

Grant Aid Sub-Committee

Tuesday, 20 May 2014 at 14:00

County Hall, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

- 1 To note the appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman by the County Council on 15 May 2014.
- 2 To note the membership of the Sub Committee 2014/15
- 3 minutes 11 March 2014 3 - 4
- 4 Apologies for Absence
- 5 Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)
(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary)
- 6 The Disability Living Centre – Toni Roberts - Presentation
- 7 Review and Refresh of the Corporate Grant Aid Strategy and Proposals for the Grant Aid Process 2015 5 - 12
- 8 Work Programme Report 13 - 18

Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in

the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Dawn Lawrence (Tel. 0115 977 3201) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>

Meeting GRANT AID SUB-COMMITTEE

Date Tuesday 11 March 2014 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Joyce Bosnjak (Chairman)
Martin Suthers (Vice-Chairman)

John Allin
Nicki Brooks
John Cottee

David Kirkham
Keith Longdon A

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Cathy Harvey	Team Manager, Community and Voluntary Sector
Dawn Lawrence	Assistant Democratic Service Officer
Chris Walker	Temporary Group Manager, Safer and Engaged Communities

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**RESOLVED 2014/06**

That the minutes of the last meeting held on 28 January 2014 having been circulated were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Keith Longdon.

The following change of membership, for this meeting only, was reported:-

- Cllr Nicki Brooks to replace Cllr Michael Payne

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

EXTENSION OF GRANT AID AGREEMENTS FOR BEFRIENDING

Cathy Harvey, Team Manager, Community and Voluntary Sector, presented a report seeking approval to extend 7 existing grant aid agreements for organisations that deliver befriending services.

RESOLVED 2014/07

Members approved:

- The extension of the 7 befriending grant aid agreements for a further 12 months from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.
- That the amount awarded to each group be reduced by 10.76%, in line with the planned reduction in the grant aid budget for 2014/15.

GRANT AID FUNDING FOR CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUS

Cathy Harvey, Team Manager, Community and Voluntary Sector, introduced the report seeking approval to transfer 3 long term contracts with Nottinghamshire Citizens Advice Bureaus (CAB's) and Public Health to grant aid agreements for 2014/15 to deliver welfare, debt and benefits advice which contributes to improve health and wellbeing.

RESOLVED 2014/08

Members approved the extension of the 3 CAB services via grant aid agreements for a further 12 months from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

WORK PROGRAMME

Members considered the Committees work programme for 2013/14

RESOLVED 2014/09

That the report was noted.

The meeting closed at 2.15 pm

CHAIRMAN



**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR POLICY, PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES**

**REVIEW & REFRESH OF THE CORPORATE GRANT AID STRATEGY &
PROPOSALS FOR THE GRANT AID PROCESS 2015 – 2018**

Purpose of the Report

1. To agree an approach for a review of the Corporate Grant Aid Strategy and the implementation of a timetable leading to the award of grant aid for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2018.

Information and Advice

2. The County Council has a long history of working with and supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector [VCS]. The council recognises that the VCS:
 - 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
 - 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
3. In November 2011 the County Council adopted a Corporate Grant Aid Strategy that was intended to cover the period from 2011 to 2015. A copy of the strategy is available
4. The key drivers and features of the current strategy are:
 - 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 Voluntary & Community Sector (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 – simpler 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
5. The agreed budget for grant aid for 2012/13 & 2013/14 was £2,141,000 and reduces to £1,916,000 in 2014/15. Whilst no allocation has been agreed for the years going forward the Council remains committed to working with the VCS, the need to review and refresh the Corporate Grant Aid Strategy is part of this commitment.
6. The **Appendix** is a proposed timetable for the committee to approve. It covers a period of 18 months, commencing with the approval of the recommendations in this report and leading to the award of 3 year grant aid agreements in July 2015. Key milestones in the timetable include:
- 20 May 2014 – Agree timetable for refresh of Grant Aid Strategy & process leading to the awards for 2015-18
 - 1 June 2014 – Online survey of existing recipients regarding 2011-15 strategy & process
 - Sept 2014 – Members agree refreshed Strategy, themes, indicative budget & application process
 - Sept 2014 – Countywide consultation on draft Strategy & 2015-18 “themes”
 - 1 Oct 2014 to 21 Nov 2014 – Application window
 - 22 Nov 2014 to 20 Dec 2014 – Application assessments
 - 27 Jan 2015 – Members decisions on awards 2015-18
 - 1 July 2015 – New 3 year agreements commence

Financial Implications

7. Currently no allocation for grant aid beyond 2014/15 has been agreed by the council

Other Options Considered

8. To cease the grant aid programme, this would have a significant impact on the sector and those who benefit from the programme we currently resource. There would be loss of valuable support to some of the most vulnerable people in the County. This is not thought to be a viable option, despite the serious financial pressures faced by the County Council – the value of the contributions made by the VCS are recognized.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

9. To meet our ongoing commitment to working with the VCS in Nottinghamshire we should put in place a clear process for refreshing our Grant Aid Strategy, giving the VCS the opportunity through consultation to influence both the timetable and the themes we intend to support going forward.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, 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.

RECOMMENDATION

11. It is recommended that the Grant Aid Sub-Committee agree the proposed timetable for the refresh of the Grant Aid Strategy and the process leading up to the award of Grant Aid Agreements for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2018.

Jayne Francis-Ward

CORPORATE DIRECTOR POLICY, PLANNING AND CORPORATE SERVICES

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Cathy Harvey

**Team Manager, Community and Voluntary Sector Team
0115 97 73415**

Constitutional Comments (NAB 8.3.14)

The Grant Aid Sub-Committee has authority for grant aid as set out in the Council's Grant Aid Strategy and is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (SEM 7.3.14)

The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Working with the Voluntary & Community Sector
Corporate Grant Aid Strategy 2011- 2015

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

ALL

Appendix 2

Timetable for 2015-18 Grant Aid Strategy Refresh.

Key:

Action by:-
Grant Aid Committee/Members
NCC Voluntary & Community Sector Team
Voluntary & Community Sector

Action/Activity	2014			2015		
	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Paper to GA Sub committee agreeing timetable for 2015-18 process.	20 May					
Use outcome of NCC Strategic Plan consultation & NCC Operational Model to help shape draft priorities.	May - Jun					
Survey existing grant aid recipients about the processes and changes implemented in the 2011-15 GA Strategy.	1 June 14 June					
Agree an initial set of "GA Priority Themes" with GA Sub Chair/Vice Chair.		Jul				
Members agree refreshed Grant Aid Strategy, indicative budget and application process		Sept				
New Grant Aid Strategy & 2015-18 application process published.			Oct			
Application closing date			21 Nov			
Service Lead officers/CVS Team:- - Assess applications - Complete			22 Nov 20 Dec			

Action/Activity	2014			2015		
	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
recommendation forms.						

Schedule & report complete for January 15 GA Sub-committee – Member approval				Jan		
Successful applicants notified.				Jan		
Unsuccessful applicants notified.				Jan		
Existing organisations who were unsuccessful given formal notification that their current agreement will end on 30 June 15.				Jan		
Agreements sent out for signing off.				1 Feb 28 Feb		
Agreements returned					12 Feb 31 Mar	
New Agreements commence						1 Jul

20 May 2014**Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, POLICY, PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES****WORK PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2014.

Information and Advice

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The attached work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified.
4. As part of the transparency introduced by the new committee arrangements, committees are expected to review day to day operational decisions made by officers using their delegated powers. It is anticipated that the committee will wish to commission periodic reports on such decisions. The committee is therefore requested to identify activities on which it would like to receive reports for inclusion in the work programme. It may be that the presentations about activities in the committee's remit will help to inform this.

Other Options Considered

5. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, 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.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the committee's work programme be noted, and consideration be given to any changes which the committee wishes to make.

Jayne Francis-Ward

Corporate Director, Policy, Planning and Corporate Services

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Democratic Services Officer -

Dawn Lawrence

Tel: 0115 977 3201

Constitutional Comments (SLB)

8. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (PS)

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

GRANT AID SUB-COMMITTEE

WORK PROGRAMME

<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>	<u>For Decision or Information ?</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Report Author</u>
January 2014				
Infrastructure development	The direction of CVS/Infrastructure Service	Information	Cathy Harvey	Fiona Simpson
		Decision	Cathy Harvey	Cathy Harvey
Arts and Sports	Allocation of funding	Decision	Sue Cullen	Kevin Tennant
March 2014				
Be-Friending GA	Approval of further extension	Decision	Cathy Harvey	Paul Roberts
CAB Funding	Allocation of funding	Decision	Cathy Harvey	Cathy Harvey
May 2014				
Grant Aid Strategy Review	To agree approach to grant aid	Decision	Cathy Harvey	Paul Roberts
Disability Living Centre	To share with members how the grant awarded is making a difference	Information	Cathy Harvey	No report
Sept 14				
Strategy Refresh	To agree key themes and indicative budget	Decision	Cathy Harvey	Paul Roberts
Volunteering Policy/Strategy	To agree NCC approach to internal volunteers	Decision	Cathy Harvey	Paul Roberts
Nottinghamshire Council for School Sports	To consider grant	Decision	Steve Bradley	Steve Bradley
Dec 14				
Annual Review of Grant Aid	To share outcomes of Grant aid in 13/14	Information	Cathy Harvey	Joanne Fletcher Nesbeth
Presentation - TBC	To share with members how the grant awarded is making a difference	Information	No Report	

