

Joint Parishes & District Council Meeting
16th January 2020

Folkestone & Hythe High Streets Fund

Dr Katharine Harvey
Chief Economic Development Officer

Folkestone & Hythe High Streets Fund



£3 million High Streets regeneration fund established from reserves in Feb 2019

Process for managing the fund was agreed in Sept 2019

can be used for:

Major capital investments opportunities and other initiatives led by FHDC in Folkestone town centre, e.g. Master planning, business case development, public realm improvements, etc

Grants to property owners and organisations to:

Support **renovating/improving properties** to bring back into use or new uses

Implement **wider initiatives to improve the vitality of high streets** e.g. townscape improvements, introduction of technology and/or new innovative products, Initiatives/events to increase the vitality

Work up a project to bring forward for funding

binet agreed to:

- Split funding across the district - £2.2 million for Folkestone Town Centre and £800,000 for the other high streets - Cheriton, Sandgate, Hythe, New Romney, Lydd, Hawkinge, Dymchurch, Elham, Lyminge and Sellindge
- Grants of **£5,000 to £50,000** to be available for projects
- **Up to 50%** contribution expected *in normal circumstances*, with 100% available *in special circumstances*
- Fund was launched to applicants **1st Oct 2019**
- **Details and documentation** available online at www.Folkestone.works under Funding & Support
- Open call for projects
- Applications assessed on individual merit
- Assessed on basis of criteria including partner support and demand for project; long term sustainability of project; significance and impact on high street and value for money.
- Decisions quarterly by Decision Panels including Leader – **Cllr David Monk**, Local Economy lead Cabinet member – **Cllr David Wimble** & a **local ward Councillor**, with soundings taken from the council's cross -party Folkestone Town Centre Subgroup

Applications Summary to Date

	Application £				No of applications			
	Submissions (% total available)	Decision Status			Submissions	Decision Status		
		Approved	Pending	To be decided		Approved	Pending	To be decided
TOTAL	£503,728 (17%)	£146,000	£50,000	£290,728	24 *	7	1	16
Folkestone	£219,235 (10%)	£87,500	£50,000	£66,735	7	4	1	2
Sandgate	£50,500 (6%)	£48,500			2	2		
Cheriton	£10,000 (1%)	£10,000			1	1		
Dymchurch	£36,000 (4%)			£36,000	2			2
Hythe	£98,993 (12%)			£98,993	6*			6
New Romney	£89,000 (11%)			£89,000	6 *			6

Note: Not all requested grants approved in full

Applications Approved to Date



Project	Location	Grant agreed/ request	% Grant to Total Project Cost	Decision
Market Square, Rendezvous St - building fit out to deliver a proof of concept Food Hall for circa. 15 stalls	Folkestone	£32,500	50%	Approved
Conchitas, Bouverie Rd West - extension and refit to support disabled access and facilities	Folkestone	£42,250	50%	Approved
Big Boys Fine Burger Co, Old High St - refurbishment of existing establishment	Folkestone	£7,500	50%	Approved
Folkestone Town Council - Lighting infrastructure for Christmas lights and support for FTC Christmas event	Folkestone	£17,500	50% (capital costs)	Approved
Folkestone Town Council - CCTV expansion around Folkestone	Folkestone	£50,000	100%	More information sought
Installation of CCTV on Sandgate High Street	Sandgate	£3,500	50% (capital costs)	Approved
Street scene and public realm improvements refuse bin screen outside of Riviera Court.	Sandgate	£45,000	100% capital costs	Approved
Two new aspects to Cheriton Light Festival - artist residency at Cheriton Library and a permanent installation.	Cheriton	£10,000	50%	Approved

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