

**REPORT TO:** Corporate Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 8 June 2021

**REPORTING OFFICER/S:** Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Corporate Services

**SUBJECT:** External Funding Team Update

**WARDS:** Boroughwide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To provide an update to Corporate PPB on the work of the External Funding Team in securing external funding resources into Halton.

The report covers the following issues:

- An update on the team's key activities and priorities;
- Emerging issues in external funding;
- Funding statistics for the period 2020-2021.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS: That the Board note the content of the report.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The report focuses on the period January 2020-December 2020; however, statistics include data between Jan and March 2021 and also a comparative period of the last five year financial period (between April 2016 and March 2020).

3.2 The External Funding Team's role is to help maximize external funding into the Borough. The Team is responsible for preparing medium to large-scale funding bids (primarily over £50,000) on behalf of Council colleagues, public sector partners, the voluntary sector and the private sector, with the aim of maximising external funding opportunities for Halton.

The Team comprises 5 posts and in the period 2020-21 the cost of the Team was £177,457. The Team secured £12,715,110 in 2020/21. This means for every £1 spent on the Team, £71.65 was secured in external funding. We also we brought in £10,000 in fees via the charging policy, making a total of £27,000 secured to date since the Charging Policy was implemented.

The Team focuses mainly on the following funding sources: Government, European, National Lottery, Landfill Funding, Trusts and Foundations.

Key functions of the Team include:

- Maintaining a strategic approach to funding to ensure the most appropriate bids from Halton are submitted and internal competition is averted;
- Undertaking funding searches for specific projects; bid writing and development of supporting documents, e.g. policies and business plans etc.;

- Dissemination of funding information to target audiences, mainly via the production of monthly Funding Bulletins on a range of themes, including a targeted local authority one;
- Lobbying funders, developing strong relationships with key funding bodies, and participating in key forums to ensure Halton gets its fair share of funding;
- Developing strong partnerships with Council colleagues, and the voluntary and private sectors where appropriate, to submit joint bids.
- Develop and deliver an Annual Training Programme for HBC colleagues and partner organisations to enable capacity building.

### COVID response

Emphasis over the period 2020-21 has been on supporting organisations and colleagues to secure Covid emergency grant funding.

18 groups were supported directly by the Team to secure emergency funding to a total of £917,942. The Team has also tracked the level of emergency funding secured into the Borough as a whole, this has totaled £1,819,685.52 from 160 grants - see Appendix I. (It is worth noting that emergency funding was secured by Adult Social Care, for example 2 grants from the HBC Care Homes & Re-enablement, 1 grant from the Health Foundation and 1 grant from the Mental Health fund; this totaled £243,329).

The Team also produced a weekly Covid Funding Bulletin of emergency funding which was widely disseminated to the voluntary and community sector and very well received, as well as disseminating details of business grants to our Business Improvement Team for private sector colleagues. The Team also attended the fortnightly Voluntary and Community Action sector calls to ensure we were up to speed with sector issues and able to provide information and support on grant funding.

The Team is focusing now on ensuring colleagues are supported with their funding needs as we move out of the pandemic.

We have also continued to deliver a range of non-Covid work during the period; key schemes include:

- Leading on strands of the Halton's Borough of Culture programme – including securing match funding to the value of £327,000, consultation and evaluation, a heritage hub and Culture HQ, a unit in Runcorn Shopping Centre.
- Supported a number of large-scale European Social Fund (ESF) submissions on behalf of Halton and the Liverpool City Region.
- Supporting Regeneration colleagues on a range of schemes, including Runcorn Old Town/Station Quarter, Unlock Runcorn, Foundry Lane, Astmoor.
- Leading on the delivery of Halton's allocation of the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund and the Welcome Back Fund.
- Supporting a range of community-based schemes, such as Windmill Hill Big Local, Open 360, Nightstop CNW, Halton Play Council and Rooftop Garden
- Trustee role & funding lead for Catalyst Science Discovery Centre & Museum Limited.
- Support a number of local and sub-regional forums, including Cultivate: Halton Local Education Partnership, Halton Heritage Partnership, Liverpool City Region Heritage Officers Group.
- Take the lead on Visitor Economy for Halton and on the Connecting Cheshire Digital Partnership.

We continue to look at how we can further support HBC colleagues to bid for funding for priority schemes in order that we do not miss out on any appropriate funding streams. The Team produces a monthly Local Authority Funding Update which highlights current funding streams available for local authorities.

### 3.3 - Funding context and emerging issues

#### 3.3.1 External Funding Environment – Challenges and Opportunities

For much of the period 2021-22, the majority of funders diverted their funding streams to Covid emergency funding only or closed their grant programmes for a period. Funders are now starting to re-open their grant programmes with a general focus on post-Covid resilience, diversification of activities etc;

Funders are also generally placing more emphasis on environmental sustainability /impact across all types of projects and programme; this aligns with the Government's 10 Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and the Team will be looking to ensure that all bids supported consider green measures in relation to their projects.

The Government is starting to release funds in anticipation of the Shared Prosperity Fund, billed as the replacement for the European Structural Funds programme; funds released include Levelling Up Fund and Community Renewal Fund. The Team is tracking all of these funds and has produced a Funding Matrix which is regularly updated – see latest version at Appendix V.

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) is also the conduit for funding streams including One Public Estate, SIF and Town Centre Fund and the Team supports colleagues to access these funds where appropriate.

The External Funding Team, working in close collaboration with other Departments, needs to ensure well-planned, competitive, sustainable and, where possible, innovative projects are put forward for Halton's priorities.

The External Funding Team aims to respond to any changes in the current funding environment and maintain knowledge of new strands of funding; the Team maintains regular contact with some of the key funders, including landfill funders, Lottery funders and European and Government funding bodies.

The External Funding Team is able to provide the necessary expertise and experience regarding current bid-writing best-practice and key funder priorities and act as a liaison point with the funders. In a highly competitive field, the Team provides a critical yet objective eye to highlight both the threats and opportunities within each organisational plan, project proposal and chosen funding body. Bids are increasingly being asked to submit using the Treasury's Green Book business case model and the Team has received training in this in order to better support such bids.

Case studies from the past 12-months in which the Team played a key role in securing important grant investment to the Borough include:

##### Cultural Recovery Fund

The Team supported bids to the Government's Cultural Recovery Fund to support organisations to stay closed and still viable during the Covid pandemic. Four grants

were received into the Borough, two for The Brindley and two for Catalyst Science Discovery Centre and Museum totalling £587,000.

#### Households into Work – ESF

The Team secured an ESF bid for the Combined Authority to a value of £2.3m to extend the Households into Work programme.

#### Borough of Culture Match Funding

The Team had a remit to secure match funding for Celebrate Halton, our Borough of Culture year 2021 and has secured the following, with huge support from the Council's Community Development Team:

Arts Council England - £15,000 research and development grant

Arts Council England - £100,000 to deliver large-scale public events

National Lottery Heritage Fund - £207,000 to deliver a Celebrate Halton's Heritage project centred around a heritage hub

Town Centre Fund - £93,000 for Culture HQ at Runcorn Shopping Centre

### 3.3.2 Capacity and Demand

Demand for the service remains high; the Team received 109 requests for funding in 2020/21. Of these:

51 remain active – i.e. scoping meetings, funding searches

29 were referred on to other colleagues/services

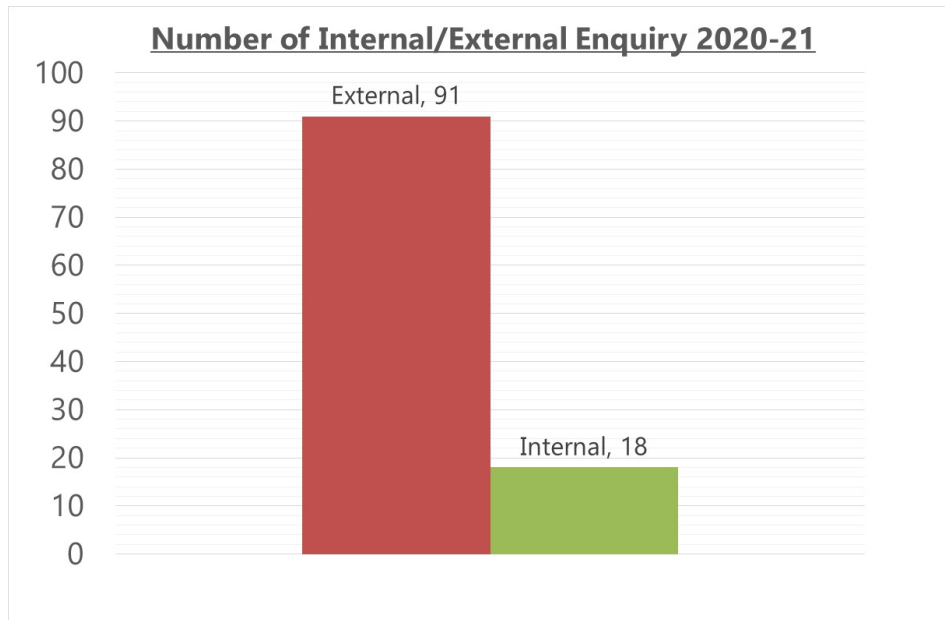
21 did not progress for a variety of reasons

7 bids were submitted

1 bids are in progress

The Team works to full capacity which means decisions need to be made at times about where to allocate support, allowing the ability to respond to new enquiries and priorities, manage tight deadlines for bids, horizon scan to ensure opportunities are not missed etc.; Importantly, the Team does not drive projects, but specialists in sourcing funding and bid-writing; the Team does not 'own' bids, the 'owner' needs to drive the project as the specialist in that particular area.

Enquiries can be broken down into internal and external as follows:



We are currently monitoring projects worth £16.3 million, have submitted bids worth £25.6 million and have pipeline projects of £58.7 million. Our pipeline list gives a current profile of the projects the Team will be supporting over the coming year; this pipeline is subject to new priorities being identified – should this be the case, the new projects will be discussed with the Operational Director and relevant Portfolio Holder.

### 3.4- ESIF Programme

The Team manages the European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF) on behalf of HBC; this includes both project development and bid-writing. To date the Team has helped secure £19m in ESIF grants since Jan 2016, with another £11m in the pipeline.

There are a number of projects currently being supported as follows:

#### **Ways to Work**

The Employment, Learning and Skills Division and 14-19 Programme Team secured European Social Fund (ESF) funding to deliver the **Ways to Work Project**. The Team has been providing intensive continued support in checking and monitoring ILM spend, making quarterly claims to the Combined Authority, carrying out procurement exercise for specialist mentors/coaches, preparation for external audits, change controls submitted to DWP and close liaison with the Combined Authority Compliance Team.

#### **Business Growth Programme**

The Team provides continued support for the ERDF-funded Liverpool City Region Business Growth Programme which provides an integrated business support package to SMEs. The project is due to finish in December 2021, but there are plans to extend it until December 2023.

#### **Greening DUN Land Demonstrator Project**

The Team helped to deliver the ERDF-funded Greening DUN Land Demonstrator project. The project has developed a solar farm on St Michaels Golf Course which provides renewable energy to HBC buildings as a demonstration site for the Liverpool City Region. The project completed at a cost of £1.3m.

#### **Households into Work**

The Team secured an ESF bid for the Combined Authority to a value of £2.3m to extend the Households into Work programme.

### **Positive Inclusion**

The Team helped secure £1.5 million in ESF funding to deliver the Positive Inclusion programme supporting LCR residents into employment.

### **Skills and Apprenticeship Hub**

The Team supported an ESF from the Liverpool City Region to the value of £5.2 million to continue and extend the work of the Hub.

### **Pipeline Bids**

Over the past 12 months the Team has also supported two further LCR-wide projects in applying for European Social Funding (ESF) to deliver schemes. These projects amount to £11million.

## 3.5- Visitor Economy and Borough of Culture

The Team continues to undertake some key work with Liverpool City Region and Halton partners in relation to Visitor Economy and Culture:

- The Lead Funding Officer sits on the LEP's Visitor Economy Officers Group; and on the Liverpool City Region Heritage Officers Group.
- The Lead Funding Officer leads on strands of Halton's Borough of Culture 2021, including securing match funding, consultation, evaluation, heritage hub and Culture HQ.
- The Team supports Cultivate: Halton Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP) which is currently bidding to Arts Council England for a £1 million scheme to deliver a quality arts and cultural programme for children/young people in Halton.

## 3.6 - Training

The Team delivers a free Training Programme which is available to HBC colleagues and externally to the voluntary and other public sector partners. The courses were delivered from a range of community venues in Widnes and Runcorn with the aim of increasing the quality of bids and capacity building; the courses are being delivered online between January and July 2021 due to Covid restrictions, with the support of Halton and St Helens VCA.

The Annual Programme consists of:

- 4 x half-day bid-Writing sessions
- 2 x half day Monitoring and Evaluation sessions
- 2 x half day Now You've Got Your Grant sessions – *new course*
- 2 x Developing a Fundraising Strategy – *new course*

The training sessions are continually updated to improve bid-writing skill levels among both internal and external colleagues and also give a greater understanding of the context in which funding bids are submitted helping to ensure that bids are prioritised and of the highest possible quality.

## 3.7- Charging Policy

Executive Board agreed in July 2018 that the Council should pilot a Charging Policy for a period of 12 months, specifically for bid-writing support for external agencies. The

pilot was completed in August 2019 and it was agreed the Policy should be rolled out on a permanent basis.

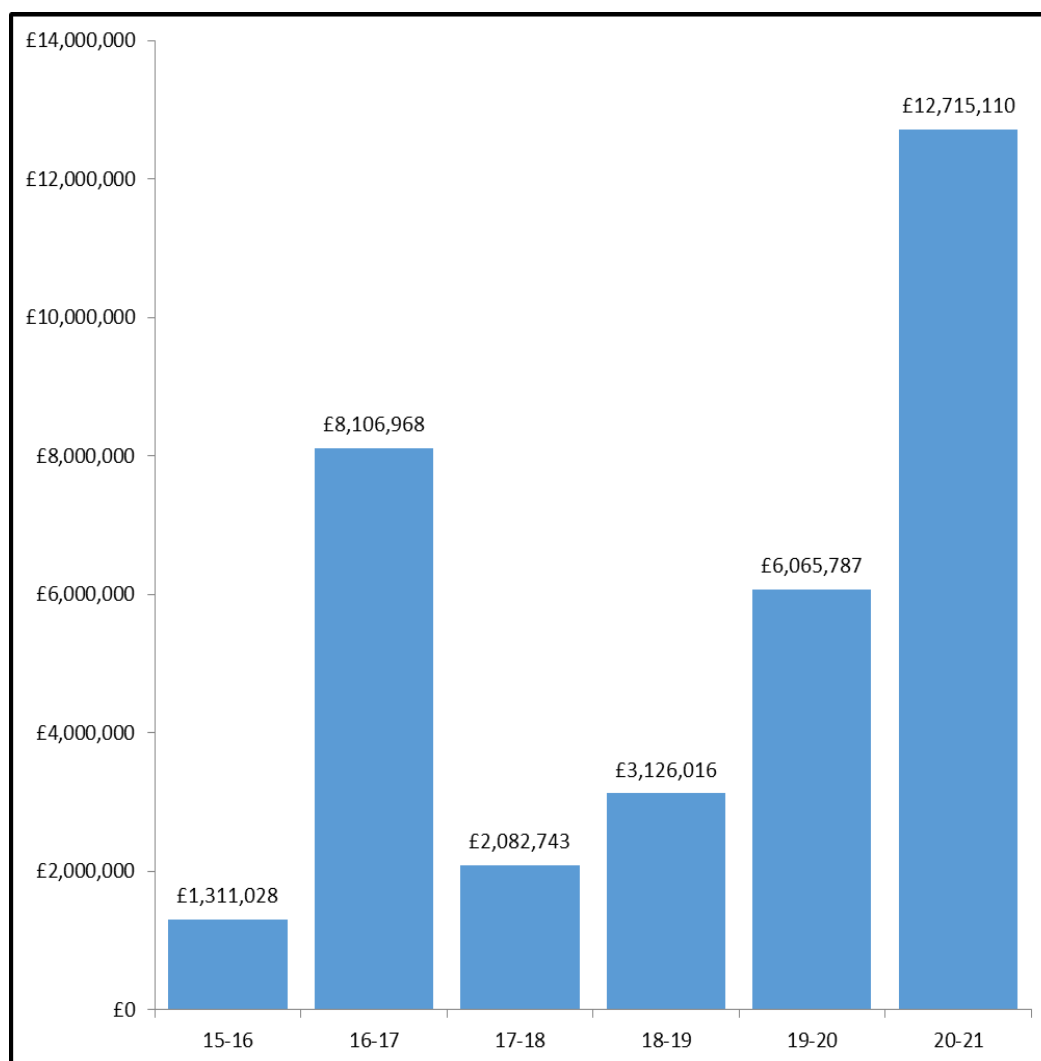
£27,000 in fees has been generated by the Team to date.

It is vital that staff across the whole Council implement the Charging Policy where it applies and seeks the support of the External Funding Team to do this where needed.

### 3.8- Funding Data

#### 3.8.1 - Funding Secured

The graph below shows details of the funding secured by the External Funding Team between April 2015 and March 2021. In 2020-21 the Team helped to secure funding of £12,715,110.

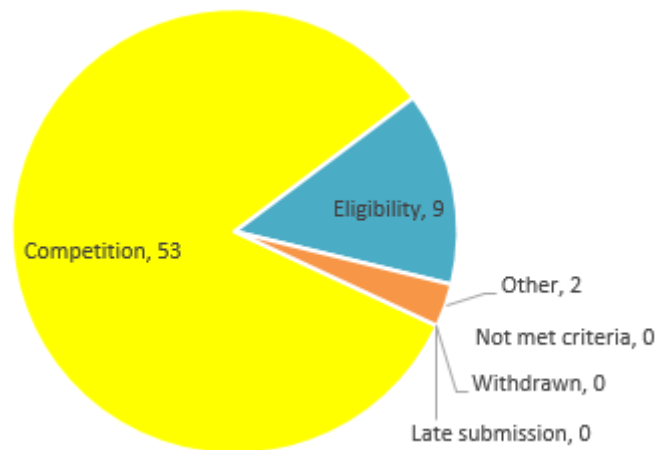
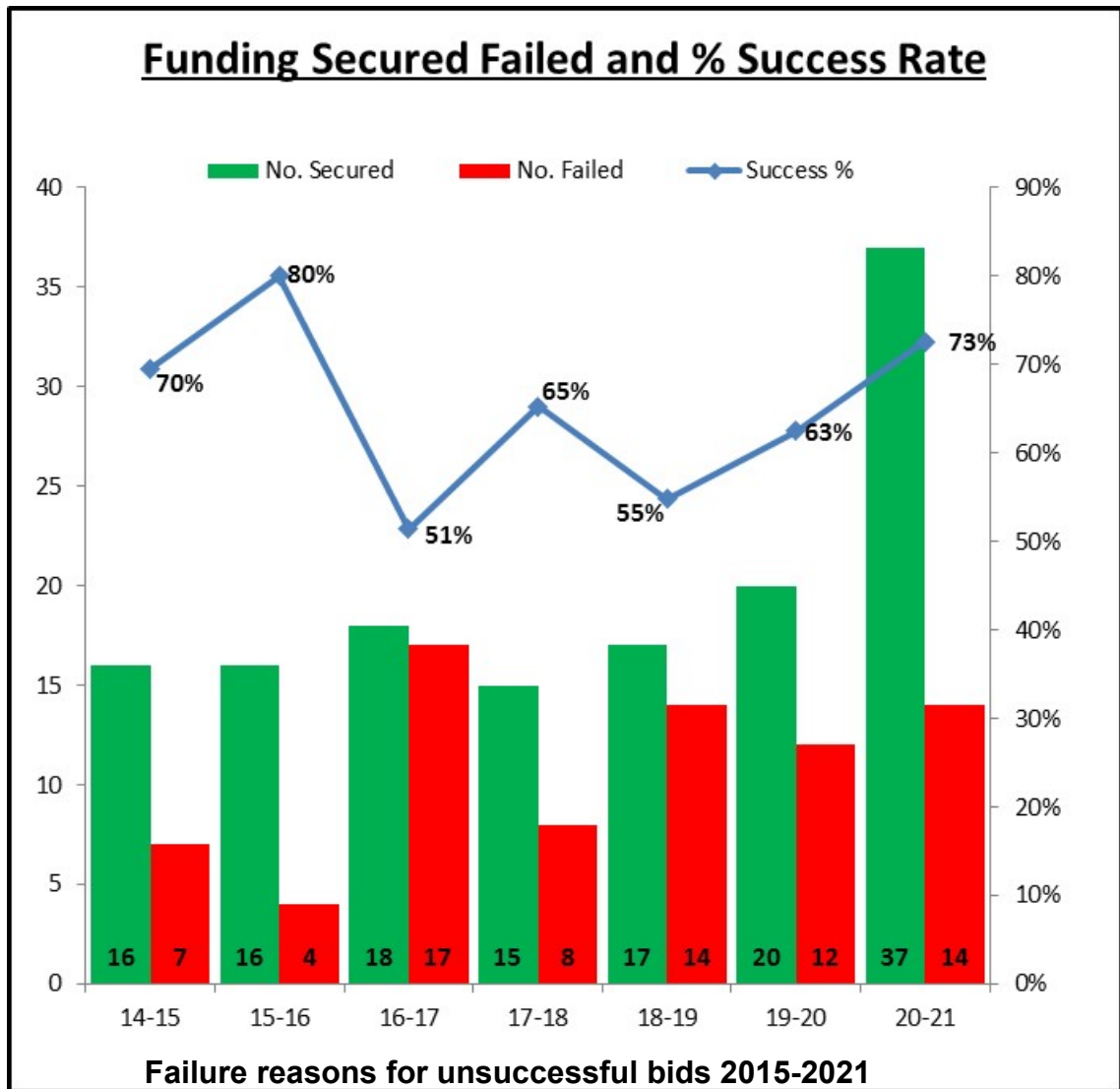


The total funding secured by the External Funding Team in the 6 year period was **£32.09m**. See Appendix III for a full breakdown of grants secured and failed in 20-21.

#### 3.8.2 - Bid Success Rate

The charts below show bid success rates between April 2015-March 2021, as well as details of unsuccessful bid rates and the reasons for these. 64% of bids submitted in the period 2015-2021 were successful.

Success and failure rates 2014/15 to 2020/21:



### 3.9- CONCLUDING COMMENTS

This year has been busier than ever for the Team and we have risen to the challenge. The focus this year has very much been on supporting organisations in Halton to access emergency Covid funding.

The Team also provided assistance with shielding calls and business support grants.



We retained some of our core work and contributed to some key broader schemes; we look forward to supporting colleagues and Halton organisations to recover and thrive post-Covid, as well as supporting the Council to secure some of the emerging Government funding streams.

The external funding environment remains vibrant and we look forward to securing further investment into the Borough in the year ahead to support the corporate vision and key strategic schemes going forward.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

All projects that request support from the External Funding Team must be supporting at least one of the Council's priorities.

#### **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

None

#### **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

None

#### **9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None under the meaning of the Act.

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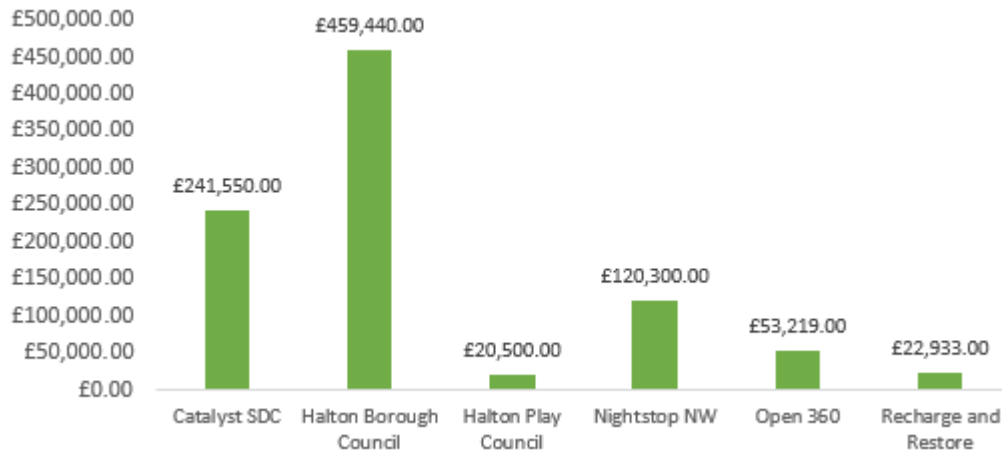
## 14.0 APPENDICES

### Appendix I Covid Grant Funding Stats

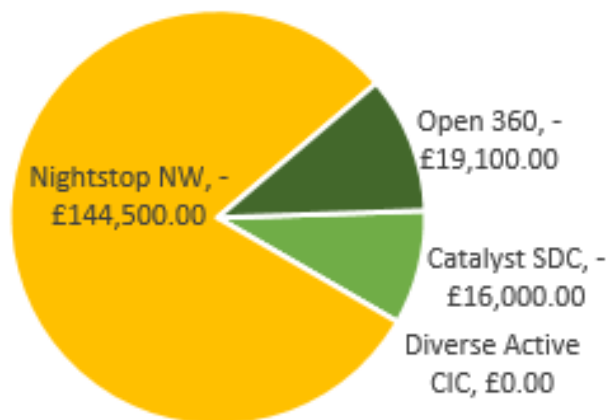
#### Summary

Statistic	Amount/%	Number of Projects
Total received in Halton	£1,576,356.52	156
HBC Helped Secured	£917,942.00	18
HBC Helped Failed	£179,600.00	9
HBC Helped Possible	£1,097,542.00	27
% HBC Helped Secured	58.25%	
% HBC Helped Possible	69.65%	

#### Secured Bids with our Help



## COVID Failed Bids with our help



## All Halton Covid Grants by Funders

Funder	Amount	Funder	Amount
Access to Justice Foundation	£27,016.00	Holiday Activity Fund	£6,034.00
Arts Council	£83,909.00	LCR Cares	£106,704.76
BBC Children in Need	£5,000.00	Legal and General Community Fund	£3,000.00
CCSF – RC	£72,500.00	Lloyds Bank Foundation	£33,000.00
Charities Aid Foundation	£19,170.00	Local Authority Discretionary Grant	£47,500.00
Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner	£17,487.76	National Lottery Community Fund	£217,641.00
Co-op community fund (invite only)	£500.00	Ofcom Community Radio Fund	£4,000.00
Cultural Recovery Fund	£586,990.00	PCC Safer Communities Fund	£1,000.00
Cultural Recovery Fund for Heritage	£151,000.00	Riverside Community Chest C19	£15,950.00
ERDF RHSSF	£114,000.00	Sport England	£63,159.00
ESF Reconnect Fund	£31,599.00	Steve Morgan Emergency Fund	£79,226.00
Garfield Weston Foundation	£30,000.00	Tesco BOH	£7,000.00
HBC BR Grant	£10,000.00	The Clothworkers Foundation	£2,470.00
HBC Small business grant	£10,000.00	Youth Music	£9,500.00
		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£1,755,356.52</b>

Worth noting is that as a result of our COVID Bulletins, a number of organisations outside of the Borough managed to secure funding of £84,660.

## **Appendix II**

Sample Covid Bulletin

<https://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/business/businesssupport/pdf/Funding/CoronavirusFunds.pdf>

## **Appendix III**

List of bids secured in 2020-21.

	<b>Group Name</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Int/Ext</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Source of Funding</b>
Q1	<b>Unlock your You</b>	ESF Project	Secured	£20,000	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	ESF Community Fund
	<b>Mako Creative</b>	ESF Project	Secured	£19,997	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	ESF Community Fund
	<b>Gateway Community Initiatives</b>	ESF Project	Secured	£20,000	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	ESF Community Fund
	<b>Creative Health Initiatives</b>	lottery bid	Secured	£100,000	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	National Lottery Community Fund
	<b>Open 360</b>	COVID-19 Funding	Secured	£4,950	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	LCR Cares Fund
	<b>Nightstop NW CIC</b>	COVID-19 Funding	Secured	£5,000	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	LCR CARES
	<b>Nightstop NW CIC</b>	COVID-19 Funding	Secured	£28,000	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	NLCF A4A C19
	<b>Nightstop NW CIC</b>	COVID-19 Funding	Secured	£10,800	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	Steve Morgan Foundation
	<b>Nightstop NW CIC</b>	COVID-19 Funding	Secured	£3,000	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	Legal and General Fund
	<b>Open 360</b>	COVID-19 Funding	Secured	£4,350	Apr-20	Ext	Boroughwide	Steve Morgan Foundation
	<b>Unlock Runcorn</b>	Pre-development financial support	Secured	£45,000	May-20	Ext	Boroughwide	Strategic Investment Fund
	<b>Open 360</b>	Covid Funding	Secured	£9,550	Jun-20	Ext	Boroughwide	NLCF A4A C19
<b>Open 360</b>	Covid Funding	Secured	£15,950	Jun-20	Ext	Boroughwide	Riverside Community Chest C19	
Q2	<b>HBC</b>	Borough of Culture Planning	Secured	£15,000	Jul-20	Int	Boroughwide	Arts Council
	<b>Liverpool City Region</b>	LCR Positive Inclusion Project	Secured	£1,545,315	Jul-20	Ext	Boroughwide	ESIF (ESF)
	<b>A Better Tomorrow</b>	ESF Project	Secured	£15,393	Sep-20	Ext	Boroughwide	ESF Re-Connect Community Grant
	<b>Open 360</b>	ESF Project	Secured	£18,419	Sep-20	Ext	Boroughwide	ESF Re-Connect Community Grant
	<b>Recharge &amp; Restore</b>	ESF Project	Secured	£13,180	Sep-20	Ext	Boroughwide	ESF Re-Connect Community Grant


	<b>Halton Play Council</b>	Resource cost for families - Covid	Secured	£500	Jul-20	Ext	Boroughwide	Co-op Community Fund-Covid
	<b>Halton Play Council</b>	Online support and home delivery of resources - Covid	Secured	£20,000	Jul-20	Ext	Boroughwide	National Lottery-Covid
	<b>Recharge &amp; Restore</b>	Covid Funding	Secured	£9,753	Aug-20	Ext	Boroughwide	National Lottery-Covid
	<b>St Pauls/Transform NW</b>	Amazing space	Secured	£68,000	Aug-20	Ext	Boroughwide	FCC
	<b>Runcorn Locks Restoration Society</b>	Unlock Runcorn	Secured	£3,500	Oct-20	Ext	Boroughwide	SIF Pre-development feasibility fund
	<b>Liverpool City Region</b>	Ways to Work 3.0	Secured	£2,300,000	Oct-20	Ext	-	ESF/YEI
	<b>HBC Brindley</b>	Cultural Recovery Fund	Secured	£230,660	Oct-20	Int	Boroughwide	Cultural Recovery Fund
	<b>Catalyst</b>	Cultural Recovery Fund	Secured	£162,000	Oct-20	Ext	Boroughwide	Cultural Recovery Fund
	<b>St Pauls/Transform NW</b>	Amazing space	Secured	£15,000	Nov-20	Ext	Boroughwide	NCT Cornerstone
Q4	<b>Open 360</b>	Support Service	Secured	£9,520	Jan-21	Ext	Boroughwide	Census Support Grant
	<b>Liverpool City Region</b>	Apprenticeship Hub	Secured	£5,200,000	Jan-21	Ext	-	ESF
	<b>The Combined Authority</b>	Households into work 2	Secured	£2,300,000	Feb-21	Ext	-	ESF
	<b>Halton Play Council</b>	Running Costs	Secured	£9,293	Jan-21	Ext	Boroughwide	St James CH Fund
	<b>HBC</b>	Borough of Culture	Secured	£100,000	Feb-21	Int	Boroughwide	Arts Council
	<b>HBC</b>	Foundry Lane P1 Acquisition	Secured	£130,000	Feb-21	Int	Boroughwide	CA SIF
	<b>Nightstop NW CIC</b>	Covid Funding	Secured	£1,000	Feb-21	Ext	Boroughwide	PCC Safer Comm Covid Fund
	<b>Nightstop NW CIC</b>	Covid Funding	Secured	£72,000	Feb-21	Ext	Boroughwide	NLCF
	<b>Catalyst</b>	Cultural Recovery Fund	Secured	£79,550	Mar-21	Ext	Boroughwide	Cultural Recovery Fund 2
	<b>HBC Brindley</b>	Cultural Recovery Fund	Secured	£114,780	Mar-21	Int	Boroughwide	Cultural Recovery Fund 2


## **Appendix IV – Active Projects**

The current active project the team are dealing with are:

St Pauls Building Project, Diverse Active Mamafit projects, Spike Island Playground Refurb, St Lukes – Refurb, SIF Sci-Tech Daresbury Project Violet, SIF Sci-Tech Daresbury Skills Space, Sankey Canal Restoration, RLRS – Unlock Runcorn, Ways to Work 3.0 1.3 YEI Extension, Ways to Work 2.0 1.1 Extension, RLRS - Unlock Runcorn, Solar Farm on St Michaels Golf course, Ways to Work 1.1 and 1.3, 3MG RGF project, Sci-Tech Daresbury RGF projects, MHCLG Changing Futures Grant Programme 2021-23 – Cheshire and Halton Strategic Partnership, Community Shop /CCG – Runcorn Roof Top Garden, CA – SIF Pre-Development Grant - Foundry Lane Regeneration, Ways to Work 5.0 - ESF 1.1 Funding Call – Inclusive Labour Markets, Windmill Hill Community Hub – St Berteline’s CE Church, Halebank Parish Council – Purchase of Building for Community Centre, Sew Halton – Running Costs/Projects, Changing Places Fund (Toilets), LCR Apprenticeships Hub – ESF bid, Town Centre Commissioning Fund (TCCF) – Halton Lea Town Centre, St Lukes Farnworth, Reopening High Streets Safely Fund (RHSSF), Ways to Work 4.0 - ESF 1.3 YEI Extension Transitional only – Inclusive Labour Markets, Catalyst SDC and Museum – Heritage offer upgrade, Halton LCEP, HBC Borough of Culture 2021 and Town Deal.

## Appendix V – Funding Matrix

Name of fund/ website or link	Brief Summary	Amount	deadline
<p>Levelling Up</p>  <p>Levelling_Up_prospectus.pdf</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-fund-prospectus">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-fund-prospectus</a></p>	<p>The Levelling Up Fund will invest in local infrastructure that has a visible impact on people and their communities. This includes a range of high value local investment priorities, including local transport schemes, urban regeneration projects and cultural assets. The Fund is jointly managed by HM Treasury (HMT), the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and the Department for Transport (DfT). This cross-departmental Fund represents a new approach to local investment and will end siloes in Whitehall that make it difficult to take a holistic approach to the infrastructure needs of local areas.</p>	<p>Halton is in Priority 2.</p> <p>The Fund will focus investment in projects that require up to £20m of funding. However, there is also scope for investing in larger high value transport projects, by exception. Bids above £20m and below £50m will be accepted for transport projects only, such as road schemes, and can be submitted by any bidding local authority.</p>	<p>To apply for investment from the first round of the Levelling Up Fund, eligible local institutions must submit their bids to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by noon on Friday 18 June 2021.</p>
<p>Community Renewal Fund</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus-2021-22">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus-2021-22</a></p>	<p>To help local areas prepare for the launch of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund in 2022, the Government has launched a one-year UK pilot Community Renewal Fund. The £220 million fund will support local communities most in need, by piloting programmes and new approaches that empower them to explore how best to tackle local challenges– whether through building skills, supporting local businesses, supporting communities and places, or providing employment support. All places across the UK are eligible for pilot funding. Bids for the UK Community Renewal Fund will be managed by the following lead authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayoral Combined Authorities, where they exist</li> <li>• The Greater London Authority</li> <li>• County Councils</li> </ul>	<p>Each local authority can bid up to a maximum of £3m in funding to help build a safer, greener and more prosperous country.</p> <p>Halton is not listed as one of the top 100 places so no real scope to bid for the pilot.</p>	<p>The shortlist of projects should be submitted by lead authorities to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by noon on Friday 18 June 2021 by emailing <a href="mailto:UKCommunityRenewalFund@communities.gov.uk">UKCommunityRenewalFund@communities.gov.uk</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unitary authorities elsewhere</li> </ul> <p>The lead authority of each of the 100 priority places will also receive capacity funding to help them invite bids locally and appraise these bids. Each lead authority will receive £20,000 per priority place. This funding can be incurred from April 2021 for staff or other resources needed to coordinate and appraise bids. It will be paid to lead authorities in the summer and will be paid regardless of whether bids are successful. The fund is competitive and each local authority can bid up to a maximum of £3million in funding to help build a safer, greener and more prosperous country. Separate guidance will be made available for each lead authority.</p>		
<p>CLRF  <a href="https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/community-leisure-recovery-fund">https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/community-leisure-recovery-fund</a></p>	<p>Aims to support community-run leisure facilities in England with £5m of National Lottery investment to assist the reopening and recovery of their services. It's an open fund that will be allocated over a single funding round in April and is to cover the period from 1 Apr-30 Sept 2021.</p>	<p>We have limited funds available and to help reach as many communities as possible you can only apply for up to £50,000. We'll consider applications requesting a higher amount, but a decision to award more than £50,000 will only be made in exceptional circumstances.</p>	<p>CLOSED AT NOON ON 29 APRIL – APPLICATIONS NOT SUBMITTED BY THIS TIME WON'T BE ACCEPTED.</p>
<p>Reopening High Streets Safely/  Welcome Back Fund</p>  <p>wbf guidance</p>	<p>The fund will allow local authorities in England to put in place additional measures to create and promote a safe environment for local trade and tourism, particularly in high streets as their economies reopen. We also recognise that the impact of Covid19 on local economies will be significant. Local authorities can therefore also use the fund to develop plans for responding to these impacts, this could include considering how other funding streams could help address those challenges in the future. Part of the fund will be used to provide support for coastal resorts across</p>	<p>Halton has been allocated:</p> <p>Reopening High Streets Safely Fund  £114,260</p> <p>Welcome Back Fund  Halton  £179,260</p> <p>Total £293,520</p>	

	<p>England to support areas as they prepare for a great summer to safely welcome holiday makers in the coming months. The fund can also be used by local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boost the look and feel of their high streets by investing in street planting, parks, green spaces, and seating areas to make high streets welcoming.</li> <li>• Run publicity campaigns and prepare to hold events that will boost footfall and encourage people back into the high streets and thereby supporting local businesses.</li> <li>• Install and refresh signage and floor markings to encourage social distancing and safety.</li> <li>• Improve green space</li> </ul> <p>Halton has been selected as one  <a href="https://www.highstreetstaskforce.org.uk/news/70-local-authorities-to-benefit-from-high-streets-task-force-support">https://www.highstreetstaskforce.org.uk/news/70-local-authorities-to-benefit-from-high-streets-task-force-support</a>) The grant provides an email address for queries on the guidance:  <a href="mailto:RHSSFund@communities.gov.uk">RHSSFund@communities.gov.uk</a></p>		
<p>Without Walls (LCR Fund)  <a href="https://www.cultureliverpool.co.uk/without-walls-fund/">https://www.cultureliverpool.co.uk/without-walls-fund/</a></p>	<p>The Liverpool Without Walls Culture Fund, is designed to support organisations and artists in creating performance and visual art outdoors and is brought to you by <a href="#">Culture Liverpool</a> and <a href="#">Arts Council England</a>. This pilot is for creatives to submit ideas to animate and reimagine Liverpool as a stage, fill the streets with cultural content and encourage audiences back into the city centre.</p> <p>The Fund is looking for ideas which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get organisations working in the public realm, reimagining art forms and piloting new forms of presentation for the future</li> <li>• Drive audiences into the city centre and key district centres in order to support the re-emerging retail and hospitality sector</li> </ul>	<p>Allocation to be awarded per LCR local authority. Halton's allocation likely to be c £250k</p>	<p>Funding Allocation to be confirmed April 21 with spend by March 22</p> <p>THIS FUND HAS NOW BEEN WITHDRAWN.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help support local organisations and the freelance community, in particular those who may not qualify for support through previous ACE or DCMS funds</li> <li>• Can be delivered at speed: ideally during Aug–Oct 20.</li> </ul>		
Community Ownership Fund	The government has launched a new £150m Community Ownership Fund to help ensure that communities can support and continue benefiting from the local facilities, community assets and amenities most important to them.	Community groups will be able to bid for up to £250,000 matched-funding to help them buy or take over local community assets at risk of being lost, to run as community-owned businesses.	The first bidding round for the Community Ownership Fund will open by June 2021. A full bidding prospectus will be published alongside this.
Changing Places (Toilets) <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/30-million-investment-to-provide-changing-places-toilets">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/30-million-investment-to-provide-changing-places-toilets</a>	Funding will improve access for people who cannot use standard accessible toilets and their carers. Changing Places toilets are larger accessible toilets for people who cannot use standard disabled toilets, with equipment such as hoists, curtains, adult-sized changing benches & space for carers.	Local authorities will soon be invited to “opt in” to receive a proportion of this funding, based on need, to install facilities in their communities.	Local authorities will be invited in June 2021 to “opt in” to receive a proportion of this funding, based on need, to install facilities in their communities.
Changing Futures <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changing-futures-changing-systems-for-adults-experiencing-multiple-disadvantage/changing-futures-changing-systems-to-support-adults-experiencing-multiple-disadvantage#criteria-for-expressions-of-interest">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changing-futures-changing-systems-for-adults-experiencing-multiple-disadvantage/changing-futures-changing-systems-to-support-adults-experiencing-multiple-disadvantage#criteria-for-expressions-of-interest</a>	New scheme to help adults across England facing multiple disadvantages like homelessness and mental health issues. Changing Futures Programme to help improve the way that systems and services work to support individuals experiencing multiple disadvantage – including a combination of homelessness, substance misuse, poor mental health, domestic abuse, and contact with the criminal justice system. Main area of interest is Cheshire (Is this us?) Local Authority. Areas might wish to include representation from other partners in area i.e. public health, social care, housing etc.	Grants of up to £15,000 will be available for shortlisted areas in year one (2020/21) to develop a more detailed delivery plan in partnership with the central gov. programme team. Initially up to £35.7m will be available for delivery in year 2 (21/22) & year 3 (22/23). It is envisioned that grants will be in the range of £1.5m – £4.5m per area across initial 2 years.	Halton is part of a successful Cheshire-wide scheme being led by Cheshire East; currently working up full bid
One Public Estate (LCR)	Feasibility funding for public buildings to be repurposed	C £150,000 per scheme	Round 9 to be announced soon