

**Grant Aid Annual Review:
2015/16**

Appendix 1

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In November 2011 the County Council adopted a Corporate Grant Aid Strategy to cover the period from 2011 to 2015. These features were welcomed by Members and VCS organisations and it was proposed that they were retained for the 2015-2018 period. The key drivers and features of the strategy are:

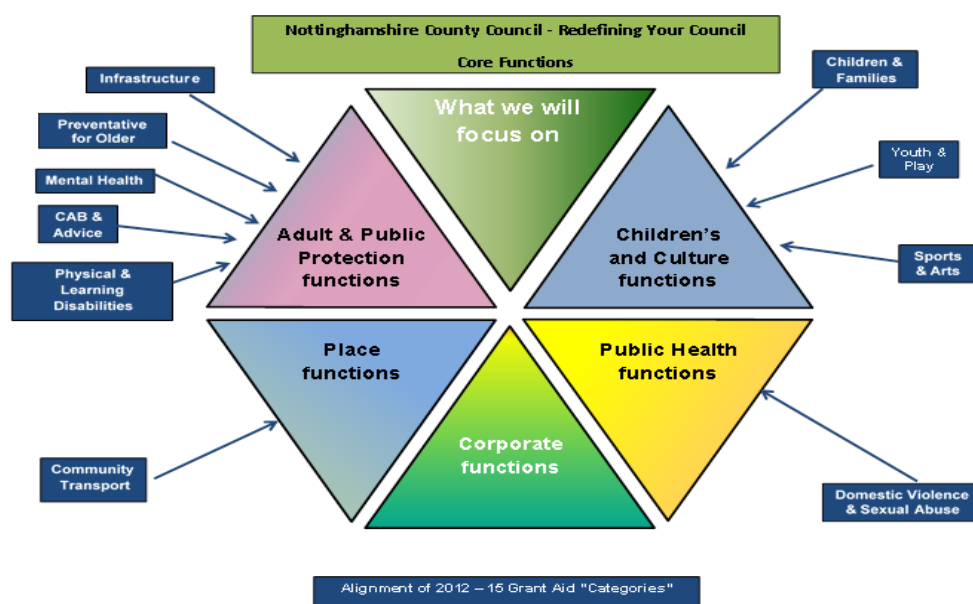
Grant Aid Strategy Features

- Member Led – ensuring that members take a strategic lead on decision making
- Corporate approach – decisions are aligned to the council's priorities
- Recognition of the VCS – valuing the enormous contribution made across the county
- Centralised administration – a streamlined process for the administration of grant aid across the council
- Proportionate at all stages – simple application, 1 or 2 payments each year, monitoring simplified
- Making better use of IT – application & monitoring processes
- Longer agreements – where possible awards will be for a three year period to enable the VCS to forward plan
- Grants to make a contribution towards provision, not to directly purchase key services – making Grant Aid distinct from commissioning.

Grant Aid Strategy Drivers: The VCS and the Grant Aid programme

- Harnesses the time, talents and ambitions of local residents who wish to volunteer
- Reaches excluded or isolated people and communities that the statutory sector sometimes cannot
- Attracts additional resources to Nottinghamshire through grant funding
- Is a significant employer of people and as such is an important part of our mixed economy (State of the Sector - SOS report)
- Assists the Council to improve the quality and accessibility of our own services
- Provides a local Community Voice – advocates for vulnerable people and provides valuable feedback on community consultation

Graphic: Grant Aid service specifications aligned with the Council's Core Functions as detailed in Redefining Your Council and shown below:



Source: Grant Aid Sub Committee Report, July 2014