



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 **14 November 2016 at 6:30pm.**

Stephen Gerrard
Director – Law and Governance

Enquiries to : Mary Green
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Despatched : 2 November 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 - 10
B. Matters for decision	
1. Local Initiatives Fund awards	11 - 18
C. Matters for information	
1. Islington Community Chest 2016/17: round two awards	19 - 24

D. 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.

E. 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.

F. Confidential/exempt items

G. 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
23 January 2017

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London Borough of Islington

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 19 September 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 19 September 2016 at 6.30 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Kaya Comer-Schwartz and Andy Hull

Also present: **Councillor:** Mouna Hamitouche
(Observer)

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

Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz in the Chair

106 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)**

Received from Councillors Mouna Hamitouche and Richard Watts.

107 **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)**

None.

108 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)**

Councillor Andy Hull declared an interest in agenda item B1 – Local Initiatives Fund – as a member of the Board of Trustees for Back 2 Basics Create.

109 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A4)**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

110 **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 Monitoring Officer 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 (£22,369), as detailed on the final page of Appendix A, be noted.

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 19 September 2016

Reasons for decision – as specified in the report

Other options considered – none

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted – none

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm

CHAIR

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
Barnsbury	Rowena Champion / Jilani Chowdhury / Mouna Hamitouche	Friends of Barnard Park	Pop-up events in Barnard Park over three Sundays in May and June 2017 in partnership with the Adventure Playground. Funding to pay for entertainment, a bouncy castle, a soft play area, publicity, furniture and gazebos.	28 May to 11 June 2017	Mostly Barnsbury and Caledonian ward residents	700 to 1,000	1,500	2,500	£500 proceeds from coffee/cake sales, £500 donation from Film Office	
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 / Olly 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	
Barnsbury / St Mary's	Rowena Champion / Jilani Chowdhury / Mouna Hamitouche / Angela Picknell / Gary Poole / Nurullah Turan	Ellington Street Residents Association (ESRA) and Arundel Square TRA (ASTRA)	Annual Arundel Square community fireworks which consists of two displays. Funding to contribute towards the cost of a professional fireworks company, equipment hire, St John's Ambulance, PA system hire and printing of flyers.	6 or 13 November 2016	Local residents	750	1,500	3,000	Fundraising on-going, donations requested from attendees on the night	

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Bunhill	Claudia Webbe	Back 2 Basics Create	Fifteen week swimming programme for Somali and Muslim women. Funding to contribute towards the costs of swimming lessons, a project co-ordinator and overheads.	6 October 2016 to 26 January 2017	Somali, Turkish, Arab and Bangladeshi women	45	500	8,193	£2,025 tbc through attendees' contributions, £168 Back 2 Basics Create, further LIF tbc	The amount requested from Bunhill ward is £1,500.
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	
Canonbury	Alex Diner / Nick Wayne	Islington Sea Cadets	The reopening of the Islington Sea Cadets building which will involve securing the building's roof and bringing the building up to modern fire safety standards. Funding to pay for a builder.	October 2016 to September 2017	Mainly Sea Cadet members, their families and the staff	30 to 40 members	5,000	21,000	£10,000 Marine Society and Sea Cadets, £6,000 IKO in kind (through materials)	
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Finsbury and Clerkenwell Volunteers	Funding to contribute towards the annual salary of the Befriending Project Co-ordinator who works two days per week and currently runs 78 one to one befriending relationships.	1 September 2016 to 31 March 2017	Older residents of South and Central Islington including Clerkenwell	78	500	10,600	£2,000 to £3,000 tbc from local architect's firm, further fundraising on-going	
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Exmouth Market Centre (The Parishes of Our Most Holy Redeemer & Saint Mark)	Funding to contribute towards room hire for an Early Years Music and Play Project which runs four weekly sessions of interactive music making and singing for pre school children.	October to December 2016	Parents, carers and children under five	300 per week	500	5,500	£5,000 Exmouth Market Centre donations	

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Clerkenwell / Junction / Mildmay / Tollington	All councillors of Junction and Mildmay wards / Raphael Andrews / Alice Donovan / Richard Watts	LBI Chief Executive's Department	Funding to contribute towards a hot three course meal for the annual older people's Christmas party in the Islington Assembly Hall.	13 or 14 December 2016	Islington residents over 70 years of age	Up to 100	2,000	4,000	Details to follow	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather / Asima Shaikh / Mick O'Sullivan	Charteris Neighbourhood Tenant Co-operative	Summer BBQ and party in Woodfall Park and Woodfall Road to mark the 40th anniversary of the oldest tenant co-operative in London. Funding to contribute towards food, staff, music, a banner, t-shirts for volunteers, road closure barriers, tables and other associated running costs.	10 September 2016	Open to all but aimed at local residents	200 to 400	1,500	2,700	£250 LBI Housing (Resident Engagement), remainder by Charteris Neighbourhood Tenants Co-op	
Finsbury Park / Highbury West	Gary Heather / Asima Shaikh / Theresa Debono / Richard Greening / Andy Hull	LBI Town Centre Development Team	Annual Christmas lights switch-on event for Finsbury Park Town Centre in partnership with local businesses. Funding to pay for Father Christmas and his grotto, a stage, stalls, musicians, facepainters and a sound engineer.	Sunday 4 December 2016	Businesses, residents and visitors to the town centre	600	2,500	32,000	£5,000 LBI, £5,000 London Borough of Haringey, £5,000 tbc London Borough of Hackney, £14,000 tbc from local businesses	The amount requested is £3,000.
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	MER-IT	A 'Build Your Own Computer and Keep It' hardware and software fundamentals course in Highbury Quadrant. Funding to pay for teaching, administration, advertisement / recruitment, equipment and transport.	24 to 28 October 2016 (half term)	Young Highbury Quadrant residents, including those who are unemployed	12	4,000	4,000	Not applicable	

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Highbury East / Highbury West	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Theresa Debono / Andy Hull	Highbury Roundhouse / Sotheby Mews	Funding to help purchase an accessible mini bus to transport older people to the centre, take them on trips to local attractions and for use by the local youth club. Funding will contribute towards the bus and the running costs for the first year (tax, insurance, etc).	Mini bus to be bought in October 2016	Older people and local youth club members	434 older people and 17 young people per month	4,000	20,000	£6,500 through local donations to date, £9,500 ACT Foundation tbc, £4,000 Arsenal in the Community tbc	
Highbury East / Highbury West	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Theresa Debono / Richard Greening / Andy Hull	LBI Public Lighting	Installation / removal, maintenance and energy for festive lighting for 11no. festive lamp column mounted features in Highbury Park (Barn) and 6no. festive lamp column mounted features in Blackstock Road for six weeks.	1 December 2016 to 4 January 2017	Local residents, businesses and visitors to the area	Unable to quantify	2,808.68	4,014.66	£1,205.98 Highbury Barn Traders Association	
Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo / David Poyser / Marian Spall	Healthy Generations	Three special occasion sing-a-long and dance concerts at the Family Mosaic home on Hornsey Rise for adults with mental health issues. Funding to pay for fees, volunteer expenses, travel and subsistence.	September 2016 to August 2017	Older people, mental health service users and their family and friends	Up to 40 (12 residents)	300	300	Not applicable	
Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo / David Poyser / Marian Spall	Hornsey Lane Estate Management Association	A gardening project on Hornsey Lane Estate which aims to encourage learning about wildlife. Funding to contribute towards the purchase of outdoor furniture, materials, planting, professional guidance, installations, transportation and other expenses.	September 2016 to March 2017	Estate tenants, residents and visitors	173 households and 30 children from outside the estate	1,500	4,500	£1,500 TMO Management allowance	The amount requested is £3,000,.

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Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo / David Poyser / Marian Spall	Hillrise Ward c/o Caxton House Community Centre	Three Hillrise Winter Festivals - a traditional Winter Fair at Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association, a multi-faith 'Winter Songs and Carols' and an event at St Andrew's Church where people can make and take home Christmas decorations. Funding to pay for refreshments, bingo hampers, raffle and tombola prizes, publicity and other materials.	3 to 16 December 2016	Open to all	300 to 400	750	1,660	£640 through in kind support (Caxton & HLECA venue hire and bingo hampers), £270 tombola and raffle income from Hillrise August festival	
Page 7 Hillrise / Junction	Micheline Ngongo / David Poyser / Marian Spall / Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	LBI Town Centre Development Team	Annual Christmas lights switch-on event for Archway in partnership with the Archway Town Centre Group. Funding to pay for Father Christmas and his grotto, a stage, a Christmas tree, musicians, facepainters and a sound engineer.	Friday 2 December 2016	Businesses, residents and visitors to the town centre	500	2,583.34	23,000 (including festive lighting)	£5,000 LBI, £15,000 tbc from businesses	The amount requested is £3,000.
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Living Space Art School / Designers & Artists Ltd	Four to five sessions of an 'Express Yourself With Clay' course culminating in a showcase / celebration of all work created. Funding to pay for fees of a creative arts tutor and a creative arts producer.	1 November 2016 to 28 February 2017	Older people	12 places per session	1,000	2,650	£1,650 cash and in kind support from Designers & Artists Ltd and Creative Fruits	
Junction / St George's	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls / Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	LBI Public Lighting	Installation / removal, maintenance and energy for festive lighting in 5 street trees and 4 festive lamp column mounted features in Campdale Road and Tufnell Park Road for six weeks.	1 December 2016 to 4 January 2017	Local residents, businesses and visitors to the area	Unable to quantify	3,597.55	3,597.55	Not applicable	

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Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Oly Parker	The Garden Classroom	Santa on the Green, transforming the hut on Newington Green into a Santa's grotto. Funding to pay for santa and elves, publicity and tickets, festive materials, paint for a sleigh and its delivery, costumes, staff, volunteers, gifts and core costs.	December 2016	Children and their families	150+	2,740	2,740	Not applicable	
St George's	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	Hugo Road Street Party	Hugo Road Street Party. Funding to pay for food, soft drinks, gazebos, insurance and prizes and materials for competitions.	17 September 2016	Hugo Road residents	Up to 120	500	900	£400 through residents' contributions	
Page 8 St George's	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	Healthy Generations	Instructor fees for 44 weekly computer classes for older people at Hilldrop Community Centre.	October 2016 to September 2017	Older people	47	1,540	1,540	Not applicable	
St George's	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	Hilldrop Area Community Association	St George's Ward Fun Day, an opportunity for residents to meet their local councillors and be consulted on ward improvements. Funding to pay for food and drink, a steel band, administration, face painting, hall hire, a bouncy castle and publicity.	10 September 2016	St George's ward residents	100	680	680	Not applicable	
St George's	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	LBI Town Centre Development Team	Annual Christmas lights switch-on event for Nag's Head in partnership with the Nag's Head Town Centre Management Group. Funding to pay for Father Christmas and his grotto, musicians, entertainment, facepainters and a sound engineer.	Saturday 3 December 2016	Businesses, residents and visitors to the town centre	1,000	1,500	33,500 (including festive lighting)	£16,000 Holloway Section 106, £5,000 LBI, £11,000 tbc from businesses	

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St Mary's	Angela Picknell/ Nurullah Turan	The Margins Project	Weekly Cold Weather Night Shelter run in conjunction with CARIS Islington for 13 weeks providing accommodation, shelter, advice on resettlement and health issues and other services. Funding to contribute towards a shelter co-ordinator, volunteers' travel expenses, food, equipment and laundry costs.	4 January to 29 March 2017	The homeless	85	2,333.34	4,464	£964 Margins	The amount requested is £3,500.
Page 9 St Peter's	Alice Perry / Gary Doolan / Martin Klute	LBI Public Lighting	Installation / removal, maintenance and energy for festive lighting on 14 lamp columns and 1 festoon on a shop canopy for a period of six weeks.	1 December 2016 to 4 January 2017	Local residents, businesses and visitors to the area	Unable to quantify	4,136.45	4,136.45	Not applicable	The amount requested includes a small overspend on Essex Road festive lighting in 2015-16.
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 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

Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2016-17:	£240,000
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£22,369
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£91,124
Balance remaining:	£171,246
New proposals for September VCS Committee:	£51,967
Total amount remaining to allocate in 2016-17:	£119,278

2016-17 Balance remaining by ward:	
Ward	Balance:
Barnsbury	£5,319
Bunhill	£10,847
Caledonian	£14,830
Canonbury	£7,096
Clerkenwell	£11,598
Finsbury Park	£8,594
Highbury East	£5,795
Highbury West	£5,079
Hillrise	£500
Holloway	£4,915
Junction	£4,350
Mildmay	£8,570
St George's	£8,083
St Mary's	£5,813
St Peter's	£8,731
Tollington	£9,158

£119,278**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



Report of: Executive Member for Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	14 th November 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 Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 2.2 In the lead up to the Christmas period, it is expected that applications will be received from community groups to fund Christmas parties or related events. It is therefore recommended that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services to agree the allocation of up to £1,000 each for such proposals received prior to the next meeting. Agreement would be subject to the Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services being satisfied the necessary paperwork has been approved, that the necessary checks have been made and other issues resolved. The Executive Member for Community Development would be informed of all events agreed under delegated authority.
- 2.3 To note the amendments to ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned. The amendments are detailed at paragraph 3.10 and are included 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 Voluntary and Community Sector Development Team in the Housing and Adult Social Services 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 fifth 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 Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services 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.

In July and September 2014, £1,500 was awarded from the Clerkenwell budget to Charles Rowan House TRA for the cleaning of brickwork at the two entrances to their courtyard. The project was funded by LBI Housing in the end so the grant was not needed. This award has been returned to the 2016-17 Clerkenwell ward budget for reallocation.

In September 2016, £1,500 was awarded from the Barnsbury and St Mary's budgets (£750 each) to Ellington Street Residents Association (ESRA) and Arundel Square TRA (ASTRA) for fireworks in Arundel Square. The group were unable to hold the fireworks mainly due to not being able to agree a date and difficulties recruiting community volunteers. This award has been returned to the 2016-17 Barnsbury and St Mary's ward budgets for reallocation.

In January 2016, £1,375 was awarded from the Bunhill budget to LBI Heritage Services for an event at the end of a programme of creative learning workshops (Sense of Place) and for a digitally printed banner and printed story project book. There was an underspend of £59.75 which has been returned to the 2016-17 Bunhill ward budget for reallocation.

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:

31 October 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kaya Comer-Schwartz', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Kaya Comer-Schwartz
Executive Member for Community Development

Report Author: Patricia Keating, Ward Budget and Partnerships Officer
Tel: 020 7527 8325
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NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN NOVEMBER 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
Canonbury	Clare Jeapes	FCV Dorcas Befriending Project	Weekly art club at the Bridge Centre, doing a wide range of arts and crafts activities including handicrafts. Funding to pay for supplies and equipment.	October 2016 to October 2017	Older people	10 to 12 weekly	300	600 per year	Remainder from sale of Art Club products, donations and FCV Dorcas general funds	
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Marx Memorial Library & Workers' School	Engaging young people through their archive and museum collections involving at least six school visits and the creation of a dedicated webpage and pamphlet promoting the workshops. Funding to pay for staff time for school visits and printing of brochure and resources packs for schools.	2 January to 30 November 2017	School pupils in Islington, mainly secondary school pupils	120 directly	500	1,364	£864 in kind through digitisation, web development and design costs	
Finsbury Park / Highbury East / Highbury West / Junction / Mildmay / St Georges / Tollington	All councillors of Junction, Highbury East, Highbury West and St Georges wards / Gary Heather / Asima Shaikh / Jenny Kay / Olly Parker / Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Friendship Network, Manor Gardens	Christmas hampers, a Christmas party and a theatre trip for older people in North Islington. Funding to pay for hampers, staff time, transport, theatre tickets and Christmas party costs (catering, hall hire and speaker hire).	5 to 21 December 2016	Isolated older people in North Islington	72 (9 per ward)	1,750	3,000	£1,000 volunteer time (in kind), £250 Holloway LIF tbc	
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Friends of Foxham Gardens	Sign boxes in Foxham Gardens with updateable A4 sheets displaying information about plants, creatures, the history of the park and other relevant local information. Funding to pay for the purchase and installation of six sign boxes.	January to June 2017	All park users, especially children and dog owners	1,000	700	700	Not applicable	

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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
St Marys	Gary Poole	Islington Veterans Association	Armed Forces Day 2016, a display and ceremony on Islington Green. Funding to pay for first aid cover and event insurance.	25 June 2016	Veterans and the public	400	582.54	582.54	Not applicable	
Tollington	Jean Kaseki / Richard Watts	Islington Chinese Association	Chinese New Year of the Chicken Celebration 2017. Funding to pay for publicity, printing, postage, artists, volunteers and venue hire.	4 February 2017	Open to all, but most will come from Tollington and neighbouring wards	500+	500	2,000	£1,500 Islington Chinese Association	

PROJECT CHANGES TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN NOVEMBER 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
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Islington Mind	An LGBT annual Open Day and Christmas event. Funding to contribute towards food, decorations and prizes for both events.	25 October to 30 December 2016	Members of the LGBT community who are often isolated	20 to 30	363.34	400	Details to follow	Grant originally awarded in June 2016 for a LGBT seaside trip for which there was an underspend of £363.34 (due to train on pier not working and the weather being too hot for funfair rides).

Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining

Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2016-17:	£240,000
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£25,429
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£143,091
Balance remaining:	£122,338
New proposals for November VCS Committee:	£4,333
Total amount remaining to allocate in 2016-17:	£118,005

2016-17 Balance remaining by ward:	
Ward	Balance:
Barnsbury	£6,069
Bunhill	£10,906
Caledonian	£14,830
Canonbury	£6,796
Clerkenwell	£12,598
Finsbury Park	£8,344
Highbury East	£5,545
Highbury West	£4,829
Hillrise	£500
Holloway	£4,915
Junction	£3,400
Mildmay	£8,320
St George's	£7,833
St Mary's	£5,980
St Peter's	£8,731
Tollington	£8,408

£118,005**Notes:**

Includes £2,209 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £560 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,437 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,500 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 £1,764 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	14 th November 2016		All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: Islington Council's Community Chest: Round Two Grant Awards 2016/17

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 (ICCC), 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 the organisations approved by Islington Council's Community Chest's Panel for a second tranche of funding for 2015/16.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the funding decisions made by Islington Council's Community Chest Panel in relation to the second round of ICCC grant funding for 2016/ 17, as set out in Appendix A.

3 Background

- 3.1 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:
- Educating people and improving their skills and employability
 - Improving people’s mental and/or physical health
 - Improving the local environment and making communities safer
 - Reduce isolation and increasing people’s involvement in the community
- 3.3 Community Chest programmes in Islington have been successfully managed by Cripplegate Foundation for many years. Under current grant funding arrangements, agreed by VCS Committee in March 2015, the council provides funding of £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). 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.
- 3.4 Applications to the ICCC are considered by the Islington Council Community Chest Panel, (ICCCP) which meets three times a year. The ICCCP is Chaired by the Executive Member for Community Development and consists of two nominated ward Councillors, representatives from Cripplegate Foundation and representatives from the Voluntary and Community Sector, nominated by the Islington Community Network.
- 3.5 The ICCCP 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.
- 3.6 As of July 2016, VCS Committee agreed that ICCCP will be responsible for approving organisations’ grant awards and required to provide a report to Committee.

4 Round Two Grant Awards 2016/ 17

- 4.1 The second round of ICCC for 2016/ 17 opened for applications in August 2016. It was widely advertised to local groups through voluntary sector networks and forums, tenants and residents’ associations, and on the Islington Council and Cripplegate Foundation websites. Information sessions were arranged for organisations interested in applying to the programme.
- 4.2 £71,334 was available for Round Two, and a further £14,400 was carried forward from Round One making a total of £84,236 available for the ICCC panel to allocate.
- 4.3 24 applications for funding were received for this round, including one application deferred from the previous round. Of the 24 applications, two were withdrawn. One application was withdrawn as it was requesting retrospective funding, making it ineligible for consideration. The second application was withdrawn following deliberation by the ICCCP, which concluded that the application did not align with the priorities of ICCC. 39% of the 23 applications considered were from first-time applicants. Face-to-face meetings were held with the remaining 23 applicants.
- 4.4 The ICCCP met on Tuesday 25th October 2016 to consider applications and, approved awards totalling £79,236 to 17 organisations. A list of organisations recommended for funding and the proposed grant award for each organisation is set out in Appendix A.
- 4.5 24% of organisations (4 out of 17) recommended for funding have not previously received ICCC funding.

5 Implications

5.1 Financial implications:

5.1.1 The council's grant funding 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.

5.2 Legal Implications:

5.2.1 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).

5.3 Environmental Implications:

5.3.1 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.

5.4 Resident Impact Assessment:

5.4.1 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.

5.4.2 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.

6 Conclusion

6.1 ICCC helps 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. ICCC 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.

6.2 The amendment to the Council's current grant agreement with Cripplegate Foundation to transfer full responsibility to ICCCP has helped to streamline the decision making process and reduce delays in notifying VCS organisations of the outcome of their applications. The Council's interest is protected by having the Executive Member for Community Development as Chairperson of the ICCCP. The VCS Committee will continue to receive reports to note decisions made by ICCCP in respect of awards through the programme. However, the Council has reserved the right to adjust this arrangement if deemed necessary.

Appendices

Appendix A – Approved Grant Awards for ICCC: Round Two 2016/ 17

Background papers: none

Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz
Executive Member for Community Development

31st October 2016

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Appendix A

Approval of Awards for Islington Council's Community Chest

Round Two Applications 2016-2017

Organisation	Project / Activity	Proposed Grant Award (£)
Educate People and Improve their Skills and Employability		
Back to Basics	Sewing and crafts project at Grafton School	5,000.00
Diverse Digital	Coding for young people	5,000.00
Music Box	Music and storytelling project for under 5s	4,970.00
Wipers CIC	Youth engagement and confidence building project	4,940.00
Improve People's Mental and / or Physical Health		
Islington South Community Counselling	Counselling support	1,981.00
Big Up Films	Film Project	4,950.00
Daylight Theatre Foundation	Theatre project for learning disabilities	5,000.00
Improve the Local Environment and Make Communities Safer		
The Garden Classroom	Nature based education project	5,000.00
Reduce Isolation and Increase People's Involvement in the Community		
Creative Opportunities CIC	City Leaders Programme	4,800.00
Kevin Richards Foundation	Lunch and Social Club	5,000.00
Speak Street	English language cafe	5,000.00
Art Box London	Art for people with learning disabilities	5,000.00

St Lukes Community History	Local History Group	3,295.00
Olden Community Garden	Community Garden Project	5,000.00
Sunday Club	Lunch and Social Club	5,000.00
Islington Pensioners Forum	Pensioners Partytime lunch and social	4,500.00
Hyde Village Community and Social Association	Children's drama club	4,800.00
	Total	79,236.00