



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Agenda Item No: 2.4

Rebel Acres Cooperative Start-up Grant

To:	Housing and Communities Committee
Meeting Date:	21 June 2021
Public report:	Yes
Lead Member:	Councillor Lewis Herbert, Lead Member for Housing and Chair of the Housing and Communities Committee.
From:	Emily Mulvaney, Community Housing Programme Manager
Key decision:	No
Forward Plan ref:	N/A
Recommendations:	The Housing and Communities Committee is recommended to: a) Approve the award of £5,000 to Rebel Acres Cooperative under the Community Housing Start-up Grant Fund.
Voting arrangements:	A simple majority of all Members

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present Rebel Acre Cooperative's application for Start-up Grant Funding to the Housing and Communities Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 14 September 2020 the Housing and Communities Committee approved the establishment of a Community Housing Start-up Grant of £5,000 per group for new and emerging community-led housing groups. The Medium-Term Financial Plan 2021 – 2025, which was approved by Combined Authority Board on 27 January 2021 includes the provision of start-up grants. On 27 January 2021 the Combined Authority Board also received and approved the full Community Housing Business Case.
- 2.2 The purpose of the Community Housing Start-up Grant is to relieve the burden of some of the set-up costs associated with becoming a legally incorporated community-led housing group, and encourage more community-led housing to come forward across the region and engage with the Community Housing team at the Combined Authority.
- 2.3 Rebel Acres Cooperative have engaged with the Combined Authority Community Housing team and officers at Peterborough City Council in their initial set-up.
- 2.4 The emerging group are committed to providing a small local housing development of around 10 homes that acts as a 'blueprint' or pilot project for carbon neutral homes, based on permaculture principles such as land stewardship, biodiversity-based food growth, and community facilities. Rebel Acres Cooperative is committed to providing homes of varying tenures, including affordable housing, to ensure that their vision is accessible to all.

The group are also seeking to provide facilities and employment opportunities for the wider community, such as workshops for gardening, arts and music, volunteering/ upskilling opportunities, and green space.

Significant Implications

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The £5000 is within the existing budget allocations approved as part of the Medium - Term Financial Plan 2021-25.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The recommendation accords with CPCA's powers under Part 4 Article 11 of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 (SI 2017/251).

5. Other Significant Implications

5.1 There are no other significant implications.

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 – Rebel Acres Cooperative Start-up Grant Application Form

7. Background Papers

7.1 Community Housing Start-up Grant report – Housing and Communities Committee, 14 September 2020. Available on the [Combined Authority Website](#).

7.2 Community Housing Business Case – Combined Authority Board, 27 January 2021. Available on the [Combined Authority Website](#).

7.3 Medium-Term Financial Plan 2021 to 2025 – Combined Authority Board, 27 January 2021. Available on the [Combined Authority Website](#).