



To: Executive Councillor for Arts, Sport and Public Places: Councillor Rod Cantrill
Report by: Head of Arts & Recreation
Relevant scrutiny committee: Community Services 12/1/2012
Scrutiny Committee
Wards affected: All Wards

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO VOLUNTARY AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS 2012/13: LEISURE

Key Decision

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 This report details applications from voluntary and not for profit organisations for 2012/13 leisure funding and makes recommendations for future funding.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended:

- 2.1 To agree the recommendations for leisure grants to voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in 2012/13 as set out in Appendix 2 of this report, subject to confirmation of the Council's 2012/13 budget in February 2012 and, in some cases, to the provision of further information from applicants.

3. Background

- 3.1 A report to this committee in October 2011 approved revised:
- Leisure grant priorities for 2012-14
 - Funding arrangements and eligibility criteria
- Copy attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.2 Applications have been invited in line with these new arrangements. 54 organisations have applied for funding for a total of 82 projects, services and activities. Applications and recommendations are set out in Appendix 2.

- 3.3 Since 2006 Leisure Grants have been cash limited. This has resulted in a saving of £7,870 for 2012/13. The budget available for 2012/13, subject to approval, is £291,470
- 3.4 The following figures are subject to approval of the City Council's full 2012/13 budget in February 2013.

| 2012/13 Priorities and Funds | % of total budget | Available £ | Bids £ | Offers £ | Remain ing £ |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Leisure Grants | 90 | 262,470 | 438,979 | 256,305 | 6,165 |
| Area Committee Grants* | 10 | 29,000 | Refer to ACs | 0 | 29,000 |
| TOTAL | 100% | 291,470 | 438,979 | 256,305 | 35,165 |

* Area Committee Grants will be awarded by each area committee throughout the year 2012/13.

- 3.5 This funding programme aims to support clearly defined services and activities which:

- meet the grant priorities and funding conditions
- are costed to include all relevant overheads within a full cost recovery budget
- have measurable targets and makes a clear impact on demonstrable community needs
- are backed up by research and consultation

Groups, which are actively working towards meeting these conditions, may be considered for funding.

- 3.6 An organisation will not be eligible if it:

- is set up and/or managed wholly or partly by a statutory organisation
- provides religious instruction or worship (religious organisations may be eligible for grants to provide social, leisure, cultural or welfare activities)
- operates for private gain
- is connected with any political party or involved in party politics

- 3.7 Detailed assessments of each application have been undertaken by management in the sports and arts services using their expertise in development work and local knowledge. Proposed awards reflect these assessments which focus on the following criteria:

- Eligibility criteria
- Delivering against the revised leisure priorities
- Evidence of need
- Outcomes

- Monitoring and evaluation
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Quality
- Risk

3.8 The current method of awarding grants has resulted in some groups receiving funding from the Council over a sustained period of time. The Council expects to open up a dialogue early in 2012/3 to shape any future funding arrangement particularly in relation to large grants. Currently 4 organisations receive approximately 63% of the total budget, 10% is available for area committees, leaving 27% for the remaining applications.

3.9 A number of applications were of poor quality and we will look to sign post and offer assistance to those who request it in making successful applications. Some organisations need to widen their approach to fund raising and we work with CVS and others to ensure organisations are fully aware of appropriate options and support.

3.10 All funded groups will have service agreements for their grants and structured monitoring arrangements.

3.11 **Cambridgeshire Compact**

The Council endorsed the Compact in 2007, its main aim to improve and develop the relationships between the statutory and voluntary sectors. Of particular importance to this report the Compact has the following three undertakings for statutory organisations:

- Develop a long-term policy and strategy for support and investment in voluntary and community sector activity in Cambridgeshire including Compact compliance
- Consultation periods are for 12 weeks wherever possible
- Work towards a situation in which statutory contracts and service agreements are a minimum of three years duration and where a minimum of 12 weeks notice is given in respect of decisions to change or terminate a grant or contract condition (or less by mutual agreement)

4. Implications

(a) **Financial Implications** -These are detailed in the report and in Appendix 2

(b) **Staffing Implications** - None

(c) **Equal Opportunities Implications**

- All grant aid policies are based on the Council's Medium Term Objective to secure a healthy and thriving community, especially through the provision of services to areas and communities that are the most disadvantaged.
 - Effective implementation of equal opportunities policy and practice by applicant groups is a condition for grant aid.
 - An Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken on the revised priorities
- (d) **Environmental Implications** - All applicants are required to have environmental policies to detail how they will contribute to reducing carbon emissions and establish good practice. Climate change rating +L
- (e) **Consultation** - Consultation was undertaken on both the sports and arts strategy development and leisure grant priorities review.
- (f) **Community Safety** - some projects, services and activities funded by leisure grants will have a positive impact but this is not the primary outcome for this funding.

5. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Grant and discretionary rate relief applications 2012/13 (not available to the public)

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Leisure Funding Priorities 2012-14 and Funding Arrangements

Appendix 2 – Leisure grant and discretionary rate relief applications 2012/13

7. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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Leisure Funding Priorities 2012-14 and Funding Arrangements

| Priority Reference number | Priority Description |
|---------------------------|--|
| | <p>L1 Improve access to leisure activities A targeted approach to improving access to arts and sports for city residents who currently have restricted access, particularly including:</p> |
| L1.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minority ethnic groups |
| L1.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People with disabilities |
| L1.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People on low incomes |
| L1.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children, young people and older people at risk of exclusion from leisure opportunities |
| | <p>L2 Enhance the City's cultural offer Arts and sports activities that enhance Cambridge's cultural offer by doing some or all of the following:</p> |
| L2.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Celebrating Cambridge's cultural identity or local traditions |
| L2.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Benefiting the local economy |
| L2.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reflecting the city's creative reputation through being new, innovative, and ambitious |
| L2.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting environmental sustainability |
| L2.5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Celebrating the London 2012 Olympic Games and supporting the aims of the City's Olympic Action Plan (available from www.cambridge.gov.uk/olympics) |
| | <p>L3 Encourage and support local neighbourhood arts and sports activities that enhance current provision and are for the benefit of local residents</p> |
| | <p>These grants will be awarded via the Council's Area Committees, North, South, East and West Central and are not available by application via the main grants round.</p> <p>Area Committee grants are managed by the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation: The Quorum, Barnwell Road, Cambridge, CB5 8RE 01223 410535 www.cambscf.org.uk</p> |

Funding Arrangements

A. Three Year Grant Agreements

- Funding for ongoing arts & sports activity that meets the Council's leisure priorities 1 and 2 which would be tapered over the three years.
- These agreements would usually be available for organisations that had been in receipt of an annual leisure grant for two consecutive years.
- Payment in years two and three would be subject to an annual review and the funding being available.

Approximately 80% of the leisure grants budget would be allocated to three year grant agreements initially and it is anticipated this may reduce over time.

The proposal is to work on the detail of assessment, tapering, impact and implementation from April 2012 and begin discussions with organisations to inform their applications for grants in the autumn 2012 and then to come into actual effect from April 2013.

B. One Year Project Grants

- One-off project grants for arts & sports activity meeting the Council's leisure priorities for the benefit of local residents city-wide.

Approximately 10% of the leisure grants budget would be allocated to one year project grants initially and it is anticipated this may increase over time.

C. Area Committee Grants

- One-off project grants for arts & sports activity meeting the Council's leisure priorities for the benefit of local residents in the wards designated by area committees.

Approximately 10% of the leisure grants budget would be allocated to area committee grants in 2012-13 and it is anticipated this may increase over time.