



**Governance and Human Resources
Town Hall, Upper Street, London, N1 2UD**

AGENDA FOR THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE

Members of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee are summoned to a meeting which will be held in Committee Room 1 at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on **22 March 2016 at 6:00pm.**

**John Lynch
Head of Democratic Services**

Enquiries to : Mary Green
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Despatched : 10 March 2016

Membership 2015/16

Councillor Richard Watts (Chair)
Councillor Andy Hull
Councillor Asima Shaikh

Substitute Members

Councillor Janet Burgess MBE
Councillor Joe Caluori
Councillor Paul Convery
Councillor James Murray
Councillor Claudia Webbe

Observers

Councillor Theresa Debono
Councillor Rakhia Ismail
Councillor Jean-Roger Kaseki
(1 vacancy)

Quorum: is 2 Councillors



A. Formal matters	Page
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| 1. | Apologies for absence |
| 2. | Declaration of substitute members |

Declarations of interest

If you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business:

- ☐ if it is not yet on the council's register, you must declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent;
 - ☐ you may choose to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is already in the register in the interests of openness and transparency.
- In both the above cases, you must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If you have a personal interest in an item of business and you intend to speak or vote on the item you must declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent but you may participate in the discussion and vote on the item.

*(a) Employment, etc - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

(b) Sponsorship - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of your expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of your election; including from a trade union.

(c) Contracts - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between you or your partner (or a body in which one of you has a beneficial interest) and the council.

(d) Land - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.

(e) Licences- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.

(f) Corporate tenancies - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.

(g) Securities - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

This applies to all members present at the meeting.

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| 4. | Minutes of the previous meeting | 1 |
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B. Matters for decision	
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| 1. | Local Initiatives Fund | 11 |
| 2. | Islington Community Chest: round two grant awards 2015/16 | 21 |

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| 3. | Community Festivals Fund 2016 | 27 |
| 4. | Islington Assembly Hall: free community use for 2016/17 | 39 |

C. Urgent non-exempt matters

Any non-exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

D. Exclusion of press and public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the remaining items on the agenda, any of them are likely to involve the disclosure of exempt or confidential information within the terms of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and, if so, whether to exclude the press and public during discussion thereof.

E. Confidential/exempt items (if any)

F. Urgent exempt matters

Any exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes

The next meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee will be on 21 April 2016

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London Borough of Islington

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 25 January 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 25 January 2016 at 6.00 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Andy Hull, Asima Shaikh and Richard Watts

Also present: **Councillors (Observers):** Theresa Debono, Rakhia Ismail and Jean-Roger Kaseki

Councillor Richard Watts in the Chair

70 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)

None.

71 DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)

None.

72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)

Councillor Theresa Debono declared an interest in agenda item B1 – Local Initiatives Fund awards – as a trustee of Foodbank.

Councillor Jean-Roger Kaseki declared an interest in the same item as a trustee of The Laundry.

73 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A4)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

74 LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND AWARDS (Item B1)

A revised Appendix A was laid round.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the proposals submitted by Ward councilors and detailed in revised Appendix A (attached to these minutes) of the report of the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development, be approved in principle, subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.

(b) That the amendments to Ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned, detailed in Appendix A of the report, be also noted.

(c) That Councillors be reminded that there is one more meeting of the Committee scheduled for March this year which will consider final projects for spend in this financial year.

Reasons for decision

To assist in developing and sustaining a healthy voluntary and community sector in Islington.

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None

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DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF AWARDS (Item B2)

The report was amended on submission as follows:

Recommendation 2.1 – delete the words “Community Matters’ ”

RESOLVED:

(a) That discretionary rate relief in the sum of £538.32 be awarded to the Union Chapel Project to 31 March 2020

(b) That a decision on the application received from Fourth Monkey Theatre Company be deferred to the meeting of the Committee in June 2016, pending clarification of issues related to their application.

(c) That the applications from Mirkey Mall, Adaptive Business Solutions and Community Matters be rejected on the basis that they do not meet the Council’s criteria for discretionary rate relief

Reasons for decision – Awarding discretionary rate relief to charitable and non-profit making bodies was a cost effective way of supporting local organisations and helped to sustain a healthy voluntary sector. A few of the organisations who had applied for discretionary rate relief were not eligible under the Council’s criteria.

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None

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LONDON BOROUGH GRANTS COMMITTEE: LEVY 2016/17 (Item B3)

The report was introduced by Councillor Hull, Executive Member for Finance and Performance.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the London Boroughs’ Grants Committee proposed annual budget of £10.486m in 2016-17 be noted.

(b) That Islington’s estimated contribution of £220k in 2016-17, a decrease of just over £10k on last year’s contribution, be approved.

(c) That this Council’s wish to protect the London Boroughs’ Grants Committee after this financial year be confirmed, noting that it provided good value for money and was beneficial to a range of organisations in Islington.

Reason for decision

The Council’s subscription contributed towards the funding of many London-wide organisations, providing a range of services, which benefited Islington residents.

Other options considered

None.

Conflicts of interest/note of dispensations granted

None.

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**ISLINGTON VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP GRANTS
PROGRAMME 2016 - 2020 (Item C1)**

RESOLVED:

(a) That the recommendations in the report of the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development, approved by the Executive at their meeting on 14 January 2016, be noted and endorsed.

(b) That thanks be expressed to Councillor Shaikh and officers in the Partnerships, Place and Culture Team for their work on the report and its appendices.

(c) That the Head of Partnerships, Place and Culture send a link to all Councillors to the Council web page which details information on the deadlines and process for the next grants programme, in order that they may alert organisations with whom they have contact.

(d) That it be noted that the Committee was committed to maintaining a budget of £1,163,000 for voluntary and community sector organisations going forward.

Reason for decision

The closure of the VCS Grants Fund and Advice Fund in June 2016 had provided an opportunity for the Council to review its support to the voluntary sector to help deliver the priorities of the Council.

Other options considered

None.

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None.

The meeting ended at 6.20 pm

CHAIR

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NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JANUARY 2016

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Bunhill	Troy Gallagher / Robert Khan / Claudia Webbe	Islington Museum / Moreland Children's Centre	Funding for an event at the end of a programme of creative learning workshops and for a digitally printed banner and printed story project book celebrating the programme's achievements. Funding to pay for storyteller and refreshments at the event and design and printing costs for the banner and book.	July 2016	Families with children under five at Moreland Children's Centre and from King Square and Brunswick estates	100	1,375	7,954	£5,375 Islington Giving, £1,204 LBI Heritage Services and Moreland Children's Centre	
Page 5 Caledonian	Paul Convery / Una O'Halloran / Rupert Perry	LBI Leisure Services	Funding to contribute towards the design, purchase and installation of a memorial plaque on the Cally Pool building for the late Alan Cartwright who was fatally stabbed last year.	20 Jan to 27 Feb 2016	The Cartwright family and the wider community	Unable to quantify	250	500	£250 London Borough of Islington	
Caledonian	Paul Convery / Una O'Halloran / Rupert Perry	LBI Housing	Funding for the Cally Festival 2016. Funding to contribute to the costs of the festival director.	19 June 2016	Local residents and businesses around Caledonian Road	8,000 to 9,000	750	41,050	£10,300 LIF, £30,000 from LBI Festivals Fund, local businesses, lottery and grant making bodies tbc	£10,300 LIF was awarded to this project in Dec 2015.
Canonbury	Alexander Diner/ Clare Jeapes / Nicholas Wayne	Urban Hope	Half term training week encompassing daily training sessions and to help prepare participants for entry into an obstacle race. Funding to pay for a sports coach, youth worker, hall hire, travel, publicity and admin, race entry fees and equipment.	15 Feb to 30 April 2016	Children and young people aged 8 to 18 from Canonbury	30	2,414.58	2,414.58	Not applicable	

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Canonbury	Alexander Diner/ Clare Jeapes / Nicholas Wayne	LBI Greenspace	Outdoor gym equipment in St Paul's Park. Funding to pay for the creation of a concrete base and the purchase and installation of five or six pieces of gym equipment.	March to April 2016	Users of the Rose Bowl and pupils and staff from St Pauls Steiner School	Unable to quantify	18,000	20,000	£2,000 Canobury LIF in 2016-17 tbc	
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Algerian British Connection	Twelve weeks of cooking classes to enable participants to cook healthy and economical family meals. Funding to pay for facilitator, cooking ingredients and cleaning.	27 January to 19 April 2016	Local disadvantaged women	12	564.34	564.34	Not applicable	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather / Asima Shaikh	Finsbury Park Women's Group Network led by Holloway Neighbourhood Group	International Women's Day event organised by a minimum of five women's community groups and which will be held at Finsbury Park Community Hub. Funding to pay for food, hall hire, PA system, activities and entertainment.	12 March 2016	Women of diverse cultural backgrounds and their families	150	400	850	£450 Arsenal in the Community (Gunners Fund) tbc	
Finsbury Park	Asima Shaikh	One True Voice	Funding for refreshments provided for a hate crime council outreach event for Muslim women at Finsbury Park Community Hub. The aim of the meeting was to advise on safety, advise how to report incidents and allow them to express their concerns.	2 December 2015	Muslim women	50	300	300	Not applicable	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather	Bangladeshi Community Association	Funding for food, refreshments and publicity for an event for the Bangladeshi community which will also sign post participants to a monthly drop in advice surgery on the Harvist estate.	March 2016	Bangladeshi families on the Andover / Six Acres / Harvist estates	300+	250	500	£250 LBI Housing	

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Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Highbury West	Theresa Debono / Richard Greening / Andy Hull	Holloway Neighbourhood Group	Twelve weekly drop-in sessions led by volunteers at the Stress Project therapy centre in Shelburne Road. Funding to contribute towards the project manager's salary, room hire, volunteer expenses, therapy materials and refreshments.	4 Feb to 21 April 2016	Local people who experience mental health problems	50	900	2,111	£827 HNG, £384 through charging for therapies	
Highbury West / Mildmay	Theresa Debono / Andy Hull / Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Ollie Parker	Islington Foodbank	Funding for three months of running costs, i.e. rent of a Portakabin (for food storage) and a container at Highbury Roundhouse as well as other costs such as heating.	1 Jan to 31 Mar 2016	Disadvantaged Islington residents	1,675	1,440	4,800 per year for Portakabin rent	Further fundraising to be done	
Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo / David Poyser / Marian Spall	Caxton House Community Centre	Funding to pay for publicity, sponsorship forms and refreshments for a three hour Zumbathon to raise money for the centre.	27 February 2016	Local adults and children aged 8+	50+	300	500	£200 Caxton House (hall hire)	
Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo / David Poyser	Hills Community Trust	Friday night art sessions at Caxton House. Funding to pay for room hire, equipment, admin and publicity.	Feb 2016 to Feb 2017	Open to all	50+	1,500	1,500	Not applicable	
Hillrise	Marian Spall	Living Space Art School / Designers & Artists Ltd	Funding for five weeks of a Drawing and Painting for All course culminating in an exhibition of art work in the Caxton House café. Funding to pay for producer, tutor, exhibition project materials, hall hire, hall decoration and publicity.	Feb to March 2016	Mainly people aged over 50	12 participants per week	990.27	1,900	£909.73 Creative Fruits in kind for design services	

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Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Girdlestone Third Age Group	Weekly art sessions for an older people's group facilitated by Cubitt Arts. The work will be exhibited and then permanently displayed in the community centre. Funding to pay for an experienced Cubitt artist for six months, materials and an exhibition.	Jan 2016 to Jan 2017	Older people	27	2,520	4,520	£2,000 LBI Community Chest tbc	
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	SLOW (Surviving the Loss Of your World)	Contribution towards annual running costs of this support group for bereaved parents and siblings, including outreach, refreshments, business services and admin costs, training, books and travel.	Feb 2016 to Jan 2017	Bereaved parents aged 20 to 75 and bereaved siblings aged 3 to 16	185 members	750	26,801	£3,583 LBI Comm Chest, St Georges LIF, Marple Trust and Charles S French, £17,812 tbc from further fundraising / applications	
Junction	Janet Burgess / Tim Nicholls	Healthy Generations (formerly Music for People)	Funding for musician fees and volunteer expenses for twelve sing-along concerts at Duval House sheltered housing in Elthorne Road.	Feb 2016 to Feb 2017	Older people and mental health service users	33 flats at Duval House	720	720	Not applicable	
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Ollie Parker	The Garden Classroom	Programme of outdoor learning activities for Newington Green Primary School pupils which will be held on Newington Green. Funding to pay for staff costs, graphic designer, volunteers, equipment and resources, refreshments, printing and overheads.	Feb to June 2016	Children, teachers and volunteers at the school	1,000+	2,900	3,000	£100 Newington Green Primary School	

NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JANUARY 2016

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Mildmay / St Georges	Joe Caluori / Olly Parker / Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	Room To Heal	Therapeutic gardening and social integration programme run at Mildmay Community Centre and Culpeper Community Garden. Funding to pay for fifteen weeks of communal meals and a contribution to rent.	15 Jan to 31 Dec 2016	Asylum seekers, refugees and users of Mildmay Community Centre	330	2,053.35	53,135	£16,843 UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, Austin Hope Pilkington Trust and City Bridge, £600 Barnsbury LIF tbc	
Page 9 St Georges	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	Hilldrop Area Community Association	Four months salary for a temporary deputy head of centre who will work two days per week and help put new systems in place, focussing on financial processes and helping to build the management infrastructure.	3 March to 1 July 2016	Residents of St George's ward and other neighbouring wards	Approx 200 centre users	3,000	3,600	£600 Hilldrop Area Community Association	
St Georges	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	St George's Avenue Street Party	St George's Avenue Summer Street Party. Funding to pay for van hire for transport and furniture, children's play equipment, printing costs and hay bales for children to sit on.	19 June 2016	Residents living on or near St George's Avenue	500	500	700 to 1,000	£217 in reserves, sponsorship from local businesses tbc	
St Marys	Angela Picknell / Nurullah Turan	FCV Dorcas Befriending Project	Befriending scheme offering companionship and support to older people and disabled adults. Contribution towards annual salary of Project Co-ordinator who supports volunteers, assesses clients and matches them with volunteers.	April to July 2016	Older and disabled people living in EC1 or N1	60 to 80 per year	2,914.47	22,000	£2,500 LIF, £1,000 Worshipful Company of Insurers, £5,000 Humane Society tbc, fundraising on-going	£2,500 LIF was awarded to this project in Sept 2015.

Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining

Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2015-16:	£240,000
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£29,384
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£171,923
Balance remaining:	£97,461
New proposals for January VCS Committee:	£44,792
Total amount remaining to allocate in 2015-16:	£52,669

Budget allocations Progress comparison 2014 to 2015:		
	Apr - Dec 2014	Apr - Dec 2015
Total budget awarded:	£194,362	£171,923
% of annual budget awarded:	58%	67%

2015-16 Balance remaining by ward:	
Ward	Balance:
Barnsbury	£2,431
Bunhill	£8,538
Caledonian	£0
Canonbury	£2,159
Clerkenwell	£7,617
Finsbury Park	£1,571
Highbury East	£5,861
Highbury West	£1,544
Hillrise	£0
Holloway	£25
Junction	£2,544
Mildmay	£9,007
St George's	£0
St Mary's	£2,847
St Peter's	£2,004
Tollington	£6,519

£52,669**Notes:**

Includes £1,245 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £775 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £500 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £11,239 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £2,053 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,000 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,995 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,035 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,000 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £500 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £786 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £5,177 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £456 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £50 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,513 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £60 from previous LIF allocations



Chief Executive's Department
Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD

Report of: Executive Member for Economic and Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	22nd March 2016		All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The Local Initiatives Fund is a flexible devolved budget for councillors to use to address issues and priorities in their wards. It is an important element of the council's community provision and helps to meet the needs of local residents. In 2015/16 each ward has an allocation of £15,000 to spend on local schemes. Councillors consider project ideas for their ward and make recommendations to the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee. This report asks the committee to approve the proposals submitted by ward councillors for this financial year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To consider the new proposals and changes to previous proposals submitted by ward councillors as set out in Appendix A and to agree these proposals in principle subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 2.2 To note the amendments to ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned, as listed in the budget summary on the last page of Appendix A.

3. Background

- 3.1 In March 2011 the council agreed to strengthen the role of ward councillors by building on existing 'neighbourhood arrangements' for some wards and establishing a mechanism for a more focussed ward based approach throughout the borough. From 1 April 2011 new ward partnership arrangements were introduced in place of the previous area committees.
- 3.2 Simultaneously a report relating to the Islington Community Fund was agreed by Executive. This included a proposal to create a Local Initiatives Fund with each ward having an allocation of £20,000 per year to spend on local projects.
- 3.3 In February 2015, the Executive agreed that the Local Initiatives Fund budget be reduced to £15,000 per ward (£240,000 total).
- 3.4 The Local Initiatives Fund enables councillors to respond directly to priorities in their ward that lie

outside of current mainstream funding programmes and might not otherwise receive funding. It helps them to address the needs of local residents and suggest improvements to local services/facilities or new schemes that will enhance the area.

- 3.5 At Executive in March 2011 it was agreed that a Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Committee of the Executive should be set up to oversee the council's engagement with the voluntary and community sector and to ensure value for money and fairness in the allocation of council resources to the sector.
- 3.6 The VCS Committee's terms of reference include 'To be responsible for the allocation of the Islington Community Fund including...allocating the Local Initiatives Fund having regard to the recommendations of the relevant ward members/relevant ward partnership or neighbourhood group and on the basis that the funding will be allocated equally among the 16 wards making up the council's area'.
- 3.7 The committee agreed that each ward councillor should be given a notional allocation of the Local Initiatives Fund (i.e. divided equally between the councillors elected for each ward). In 2015/16 £15,000 is available to each ward; therefore the notional allocation for each councillor is £5,000. In September 2014 the VCS Committee agreed to introduce a minimum award of £250 per project.
- 3.8 The Democratic Services team in the Chief Executive's department is responsible for managing the Local Initiatives Fund in liaison with ward councillors and members of the VCS Committee. The team ensures that funds are used appropriately and for the purpose for which they are allocated.
- 3.9 The seventh tranche of proposals submitted by ward councillors for this financial year is set out in Appendix A. It is recommended that these proposals are agreed in principle subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 3.10 Occasionally projects do not proceed as planned and funding is returned to ward budgets. These amendments are listed in the budget summary on the last page of Appendix A.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

The proposals referred to in this report will be met from budget allocations for the Local Initiatives Fund.

4.2 Legal Implications:

The general power of competence pursuant to Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 which came into force on 6 April 2012 provides the council with very broad powers 'to do anything that individuals generally may do'. This covers the power to give grants to voluntary and community sector organisations as proposed in this report and includes 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. The provision of resources through the Local Initiatives Fund is likely to promote the social and economic well being of Islington's residents.

The council is under a fiduciary duty to ensure that its resources are used appropriately. Where the money is allocated to outside bodies, the requirements of the procurement rules may apply. In any event it will be important to maintain current practice of ensuring that the money will be used for the purposes for which it is allocated and that individual members are made aware of the responsibility they bear in making recommendations in relation to specific groups.

4.3 Environmental Implications:

When considering proposals the VCS Committee will take relevant environmental implications into account.

4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to

remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life.

The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding and when considering proposals the VCS Committee will take relevant equalities implications into account. The Local Initiatives Fund provides resources for local projects which directly meet the needs of local residents, many of whom are from groups with protected characteristics. It enables some of Islington's poorest communities to access community-based services and activities and allows provision to be developed locally which can reach groups of residents that may not otherwise be supported.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

The Local Initiatives Fund is an effective way of addressing local priorities and provides a mechanism for ward councillors to support small projects which might otherwise not be funded. Proposals submitted for approval represent a wide range of activity and will deliver significant benefit to local communities. Agreeing to carry forward small residual amounts of funding to next year's budget will help to ensure a more efficient allocation of resources.

Appendices

Appendix A – Local Initiatives Fund Proposals

Background papers: none

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Executive Member for Economic and Community Development 8 March 2016

Received by:

Head of Democratic Services 8 March 2016

Report Author: John Lynch, Head of Democratic Services
Tel: 020 7527 3002
Email: john.lynch@islington.gov.uk

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NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2016

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Bunhill	Troy Gallagher / Robert Khan / Claudia Webbe	Friends of Fortune Street Park	Annual Fortune Street Park Community Fun Day. Funding to contribute towards entertainment, activities and equipment.	2 July 2016	Local residents	500 to 800	1,500	4,120	£1,519 cash reserves and donations tbc, further fundraising ongoing	The amount requested is £2,600.
Page 15 Bunhill	Troy Gallagher / Robert Khan / Claudia Webbe	St Luke's Parochial Trust	Annual Whitecross Street Party including outdoor urban arts exhibition from July to September, festival in July and a community arts outreach programme starting in April. Funding to contribute towards outreach projects, exhibition, event costs, marketing and logistics.	April to September 2016 (event on 16 July)	Local residents, businesses, artists, schools and community groups	30,000	5,000	67,237	£42,500 confirmed (LBI Section 106, Heritage Lottery Fund, St Luke's), £19,737 tbc (LBI Community Festivals Fund, Arts Council England, market stalls)	
Canonbury	Clare Jeapes / Nicholas Wayne	The Manna at St Stephen's Church	Day centre which assists with tenancy sustainment and financial inclusion of residents struggling with addictions, poverty, disability or low self esteem and who do not engage well with other services. Funding to contribute towards the wages of a part time key worker	April 2016 to April 2017	Mainly marginalised residents	32 clients and 13 volunteers	2,000	16,000	£4,000 from private donations, further fundraising on-going	
Clerkenwell	James Court	Finsbury and Clerkenwell Volunteers	Befriending and outreach services, including a telephone club, lunch club, shopping trips and assisted transport. Funding to contribute towards the salary of a volunteer organiser.	April 2015 to March 2016	Older people	175	1,000	13,200	£10,000 third party donations (including £2,500 LIF)	£2,500 LIF awarded to this project in September 2015.

NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2016

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Clerkenwell / Highbury East	James Court / Alice Donovan / Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	LBI Arts Service	Between The Stacks' participatory theatre at Central and Finsbury Libraries to encourage parents and carers, especially fathers, to read with young children. Funding to pay for marketing, artist performance days, sets, costumes, props and creation/adaptation costs.	1 to 30 June 2016	Children aged 1 to 7 years and their families	360 people (60 people at each of the six performances)	3,000	10,000	£7,000 Arts Council England	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather	Finsbury Park Community Hub	Annual outing to Southend for local families who otherwise would not have an opportunity to get out of London during the summer. Funding to contribute towards coach hire.	July 2016	Low income residents	100 or 150	1,000	3,300 or 5,050	Remainder tbc from 2016-17 Finsbury Park LIF and ticket sales (£5 per person)	
Page 16 Highbury East / Tollington	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Jean Kaseki / Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Octopus Community Network	Funding for the purchase of a milk float which will be turned into a potting shed and mobile nature classroom (a Gro-Mobile) to empower local residents to transform unloved local spaces into vegetable patches and wildlife havens.	April 2016 to April 2017	Local residents	400+ residents in Highbury East and Tollington wards	1,000	15,781	£673 through Spacehive crowd funding to date, further fundraising ongoing	
Highbury East / Mildmay	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Olly Parker	Minik Kardes Community Nursery	Fifteen week health and well being project for Islington mothers including weekly Pilates sessions, trips and employment and career advice sessions run by Roj Women's Association. Funding to contribute towards a creche worker, venue hire, Pilates instructor and equipment, travel expenses for trips, refreshments and volunteers.	March to July 2016	Turkish and Kurdish women and their children	30	1,200	4,000	Details to follow	The amount requested is £4,000.

NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2016

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Junction	Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Friends of Archway Market	Funding for a day of the eight day long ArchWay With Words festival at the market and in St John's Church . Funding to pay for storytellers, musical play directors, authors, interviewers, speakers, workshops and interactive entertainment.	22 October 2016	Local residents	600+	1,200	2,000	£800 ArchWay With Words	
Junction	Kaya Comer-Schwartz	Archway Town Centre Group	Funding for the design and printing of a town centre map incorporating a business directory to raise the profile of local businesses and attractions in the area.	1 March to 30 June 2016	Businesses, residents and visitors	Up to 10,000 recipients of the map	429.03	2,860	£2,431 tbc from local businesses through adverts in directory	
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Oly Parker	Notting Hill Housing Trust	Thirty weekly Music and Movement sessions at Mildmay Extra Care units. Funding to pay for leader of the sessions.	April to October 2016	Older people living at Notting Hill Housing Extra Care units	12 to 15 residents per session	1,200	4,000	£2,000 Get Moving grant tbc, £1,000 Notting Hill Housing Trust, £100 private donation	
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Oly Parker	MER-IT	Course on hardware and software fundamentals for young people which will be held at Mildmay Community Centre. Students will learn how to build a computer from scratch which they can then keep and can also be offered a work placement.	2 May to 27 June 2016	Young people mainly from estates in Mildmay ward	12	4,000	4,000	Not applicable	
Tollington	Jean Kaseki / Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Islington Play Association	Eighteen volunteer-led healthy cooking sessions at Timbuktu Adventure Playground. Funding to pay for ingredients.	April to Oct 2016	Children and families in Tollington	Approx 241 children	410	6,996	£4,946 Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund, £1,640 2016-17 LIF tbc	

NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2016

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Tollington	Jean Kaseki / Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	LBI Arts Service	Annual local festival which encourages Islington residents to develop enjoyment in reading, writing and freedom of expression. This year the focus is on mental health / dementia. Funding to contribute towards artist fees and commissioned events.	1 to 30 June 2016	Targetting older and young people with dementia /mental health issues and younger children and their families	Approx 30,000 (participants, performers and audience)	609.48	70,000	£40,000 Arts Council England, £24,000 LBI CMB, £3,000 Highbury East and Clerkenwell LIF	The amount requested is £1,500.
Tollington	Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Hanley Crouch Community Association	Contribution towards centre manager's salary for time spent on community development/ co-ordination work and costs of a Tollington Ward Partnership community consultation event.	December 2015 to June 2016	Users of the community centre and Tollington residents	250 residents	5,000	5,000	Not applicable	

Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining

Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2015-16:	£240,000
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£29,384
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£216,715
Balance remaining:	£52,669
New proposals for March VCS Committee:	£28,549
Total amount remaining to allocate in 2015-16:	£24,121

Budget allocations Progress comparison 2014 to 2016:		
	Apr 2014 - Jan 2015	Apr 2015 - Jan 2016
Total budget awarded:	£231,888	£216,715
% of annual budget awarded:	68%	80%

2015-16 Balance remaining by ward:	
Ward	Balance:
Barnsbury	£2,431
Bunhill	£2,038
Caledonian	£0
Canonbury	£159
Clerkenwell	£5,117
Finsbury Park	£571
Highbury East	£3,195
Highbury West	£1,544
Hillrise	£0
Holloway	£25
Junction	£915
Mildmay	£3,273
St George's	£0
St Mary's	£2,847
St Peter's	£2,004
Tollington	£0

£24,121**Notes:**

Includes £1,245 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £775 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £500 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £11,239 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £2,053 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,000 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,995 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,035 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,000 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £500 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £786 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £5,177 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £456 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £50 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £1,513 from previous LIF allocations
Includes £60 from previous LIF allocations

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Chief Executive's Department
Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD

Report of: Executive Member for Economic and Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	22 March 2016		All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: Islington Council's Community Chest: Round Two Grant Awards 2015/16

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 Small voluntary and community organisations play an important role in Islington, helping to build community resilience and supporting residents who are experiencing poverty and isolation. Islington Council's Community Chest, one of the borough's most popular grant programmes, has proved to be a very effective way of funding grassroots activity and developing the capacity of local groups.
- 1.2 This report sets out recommendations for awarding the second tranche of Islington Council's Community Chest funding for 2015/16.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree the proposed grant awards for the second round of Islington Council's Community Chest for 2015/16 as set out in Appendix A.

3. Background

- 3.1 Islington Council's Community Chest (ICCC) is a partnership between Islington Council and Cripplegate Foundation. It is a small grants programme that funds grassroots activity and brings additional capacity building, networking and development support to local voluntary and community organisations. By providing resources for local groups ICCC helps to build community resilience and to tackle poverty and isolation.
- 3.2 ICCC is available to local organisations with a turnover of no more than £100,000 per year – in most cases less than £50,000 per year. Organisations can apply for one grant of up to £5,000 per year. The priority is to support applications from the most deprived areas of the borough with a focus on:
 - Advising and supporting people
 - Educating people and improving their skills and employability

- Reducing isolation and increasing people's involvement in the community
- Improving people's mental and/or physical health
- Improving the local environment and making communities safer

- 3.3 Community chest programmes in Islington have been successfully managed by Cripplegate Foundation for many years. Under current arrangements, agreed by VCS Committee in March 2015, the council contributes £200,000 per year and Cripplegate Foundation adds £50,000 per year (from which £36,000 per year is deducted to cover the costs of administering and developing the programme).
- 3.4 In addition Cripplegate Foundation has committed up to £2,500 a year towards the costs of holding an annual celebration event to promote the achievements and impact of activity supported through ICCC. This year's event was held in Islington Assembly Hall on 10 June 2015. Well over 100 people attended the celebration and enjoyed a range of excellent performances from community chest beneficiaries as well as an opportunity to network and learn more about projects supported by community chest.
- 3.5 A panel made up of representatives from Islington Council, Cripplegate Foundation and the local voluntary sector (nominated by Islington Community Network) meets three times a year to consider applications and to make recommendations to the VCS Committee. It is chaired by the council's Executive Member for Economic and Community Development.
- 3.6 The panel also considers issues of wider relevance to the local voluntary and community sector and reviews priorities annually to ensure that the programme continues to meet the needs of Islington's most vulnerable and isolated residents. In addition panellists track application trends and identify any gaps in the programme that should be addressed.

Round Three Grant Awards 2015/16

- 3.7 The third round of ICCC for 2015/16 opened for applications in September 2015. It was widely advertised to local groups through voluntary sector networks and forums and on the Islington Council and Cripplegate Foundation websites. Information sessions were arranged for organisations thinking of applying.
- 3.8 45 applications for funding were received for this round, including an applicant deferred from the previous round. 3 applications were not eligible for funding and another organisation withdrew their application.
- 3.9 43 face-to-face meetings were held with applicants, two organisations subsequently withdrew their applications.
- 3.10 41 applications were received, requesting a total of £191,222. £71,333 was available for Round Three, and a further £1,810 was carried forward from Round Two making a total of £73,143 available for the ICCC panel to allocate.
- 3.11 The ICCC panel met on 1 March 2016 to consider applications and, after careful deliberation, agreed recommendations totalling £73,141 to 23 organisations. There was a high level of demand for this funding round and the ICCC panel could only award 8 organisations (35%) with the full amount requested. A list of organisations recommended for funding and the proposed grant award for each organisation is set out in Appendix A.
- 3.12 From the 45 funding applications, 39% were considered first-time applicants. The 23 successful applications, 30% were from groups that have not previously received funding. 53% of applications were recommended for funding.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

The council's contribution of £200,000 per year referred to in this report will be met from existing

budgets allocated to ICCC in the Chief Executive's Department.

4.2 **Legal Implications:**

The council has power to provide grants for the voluntary and community sector under the General Power of Competence set out in Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. The provision of grants for the voluntary and community sector as described in this report is not subject to any other statutory provision. In providing these grants the council must ensure that it complies with its duty to secure best value (Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999).

4.3 **Environmental Implications:**

One of the priorities of ICCC is 'improving the local environment and making communities safer'. Funding proposals in this report support grassroots community activity which will have a positive impact on the local environment.

4.4 **Resident Impact Assessment:**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

ICCC provides resources for small community organisations, many of which are volunteer-led and wouldn't meet the criteria for funding under other programmes. It enables some of Islington's poorest residents to access community-based services and activities including through newly established groups who offer the potential for adding to existing provision locally or who can reach communities that may not otherwise be supported. Analysis of previous grants demonstrates ICCC's success at meeting the needs of groups with protected characteristics, for example people from black and minority ethnic and refugee backgrounds, young people and older people, women, and people with disabilities.

5. **Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

- 5.1 The recommendations in this report will help to nurture and sustain an innovative and resilient voluntary and community sector in Islington, in particular providing resources for smaller organisations that find it hard to access funding from other programmes. Islington Council's Community Chest is an effective way of developing grass roots activity across the borough and building capacity in local organisations to support residents who are experiencing poverty and isolation.

Appendices

Appendix A – Recommended Grant Awards for ICCC: Round Three 2015/16

Background papers: none

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Received by:

Head of Democratic Services

Date

Report Author: Steven Suggate-Francis
Tel: 020 7527 3848
Email: Steven.Francis@islington.gov.uk

Recommended Awards For Islington Council's Community Chest Round Three:

Organisation	Project / Activity	Proposed Grant Award (£)
Advise and Support People		
1. One True Voice	Advocacy and advice for women	5,000
Educate People and Improve their Skills and Employability		
2. Jannaty Women Social Society	Sewing and health awareness classes for women	5,000
3. London Village Network	40 sessions linking disadvantaged young people with local professionals for support and advice	5,000
4. New Orleans Tenant and Resident Association	A programme of youth awareness workshops	3,105
5. Sahara Welfare Association	Core costs for a supplementary school	2,500
Improve People's Mental and / or Physical Health		
6. Calypso Gymnastics Club	New Gymnastics Equipment	2,550
7. Girdlestone Third Age Group	Art classes for older people	2,500
8. Let's Dance	Affordable dance classes for older people in Islington	1,200
9. Mildmay Community Table Tennis	Table tennis club for young people	5,000
10. Network of Eritrean Women - UK	Health workshops	2,320
11. Phoenix Pottery CIC	Low-cost pottery classes for disadvantaged local people	2,500
12. SLOW	Support groups for bereaved parents and siblings, run by bereaved parents	3,150
13. South Islington Stroke Club	Lunch club for stroke survivors and their carers	3,936
Reduce Isolation and Increase People's Involvement in the Community		
14. Amberliegh	Performing Arts Award Scheme for disadvantaged young people	5,000
15. Angel Community Canal Boat Trust	10 free trips on Angel II	2,500
16. Asian Women Lone Parent Association (AWLPA)	Weekly drop in sessions and training volunteers to be community enablers	2,000
17. Eritrean Youth Club	Sports sessions for children aged 5-8 years on Saturdays	2,000
18. Federation of Iraqi refugees	Community building and integration for Islington's Iraqi and Kurdish residents	3,480
19. Finsbury & Clerkenwell Volunteers	Weekly lunch club, a befriending service and telephone club for isolated older people	2,500
20. Friends of Joseph Grimaldi Park	Annual community festival	2,000
21. Packington Line Dancing	Line dancing club for isolated local people	2,400
22. Spitz Charitable Trust	Music Workshops for older people	2,500
23. Wild Bunch Club	6 club nights for adults with learning disabilities	5,000
Total		£73,141

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Report of: **Executive Member for Economic and Community Development**

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	22 March 2016		All
Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt	

SUBJECT: Community Festivals Fund 2016

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The Community Festivals Fund (CFF) aims to support organisations based in Islington to deliver high quality, innovative, community focused festivals that are accessible to, and provide benefit for, residents across the borough and promote cultural benefit, stronger communities and partnership working.
- 1.2 The annual CFF budget is £16,000. Under the CFF eligibility and selection criteria (adopted in January 2015) Islington based organisations can apply for a minimum grant of £1,500 and up to a maximum of £4,000 to deliver community festivals and events that provide borough-wide benefit and will deliver against the council's equalities, place-shaping and community development agenda.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To award grants from the £16,000 Community Festival Fund to seven applicants for the following community festivals:
 - St Lukes Community Centre - Whitecross Street Party - Saturday 16 July 2016
 - All Change on behalf of Word2016 – Word 2016 Festival - 1 to 30 June 2016
 - Key Changes - Islington World Mental Health Day Festival – Saturday 8 October 2016
 - Team Cally temporarily hosted by Islington Council – The Cally Festival – 19 June 2016
 - ArchWay with Words - ArchWay With Words - Late October 2016
 - The Angel Canal Festival Management Group – Angel Canal Festival 2016 – 4 September 2016
 - Oxjam Islington – Oxjam Islington Take Over – 22 and 23 October 2016

3. Background

- 3.1 The Community Festivals Fund budget for 2016/2017 is £16,000.
- 3.2 The 2016/2017 Community Festivals Fund scheme was promoted via Creative Islington, Voluntary Action Islington and Islington Council's website. Applicants from previous years were notified via email alongside all current VCS grant recipients. 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 24 February 2016.

- 3.3 The scheme received a total of 17 applications this year which is an increase on the previous year (15 applications were received in 2015). The total amount requested by organisations in this funding round was £55,025 an increase on the previous year (total request for 2015 was £53,258). Details of all applications received are attached at **Appendix A**.
- 3.4 This is a reduction in the total number of applications received annually prior to the changes in the funding guidelines (from 2011-2014 inclusive the Council received an average of 25 applications per annum) but a continued increase in the total funding requested (from 2011-2014 inclusive the average total annual funding request was £25,000).
- 3.5 All applications were assessed by officers against the published eligibility and selection criteria. Full details of the 2016/17 criteria are listed at **Appendix B**.
- 3.6 Festivals have been recommended for support based on the evidence applicants provided showing they were eligible and met the following selection criteria:
- **Cultural Benefit:** the event will deliver high quality, innovative, community focused activities that contribute to Islington's cultural offer.
 - **Equality:** festivals recognise and value Islington's diverse communities, promote good relationships between people of different backgrounds and lifestyles and contribute to the council's commitment to making Islington a fairer place.
 - **Value for Money:** applicants provided detailed, realistic financial information in their application with evidence of previous year's festival success (where applicable).
 - **Inclusive and accessible:** event activities in the festival programme will be open to all the community and accessible and inclusive for Islington's most disadvantaged communities.
 - **Match Funding:** applicants have secured or applied for an appropriate level of external funding to match any council contribution to deliver their event.
 - **Partnership Working:** applicants illustrated how they would work with other agencies and organisations to share costs, facilities, expertise, and/or access to participants or beneficiaries.
 - **Licensing and Public Protection:** applicants provided evidence of how they would comply with all public protection requirements including securing venue permissions, relevant licenses, insurance and ensuring public health and safety.

3.7 Officers have recommended supporting six applicants to produce the following festivals:

Organisation	Festival	Date - 2016	Ward	Amount
St Luke's Community Centre	Whitecross Street Party	Saturday 16 July	Bunhill	£3,000
All Change on behalf of Word2016	Word 2016 Festival	1 to 30 June	Various – across Islington	£1,500
Key Changes	Islington World Mental Health Day Festival	8 October	Bunhill	£2,800
Team Cally temporarily hosted by Islington Council	The Cally Festival	19 June	Caledonian	£3,000
ArchWay with Words	ArchWay with Words	Late October	Junction	£2,500
The Angel Canal Festival Management Group	Angel Canal Festival	4 September	St Peter's	£1,700
Oxjam Islington	Oxjam Islington Take Over	22 and 23 October	St Mary's	£1,500
TOTAL				£16,000

- 3.8 Of the 17 applications, officers have recommended that 10 are declined as their applications are for smaller community events, primarily of benefit to local neighbourhoods or ward areas or they have not provided sufficient evidence of meeting the eligibility criteria or the council's wider equalities, place-shaping and community development agenda.
- 3.9 Applicants who applied for funding support for smaller community events that will primarily provide benefit to local neighbourhoods or specific ward areas will be encouraged to apply to the Local Initiatives Fund. The Council's Arts Service will provide advice and guidance to applicants where requested to support them to find alternative funding sources.
- 3.10 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

- 4.1.1 Funding available to support festivals outlined in this report is £16,000 for 2016/17. The revised eligibility and selection criteria first introduced in 2015/16 have resulted in the provision of larger grants to a smaller number of key strategic festivals in Islington which has reduced the amount of grant administration time for both applicants and Council officers, reduced multiple applications to CFF and Local Initiatives Fund for single events, supported groups to apply for external funding (through a higher level of Council match funding support) and ensured that grant funding contributes to the Council's wider equalities, community cohesion and place-shaping objectives.

4.2 Legal Implications

- 4.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from this proposal. Under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council has the power to give support to organisations in the voluntary and community sector to provide services that are likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of residents within the local authority's area.

4.3 Environmental Implications

- 4.3.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this proposal.

4.4 Equality Impact Assessment

- 4.4.1 The addition of new Equality funding criteria in 2015/16 has helped to strengthen the selection of organisations who will deliver festivals that meet the needs of local residents and communities across the wider borough.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 The Community Festivals Fund provides an opportunity for the Council to support six local organisations to develop and deliver a broad range of events that will provide borough-wide benefit 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 - 2016/2017 Community Festival Fund - All Applications Received
Appendix B - Festival Grants 2016/17– Funding Criteria and Guidance

Background papers: None

Final report clearance:

Signed by: Executive Member for Economic and Community Development



Date: 7 March 2016

Received by: Head of Democratic Services

Date:

Report Author:

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Appendix A 2016/2017 Community Festival Fund All Applications Received

Organiser	Name of Festival	Date(s) of Festival	Time(s) of Festival	Venue	Ward (event)	Expected Audience	Description	Applied for	Recommended Amount
St Luke's Community Centre	Whitecross Street Party and Exhibition	Saturday 16th July 2016	12pm – 6pm	Whitecross Street, EC1 and surrounding streets	Bunhill	5000	Whitecross Street Party and the Rise of the Non Conformists exhibition' has been running in Islington since 2011 and provides a 2-month long outdoor arts exhibition, one day street festival and three month community arts outreach programme during which the commissioned artists engage with residents, businesses and schools to create content.	£4,000.00	£3,000.00
All Change on behalf of World2016 Festival	Word2016	1-30 June 2016	Various	Various including: 10x Islington libraries, Platform Youth Hub, House of Illustration, Free Word Centre, Islington Assembly Hall, various community hubs (including St. Luke's), schools and early years settings, Arsenal's Emirates Stadium, Park Theatre, various parks and greenspaces, and public sites.	Borough-wide	30,000	Now in its 5th year, the Word festival is a partnership initiative between Islington Council's Library and Heritage Services, Arts Service and arts organisations All Change and Free Word. This year will see a programme of over 30 events staged across the borough throughout the month of June with a focus on: 1. Older adults with dementia (65 years and over) and their families 2. Young people with mental health difficulties (specifically projects that work to improve the wellbeing of young people aged 13 – 25 years) and their families 3. Children (especially early years – 1- 5 years) and their families.	£1,500.00	£1,500.00

Organiser	Name of Festival	Date(s) of Festival	Time(s) of Festival	Venue	Ward (event)	Expected Audience	Description	Applied for	Recommended Amount
Key Changes	2016 Islington World Mental Health Day Celebration	Saturday 8th October	2pm-9pm	St Luke's Community Centre	Bunhill	500	The Islington World Mental Health Day Celebration has been developed by Key Changes in partnership with Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust and will reflect the theme of World Mental Health Day providing a day of arts performances for and with those suffering from mental health issues plus presentations that will address current topics around mental health issues with a diverse range of speakers.	£2,800.00	£2,800.00
Team Cally Temporarily Hosted by Islington Council	The Cally Festival	19th June 2016	12pm-6pm	Caledonian Road N1	Caledonian	8000	Cally Fest is an annual large-scale community festival on the Caledonian Road. Taking place over one Sunday it features music stages, performance areas, children's activities, sports areas, arts and crafts and a street market. This year Team Cally is temporarily hosted by LBI Housing.	£4,000.00	£3,000.00
ArchWay With Words	ArchWay With Words	Late October 2016	9 Days	Various in Archway	Junction/ Hillrise	1,700	A large-scale festival based in Archway which brings high-profile authors, poets and performers to provide low cost and free literary based talks, workshops, performances, educational and social opportunities across a range of venues.	£4,000.00	£2,500.00
(The) Angel Canal Festival Management Group	The Angel Canal Festival	Sunday 4 Sep 2015	11am - 5pm	Graham Street, Canal Footpath, adjoining City Road Lock, N1 8JX	St Peter's	6,000-8,000	Angel Canal Festival is a 1-day free community festival that started 30 years ago to promote the canal and water space in Islington as a historic, environmental and leisure asset for the wider community. Over 80 stalls for local crafts, community groups and catering for all the family. Enhanced volunteer opportunities with training are provided.	£4,000.00	£1,700.00
Oxjam Islington	Oxjam Islington Takeover	Week-end 22-23 Oct 2016	1pm- 3am	Multiple venues along Upper Street, including Hope & Anchor, The Library, Old Queens Head	St Mary's/Barnsbury	2000	Oxjam Islington will include over 100 acts in over 10 Islington venues and showcase the work of Islington's emerging and unsigned artists while also offering training and live event experience for a number of young people who work on the two day event.	£2,000.00	£1,500.00

Organiser	Name of Festival	Date(s) of Festival	Time(s) of Festival	Venue	Ward (event)	Expected Audience	Description	Applied for	Recommended Amount
Islington Refugee Forum	Refugee Week in Islington	21 and 22 June 2016	9.30am-2pm; then 9am - 3pm	Assembly Hall and CR 1 - Islington Town Hall	St Mary's	200	Series of two events aimed to encourage greater understanding and overcome hostility towards refugees. The first event is a celebration party in the Assembly Hall. The second event is a seminar on Human Rights to be held in the Town Hall.	£4,000.00	0
Little Angel	Summer Party	04-Sep	1pm-5pm	St Mary's Church Garden, Little Angel Theatre, Sebbon Street Community Centre, Angel Central - Outreach workshops in another 4 venues including Centre 404.	St Mary's	1200	Now in its 8th year, the summer party is a special one-day event to celebrate the ongoing work of Little Angel Theatre, and to launch the beginning of the new season of shows and activities. To ensure that the party is accessible to all families, admission is free and all activities are run on a donations only basis. Outreach workshops are taking place in another 4 venues including Centre 404.	£2,000.00	0
Manor Gardens Welfare House	Promoting Wellbeing in Islington	09-Jul-16	12pm-4pm	Manor Gardens Centre and Road	Finsbury Park	1,000	Summer wellbeing community event to provide awareness of physical and mental wellbeing. Working in partnerships with local groups such as Age UK, Islington People's Rights, Baobab Centre, Women's Therapy Centre, and iCope.	£3,975.00	0
Islington Chinese Association	Celebrating 30 years of cultural diversity	14-15 August 2016		Islington Chinese Association	Tollington	250	2016 marks thirty years of Islington Chinese Association. The event creates an occasion whereby Islington residents, including older people, youths and children, can be introduced to Chinese culture and history.	£3,250.00	0
Caxton House Community Centre	Hillrise Summer Festival	Saturday 13 August 2016	12pm-4pm	Caxton House Community Centre & Hillside Park	Hillrise	500	Grassroots festival organised "by the community and for the community". Crafts, skills boost (e.g. IT), food, dancing and music. Activities and stalls in main hall; activities for children in the community garden; refreshments and BBQ in the café area and car park; Monkey-Do, Arsenal in the community, Octopus Networks bush craft, and other outdoor activities.	£4,000.00	0

Organiser	Name of Festival	Date(s) of Festival	Time(s) of Festival	Venue	Ward (event)	Expected Audience	Description	Applied for	Recommended Amount
Tollington Parish and Partners	Soul in the City	June 3rd-5th 2016	12noon-6pm (Friday and Saturday) 12noon-5pm (Sunday)	Andover Square and Wray Crescent Park (if available)	Finsbury Park and Tollington	500+ on Saturday; 300+ Sunday	Soul in the City has run over the last 6 years with a partnership of Tollington Parish, Finsbury Park Community Hub and other partners such as LBI, Arsenal in the Community, Platform etc. This year the festival will be a partnership between Finsbury Park and Tollington Wards.	£3,000.00	0
Muslim Welfare House	Muslim Welfare House Open Day	10-Jul-16	12pm-6pm	Muslim Welfare House	Finsbury Park	500-1000	Annual open day to promote community cohesion with food and cakes, live music, stalls, bouncy castle and other entertainment.	£4,000.00	0
Clerkenwell Festival	Clerkenwell festival	28th August	1pm-6.30pm	Spa Fields	Clerkenwell	500	An annual community festival, the Clerkenwell Festival has an expected audience of 500 and has included a 'kids area', dog show, live performances and stalls, and a Clerkenwell Heritage Walk.	£2,000.00	0
Hornsey Lane Estate Community Centre	Older People's Festival Celebrating The Queen's 90th Birthday	Thursday 14 June 2016	12pm-4pm	Caxton House Community Centre	Hillrise	90	A one-day event designed for older people to join together to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. The event will centre on music, cream teas, dance and story telling for Islington residents 55 plus.	£2,500.00	0
White Conduit Projects	WCP Sound and Performance Festival	24 August to 4th September 2016	2.30pm-10pm	White Conduit Projects	Barnsbury	Not provided	A programme of 7 days spread across 2 weeks the Festival will present music, magic performance and food workshops at the WCPgallery space and the outside area at 1 White Conduit Street N1. Highlights include a Contemporary Music Show - Finish composer Tomi Räisänen will curate and perform several concerts with a Dutch recorder player Erik Bosgraaf; CSM students short films and poem reading; Magic Show -work by around 7 artists in all media as well as live performances and film screenings curated by Jonathan Allen.	£4,000.00	0

Appendix B - Festival Grants 2016/17– Funding Criteria and Guidance

Community Festivals Fund grants will be awarded in amounts from £1,500 to a maximum of £4,000.

Eligibility Criteria

- Funding is restricted to voluntary, community and faith organisations based in Islington.
- Organisations can only apply for funding for one festival in the annual grant round
- Festival applications must demonstrate how they will provide borough-wide benefit for Islington residents.
- 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; events viewed as offensive or defamatory; profit-making organisations; individuals.
- Community Festivals Fund applicants must show they have secured external funding for their event and will not be reliant on funding from Islington Council.
- Small community events primarily of benefit to local neighbourhoods or specific ward areas will no longer be eligible to apply to the Community Festivals Fund but can contact officers to discuss their eligibility to apply to the Local Initiatives Fund.

Selection Criteria

Applicants for Community Festival Fund grants will need to show that the proposed event meets all of the following funding criteria:

1. Cultural Benefit

Festivals are a key part of Islington's cultural offer. In line with the council's cultural strategy, "Cultural Matters", events will need to deliver high quality, innovative, community focused activities that:

- maximise access to and participation in arts activities
- celebrate Islington's diversity
- improve, animate and interpret the physical environment
- celebrate and interpret the distinctive characters of local areas.

2. Equality

Festivals should promote community involvement and should encourage people from a range of different backgrounds to participate. Festivals will recognise and value Islington's diverse communities, promote good relationships between people of different backgrounds and lifestyles and contribute to the council's commitment to making Islington a fairer place for people to live where discrimination and inequality are addressed.

These values will be visible in event programming by:

- ensuring that participating artists or components of the festival reflect and are attractive to the diversity of local people, cultures and lifestyles in Islington
- involving local people to define festival aims and objectives
- promoting understanding, tolerance and cohesion.

We are particularly keen that festivals will attract people from the following groups (who can often feel excluded from these events) as well as people from across the Islington community.

- Disabled people
- Black and minority ethnic communities
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups
- Older people
- Young people

Please show in your application which of these groups will attend your event and how you will encourage them to attend. All festivals must be open and accessible to the general public and provide benefit across Islington not just to the organisation's own members.

3. Value for Money

Islington Council is committed to providing value for money in all its services. Event costs should be realistic and clearly itemised with income matching expenditure. If you have organised festivals in previous years you should provide evidence of their success (e.g. press cuttings, photographs and any evaluation reports).

4. Inclusive and accessible

Activities should be open to all the community and accessible and inclusive for Islington's most disadvantaged communities. Applications from organisations that are based in areas of high deprivation will be particularly welcomed. Proposals should demonstrate a commitment to using environmentally friendly policies and practices.

5. Match Funding

Applicants are advised to seek funding from more than one source. This may include contributions from your own organisation, charities, trusts, business sponsorship, and other local grant schemes, Arts Council England or the Heritage Lottery Fund. Applicants seeking Community Festivals Fund support must secure external funding for their event and not be reliant on funding from other council sources.

6. Partnership Working

Applicants are encouraged to work with other agencies and organisations that may be able to share costs, facilities, expertise, and access to or encourage the involvement of participants or beneficiaries.

7. Licensing and Public Protection

Applicants will need to comply with the following public protection requirements. We recognise that some organisations will need guidance to obtain some of these requirements and will be happy to help you with this.

- **Venue Permissions:** You will need to obtain written permission from the owner of the space you are using, whether you choose a school, a community centre, an estate or other open space, and attach a copy to your application.
- **Public Liability Insurance:** Funding will be conditional on obtaining sufficient public liability insurance. You may be able to arrange cover through your existing insurer. Include the cost of premiums in your budget.
- **Entertainment Licensing:** If you are putting on any form of entertainment, such as live or recorded music, film or video, disco, bands, or live performance, you will need to apply for an entertainment licence. Applications for a licence need to be received at least 28 days in advance of the event. For all enquiries about this, contact the Council's Licensing Team on licensing@islington.gov.uk or telephone 0207 527 3031.
- **First Aid:** You will need to arrange First Aid cover for your event. If you do not already have a trained first aider, a representative from your organisation must complete training or you will need to hire first aid support for the festival.
- **Islington logo:** Organisations must include an acknowledgement of the support from the London Borough of Islington by displaying the Islington logo on all festival publicity. This will be sent to you separately, together with guidance on its use, once the grant is awarded.

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Chief Executive's Office
Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD

Report of: Executive Member for Economic and Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	22 March 2016		All
Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt	

SUBJECT: Islington Assembly Hall: Free Community Use July – September 2016

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 Each year, local community and arts organisations have the opportunity to apply for free hires of Islington Assembly Hall. Applicants are assessed against published criteria and, if successful, have to meet any additional costs (e.g. equipment or technical), which are not covered by the scheme. From 2016, the scheme has amended criteria and application process, with two application rounds each year, one for the period July-September and one for January-March, amounting to a total of eight free hires.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To allocate one free hire for July-September 2016 to each of the following:

- MoveMe Dance
- Cubitt Artists
- Sports Islington
- Copenhagen Youth Project

- 2.2 To hold the following two applicants in reserve, in case of inability of the above applicants to negotiate appropriate dates and timings:

- Islington Council Choir
- Creative Islington

3. Background

- 3.1 The scheme was oversubscribed, receiving 15 applications from a variety of organisations supporting a wide range of events.
- 3.2 Applications have been assessed against the published criteria which asks applicants to demonstrate a commitment to provide events and activities that:

- a) Have a strategic value, and in particular a focus on at least one of the following four areas:
 - Community cohesion
 - Children and young people
 - Diversity
 - Creative ways of engaging local residents
- b) Have a borough-wide impact.
- c) Demonstrate a commitment to good practice (events that are viable, of high quality, well managed and evaluated).
- d) Promote the Islington Assembly Hall as a focus for high quality events, making best use of the high quality facilities available in the venue.

The scheme does **not** support:

- Groups that are not based in the borough.
- Events or activities from commercial organisations.
- More than one use of the Assembly Hall per applicant in any 12 months.

3.3 Some of the proposals received did not make the most effective use of the high quality technical facilities and the audience capacity of the Assembly Hall. It was considered that some of these might be better staged in smaller or more appropriate venues, such as one of Islington Town Hall's committee rooms, or the Platform and White Lion Youth hubs. This could also help applicants to develop mutually beneficial partnerships with partner organisations with similar objectives and remits.

3.4 Wherever possible, unsuccessful applicants will be supported, to secure alternative premises for their work.

4. Free Hire

4.1 The following organisations and events most closely meet the criteria and are recommended for free use of the Assembly Hall.

MoveMe Dance	MoveMe - Borough wide dance event bringing together young people and elders
Cubitt Artists	Annual Spring Ball (part of Islington Word Festival) - Arts event and dance showcase for local older people
Sport Islington	Sport Islington Award Ceremony - Celebration of the sporting achievements of children and young people in Islington
Copenhagen Youth Project	The Black History Month Experience FlashBLack - Multi-artform event for young people exploring Black cultural history

4.2 The following organisations and events met the criteria and are recommended to be held in reserve, in case of inability of organisations recommended for free hires listed in 4.1 to negotiate dates and timings with Assembly Hall management.

Islington Council Choir	Islington Choirs Concert - Concert involving 15+ community/amateur/school choirs from across Islington
Creative Islington	Creative Islington - A Ten Year Celebration - Showcase and marketplace for the borough's arts organisations and local schools

4.3 We will prepare a press release announcing the free hires. Organisations will have to submit information about their events to the Council's events diary.

5. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications other than the loss of income as a result of waiving the fees for the eight hires which has been built into the business plan for the Assembly Hall.

6. Legal Implications

The Council can support voluntary and community sector organisations under the wellbeing power in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. This gives the Council the 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.

7. Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications.

8. 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.

9. Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

The scheme provides an opportunity for the council to support local organisations through free use of the Assembly Hall. Applications have been assessed through a clear and transparent process.

10. Appendices: Attached Documents

10.1 Appendix 1: Islington Assembly Hall Free Community Hire Guidance and Criteria 2016

10.2 Appendix 2: Free Hires Applications Summer 2016 Assessments Final Summary

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Executive Member for Economic and Community Development 9 March 2016

Received by: Head of Democratic Services

Date

Report Author: Segun Lee-French

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ISLINGTON ASSEMBLY HALL FREE COMMUNITY HIRE

APPLICATION CRITERIA AND GUIDANCE NOTES

Please read this information before completing an application form. Islington Council has amended the process and the criteria for this year's community free hire scheme with Islington Assembly Hall, based on feedback from organisations about the process in previous years.

Islington Council is pleased to be offering eight local community groups, schools and arts organisations within the borough the chance to apply for a free use of Islington Assembly Hall on selected dates. There will be two application rounds as set out below *.

Successful applicants will have the hire fee for a maximum of five hours for the use of the venue waived. All other items and services – such as hire of the hall for additional hours, use of the balcony, refreshments, security, equipment, table linen, AV support and technical costs – will need to be met by the applicant. The free hire scheme will be offered on selected dates on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays that are available.

Criteria

Organisations must demonstrate a commitment to provide events and activities that:

- have a strategic value, and in particular a focus on at least one of the following four areas:
 - community cohesion
 - children and young people
 - diversity
 - creative ways of engaging local residents
- have a borough-wide impact
- demonstrate a commitment to good practice (events that are viable, of high quality, well managed and evaluated).
- promote Islington Assembly Hall as a focus for high quality events, making best use of the high quality facilities available in the venue.

The scheme is limited to eight organisations. As a result, the council cannot guarantee that all applications meeting the criteria will be successful, so please give as much information as possible on your application form.

The scheme will not support:

- groups that are not based in the borough of Islington
- events or activities from commercial organisations
- more than one usage per applicant in any 12-month period.



* Application Round 1 for events between July and September 2016 will be open for applications from 18 January 2016.

* Application Round 2 for events between January and March 2017 will be open for applications in May 2016.

Events planned to take place outside of these time periods will not be eligible for free hire of the venue.

How to apply

If your group would like to apply to the scheme in Round 1, please complete the online form at www.islington.gov.uk/assemblyhall by 29 February 2016. Alternatively, to receive a hard copy of the form, please contact the Islington Assembly Hall team on 020 7527 8900.

We will contact successful applicants by 31 March 2016 to offer available dates for events between July and September 2016. We will also issue terms and conditions of the booking, which must be completed for us to secure the date for the event.

APPLICATION DETAILS			RECOMMENDATIONS
Organisation	Expected Audience	Event Description	Recommended
MoveMe Dance	150	A free multi-generational dance event bringing together young people and elders, as the culmination of a six month pilot programme of dance workshops in the community involving 200 participants.	Yes
Cubitt Artists	250	Contemporary tea dance, launched in 2010, a free event for elders and those with dementia. Older people play a central part as co-organisers, artists and performers. Theme in 2016 explores story-telling in relation to Islington's history and includes exhibitions, film, dance and performances, themed around The Graphic Novel.	Yes
Sport Islington	150	An award ceremony to celebrate the achievements of children and young people through community sports clubs and organisations. Run in partnership with Islington schools.	Yes
Copenhagen Youth Project	300-450	A free event that celebrates diversity and community cohesion by promoting Black History Month. The event charts the evolution of black culture from the 1940s, through to contemporary expressions of art forms from Africa, the Caribbean and other diaspora.	Yes
Islington Council Choir	400	A concert involving 15+ community/amateur choirs from across Islington. Fundraising project for a local charity.	1st Reserve / Yes for Round 2
Creative Islington	150+	Showcase of the borough's arts, culture and heritage organisations with marketplace. Target audience includes schools, CYP settings, parents, carers and young people.	2nd Reserve
School Improvement Team	250	Collaborative Shakespeare Performance for school children, teachers and parents, involving most of Islington secondary schools, to mark 400 year anniversary of Shakespeare's death.	No
Oxjam Islington	400	An evening of community storytelling by leading storytellers about how they were helped on their journeys by kind strangers.	No

Organisation	Expected Audience	Event Description	Recommended
spectrum	500	Launch of a talk and music focused youth radio station. Invited attendees include youth organisations, radio stations, the media and young people.	No
Kiasi Productions Theatre	500	Performance of Godspell the Musical by newly established theatre company working with disempowered young people.	No
Performing Production	n/a	Theatre event showcasing young people from 11 to 19, who act and perform on stage to improve their confidence.	No
Islington Carers Hub	200-300	Marketplace type event for Islington Carers, involving a range of key VCS art stakeholders, who will provide advice and workshops for people about welfare benefits and entitlements.	No
Diversity Role Models Organisation	100	Free conference style event for teachers and other education professionals, covering best practice in tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying in schools.	No
Islington MS Society	up to 100	Free information event to raise awareness about MS and provide opportunity for people with MS and their families to meet and mingle with other people affected by MS.	No
Highbury quadrant school association	50	Free event for Year 6 children, teachers and parents from one school, including a DJ set.	No

Wherever possible, unsuccessful applicants will be supported, to secure alternative premises for their work. Some of the proposals received did not make the most effective use of the high quality technical facilities and the audience capacity of the Assembly Hall. It was considered that some of these might be better staged in smaller or more appropriate venues, such as one of Islington Town Hall's committee rooms, or the Platform and White Lion Youth hubs. This could also help applicants to develop mutually beneficial partnerships with partner organisations with similar objectives and remits.