

# REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

## KNUTSFORD HERITAGE CENTRE ANNUAL GRANT



**Report Reference** C-24-22  
**Meeting Date** 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
**Agenda Item** 8  
**Prepared by** Town Clerk

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### 1.0 BACKGROUND

In 2018, the Town Council agreed a four-year core funding programme for Knutsford Heritage Centre, providing a grant of £5,000 per annum to support its central costs for the financial years starting 2019-2022. In 2022, the council agreed a renewal of the agreement and agreed to a new four-year funding period providing £7,500 for the first two years and at least £5,000 for the second two years. The increased funding provision was to reflect increased energy costs.

Knutsford Heritage Centre has requested that the funding is maintained at £7,500 per year. Accordingly, ahead of the 2025/26 financial year the council is required to determine the value of the grant for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years.

### 2.0 UPDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In 2022, the figures presented to the Town Council forecast expenditure for the year ending 2023 as follows:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Budget 2022/23</i>
Electricity	6,500
Water	160
Telephone	400
Refuse	288
Subscriptions	439
Insurance	950
Garden Costs	150
Marketing	250
Stationery etc	125
Repairs	500
Staff Welfare	100
	<b>9,862</b>

The agreed grant of £7,500 was therefore to cover 75% of the core operating costs of the centre. The actual expenditure from the published accounts shows that fortunately, the increase in energy costs was not as significant as had been expected, rising 112% instead of the 257% forecast. Consequently, excluding repairs, the council grant covered 116% of core operating costs in 2022/23 and 100% of core operating costs in 2023/24.

<b>Item</b>	<b>YE 31 MARCH 2022</b>	<b>YE 31 MARCH 2023</b>	<b>YE 31 MARCH 2024</b>
Insurance	856	935	1,106
Light and Heat	1,820	3,875	3,827
Telephone	633	499	521
Postage/Stationery	148	312	406
Sundries	542	368	946
Advertising	127	73	279
Repairs	8,152	7,190	4,921
Subscriptions	460	355	444
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,738</b>	<b>13,607</b>	<b>12,450</b>

The full accounts have been circulated to members by email.

The forecast budget for the centre for 2025/26 has been provided as follows:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Budget 2025/26</b>
Electricity	4,000
Water	250
Telephone	600
Refuse	790
Subscriptions	455
Insurance	1,200
Garden Costs	250
Marketing	250
Stationery, Alarm, Card Reader	860
Repairs	1,500
Staff Welfare	150
Accountancy	1,020
	<b>11,075</b>

In addition, the Chair of Trustees has advised there will be additional costs of £1,000 for the reprinting of a leaflet, and the centre is paying £3,154 in the current financial year towards building improvements (part funded by a CEC grant).

### **3.0 DECISIONS REQUIRED**

Council should determine the value of the grant to be paid for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years.