

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:

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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.