

Policy & Resources Committee Meeting – 27th September 2023

Agenda Item 9. TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS

A copy of Earley Town Council's current **Grants Policy** is available on the Town Council's website.

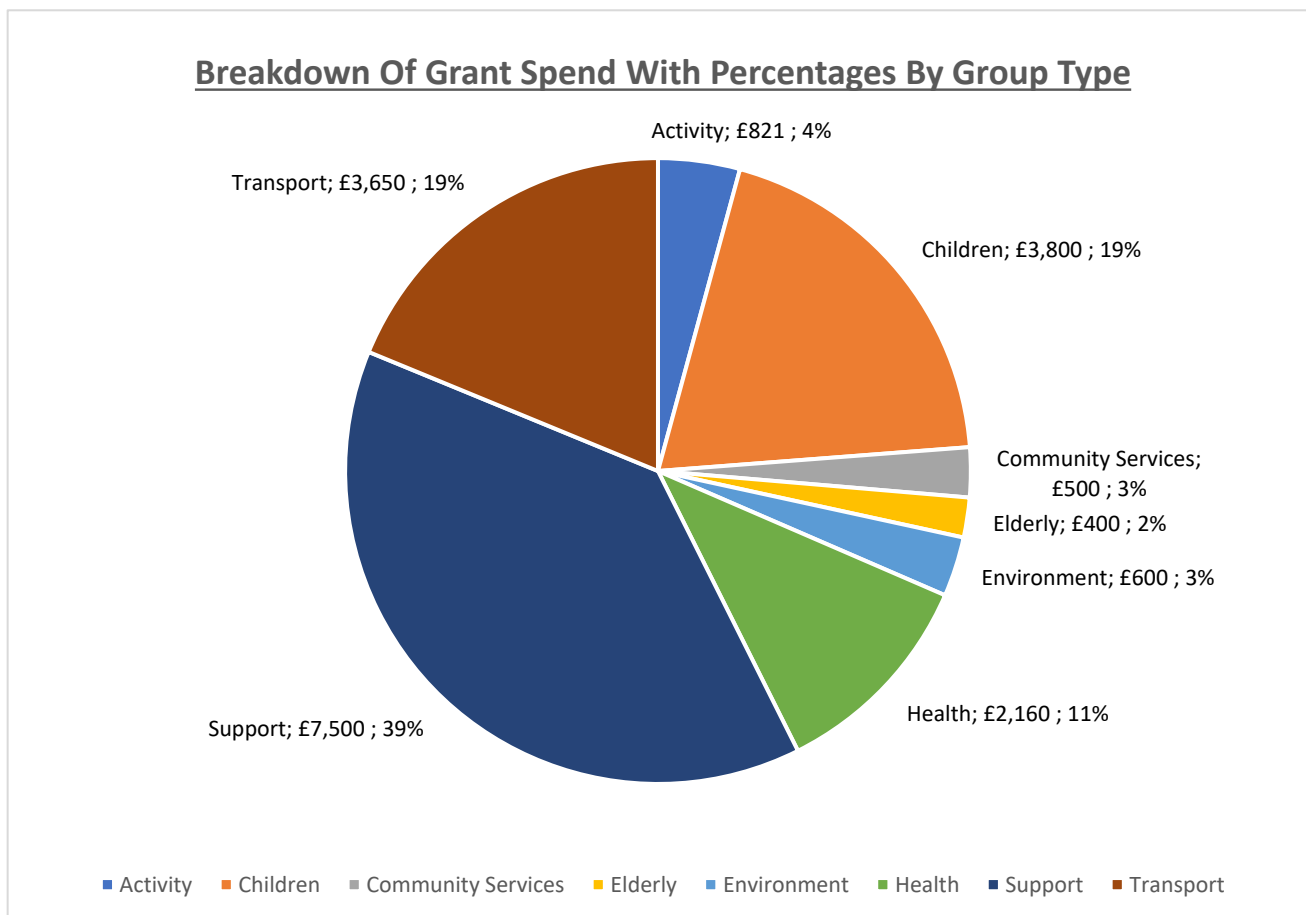
Grants 2023/24 – to date

Budget for 2023/2024 £40,000 (includes amounts for sports sponsorship, previously £750)

Total Spend to Date £19,431 (sports sponsorship requests not yet received)

Remaining Spend £20,569 (includes amounts for sports sponsorship)

A further grant request has been received from Lower Earley Salvation Army (to be decided on) and an application is expected from Earley Day Centre (Kenton Road).



There is a sum of money remaining in the grants budget for 2023/2024. One option is for the Council to advertise and promote the fact that funds are still available, encouraging applicants to submit a request for funding before the 2024/25 grant application process opens in December 2023. ETC's relationship with organisations such as Involve and its new social media presence would assist with this.

Going forwards the Policy & Resources Committee may wish for the Grants working party to undertake a review of the existing grants policy and application process. Any recommendations for amendments to the policy or process to be referred to the P & R Committee for decision.

Matters that could be reviewed include the set grant application process timeframe, currently open in December and January each year, or whether the Committee considers welcoming grant applications all year round and dropping the December to January application timeframe. (Within the current system, the P & R committee decides, on an ad hoc basis, if applications received outside of this time frame will be considered.)

Members could also consider whether to retain a single, general grant fund or whether a group of smaller, more targeted funds would better achieve the Town Council's aims.