

## **CABINET MEMBER DECISION**

### **Decision:**

#### **Financial Support to Voluntary, Community and Faith Bodies**

##### **(i) Details of decision**

1. That financial assistance be provided to Young Epilepsy in the form of an interest free loan of £800,000, for a period of up to five years, subject to satisfactory financial and legal due diligence, with repayments in three equal instalments due on 31 December 2017, 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2019 .
2. That financial assistance be provided to the Surrey Community Association in the form of an interest free credit facility up to £200,000 for a period of two years, subject to satisfactory financial and legal due diligence.
3. That officers develop a standard approach to agreeing financial assistance to the voluntary, community and faith sector in Surrey to align with existing policies on grants and report back to the Cabinet.

##### **(ii) Reasons for decision**

Voluntary, community and faith organisations provide essential services to Surrey residents that align with the council's objectives.

The loan to Young Epilepsy will enable the charity to fix costs of construction now and enable them to develop the interventions needed to enable proper care plans to be produced to cover medical, educational and social needs for young people with epilepsy. Young epilepsy has signalled an intent to pilot this national work in Surrey schools.

The loan will enable Surrey Community Association to have sufficient resources to make grants to the voluntary, community and faith sector in Surrey funded by the European Social Fund.

To ensure that future requests for financial assistance are considered in a consistent and fair manner, a standard policy will be developed.

##### **(iii) Details of any alternative options considered and rejected**

None

##### **(iv) Details of any consultation and representations received not included in the published report**

Sir Gerald Acher (President of Young Epilepsy), Carol Long (Chief Executive of Young Epilepsy) and Michael Sydney (County Councillor for Lingfield and Trustee of Young Epilepsy) attended the meeting.

In response to questions about the ability to repay the loan, they said that the new building would enable Young Epilepsy to save both £60k per year on fuel related costs and £125K per year in relation to repairs and maintenance. Also, the school hoped to expand and take another 25 children and therefore the President and Chief Executive were confident that they would be able to meet the repayments on the due dates.

**Conflicts of Interest and any Dispensations Granted**

**(Any conflict of interest declared by any other Cabinet Member consulted in relation to the decision to be recorded and any dispensations granted by the Audit and Governance Committee)**

None

**Decision taken by:**

- (i) **Name:** David Hodge
- (ii) **Portfolio:** Leader of the Council

**Date of Decision:** 22 July 2014

**Date of Publication of Record of Decision:** 23 July 2014

**Date decision effective (i.e. 5 working days after date of publication of record of decision unless subject to call-in by the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee):**  
30 July 2014