



**East Suffolk Community Partnership Board**  
**Requests for funding from Community Partnerships**  
**March 8, 2024**

**Introduction and Background**

1. When the eight Community Partnerships were set up in 2019, it was agreed that the Board funding of £300,000 per annum would be used to support projects to tackle the three (now extended to four) agreed Board priorities and/or projects arising from one or more Community Partnership.
2. The Board funding for 2023/24 financial year has been allocated across several projects, the biggest of these being the Tackling Inequalities/Mental Health allocation of £146,000 which was approved at the December 2023 meeting.
3. As we approach the end of the financial year, there is a total of £65,000 unallocated. It is proposed that this funding be allocated across four projects, all of which have emerged from one or more individual Community Partnerships, but which require larger sums of funding than is available at individual Community Partnership level.
4. A brief overview of each projects is provided below, and each will be introduced at the meeting by a relevant Board member.

**Project 1: Tech Hub Proposal – Kesgrave, Martlesham, Rushmere, Carlford and Fynn Valley CP**

5. This project, which originated in the KMRSC CP area, builds upon some work funded through the Board several years ago to increase digital access. The proposal is to pilot a tech hub, working with a local social enterprise, which focusses on helping people (particularly but not solely older people) to feel safe and confident on-line. The ask is for **£10,000** from total costs of £20,000 on a proof of concept/pilot basis, with the potential roll out into other CP areas.
6. This project fits with the Board priorities of Tackling Inequalities and Social Isolation and Loneliness.

**Project 2: Mental Health and Wellbeing Training – Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Villages CP and Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Villages CP**

7. This outcome proposal is to commission Suffolk Mind to deliver two face to face 'The Comprehensive Toolkit' training courses (over eight separate sessions), one in each of the CP areas identified. The cost of this would be **£18,000** across the two areas with

places free to delegates from local VCFSE organisations. The package also includes access to a follow up 'Mastering Skills' session and Practitioners Network.

8. This project fits with the Board priority around Mental Health and Wellbeing.

### **Project 3: Box-Up – Lowestoft and Northern Parishes CP and three other CP areas (proposal for one of these to be in the Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsular CP area)**

9. This project was developed by the Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership and is the first of its kind in England. It involves making sports and leisure equipment available for people to loan from self-contained Box Up units that residents can register through an app to use. The request is for **£24,800** of funding to enable Box Up to be rolled out to other locations in the original Lowestoft and Northern Parishes CP area and to three other CP areas, with ideally two of these being rural locations.
10. This project fits with the Board priorities of Tackling Inequalities, Mental Health and Wellbeing and Social Isolation and Loneliness and, if two boxes are placed in rural locations, would also support the rural proofing ambitions of the Board.

### **Project 4: E-bikes Pilot – Framlingham, Wickham Market, Kelsale, Yoxford and Villages CP and Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsular CP**

11. This outcome proposal details a request for **£10,800** of funding for an E-bike pilot in six wards across two rural Community Partnership areas to support those on lower incomes to access work and social opportunities. E-bikes would be loaned for up to six months with maintenance and support provided as part of the package.
12. This project fits with the Board priorities of Tackling Inequalities and Transport and Travel, and also addresses issues raised in the Rural Proofing workshop held at the last Board meeting.
13. The total ask from the remaining Board budget across these four projects is **£63,600**.

## **Recommendations**

**It is recommended that the Board:**

- 1) **Consider the four Stage 1 Outcome Proposals attached as Appendices to this report**

Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities and Leisure, East Suffolk Council