



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 1<sup>st</sup> 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)**