1. **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS 2026/2027** (Pages 2 - 12)

CABINET MEMBERS DELEGATED DECISION

Open/~~Exempt~~		~~Mandatory/~~ Discretionary / ~~Operational~~
Any especially affected Wards	**Various wards across the Borough**	
Lead Member: Cllr Jo Rust E-mail: cllr.jo.rust@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted: Cllr Sue Lintern Cllr Chris Morley
		Other Members consulted:
Lead Officer: Carl Holland E-mail: carl.holland@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Officers consulted: ELT

Financial Implications YES/~~NO~~	Policy/Personnel Implications ~~YES~~/NO	Statutory Implications ~~YES~~/NO	Equality Impact Assessment YES/~~NO~~ If YES: Pre-screening~~/ Full Assessment~~	Risk Management Implications ~~YES~~/NO	Environmental Considerations ~~YES~~/NO
If not for publication, the paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act considered to justify that is (are) paragraph(s)					
Date of publication of report: 6th November 2026			Date decision to be taken: 13th November 2026		
Deadline for Call-In: 20th November 2026					

Financial Assistance Grants 2026/2027: Small Grants Scheme and West Norfolk Wins Rural / Coastal Fund

Summary
This report sets out the recommended grant awards and refusals arising from the assessment of applications to the Small Grants Scheme and the West Norfolk Wins Rural Fund for 2026/2027.

Decision to be taken
To approve the grant awards and refusals set out in sections 1.1 to 1.4 of this report, including the conditions attached to individual awards.

Reason for Decision
To determine applications received under the Small Grants Scheme and West Norfolk Wins Rural / Coastal Fund in accordance with the relevant scheme criteria and available budgets

1 Background

The Small Grants Scheme Panel met on 20 October 2026 to assess applications for capital and revenue funding. A one-off allocation of £50,000 was also made available from the West Norfolk Wins Fund to support capital

and revenue projects, with a particular focus on rural and coastal communities.
This report sets out the panel's recommendations for determination by the relevant Cabinet Member.

The decision is subject to the Council's call-in arrangements. Once the call-in period has expired, applicants will be notified by Norfolk Community Foundation on behalf of the Borough Council. Grant conditions will be included in the formal offer letters. No funding will be released until the applicant has demonstrated that the remaining project funding is in place. Capital projects must be completed by March 2028.

Small Grants Scheme – Capital grants

Awards under £5,000:

None.

Awards over £5,000:

Deaf Connexions

Deaf Connexions intend to take over the responsibility for the West Norfolk Deaf Association premises in King's Lynn and will develop social, educational and cultural opportunities for D/deaf people and their families and friends. There will be an art group, social events, guest speaker evenings and activities specifically for children.

A grant is requested toward a new boiler, electrical updates and solar panels.

Decision: An award of £10,000 is recommended, subject to the legal transfer of ownership of the building being complete.

Open Road Norfolk Trust

A grant is requested to purchase equipment for use during Open Road Norfolk's motor vehicle maintenance workshops. The equipment will include an emissions analyser, headlamp beam tester, jacking beam and air conditioning service station.

Decision: An award of £6,627 is recommended.

Downham Stow Cricket Club

The Club would like to install a borehole to remove the need for main water on the ground and provide a more sustainable and affordable source of irrigation water.

Decision: An award of £10,000 is recommended.

Norfolk Deaf Association

Norfolk Deaf Association would like to purchase a vehicle and transform this into a mobile clinic for hearing assessments and ear care. The mobile unit will enable the organisation to bring audiology and aural care services to rural areas, such as Hunstanton, Terrington St Clement, Dersingham and Feltwell.

Decision: An award of £10,000 is recommended, subject to the provision of a full list of areas the mobile service will cover.

Thornham Village Hall and Playing Field

A grant is requested to replace some of the existing play equipment on the play area outside the village hall. A recent inspection by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) showed that replacements were necessary to meet new safety standards.

Decision: An award of £7,616 is recommended.

Hunstanton Bowls Club

A grant is requested to purchase a professional lawnmower to maintain and improve the quality of the bowling green.

Decision: An award of £5,969 is recommended (£5,757 from the Small Grants Capital fund and the balance of £212 from the West Norfolk Wins Rural Fund).

Small Grants Scheme – Revenue Fund

Applicant	Summary of Request	Decision
Brave Futures	To provide specialist psychological support to a child who has experienced sexual abuse.	£2,000
Caring Together Charity	To recruit new volunteers to be trained as befrienders for unpaid carers in King's Lynn and West Norfolk.	£2,440
National Centre for Writing	To run the annual World Of Words Project in West Norfolk.	£1,500
Norfolk County Music Festival (Association)	To pilot a Music Festival in King's Lynn in March 2027.	£2,300
The Gateway Church in Kings Lynn	To continue offering the iCaf community cafe, Zumba classes and English lesson classes to 25 refugees and asylum seekers.	£2,500
Volunteering Matters	To support 'Match and Mentor', a mentorship scheme for adults with learning disabilities or difficulties, neurodivergence, or other additional support needs.	£2,500 – the group to be signposted to 'Connect to Work'
West Norfolk Swimming Club	To offer temporary financial relief to Swimming Club members.	£2,000
	TOTAL AWARDED	**£15,240**

West Norfolk Wins Fund - Rural / Coastal Grants Scheme

Capital and Revenue Applications

Applicant	Summary of Request	Decision
Hunstanton Bowls Club	To purchase a professional lawnmower to maintain and improve the quality of the bowling green.	£212 (balance to be met from the Small Grants Capital Fund)
Barton Bendish Village Hall	To install air conditioning in the village hall.	£2,070
Docking Playing Field Association	To re-carpet the entrance hall and changing rooms.	£1,000
Marshland St James Bowls Club	To purchase and install an irrigation system for the bowls green.	£6,000
Rudhams & District Village Hall Committee	To purchase new and improved seating for the village hall.	£3,420
Sirens at the Helm	To purchase tablets and suitable stands for use by the group.	£1,000
Eating Matters CIO	To deliver satellite counselling sessions for people suffering with eating disorder behaviours.	£2,500

Emneth Over 60's Friendship Club	To fund 12-months of hall hire for the friendship club's fortnightly meetings.	£1,560
Melody Allsorts of Downham	To contribute towards the costs of putting on the Wizard of Oz musical in August 2027.	£2,500
Norfolk and Norwich Festival Trust	Towards nine creative workshops for Hunstanton residents to create a coastline-inspired sound piece that will be exhibited in an interpretation bench.	£2,440
Snettisham Beach Sailing Club	To cover the salary of the Royal Yacht Association Senior Instructor for 26 Accessible Sailing sessions between April and October 2027.	£648
Stoke Ferry and District History Group	To produce an illustrated booklet celebrating Stoke Ferry's built heritage, involving workshops and guided walks.	£2,440
The Norfolk Archaeological Trust	To run three community engagement activities to support Burnham Norton Priory.	£2,479
Playing for Cake	To deliver 24 Stronger Breaths, Brighter Voices (SBBV) sessions in King's Lynn.	£2,394
Tapping House	To pilot a 5-day work experience programme for two Year 11 students.	£2,312
Ailsa's Aim	To provide cancer packs for people receiving treatment at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and other eligible residents across West Norfolk.	£2,500
Asperger East Anglia	To develop its activities for autistic adults in West Norfolk.	£2,500
Vision Norfolk	To deliver a programme of accessible, nature-based, creative and sensory activities for people living with sight loss across West Norfolk.	£2,395
Norfolk Symphony Orchestra	To perform a relaxed format concert at the King's Lynn Corn Exchange.	£2,230
West Norfolk Autism Group	To provide 8 bowling sessions for 60 members and their families and carers.	£2,400
Ormiston Families	To support 10 young people in the King's Lynn and West Norfolk area through the Breaking Barriers Service.	£2,500
Purfleet Trust	To continue RISE, a weekly women's programme, for 6 months.	£2,500
	TOTAL AWARDED	**£50,000**

Applications Declined:

Applicant	Summary of Request	Decision
Gaywood Community Centre	Funds are requested to extend the existing storage area, in order to create space to purchase stackable chairs and additional tables.	Application declined – permission has not yet been sought from the landowner.
The Adapted Sports Hub Trust	Funding is requested to employ a Quantity Surveyor (QS) to oversee the commercial and financial management of the construction of a fully adapted sports hub.	Application declined – the hiring of a QS does not meet with the criteria of the fund as it is associated with the planning of the build, and not the build itself.

2 Options Considered

The Cabinet Member may approve, amend or decline the recommended awards, subject to the scheme criteria and available budgets.

3 Policy Implications

None.

4 Financial Implications

The total Financial Assistance budgets are as follows:

Capital Fund

	£
Budget 2026/2027 – Funds available	**50,000**
This report	**50,000**
Balance of Funds Available 2026/27	**£0**

Revenue Fund

	£
Budget 2026/2027 – Funds available	**15,000**
This report	**15,240**
Balance to be funded from the Themed Fund underspend in 2025/2026	**(£240)**
Balance of Funds Available 2026/2027	**£0**

West Norfolk Wins Rural / Coastal Fund

	£
Budget 2026/2027 – Funds available	**50,000**
This report	**50,000**
Balance of Funds Available 2026/2027	**£0**

5 Personnel Implications

None.

6 Environmental Implications

No negative implications.

7 Statutory Considerations

None.

8 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Pre-screening attached.

9 Risk Management Implications

None.

10 Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted

No pecuniary interests were declared. Other declarations related only to members' knowledge of the applicant organisations and their activities

11 Background Papers

Original application forms.
Assessment summaries created by Norfolk Community Foundation.

Authorisation from Executive Leadership Team

Post Held Deputy Chief Executive and S151 Officer

Signature [redacted]

Date **6th November 2026**

Cabinet Member for Finance – Councillor Chris Morley Date: 4th November 2026

Signed: [redacted]

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk

PRE SCREENING EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

For equalities profile information please visit Norfolk Insight - Demographics and Statistics - Data Observatory				
Name of policy/service/function	**Financial Assistance – Small Grants Scheme / West Norfolk Wins Rural / Coastal Fund**			
Is this a new or existing policy/ service/function? *(tick as appropriate)*	New		Existing	✓
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened. **Please state if this policy/service is rigidly constrained by statutory obligations, and identify relevant legislation.**	The Scheme is intended to support projects that deliver benefits for local communities, including projects promoting health, wellbeing, accessibility and social inclusion.			
Who has been consulted as part of the development of the policy/service/function? – new only *(identify stakeholders consulted with)*	Applicants are responsible for ensuring that funded activities and facilities comply with relevant equality and accessibility requirements. This is then verified by an external organisation – Norfolk Community Foundation. Where appropriate, specific equality or accessibility matters may be addressed through conditions attached to an award.			
Question	**Answer**			
1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service? **Please tick the relevant box for each group.** **NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.** ***If potential adverse impacts are identified, then a full Equality***		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age	✓			
	Disability	✓			
	Sex	✓			
	Gender Re-assignment	✓			
	Marriage/civil partnership	✓			
	Pregnancy & maternity	✓			
	Race	✓			
	Religion or belief	✓			
	Sexual orientation	✓			
	Armed forces community	✓			
	Care leavers	✓			
	Health inequalities*	✓			

Impact Assessment (Stage 2) will be required. ****For more information on health inequalities please visit The King's Fund***	Other (eg low income, caring responsibilities)	✓			

Please provide a brief explanation of the answers above:
Individual applications have been considered against the Scheme criteria (which all applicants receive as part of the application process) including the nature and reach of the proposed community benefit.

Question	Answer	Comments
2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?	~~Yes /~~ No	The scheme was widely publicised, with a long window for bid submission from 6 July 2026 to 1 September 2026.
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?	~~Yes /~~ No	This grant fund is offered in addition to existing services and funding schemes and therefore broadens access to funding. Schemes are designed to have a positive impact on communities.
If 'yes' to questions 2 - 3 a full impact assessment will be required unless comments are provided to explain why this is not felt necessary: **Decision agreed by EWG member: ……..**		
4. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions?	Yes / No	**Actions:**
If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section		**Actions agreed by EWG member:** **…….**
5. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?	Yes / No	**Please provide brief summary:**
Assessment completed by: Name	**Sarah Dennis**	
Job title	**Finance Business Partner**	
Date completed	**6th November 2026**	
Reviewed by EWG member	L Gayton	**Date** **06/11/2026**



☐ **Please tick to confirm completed EIA Pre-screening Form has been shared with Corporate Policy (corporate.policy@west-norfolk.gov.uk)**