

Report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Sport to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee to be held on 17th December 2014.

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Subject:

Allocation of Community Development Grants for 2015-17

Summary statement:

This report outlines the recommendation of the Bradford East Area Committee Grants Advisory Group for Community Development Grants – the allocation of the remaining £25,000 grant.

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Environment and Sport Communities
Cllr Imran Hussain

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Corporate

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines the recommendations of the Bradford East Area Committee Grants Advisory Group for Community Development Grants – the allocation of the remaining £25,000 grant.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The recommendations of the Bradford East Area Committee Grants Advisory Group, in respect of the allocation of Community Centre Core Cost Grants and Community Development Grants for 2015-17, were considered at the last meeting of the Bradford East Area Committee on 13th November 2014.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 13th November 2014, the Bradford East Area Committee resolved to approve 3 grants for community development work of £25,000 each. However, it was agreed that the allocation of the remaining £25,000 grant should be referred back to the Grants Advisory Group. The Committee resolved that the Grants Advisory Group should hear presentations from the Karmand Community Centre and the Thornbury Centre, in order to make a recommendation to the Area Committee as to which organisation would be best placed to undertake community development work in Bradford Moor and Bowling and Barkerend (excluding East Bowling).
- 2.3 The Karmand Community Centre and the Thornbury Centre delivered presentations to the Grants Advisory Group. The Grants Advisory Group also asked questions of the representatives from the Centres. The presentations and questions were scored by the Members of the Grants Advisory Group. This was inconclusive as both organisations achieved the same score. However, 2 of the Members scored the Karmand Community Centre higher and 1 Member scored the Thornbury Centre higher.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

There are no other considerations.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 The approved reduction identified in the Council budget 2014-15 relating to the year 2015-16 was included in the figures presented in the report to the Area Committee on 13th November 2014. 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 Council's 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.

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.

Impact on organisations and protected characteristics – the Grants Advisory Group considered these. If the Area Committee does not allocate the grant to an existing provider, they are advised to consider the impact of not funding them and in particular protected characteristics.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Resources available to Bradford East Area Committee, described in this report, and used to support Bradford East Area Committee Action Plan 2014-17 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 East.

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 grant referred to in this report will contribute to work in the Bradford Moor and Bowling and Barkerend Wards (excluding East Bowling).

7.7.2 The devolution of Community Development Grants to Area Committees will enable a more tailored provision and will lead 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 East Ward Plans.

7. Not for publication documents

None

8. OPTIONS

8.1 That Bradford East Area Committee determines how to allocate the remaining £25,000 grant.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Bradford East Area Committee determines how to allocate the remaining £25,000 grant.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

‘Devolution of commissioning of Community Development and Community Centre Core Cost Grants to Area Committees’ (Document N). Bradford East Area Committee 17th September 2014

“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.

“Allocation of Community Centre Core Cost Grants and Community Development Grants for 2015-17” (Document X), report to the Bradford East Area Committee on 13th November 2014.