

Report to	<b>Policy &amp; Resources Committee</b>
Date	<b>22 November 2018</b>
By	<b>Project Manager</b>
Title of Report	<b>Mid-Year Sustainable Communities Fund Update</b>

**Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to receive the current position of the Sustainable Communities Fund**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The SDNPA considers it important as a publicly accountable body, to monitor its performance. The Policy and Resources Committee has terms of reference which include *“To monitor and review the performance, including financial performance, of the Authority in the context of its business delivery, and the management and maintenance of the Authority’s assets in accordance with the Authority’s agreed budget, Corporate Plan and other approved plans, and make recommendations for changes as appropriate”*.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on an overview of the Sustainable Communities Fund (SCF).
- 1.3 The annual review of the SCF for 2017-2018 was reported to the P&R meeting in July 2018. This report is a mid-year report which provides an update on the current position for 2018-2019.

## **2. Update on the Sustainable Communities Fund**

- 2.1 The report also provides an overview of the [Sustainable Communities Fund](#) for the year. The SCF is a rolling fund established to provide grants to community and voluntary groups, social enterprise organisations and businesses for ‘not for profit’ projects. To ensure proper scrutiny and well informed decision making an advisory panel, chaired by an SDNPA Member, advises on bids for funding between £2,000 - £10,000; although the power to make the decision remains with the Director of Countryside and Policy Management. 8 new projects were funded during 2018-19 at a total committed cost of £16,764.50 and a total of £5,224 has been returned to the fund due to 2 underspends and 1 project which has not gone forward, leaving £67,130 to be allocated. These projects are mapped in **Appendix I**.

## **3. Other Implications**

<b>Implication</b>	<b>Yes*/No</b>
Will further decisions be required by another committee/full authority?	It will be the case that per the standing orders and the terms of reference for this Committee projects will come forward for approval in due course.
Does the proposal raise any Resource implications?	There are no direct resource implications to this report as the recommendations are for receive and review only. This report reports a mid-year position for the Sustainable Communities Fund which are funded from approved budgets.

How does the proposal represent Value for Money?	Value for money for individual projects is assessed at the development stage, mid way through a project and at the end, through an evaluative process that is reported to this Committee.  Setting aside a fund to support projects represents a positive return on investment as it enables projects to go ahead which might not otherwise.
Are there any Social Value implications arising from the proposal?	None
Has due regard has been taken of the South Downs National Park Authority's equality duty as contained within the Equality Act 2010?	There are no direct equality impacts arising from this report.
Are there any Human Rights implications arising from the proposal?	None
Are there any Crime & Disorder implications arising from the proposal?	None
Are there any Health & Safety implications arising from the proposal?	None
Are there any Sustainability implications based on the 5 principles set out in the SDNPA Sustainability Strategy: 1. Living within environmental limits 2. Ensuring a strong healthy and just society 3. Achieving a sustainable economy 4. Promoting good governance 5. Using sound science responsibly	No negative impacts – all projects will contribute positively to some extent to the delivery of Partnership Management Plan outcomes, all of which are aimed at delivering sustainability.

#### 4. Risks Associated with the Proposed Decision

##### 4.1 Any project specific risks are

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
There may be some risks to our reputation if we are unable to provide match funding for some of our larger projects. This would also potentially reduce the types of funding we were	3	3	The main mitigation for this is to keep close scrutiny of the SCF and apply a rigorous prioritisation process when approving those projects that commit the SCF to funding over a number of years.  Further mitigation for this risk, is the work that will be carried out to generate income for the South Downs National Park and also potentially for the SDNPA.

able to apply for.			
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## **LIZ GENT**

### **Project Management Officer**

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Appendices	I. SCF map and budget summary
SDNPA Consultees	Chief Executive; Director of Countryside Policy and Management; Director of Planning; Chief Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer; Legal Services, Business Service Manager, Governance and Support Services Manager, Operational Management Team
External Consultees	None
Background Documents	<a href="#">End of Year Project Reporting to P&amp;R 2017-2018</a>

