



Cabinet Report

Report of: Laraine Manley

Report to: Cabinet

Date: 17th February 2016

Subject: Voluntary Sector Grant Aid Budget 2016-17

Author of Report: Alex Shilkoff, 0114 27 35140

Key Decision: YES

Reason Key Decision: Expenditure over £500,000
Affects 2 or more wards

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for recommended investment in the voluntary and community sector for 2016/17 from the Council's Grant Aid Budget. This budget is subject to approval of the Council budget for 2016/17 to be adopted at Council on 4th March 2016.

The proposed Grant Aid budget for 2016/17 is £1,663,730.

Voluntary Sector Grant Aid is split into two funds -

- Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund
- Voluntary Sector Grants Fund (three themes)
 - Tackling Poverty and Financial Exclusion

- Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver
- Promoting Social Inclusion and Justice

It is proposed that the Grant Aid Budget is allocated in the following way between funds

Lunch Club Fund	£147,000
Voluntary Sector Grants Fund	£1,516,730
Total Grant Aid	£1,663,730

Following the decision made by cabinet in February 2014 a review of the Council's Grant Aid criteria and processes has been taking place along with a wider assessment of how the Council invests in the Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) Sector. Work has been progressed in line with the cabinet report in 2015 but will not be completed until May 2016. This will mean the launch of a new grant regime in summer 2016.

See table at Appendix 4 for information about work completed and work planned.

Due to the whole of the review not being completed in 2015 it is proposed to extend the existing grant aid arrangements into financial year 2016/17. It is proposed to launch a new grant fund to replace the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund, following consultation with the VCF sector, which will include revised funding priorities. It is envisaged the new fund will open for applications in summer 2016 for funding that will commence in April 2017. This will therefore give all parties ample time to adapt to the new arrangements in time for April 2017.

In order to allow this work to progress throughout 2016 it is proposed that all the existing Voluntary Sector Grants Fund Funding agreements will be extended for a further 12 months up to 31st March 2017, to all existing grant recipients, by means of Variation Agreements to their existing funding agreement. Awards in 2015-16 were Variation Agreements of the original awards made for the period 1st April 2014- 31st March 2015

All but one of grant awards in the 12 month extension period will be the same value as the previous 12 month award.

Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre received some 2016/17 funds in 2015/16 to progress, in a timely manner, service improvement plan work for the advice service. Therefore, it is proposed that in 2016/17 Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre will receive proportionately less money to take into account this advance payment in 2015/16.

The funded outputs and outcomes of the grant to Young Women's Housing project will be reviewed during the year to take account of any changes to service delivery as a result of the planned re-tendering of the Housing Independent Service (HIS) contract in 2016-17.

Applications to the Lunch Club Fund have been invited as per the usual grant cycle for Lunch Club Grants.

The Council's Voluntary Sector Grant Aid budget is managed by the Voluntary Sector Liaison Team that forms part of Libraries & Community Services, which is part of the Communities portfolio.

Reasons for Recommendations:

The allocation of this funding to preventative services will fundamentally contribute to the Values, Priorities and Strategic Outcomes of the Council's Corporate Plan 2015-18. In particular -

Priorities

- Tackling inequalities
- Better health and wellbeing
- In-touch organisation

In addition, the allocation of this funding will contribute to the Fairness Commission's recommendations around -

- Health & Wellbeing for All
- Fair Access to High Quality Jobs and Pay
- Fair Access to Benefits and Credit
- Housing and a Better Environment
- A Safe City
- What Citizens and Communities can do

Recommendations:

	<p>Cabinet is asked, having had due regard to the provisions of Sections 149 and 158 of the Equality Act 2010 and Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and to the issues raised by those provisions, to approve the grant agreement extension recommendations listed in Section 4 of this report, and detailed further in Appendix 1.</p>
	<p>Cabinet is asked to endorse the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund grant agreement extension process described in Appendix 2 and to approve the actions, arrangements and recommendations at Sections 4 and 11, and the following specific delegations:-</p> <p>The Executive Director of Communities is authorised:-</p> <p>(a) to administer the Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund as described in Appendix 1;</p> <p>(i) to agree the terms of and authorise the completion of all funding agreements, including amendments to the terms of any existing grant funding agreements, relating to grants made from the Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund and the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund, together with any other associated agreements or arrangements that they may consider appropriate, provided that if the terms of a proposed funding agreement or amendments to the terms of an existing agreement involve the variation of any standard terms previously agreed by Internal Audit and / or Legal Services the agreement shall not be completed without the consent of the Chief Internal Auditor and the Director of Legal and Governance;</p> <p>(ii) where (a) a change of circumstance affects the ability of an organisation to deliver the purpose of the grant awarded, (b) the Executive Director of Communities considers the performance of the organisation to be below an acceptable standard or (c) an organisation has breached any of the award conditions contained in their funding agreement, to review, adjust or suspend grant awards;</p> <p>(b) The Executive Director of Communities, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health, is authorised:-</p> <p>to agree the amounts, purposes and recipients of any individual grants</p>

(i)	awarded in year from the Grant Funds including any additional sums received or returned or unpaid funds
(ii)	where (a) a change of circumstance affects the ability of an organisation to deliver the purpose of the grant awarded or (b) the Executive Director of Communities considers the performance of the organisation to be below an acceptable standard or (c) an organisation has breached any of the award conditions contained in their funding agreement, to withdraw grant awards.
(iii)	to allocate any other additional sums that may be received in year from other parts of the Council or other partners as part of the Council Grant Aid process to fund local voluntary sector activity

Background Papers:

February 2014 Voluntary Sector Grant Fund Cabinet Report

February 2015 Voluntary Sector Grant Fund Cabinet Report

Category of Report: OPEN

If CLOSED add 'Not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).'

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES Cleared by: Richard Jones
Legal Implications
YES Cleared by: Sarah Bennett
Equality of Opportunity Implications
YES Cleared by: Simon Richards
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
YES Cleared by: Stephen Horsley
Human Rights Implications
NO Cleared by:
Environmental and Sustainability implications
NO Cleared by:
Economic Impact
NO Cleared by:
Community Safety Implications
NO Cleared by:
Human Resources Implications
NO Cleared by:
Property Implications
NO Cleared by:
Area(s) Affected
All Wards
Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Lead
Cllr Mazher Iqbal
Relevant Scrutiny Committee
Safer & Stronger Communities
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press Release
YES

1.0 Summary

1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval for recommended investment in the voluntary and community sector for 2016/17 from the Council's Grant Aid Budget. This budget is subject to approval of the Council budget for 2016/17 to be adopted at Council on 4 th March 2016.						
1.2	The proposed Grant Aid budget for 2016/17 is £1,663,730.						
1.3	<p>Voluntary Sector Grant Aid is split into two funds -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund • Voluntary Sector Grants Fund (three themes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tackling Poverty and Financial Exclusion - Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver - Promoting Social Inclusion and Justice <p>It is proposed that the Grant Aid Budget is allocated in the following way between funds</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="430 1031 1321 1129"> <tr> <td>Lunch Club Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£147,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Voluntary Sector Grants Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,516,730</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Grant Aid</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,663,730</td> </tr> </table>	Lunch Club Fund	£147,000	Voluntary Sector Grants Fund	£1,516,730	Total Grant Aid	£1,663,730
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Total Grant Aid	£1,663,730						
1.4	<p>Following the decision made by cabinet in February 2014 a review of the Council's Grant Aid criteria and processes has been taking place along with a wider assessment of how the Council invests in the Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) Sector. Work has been progressed in line with the cabinet report in 2015 but will not be completed until May 2016. This will mean the launch of a new grant regime in summer 2016.</p> <p>See table at Appendix 4 for information about work completed and work planned.</p>						
1.5	<p>Due to the whole of the review not being completed in 2015 it is proposed to extend the existing grant aid arrangements into financial year 2016/17. It is proposed to launch a new grant fund to replace the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund, following consultation with the VCF sector, which will include revised funding priorities. It is envisaged the new fund will open for applications in summer 2016 for funding that will commence in April 2017. This will therefore give all parties ample time to adapt to the new arrangements in time for April 2017.</p> <p>In order to allow this work to progress throughout 2016 it is proposed that</p>						

	<p>all the existing Voluntary Sector Grants Fund Funding agreements will be extended for a further 12 months up to 31st March 2017, to all existing grant recipients, by means of Variation Agreements to their existing funding agreement. Awards in 2015-16 were Variation Agreements of the original awards made for the period 1st April 2014- 31st March 2015</p> <p>All but one of grant awards in the 12 month extension period will be the same value as the previous 12 month award.</p>
1.6	<p>Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre received some 2016/17 funds in 2015/16 to progress, in a timely manner, service improvement plan work for the advice service. Therefore, it is proposed that in 2016/17 Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre will receive proportionately less money to take into account this advance payment in 2015/16.</p>
1.7	<p>The funded outputs and outcomes of the grant to Young Women’s Housing project will be reviewed during the year to take account of any changes to service delivery as a result of the planned re-tendering of the Housing Independent Service (HIS) contract in 2016-17.</p>
1.8	<p>Applications to the Lunch Club Fund have been invited as per the usual grant cycle for Lunch Club Grants.</p>
1.10	<p>The Council’s Voluntary Sector Grant Aid budget is managed by the Voluntary Sector Liaison Team that forms part of Libraries & Community Services, which is part of the Communities portfolio.</p>

2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE

2.1	<p>The grants recommended in Appendix 1 of this report will continue to support activities and services that will directly benefit a wide range of vulnerable local citizens. Beneficiaries from the grant agreement extension recommendations in Appendix 1 will include the following groups of vulnerable local people –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those in need of advice and advocacy services • Households in financial need • Older people • Homeless people • Adults with limited mobility who are unable to get out and
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	<p>about to engage in activities and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnic minority women • Refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals • Mental health service users • Street drinkers • Young women <p>Organisations awarded an extension to their grant agreement will be asked to monitor service use, to provide a diversity profile of their service users and report how they manage their user consultation and involvement.</p>
2.2	<p>The majority of the grant agreement extension recommendations in Appendix 1 will encourage significant opportunities for local people to contribute to the wellbeing of their communities by engaging in volunteering. They will support organisations providing quality training and the opportunity to gain experience that will enhance volunteers' skills and employability.</p>
2.3	<p>The grant agreement extension recommendations in Appendix 1 will enable local people to engage in active citizenship as trustees and management committee members shaping and guiding the development of these organisations and the services they provide.</p>
2.4	<p>The majority of the grant agreement extension recommendations in Appendix 1 will provide employment opportunities for local people by helping to sustain organisations that employ paid staff.</p>
2.5	<p>The Lunch Club fund, a distinct fund within the Council's Grant Aid Budget is an amount used to provide grants to a network of local lunch clubs. The majority of lunch clubs are small self-help groups run entirely by volunteers that encourage older people to participate in a range of activities that reduce social isolation and promote health and wellbeing in older age. A lunch club review in 2015 highlighted that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch clubs have a preventative role and can help delay the need

	<p>for costly social care packages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch clubs are a cost effective way of helping to tackle social isolation of older people • Almost 2,000 older people aged 65+ attend lunch clubs, of which 55% of members are aged over 80 years of age, receiving almost 70,000 hot meals • 653 people are involved in volunteering at a lunch club and between them contribute 63,500 hours a year • There is a social return of £3.35 for every £1 invested.
2.6	<p>Also in 2015 Lunch Clubs have been supported through the fund to get to grips with allergen regulations, insurance compliance, recruiting new members and volunteers, and hosting creative and stimulating activities.</p>

3.0 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY

3.1	<p>The allocation of this funding to preventative services will fundamentally contribute to the Priorities of the Council's Corporate Plan 2015-18. In particular -</p> <p><u>Priorities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling inequalities • Better health and wellbeing • In-touch organisation
3.2	<p>Since 2013 Sheffield City Council has been responsible for the delivery of Public Health priorities in the city, including tackling health inequalities.</p> <p>In terms of current Public Health priorities the proposals would particularly support improvements for Sheffield people relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Services; helping those with the greatest needs access

	<p>services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and economic factors; particularly supporting people into education • Mental Wellbeing; especially helping reduce isolation and improve people's sense of control
3.3	<p>In addition, the allocation of this funding will contribute to the Fairness Commission's recommendations around -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Wellbeing for All • Fair Access to High Quality Jobs and Pay • Fair Access to Benefits and Credit • Housing and a Better Environment • A Safe City • What Citizens and Communities can do
3.4	<p>The Voluntary Sector Grants Fund grant agreement extension recommendations in this report will fulfil a number of functions, including providing core funding to sustain VCF organisations where alternative income streams are not available and enabling organisations to lever in other funding.</p>
3.5	<p>Based on monitoring returns for 2014-15 it is estimated that the activity delivered by organisations recommended for funding by the Voluntary Sector Grant Fund will be enhanced by approximately 800 volunteers giving 34,580 hours per year. If all volunteers were paid the minimum wage this would equate to £232,000 per year.</p> <p>Monitoring of the Lunch Club Fund in 2014-15 demonstrates that Lunch Clubs 653 volunteers give 63,500 hours per year. If these volunteers were paid at minimum wage level this would equate to £425,000 per year.</p>
3.6	<p>Whilst the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund grants are being continued organisations will be encouraged to continue to build on last year's achievements and this will be reflected, where appropriate, in revised outputs and outcomes in their Variation Agreements; as well as a</p>

	challenge to continue to make efficiency savings and change their operations in order to remain sustainable.
3.7	The Council's Grant Aid compliments the Council's development of an Equality Hubs Network for individuals and groups, who belong to a community of identity (COI) specifically identified as protected characteristics within the Equality Act 2010 who are currently under-represented in existing voice and influence arrangements.

4.0 FULL PROPOSAL

4.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval for recommended investment in the voluntary and community sector for 2016/17 from the Council's Grant Aid Budget. This budget is subject to approval of the Council budget for 2016/17 to be adopted at Council on 4 th March 2016.						
4.2	The proposed Grant Aid budget for 2016/17 is £1,663,730.						
4.3	<p>Voluntary Sector Grant Aid is split into two funds -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund • Voluntary Sector Grants Fund (three themes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tackling Poverty and Financial Exclusion - Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver - Promoting Social Inclusion and Justice <p>It is proposed that the Grant Aid Budget is allocated in the following way between funds</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Lunch Club Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£147,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Voluntary Sector Grants Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,516,730</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Grant Aid</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,663,730</td> </tr> </table>	Lunch Club Fund	£147,000	Voluntary Sector Grants Fund	£1,516,730	Total Grant Aid	£1,663,730
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4.4	<p>Following the decision made by cabinet in February 2014 a review of the Council's Grant Aid criteria and processes has been taking place along with a wider assessment of how the Council invests in the Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) Sector. Work has been progressed in line with the cabinet report in 2015 but will not be completed until May 2016. This will mean the launch of a new grant regime in summer 2016.</p> <p>See table at Appendix 4 for information about work completed and work</p>						

	planned.
4.5	<p>Due to the whole of the review not being completed in 2015 it is proposed to extend the existing grant aid arrangements into financial year 2016/17. It is proposed to launch a new grant fund to replace the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund, following consultation with the VCF sector, which will most likely include revised funding priorities. It is envisaged the new fund will open for applications in summer 2016 for funding that will commence in April 2017. This will therefore give all parties ample time to adapt to the new arrangements in time for April 2017.</p> <p>In order to allow this work to progress throughout 2016 it is proposed that all the existing Voluntary Sector Grants Fund Funding agreements will be extended for 12 months up to 31st March 2017, to all existing grant recipients, by means of Variation Agreements to their existing funding agreement. Awards in 2015-16 were Variation Agreements of the original awards made for the period 1st April 2014- 31st March 2015</p> <p>All but one of grant awards in the 12 month extension period will be the same value as the previous 12 month award.</p>
4.6	<p>Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre which received some 2016/17 funds in 2015/16 to progress in a timely manner service improvement plan work for the advice service. Therefore, it is proposed that in 2016/17 Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre will receive proportionately less money to take into account this advance payment in 2015/16.</p>
4.7	<p>The funded outputs and outcomes of the grant to Young Women's Housing project will be reviewed during the year to take account of any changes to service delivery as a result of the planned re-tendering the Housing Independent Service (HIS) contract in 2016-17.</p>
4.8	<p>Applications to the Lunch Club Fund have been invited as per the usual grant cycle for Lunch Club Grants.</p>
4.9	<p>The proposal and recommendations within this report have been submitted to the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Equality. The original arrangements that this report seeks to extend were approved by the Grants Awards Recommendation Panel, which was made up of the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Equality, his advisors and the Head of Libraries & Community Services. Details of the whole process used to come to this proposal and recommendations can be seen in Appendix 2.</p>

4.10	<p>Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund - The purpose of this fund is to promote the Council's strategy to support the independence, health and wellbeing of older people by making available a fund offering grants to lunch clubs. Further details on this fund can be seen in Appendix 1. The Grants Awards Recommendation Panel proposes that £147,000 is allocated to a Lunch Clubs small grants fund.</p>
4.11	<p>Voluntary Sector Grants Fund – this fund has three themes</p> <p>a) <u>Tackling Poverty and Financial Exclusion</u>– this theme focuses on providing city-wide Advice. It is proposed that £876,000 is allocated to Sheffield Citizens Advice and Law Centre.</p>
b)	<p><u>Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver</u> - This theme supports city-wide VCF infrastructure activity that ensures -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Local voluntary and community sector groups and organisations are able to access advice and support to develop their skills and capacity and are able to improve their prospects of developing and maintaining a diverse funding base so that they function effectively in line with best practice. ii) Local voluntary and community sector groups and organisations are able to recruit the volunteers they need and to develop their skills and knowledge to manage volunteers to best practice standards. iii) The actions from the recent Lunch Club Review continue to be taken forward so that the groups operate safely and effectively, provide high quality activities for their members and are part of a thriving network that is well informed, responsive to changing needs and sustainable for future generations. <p>In 2014-15 three organisations came together to make a single joint application to address points (i) and (ii). It is proposed that funding for 2016-17 is awarded to these organisations to continue this work. It is proposed allocating £140,800. This will be split as follows -</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Action Sheffield - £76,000 • South Yorkshire Community Foundation (inc. South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau) - £37,800 • Creative Pathways - £27,000 <p>In order to address point (iii) it is proposed that £42,186 is allocated to the Voluntary Action Sheffield Lunch Club Support and Development Service.</p> <p>Therefore a total of £182,986 is allocated to this theme</p>
c)	<p><u>Promoting Social Inclusion and Justice</u> – provision of city-wide support for our most vulnerable adults that helps prevent them having to access statutory services, such as social services or health services.</p> <p>The organisations funded in 2015/16 supported the following groups of vulnerable people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households in financial need • Homeless people • Adults with limited mobility who are unable to get out and about to engage in activities and services • Ethnic minority women • Refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals • Mental health service users • Street drinkers • Young women <p>The recommendation is that the following grants be awarded to the below organisations that work with various vulnerable groups that will be targeted.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben’s Centre – £53,650 • City of Sanctuary - £24,245 • Emmaus Sheffield – £18,400 • Heeley City Farm - £25,313 • Mental Health Action Group – £10,500 • Pakistan Advice and Community Association - £31,500 • Roshni Asian Women’s Resource Centre – £43,601 • Sheffield Chinese Community Centre - £24,300 • Sheffield Community Transport - £20,400 • Shopmobility Sheffield - £14,000 • Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English– £34,140 • Voluntary Action Sheffield (New Beginnings) - £17,400 • St. Vincent de Paul – £64,020 • St. Wilfrid’s - £48,275 • Young Women’s Housing Project - £28,000 <p>Therefore a total of £457,744 is allocated to this theme</p>
4.12	<p>Further details of the recommended extended grant arrangements from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund are attached to this report as Appendix 1, which provides brief details of the amount and purpose of the award being recommended. Each grant included in Appendix 1 is subject to a Funding Agreement that sets out the outputs, outcomes, milestones and conditions on which the funding is granted together with a budget of how the grant will be spent. Every grant is subject to a set of standard grant conditions approved by Legal Services. It is proposed that authority to attach additional conditions to a grant be delegated to the Executive Director of Communities where s/he considers these appropriate following the assessment process.</p>

4.13	If conditions and terms of agreements are not met then quarterly payments may be delayed or withheld.
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5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1	The proposed Council Grant Aid budget for 2016/17 is £1,663,730 .																		
5.2	As part of the Council's budget setting process an Equality Impact Assessment was completed in January 2016. The impact on communities of interest and protected characteristics is positive. The key action is to continue to encourage all groups in receipt of VSGF and Lunch Club grants to continue to improve their equalities monitoring and use the information to improve their service.																		
5.3	The recommendations presented take into account of other funding that the organisations may be in receipt of from elsewhere in the Council.																		
5.4	Wherever relevant, support will be provided to local VCF organisations in their applications to other external funders. The proposed allocation to infrastructure support services will help to enable local VCF organisations to identify and apply for external funding.																		
5.5	<p>The financial implications arising from the proposals contained within this report can be summarised as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="324 1218 1323 1608"> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1218 1039 1260">Lunch Clubs Fund</td> <td data-bbox="1039 1218 1071 1260">-</td> <td data-bbox="1071 1218 1323 1260">£147,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="324 1281 1323 1323">Voluntary Sector Grants Fund:</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1344 1039 1386">Tackling Poverty and Financial Inclusion</td> <td data-bbox="1039 1344 1071 1386">-</td> <td data-bbox="1071 1344 1323 1386">£876,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1407 1039 1449">Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver</td> <td data-bbox="1039 1407 1071 1449">-</td> <td data-bbox="1071 1407 1323 1449">£182,986</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1470 1039 1512">Promoting Social Inclusion and Justice</td> <td data-bbox="1039 1470 1071 1512">-</td> <td data-bbox="1071 1470 1323 1512">£457,744</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1533 1039 1575">Total</td> <td data-bbox="1039 1533 1071 1575">-</td> <td data-bbox="1071 1533 1323 1575">£1,663,730</td> </tr> </table>	Lunch Clubs Fund	-	£147,000	Voluntary Sector Grants Fund:			Tackling Poverty and Financial Inclusion	-	£876,000	Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver	-	£182,986	Promoting Social Inclusion and Justice	-	£457,744	Total	-	£1,663,730
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Total	-	£1,663,730																	
5.6	Other sums may be received in year from other parts of the Council or other partners to be managed as part of the Council Grant Aid process to fund local voluntary sector activity. It is recommended that decisions to award grants in year from the Council Grant Aid budget, including any additional sums, returned or unpaid funds, be delegated to the Executive Director of Communities in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Equality.																		

5.7	As with all public funding we need to ensure that we achieve good value for money from this investment and that our spending in the voluntary sector helps to achieve wider efficiencies that are crucial at this time of reducing budgets. Each recommended extended grant arrangement will be the subject of a funding agreement that will stipulate the specific outputs and outcomes to be achieved by the organisation in return for the grant extension. Performance will be monitored against this agreement during the grant period.
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6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1	The legal power for the Council to establish, administer and make awards from the various grant funds as described in this report is provided by the general power of competence contained in Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. Subject to certain statutory restrictions, none of which apply in this case, Section 1 gives the Council “power to do anything that individuals generally may do”.
6.2	In considering this report Cabinet must be mindful of the requirements imposed by the public sector equality duty enacted in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. Some of the proposals in this report involve the taking of action to assist persons sharing ‘protected characteristics’ within the meaning of the 2010 Act to overcome or minimise disadvantage or otherwise meet their needs. This is permitted by Section 158 of the 2010 Act. More details are set out below in section 7 of this report.
6.3	Cabinet must also have due regard to the likely effect of the proposals on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder, the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and re-offending in its area (Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998). More details are set out below in section 8 of this report

7.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1	Section 149(1), Equality Act 2010 (the ‘public sector equality duty’) places a statutory duty on the Council to ‘have due regard’ when exercising its
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	<p>functions to the need to:-</p> <p>(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;</p> <p>(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;</p> <p>(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.</p>
7.2	<p>Section 149(3) goes on to provide that having due regard to the need to advance such equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:-</p> <p>(a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;</p> <p>(b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it; and</p> <p>(c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.</p>
7.3	<p>For the purposes of Section 149 the relevant protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.</p>
7.4	<p>Section 149(6) recognises that compliance with the Section 149 duties may involve treating some persons more favourably than others. However, this does not to permit conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under the Act.</p>
7.5	<p>Section 158 provides that if the Council reasonably thinks that:-</p> <p>(a) persons who share a protected characteristic suffer a disadvantage connected to the characteristic,</p>

	<p>(b) persons who share a protected characteristic have needs that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it, or</p> <p>(c) participation in an activity by persons who share a protected characteristic is disproportionately low, then the Act does not prohibit the Council from taking any action which is a proportionate means of achieving the aim of:-</p> <p>(i) enabling or encouraging persons who share the protected characteristic to overcome or minimise that disadvantage,</p> <p>(ii) meeting those needs, or</p> <p>(iii) enabling or encouraging persons who share the protected characteristic to participate in that activity.</p>
7.6	<p>In considering the original Voluntary Sector Grants Fund application assessments (for grants awarded in 2014-15) the 2014 Grants Award Recommendation Panel was mindful of the equalities impact of the decisions they were making. The organisations to be funded have identified potential users with protected characteristics and described how they ensure open and equal access to their services. In formulating their recommendations to Cabinet and deciding whether or not to recommend an award, the Panel took into account this information.</p> <p>The variation agreements to these original awards will include the need to monitor equalities information.</p>
7.7	<p>Some of the proposed extended Voluntary Sector Grants Fund awards are to groups serving members of ethnic minority communities where the activity or service to be funded will enable ethnic minorities to overcome a disadvantage connected to their ethnicity or will encourage participation in an activity where engagement by black and ethnic minority people is disproportionately low. Some of the proposed extended grant arrangements are to organisations that provide single gender services, where the needs of women in relation to men are different. The Executive Director of Communities is satisfied that all the proposed extended grant arrangements fall within the ambit of the positive action provisions of Section 158, and would be not only in line with the public sector equality duty, but examples of the Council's active compliance with this duty.</p>
7.8	<p>An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for this report and a copy of this document is attached as Appendix 3. The Council Grant Aid</p>

	<p>budget is specifically aimed at supporting the local voluntary sector and as such has a positive impact on the sector. Whilst in recent years the Council Grant Aid budget has reduced, the continuation of funding into 2016/17 will provide some stability for organisations that support the most vulnerable in Sheffield. However, if the council's overall budget were larger more money could potentially be allocated to supportive voluntary sector organisations that work with the most vulnerable in the city.</p>
7.9	<p>Demand for the fund is managed by identifying a limited range of priorities for the funding. These priorities are chosen to align with current Council priorities and are aimed to ensure that groups with protected characteristics are not excluded. All the organisations funded in 2015/16 needed to demonstrate that they were providing city-wide support for our most vulnerable adults that helps prevent them having to access statutory services, such as social services or health services. Namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Households in financial need</i> • <i>Homeless people</i> • <i>Adults with limited mobility</i> • <i>Ethnic minority women</i> • <i>Refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals</i> • <i>Mental health service users</i> • <i>Street drinkers</i> • <i>Young Women</i> <p>The work of funded organisations will continue to be monitored in line with the above criteria in 2016/17.</p>
7.10	<p>Organisations funded in 2015/16 have demonstrated how they have addressed the particular needs of groups with protected characteristics via quarterly monitoring forms. By extending the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund grants into 2016/17 this will provide some continuation for groups working with the most vulnerable. Through monitoring, attention is, and will be, paid to organisations that can demonstrate a positive approach to managing services within a reduced funding environment including collaborations and mergers and other management efficiency savings, thus ensuring front line services remain protected and deliver best value for the money available.</p>

7.11	Despite a difficult financial climate this report is recommending a significant investment into the VCF sector, which is then targeted at Sheffield's most vulnerable people.
7.12	Positive impacts have been identified among the range of awards recommended for older people, black and ethnic minority people, women, the voluntary community faith sector, financial exclusion and cohesion in the city. (See Appendix 3)
7.13	Organisations funded from this budget will be asked to provide information about the diversity of their beneficiaries in their monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported in an annual report for each fund. These reports will be published on the Council website and notice of their publication is circulated to all elected members.

8.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1	Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and re-offending in its area.
8.2	Among the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund awards recommended in Appendix 1 are awards to five organisations that deliver services that have a positive impact on community safety. These are Ben's Centre for Vulnerable People that works with and provides a place of safety for street drinkers; the Young Women's Housing Project that work with victims of sexual abuse including child sexual abuse; and VAS New Beginnings, City of Sanctuary and Pakistan Advice and Community Association that work to promote positive community relations between the host community and refugees and asylum seekers.
8.3	None of the proposed awards is considered likely to have a negative impact on community safety.

9.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1	In the past 5 years the voluntary sector has experienced a challenging scenario of public and other sources of funding being reduced. This
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	<p>reduction includes both grants and contracts for services.</p> <p>Due to the current funding climate and work being underway but not completed regarding the future of Sheffield City Council's grant aid pot it is recommended that the existing Voluntary Sector Grants Fund agreements are continued in 2016/17 to provide some stability for the organisations funded and time to adapt to a new grants regime.</p>
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10.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1	<p>The allocation of this funding to preventative services will fundamentally contribute to the Values, Priorities and Strategic Outcomes of the Council's Corporate Plan 2015-18. In particular -</p> <p><u>Priorities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling inequalities • Better health and wellbeing • In-touch organisation
10.2	<p>In addition, the allocation of this funding will contribute to the Fairness Commission's recommendations around -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Wellbeing for All • Fair Access to High Quality Jobs and Pay • Fair Access to Benefits and Credit • Housing and a Better Environment • A Safe City • What Citizens and Communities can do

11.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1	<p>Cabinet is asked, having had due regard to the provisions of Sections 149 and 158 of the Equality Act 2010 and Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and to the issues raised by those provisions, to approve the grant agreement extension recommendations listed in</p>
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	Section 4 of this report, and detailed further in Appendix 1.
11.2	<p>Cabinet is asked to endorse the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund grant agreement extension process described in Appendix 2 and to approve the actions, arrangements and recommendations at Sections 4 and 11, and the following specific delegations:-</p> <p>The Executive Director of Communities is authorised:-</p> <p>(a) to administer the Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund as described in Appendix 1;</p> <p>(i) to agree the terms of and authorise the completion of all funding agreements, including amendments to the terms of any existing grant funding agreements, relating to grants made from the Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund and the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund, together with any other associated agreements or arrangements that they may consider appropriate, provided that if the terms of a proposed funding agreement or amendments to the terms of an existing agreement involve the variation of any standard terms previously agreed by Internal Audit and / or Legal Services the agreement shall not be completed without the consent of the Chief Internal Auditor and the Director of Legal and Governance;</p> <p>(ii) where (a) a change of circumstance affects the ability of an organisation to deliver the purpose of the grant awarded, (b) the Executive Director of Communities considers the performance of the organisation to be below an acceptable standard or (c) an organisation has breached any of the award conditions contained in their funding agreement, to review, adjust or suspend grant awards;</p> <p>(b) The Executive Director of Communities, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health, is authorised:-</p> <p>(i) to agree the amounts, purposes and recipients of any individual grants awarded in year from the Grant Funds including any additional sums received or returned or unpaid funds</p> <p>(ii) where (a) a change of circumstance affects the ability of an organisation to deliver the purpose of the grant awarded or (b) the Executive Director of Communities considers the performance of the organisation to be</p>

(iii)	<p>below an acceptable standard or (c) an organisation has breached any of the award conditions contained in their funding agreement, to withdraw grant awards.</p> <p>to allocate any other additional sums that may be received in year from other parts of the Council or other partners as part of the Council Grant Aid process to fund local voluntary sector activity</p>
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APPENDIX 1

Voluntary Sector Grant Aid Budget Proposed awards 1st April 2016 - 31st March 2017

Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund

The purpose of this fund is to promote the Council's strategy to support the independence, health and wellbeing of older people by making available a fund offering grants to lunch clubs. Evidence shows that an active and positive old age reduces the likelihood of reliance on statutory services. The majority of lunch clubs are self-help groups run by and for older people and provide a forum to socialise, share a meal and undertake group activities. Membership comprises mainly people aged over 70 and increasing numbers of people in their 80s and 90s including a few aged over 100. The clubs take self-referrals and referrals from relatives and health and social care professionals. In 2015-16 almost 2,000 older people attended a lunch club and the clubs delivered nearly 70,000 hot meals.

Applications to the Lunch Clubs Fund are invited from clubs on a year on year basis in advance of each financial year. All awards are under £10,000 and decisions are delegated to the Executive Director of Communities on the recommendation of a Grant Awards Recommendation Panel convened for the purpose. Authority is delegated to the Executive Director of Communities:

- to determine how the grants are calculated and to vary awards from this Fund during the year because of a change in a lunch club's circumstances.
- to make additional awards to lunch clubs in year to run activities for members from any unallocated spend within the budget
- to make new awards from any unallocated spend within the budget to clubs setting up.

A full report of the awards made from this Fund is produced after the end of each financial year. This is circulated to elected members and published on the Council's website.

Recommendations

To allocate a Lunch Clubs Fund of £147,000 (plus any additional sums which may be received by the Council specifically for this purpose) for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017.

To confirm the delegated powers to administer the Fund set out above.

Voluntary Sector Grants Fund

Theme 1: Tackling poverty and promoting social justice.

Sheffield Citizens Advice and Law Centre

Charitable limited company founded in 2013 from the merger of 12 independent advice centres. Managed by a committee of 15. Provides a citywide advice service including drop-in services at outlets across the city, an appointment and home visiting service and an advice assessment phone line operating Monday – Friday 9-5pm. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £876,000 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the provision of a citywide advice service.

Theme 2: Supporting the local voluntary sector to thrive and deliver

Joint application from Creative Pathways, South Yorkshire Community Foundation (inc. South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau) and Voluntary Action Sheffield

Infrastructure organisations in the city are continuing to work together to provide services for voluntary, community and faith sector organisations that are streamlined, accessible, customer efficient, value for money and affordable. There are currently in place grant fund agreements with South Yorkshire Community Foundation (inc. South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau), Creative Pathways and Voluntary Action Sheffield in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreements currently in place to South Yorkshire Community Foundation (inc. South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau), Creative Pathways and Voluntary Action Sheffield be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund under that agreement be increased by the additional awards as follows:

Voluntary Action Sheffield (VAS)

Charitable limited company founded in 1925 and based in its own premises at The Circle, Rockingham Lane. Managed by a committee of 10. Provides a range of infrastructure support services for voluntary, community and faith sector groups and organisations across the city, including payroll, accountancy, community development and volunteering opportunities. Also provides a training programme across a range of topics relevant to the voluntary sector. The Circle offers rented office space for organisations and meeting and training rooms for hire. VAS runs a Volunteer Centre that provides a brokerage service putting potential volunteers in touch with volunteering opportunities in the city and works with organisations to improve the quality of volunteer placements. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £76,000 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards a volunteer centre and infrastructure support services including small group development.

South Yorkshire Community Foundation

Charitable limited company founded in 1986 and based on Leeds Road, Attercliffe. Managed by a Committee of 16. SYCF merged with South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau (SYFAB) in Jan 2014 and now provides funding information, advice and training to front-line voluntary and community groups in Sheffield, which will complement existing fund raising and grant making. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £37,800 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the provision of a funding advice service for the Sheffield voluntary, community and faith sector.

Creative Pathways

Charitable limited company founded in 2010 based in rented premises at Spartan House on Carlisle Street. Managed by a committee of 3. Provides infrastructure capacity building services to BME organisations and community development support for BME residents. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £27,000 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the provision of infrastructure support services including fundraising, financial management, governance and legal advice for Sheffield voluntary, community and faith sector organisations.

Voluntary Action Sheffield Lunch Club Development Project

Provides a support and development service for the network of older people's lunch clubs across the city including around 60 clubs that receive Council funding. The funding will ensure the actions from the recent Lunch Club Review are taken forward so that the groups operate safely and effectively, provide high quality activities for their members and are part of a thriving network that is well informed, responsive to changing needs and sustainable for future generations.

There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £42,186 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the development and support of older people's lunch clubs and activity groups.

Theme 3: Promoting social and financial inclusion

The proposed awards are listed alphabetically by name of organisation

Ben`s Centre for Vulnerable People (Sheffield)

Charitable limited company founded in 1996. Managed by a Committee of 6.

Provides a service for street drinkers offering a safe accessible environment where users can get food, clean clothes and information and advice about access to other services. Also provides activities and support to enable users to develop skills and become rehabilitated into the community. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £53,650 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards work with vulnerable street drinkers.

City of Sanctuary

Charitable limited company founded in 2005 and based in Victoria Hall on Norfolk Street. Managed by a Committee of 7. Co-ordinates a weekly city centre drop-in service, bringing together a comprehensive range of multi-agency services for asylum seekers and new arrivals. Also provides awareness raising and cross cultural activities with the help of refugee and asylum seeker volunteers to encourage a culture of welcome, hospitality and mutual understanding. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £24,245 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards work to support the delivery of reception duties at the Victoria Hall drop-in session and to promote cohesion.

Emmaus Sheffield

Charitable limited company and affiliate member of Emmaus UK founded in 2000 and based in Sipelia Works on Cadman Street. Managed by a Committee of 10. Runs a self-supporting community for homeless people in Sheffield. The community offers a home, employment and a sense of belonging to residents, who refurbish and sell donated goods through an on-site shop and the internet. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £18,400 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the community companions project for homeless people.

Heeley City Farm

Charitable limited company founded in 1981 and based at Council owned site on Richards Road. Managed by a Committee of 6. Runs an urban farm with training and educational activities including vocational courses for unemployed adults, an environmental education service and specific programmes for volunteers, young people and adults with learning disabilities. Houses the South Yorkshire Energy Centre. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £25,313 from the

Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards work with vulnerable adults and developing life skills to reduce and manage household expenditure.

Mental Health Action Group

Registered charity founded in 1992 and based in Council owned premises on Creswick Street. User-led organisation managed by a Committee of 12. Runs a drop-in centre offering group activities and support for people with severe mental health problems. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £10,500 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards running a self help organisation for mental health service users.

Pakistan Advice and Community Association

Registered charity founded in 1993 and based in privately rented accommodation on Pagehall Road. Managed by a Committee of 13. Provides citizenship classes and other cohesion activities. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £31,500 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards work to support community cohesion with a particular focus on new arrivals.

Roshni Asian Women`s Resource Centre

Registered charity founded in 1992 and based in own shop front premises on London Road. Managed by a committee of 7. Provides a resource centre for Asian women across the city where women of all ages can access a varied programme of services and activities, including a mentoring service, information, advice and support sessions, advocacy, training, youth provision, cultural events and health and well-being activities. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £43,601 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards work to develop opportunities and support services for ethnic minority women.

Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English

Charitable limited company founded in 1999 and based at the Circle building on Rockingham Lane. Managed by a Committee of 6. Recruits and trains volunteers to teach English as a second language. Provides individual tuition for people unable to access mainstream provision and supports learners to progress from one-to-one tuition to group based learning. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £34,140 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the delivery of one-to-one and group based pre-ESOL language tuition to vulnerable adults unable to access mainstream provision.

Sheffield Chinese Community Centre

Registered charity founded in 1995 and based in own shop front premises on London Road. Managed by a Committee of 7. Provides a point for access to services and a focus for social, cultural and educational activities for the Sheffield Chinese community. Runs projects concentrating on health and emotional wellbeing. Also houses an outreach advice service from Sheffield Citizens Advice and Law Centre and a legal information service for the Chinese and Vietnamese community. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £24,300 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the delivery of services to the Chinese community.

Sheffield Community Transport

Industrial and provident society founded in 1988 and based in privately rented premises in Montgomery Terrace Road. Managed by a Committee of 6. Runs a Community Car Scheme that uses volunteer drivers to transport disabled people. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £20,400 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the delivery of a volunteer car transport scheme.

Shopmobility Sheffield

Charitable limited company based at Westhill Lane Municipal Car Park off West Street. Managed by a Committee of 12. Runs a scooter and wheelchair loan scheme. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £14,000 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the provision of a city centre scooter and wheelchair loan scheme.

St Vincent de Paul Furniture Store

Local branch of international charity founded in 1986 located in diocese owned premises on Queens Road. Managed by a Committee of 10. Provides free furniture to families in need across the city. Referrals are accepted from registered statutory and voluntary sector organisations, including the Council, advice centres and NHS. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £64,020 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the delivery of a furniture recycling service for people in need.

St Wilfrid's Centre

Registered charity administered by the Diocese of Hallam Trust and based in its own premises on Queen's Road. Managed by a committee of 11. Provides welfare support and a wide range of activities for homeless and vulnerable people the majority of whom have mental health problems. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £48,275 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards welfare and development support for people with mental health problems.

Voluntary Action Sheffield (New Beginnings)

Charitable limited company founded in 1925 and based in its own premises at The Circle, Rockingham Lane. Managed by a committee of 10. Provides a range of infrastructure support services for voluntary, community and faith sector groups and organisations across the city. New Beginnings is a project developed by the VAS Volunteer Centre to assist the integration of refugees and support them to contribute

to the life of the city by engaging in volunteering opportunities with local community organisations. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £17,400 from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards the delivery of a volunteer programme for refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals.

Young Women`s Housing Project

Charitable limited company founded in 1983 and based in Council owned premises. Managed by a Committee of 6. Offers safe accommodation and support to vulnerable 16-25 year old women. Provides a support service including life skills training to enable residents to move towards independent living. Offers outreach and continuing support to former residents. There is currently in place a grant fund agreement in respect of the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2016.

Recommendation

That the term of the grant fund agreement currently in place be extended to include the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and that the grant amount awarded under that agreement be increased by the additional award of £28,000, from the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund as a contribution towards therapeutic support for young women at the project.

Appendix 2 - Voluntary Sector Grants Fund Assessment Process

It is proposed that the process for allocating the Council's Grant Aid budget for 2015-16 deviates from arrangements in recent previous years (set out in last year's Cabinet Report on the Voluntary Sector Grant Aid Budget 2015-16.

<http://sheffielddemocracy.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=5577>

1. Voluntary Sector Grant Aid investment for 2014-15 was agreed by Cabinet on 19th February 2014 according to the grant assessment process described in the Cabinet Report
<https://imgmeetings.sheffield.gov.uk/documents/s12244/documents/s12244/Voluntary%20Sector%20Grant%20Aid.pdf>. 24 organisations were awarded a Voluntary Sector Grants Fund award and an allocation of funding was made to the Lunch Club Fund.
2. As already stated in the main body of this Cabinet Report, following the decision made by cabinet in February 2014 a review of the Voluntary Sector Grant Aid criteria and processes has been taking place along with a wider assessment of how the Council invests in the VCF Sector. In order to allow this work to be completed in 2016, it is proposed that the grants awarded for 2015-16 are extended for 12 months to cover the period 1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017. The implication of this was that no fund for new applications was advertised in summer 2015 as no new awards for 2016-17 will be made. Grant Aid in 2016-17 will therefore continue to support activity that we know has a direct benefit and works. This will mean continuing to support the organisations funded in both 2014-15 and 2015-16 via extending existing grant funding agreements for 12 months, up 31st March 2017. This includes the provision of Lunch Clubs provided by older people for older people across the city, the delivery of Advice Services by Sheffield Citizen Advice and Law Centre, support for VCF infrastructure services and supporting activity by the VCF sector that helps the most vulnerable.
3. Councillors have not indicated a need to reduce the Grant Aid budget; although an advance payment is being made to Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre in 2015-16 as detailed earlier in the main body of the report.
4. As there is no overall reduction in funding to any organisation proposed organisations have not been asked to complete impact assessment for the coming financial year.

5. The original awards may for 2014-15 were based on officer recommendations and were considered by the Grant Awards Recommendation Panel, made up of Head of Libraries & Community Services and Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health and advisers (Cllrs Mazher Iqbal, Bob Johnson and Nikki Bond). In formulating its recommendations the Panel took into account all relevant considerations including the equalities impact of the applications and statutory Best Value Guidance.
6. As there is no proposed reduction and all organisations are currently compliant with the their grant agreement terms and conditions recommendations have not been made to the panel this year but the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Inequalities has been briefed.
7. If cabinet approval is granted recipients are notified of their awards. An extension of the funding agreement will be negotiated which states the amount of grant and agrees the budget and sets out the outputs, outcomes, milestones and conditions on which the funding is granted together with a budget of how the grant will be spent. Every grant is subject to a set of standard grant conditions approved by Legal Services. It is proposed that authority to attach additional conditions to a grant be delegated to the Executive Director of Communities where s/he considers these appropriate following the assessment process. The variation to the funding agreement will be signed by the Director and Management Committee of each organisation.
8. A report of the impact of these awards will be prepared after the end of the financial year and published on the Council website.

APPENDIX 4

What has happened since February 2015 Grant Aid Cabinet Report

Recommendation	Progress	Plan for 2016
<p>New Grant Aid priorities and criteria for 2016/17 that will have greater alignment with the new Child and Household Poverty Strategy and new Corporate Plan, both due to be adopted in 2015, thus delivering against the Council's Tackling Poverty and Increasing Social Justice strategic outcome.</p>	<p>New Corp Plan and Poverty Strategy have been released.</p> <p>Poverty Strategy makes repeated references to the importance of quality advice and social justice campaigning, tackling homelessness, reducing loneliness & isolation, helping people to access education and remove barriers to employment. The Grant Aid budget currently supports all of these priorities.</p> <p>The new Corp Plan has different Strategic Outcomes but the pot does align to the new Tackling Inequality outcome.</p>	<p>Whilst the pot does align with the Poverty Strategy and new Corporate Plan, it could be argued that some of the work the grant aid pot does fund could be better funded from other sources and this could 'free-up' money in the pot to invest in work that helps to deliver SCC priorities.</p> <p>Some work has been started to explore this and this should be concluded in 2015 in preparation for new proposals in 2016.</p>
<p>Grant Aid for 2016/17 to be aligned effectively with other commissioning frameworks with the possibility of including other council budgets in the overall</p>	<p>Grant Aid is now linked to the People Keeping Well in their Community part of Sheffield's Better Care Fund as well as the Corporate Outcome of Tackling Inequalities.</p>	<p>Where possible start to incorporate other council funding into grant agreements for organisations who currently receive multiple sources of money from the Council. This would be more efficient for the organisations and for the Council. Five organisations</p>

Recommendation	Progress	Plan for 2016
Grant Aid budget.	<p>Commissioning intentions and funding streams for contracts are currently being aligned ready for re-commissions in the Better Care Fund and this will not be complete until April 2017.</p> <p>The People Keeping Well in their Community programme is focussed on community based prevention activity relating to health and wellbeing. In the VCF consultation of 2014 the sector reported that they felt that their expertise and resources were most effective in the field of prevention.</p>	<p>already identified as potentially suitable for this. Two out of the five could trial this approach in 2016/17 and the learning could inform the arrangements for the pot in 2017/18.</p> <p>The Public Health priorities are closely linked to the People Keeping Well in their Community outcomes framework and therefore should be considered when allocating future Grant Aid money.</p>
A framework capturing how the communities portfolio currently works with and invests in the Voluntary Sector and identify areas for development.	<p>The only ring-fenced funding for the VCF sector is the Grant Aid Budget administered by VSLT in Libraries and Community Services.</p> <p>From 2012-2015 Communities spent approx. £192,911,417 with the VCF sector. The majority of this is subject to tender and competition.</p> <p>In 2015/16 apart from the £140,800 infrastructure</p>	<p>Work with new finance system and commercial services to get increasingly accurate re VCF spend in all SCC portfolios.</p> <p>Work with VCF and funding partners to find ways of increasing the investment in capacity and capability building throughout the Sheffield VCF sector. Key partners will be; NAVCA, VAS, SYCF, Big Lottery, Key Fund.</p>

Recommendation	Progress	Plan for 2016
<p>A clear corporate definition of grant giving, when grants could be used in a wider commissioning framework and how they should then be recorded.</p>	<p>part of the Grant Aid budget no funding is available from SCC solely for capacity and capability building within the VCF sector. The rest of the Grant Aid budget does support the sector to deliver and development maybe part of this.</p> <p>Work is underway about commissioning and tendering with VCF partners to help us all understand how this way of procuring services works in practice.</p>	<p>Organisations that have a strong track record, are key to delivering the priorities and can't / find it hard to raise money from other sources should be considered for a 2 year grant funding agreement. The preparation for such arrangements can be done in 2016/17 ready for 2017/18.</p>
<p>A clear corporate definition of grant giving, when grants could be used in a wider commissioning framework and how they should then be recorded.</p>	<p>Grant Making Guidance paper has been drafted by Voluntary Sector Liaison Team and Legal Services.</p>	<p>Communicate the benefits of grant making to all SCC portfolios and share a best practice toolkit to help people identify when grant making could be most effective and how to do it in a simple but transparent and fair way.</p> <p><i>(Already started in September 2015 with the Communities Commissioning Management Team.)</i></p>

Author: Alex Shilkoff
 Job Title: Community & Voluntary Sector Relationship Manager
 Date: 15/1/2016

Appendix 3 - Sheffield City Council Equality Impact Assessment

Name of policy/proposal: Voluntary Sector Grant Aid Budget 2016-17

Status of policy/proposal: New **Portfolio:** Communities

Name of person(s) writing EIA: Alex Shilkoff **Date:** January 2016

Service: Libraries and Community Services **Q Tier Ref** n/a

EIA Reference number: 828

Briefly outline the aims of the policy/ proposal and outcomes you want to achieve?

Grant Aid Fund – Voluntary Sector Grant Fund and Lunch Club Fund

To agree the awards from the Grant Aid Budget 2016-17. There are two funds within the budget to consider: Voluntary Sector Grants Fund and the Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund.

The decision to continue to provide Grant Aid and invest in the VCF Sector, despite the Council's difficult financial situation, will have a largely positive impact on local people with characteristics covered by equalities legislation. The current priorities positively promote the needs of older people, people with disability, ethnic minority women, refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals. Funding allocated to VCF infrastructure will enable support and advice to be provided to organisations across the sector in relation to identifying efficiencies, income generation and securing other sources of funding.

Voluntary Sector Grant Fund

The proposal to cabinet is that the Voluntary Sector Grant Fund and Lunch Club Fund are not reduced in 2016/17.

Sheffield Citizen's Advice and Legal Centre received an advance payment in 2015/16 to facilitate the timely delivery of some of their service improvement plan. Therefore, Sheffield Citizens Advice and Legal Centre will receive proportionately less in 2016/17.

Following the decision made by cabinet in February 2014 a review of the Council's Grant Aid criteria and processes has been taking place along with a wider assessment of how the Council invests in the Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) Sector. Work has been progressed in line with the cabinet report in 2015 but will not be completed until May 2016. This will mean the launch of a new grant regime in summer 2016.

Due to the whole of the review not being completed in 2015 it is proposed to extend the existing grant aid arrangements into financial year 2016/17. It is proposed to launch new grant fund to replace the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund, following consultation with the VCF sector, which will include revised funding priorities. It is envisaged a new fund will open for applications in summer 2016 for funding that will commence in April 2017. This will therefore give all parties ample time to adapt to the new arrangements in time for April 2017.

In 2016/17, 20 organisations will receive Voluntary Sector Grant support from the Grant Aid Fund.

Lunch Club Fund

It is anticipated that 54 existing Lunch Clubs will also receive support. This is 2 less than in 2015/16. This is due to one club no longer being eligible due to a drop in numbers and another closing due a cook retiring and being unable to find a replacement person. However, there is a possibility of supporting new clubs to set up in 2016/17 in areas without lunch clubs and a high proportion of older people. The Voluntary Sector Liaison Team will be working with Voluntary Action Sheffield and Locality Management on where new clubs could be set up.

Is the service a specialist provision to a group covered under the Equality Act 2010 such as a women’s, BME, disability or LGBT specific service? No

Consultation	Yes / ongoing	Please note the consultation you have undertaken or will undertake with those impacted by the proposal such as local groups and others such as surveys, face to face meetings etc and explain the results below
		<p>VSGF funding – ongoing All 20 organisations funded in 2015/16 were informed in writing in November 2015 that the Council planned to consider extending the existing grant arrangements to create some stability whilst the review is completed. The arrangements are still subject to monitoring and compliance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.</p> <p>Due to the amount of money not reducing this year there was not a need to consult on impact assessment of changes to the funding amount.</p> <p>The Voluntary Sector will be consulted on new proposals for the Grant Aid Fund in 2016.</p> <p>A group of voluntary sector representatives were consulted in November about the council’s wider budget challenges and suggestions from this group and a subsequent paper submitted by some who could not attend have been fed into the overall budget setting process.</p> <p>Lunch Club Small Grant Fund – Ongoing consultation All older people’s lunch clubs that currently receive funding have been invited to apply for a grant for 2016-17 . The report includes a recommendation to not reduce the amount allocated to the Lunch Club Fund. All lunch clubs have been informed that individual club circumstances will be taken into account when grant awards are made. This is to ensure that the budget is used as effectively as possible and that new clubs can be considered for funding.</p>
		<p>What’s the Impact? – Detail the evidence you have used below, consider demographics, census, JSNA, complaints, customer information, national or local reports, feedback or consultations and include separate sheets if required)</p>

Voluntary Sector Grant Aid is split into two funds -

- Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund
- Voluntary Sector Grants Fund (three themes)
 - Tackling Poverty and Financial Exclusion
 - Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver
 - Promoting Social Inclusion and Justice

Evidence has been gathered by way of monitoring information collected by officers during 2015-16 from the organisations funded. Due to there being no proposed budget cut in 2015-16 organisations have not been asked to complete an impact assessment this time.

Also, census and other associated data on the profile of the population of Sheffield.

Areas of impact	Impact	Impact level	Explanation of impact- what does the data tell you?
Workforce	N/A	N/A	Include reductions required and impact on staff diversity etc
There are no impacts on the workforce.			
Action	N/A		
Generic	Positive	Medium	Relates to all or most groups
<p>Positive impacts have been identified for –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older People • Disabled people • VCF Sector • Financial Exclusion • Cohesion <p>Information relating to how organisations address issues of diversity and equality is taken into account when analysing monitoring returns. All of these organisations went through a thorough application process resulting in grant awards made for 2014-15. In 2015-16 both VSGF grant recipients and Lunch Clubs have completed equality and diversity monitoring.</p> <p>The nature of the Grant Aid budget is such that services to vulnerable people are an inherent part of this funding and consequently the maintenance of the budget will impact positively on vulnerable groups.</p>			
Action Minor	<p>Organisations funded from this budget will be asked to provide information about the equality impact of the grant awarded in their monitoring returns. Monitoring information will be collected after the end of the award period (31st March 2017). This will be reviewed for each award in the light of outcomes and outputs identified in the individual Funding Agreements.</p> <p>The information will be collated across the organisations funded and reported in an annual report that will be published on the Council website and circulated to Elected Members.</p>		
Age	Positive	Medium	Be clear if your service relates to specific age groups, particularly younger or older people

Sheffield has a higher proportion of its population aged 65 years or over (16.7% or 85,700 people) than the other English Core Cities. The proportion of Sheffield's population aged over 65 is also projected to increase, with the largest increases in the number of people aged over 85.

Based on evidence collected from 23 organisations awarded a grant from the Voluntary Sector Grant Fund in 2014-15 delivering a similar wide range of different services 15% of beneficiaries were aged over 60 (14% in the previous year), and 1.5% of individuals were aged under 20 (2.5% in the previous year). *(Note: The Voluntary Sector Grants Fund is targeted at adult provision and projects providing activities for children and young people are excluded from applying to the fund. The Lunch club fund is specifically targeted at provision for adults 60 and over).*

The report includes a recommendation to continue to provide a Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund, which will support around 54 different lunch clubs across the city. The clubs are self-help groups run by and for older people. Approximately 1,800 older people will benefit from attending a lunch club during the year. This includes numbers of older people aged in their 80's and 90's for whom attendance is sometimes their only regular outing. It is anticipated that 63% of the membership will be aged 80 and over. Clubs take self-referrals and referrals from relatives and social and health care workers who refer older people recovering from illness, bereavement or are socially isolated. The amount allocated to the Lunch Club Fund is recommended at no reduction on the current year. In addition there is also a recommendation to provide a grant extension for development support for lunch clubs. This will help lunch clubs to expand their activities and ensure that they are able to manage challenges such as succession planning, financial management and volunteer recruitment. This resource can also support the establishment of new clubs in areas where there is an identified need for a club.

The report includes a recommendation to fund 1 grant that will support therapeutic work for young women. This grant is complimentary to a housing support contract the organisation holds. This contract is due for re-tender in 2016-17 and therefore the outcomes / outputs will be review through the year to ensure they are still appropriate.

The report also includes a recommendation to fund 2 grants to organisations that run schemes for disabled people with mobility problems, a large majority of whom are older people.

Action Minor	All organisations awarded a grant will be asked to collect diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the grants in reaching people of different ages.		
Disability	Positive	Medium	Be clear if your service relates to a specific impairment
In Sheffield around 20% of the population have a long term limiting illness and as at 2011 5.9% of the city population claimed Disability Living Allowance.			
Based on evidence collected from 20 organisations awarded a grant from the Voluntary Sector Grant Fund in 2014-15 delivering a similar wide range of different services, 32% of beneficiaries reported a disability or long term health problem (also 32% in the previous year). This shows that the grants awarded under the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund are supporting a higher proportion of disabled people than the city % figure. This is to be expected due to the targeting of the funding.			
<p>Among the grants recommended are –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 grants to organisations working with people with mental health problems <p>Both of these organisations have been recommended for grant extensions at no reduction on the current year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 grants to organisations that run schemes for disabled people with mobility difficulties. <p>Both of these organisations have been recommended for grant extensions at no reduction on the current year.</p>			
Action Minor	All organisations awarded a grant will be asked to collect diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the grants in reaching local disabled people.		

Pregnancy/ maternity	Neutral	Neutral	Be clear if this impacts on these areas
None of the recommended grants will go to organisations that have identified pregnant women as their target beneficiaries, although pregnant women are likely to make use of some of the services provided.			
Action	None		
Race	Positive	Medium	Be clear if your service relates to specific BME communities
<p>Sheffield is a diverse city with around 19% of its population from black or minority ethnic groups.</p> <p>Based on evidence collected from 20 organisations awarded a grant from the Voluntary Sector Grant Fund in 2014-15 delivering a similar wide range of different services 38% of beneficiaries were of BME origin (43% in the previous year). This shows that the grants awarded under the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund are supporting a higher proportion of BME people than the city % figure. This is to be expected due to the targeting of the funding.</p> <p>Among the grants recommended are –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 grants to organisations that run schemes for ethnic minority women • 3 grants to organisations working with refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals <p>Due to the continuation of the grants it is not anticipated that there will be any negative impacts on the services they are delivering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grant to an organisation working with a specific BME community <p>In 2015/16 the council's core grant to this organisation enabled them to draw in additional significant Big Lottery resources to support their community and bring in resources the council does not have access to.</p>			
Action Minor	All organisations awarded a grant will be asked to collect diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the grants in reaching local BME people.		
Religion/ belief	Neutral	Neutral	Note: This also covers all faith groups and those with no belief
<p>Support to faith based organisations will be provided via the grants recommended within the 'Supporting the Voluntary Sector to thrive and deliver'. The needs of faith groups are accommodated appropriately within the existing model of infrastructure support available to groups and organisations in Sheffield.</p> <p>In 2014-15 two organisations recorded information on faith covering 490 individual beneficiaries. 3.5% of beneficiaries were atheist, 1% Buddhist, 40% Christian, 2% Islam, 27% other, 27% chose not to disclose their faith or information was not collected.</p>			
Action Minor	All organisations awarded a grant are encouraged to include questions about faith/religion/belief in their diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the grants in reaching local people of different faiths.		
Sex	Positive	Medium	Note: this includes women and men
Based on evidence collected from 20 organisations awarded a grant from the Voluntary Sector Grant Fund in 2014-15 delivering a wide range of different services, 40% of beneficiaries were men and 57% were women.			

<p>Among the grants recommended are –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 grants to organisations that run schemes for ethnic minority women. <p>The impact of reduced funding to these two organisations has already been considered under BME.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grant that will support work with young women who have experienced sexual abuse. <p>Funding to this organisation has not been reduced and therefore it is not anticipated that there will be any negative impact on service users.</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010, which makes it unlawful for the Council, when exercising a function, to do any act which constitutes discrimination or harassment within the meaning of the Act. The grants to be awarded to single gender services fall within the exemption provisions of the legislation which permit this.</p>			
Action Minor	All organisations awarded a grant will be asked to collect diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the grants in reaching local men and women.		
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Neutral	For example lesbian, gay or bisexual groups
<p>None of the recommended grants will go to organisations that have identified LGB people as their target beneficiaries, although LGB people are likely to make use of some of the services provided.</p> <p>In 2014-15 five organisations recorded information on sexual orientation covering 1,391 individual beneficiaries. Of these beneficiaries 3.3% were Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual, 59% heterosexual and 37% of beneficiaries chose not to disclose their sexual orientation or information was not collected.</p>			
Action Minor	All organisations awarded a grant will be encouraged to include questions about sexuality in their diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the grants in reaching local LGB people. The Council also endeavours to support LGB people through a range of other initiatives.		
Trans	Neutral	Neutral	Note: transgender both men and women
<p>None of the recommended grants will go to organisations that have identified Transgender people as their target beneficiaries.</p>			
Action Minor	All organisations awarded a grant will be encouraged to include questions about gender in their diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. Where appropriate, organisations will be advised to monitor in line with relevant legislation. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the grants in reaching local Transgender people.		
Carers	Neutral	Neutral	Note: this refers to those who provide regular and substantial unpaid care to a disabled adult or child.
<p>Services to carers were not a priority for this funding. None of the organisations recommended to receive a grant have identified carers as their target beneficiaries, although carers are likely to make use of some of some of the services that will be provided.</p>			
Action	None		
Voluntary, community faith sector	Positive	Medium	For example: impact on VCF organisations e.g. access to match funding, viability, hours of opening, staffing levels, referrals etc

<p>All the grants recommended are to local Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector organisations. The availability of Grant Aid is an important and positive boost to the sector.</p> <p>The grants recommended will contribute towards core costs, supporting jobs and volunteering opportunities in the local VCF Sector. 4 grants will contribute to strengthening the infrastructure of the local VCF Sector. In 2014-15 an amount was recommended for a voucher scheme, enabling organisations which represent / serve disadvantaged communities to apply for and be awarded a voucher to purchase the specific support services they need from infrastructure support services. The recommendations for 2016-17 do not include an amount for a voucher scheme. The impact of this on VCF groups is that they will have to use/raise other funds to pay for additional specific support needed.</p>			
Action Minor	<p>All organisations awarded a grant will be asked to collect diversity monitoring for their users, staff and management committee and report this in their grant monitoring returns. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website.</p> <p>Organisations awarded a grant to deliver infrastructure support services will be asked to collect diversity monitoring information about the VCF groups they are supporting. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website.</p>		
Financial exclusion	Positive	High	Note the impact poverty and on those who are financially excluded
<p>17 of the grant extensions recommended will contribute toward outcomes related to tackling poverty, promoting social justice and financial inclusion.</p> <p>The grant extension to support the delivery of advice in the City will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that face to face advice is available to anyone who needs it, recognising that advice is concentrated in certain areas of the city • Ensure that advice is available through a range of channels (including on-line self-help, telephone and face to face) • Ensure that the advice needs of a range of vulnerable groups are met <p>The grant to support advice in the City is reduced compared to 2015-16, but this is due to the one organisation receiving additional money in 2015-16 to progress service improvement plans. Therefore, no overall negative impact.</p>			
Action Minor	<p>Outcomes and outputs relating to financial inclusion will be monitored at the end of the grant period. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website.</p>		
Cohesion:	Positive	High	Note particular impact on community tensions or getting on well together
<p>16 of the grants recommended will be awarded to organisations that will deliver activity which contributes to outcomes related to building social inclusion and cohesion. Out of these, 5 of these organisations will provide activity that will have a positive impact on community safety.</p>			
Action Minor	<p>Outcomes and outputs relating to building social inclusion and cohesion will be monitored at the end of the grant period. This information will be collated and reported annually on the Council website.</p>		
Armed Forces	Neutral	Neutral	Note implication on serving forces personnel, reservists, veterans or families of
<p>Services to armed forces were not a priority for this funding. None of the organisations recommended to receive a grant have identified armed forces as their target beneficiaries.</p>			
Action	None		

Other options considered	Please note any other options considered/ being considered		
N/A			
Financial implication	Neutral	Neutral	Please detail associated costs of equality implications
N/A			
Summary/ additional:	Positive	High	Please provide a basic summary cost benefits analysis below of the overall impact on service users and the organisation and link to evidence. This should be included in all reports e.g. to EMT, cabinet reports etc
<p>Despite continuing pressures on the budget, this report is recommending a significant investment into the VCF sector, which is then targeted at Sheffield's most vulnerable people. However, the proposed reduction in the budget will inevitably impact on all vulnerable groups. Groups in receipt of funding are asked to provide evidence of efficiency savings they are making in running costs and management costs to minimise the effect on service delivery.</p> <p>Positive impacts have been identified among the range of awards recommended for older people, disabled people, the voluntary sector, BME people, financial inclusion and cohesion in the city.</p>			
Summary of actions Minor	<p>Include lead officer, timescales and how it will be monitored/reviewed</p> <p>All groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be reviewed quarterly, tied into quarterly monitoring returns to be carried out during the grant period 2016-17: Alex Shilkoff Diversity information collected and collated after the end of the grant period (May 2017): Alex Shilkoff 		
Outcome No change	<p>Briefly detail recommendations whether you need to make any changes to the policy or proposal based on the information above</p> <p>No changes recommended based on the above information.</p>		

Discussed with Lead Member:

Approved (Lead Manager):

Date:

Approved (EIA Lead person for Portfolio):

Date:

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