



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 **19 January 2015 at 6:00pm.**

John Lynch
Head of Democratic Services

Enquiries to : Mary Green
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Despatched : 9 January 2015

Membership 2014/15

Councillor Richard Watts (Chair)
Councillor Andy Hull
Councillor Rakhia Ismail

Substitute Members

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

Observers

Councillor Aysegul Erdogan
Councillor Mouna Hamitouche
Councillor Jean-Roger Kaseki
(1 vacancy)

Quorum: is 2 Councillors



A Formal matters

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.

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| 4. | Minutes of the meetings held on 17 November and 12 December 2014 | 1 - 14 |
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B. Matters for decision

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| 1. | Local Initiatives Fund awards | 15 - 22 |
| 2. | London Boroughs Grants Committee: levy 2015/16 | 23 - 26 |
| 3. | Support to local voluntary organisations: discretionary rate relief awards and procurement strategy for Islington Community Chest | 27 - 38 |

4. Community Festivals Fund: proposals for review

39 - 44

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)

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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 ordinary meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee will be on
16 March 2015

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London Borough of Islington

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 17 November 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held in Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 17 November 2014 at 6.00 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Janet Burgess, Rakhia Ismail and Richard Watts

Observers: Jean-Roger Kaseki

Councillor Richard Watts in the Chair

14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**

Received from Councillor Andy Hull.

15 **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item 2)**

Councillor Burgess substituted for Councillor Hull.

16 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

None.

17 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2014 (Item 4)**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

18 **LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND (Item B1)**

A revised Appendix A was laid round, which set out full details of the bids received, which would be interleaved with the formal record of the meeting.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the new proposals submitted by Ward Councillors and detailed in revised Appendix A of the report of the Executive Member for Community Development, be approved in principle, subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Community Partnerships) being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.

(b) That, in the lead up to the Christmas period, the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Community Partnerships) be authorised to agree the allocation of up to £1,000 each for proposals from community groups to fund Christmas parties or related events, subject to all necessary paper work being approved, necessary checks completed and other issues resolved.

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.

19 ISLINGTON COMMUNITY CHEST GRANT AWARDS: ROUND TWO 2014/15 (Item B2)

RESOLVED:

That Islington Community Chest grant awards be made to the organisations detailed in Appendix A of the report of the Executive Member for Community Development.

Reason for decision

To enable funding to be directed towards meeting the needs of low income residents and disadvantaged communities.

Other options considered

None.

Conflicts of interest/ note of dispensations granted

None.

The meeting ended at 6.07 pm

CHAIR

NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN NOVEMBER 2014

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	No. of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Canonbury	Alexander Diner	Essex Road Giants FC	Twice weekly football training sessions for young people from the Marquess Estate. Funding to pay for Willam Tyndale pitch hire fees for 25 weeks.	Dec 2014 to May 2015	Young people from the Marquess Estate	20 to 25	1,750	1,750	Not applicable	
Canonbury	Clare Jeapes	The Manna	Funding for seven months wages for a part time cook at the day centre.	Dec 2014 to June 2015	Homeless and marginalised people	200 per week	5,496	9,422	£3,926 Streetsmart tbc	
Page 3 Clerkenwell	Alice Donovan	Peel Institute	Christmas carol concert and evening reception at Holy Redeemer Church. Transport will be provided for older people. Funding to pay for catering and publicity.	09-Dec-14	Local residents	120	350	500	£150 from Friends of the Peel	
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Algerian British Connection	Contribution to heating and lighting to enable the organisation whose rent has increased to keep operating.	Dec 2014 to Dec 2015	Current beneficiaries	165	500	500	Not applicable	
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Arvon Road Allotments Group (ARAG)	Tree surgery on fruit trees along the railway embankment and edge of the wood which are overshadowing cultivated areas and overhanging Arvon Road.	Oct or Nov 2014 (depending on when trees are dormant)	Mainly allotment plot holders and passers by	84 plot holders	1,500	1,848	£348 from their own reserves	

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Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Chabad-Lubavitch of Islington	Islington Menorah Lighting on Islington Green which celebrates the eight day long Jewish cultural festival of Chanukah. Funding to contribute towards food, equipment hire, entertainment and payment to contractors.	21-Dec-14	People of all ages	300 to 500	500	5,285.51	£2,511.83 LIF, £1,000 LIF Hirsch Foundation tbc, £800 private donor tbc	
Highbury East Highbury West	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Theresa Debono / Richard Greening / Andy Hull	LBI Public Lighting (Highbury Barn and Blackstock Road festive lighting)	Contribution towards festive lighting on 11 lamp posts in Highbury Barn and 6 lamp posts on Blackstock Road.	1 Dec 2014 to 5 Jan 2015	Especially local businesses and visitors to the area	Unable to quantify	3,429.01	4,429.01	£1,000 from local traders	
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Highbury Quadrant Congregational Church	Community survey of needs In the area which could subsequently be addressed by the church. Funding to pay for costs for canvassers' visits, design and print of questionnaire, collation and assessment of results.	Jan to April 2015	Local residents	Unable to quantify	545	545	Not applicable	

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Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Samuel Rhodes School	Healthy Food Tuck Shop run by sixth formers which will enable students with special education needs to gain work experience and achieve accreditation. Funding to pay for commercial popcorn machine, catering supplies, cash register and some initial stock.	Sept 2014 to July 2015	Sixth formers and other pupils of the school	62	600	1,125	£525 themselves	
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Park View Tenants and Residents Association	Funding to pay for the Little Free Library box for books in one of the estate front gardens, publicity, catering for launch event and installation.	To start on 10 January 2015	Mainly children on the estate	5 to 10 per week	350	350	Not applicable	
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	St Augustine's Playgroup	Replacement of a climbing frame at a parent run playgroup operating out of St Augustine's church hall.	9 Sept 2014 to 4 April 2015	Children aged 2 to 5 years	35 children per year	500	1,300	£500 Christmas fayre tbc, £300 monthly bake sale tbc	
Highbury East / Highbury West	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Theresa Debono / Richard Greening / Andy Hull	Conewood Street Children's Centre	Children's art project (with exhibition) for disadvantaged families. Funding to pay for a local community artist for 20 hours, equipment, publicity and refreshments.	Jan to July 2015	Disadvantaged families in Highbury East and Highbury West	40 to 60	1,000	3,000	£1,000 from the centre budget, £1,000 tbc through further fundraising	

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Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	No. of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Highbury West	Theresa Debono / Richard Greening / Andy Hull	Highbury Roundhouse	Series of workshops about graffiti art which aims to develop young people's skills. The resulting piece of art work will be exhibited at a Shoreditch gallery and then displayed at Aubert Court Community Centre. Funding to pay for a graffiti arts tutor, youth worker, equipment and materials.	4 Nov to 16 Dec 2014	Young people living in Highbury West directly, the local community indirectly	20 young people	1,233.36	1,233.36	Not applicable	
Page 6 Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo	Art Therapy 4 All CIC	Weekly art therapy group for older residents at Cheverton Lodge Care Home run by a trained arts psychotherapist. Funding to contribute towards salary and art materials costs and will extend the project from 6 to 9 months.	Nov 2014 to Aug 2015	Older residents of Cheverton Lodge	Up to 16	500	2,850	£900 Cheverton Lodge through their activities budget, £450 by psychotherapist, £1,000 LIF (Sept 2014)	
Hillrise	Micheline Ngongo	Hills Community Trust	Contribution to 48 week course in handicrafts (knitting, crocheting, glass and ceramic painting and pottery). Funding to contribute towards room hire, refreshments and craft materials.	Sept 2014 to Sept 2015	Local residents	100+	500	1,000	£500 LIF awarded in Sept	
Hillrise	David Poyser / Marian Spall	Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association	Christmas dinner, post Christmas party, open Day and taster event for older people. Funding to pay for food, entertainment, taster classes and publicity.	20 Dec 2014 to 31 Jan 2015	Older people aged 55+	120	1,000	1,385	£125 donations, £200 City Bridge	

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Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	No. of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Hillrise/Holloway	Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith / Diarmaid Ward / Micheline Ngongo	Nag's Head Town Centre Management Group	Annual Christmas event in the Nag's Head Town Centre. Funding to contribute towards cost of entertainment, traffic/crowd management measures, publicity and other associated running costs of the event.	30 Nov 2014	Islington residents, local businesses, schools and community organisations	20,000	1,250	22,000 to 23,000	£4,000 LIF (Sept 2014), £6,000 fsponsorship, £7,200 in kind support, £1,600 tbc fairground operator and market stall holders	
Page 7 Holloway	Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith / Diarmaid Ward	Friends of Paradise Park	Fun Day in Paradise Park. Funding to pay for bouncy castles, other inflatables and toilets.	05-Sep-15	All especially children	2,000+	2,000	3,000	£450 from LBI Greenspace tbc, £350 from raffle, stalls, etc	
Holloway	Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith / Diarmaid Ward	Islington Bangladesh Association	Project aims to help older people develop healthy eating habits and improve their physical fitness. Funding to contribute towards food for luncheon club, sessional staff, a cook, exercise tutor hall hire, and publicity.	6 Oct 2014 to 30 Sept 2015	Older people aged 50+ especially those from a BAME background in Barnsbury and Caledonian wards	70 to 75 per week	1,000	13,200	£8,000 LIF (Sept 2014), £4,200 match tbc	
Holloway	Rakhia Ismail/ Paul Smith / Diarmaid Ward	Sev Necati Training	Provision of four personal safety training sessions to increase the confidence and personal safety of local residents. The course will be delivered at Hungerford Children's Centre. Funding to pay for project co-ordinator/trainer, learning resources, publicity and admin.	Course dates tbc	Women and BAME residents in Holloway ward	15	1,000	2,957	£1,756.80 from Sev Necati themselves	

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Holloway	Rakhia Ismail /Paul Smith/ Diarmaid Ward	Friendship Network (Manor Gardens Welfare Trust)	Project providing a menu of activities for older members of the network who are living alone/will spend christmas alone. Project will include a christmas party, home visits with a gift and 1:1 outings. Activities will be volunteer led.	Dec 2014 to Jan 2015	Older people in 9 wards across north Islington	55	1,236	2,464	£1,164 Trullo fundraiser	
Holloway	Rakhia Ismail/ Paul Smith/ Diarmaid Ward	Islington Arts Factory	Funding to support MakeArt - the annual showcase of children's artwork held across the organisation's gallery spaces. Funding will pay for room hire, exhibition publicity and curation, two workshops and hospitality costs for private view	Dec-14	Local residents - mainly families with children	Details to follow	1,000	2,085	£500 VCS Grants Fund, £500 Trusthouse Charitable Trust	
Holloway	Rakhia Ismail/ Paul Smith/ Diarmaid Ward	Prospex	To engage 12 young people to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme - Bronze level. This includes learning new skills, community work and a camping expedition.	Jan to Nov 2015	14- 19 year olds, minimum of 6 young people who live/spend time on North Road	12	1,344	3,082	£1,738 RBS Graduate Charity Giving	
Holloway	Rakhia Ismail/ Paul Smith/ Diarmaid Ward	Paradise Park Childrens Centre	Local theatre trips to the Pleasance, Peacock and Little Angel Theatres to see Cat in the Hat, Cindermouse and the Snowman. Parents and children will be invited in particular, those attending the centre's ESOL group who will be supported by bilingual support workers.	15 Nov 2014 to 15 Jan 2015	3 - 5 year olds attending the Centre and their parents	100	1,000	1,000	Not applicable	

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Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	No. of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Junction / St Georges	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls / Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	LBI Public Lighting	Festive lighting in 5 street trees and 4 festive lamp columns in Campdale Road and Tufnell Park Road.	1 Dec 2014 to 5 Jan 2015	Especially local businesses and visitors to the area	All local residents	3,990.45	3,990.45	Not applicable	
Junction / St Georges	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Girdlestone Third Age Group	Weekly art sessions for an older people's group facilitated by Cubitt Arts. The work will be exhibited and then permanently displayed in the community centre. Funding to pay for an experienced Cubitt artist, materials and an exhibition.	December 2014 to December 2015	Older people	27	2,520	5,020	£2,000 LBI Community Chest, £500 LBI Resident Engagement Fund	
Junction / St Marys / Tollington	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls / Jean Kaseki	LBI Governance and Human Resources	Christmas party for older people to be held in Islington Assembly Hall. Funding will contribute towards a hot Christmas lunch, dessert and refreshments.	10-Dec-14	Older people aged 70+	Up to 100	1,500	4,000	£1,500 Arsenal in the Community, £500 Mulalley, £500 Islington United Charities	
Junction	Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Warsa Eri-Bri Youth Club UK	Training sessions at Whittington Park in football, dance and basketball. Funding to pay for hire of park, sport kit and equipment.	11 Dec 2014 onwards	10 to 18 year olds	160+	1,100	3,800	£500 Action for Sports, £1,000 Contact Free Sport tbc	

NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN NOVEMBER 2014

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	No. of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Ollly Parker	Mayville Golden Oldies Senior Citizens and Disabled Group	Annual rent for a weekly luncheon club for older people based at Mildmay Community Centre and a contribution towards the costs of a Christmas party.	3 Oct 2014 to 25 Sept 2015	Older people mainly in Mildmay ward	25 to 30	1,204.40	1,204.40	Not applicable	
Page 10 Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Ollly Parker	Newington Green Traders Association / LBI Public Lighting (Newington Green festive lighting)	Contribution to the costs of festive lighting on 17 lamp posts and 4 trees on Newington Green and Newington Green Road.	1 Dec 2014 to 5 Jan 2015	Local residents but especially local traders	10,000 residents and traders	1,800	5,430.28	£1,930 from NGTA, £1,700 tbc from traders and donations	
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Ollly Parker	The Factory International Elderly Lunch Club	Christmas party for members of the club. Funding to pay for Christmas dinner, decorations and raffle prizes.	16-Dec-14	Local older people	25 to 30	350	500	£100 Waitrose, £50 through Sainsburys vouchers	
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Ollly Parker	Mildmay Community Table Tennis Club	Table tennis tournament and health and well being workshops. Funding to pay for venue hire, staff costs, volunteers, refreshments and prizes.	Dec 2014 to Dec 2015	Mainly Mildmay ward residents	200+	2,000	2,550	£500 themselves	

NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN NOVEMBER 2014

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	No. of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Olly Parker	Mildmay Community Partnership	Provision of visuals and audio equipment for the film showing of 'Finding Fela' as part of Black History Month film festival and refreshments after the Christmas Lights Switch On Event	Black History Month film festival on 23 October	Local residents	120 to 150 (to attend the film showing)	300	300	Not applicable	
Page 11 Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Olly Parker	The Garden Classroom	Publicity and launch event to mark the relocation of this organisation to the newly refurbished ex-park rangers hut on Newington Green. Funding to pay for updated marketing, signage, planter and launch catering.	Nov 2014 to Nov 2015	Local residents particularly primary schools	3,000 per year	1,650	1,650	Not applicable	
St George's	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	LBI Greenspace	New sandpit, one of a number of play improvements to Dalmeny Park. Project includes workshops where local families can design and help build some of the new play features. Funding to pay for materials, plant and skip and labour.	17 Nov to 14 Dec 2014	Pupils of Tufnell Park School, families living close to Dalmeny Park or in St George's ward	1,000	4,000	57,000	£53,000 Section 106	
St Peter's	Alice Perry / Gary Doolan / Martin Klute	LBI Public Lighting (Essex Rd festive lighting)	Festive lighting on 24 lamp posts in Essex Road from Cross Street to Canonbury Road and Elmore Street to Mitchison Road.	1 Dec 2014 to 5 Jan 2015	Especially local businesses and visitors to the area	Unable to quantify	6,014.46	6,014.46	Not applicable	

Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining

Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2014-15:	£320,000
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£17,806
Amount allocated by VCS / Exec Committee to date:	£137,600
Balance remaining:	£200,207
New proposals for November VCS Committee:	£56,013
Total amount remaining to allocate in 2014-15:	£144,194

2014-15 Balance remaining by ward:	
Ward	Balance:
Barnsbury	£14,822
Bunhill	£9,162
Caledonian	£6,500
Canonbury	£13,427
Clerkenwell	£5,799
Finsbury Park	£4,850
Highbury East	£12,867
Highbury West	£12,838
Hillrise	£7,317
Holloway	£0
Junction	£10,617
Mildmay	£6,080
St George's	£7,474
St Mary's	£5,879
St Peter's	£13,956
Tollington	£12,606
	£144,194

Notes:

Includes £4,078 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £12 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £673 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £333 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £1,303 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £1,966 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £5,432 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £870 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £1,580 from previous years' LIF allocations

Includes £1,559 from previous years' LIF allocations

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 12 December 2014

Minutes of the additional meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 12 December 2014 at 11.00 am.

Present: **Councillors:** Rakhia Ismail and Richard Watts

Observers: **Councillor:** Jean-Roger Kaseki

Also present: **Councillor:** David Poyser

Councillor Richard Watts in the Chair

20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)

Received from Councillor Andy Hull.

21 DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)

None.

22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)

None.

23 SUPPORT TO LOCAL VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS: EXTENSION OF GRANT AWARDS FROM THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR GRANTS FUND AND THE ADVICE FUND TO 31 MARCH 2016 (Item B1)

Councillor Watts amended the report on submission as follows:

Delete "B2B Create" from the list of organisations in the Appendix.
That consideration of a grant award extension to the organisation B2B Create be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

(a) That, subject to the deletion of "B2B Create" from the Appendix to the report, the current grant awards from the Voluntary and Community Sector Grants Fund and the Advice Fund, as detailed in the Appendix of the report of the Executive Member for Community Development, be approved for twelve months to 31 March 2016.

(b) That consideration of a grant award extension to the organisation B2B Create be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

Reasons for decision

Extending grant awards from the Voluntary and Community Sector Grants Fund and the Advice Fund for twelve months will enable the Council to develop a resiliency strategy with the voluntary sector and consider how best to provide support for local organisations after 2016.

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 12 December 2014

Other options considered

None.

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None.

The meeting ended at 11.10 am

CHAIR

Report of: Executive Member for Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	19 January 2015		All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND

1. Synopsis

1.1 The voluntary and community sector lies at the heart of the council's ambition for a fairer Islington. In 2011 an Islington Community Fund was established to support local organisations working with the borough's diverse communities and to help them respond to the needs of vulnerable residents. An important element of the Islington Community Fund is the Local Initiatives Fund which has a funding allocation of £320,000 per year. Each ward has £20,000 per year to spend on local schemes. Ward councillors consider project ideas for their ward and make recommendations to the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee. This report outlines the process for administering the Local Initiatives Fund and sets out the latest proposals submitted by ward councillors.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To consider the new proposals submitted by ward councillors as set out in Appendix A and to agree these proposals in principle subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Community Partnerships) being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 2.2 To note the amendments to the ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned. The amendments are included in the budget summary on Appendix A.

3. Background

- 3.1 On 17 March 2011 the Executive 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 2011-12 onwards, the new Ward Partnership arrangements replaced the previous Area Committees which were abolished at Council on 31 March 2011.
- 3.2 A report relating to the Islington Community Fund was agreed by Executive on 17 March 2011. This proposed the creation of the Local Initiatives Fund to replace the existing £320,000 of Area Committee Budgets from 2011-12 onwards, with each ward having an allocation of £20,000 per year. Council subsequently agreed at its meeting on 31 March 2011 to reallocate the £320,000 comprising the Area

Committee budget to the Local Initiatives Fund.

- 3.3 As Ward Partnerships are not formally constituted committees of the Council, it is not legally possible for ward councillors to allocate funding so an alternative mechanism was required to allocate the budgets previously managed by Area Committees.
- 3.4 At Executive in March 2011 it was agreed that a Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Committee of the Executive be set up to oversee matters relating to Council engagement with the voluntary and community sector, including decisions around allocation of the Islington Community Fund. This committee enables Executive Members to steer funding towards those organisations and types of services they feel are of most value in tackling priorities around employment, crime, housing and in enhancing the role of ward members in their local areas.
- 3.5 The Terms of Reference for the VCS Committee 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'.
- 3.6 The Local Initiatives Fund enables councillors to respond directly to priorities in their ward that lie outside of the current mainstream funding programmes and might not otherwise receive funding. They enable councillors to suggest improvements to local services or facilities, which would benefit from financial assistance.
- 3.7 In April 2011, the VCS Committee agreed that each ward councillor be given a notional allocation of the Local Initiatives Fund budget (i.e. divided equally between the councillors elected for each ward). Councillors can then make recommendations as to how that money should be spent although the final decision (which used to sit with the Area Committees) is now taken by the VCS Committee. From 2011-12 onwards, £20,000 is available to each ward therefore the notional allocation for each councillor is £6,666. In September 2014 the VCS Committee agreed to introduce a minimum award of £250 per project.
- 3.8 The Third Sector Partnerships team in Strategy and Community Partnerships manages the Local Initiatives Fund budget in liaison with ward councillors and the VCS Committee. The team has a lead role in managing the Community Fund and incorporates this into other similar work. Increasingly the team is making links with other small grant programmes in Islington to ensure that funding is fairly spread across the borough and provides good value for money.

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 grants for the voluntary and community sector is likely to promote the social and economic well being of Islington's residents. In exercising the general power of competence regard must be had to the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy which has "improving access for all" as one of its objectives.

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 Executive 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.

When considering proposals the Executive will take relevant equalities implications into account. The recommendations in this report directly respond to concerns highlighted in the impact assessments of (a) the loss of Islington Strategic Partnership funding; and (b) the proposals for achieving savings across the Council. A further Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was completed to assess the impact of the new Islington Community Fund on different groups of residents. The impact was found to be mainly positive. Where actual or potential impacts were identified, further actions were proposed to mitigate these. A copy of the EIA was published as an appendix to the Islington Community Fund report to Executive Committee on 17 March 2011. The proposed Local Initiatives Fund allocations will not make any material difference to the findings of these earlier impact assessments.

5. **Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

- 5.1 The recommendations in this report will help to develop and sustain a healthy voluntary and community sector in Islington. The Local Initiatives Fund provides an opportunity for the Council to fund small projects for which funding through other channels is unavailable. It is important that processes are clear and that they enable efficient and effective allocation of the available budget.

Appendices

Appendix A: Local Initiatives Fund Proposals

Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Executive Member for Community Development

6 January 2015

Received by:

Head of Democratic Services

Date

Report Author: Jo Eve
Tel: 020 7527 3143
Email: jo.eve@islington.gov.uk

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NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JANUARY 2015

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Caledonian	Paul Convery / Una O'Halloran / Rupert Perry	Bemerton Villages Management Organisation	Funding for the Cally Festival 2015. Funding to pay for stages, toilets, film, photography and design.	14 June 2015	Local community	9,000 attendees and local businesses/ community organisations	6,500	40,000	£12,500 LBI Section 106, £20,000 external fundraising tbc	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather	The Islington Turkish Kurdish and Cypriot Women's Welfare Group	New Year celebration for local Turkish, Kurdish and Cypriot women and children. Funding to pay for refreshments, driver, live music, camera man and cookware.	January 2015	Women from Kurdish, Turkish and Cypriot communities	70 women and children	500	500	Not applicable	
Tollington	Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Hanley Crouch Community Association	Contribution towards centre manager's salary for time spent on community development/ co-ordination work and costs of a Tollington Ward Partnership Open Day.	Jan - March 2015	Tollington ward residents	250	5,000	5,000	Not applicable	

ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES APPROVED BY ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (STRATEGY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS)

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Strategy & Community Partnerships Comments
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather	Finsbury Park Community Hub	Funding to pay for food and drink for a Christmas dinner for volunteers, partners and councillors.	17 December 2014	Volunteers, partners and councillors	50 to 60 in total, 30 to 40 volunteers	250	500	£250 Finsbury Park Community Hub	
Junction	Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Islington Mind	Christmas dinner for clients and volunteers. Funding to pay for food, serving accessories and decorations.	19 December 2014	People with mental health problems, carers and volunteers	70 to 90 people	500	600	£100 Islington Mind	

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Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining

Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2014-15:	£320,000
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£21,335
Amount allocated by VCS / Exec Committee to date:	£193,612
Amount allocated through delegated approval to Christmas activities:	£750
Balance remaining:	£146,973
New proposals for January VCS Committee:	£12,000
Total amount remaining to allocate in 2014-15:	£134,973

2014-15 Balance remaining by ward:		
Ward	Balance:	Notes:
Barnsbury	£14,822	Includes £4,078 from previous years' LIF allocations
Bunhill	£9,162	Includes £12 from previous years' LIF allocations
Caledonian	£0	
Canonbury	£14,927	Includes £2173 from previous years' LIF allocations
Clerkenwell	£5,799	Includes £333 from previous years' LIF allocations
Finsbury Park	£4,100	
Highbury East	£12,867	Includes £1,303 from previous years' LIF allocations
Highbury West	£12,838	Includes £1,966 from previous years' LIF allocations
Hillrise	£8,817	Includes £1,500 from previous LIF allocations
Holloway	£0	
Junction	£10,117	Includes £5,432 from previous years' LIF allocations
Mildmay	£6,080	
St George's	£7,474	Includes £870 from previous years' LIF allocations
St Mary's	£5,879	
St Peter's	£13,956	Includes £1,580 from previous years' LIF allocations
Tollington	£8,134	Includes £2,087 from previous LIF allocations
	£134,973	

Budget allocations - progress comparison 2013 to 2014:

	Apr - Dec 2013	Apr - Dec 2014
Total budget awarded to date:	£ 219,873	£ 194,362

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Report of: **Executive Member for Finance and Resources**

Meeting of Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	Date 19 th January 2015	Agenda Item	Ward(s) All
Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt	

LONDON BOROUGH GRANTS COMMITTEE – LEVY 2015-16

1. Background

- 1.1. This report seeks approval for the London Boroughs Grants Committee (LBGC) 2015-16 provisional budget, and the payment by the Council of its annual subscription. The Council, together with other London boroughs, is a member of the LBGC. Accordingly the Council is required to approve the annual committee budget (£10.5m in 2015-16) and the Council's levy (£231k in 2015-16).
- 1.2. The Council's annual subscription currently contributes towards the funding of many London-wide organisations providing a wide range of services. These services are accessible by Islington residents and contribute towards the Council's priorities including tackling crime and providing decent and affordable housing. Islington residents and Islington-based organisations currently receive considerable benefit from the annual subscription. The net-benefit to Islington residents is estimated to be about £0.4m per annum.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To note the LBGC proposed 2015-16 annual budget of £10.5m (paragraph 3.3).
- 2.2. To agree, Islington's estimated contribution of £231k in 2015-16, an increase of 0.9% or £2k on the 2014-15 contribution (paragraph 3.4).

3. London Boroughs Grants Committee Levy - Analysis

- 3.1. The London Councils Grants Committee has agreed the following priorities; these reflect some of the Council's priorities and historically the funding has been of benefit to both Islington residents and Islington based voluntary organizations:
- Homelessness
 - Sexual and Domestic Violence
 - Tackling Poverty (through advice and training for employment)
 - Support for London's voluntary and community organisations
- 3.2. Islington currently benefits in two ways from being a member of the Committee.

- 3.2.1. Firstly, it is currently estimated that about 18% (£1.572m) of the current year funding approved by the LBGC is allocated to commissioning organisations based in the borough, although most commissioning organisations provide services across London and in many cases benefit Islington residents.
- 3.2.2. Secondly, it is estimated that up to £0.4m (4%) of the current funding benefits Islington residents. This has included funding to organisations subcontracted to provide services by commissioning organisations, including Alone in London Service and Hillside Clubhouse.
- 3.3. The total budget for the scheme will be £10.5m in 2015-16. Total borough contributions will be unchanged at £9m in 2015-16. Borough contributions towards administrative costs will be £0.4m in 2015-16, unchanged again from 2014-15. The remaining c£1m will be financed by European Social Fund grants.
- 3.4. The Islington contribution to the scheme is expected to increase from just under £229k in 2014-15 to just under £231k in 2015-16.

4. Implications

4.1. Financial Implications

- 4.1.1. The 2015-16 levy is in line with budget expectation.
- 4.1.2. The budget is subject to the agreement of London Councils Leaders Committee on 9th December 2014 and the agreement of two-thirds of London boroughs by the end of January 2015.

4.2. Legal implications

- 4.2.1. Under the constitution of the LBGC, the Council is required to confirm the Committee's budget and its own contribution. The Council is required to inform the Committee of its approval or otherwise by 1st February 2015.

4.3. Equalities Impact Assessment

- 4.3.1. A significant proportion of the grants made by the Committee are to organisations meeting the needs and priorities of a wide range of Islington's community, and in particular aimed at improving equality within the borough.

4.4. Environmental Implications

- 4.4.1. There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

Final Report Clearance



06.01.2015

Signed by

.....
Executive Member for Finance and Resources

.....
Date

Received by

.....
Head of Democratic Services

.....
Date

Responsible Officer: Mike Curtis, Corporate Director of Finance
Report author: Mark Badcock, Financial Advisor, Financial Planning

E-mail:

mark.badcock@islington.gov.uk

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

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	19 January 2015		All
Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt	

SUBJECT: Support to Local Voluntary Organisations: Discretionary Rate Relief Awards and Procurement Strategy for Islington Community Chest

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 This report sets out the background to a review of support to local voluntary organisations in the context of the savings challenge facing the council. To help sustain a healthy voluntary sector in Islington it asks the VCS Committee to agree discretionary rate relief awards for five years to 172 local organisations and a process for considering applications from other organisations that become eligible in the future. It also recommends a procurement strategy for Islington Community Chest which would enable successful partnership arrangements to continue for three more years, and the extension of a grant award from the VCS Grants Fund to one organisation.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree discretionary rate relief awards to the organisations listed at Appendix A for five years from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2020.
- 2.2 To agree that applications from organisations that become eligible for discretionary rate relief after these awards have been made will be considered by the VCS Committee twice a year in January and July.
- 2.3 To note that the current arrangements for Islington Community Chest are working well and on this basis to invite the Cripplegate Foundation to submit a proposal to the VCS Committee for future support and development of the programme. The proposal will be considered by the VCS Committee in March 2015 for a three year council contribution of £200,000 per year from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018, subject to council's final budget approval in February 2015.
- 2.4 To agree to extend the current grant award from the VCS Grants Fund to the organisation B2B Create for twelve months to 31 March 2016, as set out in paragraph 3.24 of this report. The award is worth £5,000 per year.

3. Background

- 3.1 The voluntary sector lies at the heart of the council's ambition for a fairer Islington. Each day, hundreds of staff and volunteers in community organisations across the borough provide valuable services to our most vulnerable residents. In 2013/14 the council spent almost £40m on services delivered by the voluntary sector.
- 3.2 Unprecedented cuts in government spending present enormous challenges to maintaining essential services and responding to new demands. Since 2010/11 the council has had to cut its spending by £112 million and we expect to have to find another £95 million savings over the next four years. By 2018 we expect our overall budget to have more than halved since 2010.
- 3.3 Reduced resources mean that we will have to find new ways of meeting our priorities, which residents say are jobs, housing and coping with the rising cost of living, and we are open to voluntary sector solutions to improving local services. We want to work with innovative organisations that are well run, provide value for money and deliver positive outcomes for residents.
- 3.4 The council acknowledges the importance of its financial support to local voluntary groups and to the infrastructure that sustains and enables the wider sector to flourish. We will continue to provide funding, and although we won't be in a position to do so to the same extent in future years, we believe we can build a resilient voluntary sector in Islington if we work together creatively and imaginatively.
- 3.5 The council is looking at ways of supporting local voluntary organisations to develop greater resilience and independence themselves and within the communities they serve. Suggestions for areas we would like to explore with the voluntary sector, and with other partners, include diversifying income by securing more external funding, reducing costs on things like premises, and strengthening the key skills needed to run successful organisations.
- 3.6 Discussions around developing a resiliency strategy began at the annual Islington Voluntary Sector Conference in November 2014 and there will be further consultation with local organisations in 2015.

Discretionary Rate Relief

- 3.7 There are two types of rate relief:
- (a) Mandatory Rate Relief which by law is given automatically to any registered charity in the borough and covers 80% of their rates. The cost of mandatory rate relief is met by central government.
 - (b) Discretionary Rate Relief (DRR) can be given by the council to cover the remaining 20% of a charity's rates. It can also pay all or part of the rates of not for profit voluntary organisations that aren't registered charities and so not getting mandatory rate relief.

DRR is an effective way for the council to support the voluntary sector as we only have to pay 30% of the cost of giving it. The rest is funded by central government and the Greater London Authority.

- 3.8 All current DRR awards end on 31 March 2015 and recipients were invited to re-apply to continue receiving DRR from 1 April. Organisations not currently receiving DRR were also able to apply for the first time.
- 3.9 We received 177 applications (Appendix A) which we assessed against the DRR criteria agreed by VCS Committee in 2011 (Appendix B). This focusses our support on local organisations delivering local activity and serving residents from Islington's deprived neighbourhoods and communities. We therefore exclude national and international organisations that happen to be based in the borough but provide little if any local benefit.
- 3.10 Other considerations include how organisations make good use of their premises and we balance the

cost of an individual DRR award against the amount of local benefit. We may cap large awards (over £6,000) and not offer a full 100% of relief from rates. Out of the organisations recommended for approval we propose to only cap Sadler's Wells' award at £15,000 (£4,500 cost to council) to reflect the extent of its local benefit and community engagement programme.

3.11 DRR is **recommended** to 172 organisations (97% of applicants) shown at Appendix A.

Approvals are broken down into the following categories:

Type	DRR Award	Cost to Council
Voluntary and community organisations	£414,652	£124,396
Leisure facilities (Greenwich Leisure)	£178,567	£ 53,570
Estate community centres and halls (TRAs/TMOs)	£165,833	£ 49,750
Schools (faith, voluntary aided and two primary academies)	£161,702	£ 48,511
TOTAL DRR	£920,754	£276,227

3.12 Only five applications failed to meet the criteria and are **not recommended**. These are also shown at Appendix A.

3.13 In September 2014 VCS Committee agreed that the length of DRR awards from 1 April 2015 should be for three years, with an option to extend for a further two years. The mechanics of the DRR system, with a legally required full financial year's notice of any intention to withdraw or reduce an award, makes this problematic however.

3.14 It would require VCS Committee to decide on whether or not to extend DRR awards for a further two years before the end of the 2017/18 financial year. Consequently all organisations would need to be sent the required 12 months' notice of a possible change/withdrawal by no later than 31 March 2017 which runs counter to VCS Committee's intention of giving organisations longer term assurances of the council's support.

3.15 It is therefore recommended to award DRR for **five years** (1 April 2015 to 31 March 2020).

3.16 We expect other organisations to apply for DRR over the next few years. This may be because they have just started up; have recently moved into the borough or may have only just found out that they are liable for business rates.

3.17 We therefore propose to recommend other applications that we receive to VCS Committee twice a year in January and July. This will ensure that they do not have to wait an unreasonably long time before knowing whether or not they will be given DRR. In practice this should involve no more than half a dozen new awards per year - which will be for the period up to 31 March 2020 to align them with the end date for existing awards for other organisations.

Islington Community Chest

3.18 Over the last four years Islington Community Chest has proved to be an effective way of supporting grassroots activity across the borough. It provides small grants to local organisations with a turnover of no more than £100,000 a year – in most cases less than £50,000 per year – and offers additional capacity building, networking and development support. Organisations can apply for one grant per year.

3.19 The priority under current arrangements is to support applications from the most deprived areas of the borough with a focus on:

- Advising and supporting people
- Educating people and improving their skills and employability
- Reducing isolation and increasing people's involvement in the community
- Improving people's mental and/or physical health
- Improving the local environment and making communities safer.

- 3.20 Community chest programmes in Islington have been successfully managed by the Cripplegate Foundation for many years. In the existing scheme, established in 2011, the Council contributes £200,000 per year and the Cripplegate Foundation adds £50,000 per year (from which £36,000 per year is deducted to cover the costs of managing the programme).
- 3.21 A panel made up of representatives from Islington Council, Cripplegate Foundation and the local voluntary sector (nominated by Islington Community Network) meets three times a year to consider applications and to make recommendations to the VCS Committee and to Cripplegate Foundation Governors. The final round of awards will be made in March 2015.
- 3.22 Islington Community Chest is one of our most popular grant programmes and feedback from local organisations suggests that it is running well. The partnership model is a good one and on this basis we intend to invite Cripplegate Foundation to submit a proposal to the VCS Committee for future support and development of Islington Community Chest.
- 3.23 The proposal will be considered by the VCS Committee in March 2015 for a three year council contribution of £200,000 per year from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018, subject to council's final budget approval in February 2015. As part of their proposal we would like the Cripplegate Foundation to review current priorities, develop new opportunities to promote Community Chest achievements and assess the potential for increasing the size of the Community Chest with contributions from other funders.

VCS Grants Fund Award to B2B Create

- 3.24 At the VCS Committee held on 12 December 2014 it was agreed to extend current grant awards from the VCS Grants Fund and the Advice Fund for twelve months to 31 March 2016. Due to the interests of committee members present, it was not possible to take a decision in respect of one organisation B2B Create. It was therefore agreed that consideration of a grant award extension to B2B Create should be considered at the next meeting of the VCS Committee. The value of this award is £5,000 per year.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

Under the business rates retention system, the council bears 30% of the cost of discretionary rate relief (with 50% and 20% borne by central government and the Greater London Authority respectively). Any increase in the overall cost of discretionary rate relief would represent a budget pressure for the council and would need to be offset by additional compensatory savings elsewhere. The grant awards in this report will be met from existing budgets.

4.2 Legal Implications:

Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 confers discretion on local billing authorities to grant discretionary rate relief from all or part of the amount of non-domestic rates payable to registered charities and certain non-profit making organisations. Authorities have discretion to award up to 100% relief to non-profit making bodies and can grant up to 20% relief by way of top-up to charitable bodies in receipt of the 80% mandatory relief.

The council may grant rate relief for a fixed period of time. The Non-Domestic Rating (Discretionary Relief) Regulations 1989 require the council to give notice to the ratepayer stating the start date and end date of the period in respect of which relief is given. This provision enables the council to adopt a quinquennial re-application and assessment process for granting discretionary rate relief.

Applications for rate relief should be considered on their merits but taking into account the council's criteria for awarding discretionary rate relief as set out in Appendix B.

The council has power to provide grants to voluntary and community sector organisations under the

general power of competence set out in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. The council must also ensure that it complies with its duty to secure best value (section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999).

European Union competition rules generally prohibit government subsidies to businesses. Relief from taxes, including non-domestic rates, as well as the provision of grants, can constitute state aid. The council must bear this in mind when granting discretionary rate relief and/or providing grants. However aid provided to organisations that are not in competition with other businesses is not captured by the rules on state aid. Therefore the rules on state aid are unlikely to apply to the organisations in relation to which this report proposes the provision of discretionary rate relief and/or grants.

4.3 Environmental Implications

None

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.

Organisations recommended for DRR are particularly focussed on serving poor and vulnerable residents and those with protected characteristics. Many groups are based on council housing estates or located in deprived neighbourhoods. The criteria for DRR were drawn up specifically to support organisations serving the most disadvantaged sections of our community and only five applications have failed to meet it.

Islington Community Chest provides resources for small community organisations, many of which are volunteer-led and wouldn't meet the criteria for funding under our other programmes. It enables some of Islington's poorest residents to access community-based services and activities. Analysis of grants awarded since 2011 shows that Islington Community Chest is effective at reaching those with protected characteristics, for example people from black and minority ethnic and refugee backgrounds, women and people with disabilities.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 The council has a strong partnership with the voluntary sector and values highly the role that local organisations play in meeting the needs of some of Islington's most disadvantaged communities. Awarding discretionary rate relief to charitable and non-profit making bodies providing community benefit, and initiating a process which would enable successful Islington Community Chest arrangements to continue, are cost effective ways of supporting local organisations and will help to sustain a healthy voluntary sector capable of achieving the best outcomes for residents.

Appendices

Appendix A – DRR approvals and rejections
Appendix B – DRR criteria

Background Information (available online or on request):

Report to VCS Committee 12 December 2014: Extension of grant awards from the VCS Grants Fund and the Advice Fund to 31 March 2016

Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Executive Member for Community Development

6 January 2015

Received by:

Head of Democratic Services

Date

Report Author: Giles Rankin, Third Sector Partnerships Manager
Tel: 020 7527 3159
Email: giles.rankin@islington.gov.uk

Appendix A: Discretionary Rate Relief Approvals and Rejections

APPROVALS				
Organisation	Services	Award	Cost to LBI (30%)	Address
Estate Community Centres and Halls				
Almorah Community Centre Association	Estate community centre.	£4,380	£1,314	Almorah Road, N1 3EU
Arch-Elm Cooperative Housing	Estate community hall.	£2,237	£671	70 Mowatt Close, N19 3XZ
Aubert Court Tenants Assn	Estate community centre.	£6,476	£1,943	Aubert Court, Avenell Road, N5 1BJ
Bemerton Estate TMO	Estate community hall.	£4,828	£1,448	Jean Stokes Community Centre, Bemerton Estate, N1 0DX
Bemerton Villages Management Organisation	Council estate TMO services.	£13,014	£3,904	1a Earlsferry Way, Bemerton Estate, N1 0DY
Bennett Estate Tenants Assn	Council estate community centre.	£6,123	£1,837	Bennett Court, Axminster Road, N7 6BG
Birchmore Hall Community Centre	Estate community centre.		TBC	Highbury Quadrant Estate, N5 2TE
Blackstock Management Organisation	Estate community hall.	£448	£134	29 Twyford House, Elwood Street, N5 1EH
Boston and Nailour Tenants Association	Estate community hall.	£3,344	£1,003	52 Blundell Street, N7 9DD
Brecknock Road Estate Tenants Assn	Estate community hall.	£1,107	£332	1 Blake House, Brecknock Road Estate, N19 5AR
Brook Park Tenant Coop Ltd	Estate community hall.	£2,638	£791	48 Scholefield Road, N19 3EX
Caledonian Estate Tenants Association	Estate community hall.	£883	£265	28 Sophia Close, Mackenzie Road, N7 8SR
Canonbury Court Community Centre	Estate community hall.	£4,616	£1,385	Canonbury Court, Sebbon Street, N1
Charteris Neighbourhood Tenant Co-Operative	Estate community centre.	£964	£289	94 Moray Road, London, N4 3LA
Chestnuts Community Centre	Estate community centre.	£1,201	£360	Highbury Grange, N5 2QE
Dixon Clark Court Management Ltd	Estate community hall.	£812	£244	Dixon Clark Court, Canonbury Road, N1 2UR
Earlstone Community Centre	Estate community centre.	£337	£101	Midway House 1, Manningford Close, EC1V 7HP
Elthorne First Tenant Cooperative Ltd	Estate community centre.	£2,402	£721	158 St John's Way, London, N19 3RL
Gambier Tenant Management Organisation	Estate community hall.	£2,402	£721	Gambier House, Mora Street, EC1V 8EH
Girdlestone Community Centre Users Association	Estate community hall.	£3,485	£1,046	151 Salisbury Walk, N19 5DX
Goodinge Community Centre Association	Estate community centre.	£6,005	£1,802	Goodinge Road, N7 9EX
Half Moon Coop Association.	Estate community centre.	£4,333	£1,300	183 Wynford Road, N1 9QN
Hanley Crouch Community Assoc	Community hub.	£2,265	£680	The Laundry, Sparsholt Road, N19 4EL
Hargrave Hall Community Association	Community hall.	£4,529	£1,359	93, Hargrave Park, N19 5JW
Harry Rice Hall	Estate community centre.		TBC	Hargrave Park, N19 5JN
Hawthorne Close Tenants Association	Estate community centre.	£2,261	£678	37 Hawthorne Close, N1 4AW
Highbury Estate TRA	Estate community centre.		TBC	14a Pitfield House, Highbury Estate, N5 2RA
Holbrook Housing Co-Operative	Estate community hall.	£588	£176	92 Holland Walk, N19 3XU
Hornsey Lane Estate Management Board	Estate community hall.	£646	£194	Embay House, N19 3DD
Ilex House Tenants Assn	Estate community hall.	£7,772	£2,331	Ivy Hall, Crouch Hill, N4 4BY
Lorraine Estate Community Centre	Estate community centre.	£4,004	£1,201	Chelmsford House, Holloway Road, N7 9ST
Margery Street Community Centre	Estate community hall.	£1,437	£431	Margery Street, WC1X 0HR
Mersey Estate Tenants Association	Estate community hall.	£1,531	£459	2 Birkenhead House, Mersey Estate, Liverpool Road, N7 8QD
Mulberry Court Community Centre	Estate community hall.	£1,295	£389	Mulberry Court, Percival Street, EC1V 0HS
New Orleans Walk Tenants Assn	Estate community hall.	£2,167	£650	Orpheus House, New Orleans Walk, N19 3SZ
Peregrine House Tenants Association	Estate community hall.	£1,366	£410	Peregrine House, Hall Street, EC1V 7PQ
Pleydell Estate Tenants Organisation	Estate community hall.	£177	£53	Grayson House, Pleydell Estate, EC1V 3SR
Popham Estate Tenants Association	Estate community hall.	£2,355	£707	Maryland Walk, Popham Street, N1 8QZ
Quadrant Comm Association	Estate community hall.	£5,417	£1,625	Quadrant Estate, Highbury Quadrant, N5 2TH
Quaker Court TMO	Estate community hall.	£338	£101	68 Quaker Court, Banner Street, EC1Y 8QB
Sickert Court Tenants Association	Estate community hall.	£3,062	£918	Sickert Court, Canonbury Crescent, N1 2FB
South Mildmay Tenants Co-Op Ltd	Estate community hall.	£578	£174	52 Mildmay Park, N1 4PR
Spa Green Tenant Association	Estate community hall.	£713	£214	34 Wells House, Rosebery Avenue, EC1R 4TR
St Johns Community Centre	Estate community centre.	£6,712	£2,014	Holland Walk, N19 3XU
Stafford Cripps Tenants Organisation	Estate community centre.	£1,001	£300	1 Paramoor Court, Gee Street, EC1V 3PP
Stephens Ink Community Association	Estate community centre.	£2,967	£890	Gillespie Road, N5 1LN
Taverner & Peckett Square TMO	Estate community hall.	£4,380	£1,314	25 Matthews Court, Highbury Grange, N5 2PD
Thornhill TRA	Estate community hall.		TBC	Thornhill Road, N1
Tompion Community Centre Committee	Estate community hall.	£5,652	£1,696	Tompion Hall, 40 Percival Street, EC1V 0EB
Vibast Community Centre Committee	Estate community centre.	£4,569	£1,371	163 Old Street, EC1V 9LE
Wenlake Management Ltd	Estate community hall.	£942	£283	12 Wenlake House, Old Street, EC1V 9JH
Westbourne Centre Management Committee	Estate community centre.	£6,830	£2,049	43 Roman Way, N7 8XF
Weston Rise Tenants Association	Estate community hall.	£935	£281	187 Pentonville Road, N1 9NZ
Williamson Street Community Centre	Estate community centre.	£6,123	£1,837	Trefil Walk, Williamson Street Estate, N7 0SX
York Way Community Centre Committee	Estate community centre.	£11,186	£3,356	Tiber Gardens, N1 0XE
	Estate Community Centres and Halls Approvals Total	£165,833	£49,750	
Schools				
Blessed Sacrament RC Primary School	Primary school.	£2,049	£615	Hool Treaty Street, N1 0UF
Central Foundation Schools Of London	Secondary school.	£21,887	£6,566	Cowper Street, EC2A 4AP
Christ The King RC Primary School	Primary school.	£4,459	£1,338	55 Tollington Park, N4 3QW
Clerkenwell Parochial C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£1,808	£542	Amwell Street, EC1R 1UN
Islington Arts And Media School	Secondary school.	£21,084	£6,325	Turle Road, N4 3LS
Mount Carmel School	Secondary school.	£17,168	£5,151	Duncombe Road, N19 3EU

Appendix A: Discretionary Rate Relief Approvals and Rejections

Organisation	Services	Award	Cost to LBI (30%)	Address
Sacred Heart RC Primary School	Primary school.	£8,735	£2,620	Georges Road, N7 8JN
St Aloysius College	Primary school.	£20,080	£6,024	Hornsey Lane, N6 5LY
St Andrews (Barnsbury) C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£4,434	£1,330	Matilda Street, N1 0LB
St Joan Of Arc RC Primary School	Primary school.	£4,555	£1,366	Northolme Road, N5 2UX
St John The Evangelist RC Primary School	Primary school.	£3,977	£1,193	Duncan Street, N1 8BL
St Johns C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£1,711	£513	16 Pemberton Gardens, N19 5RR
St Johns C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£1,494	£448	Conewood Street, N5 1DL
St Josephs Primary School	Primary school.	£6,024	£1,807	Dartmouth Park Hill, N19 5NE
St Judes and St Pauls C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£8,785	£2,636	10 Kingsbury Road, N1 4AZ
St Lukes C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£2,097	£629	Radnor Street, EC1V 3SJ
St Marks C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£1,735	£521	Mitford Road, N19 4HJ
St Marks C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£1,832	£549	Sussex Way, N19 4JF
St Marys C of E Primary School	Primary school.	£3,181	£954	Fowler Road, N1 2EP
St Peter and St Paul RC Primary School	Primary school.	£3,374	£1,012	42 Compton Street, EC1V 0EU
New North Community School	Primary school (academy).	£15,261	£4,578	32 Popham Road, N1 8SJ
William Tyndale Academy	Primary school (academy).	£5,974	£1,792	Upper Street, N1 2GG
Schools Approvals Total		£161,702	£48,511	
Leisure Facilities				
Greenwich Leisure Ltd	Social enterprise contracted to run LBI sport and leisure facilities.	£178,567	£53,570	All leisure centres and pools in borough.
Leisure Facilities Approvals Total		£178,567	£53,570	
Voluntary and Community Organisations				
Aberdeen Park Nursery	Community nursery.	£405	£121	Highbury New Park, N5 2LJ
Algerian British Connection	Community activities, events and training.	£1,229	£369	80 Caledonian Road, N1 9DN
Almeida Theatre Co Ltd	Theatre with community engagement programme.	£8,989	£2,697	Almeida Street, N1 1TA; Upper Street, N1 1QN
Andover Pre-School Limited	Community nursery.	£1,085	£325	Docura House, 49 Corker Walk, N7 7RU
Arachne Womens Group	Advice, information, activities and training - inc ESOL, ACL, employment, health etc.	£4,073	£1,222	13/15 Hercules Street, N7 6AT; 534a Holloway Road, N7 6JP
Blenheim CDP	Drug and alcohol support services.	£1,350	£405	86 Durham Road, N7 7DU
Blythwood Community Nursery	Community nursery.	£1,229	£369	Blythwood Hall, Blythwood Road, N4 4EU
Bowlers Community Nursery	Community nursery.	£3,149	£945	81 Crouch Hill, N8 9EG
Caxton House Settlement	Community hub.	£4,049	£1,215	129 St John's Way, N19 3RQ
Centre 404	Activities and services for children and adults with learning difficulties.	£4,073	£1,222	404 Camden Road, N7 0SJ
Chance (UK) Ltd	Mentoring and parent support for children in primary schools - one third in borough.	£2,636	£791	89-93 Fonthill Road, N4 3JH
Claremont Project (Islington)	Community centre specialising in work with isolated older people from Islington.	£6,328	£1,898	White Lion Street, N1 9PD
Copenhagen Youth Centre	Local youth project. Range of services in new Caledonian ward community facility.	£4,000	£1,200	Naish Court Community Centre, 172 Copenhagen Street, N1 0ST
Creative And Supportive Trust Ltd	Training and support for women ex-offenders, inc. with drug and alcohol problems.	£2,049	£615	Lysander Mews, Lysander Grove, N19 3QP
Crime Reduction Initiative	Supporting residents with drug and alcohol problems.	£7,784	£2,335	332c Goswell Road, EC1V 7LQ; 101 Seven Sisters Road, N7 7QP
Cripplegate Foundation	Local grant giving trust.	£24,899	£7,470	13 Elliotts Place, N1 8HX
Cubitt Artists Ltd	Community arts project and affordable studios. Engaged in council arts programmes.	£7,179	£2,154	8 Angel Mews, N1 9HF
Culpeper Community Garden Assoc Trust	Community garden office, meeting room and tool store.	£313	£94	2 Dignum Street, N1 0FJ
Dialogue Society	Activities to promote inter-cultural exchange between communities.	£3,302	£991	402 Holloway Road, N7 6PZ
Disability Action In Islington	Services and representation for disabled residents.	£3,591	£1,077	90-92 Upper Street, N1 0NP
Elfrida Society	Welfare, education, training and support for people with learning difficulties.	£1,591	£477	34 Islington Park Street, N1 1PX
Eritrean Community In the UK	Advice, guidance, advocacy, training and representation for Eritrean community.	£925	£278	264-268 Holloway Road, N7 6NE
Essex Road Pre-School	Community nursery.		TBC	Canonbury Crescent, N1 2FE
Factory Community Project	Children's Centre and community project.	£2,097	£629	107-111 Matthias Road, N16 8NP; Bronte House, Matthias Road, N16 8LG
Finsbury Park Community Hub	Community hub.	£7,418	£2,225	Docura House, Corker Walk, N7 7RU
Finsbury Park Trust	Local regeneration and community spaces.	£1,615	£484	229 Seven Sisters Road, N4 2DA
Freightliners Farm Ltd	Community city farm and education activities.	£578	£174	Sheringham Road, N7 8NX
Friends Counselling	LGBT support and counselling service.	£2,062	£619	86 Caledonian Road, N1 9DN
Friends Of King Henrys Walk Gardens	Community garden and classroom.	£116	£35	King Henry's Walk, N1 4NX
Galop Ltd	Community safety services to LGBT community.	£868	£260	436 Essex Road, N1 3QP
Greek & Cypriot Cultural Community Centre	Education activities.	£4,427	£1,328	98 Dresden Road, N19 3BQ
Groundwork Camden & Islington	Environmental based training and community engagement.	£1,374	£412	12 Baron Street, N1 9LL
Highbury Community Nursery	Community nursery.	£3,542	£1,063	15 Aubert Park, N5 1TL
Highbury Fields Bandstand Ltd	Under 5s activities.	£1,783	£535	The Old Bandstand, Highbury Fields, N5
Highbury Roundhouse	Community hub.	£810	£243	71 Ronalds Road, N5 1XB,
Highbury Vale Blackstock Trust	Community hub.	£1,398	£419	Hurlock Street, N5 1EZ
Hilldrop Area Community Association	Community hub.		TBC	Community Lane, Hilldrop Road, N7 0JE
Hillside Clubhouse Ltd	Local mental health rehabilitation project.	£1,060	£318	29/30 North Road, N7 9GH
Holloway Neighbourhood Group	Community centre.	£4,531	£1,359	84 Mayton Street, N7 6QT; 38-40 Mayton Street, N7 6QR
Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association	Community hub.	£5,063	£1,519	Hazelville Road, N19 3YJ
Hoxton Hall Ltd Charity 1107196	Youth activities (Rosebowl).	£1,398	£419	Rose Bowl Centre, New River Estate, Essex Road, N1 2PT
Imece Turkish Womens Group	Advice, support and representation for Turkish and Kurdish women.	£1,947	£584	2 Newington Green Road, N1 4RB
Immigrants Aid Trust/JCWI	Legal advice and assistance for migrants and refugees.	£3,181	£954	115 Old Street, EC1V 9JR

Appendix A: Discretionary Rate Relief Approvals and Rejections

Organisation	Services	Award	Cost to LBI (30%)	Address
Inca Cgil	Advice service for people of Italian origin. 75% of users from borough.	£9,656	£2,897	124 Canonbury Road, N1 2UT
Isledon Arts CIC	CIC running Islington's youth hubs - LIFT and Platform.	£25,787	£7,736	White Lion Youth Centre, 45 White Lion Street, N1 9PW
Isledon Arts CIC	CIC running Islington's youth hubs - LIFT and Platform.	£48,945	£14,684	Platform, 2 Tiltman Place, N7 7EE
Isledon Community Nursery Trust	Community nursery.	£3,422	£1,027	The Sam Morris Centre, Parkside Crescent, N7 7JG
Islington & Finsbury Youth Club	Youth activities.	£1,663	£499	Owens Court, Goswell Road, EC1V 4NP
Islington Age Concern / Age UK Islington	Advice and support for older residents.	£1,687	£506	Drovers Day Centre, North Road, N7 9EY
Islington Arts Factory	Community arts project.	£1,663	£499	2a Parkhurst Road, N7 0SF
Islington Bangladesh Association	Community advice, support, training and services.	£1,085	£325	71 Caledonian Road, N1 9BT
Islington Boat Club	Children and young people training and activities.	£6,024	£1,807	16-34 Graham Street, N1 8JX
Islington Community Sports Academy	Islington youth club. Formerly known as Islington Boys Club.	£2,627	£788	20 Hazellville Road, N19 3LP,
Islington Law Centre	Community legal advice centre.	£7,123	£2,137	38 Devonian Road, N1 8UY; 232 Hornsey Road, N7 7LL
Islington Link Up CIC	Community hub for local Afro-Caribbean residents.	£6,359	£1,908	48 Seven Sisters Road, N7 6AA
Islington Mind	Day centre and support for residents with mental health problems.	£7,982	£2,395	Day Centres in N19: 35 Ashley Road; 48 Despard Road; 19-23 Wedmore Street
Islington Pensioners Forum	Information and campaigning for pensioners.		TBC	1a Providence Court, Upper Street, N1 0RN
Islington Play Assoc (Lumpy Hill)	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.	£2,820	£846	15 Market Road, N7 9PL
Islington Play Association	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.	£1,205	£362	Library, Thornhill Square, N1 1BE
Islington Play Association	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.	£569	£171	Priory Heights, 2a Wynford Road, N1 9SG
Islington Play Association	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.	£4,338	£1,301	Paradise Childrens Centre, Mackenzie Road, N7 8NT
Islington Play Association (Crumbles Castle)	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.		TBC	Crumbles Castle Adventure Playground, Bingfield Street, N1 0BJ
Islington Play Association (Hayward)	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.		TBC	Hayward Adventure Playground, Market Road, N7 9PL
Islington Play Association (Martin Luther King)	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.	£897	£269	Martin Luther King Adventure Playground, Sheringham Road, N7 8NT
Islington Play Association (Timbuktu)	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.	£2,024	£607	Timbuktu Adventure Playground, Grenville Road, N19 4EH
Islington Play Association (Toffee Park)	Services for Islington children including Children's Centres and adventure playgrounds.	£1,272	£382	Toffee Park Adventure Playground, Ironmonger Row, EC1V 9QR
Kids	Adventure playground.	£5,974	£1,792	13 Market Road, N7 9PL
Kings Square Community Nursery	Community nursery.	£376	£113	Rahere Hours, Central Street, EC1V 8DE
Light Project Pro International	Local educational projects and activities.	£4,145	£1,244	Orkney House, Caledonian Road, N1 0AF
Little Angel Theatre	Puppet theatre and education.	£1,470	£441	12-14 Dagmar Passage, N1 2DN
London Canal Museum	Local museum. Mostly run on volunteer help.	£3,374	£1,012	12-13 New Wharf Road, N1 9RT
London City YMCA	Supported housing and services for young people.	£1,470	£441	167 Whitecross Street, EC1Y 8JT
London City YMCA	Supported housing and services for young people.	£2,000	£600	6-10 Errol Street, EC1Y 8LX
London City YMCA	Supported housing and services for young people.	£4,218	£1,265	Errol Street, EC1Y 8LX
London Lesbian & Gay Switchboard	Advice and counselling for LGBT community.	£1,928	£578	1 Penton Street, N1 9QS
Manor Gardens Welfare Trust	Multi purpose community hub.	£15,863	£4,759	Manor Gardens, N7 6JY
Market Playgroup	Community nursery.	£1,080	£324	Tealby Court, Georges Road, N7 8HY
Maya Centre	Counselling and support for women with mental health problems.		TBC	9 -15 Elthorne Road, N19
Mildmay Community Nursery	Community nursery.	£4,710	£1,413	19-23 Mildmay Park, N1 4NA
Mildmay Community Partnership	Community hub.	£2,073	£622	Mildmay Community Centre, Woodville Road, N16 8NA
Mind Yourself	Services and support for Irish community - 40% from Islington.	£2,579	£774	6 Aztec Row, 1 Berners Road, N1 0PW
Miranda Users Assn	Estate community hall.	£2,638	£791	Henfield Close, N19 3UL
Nafsiyat Intercultural Therapy Centre	Counselling and psychotherapy for BAME communities and refugees.	£1,567	£470	Clifton House, 43 Clifton Terrace, N4 3JP
New River Playgroup	Community nursery.		TBC	Sebbon Street Community Centre, Sebbon Street, N1 2DG
New Swift Housing Cooperative Ltd	Estate community hall.	£1,277	£383	12 Pine Grove, N4 3LL
North London L E T S Club	Timebank/skills exchange project.	£414	£124	1a Waterlow Road, N19 5NJ
North London Scouts	Scouting activities. Centre under construction.		TBC	319 Holloway Road, N7 9FU
Parent House	Training, support and peer mentoring for Islington parents. On site crèche.	£1,253	£376	55 Calshot Street, N1 9AS
Peabody Trust	Estate community centres and halls.	£7,603	£2,281	Various community centres on Peabody estates in Islington.
Peel Institute	Community hub.	£7,279	£2,184	20 Percy Circus, WC1X 9EY
Peter Bedford Trust	Housing, services, training and support for adults with complex/multiple needs.	£8,282	£2,485	Legard Works, Legard Road, N5; 546 Holloway Road, N7; 181 Isledon Road, N7
Pilion Trust Ltd	Advice, information and guidance for vulnerable adults with complex/multiple needs.	£381	£114	25 Horsell Road, N5 1XL
Refugee Therapy Centre	Psychotherapeutic help for refugees and asylum seekers, children and families.	£8,484	£2,545	1a Leeds Place, N4 3RF
Rosemary Gardens Playgroup	Children's play and nursery.	£386	£116	1 Southgate Road, N1 3JP
Rowan Arts Project	Community arts and engagement.	£1,422	£427	10 Hornsey Street, N7 8EL
Sadlers Wells Trust Ltd	Theatre with some local arts engagement activities.	£14,991	£4,497	Rosebery Avenue, EC1R 4TJ
Shelter From The Storm	Emergency night shelter for the homeless.	£2,434	£730	103-105 Blundell Street, N7 9BN
Somali Speakers Association	Support, education and cultural activities.	£733	£220	12 Barnsbury Road, N1 0HB
St Christopher Fellowship	Children's home/hostel. Not currently in use.	£646	£194	7 Hillmarton Road, N7 9JE
St Luke's Parochial Charities	Community hub.	£13,554	£4,066	90-92 Central Street, EC1V 8AQ
St Mary's Islington Community Partnership	Community hub.	£1,205	£362	Neighbourhood Centre, St Marys Vicarage, Upper Street, N1 1XU
St Thomas's Playgroup	Community nursery.		TBC	75 Monsell Road, N4 2EF
Turkish Education Group	Training, classes and community events.	£1,673	£502	2 Newington Green Road, N1 4RB
Voluntary Action Islington Ltd	Local CVS - voluntary sector support.	£5,013	£1,504	200a Pentonville Road, N1 9JP
Whittington Park Community Association	Community hub.	£3,109	£933	86a Yerbury Road, N19 4RS
Young Actors' Theatre Islington	Acting classes, workshops and performance for young people. Formerly the Anna Scher Theatre.	£2,410	£723	70-72 Barnsbury Road, N1 0ES
	Voluntary and Community Organisations Approvals Total	£414,652	£124,396	
	TOTAL APPROVALS	£920,754	£276,227	

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Appendix A: Discretionary Rate Relief Approvals and Rejections

Organisation	Services	Award	Cost to LBI (30%)	Address
REJECTIONS				
Barnardo's	Offices of organisation. Insufficient information on activities and local benefit supplied, despite efforts to obtain it.	£2,458	£737	4 Chillingworth Road, N7 8QJ
City Year UK	Peer mentoring and tutoring in schools. National and not local focus. Little Islington benefit.	TBC		58-62 White Lion Street, N1 9PP
Community Service Volunteers	Former young people training centre. Building empty and looking to redevelop site.	£8,074	£2,422	179-199 Hornsey Road, N7 7QT; 99-101 Seven Sisters Road, N7 7QP
Pleasance Theatre Trust Ltd	Theatre venue and rehearsal rooms. Approx 15% users/beneficiaries from Islington. Low level of Islington engagement.	£8,751	£2,625	Carpenters Mews, North Road, N7 9EF; United House, North Road, N7 9DP
Somali Welfare Centre	Information and guidance. Not clear whether subsidising business premises. Little evidence of benefit.	£1,036	£311	182 Seven Sisters Road, N7 7PX
TOTAL REJECTIONS		£20,320	£6,096	

DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF CRITERIA

Each case will be considered on its own merits with priority given to efficient and well managed organisations that:

- primarily benefit Islington residents
- demonstrate a link with council priorities and promote a fairer Islington
- relieve the council of providing certain facilities or services
- serve the needs of poorer and excluded sections of the local community
- provide services for and in the borough's most deprived neighbourhoods
- maximise the use of their premises for community benefit
- serve equalities groups protected under the Equality Act 2010

Priority will also be given to:

- local organisations that are funded by the council through grant-aid or service contract
- local organisations that have a governing body whose membership mainly consists of people who live and/or work in Islington or have a strong connection with the borough
- organisations reliant on volunteers to carry out their activities
- self-help groups with few sources of funding to carry out their activities

Other Considerations

- the financial cost to the council incurred in awarding relief
- the organisation's ability to pay its rates
- the amount of central government funding levered in by a discretionary rate relief award to deliver statutory or other council services

Not Eligible for Discretionary Rate Relief

Islington Council will not normally award discretionary rate relief to:

- Profit making organisations
- Empty properties
- Charity shops
- Private schools, colleges, nurseries or schools that are not within the Islington family of schools
- National charity headquarters
- Housing Associations (other than for community centres)
- Car parking spaces
- Buildings exclusively used for worship

Award Limits

The following limits to awards will apply (cost to the council of discretionary rate relief):

Up to £6,000 Organisations will normally be awarded 100% discretionary rate relief

Over £6,000 Awards will be proportionate to the level of local benefit which may be less than 100% discretionary rate relief

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Report of: Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	19 January 2015		All
Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt	

SUBJECT: Community Festivals Fund: proposals for review

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 promote access, cultural benefit, stronger communities and partnership working. These events range from large borough-wide festivals to small scale neighbourhood parties.
- 1.2 The annual CFF budget is £16,000. Currently, the smallest grant provided through the fund has been £250; the maximum grant provided is £1,000. The fund is oversubscribed and applicants to CFF often apply to other council funding streams such as the Local Initiatives Fund (LIF) and Islington Community Chest. This duplication of funding submissions creates additional work for both applicants and council staff. The volume of applications also requires significant officer time to administer what is a modest CFF budget.
- 1.3 To streamline the CFF funding process and to support a more strategic programme of festivals and events that deliver against the council's equalities, place-shaping and community development agendas, this paper recommends revising the eligibility and selection criteria for the Community Festivals Fund.
- 1.4 The revised eligibility and selection criteria would see increased investment in a smaller number of key strategic festivals. Organisations would be able to apply for a minimum grant of £1,500 up to a maximum of £4,000 to deliver festivals and events that provide borough-wide benefit and meet the council's priorities.
- 1.5 In order to ensure continued support for local events of primary benefit to specific neighbourhoods, smaller organisations would be directed to LIF. Applicants seeking funding from CFF would not be eligible to apply to the Local Initiatives Fund for the same event.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree the revised funding criteria for the Community Festivals Fund to be used from 2015/2016 (attached at Appendix One).
- 2.2 To approve raising the minimum level of funding provided by the Community Festivals Fund to an individual festival to £1,500, and the maximum to £4,000, for those festivals that meet the fund's new strategic ambitions and provide borough-wide benefit.
- 2.3 To agree to the eligibility criteria that applicants seeking Community Festivals Fund support are not eligible to apply to the Local Initiatives Fund to support the same event and that smaller 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 will be directed to apply to the Local Initiatives Fund.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Community Festivals Fund budget is currently £16,000. Funding is used to support a range of community festivals, from small events that engage audiences of around 100 – 500 people and provide benefit to families and groups within a local neighbourhood or specific ward to larger events that attract audiences of up to 8,000-10,000 from across Islington and the surrounding boroughs.
- 3.2 The CFF scheme is oversubscribed, receiving an average of 25 applications per year since 2010/2011 with the majority of these applications receiving part or full funding (of up to £1000). Total annual grant requests have averaged around £24,230 per annum.

Community Festivals Fund	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Number of applications received	25	30	22	25
Total funding requested	£16,957	£40,715	£19,787	£22,280
Number of grants awarded	22	27	21	22
Total fund awarded	£15,250	£17,050	£16,000	£16,000

- 3.3 The majority of larger festivals in Islington apply to CFF and other small grant funds offered by the council including the Local Initiatives Fund and Islington Community Chest (administered by Cripplegate) as the current maximum CFF grant is not sufficient to deliver activities or provide adequate match funding for external funding bids.
- 3.4 To streamline the administration of council funding and reduce the impact on applicants who are currently applying to a range of council funds, revised CFF eligibility and selection criteria are recommended for 2015/2016. Key proposed changes to the fund include:
 - Increasing the minimum CFF grant to £1,500 and maximum to £4,000 for individual events
 - Events must provide borough-wide benefit and meet the council's wider priorities around equalities, community cohesion and place-shaping
 - CFF applicants will not be eligible to seek additional funding support through the council's Local Initiatives Funds. Groups must choose to apply to one fund or the other but will not be eligible for funding from both schemes.
 - Smaller community events that primarily provide benefit to local neighbourhoods or specific ward areas would not be eligible for CFF but encouraged to apply to the Local Initiatives Fund.
- 3.5 In addition to meeting these eligibility criteria, applicants for Community Festivals Fund grants will need to illustrate how their proposed event meets the following selection criteria:
 - **Cultural Benefit:** events 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**

- **Inclusive and accessible:** activities should be open to all the community and accessible and inclusive for Islington's most disadvantaged communities.
- **Match Funding:** applicants have secured funding to match any council contribution to deliver their event
- **Partnership Working:** applicants work with other agencies and organisations that may be able to share costs, facilities, expertise, and access to participants or beneficiaries.
- **Licensing and Public Protection:** applicants comply with all public protection requirements including securing venue permissions, relevant licenses and ensuring public health and safety.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications

4.1.1 The overall funding available to support festivals outlined in this report will be £16,000 during 2015/16 subject to final budget approval in February 2015. Revised eligibility and selection criteria to provide greater funding to a smaller number of key strategic festivals in Islington will reduce the amount of grant administration time required to manage the Community Festivals Fund, stop multiple applications to CFF and Local Initiatives Fund for single events and ensure 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 will help 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 Recommendations included in this paper have been made to streamline the Council's funding processes, prioritise key strategic festivals that provide borough-wide benefit and ensure funding support given also contributes to the Council's wider priorities around equalities, community cohesion and place-shaping.

Appendices: Appendix A – Community Festivals Fund 2015/2016 – Criteria and Guidance

Background papers: None

Final report clearance:

Janet Burgess

Signed by: Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

Date: 5 January 2015

Received by: Head of Democratic Services

Date: 6 January 2015

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Appendix One – Community Festivals Fund 2015/16 – 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 cannot seek additional funding support through the council's Local Initiatives Fund. Groups must choose to apply to one fund or the other but will not be eligible for funding from both schemes.

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, other local grant schemes, Arts Council England or the Heritage Lottery Fund. Applicants applying to the Community Festivals Fund cannot seek additional funding support through the council's Local Initiatives Fund.

6. Partnership Working

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

7. Licensing and Public Protection

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

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

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