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Report of: *Jayne Ludlam*

Report to: *Cabinet*

Date of Decision: *18th April 2018*

Subject: *Confirming grant aid awards for 2018/19 and Delegation of Grant Aid variations to Individual Cabinet Member*

Is this a Key Decision? If Yes, reason Key Decision:-	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
- Expenditure and/or savings over £500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	
- Affects 2 or more Wards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Which Cabinet Member Portfolio does this relate to? <i>Cllr Cate McDonald</i>		
Which Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee does this relate to? <i>Safer and Stronger Communities</i>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? <i>212</i>		
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-		
<i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i>		

Purpose of Report:

To seek cabinet approve for the grant aid awards for 2018/19; and to delegate a variation in those awards to the Cabinet Member with voluntary sector responsibility for financial year 2019/20.

Recommendations:

- 1) *Agree the grant awards for 2018/19 as set out in this report, which are in line with the budget savings stated in the Revenue Budget Cabinet approval of February 2018 and the multi-year grant agreements.*
- 2) *Delegate authority to make the decision on any reduction in grant aid awards in year 3 for all multi-year agreements (2019/20) to the Cabinet Member with responsibility for the voluntary sector on the basis that, as previously approved, the awards for year 3 will be within the parameters set out in the September 2016 cabinet report, between 75% and 100% of the year 1 value.*

Background Papers:

September 2016 Grant Aid Cabinet Report

Lead Officer to complete:-	
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.
	Finance: Liz Gough
	Legal: <i>Henry Watmough-Cownie</i>
	Equalities: <i>Ed Sexton</i>
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	EMT member who approved submission: <i>Jayne Ludlam</i>
3	Cabinet Member consulted: <i>Cllr Cate McDonald</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the EMT member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.
	Lead Officer Name: <i>Alex Shilkoff</i>
	Job Title: <i>Community Services Manager</i>
Date: <i>February 2018</i>	

1. PROPOSAL

(Explain the proposal, current position and need for change, including any evidence considered, and indicate whether this is something the Council is legally required to do, or whether it is something it is choosing to do)

1.1 The Grant Aid cabinet approval of September 2016 states that:

2.0 *agree the principle of offering three-year grant awards for all successful grant applicants as standard, offered on the basis that in years 2 and 3 grant recipients are guaranteed a minimum of 80% and 75% of the value of the initial award in year 1.*

2.1. *Note: an exception to this proposal are the grant awards made from the Lunch Club Fund, which will be awarded for 2 years as it is proposed that this funding will be reviewed during 2018-19 (see below).*

2.2. *Note: in all cases, the relevant delegated decision maker will retain the discretion to award single year grants or multi-year grants of less than 3 years if circumstances warrant it and there is a clear rationale for doing so.*

2.3. *The actual value of the grant awards in years 2 and 3 of any multi-year agreements will depend on what is agreed at full Council. If the Grant Aid budget in years 2 and 3 allows for awards of more than the guaranteed minimum, an increase to the award will be automatically applied equally (in % terms) across all existing multi-year agreement recipients.*

1.2 Multi-year grant agreements have now been implemented. In regards to recommendation 2.3 from the September 2016 cabinet report; impact assessments were completed with grant recipient organisations which highlighted varying needs and external pressures on the different grant aid recipient organisations in year 2 (2018/19). Given the results of the impact assessments it is recommended that the grant awards are *not* applied in equal percentages across all the multi-year agreements. This is in order to prioritise front-line services in the city and minimise the impact on people who face the greatest inequalities.

1.3 This report therefore states the exact amounts it is recommended each group is awarded for Cabinet approval. These recommended awards were arrived at using information provided in the impact assessments completed with grant recipient organisations and are in line with the budget savings outlined in the February 2018 Revenue Budget cabinet report.

1.4 This report also seeks a delegation so that the level of the awards for year 3 of the multi-year agreements (2019/20) can be made by the Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Voluntary Sector. The year 3 awards can be between 75% and 100% of the year 1 value.

1.5 The proposed awards for 2018/19 for Cabinet to approve are contained in the table below.

Core Service Grants		
Organisation	2017/18	2018/19
Ben's Centre	£59,051	£53,146
City of Sanctuary	£45,000	£40,500
Roshni	£43,600	£39,240

Sheffield Citizens Advice & Legal Centre	£864,000	£841,536
Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English	£42,411	£38,170
St Vincent de Paul Furniture Store	£64,020	£57,618
Voluntary Action Sheffield (New Beginnings)	£17,400	£15,660
TOTAL – 95.6% of Year 1 value	£1,135,482	£1,085,870

Infrastructure Grant (Partnership Award)		
Organisation	2017/18	2018/19
VAS	£121,380	£97,104
SYCF / SYFAB - amount in year 2 was agreed in year 1	£54,370	£43,496
TOTAL – 80% of Year 1 value	£175,750	£140,600

Tackling Inequalities Fund		
Organisation	2017/18	2018/19
ASSIST	£14,000	£12,600
Emmaus	£15,000	£13,500
Nomad	£37,654	£33,889
TOTAL – 90% of Year 1 value	£81,654	£67,489

One Year Grants Extensions *		
Organisation	2017/18	2018/19
St. Wilfrid's Centre	£24,400	£12,200
Sheffield Chinese Community Centre	£15,000	£7,500
TOTAL – 50% of Year 1 value	£39,400	£19,700

*Please note that these groups were awarded a one-year Grant in 2017-18, the decision to award a one-year Grant Extension 2018-19 is covered in a separate officer delegated decision made in conjunction with the Cabinet Member.

1.6 The above table contains the awards relevant to this Cabinet report and not every award of the grant aid programme.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

(Explain how this proposal will contribute to the ambitions within the Corporate Plan and what it will mean for people who live, work, learn in or visit the City. For example, does it increase or reduce inequalities and is the decision inclusive?; does it have an impact on climate change?; does it improve the customer experience?; is there an economic impact?)

2.1 The grant aid fund contributes to the corporate priorities of Tackling Inequalities and Better Health and Wellbeing.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

(Refer to the Consultation Principles and Involvement Guide. Indicate whether the Council is required to consult on the proposal, and provide details of any consultation activities undertaken and their outcomes.)

- 3.1 The original grant aid proposals of 2016 were consulted on. In allocating these awards impact assessments from grant recipient organisations used to determine the amounts for 2018/19. Consideration was given to how to protect services for the most vulnerable in determining the allocations and the impact assessments informed this.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

- 4.1.1 These have been covered in the February 2018 Revenue Budget cabinet report and in EIA 212.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 The proposed exact awards are within the budget savings approved by Cabinet in February 2018.

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 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”.

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.

4.4 Other Implications

(Refer to the Executive decision making guidance and provide details of all relevant implications, e.g. HR, property, public health).

- 4.4.1 None.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

(Outline any alternative options which were considered but rejected in the course of developing the proposal.)

- 5.1 Due to there not being sufficient funds available to award all groups 100% of the year 1 value in year 2, the proposal is to award different levels of grant across the funds based on the strategic needs and impact assessments. The Council wishes to protect, as far as possible, front line delivery of the

grant aid recipient organisations that work directly with the most vulnerable and marginalised in the city. Therefore, most groups will have a 10% reduction of the potential 20% maximum reduction. Sheffield Citizens Advice will receive a 2.6% reduction; which reflects the increasing reliance of many households on advice regarding welfare reform and that the evidence from other areas that where Universal Credit has already been rolled-out Citizens Advice becomes even more crucial in managing the transition for many households. Infrastructure support will receive a 20% reduction.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

(Explain why this is the preferred option and outline the intended outcomes.)

- 6.1 The awards are all within the financial boundaries of the existing multi-year agreements and the budget available to the council.
- 6.2 The Cabinet Member responsible for the Voluntary Sector can already set the level of grant award if it is the same percentage reduction across the funds and delegating the option to vary any percentage reduction across the funds allows timely decision making that takes into account needs, impact as well as the funds available for the grant awards.

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