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## **AGENDA FOR THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE**

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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 **19 September 2016** at **6:30pm** \*

\*please note start time

**Debra Norman**  
**Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Human Resources**

Enquiries to : Mary Green  
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Despatched : 7 September 2016

### Membership 2016/17

Councillor Richard Watts (Chair)  
Councillor Andy Hull  
Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz

### Substitute Members

Councillor Janet Burgess MBE  
Councillor Joe Caluori  
Councillor Asima Shaikh  
Councillor Diarmaid Ward  
Councillor Claudia Webbe

### Observers

Councillor Theresa Debono  
Councillor Mouna Hamitouche MBE  
Councillor Marian Spall

**Quorum is 2 Councillors**



**A. Formal matters**

**Page**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declaration of substitute members
3. 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.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

1 – 12

**B. Matters for decision**

1. Local Initiatives Fund awards

13 – 18

**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 for information (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 is scheduled for  
14 November 2016

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London Borough of Islington

## Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 11 July 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 11 July 2016 at 6.30 pm.

**Present:**           **Councillors:**           Kaya Comer-Schwartz, Andy Hull and Diarmaid Ward

**Also present:**       **Councillors:**           Theresa Debono and Mouna Hamitouche  
**(Observers)**

In the absence of the Chair, Councillor Comer-Schwartz was elected to chair this meeting.

### Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz in the Chair

- 98        **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)**  
Received from Councillors Marian Spall and Richard Watts.
- 99        **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)**  
Councillor Diarmaid Ward Substituted for Councillor Richard Watts.
- 100       **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)**  
Councillor Theresa Debono declared an interest in agenda item B1 – Local Initiatives Fund awards – as a trustee of the Foodbank.
- 101       **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A4)**  
  
**RESOLVED:**  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.
- 102       **LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND AWARDS (Item B1)**  
  
A revised Appendix A was laid round.  
  
**RESOLVED**  
(a) That the proposals for funding under the Local Initiatives Fund submitted by Ward councillors and detailed in revised Appendix A (attached to these minutes) of the report of the Executive Member for 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, subject to confirmation from Councillor Greening that he wished to make a contribution of his LIF allocation to the Foodbank, that this be incorporated into their grant.

## Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 11 July 2016

(c) That, subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) being satisfied that all necessary checks have been made and issues resolved, the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) be authorised to agree the allocation of up to £1,000 per Ward for proposals for summer events and activities received during the remainder of July and August 2016 and prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

(d) That it be noted that the Executive Member for Community Development would be informed of all events approved under resolution (c) above.

(e) That, for the future, the Foodbank be reminded that deadlines for submissions of proposals for funding must be adhered to.

### 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

## 103 ISLINGTON ASSEMBLY HALL: FREE COMMUNITY USE FOR SPRING 2017 (Item B2)

### RESOLVED

That one free hire of Islington Assembly Hall be allocated to the following organisations for Spring 2017:

- Islington Children's and Young People's Voluntary Sector Forum
- Islington Council Choir
- Manor Gardens Welfare Trust
- Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants
- Little Angel Theatre

### Reasons for decision

The scheme provided an opportunity for the Council to support local organisations through free use of the Assembly Hall

### Other options considered

None

### Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None

## 104 DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF AWARDS (Item B3)

### RESOLVED:

(a) That discretionary rate relief in the sums indicated below be awarded to the following organisations, up to 31 March 2020:

- Light Eye - £316.82
- The Park Theatre - £1140.62
- Fourth Monkey Education Limited - £3544.11

## Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 11 July 2016

(b) That the applications from the British Heart Foundation, the British Red Cross and Clay Time Pottery 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

### 105 **ISLINGTON COUNCIL COMMUNITY CHEST: ROUND ONE GRANT AWARDS 2016/17 (Item C1)**

The Chair had agreed that this item be considered as urgent business as the next meeting of the Committee would not be held until September 2016 and it was important that grants were paid to the organisations concerned as soon as possible in order that they could continue their activities to support residents. In addition, the changes to the grant agreement with Cripplegate Foundation to transfer full responsibility for Islington Council's Community Chest to Cripplegate Foundation would help to streamline the decision-making process and reduce delays in notifying organisations of the outcome of their applications.

#### **RESOLVED:**

(a) That Islington Community Chest first round grant awards for 2016/17 be approved to the organisations detailed in Appendix A of the report of the Executive Member for Community Development.

(b) That Funding of £200,000 be awarded to Cripplegate Foundation to be dispensed in accordance with the approved Islington Council Community Chest criteria (taking into account recommendations from the Islington Council Community Chest Panel) and that the current grant agreement with Cripplegate Foundation be amended accordingly.

Reasons for decision

To nurture and sustain an innovative and resilient voluntary and community sector in Islington, by providing resources for smaller organisations that find it hard to access funding from other programmes. In addition, the changes to the grant agreement with Cripplegate Foundation to transfer full responsibility for Islington Council's Community Chest to Cripplegate Foundation would help to streamline the decision-making process and reduce delays in notifying organisations of the outcome of their applications

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None

## Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 11 July 2016

The meeting ended at 6.45 pm

**CHAIR**



## NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JULY 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
Barnsbury	Jilani Chowdhury / Mouna Hamitouche	LBI Heritage Services	Funding to clean, conserve and re-carve the lettering on the World War 1 memorial in the garden of St Silas Church which is in disrepair.	July to October 2016	Local residents, churchgoers, Chapel Market traders and local school children	Unable to quantify	1,067.25	4,269	£3,201.75 War Memorials Trust	
Barnsbury	Jilani Chowdhury / Mouna Hamitouche	LBI Heritage Services	Funding to clean and conserve the World War 1 memorial in the Thornhill Road Gardens which is in disrepair.	July to October 2016	Local residents especially schools and those visiting the garden and attending memorial services	Unable to quantify	623.75	2,495	£1,871.25 War Memorials Trist	
Bunhill / Clerkenwell / Highbury East / Holloway / Mildmay / Junction / St Georges / St Marys / St Peters / Tollington	All councillors of Highbury East, Holloway, Junction, Mildmay and St Georges wards / Troy Gallagher / Raphael Andrews / Nurullah Turan / Angela Picknell / Gary Doolan / Flora Williamson	The Toy Project	Toy Recycling Project where unwanted toys are collected from various organisations and donated to other individuals and organisations in need. Funding is requested for a van to assist with collections and deliveries.	Van to be bought as soon as possible if enough funding is secured	Children in schools, undergoing bereavement counselling, in hospital, in care or from low income families	10,000+ across the borough	4,500	5,000	£500 tbc through further fundraising	
Canonbury	Nicholas Wayne	The Rosemary Branch Pub / Theatre	Royal Knees Up party in Rosemary Gardens. Funding to pay for facepainting, liability insurance, temporary structure licence, publicity and rosettes.	11 June 2016	Local residents	500	522.76	1,486.76	£300 Rosemary Branch Theatre, remainder by donation from pub / theatre manager	

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Canonbury / Clerkenwell / Highbury West / Holloway / St Peters	Al councillors of Canonbury, Highbury West and Holloway wards / Raphael Andrews / James Court / Alice Perry / Martin Klute	Awesome Elm CIC	Playday event in Barnard Park. Funding to contribute towards resources/materials, marquees, t-shirts, transport, publicity and power generator.	3 August 2016	Children and young people across Islington, especially those attending adventure playgrounds	150 children per ward (total of 2,400)	1,400	7,555	£2,427 LIF in June 2016, £3,650 from various in kind support	The amount requested per ward is £280 (£3,920 in total). £2,427 LIF from 9 wards awarded to this project in June 2016.
Clerkenwell / Highbury East / Highbury West	Raphael Andrews / James Court / Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Richard Greening	Mace Housing Co-operative	Project to help the unemployed to find careers in Housing Management involving lectures, simulation exercises and hands-on work experience training. Funding to pay for the fees of a project co-ordinator for eight weeks, refreshments for eight weeks and publicity.	18 July to 16 September 2016	Unemployed and others interested in pursuing a career in Housing Management	Initially 10 from Clerkenwell and 8 from Highbury East and Highbury West wards	1,500	6,500	£5,000 Mace Housing Co-operative	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather / Asima Shaikh / Mick O'Sullivan	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 the hire of four coaches, two minibuses and entry to Adventure Island.	31 August 2016	Low income residents	280	2,000	4,900	£1,000 Finsbury Park LIF, £1,900 tbc from ticket sales	£1,000 LIF awarded to this project in March 2016.
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Art Therapy 4 All	Ten weekly art therapy sessions for older adults with dementia at Highbury New Park Care Home and Highbury New Park Day Centre. Funding to cover the salary of an art therapist.	September 2016 to December 2016	Older adults and those with dementia and nursing care needs	12+	900	975	£75 Art Therapy 4 All (for clinical supervision costs)	£930 Hillrise LIF awarded to this organisation in June 2016 for activity in Hillrise ward.

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Highbury East / Hillrise / Holloway / Junction / St Mary's / Tollington	All councillors of Highbury East, Hillrise, Junction, Holloway and Tollington wards / Angela Picknell	Nafsiyat Intercultural Therapy Centre	Funding for the fit out of the new premises of this mental health organisation which should enable them to expand and take on more beneficiaries, especially those with a BAMER background.	August to October 2016	300 residents from four boroughs as well as newly arrived refugees and asylum seekers	70 Islington residents out of total of 500	2,766.67	80,000	£70,000 of funding applications submitted to various foundations and trusts	The amount requested from all wards is £6,982.
Highbury West	Theresa Debono / Andy Hull	Islington Foodbank	Funding for food for the Foodbank which provides a minimum of three days of emergency food to Islington residents and families living below the poverty line.	1 July 2016 to 31 March 2017	Vulnerable people from Islington	2,000 to 3,000	1,500	7,000	Details to follow	The amount requested is £3,000.
Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo / David Poyser / Marian Spall	New Orleans Estate TRA	Construction of a large raised gardening box located in the green space in front of Packingham House in memory of John White, an active estate resident who used to single handedly maintain that area. Funding to pay for plaque and lettering, soil and plants and refreshments for a 'presentation' event.	11 to 18 July 2016	Estate tenants, residents and visitors	1,200	400	1,200	£400 New Orleans Estate TRA, £400 Hillrise LIF	£400 LIF awarded to this project in July 2015.
Hillrise / Holloway / Junction / St Georges / Tollington	All councillors of Hillrise, Holloway, Junction and St Georges wards / Jean Kaseki	Islington Boxing Club / Islington Community Sports Academy	Replacement of soft protective matting in the upper level gym. The area is used for junior boxing, recreational boxing, female keep fit sessions and a back to work scheme.	August 2016 to March 2017	Islington residents of all ages	1,000+	1,850	2,500	£500 Islington Boxing Club	The amount requested from all wards is £2,000.
Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	Friends of Sacred Heart / Sacred Heart School	Funding to pay for fruit for school pupils for monthly Tutti Fruity Tuesdays as well as for sports days, after school clubs and celebration days.	October 2016 to July 2017	All pupils at Sacred Heart School	440	600	600	Not applicable	

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Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	The Friends of Paradise Park	Funding to pay for a bouncy castle, inflatables and rides for a Fun Day in Paradise Park.	3 September 2016	Local residents	2,000	1,250	3,500	£1,250 from Hyde, Newlon and Arsenal, £845 from raffle, stalls etc on the day tbc, £750 Holloway LIF	£750 Holloway LIF awarded to this project in Nov 2015.
Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	Hungerford School and Children's Centre	Annual community fireworks display for Hungerford School, Children's Centre and Bridge School. Funding to contribute towards fireworks, food, equipment hire and caretaker time.	Friday 4 November 2016	Mainly children, families and staff from Hungerford School and CC and the Bridge School	450 to 600	700	1,550	£200 donation from school fund, £700 entrance donations and food sales profit tbc	
Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	Hyde Village Community and Social Association	Residential for children of underprivileged families who attend a drama group. Funding to pay for accommodation and food, coach travel, activities and refreshments.	22 to 26 August 2016	Young people aged 9 to 16, most of whom could not afford a holiday	10 young people and 5 volunteers	3,060	3,810	£750 through fundraising activities tbc	
Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	Islington Play Association	Eighteen volunteer-led healthy cooking sessions at Martin Luther King Adventure Playground. Local volunteers will achieve qualifications, develop transferable skills and gain experience. Funding to pay for ingredients.	April to October 2016	Mainly children and families in Holloway	320 children	410	6,996	£4,946 Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund, £1,640 LIF from Tollington, Bunhill and Caledonian	£1,640 LIF awarded to this project for activity in Tollington, Bunhill and Caledonian wards.
Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	Healthy Generations (Music for People)	Fitness instructor expenses for 44 weekly Movement and Mobility sessions at Age UK's Drovers Centre.	2 August 2016 to 25 July 2017	Older people	33	1,540	1,540	Not applicable	

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Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	Metaplay	Slapstick comedy workshop and two silent film drop in workshops at the Martin Luther King Playcentre or Ringcross Centre. Funding to pay for facilitator costs, venue hire, publicity, admin, post-production and public liability.	24 to 28 October 2016	Children aged 7 to 12	12 to 25	1,220	1,520	£300 in kind costs (film kit, projector, screen hire, edit computer and refreshments)	
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Girdlestone Third Age Group	Contribution to the provision of outings and lunches for older people to reduce isolation. The group is supported by the Junction Safer Neighbourhood Team.	July 2016 to July 2017	Older local residents	37	3,000	3,000	Not applicable	
Page 9 Junction / St Georges / Tollington	All councillors of Junction, St Georges and Tollington wards	Whittington Park Community Association	Big Day Out 2016 in Whittington Park, an annual summer festival. Event will include a range of activities and entertainment, workshops and stalls. Funding will contribute towards entertainment/activities, publicity, staff costs, equipment and other associated running costs.	24 September 2016	All members of the local community as well as local groups	Up to 1,500	2,600	8,130	£300 Junction LIF, £2,350 in kind, £1,200 tbc from Drivers and Norris, LBI Greenspace and Selbys, £700 tbc from café and stalls	The amount requested is £3,200. £300 Junction LIF awarded to this project in March 2016.
St Georges	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	SLOW (Surviving the Loss of Your World)	Contribution towards annual running costs of this support group for bereaved parents and siblings, including refreshments, premises hire, volunteer costs and business services and admin costs.	1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017	Bereaved parents and siblings mainly from Islington	200+	750	32,701	£1,333 LIF, £3,458 LBI Comm Chest, £12,065 from further fundraising / applications, £8,748 tbc from fundraising and subscriptions	£583 St Georges LIF awarded to this project in July 2015, £750 Junction LIF awarded to this project in January 2016.

## NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JULY 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
St Georges	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	Tufnell Park Fun Day	Fun day to be held on a green beside McCall House. Funding to contribute towards DBS checks, licenses, food, décor / craft equipment, bouncy castle, insurance, table and BBQ hire and printing of publicity.	20 August 2016	Local residents	100 to 200	500	1,077	£577 tbc through further fundraising	
St Marys	Angela Picknell / Gary Poole / Nurullah Turan	Betknowmore UK	Event at Union Chapel focussing on gambling's impact on community health and wellbeing. Funding to contribute towards venue hire and creche, catering, speakers / presenters, display and presentation materials, volunteers, publicity and an evaluation report (which aims to inform local policy and commissioning teams).	October to December 2016	Open to all, but targetted at stakeholders and local residents	200	750	2,400	£500 tbc through further fundraising	The amount requested is £1,900.
St Peters	Alice Perry / Martin Klute	Hanover Primary School	Car bike port (or equal) outside the school to encourage parents and children to cycle to school. Funding to pay for equipment, delivery and installation.	Installed between July and October 2016	Mainly cyclists and the school community	341 pupils at school	2,440	2,440	Not applicable	
St Peters	Martin Klute / Alice Perry	Friends of Waterside Play and Youth Project	Day trip to Southend on Sea for families who would otherwise not be able to have a day out. Funding to pay for two LBI school buses, Adventure Island amusement park tickets and ice-creams.	19 August 2016	Local families in St Peter's ward	60 people (35 children)	943.50	943.50	Not applicable	
Tollington	Jean Kaseki	Cascadura Team Community Supporters	Fashion show and entertainment for older people and organisations to encourage older people to dress in appropriate clothing, thereby inspiring confidence and improving wellbeing. Funding to pay for extra Islington Assembly Hall costs (sound system, AV engineer, AV equipment, tablecloths, tea and coffee).	14 September 2016	Mainly older people	170	439	2,000	£800 LIF, £300 tbc from PFI Housing, remainder from Hanley Crouch and Age UK tbc	£800 Tollington LIF awarded to this project in June 2016.

**Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining**

<b>Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2016-17:</b>	<b>£240,000</b>
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£16,912
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£51,891
Balance remaining:	£205,021
<b>New proposals for July VCS Committee:</b>	<b>£39,233</b>
<b>Total amount remaining to allocate in 2016-17:</b>	<b>£165,788</b>

<b>2016-17 Balance remaining by ward:</b>	
<b>Ward</b>	<b>Balance:</b>
Barnsbury	£7,632
Bunhill	£11,647
Caledonian	£14,830
Canonbury	£10,856
Clerkenwell	£13,136
Finsbury Park	£10,971
Highbury East	£12,775
Highbury West	£9,572
Hillrise	£4,133
Holloway	£4,915
Junction	£9,435
Mildmay	£11,899
St George's	£11,270
St Mary's	£8,730
St Peter's	£12,905
Tollington	£11,081

**£165,788****Notes:**

Includes £1,279 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £159 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,000 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £571 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,105 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £25 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,615 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £10 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,000 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £847 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £5,800 from previous LIF allocations

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## Report of: Executive Member for Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	19 <sup>th</sup> September 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 2016/17 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 Monitoring Officer 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 2016/17 £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 fourth 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 Monitoring Officer 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.

### Appendices

Appendix A – Local Initiatives Fund Proposals

**Background papers:** none

Final report clearance:

**Signed by:**



5 September 2016

Executive Member for Community Development

**Received by:**



5 September 2016

Head of Democratic Services

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## NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN SEPTEMBER 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	LBI Library and Heritage Services / LBI Children's Services	Family reading project (three workshop style sessions) at Finsbury Library and Moreland Children's Centre. Funding to pay for books, stationery, printing and a creche worker.	29 November to 13 December 2016	Parents of children aged 1 to 4 recruited by Moreland Children's Centre	20 parents and at least 20 children	300	300	Not applicable	
Barnsbury / Canonbury / Clerkenwell / Finsbury Park / Highbury West / Junction / Mildmay / St Peter's / Tollington	All councillors of Junction ward / Rowena Champion / Alex Diner / Nick Wayne / Alice Donovan / Asima Shaikh / Theresa Debono / Jenny Kay / Oly Parker / Gary Doolan / Martin Klute / Jean Kaseki	Islington Mind	Funding to pay for coach hire, refreshments and snacks for a trip to Hastings.	16 September 2016	People with mental health problems and their carers	40 to 45	800	800	Not applicable	
Tollington	Jean Kaseki	Cascadura Team Community Supporters	Fashion show and entertainment for older people and organisations to encourage older people to dress in appropriate clothing, thereby inspiring confidence and improving wellbeing. Funding to pay for a rehearsal, a music band, transport on the day, a person to record a DVD and the printing of flyers.	14 September 2016	Mainly older people	170	198	1,937	£1,239 LIF, £300 from PFI Housing, £200 Hanley Crouch Community Association	£1,239 LIF awarded to this project in June and July 2016.
Tollington	Jean Kaseki	St Mellitus Church	Renewal of church lighting. Funding to pay for LED bulbs and labour.	September 2016	Parishioners and other church visitors	600+	1,200	1,200	Not applicable	

**Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining**

<b>Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2016-17:</b>	<b>£240,000</b>
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£22,369
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£91,124
Balance remaining:	£171,246
<b>New proposals for September VCS Committee:</b>	<b>£2,498</b>
<b>Total amount remaining to allocate in 2016-17:</b>	<b>£168,748</b>

<b>2016-17 Balance remaining by ward:</b>	
<b>Ward</b>	<b>Balance:</b>
Barnsbury	£7,569
Bunhill	£11,347
Caledonian	£14,830
Canonbury	£12,096
Clerkenwell	£13,098
Finsbury Park	£11,094
Highbury East	£13,199
Highbury West	£9,983
Hillrise	£4,133
Holloway	£4,915
Junction	£9,148
Mildmay	£11,810
St George's	£14,102
St Mary's	£8,896
St Peter's	£12,867
Tollington	£9,658

**£168,748****Notes:**

Includes £1,279 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,437 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,000 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £821 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,529 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £925 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £25 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,697 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £10 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £3,832 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,014 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £5,800 from previous LIF allocations