British Heart Foundation make clear that the risk of a heart attack increases with age and High Ham's age profile indicates a higher than the Somerset average in the 45+ range. The parish council responded to parishioners' concerns and agreed to part fund the provision of an automated external defibrillator which would be available to all the community.

The primary school agreed to the installation of the defibrillator at the school and also agreed to fund the ongoing electricity required to power the cabinet. The purchase of replacement batteries in the future was the only other foreseeable ongoing cost and the parish council agreed to fund this.

It was difficult to find other sources of funding and the parish council approached SSDC for a grant for the project. This was agreed by the ward member and the defibrillator has been purchased and installed.

### **Area South – Yeovil Hospital Charity – Create @YDH**

**Project costs - £16,684**

**SSDC award - £2,000**

Yeovil Hospital Charity (YHC) raises funds to improve the hospital and to make life easier for patients. Anyone can get involved with the group's fundraising and make suggestions about how they should improve the hospital and what the funds should be spent on.

Create @ YDH is a new participatory arts project to benefit patients at Yeovil Hospital through participation in regular stimulating activities. Create aims to provide an uplifting and positive environment for patients, visitors and staff at Yeovil Hospital through the use of targeted and varied participatory activities. A main focus of the project will be to benefit the health and well-being of older patients particularly those with dementia, as 1 in 4 hospital beds are occupied by people with dementia (Alzheimer's Society, Counting the Cost.)

YHC will work with local schools and colleges to provide placements for students to gain experience of activities in healthcare; this will broaden their knowledge and enhance future career prospects.

Research commissioned by Chelsea and Westminster Hospital (2003) reveals the introduction of arts activities enhances the quality of life of patients, improves communication, empathy and understanding of patients' needs, reduces stress and the perception of pain and often leads to a reduction in the level of medication required, number of falls and can shorten lengths of stay in hospital.

Taking part in creative activities can develop coordination, hand strength and mobility. These activities also open up a forum for discussion and communication, making people feel more relaxed and calm and more likely to voice anxieties, fears, recall memories and form friendships within the group.

The majority of the funding for this project has been supplied by Awards For All and the group's own fundraising efforts.

## **Area South – St Michaels Scout and Guide Hall – improvements to heating system**

**Project costs - £2,890**

**SSDC award - £1,445**

The aim of Scouting is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The group achieves this through the provision of exciting and adventurous activities with progressive training based on The Scout Promise and Law guided by adult leadership.

The St Michaels Scout and Guide Group advertise themselves well with regular articles in the local newsletters as well as contact information on the Yeovil District Scout Website. The scout & guide group also run numerous events and programmes in the community fundraising and promoting themselves to the wider community.

The boiler and heating system at the hall desperately needed replacing. Heating engineers confirmed that the system would not last through to next winter, which would have meant that the hall would be unusable and the 70 plus Scouts and Guides would no longer benefit from the activities that take place there. This grant allowed the group to replace the system during the summer and be prepared for the colder weather.

## **Area East – North Cadbury Village Hall – Village hall improvements**

**Project Cost - £68,268**

**SSDC award - £12,284**

North Cadbury Village Hall Committee has, over the last 8 years worked hard to deliver a programme of improvements to the building which is a very popular venue for a wide range of local events. As a result of improvements, there has been a significant increase in demand for its use with bookings from user groups and the local community more than double what they were 8 years ago.



There is a newly formed or 'resurrected' drama group who recently presented a pantomime which attracted 800 people over 4 nights. Other regular events held by the committee like the annual pancake evening and quiz nights are also growing.

Two further phases of improvements have been identified but through consultation with user groups, the committee prioritised improvements to storage and toilets before a kitchen refurbishment.

New chairs that have been purchased to help meet the needs of users are stored on the stage which inconveniences those wanting to use the stage and in particular the drama groups. It was also proving to be quite physically demanding for volunteers. The toilets for the main hall were inadequate and were unable to cope with the increased use.

### **Area East - Step into Bruton & Bruton Community Partnership**

**Project Cost:            Step into Bruton guide : £3,900            SSDC Award: £700**

**Bruton Community Partnership: Set up grant            SSDC Award: £1,000**

Stepping into Bruton has become a whole lot easier, with the production of a new town guide called 'Step into Bruton'.

Funding support from South Somerset District Council, Bruton Town Council and the Heart of Wessex Rail Partnership has enabled Bruton Chamber of Commerce to produce the guide which details a town trail and ways to get to the town by train.

The guide is part of a larger 'Brand Bruton' project which is being led by Bruton Town Council and Bruton Community Partnership. The project is looking at branding across the parish. New tourism information boards and signs have been erected as well as a new town website created – [www.brutontown.com](http://www.brutontown.com).

Many additional projects are underway or have been completed such as the establishment of the Bruton Community Partnership which SSDC supported with a £1,000 community grant recently to help them set up and support the community plan.