



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

GRANT AID INNOVATION FUND 2015/16

Purpose of the Report

1. To agree an approach and process for the 2015/16 Nottinghamshire County Council Grant Aid Innovation Fund.

Information and Advice

2. At the meeting in March 2015 the Grant Aid Committee agreed a grant aid funding package in 2015/16 totaling £1,748,900 to support projects in the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS).
3. Within this budget a sum of £50,000 each year has been ring-fenced to support new and innovative proposals to be considered for funding.
4. This fund has been created to:
 - Facilitate new and innovative ways of working
 - Support projects requiring one-off investment – Kick Start funding
5. The proposal is that the first year of the innovation fund seeks to support **Youth Projects** which provide positive activities for young people between the ages of 10-19 (up to 25 years in respect of young people with disabilities).

Amount of Grant Awards

6. The total fund for 2015/16 is £50,000; applications are sought for grants of a minimum of £2,000 and a maximum of £10,000. This means that the total number of awards available will be between 5 and 25.

Fund Application Process

7. An open application round is proposed to be launched in June 2015, this will consist of an application form/business case – a sample application form is contained at appendix 1.

Assessment Criteria

8. When assessing bids, the Grant Aid Sub-Committee will be asked to consider the following:
- **Innovation:** whether the project will test new / creative approaches or solutions or deliver increased capability to do so;
 - **Sustainability:** whether the project can be sustained after the funding ends;
 - **Benefits:** the short term benefits that will occur during the life of the project; and the anticipated legacy
 - **Other funding & support:** levels of other funding or support (e.g. in kind support) committed to the work;
 - **Deliverability:** that young people are involved in the design, delivery and management of the project; that the project objectives are achievable given the capacity and capability of the organisation and the available resources.

Timetable

9. The following timetable is proposed:-

19 May 15	Members consider proposal for the Innovation Fund
19 June 15	Fund is launched and Applications are invited
31 August 15	Closing date for applications
13 October 15	Members consider applications and make recommendations.
1 January 16	Projects commence
March & Sept 16	Review and updates to Grant Aid Sub-Committee

Other Options Considered

10. A commitment to early intervention and prevention is a key part of the Council's strategic approach. The design of the process for this fund fully takes this into account and no other options were considered.

Financial Implications

11. The costs associated with the proposal is £50,000, this amount was ring-fenced as part of the annual Grant Aid allocation at the March 2015 Grant Aid Sub-Committee.

Reason(s) for Recommendation(s)

12. The proposal being recommended supports the strategic approach to early intervention and prevention, by targeting youth projects.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. 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)

Members are asked to consider the proposal for the Innovation Fund, Specifically,

- a) Agree that the Innovation fund for 2015/16 should be used to support projects that are targeted at Youth Projects.
- b) Endorse the application and assessment process detailed in paragraph 7 & 8.
- c) Agree the implementation timetable detailed in paragraph 9.

Jayne Francis-Ward

CORPORATE DIRECTOR POLICY, PLANNING AND CORPORATE SERVICES

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LM 27/04/15)

The Grant Aid Sub Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report

Financial Comments (SES 23/04/15)

The financial implications are set out in the 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

Nottinghamshire County Council

Grant Aid Innovation Fund 2015/16

Criteria & Guidance
June 2015

Background

In March 2015 Nottinghamshire County Council's Grant Aid Committee made decisions committing £5.25 million over three years to support projects in the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS).

Within this budget £50,000 each year has been ring-fenced to enable new and innovative proposals to be considered for funding.

Specifically this fund has been designed to;

- Facilitate new and innovative ways of working
- Support projects requiring one-off investment – Kick Start funding

What type of Projects will be supported by the innovation fund in 2015/16?

- Projects that involve young people in the design, delivery and management of the project
- Projects that empower young people within their communities
- Projects that build capability in voluntary and community organisations, helping them contribute to services & outcomes delivered by the council
- Projects that look to develop council delivery models, improving efficiency and quality of services for the community

What priorities should the project target?

The first year of the Innovation Fund is looking for projects which encourage and provide support for young people aged 10-19 (up to 25 years in respect of young people with disabilities).

Services that will be considered for funding include:

- Youth Centres/Clubs
- Mobile and street based youth work
- Targeted youth support for vulnerable young people who may be at future risk of further problems such as ill health, unemployment, substance misuse, youth offending, teenage pregnancy and homelessness.

Organisations Eligible to Apply

You can apply if you are:

A registered charity (this could be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), an unincorporated association, a trust or charitable (not-for-profit) company limited by guarantee)

A voluntary / community group that is not registered as a charity

A Friendly Society or an Industrial and Provident (Community Benefit) Society with charitable purposes and registered with an appropriate regulator

A community interest company (CIC) with charitable activities and limited by guarantee

A social enterprise (set up using a recognised legal form).

Application and Assessment Process

A Business Case/Application is prepared which summarises the project, outcomes, timescales, costs, other funding, innovation, sustainability and legacy. **See Appendix A**

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Amount of Grant Awards

The total fund for 2015/16 is £50,000; applications are sought for grants of a minimum of £2,000 and a maximum of £10,000. This means that the total number of awards available will be between 5 and 25.

Successful Applicant/s

A formal grant agreement will be drawn up, and regular reports on progress will be required in addition to a final report on the impact of the programme.

Further Information

If you require further information about the Grant Aid Innovation Fund, please email cvs.team@nottsc.gov.uk or telephone Paul Roberts 0115 9772455

