

REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CULTURAL AND ENRICHMENT SERVICES**SPORTS GRANT AID 2013-14****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to advise members of the background and process for the allocation of grant aid to sports and to consider the recommendations at paragraph 11.

Background

2. The Corporate Grant Aid Strategy 2011- 2015 agreed the continuation of the following three strands of grants to sports:

Community Sports Fund (CSF) - Sports groups

Rising Stars - Individuals

Shining Stars - Individuals

3. Grant aid was approved as it is recognised that funding to sports groups and individual sports people helps to deliver against NCC's current priorities, specifically, fostering aspiration and promoting the economic prosperity of Nottinghamshire.
4. Grants made under the CSF are for projects with specific outcomes, such as engaging more people in sport, with defined beginning and end dates. In this way, NCC grant-in-aid invests in groups to act as a catalyst for new and appealing activities, but it does not make groups reliant on this funding. The result is a sustainable sports sector more able to adapt and respond to opportunities.
5. As grants awarded are for specific projects with beginning and end dates, as in the case of CSF, these grants do not follow 3 year agreements and run to a different funding timetable to other corporate grant aid streams.
6. All three strands use an online application process hosted on NCC's website. Assessments are made by a panel of officers using a scored decision matrix. The current system has worked well in providing assessing officers with the right information on which to base funding recommendations.

Current Processes**Community Sports Fund (CSF)**

7. The CSF is a grant aid scheme aimed at helping local sports clubs and organisations, by supporting new projects that encourage additional people to get involved in sport. The maximum award is £1,500. The total fund is £16,000.

8. CSF has two rounds of funding, each with a notional allocation of £8,000. **Appendix 1** provides a summary of successful applicants and **Appendix 2** is spreadsheet showing all round 2 applicants to the fund and the outcome of the assessment. Please note all sports and arts grants are one off awards with no further commitment from NCC.

Shining Stars

9. The aim of 'Shining Stars' is to support talented athletes who are currently performing at an international level within their sports. The maximum award is £1,500 for tier one athletes, with a reduced amount being made to second tier athletes. The total funding available in this category is a maximum of £25,000 for 2013/14. **Appendix 3** is a table listing all applicants to the fund and the outcome of the assessment.
10. Shining Stars has one round which opens for applications in the autumn each year. This grant scheme was conceived in the run up to London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games. This will be the last award and the grant scheme is to be closed.

Recommendation

11. It is recommended that Members:
- i. Approve the list of successful CSF applicants in **Appendix 1**.
 - ii. Approve the list of successful Shining Stars applicants in **Appendix 3**.

Statutory and Policy Implications

This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Sue Cullen
Arts & Sports Service Manager
Children Families & Cultural Services
Ext 74687

Constitutional Comments (NAB 08.01.14)

The Grant Aid Sub-Committee has authority to approve the recommendations set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Implications (SEM 17.01.14)

The financial implications are set out in the report

Background Papers and Published Documents

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected All