



Report of: Executive Member for Tenants, Residents and Communities

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	17 March 2014	B3	All
Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt	

SUBJECT: Community Festivals Fund Awards 2014/15

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 Community festivals are a key part of the borough's cultural offer. The Community Festivals Fund scheme aims to support organisations based in Islington to engage local residents in a broad range of events that promote access, cultural benefit, stronger communities and partnership working. Grants of up to £1,000 are available through the Fund.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To award grants from the £16,000 Community Festival Fund to the following 22 applicants:

- Angel Canal Festival
- BVMO / Team Cally
- Cubitt Gallery and Studios
- Freightliners City Farm
- Friends of Archway Market
- Friends of Gillespie Park
- Friends of Pooles Park
- Holloway Neighbourhood Group
- Islington Exhibits
- Key Changes
- Kings Cross Church
- Little Angel Theatre
- Manor Gardens Centre
- Newington Green Action Group
- New River Baptist Church
- Oxjam Islington
- Peel Institute
- Reel Islington
- Rowan Arts, London Met University, Resource for London Consortium
- St Luke's Parochial Trust
- St Mary's Church
- Yaram Arts

3. Background

- 3.1 The Community Festivals Fund budget for 2014/15 is £16,000.
- 3.2 The 2014/15 Community Festivals Fund scheme was publicised on Creative Islington and the Islington Council website. Application forms and criteria/guidance notes could be downloaded from the Islington Council website or were sent to applicants on request. The deadline for applications was 21 February 2014.
- 3.3 The scheme was oversubscribed receiving 25 applications from a broad range of organisations supporting a wide range of events. The total funds requested by applicants totalled £22,280.

The details of all applications received are attached at Appendix A.

- 3.4 Applications have been assessed by officers against the published funding criteria:
- 1) Cultural Benefit
 - maximise access to and participation in arts activities
 - reduce inequalities in Islington
 - enhance and improve the quality of life and wellbeing of Islington's residents
 - develop skills and learning opportunities for young people
 - improve community cohesion and civic pride
 - celebrate Islington's diversity
 - improve, animate and interpret the physical environment
 - celebrate and interpret the distinctive characters of local areas
 - contribute to Islington's Cultural Olympiad Programme
 - 2) Value for Money
 - 3) Regeneration and Sustainability
 - 4) Stronger Communities
 - 5) Match Funding
 - 6) Partnership Working
 - 7) Licensing and Public Protection

In addition, all applications were assessed to ensure that they met the published eligibility criteria:

- Funding is restricted to voluntary, community and faith organisations based in Islington
 - Organisations can only apply for funding for one festival in this grant round
 - Each festival will be eligible for one award. Where a number of organisations are contributing different elements of a festival, they should work together to submit one application.
 - The following are not eligible for funding: events of a political nature; events promoting a religious doctrine; fundraising events; profit-making organisations; individuals.
- 3.5 Of the 25 applications received, two were ineligible as the applicants had submitted two applications and one declined based on lack of clear project information. A total of 11 applicants are recommended to receive the full amount of grant requested and 9 applicants are recommended to receive more than 50% of the amount of grant requested.
- 3.6 As in previous years, where possible an officer will visit each festival to monitor the success of the event. Organisations awarded funding will be required to complete a short self-evaluation form and to submit supporting evidence for all expenditure.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

There are no financial implications arising from the proposals.

4.2 **Legal Implications:**

The Council has power to give support to organisations for the provision of support services for the voluntary and community sector under the well being power in section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. The well being power provides the Council with power to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the whole or part of its area or all or any of the persons resident or present in that area.

4.3 **Environmental Implications:**

There are no environmental implications arising from this proposal.

4.4 **Equality Impact Assessment:**

The organisations identified meet the needs and priorities of a wide range of Islington's communities and help to improve equality within the borough.

5. **Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

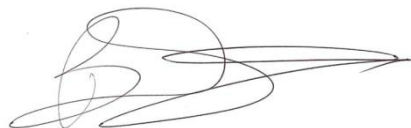
- 5.1 The Community Festivals Fund provides an opportunity for the Council to support 22 local organisations to develop and deliver a broad range of events for local residents. Officer recommendations have been made assessing each application against established eligibility and funding criteria and on the quality of the applications.

Appendices – Appendix A – details of applications received

Background papers: (available online or on request)

Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Executive Member for Tenants, Residents and Communities 3 March 2014

Received by:

Head of Democratic Services

Date

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