



Winchester Office

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17 November 2020

Dear Mr Gibbs

Grant request from Citizens Advice

Citizens Advice Winchester District would like to ask Tichbourne Parish Council for a grant of £400 in Financial Year 21/22. This would go towards helping us to deliver specialist debt advice.

Covid-19 has had an unprecedented impact on people's livelihoods and the financial impact of this will be felt for many months if not years to come. We usually have a peak in debt enquiries in the first few months of the New Year but in 2021 it's expected that client debt issues could increase by as much as 60%.

We have recently recruited two part-time debt advisers to help manage clients with debt issues, but we need to be able to provide them with the right IT equipment and software, and also provide update training on debt to our more general advice volunteers.

We've already helped people with over 500 debt issues since April 2020 and we know that more people from across the District will need our help in the year ahead. We want to ensure that we provide the best service that we possibly can to all of our clients, throughout what is likely to be a very challenging year ahead for our community.

Since the start of the pandemic, almost 50 people from the Upper Meon Valley have sought help from Citizens Advice. Residents from across the District can currently contact us by email, webchat or on our new free phone number (0808 278 7861).

With very best wishes,

Sue Campbell

Dr Sue Campbell

Chief Officer, Citizens Advice Winchester District
Please reply to Liv Thomlinson (Development Officer)
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