

## RECORD OF INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISION MADE BY A CABINET MEMBER

Decision Maker	Decision Type	Date
Cllr Sean Fielding	Delegated Decision in relation to Business Grants	20 November 2019

### Award of a Business Improvement Grants in Shaw district centre

#### Decision (s)

Approve a Business Improvement Grant award as follows:

- £2,924.99 to Sports Physio (Shaw) Ltd in respect of 41b Market Street, Shaw

Exempt/Confidential Report		No
Key Decision		No

#### Reasons for the decision(s)

The purpose of the report is to seek approval to award a Business Improvement Grant in Shaw District Centre.

The Council recognises the important role that independent businesses play in sustaining the vibrancy and vitality of our high streets and has developed a Business Improvement Grant scheme for Shaw District Centre. Discretionary grants of 50% of the costs of improvements, up to a maximum of £8,000, are available. The grant recommended for approval is:

#### **Sports Physio (Shaw) Ltd, 41B Market Street Shaw**

This business is an existing physiotherapy clinic established for 7 years in Shaw Town centre occupying a mid -terraced property on Market Street. The business would like the grant to improve the visual appearance of the premises and improve access into it by:

- Replacing the old fascia and shutter signage with a new single fascia sign which will cover the shutter box.
- Adding an electronic push button door mechanism to the front entrance to help with assisted access into the premises
- Replacing the existing solid shutters with powder coated perforated electronic shutters.



The business state that the existing shutter has been on the premises for over 20 years and is very noisy to lift up/pull down, as well as being solid and unsightly. The new shutter will be electronic so much quieter and the perforated design and modern powder colour coating will be a significant improvement. The new signage will help to screen the shutter box as well as contributing to the overall modernisation of the appearance of the business.

The business has investigated the potential to remove the stepped entrance, but the implication to the internal layout and the significant costs of these works means that this is not a viable option for the business. They have a portable step which minimises the height of the step into the building but are wanting to add a power assisted door to improve access into the building.

The business owns the premises and are also registered for business rates and currently receive Small Business Rate Relief.

The business has obtained three quotes each for the signage and shutter, but due to the lack of suppliers locally for the power assisted door, they have only managed to obtain one quote for this aspect. Based on the lowest quotes, the cost of the works comes to £5,849.98 and the business is therefore applying for a grant of £2,924.99.

The Shaw and Crompton Grant Advisory Panel made up of the 6 ward councillors for Shaw and Crompton were consulted by email on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and all 6 Councillors responded recommending approval of the application.

#### **Options/Alternatives considered**

1. Do nothing. If the Council chooses to adopt this approach then the Council's regeneration aspirations for Shaw District Centre would be delayed. There is potential that the appearance of these premises and Shaw District Centre could decline further.
2. Approve the award of the Business Improvement Grant. Business Improvement Grant applicants will enter into a contract with the Council, to ensure that works are being undertaken satisfactorily with claw back arrangements for non-compliance. Funding takes place once the contract is completed and the works completed to the satisfaction of the Council.

**Conflict of Interest declared : none**

**Councillor Sean Fielding - Council leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise**

.....  


**In consultation with**

**Helen Lockwood, Deputy Chief Executive, People & Place.**



**(Executive Director Signature)**

**Decision made pursuant to:**

- a) **Delegation to Cabinet Member under the Council's scheme of delegation.**