

# Report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Sport to the meeting of Bradford West Area Committee to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014

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## Subject:

Grants Advisory Group recommendations on further allocation of Community Centre Core Cost and Community Development Grants

## Summary statement:

This report outlines the considerations and recommendations of the Bradford West Area Committee Grants Advisory Group on the allocation of contingency fund to help reduce the potential negative impact identified in the meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:  
Corporate

## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines the considerations and recommendations of the Bradford West Area Committee Grants Advisory Group on the allocation of contingency fund to help reduce the potential negative impact identified in the meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Bradford West Area Committee considered a report titled, "Allocation of Community Centre Core Cost and Community Development Grants" **Document X** and resolved, *"that the Grants Advisory Group in consultation with the Bradford West Area Co-ordinator be requested to make further recommendations on how to use the remaining contingency funds to provide transitional support to the organisations that previously held a Community Development Commission."*
- 2.2 The Area Committee on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014 received representations and two petitions at this meeting that raised concerns about the potential impact of the proposals. This included concerns that the centres could struggle to remain open and that the African Caribbean/African communities and Women would be adversely impacted on.
- 2.3 In response to the potential identified impact, the three organisations that had previously held a Community Development Commission, namely: - Frizinghall Community Association, Millan Centre and Manningham Mills Sport and Community Association, were asked to supply additional information in order for the Grants Advisory Group to be in a position to make recommendations to the Bradford West Area Committee.
- 2.4 The Bradford West Grants Advisory Group met on the 28<sup>th</sup> November to consider the additional information. The Grants Advisory Group was disappointed in general with the original Expressions of Interest produced by the three organisations outlined in **Table 1**. However, the Grants Advisory Group also values the contribution the three centres make to communities in Bradford West and also to the work undertaken with the African Caribbean/African Communities, some of which is with residents outside of Bradford West.
- 2.5 The Grant Advisory Group considered the requests by two of the organisations for funding for staffing costs to support the management of these centres. However this was not accepted as a useful way to support these organisations to become fully independent and sustainable over the longer term. The Grants Advisory Group recommends that the best way to do this is through maximising the allocation of Community Centre Core Cost Funding to these organisations in line with the maximum amount allowed within the original criteria of this funding stream.

**Table 1: Recommendations on use of the contingency fund**

	<b>Amount agreed for 2015-16</b>	<b>Basis of Award</b>
Manningham Mills Sports and Community Association	£9,600	To support activities led by the African Caribbean/African communities
Frizinghall Community Association	£9,600	To contribute to the Core Costs of the Centre*.
Millan Community Centre	£9,600	To contribute to the Core Costs of the Centre*
* These figures replace the original Award set out in the Report presented to Bradford West Area Committee on the 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2014.		

- 2.6 The Grants Advisory Group expects that the three generic community development grants awarded to Bradford Community Network (Cnet), Girlington Centre and Lower Grange Community Centre at the meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014 will support all groups in Bradford West, including African and African Caribbean communities within Bradford West and with women in the Area.
- 2.7 A condition of making the Award to Manningham Mills Sports and Community Association is that this funding is used to support actions within the African Caribbean/African Communities of Interest Plans, as outlined in the submission by the organisation. This can include activities based in Bradford West that attract people from across the District and promote positive images of this community and celebrate the heritage of these communities to all residents in Bradford West.
- 2.8 A condition of making the maximum contribution of Core Cost Funding to Frizinghall Community Association and the Millan Centre is that these organisations produce a plan detailing how this funding will ensure that the organisation is able to continue to remain open in 2015-16.
- 2.9 All three organisations will also be expected to have all their eligibility criteria in place as specified in their original Expressions of Interest.
- 2.10 Within this proposal there will be a total of £11,090 contingency funding available to support community centres to continue to operate and support communities in Bradford West. The Grants Advisory Group recommends that this is held back to cover any situation that arise.
- 2.11 Table 2 shows the total allocation made by Bradford West Area Committee for the Community Centre Core Cost and Community Development Grants, including the contingency fund:-

**Table 2: Total allocation made by Bradford West Area Committee.**

	<b>Core Costs</b>	<b>Community Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
Amount committed at Area Committee on 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2014	£54,842	£75,000	£129,842
Contingency fund for Frizinghall Community Association.	£5,928		£5,928
Contingency fund for Millan Centre	£6,540		£6,540
Contingency fund for MMSCA		£9,600	£9,600
Remaining contingency			£11,090
			£163,000

### **3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **3.1 None**

### **4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

4.1 The approved reduction identified in the Council budget 2014-15 relating to the year 2015-16 is included in the figures presented in this paper. The allocations will need to be reviewed in the light of any subsequent decisions that affect the 2015-16 resources.

### **5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

5.1 There are no significant risks and governance issues arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

### **6. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

6.1 This work relates directly to the Local Government Act 2000 and to the Duty of Well-being placed upon the Council to promote and improve the well-being of the District.

6.2 Under the Councils Constitution at Article 12, the Executive can delegate/devolve the discharge of functions to Area Committees. In discharging these functions, all decisions made must be in accordance with policies, strategies, plans or criteria agreed by the Council or Executive and within the approved budget.

6.3 Legal implications of any further devolution of budgets to Area Committees will be reviewed by the City Solicitor and any issues and constitutional amendments required will be considered by the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee for recommendation to Full Council.

6.4 It is understood that the three organisations which will not receive grant funding currently employ staff who may as part of their duties carry out work linked to the purposes for which previous commission payments were received. The possibility

that some or all of that work will be continued by the successful bidders does raise the question of whether one or more of these employees might be able to claim the protection of Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 ('TUPE 2006') and assert a right to be employed by any successor organisation on their existing terms and conditions of employment. This is a matter for the current and successor organisations and it is contingent on matters such as whether such people are truly assigned to business changing hands and also the nature of the business model of the successor organisation. This issue does not directly affect the Council or this decision making process unless previous funding arrangements contain indemnities from the Council to cover such matters. Absent this, then this is a commercial risk to be managed as between the current and successor organisations.

## **7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

The progressive distribution of grants to Areas with higher level needs will aid the development of initiatives which reduce inequalities. The proposed allocations within this Report are to help mitigate some of the identified impacts of not funding three organisations who currently receive a Community Development Commission.

### **7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

Resources available to Bradford West Area Committee, described in this report, and used to support Bradford West Area Committee Ward Plans 2015-16 will directly support the delivery of the District's Sustainable Community Strategy.

### **7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS**

Actions to assist in identifying the greenhouse gas impacts of potential projects to be funded through this budget will be undertaken. These will include a consideration of, for example, energy efficiency opportunities in purchasing new equipment or refurbishing or modifying buildings.

### **7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

7.4.1 Community Safety issues are acknowledged as a key contributor to the quality of life in neighbourhoods. It is anticipated that a number of priorities supported through this budget will demonstrate a positive impact on community safety issues across Bradford West.

### **7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

7.5.1 There are no Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

### **7.6 TRADE UNION**

There are no implications related to Trade Unions arising from this report.

## **7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.7.1 The grants will contribute to work in the City, Clayton & Fairweather Green, Heaton, Manningham, Thornton and Allerton and Toller Wards.
- 7.7.2 The devolution of Community Development and Community Centre Core Cost Grants to Area Committees will enable a more tailored provision and to more accountability at a Ward level.

## **7.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)**

- 7.8.1 The activities outlined in this report contribute to priorities within the Bradford West Ward Plans

## **7. Not for publication documents**

None

## **8. OPTIONS**

- 8.1 That Bradford West Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report.
- 8.2 That Bradford West Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report, with amendments.
- 8.3 That Bradford West Area Committee decides not to accept the recommendations outlined in this report.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 Bradford West Area Committee approves the recommendation on the use of the Contingency fund made by the Grant Advisory Group as detailed in Table 1 above.
- 9.2 Bradford West Area Committee delegates responsibility for the allocation of the remaining contingency fund to the Area Coordinator in consultation with members of the Grant Advisory Group.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

“Devolution to Area Committees” (Document AG) report to the Council Executive on 9 October 2012.

“Devolution to Area Committees” (Document AG) Called – in Decision, to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 1 November 2012.

“Methodology for Allocation of Devolved Service Resources to the Five Area Committees” (Document CE) report to the Council Executive on 16 April 2013.

“Devolution of commissioning of Community Development and Community Centre Core Cost Grants to Area Committees” (Document N) report to the Council Executive on 22 July 2014.

“Devolution of commissioning of Community Development and Community Centre Core Cost Grants to Area Committees” (Document R) report to the Bradford West Area Committee on 17 September 2014.

“Allocation of Community Centre Core Cost and Community Development Grants” (Document X) report to Bradford West Area Committee on 12 November 2014.