
Cabinet Voluntary Sector Committee

THURSDAY, 10TH JULY, 2008 at 18:30 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Reith (Chair), Canver, Adje, Amin and Santry

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

2. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business. (Late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items will be dealt with at item 7 below. New items of exempt business will be dealt with at item 13 below).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IS ANY IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter if the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgment of the public interest **and** if this interest affects their financial position or the financial position of a person or body as described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct **and/or** if it relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to them or any person or body described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct.

4. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 8)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 5 December 2006 and 21 February 2008.

5. DEPUTATIONS

To consider any deputations received in accordance with Standing Orders.

6. REVIEW INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIENT SPECIFIC VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (PAGES 9 - 16)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication)): To set out the process for the review and evaluation of core grant funding awarded to Infrastructure and Client Specific Voluntary Organisations over their 3 year funding which commenced in April 2006 and to set out the process for making recommendation to the Committee for future funding from 1 April 2009.

7. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any items admitted at 2 above.

8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following items are likely to be the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public as they contain exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

9. FUNDING FOR DISABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT (PAGES 17 - 22)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication)): Following the withdrawal of funding to Haringey Disability Action to update Members on progress to date on establishing a new mechanism to provide infrastructure support on disability issues and to disability agencies.

10. AFRICAN CARIBBEAN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL - PROPOSED CHANGES TO FUNDING ARRANGEMENT (PAGES 23 - 28)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication)): To consider a request to review the arrangement to put in place a seconded officer as Manager of the Centre using the funding allocation for ACLC in the grants budget.

11. HARINGEY LAW CENTRE PROGRESS REPORT (PAGES 29 - 38)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication)): To provide an update on the progress made by Haringey Law Centre and to recommend the release of the remaining two and three year's core cost continuation funding covering the period April 2008 until March 2010.

12. KURDISH ADVICE CENTRE - PROGRESS REPORT (PAGES 39 - 44)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication)): To provide an update on the progress made by Kurdish Advice Centre and to recommend the release of the remaining two and three year's core cost continuation funding covering the period April 2008 until March 2010.

13. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any items admitted at item 2.

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1 July 2008

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**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2006**

Councillors Reith (Chair), Canver, Amin and B. Harris

Apologies Councillor Mallett

Also Present: Councillor

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
VSGC07.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Mallett</p>	
VSGC08.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IS ANY IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA</p> <p>Cllr Amin in respect of Agenda Item 7 – Three Year Funding of Community Organisations 2007/2010.</p>	
VSGC09.	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)</p> <p>We suggested that, as the gap between meetings of the Committee could be of several months duration, any requests for further information such as that contained in Minute EVSC6 in relation to 15 organisations, referred to in paragraph 6.8 of the Annual Report on Voluntary Sector Grants 2005/6, be despatched at the time of the following meeting as well as at the time of the request.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the minutes of the Executive Voluntary Sector meeting held on 20 June 2006 be approved with an amendment on page 1 in that 'Greek Cypriot Centre' should say just 'Cypriot Centre'.</p>	
VSGC10.	<p>THREE YEAR FUNDING OF COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS 2007/2010</p> <p>The report was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).</p> <p>Councillor Amin declared an interest due to her role as a Trustee of the Selby Centre and withdrew from the meeting when this item was</p>	

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2006**

discussed as part of the report on 'Continuation Funding for Community Organisations'.

The Head of the Voluntary Sector Team introduced this item and summarised the progress of the organisations as set out in the main body of the report, and in greater detail at Appendix 4 of the report. Our Chair was pleased to advise that under the 'traffic light' evaluations, most of these organisations were on green with amber, with the greatest sanctions applied to those few which were predominantly red.

Clarification was sought of why certain organisations which had worked hard to make improvements but which still had a deficit in their accounts were to be the subject of sanctions while others were not. We were advised that while all organisations had shown an improvement in at least one area of improvement; not all improvements were considered worthy of a conditional grant. Concern having been expressed about programmes operated by certain community groups, the Head of the Voluntary Sector Team offered to investigate this matter further and report back to Members of our Committee.

We were reminded that 'Conditional Grant' meant that organisations would still be working closely with the Council but that organisations which were considered to be insolvent could not be funded.

We were also advised that organisations were encouraged to become Registered Charities and this was conditional. However, limited companies could still be 'not for profit' if this was preferable to some of the restrictions which could be imposed on charities.

RESOLVED

That subject to the recommendations/requirements detailed in paragraph 7.3.1 of the interleaved report –

1) The following organisations be awarded a further 3 years funding for the period 1.4.2007 to 31.3.2010

- Jackson Lane Community Centre
- Cypriot Community Centre
- Haringey Irish Cultural and Community Centre
- Kurdish Community Centre
- Haringey Chinese Centre
- Haringey Somali Community and Cultural Association
- Selby Trust
- Hornsey Vale Community Association
- Alhijra Somali Community Association
- Ethiopian Community Centre in the UK

2) That, subject to the additional condition that the monitoring officer be satisfied with the progress of improvement being made by the Kurdish Advice Centre at 31.3.2007, that their grant continues but that the recommendations of the review be closely monitored by

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2006**

	<p>officers.</p> <p>3) That the African Caribbean Leadership Council be awarded conditional support in the form of the seconded post continuing to work with them.</p> <p>4) That, subject to the additional condition that the organisation become a registered charity, a conditional award be made to the Asian Action Group Ltd.</p> <p>5) That, subject to the additional condition that the Council of Asian People agree to their staff who are funded by grant being paid through the Council's payroll, the Council of Asian People be awarded a conditional grant for the full 3 year period to employ a Centre Manager with a contribution towards administration.</p> <p>6) That organisations who had not submitted their Audited Accounts for 2006/7 by 31.3.07 should not have their funding released until these Accounts had been received and agreed by the Council's Finance Service.</p> <p>That Funding be provided on a 3 year standstill budget for the reason outlined in 7.3.4 and 7.3.5 of the report.</p>	
<p>VSGC11.</p>	<p>WELBOURNE CENTRE</p> <p>The report was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).</p> <p>We received this report which updated us on the current tenancy and use of the Welbourne Centre. We noted the possible opportunity for community consultation through a proposed Neighbourhood Taskforce Project, supported by the Young Foundation and financed by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG).</p> <p>Our Chair advised that she had sought the views of her 2 Ward colleagues about this proposal and felt it presented an excellent opportunity to bring together local residents and resolve specific problems with the Chestnut Estate.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the report be noted but that if the Council are not chosen to take part in the Taskforce Project then a survey of local residents and users of the Centre be undertaken in any event as this information would be necessary in determining how to proceed.</p>	
<p>VSGC12.</p>	<p>LAW CENTRE UPDATE</p> <p>LAW CENTRE UPDATE (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive</p>	

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2006****(Strategy) – Agenda Item 9)**

The report was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

Our Chair advised of the recent unfortunate incident when a lorry had crashed into the front of this building. We were also advised of the current status of this organisation

Concern was expressed that this building was not of an acceptable standard and, aside from the lorry incident, portrayed an unfortunate image of Tottenham. Concern was also expressed that its services were being offered to residents outside of the area but we were advised that the Centre was required to deliver services to people outside the area in order to access alternative funding streams.

We noted the possibility of using locations at 48 Grand Parade and the new building on the site of the Rose and Crown on the corner of the High Road and Monument Way and officers were asked to investigate these possibilities further. Whilst we agreed that a desirable way forward would be a joint venue with the Citizen's Advice Bureau, in the design of a Building Society, but it would be a challenge to identify sufficient capital funds for such a venture.

In response to further questions, the Head of the Voluntary Sector Team highlighted the progress as set out in paragraph 7.3 of the interleaved report and we noted the recruitment of an Interim Manager to the Centre.

We also noted that the recommendations set out at 8.1 had been made following a meeting with our Chair some 3 weeks ago.

RESOLVED

- 1) That the recommendations made in the MBA report and set out in paragraph 8.1 of the interleaved report with regard to development work that needed to be undertaken to improve the Law Centre's outputs, casework quality and governance be noted.
- 2) That the organisation continue to be on special measures and the grant be conditional upon the Law Centre agreement to work towards the developmental recommendations outlined in the MBA report.
- 3) That a report on progress be presented to our Committee by June 2007.
- 4) That the suggestions for alternative premises as suggested above be investigated.

The meeting ended at 8 pm

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2006**

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LORNA REITH

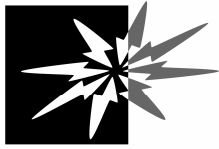
Chair

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**MINUTES OF THE CABINET VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2008**

Councillors *Reith (Chair), *Canver and *Adje

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
VSGC01.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 3)</p> <p>Councillor Canver in respect of item 3 - Haringey Disability Action - Appeal Against Withdrawal of Future Grant Aid</p>	HLDMS
VSGC02.	<p>HARINGEY DISABILITY ACTION - APPEAL AGAINST WITHDRAWAL OF FUTURE GRANT AID (Report of the Chief Executive – Agenda Item 3)</p> <p>Councillor Canver declared an interest in this item by virtue of being a member of the Grants Committee of London Councils.</p> <p>Details of the appeal which were set out in the written submissions made by Haringey Disability Action (HDA) and by the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication) in connection with the decision to withdraw grant aid were the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as they contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).</p> <p>The Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication) and officers from the Council's Voluntary Sector Team addressed our meeting and pointed to evidence in their written submission which they felt demonstrated their concerns about HDA's service delivery and compliance with grant conditions. Questions were then put by Members of our Committee and answers given.</p> <p>Representatives of HDA then addressed our meeting and spoke in support of their appeal, the principal grounds of which were that steps had been taken to ensure that problems such as those which had led to the service of a Default Notice were brought to the attention of Monitoring Officers as soon as they arose and before they became serious. Questions were then put by Members of our Committee and answers given. Both parties were then given the opportunity to ask questions of each other.</p> <p>At this juncture we thanked the representatives from HDA and the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication) and officers from the Council's Voluntary Sector Team for their submissions and their attendance and both parties withdrew. On consideration of the written submissions made and the oral evidence given at the meeting we</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p>	



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

Voluntary Sector Committee**On 10th July 2008**

Report Title: REVIEW OF CLIENT SPECIFIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE ORGANISATIONS.

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable): **[add reference]**

Report of: Sharon Kemp, Assistant Chief Executive, Policy, Performance, Partnerships and communications

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: Information

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To inform the Voluntary Sector Committee (VSC) of the Review of the twenty (20) Client Specific and Infrastructure organisations whose Core Funding comes to an end in March 2009.
- 1.2 To report on the process to be used to make informed decisions on the continuation of the Council's financial support through core funding to these organisations who, through the assessment and evaluation process are considered 'fit for purpose' and financially viable.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)

- 2.1 Voluntary organisations in Haringey play a key role in providing services, especially to our most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. They provide a voice for community representation and consultation and add value through the use of volunteers and building social capital. They are an essential partner in assisting the Council meet its strategic priorities.
- 2.1 The Council makes a substantial investment via grant aid to the voluntary sector each year. We need to ensure the money is well spent. Many organisations approach us for help with funding but we are only able to assist a limited number of them. In fairness to those organisations we cannot help it is important we monitor and evaluate those we do to ensure they are adding value through their work in our communities.

3 Recommendations

3.1 That the VSC note the process being used to assess and evaluate the organisations whose Core Funding comes to an end in March 2009.

3.2 To note that organisations that have proven through the assessment and evaluation process to be 'fit for purpose and financially viable' will be recommended to the VSC to be considered for continued financial support through Core Funding.

Report Authorised by: Sharon Kemp Assistant Chief Executive PPP&C

Contact Officer: Karlene Akindede – Manager Grants Programme Corporate Voluntary Sector Team

4 Chief Financial Officer Comments

4.1 The Chief Financial Officer has been consulted on this report and has no additional comments to make.

5 Head of Legal Services Comments

5.1 As stated in paragraph 1 above the purpose of this report is to inform the VSGC of the review of the 20 Client Specific and Infrastructure organisations whose core funding comes to an end in March 2009; and to report on the process to be used to make an informed decision on the continuation of the Council's financial support through core funding to these organisations.

The Head of Legal Services notes the contents of the report and advises that there are no legal implications for the Council at this stage.

6 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

7 Strategic Implications

Core Funding has been awarded to cover core costs which are intended to contribute to the cost of running an organisation and to support and invest in the organisation's strategic activities. Should funding be withdrawn from any of these organisations there could be serious implications with regards to sustainability.

8 Financial Implications

8.1 Core Funding for organisations is within the allocated budget approvals for the mainstream grants programme within Corporate Voluntary Sector Team.

8.2 The cost for the independent assessor's post will be maintained within the CVST existing budget which will be met from the savings made by the reduction of the Managers hours from 36 to 18 hours.

Legal Implications

9. There is no legal implications

9 Equalities Implications

There is no equalities implications

10 Consultation

10.1 Ongoing discussions with organisations subject to this process take place through regular monitoring visits and ongoing informal contacts.

11 Background

12.1 The Council's mainstream grants programme of £2.5 million is administered through Policy, Performance Partnership and Communication via the Corporate Voluntary Sector Team (CVST).

12.2 The CVST provides core funding as an overall contribution towards organisational salaries and running costs to meet its strategic objectives. This core cost is provided to approximately 40 organisations through three year grant aid funding agreements. The distribution of this funding is divided into the following streams:

- Legal & Advice
- Community Centres and
- Client Specific & Infrastructure Organisations

The CVST's grant programme for each of the above funding streams is operated on a rolling basis. The existing 3 years Core Funding to Client Specific & Infrastructure Organisations comes to an end in March 2009 Therefore they need to be assessed and reviewed for recommending future funding from 2009-2012.

13. Client Specific and Infrastructure Organisations.

13.1 The definition of an Infrastructure/Client Specific organisation in order to be eligible for this funding is:

Voluntary and community organisations that play a supporting, coordinating, representation, policy-making and development role for other voluntary and community organisations and/or their clients who live in Haringey.

Many of these organisations, particularly the client specific organisations, will also deliver services to their client group, funded through other income streams.

13.2 Following an open bidding process, the Voluntary Sector Committee (formerly the Voluntary Sector Grants Committee) held on the 6th September 2005 agreed core funding for 3 years to the Client Specific & Infrastructure Organisations for the financial years 2006-.2009.

13.3 The organisations listed below, which are funded under this funding stream, will need to be evaluated and assessed to enable an informed decision on whether these organisations are still fit for purpose and financially viable for the continuation of core funding from 2009 -2012.

13.4 Infrastructure Organisations

- Age Concern
- Haringey Voluntary and Community Organisation (HAVCO)
- Haringey Play Association
- Haringey Racial Equality Council
- Haringey Womens Forum

Client Specific Organisations

- Bangladeshi Womens Association
- Cara
- Caris
- Collage Art
- Exposure
- Greek Cypriot Organisation
- Haringey (HAGA)
- Home Start
- Jan Trust
- Markfield Project
- MIND in Haringey
- Northumberland Park Women and Children
- Wise Thoughts
- Turkish Cypriot Women Project
- YMCA

14 Budget Allocation

- 14.1 £1,062,900 is the annual budget allocated to this funding stream for the new 3 year grant aid funding period from 2009-2012.
- 14.2 In order to implement the new 2009-2012 grant aid funding agreements for Client Specific & Infrastructure Organisations, an evaluation and assessment of their service provision needs to be undertaken. For an equitable and unbiased review to be undertaken, it would be prudent that the evaluation and assessment be carried out independently of the existing staff based in the Corporate Voluntary Sector Team. Therefore, a specialist in the field of evaluation and assessment has been appointed on a fixed term contract to undertake the review and assessment of these organisations.

15 Evaluator/Assessors Remit

- 15.1 The appointed officer will aim to:
- Identify any difference in the performance of the organisations over the current three year funding period (2006-2009) and to ascertain whether or not they still meet the strategic objectives of the Council as set out in their 3 year Business Plan which was attached to their application form
 - Identify whether or not the organisations still represent value for money and are fit for purpose in terms of the quality and impact of service delivery both as a funded organisation and in how their services meet the needs of the local community and contribute to community cohesion
 - Identify any added value of continuing funding to the organisation taking into account their historic ability to comply with their service level agreement and all governing policies relating to the organisation
 - Make recommendations that will inform decisions on whether to award new three year funding agreements for these organisations.
 - Identify any risk associated with the withdrawal of grant aid to any organisation
 - Review work done by the organisations over the past three years 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09

15.2 Projected Time line

PHASE 1 - APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT/ PROJECT OFFICER - May 2008

Contact appropriate recruitment agencies with JD and Project Briefing

Assess CV's presented

Interview prospective candidates

Appoint independent consultant/ project officer

Put in place temporary contract agreement

PHASE 2 PROJECT SCOPE & METHODOLOGY - June 2008

Develop Project Scope & Plan based on Project Brief

Review previous review outcomes to set benchmarks & project outcomes

To establish and undertake evaluation criteria

Letters to be sent to organisations informing them of forthcoming evaluation, timeline and who will be conducting the review

Self Assessment Form and request for organisation to submit information

PHASE 3: ANALYSIS OF PROVIDER INFORMATION & PROVIDER INTERVIEWS July – August 2008

Receipt of Self Assessment & Information from Providers

Follow up any outstanding Self Assessments and Provider Information

Collate information for the Project Officer/ Consultant

Analysis of information

Interviews with client specific and infrastructure organisations

PHASE 4: RESULT OF ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION August – September 2008

Present individual organisation assessment

Present overall assessment of performance of client specific and infrastructure organisations

Feedback to key stakeholders and providers

Provider information to inform recommendations to establish outcomes for new SLA's for providers

Establish recommendations and next steps for poor performing providers

Report to CEMB & CAB presenting project outcome and recommendations

PHASE 5: ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUNDING DECISION

October – December 2008
Inform providers of Funding Decision and Outcomes
Providers to agree revised outcomes/ opportunity for feedback
Give 3 months notice and grant conditions for new funding agreement
Share decision of funding with stakeholders

16. Conclusion

- 16.1 Following the evaluation and assessment set out in point 15 a report will be presented to the VSC with recommendations on future funding proposals.

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