

Report of the Strategic Director of Place to the meeting of Bradford West Area Committee to be held on 28 February 2018

AB

Subject:

ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY BUILDINGS GRANT (CBG) CONTINGENCY FUND FOR 2017-19

Summary statement:

This report outlines the allocation of the CBG contingency fund to the Voluntary and Community Sector organisations in Bradford West Area for 2017 -2019 as recommended by the Grants Advisory Group.

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Director of Place

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Portfolio:
Neighbourhoods & Community Safety.

Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Corporate

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines the allocation of the CBG contingency fund to the Voluntary and Community Sector organisations in Bradford West Area for 2017 -2019 as recommended by the Grants Advisory Group.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As part of the budget decision on the 25th February 2016, Bradford Council agreed to reduce the discretionary support available to (VCS) organisations.

- 2.2 In setting the budget for 2016/17 onwards, three specific budget reductions were proposed in relation to rental subsidies, business rate relief and community development to take effect from 1st April 2017. These were:

a) Remove rent subsidies provided to VCS organisations

b) Reduce Community Development grants

c) Remove discretionary business rate relief to not for profit organisations

Community Centre Core Costs Grants were included with the three proposals as requested by the sector during the Council's budget consultation.

- 2.3 A review was undertaken of the different types of support given to the VCS and a proposal developed. This proposal merges the remaining support available into one CBG and devolved the decision making to Area Committees in order to increase fairness, transparency and accountability.

- 2.4 At the Bradford West Area Committee meeting on 22 February 2017 it was resolved that:

- *Responsibility for the contingency funds in Bradford West be delegated to the Area Co-Ordinator in consultation with members of the Grant Advisory Group.*

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Representation was made by the Thornton & Allerton Ward Members on behalf of St Francis Village for some funding from the Community Building Grants.

- 3.2 After consultation with the Grants Advisory Group Members on the 20th March 2017, St Francis Village Hall were awarded £1,000 for 2017-2018 and 2018-19 (second year funding will be dependent on funding being available).

- 3.3 At its meeting on the 12 December 2017, Bradford West Grants Advisory Group allocated the following from the contingency sum to:-

Name of Organisation	Contingency Fund allocation 2017-2018
Café West healthy Living Centre	£1,000
Lower Grange Community Centre	£500
Manningham Project	£2,000
Millan Centre	£1,860
St Francis Village Hall	£350
Sub Total	£5,710

- 3.4 At its meeting held on 15 February 2018, Bradford West Grants Advisory Group allocated the remaining £1,400 as follows:-

Name of Organisation	Contingency Fund allocation 2017-2018
Bangladesh Youth Organisation	£500
BEAP Community Partnership (Cornwall Rd)	£500
Heaton Community Centre	£400
Sub Total	£1,400
GRAND TOTAL	£8,110

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 The amount of contingency funding available for the Bradford West area was £8,110 for 2017-18 and £12,610 for 2018-19 (subject to funding being available).

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- 5.1 Non-specific.

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.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

- 7.1.1 The progressive distribution of grants to Areas with higher level needs will aid the development of initiatives which reduce inequalities.
- 7.1.2 Priorities supported will promote fairness and inclusion while supporting Bradford

West Area Committee's commitment to equal opportunities for all, including those protected characteristics identified within the Equalities Act 2010.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.2.1 Resources available to Bradford West Area Committee, described in this report, and used to support the Bradford West Area Ward Plans and will directly support the delivery of the District's Plan and promote and contribute to the People Can Make a difference approach.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

7.3.1 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 None.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

7.5.1 None.

7.6 TRADE UNION

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

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

7.7.1 The activity outlined in this report affects the whole district and all organisations which currently receive buildings related support in Bradford West. The creation and devolution of the Community Building Fund to Area Committees will establish a more tailored provision and more accountability at a ward level.

7.8 WARD PLAN IMPLICATIONS

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

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 None.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 Bradford West Area Committee approves the decision of the Grants Advisory Group.

9.2 Bradford West Committee approves the decision of the Grants Advisory Group. with amendments.

9.3 Bradford West Committee decides not to approve the decision of the Grants Advisory Group as detailed in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That Bradford West Area Committee acknowledges and agrees with the decision of the Grants Advisory Group for the allocation of CBG contingency funding as outlined in paragraph 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 of this report.

10.2 That Bradford West Area Committee approves the allocation of CBG contingency funding as outlined in paragraph 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 for 2018-2019 (subject to funding being available).

10.3 That responsibility for the allocation of any remaining CBG contingency funds in Bradford West be delegated to the Area Co-Ordinator in consultation with members of the Grant Advisory Group.

10.2 That Members of Bradford West Grants Advisory Group be thanked for their active participation in the CBG contingency fund allocation across Bradford West.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 None.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 The Allocation of Community Buildings Grants (Extended Community Centre Core Costs), Document R, Bradford West Area Committee, 23 November 2016.

Allocation of Community Buildings Grant for 2017-19, Document Z, Bradford West Area Committee, 22 February 2017.