



## Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

### 1. Initial information

Distribution of Grants from the Dorchester Market Car Boot Fund

### 2. This is a:

Review of policy, project, strategy, project or service

### 3. Is this (please delete those not required):

Both internal and external

### 4. Please provide a brief overview of its aims and objectives:

To ensure that the Dorchester Markets Joint Informal Panel is updated on the accrued charitable funding from the Dorchester Car Boot Fund since 2020 and consider opening the grant fund for 2022/23.

### 5. Please provide the background to this proposal?

The principle of using car boot sale returns to fund a grant scheme was first established in 1997 when Dorchester Markets Joint Committee created a donation scheme using the income from the weekly Dorchester car boot sale.

Dorset Council receives income from the Sunday Dorchester Car Boot Sale held on the Dorchester Market site. A proportion of this income is distributed to community and voluntary organisations via a community fund that is managed and administered by the Council through a panel comprising of members from Dorset Council and Dorchester Town Council.

The majority of organisations awarded funding are small community based, volunteer run organisations where this funding can make a considerable difference. In 2019 31 awards were made – the majority (20) for under £500, 11 organisations received grants between £501 - £1,000 and two organisations received funding over £1,000. (Total: £15,739)

The Dorchester Market Car Boot Fund last opened in 2020. As a result of the extraordinary and unforeseen impact of the coronavirus epidemic a total of 13

applications were received by the closing date, significantly less than in previous years (2019: 43).

The Dorchester Market Car Boot Fund is open to community and voluntary organisations and in order to be shortlisted the following criteria must be met:

- Organisations must be operating or supporting residents living within a 6.67 mile radius of the market and within the West Dorset District Council boundary.
- All organisations must have a written constitution or terms of reference.
- All organisations must have an equal opportunities policy or be working towards adopting such a policy.
- If relevant, organisations must have safeguarding policy for vulnerable adults and/or children.
- All organisations must submit a copy of their most recent set of accounts or if a new organisation a copy of a recent bank statement

### **Evidence gathering and engagement**

The last round of the Dorchester Car Boot Fund was held in 2020 and despite low application numbers the panel awarded 11 grants from a range of themes including Children and Young People (£1,850), Disability (£2,750), Diverse Communities (£1,000), Health and Wellbeing (£3,744), Environment (£200) and Sports (£3,800).

In the previous year, a total of 45 applications were received. A total of 31 community and voluntary organisations were successful, and the total amount awarded was £15,739.

The awards were made across a range of themes: Arts and Culture (£1,997 – 13%) Children and Young People (£3,140 – 20%) Diverse Communities (£1,390 – 9%) Disability (£1,750 – 11%) Environment (£200 – 1%) Health and Wellbeing (£2,760 – 18%) Information, Advice and Guidance (£1,000 – 7%) , Sports (£2,464 – 16%) and Volunteering (£750 – 5%)

The communications on the fund is shared from Dorchester Town Council who have a wide range of engaged community groups and Dorset Council as well as our VCS Infrastructure partners.

### **6. What sources of data, evidence or research has been used for this assessment? (e.g national statistics, employee data):**

Previous grant applications to this fund – 2019 and 2020.

## 7. What did this tell you?

The funding is targeted at small grass roots, volunteer led organisations who would find it difficult to access funding from other sources and positively contribute to their communities in a range of different ways.

## 8. Is further information needed to help inform decision making?

No

### Key to impacts

Positive Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the proposal eliminates discrimination, advances equality of opportunity and/or fosters good relations with protected groups.</li> </ul>
Negative Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>protected characteristic group(s) could be disadvantaged or discriminated against</li> </ul>
Neutral Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no change/ no assessed significant impact of protected characteristic groups</li> </ul>
Unclear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>not enough data/evidence has been collected to make an informed decision.</li> </ul>

Impacts on who or what?	Choose impact	How
Age	Positive Impact	The fund is open to any group that meets its wide ranging criteria and therefore all protected characteristics have equality of access to support by the voluntary and community groups that apply for funding (see above for funding given under previous themes)
Disability	Positive Impact	
Gender reassignment and Gender Identity	Positive Impact	
Marriage or civil partnership	Positive Impact	
Pregnancy and maternity	Positive Impact	
Race and Ethnicity	Positive Impact	
Religion and belief	Positive Impact	
Sex (consider men and women)	Positive Impact	

Impacts on who or what?	Choose impact	How
Sexual orientation	Positive Impact	The fund is open to any group that meets its wide ranging criteria and therefore all protected characteristics have equality of access to support by the voluntary and community groups that apply for funding (see above for funding given under previous themes)
People with caring responsibilities	Positive Impact	
Rural isolation	Positive Impact	
Socio-economic deprivation	Positive Impact	
Armed forces communities	Positive Impact	

**Please provide a summary of the impacts:**

Based on our previous data (applications to this grant fund) we anticipate a similar group of organisations from the eligible area will apply and as a result positive impact will be demonstrated across the protected characteristic categories.

## Action Plan

Summarise any actions required as a result of this EqIA.

Issue	Action to be taken	Person(s) responsible	Date to be completed by
Awareness of grant fund	Work with Dorchester Town Council and VCS Infrastructure partners to raise awareness of the fund in the specified area to all eligible organisations.	Fiona Thomas	31.03.2023

## Sign Off

**Officer completing this EqIA:** Fiona Thomas, Community Engagement Project Officer, Communities & Partnerships, Dorset Council

**Date of completion:** 19.07.2022

**Version Number:** 2

**EqIA review date:** 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

**Equality Lead Sign Off:** James Palfreman-Kay, Equality Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Dorset Council

Next Steps:

- the EqIA will be reviewed by Communications and Engagement and if in agreement, your EqIA will be signed off.
- if not, we will get in touch to chat further about the EqIA, to get a better understanding.
- EqIA authors are responsible to ensuring any actions in the action plan are implemented.

Please send to [Diversity and Inclusion Officer](#)