



NOTICE OF MEETING

Cabinet Voluntary Sector Committee

TUESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 2008 at 19:00 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Reith (Chair), Canver, Adje, and Santry (one vacancy)

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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 of exempt business will be dealt with at item 12 below).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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 - 4)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10th July 2008.

5. DEPUTATIONS

To consider any deputations received in accordance with Standing Orders.

6. REVIEW OF CORE GRANT FUNDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIENT SPECIFIC VOLUNTARY AGENCIES (PAGES 5 - 18)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communication)). To report on the review of voluntary infrastructure and client specific agencies in receipt of 3 year grant funding and recommendation on a further 3 years.

7. DISABLED PEOPLE REPRESENTATION AND ADVICE: THREE YEAR CORE COST FUNDING FOR 2009-2012 (PAGES 19 - 24)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communication)). To report on the three year cost funding for Disabled People Representation and Advice.

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 it contains exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

Note from the Head of Local Democracy and Member Services

The following items allow for consideration of exempt information (if required) in relation to items 6-7 which appear earlier on this agenda.

9. REVIEW OF CORE GRANT FUNDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIENT SPECIFIC VOLUNTARY AGENCIES (PAGES 25 - 40)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communication)). To report on the review of voluntary infrastructure and client specific agencies in receipt of 3 year grant funding and recommendation on a further 3 years.

10. DISABLED PEOPLE REPRESENTATION AND ADVICE: THREE YEAR CORE COST FUNDING FOR 2009-2012 (PAGES 41 - 48)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communication)). To report on the three year cost funding for Disabled People Representation and Advice.

11. AFRICAN CARIBBEAN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (PAGES 49 - 54)

(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communication)). To update the Committee on funding arrangements for the African Caribbean Leadership Council.

12. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any items admitted at item 2.

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and Member Services
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24 November 2008

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MINUTES OF THE CABINET VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 10 JULY 2008

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

*Present

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTON BY
VSC01.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (agenda item 1)</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Adje and Councillor Amin. An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Canver.</p>	
VSC02.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IS ANY IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA (agenda item 3)</p> <p>Councillor Santry in respect of agenda item 4 – minutes.</p>	HLDMS
VSC03.	<p>MINUTES (agenda item 4)</p> <p>Councillor Santry declared an interest by virtue of her role as a trustee of the Selby Centre.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the minutes of the Cabinet Voluntary Sector Committee meetings held on 5 December 2006 and 21 February 2008 be approved.</p>	HLDMS
VSC04.	<p>REVIEW INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIENT SPECIFIC VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications – agenda item 6)</p> <p>The Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications) introduced the report setting out the process for the review and evaluation of core grant funding awarded to Infrastructure and Client Specific Voluntary Organisations.</p> <p>We were advised that in relation to accommodating prospective core funding for new organisations, there might be the potential for the reallocation of funds depending on the outcome of the assessment and evaluation process for organisations currently receiving funding.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1) That the process being used to assess and evaluate the organisations whose Core Funding comes to an end in March 2009 be noted.</p> <p>2) That it be noted that organisations that have proven through the assessment and evaluation process to be 'fit for purpose and</p>	<p>ACE – PPP&C</p> <p>ACE – PPP&C</p>

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 10 JULY 2008**

	financially viable' will be recommended to the Committee to be considered for continued financial support through Core Funding.	
VSC05.	<p>FUNDING FOR DISABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications – agenda item 9)</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>The Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications) updated on progress to establish a new mechanism to provide infrastructure support on disability issues and to disability agencies following withdrawal of funding from Haringey Disability Action.</p> <p>We noted the £80,000 ring fenced disability funding and that an update report will be provided to the next meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That provision of £3,000 be made from the disability ring fenced money to continue the Council's support to the Shopmobility project. 	ACE – PPP&C
VSC06.	<p>AFRICAN CARIBBEAN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL - PROPOSED CHANGES TO FUNDING ARRANGEMENT (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications – agenda item 10)</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 updating the Committee on proposed changes to the funding of the African Caribbean Leadership Council (ACLC) following a request from the organisation to vary the current arrangements for the Council Officer seconded to ACLC. We noted that this request would be considered but would require further assessment of the impact of varying the current funding agreement.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That authority to agree variation to the current funding arrangements with ACLC, including the terms of the current funding agreement, if considered to be in the best interests of ACLC and having assessed the risk to the Council, be delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships & Communications) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement.</p>	ACE – PPP&C

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<p>VSC07.</p>	<p>HARINGEY LAW CENTRE PROGRESS REPORT (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications – agenda item 11)</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 the update report on the continuation of core funding for the Haringey Law Centre and noted that the Centre had met the conditions attached to the original offer of grant aid. We were advised that the Chair of the Committee had approved the continuation of the core funding for the Law Centre at a Member Level signing.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That it be noted that approval had been granted by the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement to the release of core continuation funding for the period 2008-2010 for the Haringey Law Centre as the Law Centre have, overall, met the independent review recommendations and that the remaining two year funding will be a contribution toward the provision of legal advice and representation for the Haringey community, particularly in such matters as immigration, welfare rights, housing and debt.</p>	<p>ACE – PPP&C</p>
<p>VSC08.</p>	<p>KURDISH ADVICE CENTRE - PROGRESS REPORT (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications – agenda item 12)</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 the progress report for the Kurdish Advice Centre and noted that the Centre had demonstrated improvement and met the additional conditions set out in the report received by our Committee on 5th December 2006.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That approval be granted to award the Kurdish Advice Centre the remaining year two and three core cost continuation funding covering the period April 2008 until 31st March 2010 and that the amount of grant aid funding to be released in quarterly instalments in each of the above mentioned years is £28,500 per annum.</p>	<p>ACE – PPP&C</p>

LORNA REITH

Chair

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Agenda item:

[No.]**VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE****On 2ND December 2008**

Report Title. Review of Core Grant Funding for Infrastructure and Client Specific Voluntary Organisations

Report of **Sharon Kemp, Assistant Chief Executive – PPP&C**

Signed :



Contact Officer : Jean Croot - Head of Safer Communities – 0208 489 6934

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Non-Key Decision**

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To report on the findings of the review of the Infrastructure and Client Specific organisations
- 1.2. to request a decision on the recommendations in respect of the continuation of core funding for 19 Infrastructure and Client specific organisations

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.
- 2.2. Through the Corporate Voluntary Sector team the Council provides over £3m worth of grant aid to the voluntary sector each year. Additional funding is also provided by other departments and totals over £18m pa. This is a substantial investment and 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. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:

- 3.1. Haringey Local Area agreement/Haringey Community Strategy
- 3.2. Achieving Excellent Services
- 3.3. Building Safer & Stronger Communities
- 3.4. Better Haringey
- 3.5. Putting People First
- 3.6. Raising Education Achievement

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. The VSC note the key findings of the Infrastructure and Client Specific Organisations review
- 4.2. The VSC agree the continuation of core funding, commencing 1st April 2009 to 31st march 2012, for the nineteen (19) Infrastructure and Client Specific organisations, listed in appendix 1, subject to the conditions(s) set out therein.

5. Reason for recommendation(s)

- 5.1. Voluntary Sector Committee at the meeting of 10 July 2008 agreed an independent review of twenty (20) Infrastructure and Client Specific (ICS) voluntary organisations whose core funding ends on 31st march 2009. It was intended that the review would inform decisions on whether to provide continuing financial support to these organisations for a further three-year period from 1st April 2009-31st March 2012.
- 5.2. The level of core funding allocated to the 20 organisations in 2008-09 totalled £971,800 as contributions to these organisations core costs.
- 5.3. the organisations were assessed against the criteria outlined in point 17 of report
- 5.4. The ICS voluntary organisations recommended for continuation of funding support are listed in Appendix 1 These ICS organisations have all been assessed as meeting the criteria for funding: fit for purpose, provide quality services that meet identified need; satisfactory financial assessment/solvency score, the following 19 organisations receive continuation of core funding, provide value for money and work in partnership with the Council and other stakeholders to promote community cohesion. Collectively, these agencies contribute towards a significant number of the Council's LAA and Community Strategy priorities.
- 5.5. The Council is keen to create a thriving environment for the third sector and the continuation of these core grants will be seen as a significant commitment as all the ICS voluntary organisations have indicated during this review that the Council core funding represents a vital funding stream for their strategic and policy development work.

6. Other options considered

6.1. No other options were considered

7. Summary

- 7.1. The budget has been maintained at the 2006-2009 levels in recognition of the important role that the ICS voluntary organisations play in delivering infrastructure support to local voluntary community groups, and high quality, value for money services to Haringey residents
- 7.2. Successful organisations will enter a new 3 year funding agreement from the 1st April 2009 and will be monitored under the Terms and Conditions of Revenue Grant Aid.
- 7.3. 19 of the 20 organisations reviewed are recommended for the continuation of core funding

8. Chief Financial Officer Comments

8.1. The Chief Financial Officer notes that budget is available within the Voluntary Sector team to meet the proposed grant allocations outlined in the report for the period 1.4.2009 – 31.3.2012. If the grant aid is agreed as recommended each organisation will be monitored under the Terms and Conditions of Revenue Grant Aid and audited accounts will be reviewed annually by finance staff to ensure they remain solvent and financially viable

9. Head of Legal Services Comments

- 9.1. The Head of Legal Services notes the contents of the report.
- 9.2. The Voluntary Sector Committee has power under Part 3, Section D, Para 2.2 (a) of the Council's Constitution to consider officer recommendations for funding and agree the awarding of grant aid to the voluntary and community sector.
- 9.3. Should the Voluntary Sector Committee agree the recommendations contained in para 5 of this report, the Corporate Voluntary Sector Team will need to ensure that Conditions of Grant Aid approved by the Corporate Legal Service are put in place with organisations for which funding has been approved.
- 9.4. The Head of Legal Services confirms that there are no reasons preventing Members from approving the recommendations in this report.

10. Head of Procurement Comments –[Required for Procurement Committee]

10.1. Not Applicable

11. Equalities &Community Cohesion Comments

11.1. The Equalities and Diversity Team has been consulted in the preparation of the report and comment that the review on which the recommendations of this report were base was fair, in terms of both process and the criteria used. In terms of outcome, allowing for a general umbrella body (HAVCO) and specific client group (HAGA), an equalities breakdown of the successful organisations shows that they include age groups (older people, children and young people), disability groups, including physical and mental disability, women's groups, lesbians, gays, bi-sexual and trans-sexual group (LGBT) and race and ethnic minority groups. This reflects a good outcome from equalities stand point.

12. Consultation

- 12.1. All of the 20 ICS voluntary organisations were notified of the review in writing in June 2008. These agencies also had ongoing contact with their monitoring officers and were kept informed of progress on an informal basis
- 12.2. The assessor contacted the organisations following the dissemination of the self-assessment and application forms to ensure understanding of the review process
- 12.3. Officers in other departments were invited to provide comments/observations as appropriate

13. Service Financial Comments

13.1. The budget is available to meet the financial commitment to all recommended organisations for 2009-2012.

14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

14.1. Appendix 1 - (Exempt from this section of the report see point 15.2)

15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 15.1. [List background documents]
- 15.2. Appendix 1 this report is exempt for the following reason: **information**

**relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person
(including the authority holding that information)**

16. REPORT

16.1 Background

- 16.2 Voluntary Sector Committee at the meeting on 10 July 2008 agreed an independent review of the twenty (20) Infrastructure and Client Specific Voluntary Organisations whose three-year (2006-09) core funding agreements expire on 31 March 2009.
- 16.3 As per the eligibility criteria for core funding, Infrastructure and Client Specific (ICS) voluntary organisations are defined as 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

16.4 The twenty ICS organisations are:

Organisations
Infrastructure organisations
1. Age Concern
2. Haringey Voluntary and Community Organisation (HAVCO)
3. Haringey Play Association
4. Haringey Racial Equality Council

5. Haringey Womens Forum
Client Specific Organisations
6. Bangladeshi Womens Association
7. Cara Housing Association
8. Caris
9. Collage Art
10.Exposure
11. Greek Cypriot Womens Organisation
12. Haringey (HAGA)
13. Home Start
14. Jan Trust
15. Markfield Project
16. MIND in Haringey
17. Northumberland Park Women & Children's Centren
18. Turkish Cypriot Women Project
19. Wise Thoughts
20.YMCA

16.5 The purpose of the review was to establish whether the above organisations are still fit for purpose and financially viable for the continuation of core funding for another three-year period from 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2012.

17 Review Process

17.1 Key elements of the review process were:

- a) All 20 ICS voluntary organisations were notified of the review in June 2008
- b) All twenty were invited to complete and return a self-assessment and application form (issued on 1 July 2008 with a closing date of 8 August 2008)
- c) Following the dissemination of forms, the assessor contacted the organisations to ensure that the review process was understood
- d) All completed applications were assessed against a set criteria, which took account of:
 - The performance of the organisations over the three-year (2006-09) funding period
 - 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
 - Whether or not they still meet the strategic objectives of the Council
 - Identify any added value of continuing funding to the organisations
 - Assessor made follow-up visits, where appropriate
- e) In addition, the organisations must also meet the eligibility criteria for funding, as follows:
 - Be based in the Borough of Haringey, with at least 50% (and preferably up to 75%) of users living and/or working in the Borough of Haringey
 - Be a registered charity or demonstrate that active steps are being made to become a registered charity, and preferably be a company limited by guarantee
 - Comply with legal and regulatory requirements in line with the services undertaken (e.g. entertainment licenses, appropriate CRB checks on staff etc)
 - Have a functioning management committee and appropriate governance arrangements including sound financial processes and accountability
- f) Consideration was given to previous monitoring reports undertaken by the Corporate Voluntary Team (CVST) and comments from other departments, where supplied

- g) Organisations were given feedback post assessment.
- h) All organisations were requested to submit audited accounts for the year ended March 2008 for assessment by the Council's Corporate Finance section.

18 Review Findings

18.1 This section of the report sets out the overall findings which focus on the key assessment areas.

- **Performance against business plan objectives 2006-09**

Overall, the organisations have performed well over the last 3 years; with over performance by 2 of them, and the other 18 organisations meeting all or most of their 2006-09 business plan objectives.

Type of Organisation	Performance to date (Targets Set)				
	Above (Exceeded set targets)	All (100%)	Most (80%)	Some (Less than 50%)	None (No set targets met)
Number of infrastructure	0	2	3	0	0
Number of Client Specific	2	10	3	0	0

The following were quoted by the organisations concerned as some of main reasons for the under-performance:

- Difficulty in raising the necessary funds for the project, activity or service development
- Lack of capacity – original work plan was too ambitious resulting in the organisation being over-stretched
- Planning & Timing – delayed input from key partners/ stakeholders
- Capital funding/ premises unavailable for service expansion

There was indication that some of the organisations would use their current round of business planning to reflect on these issues and identify ways of addressing them.

None of the 20 organisations were underperforming on areas that would cause significant concerns to the Council.

- **Value for money**

It was difficult to establish if the organisations offered value for money on the basis of cost or price. This was due to the lack of robust costs data that would enable cost benchmarking between the services provided by these organisations and those provided by the Council or services commissioned from the private sector.

Further, benchmarks are complex as there is often no certainty that all unit costs are being calculated on a consistent basis.

Instead of cost or price, this review used 'performance against plan' as a measure of value for money where value is described by the objectives achieved within the agreed financial targets¹. Based by this measure, the twenty ICS organisations were assessed as value for money providers, all having met most or all of their planned objectives. It should be noted that the Council's core funding represented less than 50% of the overall core costs of these ICS organisations. All indicated that they had used their core funding to lever in funds from various sources, e.g. charitable trusts, Haringey PCT, other council departments, etc to support direct services and activities.

- **Fit for Purpose**

The review found that the 20 organisations remain fit for purpose, delivering services and activities that are relevant to the needs of Haringey residents. All were able to:

- a) Evidence needs for their services/ activities
- b) Involve users to plan and evaluate services
- c) Show that there are policies and systems in place (e.g. financial probity, equalities, user involvement, self-evaluation, training, volunteering, complaints and quality assurance) to ensure that services are of high quality.
- d) Demonstrate their ability to deliver business plan objectives.
- e) Demonstrate their ability to work in partnership
- f) Demonstrate that their work contributes towards the Haringey Community Strategy and LAA priorities, as well as national policy agendas such as Community Cohesion, Promoting Independence, Every Child Matters, Choosing Health, etc.

¹ From 'Measuring Value for Money' by David Mason, 2006

18.2 Infrastructure Organisations

The 5 infrastructure organisations continue to play a vital role in representing the interests of the local voluntary and community sector, building capacity, facilitating and co-ordinating consultations and forums. 3 of the 5 (Haringey Women's Forum, Haringey Play Association and Age Concern) are second tier umbrella organisations, which means they deliver services to individual service users in addition to providing infrastructure support to VCS that work with their specific client groups.

All 5 infrastructure organisations are actively engaged in strategic partnerships, sitting on key planning forums and theme boards. Age Concern and HAVCO are lead partners for a number of the LAA and Community Strategy indicators and targets.

18.3 Client specific organisations

These organisations provide a wide range of support services to individual users, many of whom are hard to reach groups. Client specific organisations also undertake advocacy and representation work to ensure that disadvantaged and vulnerable residents access mainstream services, take-up benefits, etc.

Several of the client specific organisations reported a rising demand for their services as evidenced by an increase in the number of referrals received.

19 Added value

All 20 ICS voluntary organisations were able to demonstrate value in the following ways:

- a) Using their understanding and knowledge to engage hard to reach communities, faith groups, people from all equalities groups, bringing people from different groups together thereby promoting community cohesion
- b) Creating and supporting opportunities for volunteering
- c) Using their specialist skills and experience to assist individuals to take up benefits to which they are entitled, thereby maximising income
- d) Core funding has enabled these organisations to generate income to invest in services in the borough

20 Financial viability

Financial assessments are still ongoing due to the fact that half of the agencies have not yet submitted signed accounts (because their AGMs do not take place nearer the end of the year).

Based on the previous year's assessment, no serious financial viability issues are expected. However, it is prudent for all the recommendation of core funding continuation to be subject to a satisfactory financial assessment/ solvency score. Should there be any subsequent financial viability issues, a report separate from this will be prepared for an extra ordinary meeting with the VSC.

21 Key Challenges

As part of the review, organisations were asked to what challenges they would expect to face in the next 3 years.

List below are some of the challenges identified by most of the majority of the organisations:

- Sustainability of funding – difficult to obtain longer term funding
- Capacity and the ability to meet rising demand for services; unmet need
- Above market rent increases
- Implication of new wide-ranging policy agendas, e.g. Personalisation, Health and Social Care Procurement practices, and the associated opportunities and threats to the local voluntary and community sector, in especially the small community groups
- Lack of a level playing field between statutory agencies and voluntary community organisations in relation to the access to government grants (some cited the recent round of ABG as an example of this)

Many of the organisations reviewed were confident of the ability to meet these challenges.

The infrastructure organisations highlighted the need to develop a more in-depth understanding of the local VSC sector, in particular the needs of the

smaller community groups in order for them to better support these groups' development.

22 Conclusion

The importance of the core funding provided by the Council was emphasised by all the ICS voluntary organisations who believed that with out this funding they would find it difficult to fulfil their representation role, or to undertake strategic work such as partnership and policy development.

Core funding constitutes a vital income stream for these organisations because it both contributes towards their core costs (which charitable trusts, service commissioners, etc are reluctant to fund), and provides leverage for external funding to support direct services and/or projects.

Over the last 3 years, the core funding provided to the 20 ICS voluntary agencies have enabled them to meet their business objectives, delivering infrastructure support to local voluntary and community groups, and direct services to disadvantaged residents.

Haringey is a vibrant borough with a diverse population. The 20 ICS voluntary organisations are very much an integral part of the wider community; bringing different sections together; promoting community cohesion and assisting the Council and its partners to deliver key strategic objectives.

24. Recommendation

24.1 It is recommended that, subject to a satisfactory financial assessment/ financial solvency score, the following 19 organisations receive continuation of core funding,

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
- Caris
- Collage Art
- Exposure
- Greek Cypriot Womens Organisation
- Haringey (HAGA)
- Home Start
- Jan Trust
- Markfield Project
- MIND in Haringey
- Northumberland Park Women & Children's Centre
- Turkish Cypriot Women Project
- Wise Thoughts
- YMCA

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Agenda item:

VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE

On

2ND December 2008

Report Title. **DISABLED PEOPLE REPRESENTATION AND ADVICE(DPRA): THREE YEAR CORE COST FUNDING FOR 2009-2012**

Report of SHARON KEMP, ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE PPP&C

Signed :

Contact Officer : JEAN CROOT, HEAD OF SAFER COMMUNITIES UNIT, SAFER COMMUNITIES SERVICE - Telephone 0208 489-6934

Wards(s) affected: **ALL**

Report for: **NON-KEY DECISION**

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To report on the findings of the assessment process of organisations applying for the Disabled People Representation and Advice (DPRA) core cost funding for three years (2009-2012)
- 1.2. To request a decision on the recommendation to award DPRA 3 years (2009 - 2012) core cost funding of £77,000 per annum to the first organisation named in Appendix 1 (1.2) and a further £3,000 per annum to the second organisation named in Appendix 1 (1.2)
- 1.3. To request a decision on the recommendation that the disability budget under spend for 2007-08 and 2008/09 be awarded to the first organisation named in Appendix 1 (1.2) for recruitment start-up costs and any Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 premises adaptation costs they may have
- 1.4. To request a decision that any remaining under spend that occurs from the financial years 2007/08 and 2008/9 be granted to Haringey Council funded voluntary and community organisations that require adaptations to premises in line with the 1995 DDA.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)

- 2.1. It is very important that disabled people in our borough have a strong and representative voice so that their needs and views are articulated to service providers, both within the Council and through the Strategic Partnership.
- 2.2. For some time now this voice has been absent and I am very pleased that we are now able to remedy that situation.
- 2.3. Being disabled brings extra costs and can often mean living in poverty. Yet many people fail to claim the disability benefits they are entitled to. I am very pleased that we are now able to fund work specifically around benefits advice for disabled people.
- 2.4. I am also pleased that we can offer funding to help with making premises used by voluntary organisations accessible to disabled people.

3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:

- 3.1. Haringey's Sustainable Community Strategy - Healthier Communities with a better quality of life.
- 3.2. Haringey's Sustainable Community Strategy - People and Customer Focused.
- 3.3. LAA National Indicator 4 - % of people who feel that they can influence decisions in their locality.
- 3.4. LAA Local Indicator (NI 119) - Self reported measure of peoples overall health and well being.
- 3.5. LAA Local Indicator (NI 127) - Self reported measure of social care users.
- 3.6. LAA National Indicator 135 - Carers receiving assessment or review and a specific carer's service or advice and information.
- 3.7. LAA National Indicator 140 - Fair treatment by local services.
- 3.8. LAA National Indicator 141 – Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. That the VSC agrees the recommendation of three year core cost funding of £77,000 per annum to be awarded to the first organisation named in Appendix 1 (1.2) for DPRA for the financial period 2009 – 2012.
- 4.2. That the VSC agrees the recommendation of three year core cost funding of £3,000 per annum to be awarded to the second organisation named in Appendix 1 (1.2) for DPRA for the financial period 2009 – 2012.
- 4.3. The VSC agrees the recommendation to award the first organisation named in Appendix 1 (1.2) recruitment start-up costs from the DPRA ring fenced money from the 2007/8 under spend and the current 2008/9 budget, together with any premises adaptation costs in line with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995.
- 4.4. The VSC agrees with the recommendation to award any remaining DPRA ring fenced under spend from the 2007/8 budget and current 2008/9 budget to Haringey Council funded voluntary and community organisations who require adaptations to premises in line with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995.

5. Reason for recommendation(s)

6. Other options considered

- 6.1. Not applicable

7. Summary

- 7.1. The budget has been maintained at the 2006-2009 of £80,000pa levels in recognition of the important role that an umbrella disability organisation plays in delivering infrastructure support to local voluntary community groups, and in delivering high quality, value for money services to Haringey residents to include premises that are adapted in line with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995
- 7.2. The successful organisation will enter a new 3 year funding agreement from the 1st April 2009 and will be monitored under the Terms and Conditions of Revenue Grant Aid
- 7.3. That any outstanding under spend from 2007/8 and the current 2008/9 budget be awarded to Haringey Council funded voluntary and community organisations for DDA 1995 adaptation to premises as a 'one off' grant

8. Chief Financial Officer Comments

- 8.1. The Chief Financial Officer notes that budget to cover this grant is available within the voluntary sector unit's overall budget. The assessment undertaken included a review of the audited accounts for all the groups forming the Disabled People Representation & Advice (DPRA) and were found to be sound with satisfactory solvency scores.
- 8.2. If the grant is awarded as recommended the organisation will be monitored under the terms and conditions of revenue grant aid which includes an annual review of the audited accounts.
- 8.3.

9. Head of Legal Services Comments

- 9.1. The Head of Legal Services notes the contents of the report.
- 9.2. The Voluntary Sector Committee has power under Part 3, Section D, Para 2.2(a) of the Council's Constitution to consider officer recommendations for funding and agree the awarding of grant aid to the voluntary and community sector.
- 9.3. The Head of Legal Services confirms that there are no legal reasons preventing Members from approving the recommendations in this report.

10. Head of Procurement Comments –[Required for Procurement Committee]

- 10.1. Not applicable

11. Equalities &Community Cohesion Comments

- 11.1. The recommendations in paragraph 4-4.3 of this report would restore much needed funding to voluntary sector provision for disabled people in Haringey. Specifically, the award for premises adaptation will help the Council in its duties under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 and is supported by the Equalities Team.
- 11.2. The restoration of funding will enable effective representation and advice services to be developed for disabled people and help sustain an umbrella body with the capacity to input into council and local decisions on behalf of disabled people.

12. Consultation

13. Service Financial Comments

13.1. The budget is identified and available within the existing budget of the Corporate Voluntary Sector Team.

14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

14.1. [click here to type]

15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

15.1. [List background documents]

15.2. Appendix 1 of this report is not for publication as it contains exempt information under the following category: **Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)**

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