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

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Members of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee are summoned to a meeting which will be held in Committee Room 1 at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on **23 January 2017 at 6:30pm.**

**Stephen Gerrard**  
**Director – Law and Governance**

Enquiries to : Mary Green  
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Despatched : 12 January 2017

Membership 2016/17

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

Substitute Members

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

Observers

Councillor Theresa Debono  
Councillor Mouna Hamitouche MBE  
Councillor Marian Spall

**Quorum: is 2 Councillors**



**A. Formal matters** **Page**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This applies to all members present at the meeting.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting 1 – 12

**B. Matters for decision**

1. Local Initiatives Fund awards 13 - 20
2. Islington Assembly Hall: free community use for 2016/17: round one 21 – 26

- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 3. | Discretionary rate relief awards 2016/17 (to follow) | -       |
| 4. | London Boroughs Grants Committee - levy 2017/18      | 27 - 28 |

**C. Urgent non-exempt matters**

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

**D. Exclusion of press and public**

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

**E. Confidential/exempt items for information (if any)**

**F. Urgent Exempt Matters**

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

The next meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee is scheduled for  
28 March 2017

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London Borough of Islington

## Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 14 November 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 14 November 2016 at 6.30 pm.

**Present:**           **Councillors:**           Kaya Comer-Schwartz, Andy Hull and Richard Watts

### **Councillor Richard Watts in the Chair**

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

Received from Councillor Theresa Debono.

Apologies for lateness received from Councillor Andy Hull.

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

None.

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

None received.

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

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

**115        LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND AWARDS (Item B1)**

A revised Appendix A was laid round.

The Executive Member for Community Development highlighted the fact that this month's report detailed at paragraph 3.10 the funding which had been returned to Ward budgets when projects had not proceeded.

**RESOLVED:**

(a) That the proposals for funding under the Local Initiatives Fund submitted by Ward councillors and detailed in revised Appendix A (attached to these minutes) of the report of the Executive Member for Community Development be approved in principle, subject to the Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services being satisfied that all necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.

(b) That, in the lead up to the Christmas period, the Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services be authorised to agree the allocation of £1,000 each for proposals received prior to the next meeting, subject to the Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services being satisfied that all necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.

## Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 14 November 2016

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

(d) That the amendments to Ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned, detailed in paragraph 3.10 and Appendix A of the report, be also noted.

Reason for decision – To assist in developing and sustaining a healthy voluntary and community sector in Islington.

Other options considered

None.

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None.

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### **ISLINGTON COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY CHEST 2016/17: ROUND TWO AWARDS (Item C1)**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the funding decisions (25 October 2016) made by Islington Council's Community Chest (ICCC) Panel, in relation to the second round of ICCC grant funding for 2016/17, as detailed in Appendix A of the report of the Executive Member for Community Development, be noted.

Reasons for decision

The decisions on grant awards had already been made by ICCC and therefore the report was for the Committee's information only.

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm

**CHAIR**

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

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Barnsbury	Rowena Champion / Mouna Hamitouche	Islington Veterans Association	Three course Christmas meal at Hemingford Arms pub. Funding to pay for food and drink.	18 December 2016	Veterans	35 to 40 members	250	950 to 1,000	£700 to £750 to be covered by the IVA members	
Barnsbury	Rowena Champion / Mouna Hamitouche	Friends of Barnsbury Square Gardens	Funding to purchase stage weights to weigh down 20 gazebo legs in order to comply with a directive from LBI Planning and Building Control. The gazebo will be used to host a Christmas party at the end of November.	26 November 2016	Local residents and visitors to the area	75 at party	250	420	£170 Friends of Barnsbury Square Gardens	
Page 3 Barnsbury	Rowena Champion / Mouna Hamitouche	Islington Pensioners Forum	Beat the Winter Blues party in the public space in Highbury Sheltered Accommodation. Funding to pay for refreshments, printing of publicity and venue hire.	Late January or early February 2017 - exact date tbc	Older people across the borough	Around 35	250	250	Not applicable	
Barnsbury	Rowena Champion / Mouna Hamitouche	Young Actors Theatre Islington	Programme offering 30 free places for weekly acting classes for a year. The places will be offered to disadvantaged children and young people. Funding to pay for freelance tutors, assistants, overheads and admin.	12 January to 15 December 2017	Children and young people aged 6 to 24 in Barnsbury and Caledonian wards	30 (15 from Barnsbury)	500	10,800	£3,000 Margaret Guido Charitable Trust, £13,000 tbc from other funding applications to trusts and foundations	The amount requested is £500 to £1,000,
Barnsbury / Caledonian / Clerkenwell / Holloway / Tollington	All councillors of Barnsbury, Caledonian, Clerkenwell and Holloway wards / Richard Watts	Islington Bangladesh Association	Forty four week long project which 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 and other associated costs.	1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017	Open to all but focussing on hard to reach and vulnerable adults	60 older people per week	8,000	14,500	£5,500 Garfield Weston Foundation tbc	The amount requested from five wards is £9,000.

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Barnsbury / Bunhill / Caledonian / Canonbury / Clerkenwell / Finsbury Park / Highbury East / Highbury West / Holloway / Junction / Mildmay / St Georges / St Marys / Peters / Tollington	All councillors of Barnsbury, Bunhill, Caledonian, Clerkenwell, Highbury East, Holloway, Mildmay, St Georges, St Marys and St Peters wards / Clare Jeapes / Asima Shaikh / Theresa Debono / Andy Hull / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls / Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	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 entertainment, staff costs, food, council lighting fee, equipment, publicity and other associated running costs.	28 December 2016	Open to all	500	7,333.34	9,171.09	£358 donation box tbc, £1,480 Raymond, Gelbergs & Adrian tbc	The amount requested from all wards is £7,750 (£500 per ward except St Marys from which £750 is requested).
Caledonian	Paul Convery / Una O'Halloran / Rupert Perry	LBI Public Lighting	Installation / removal, maintenance and energy for festive lighting for 15 festive lamp column mounted features in Caledonian Road for six weeks.	1 December 2016 to 4 January 2017	Local residents, businesses and visitors to the area	Unable to quantify	4,014.66	4,014.66	Traders contributions tbc	
Caledonian	Paul Convery / Una O'Halloran / Rupert Perry	Cally Christmas Market	Christmas Market which will run alongside the Caledonian Road festive lights switch on. Funding to pay for staff costs, stallholder costs, decorations, power, insurance and other associated running costs.	11 December 2016	Local residents	Unable to quantify	800	800	Not applicable	
Canonbury	Clare Jeapes	FCV Dorcas Befriending Project	Weekly art club at the Bridge Centre, doing a wide range of arts and crafts activities including handicrafts. Funding to pay for supplies and equipment.	October 2016 to October 2017	Older people	10 to 12 weekly	300	600 per year	Remainder from sale of Art Club products, donations and FCV Dorcas general funds	



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Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Marx Memorial Library & Workers' School	Engaging young people through their archive and museum collections involving at least six school visits and the creation of a dedicated webpage and pamphlet promoting the workshops. Funding to pay for staff time for school visits and printing of brochure and resources packs for schools.	2 January to 30 November 2017	School pupils in Islington, mainly secondary school pupils	120 directly	500	1,364	£864 in kind through digitisation, web development and design costs	
Page 5 Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Islington Pensioners Forum	Recruitment drive in Clerkenwell featuring an event showcasing IPF demonstrating the activities involved, e.g. bingo, weekly lunches, handicrafts, discussion forums, etc. Funding to pay for publicity, an updated membership leaflet, venue hire and refreshments.	March 2017 - exact date to be confirmed	Older people in Clerkenwell ward	300	500	500	Not applicable	
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Back 2 Basics Create	Fifteen week swimming programme for Somali and Muslim women. Funding to contribute towards the costs of swimming lessons.	6 October 2016 to 26 January 2017	Somali, Turkish, Arab and Bangladeshi women	45	500	8,193	£2,025 tbc through attendees' contributions, £168 Back 2 Basics Create, further LIF tbc	The amount requested from Clerkenwell is £1,500. £500 Bunhill LIF allocated to this project in September 2016.
Finsbury Park	Asima Shaikh	One True Voice	Funding to support the network of small women's community groups in Finsbury Park which will involve arranging networking meetings, offering practical support and providing one to one capacity building support. Funding to pay for salary of facilitator and office costs.	March 2016 to April 2017	Women from disadvantaged and marginalised communities in Finsbury Park	15 organisations	750	1,500	Not applicable	The amount requested is £1,500.

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Finsbury Park / Highbury East / Highbury West / Holloway / Junction / Mildmay / St Georges / Tollington	All councillors of Junction, Highbury East, Highbury West, Holloway and St Georges wards / Gary Heather / Asima Shaikh / Jenny Kay / Olly Parker / Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Friendship Network, Manor Gardens	Christmas hampers, a Christmas party and a theatre trip for older people in North Islington. Funding to pay for hampers, staff time, transport, theatre tickets and Christmas party costs (catering, hall hire and speaker hire).	5 to 21 December 2016	Isolated older people in North Islington	72 (9 per ward)	2,000	3,000	£1,000 volunteer time (in kind)	
Highbury East / Highbury West	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell / Andy Hull	LBI Public Lighting	Installation / removal, maintenance and energy for festive lighting for 11 festive lamp column mounted features in Highbury Park (Barn) and 6 festive lamp column mounted features in Blackstock Road for six weeks.	1 December 2016 to 4 January 2017	Local residents, businesses and visitors to the area	Unable to quantify	205.98	4,014.66	£1,000 Highbury Barn Traders Association, £2,808.68 LIF awarded in September 2016	Extra funding needed due to traders contributing less than expected.
Highbury West	Theresa Debono / Andy Hull	Friends of Gillespie PTA	Funding to contribute towards the salary of a scientist in residence for the Gillespie School Lab_13 (project aimed at boosting science learning at primary school level).	April 2017 to November 2017	Children at local schools	452	667.54	22,000	£8,000 Friends of Gillespie PTA, £6,000 Shine Trust, further funding tbc	The amount requested is £2,000.
Highbury West	Andy Hull	Ambler Children's Centre	Purchase of three i-pads and additional materials which will be used by staff to track children's progress and record their attainment more quickly and efficiently. This will allow staff to spend more time with the children.	November 2016 to January 2017 (timeframe dependent on funding)	Children attending the centre	100 initially	1,000	3,000	Details to follow	

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Highbury West	Richard Greening	Ambler Primary School	Phonics books to help sustain the improvement in the school's phonics results.	September 2016 to June 2017	Six classes from reception to Year 2 (ages 4 to 7 years old)	300	1,850	1,850	Not applicable	
Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	Living Space Art School / Designers & Artists Ltd	Five two hour long sessions of a recycling ceramics course at Holloway Neighbourhood Group culminating in a showcase / celebration of all work created. Funding to pay for the fees of a creative arts tutor and a creative arts producer, a printer, design paper, pens and publicity.	1 February to 31 March 2017	Targetted at older people	12 places per session	1,300	2,700	£225 HNG (in kind through hall hire), £1,175 cash and in kind support from Designers & Artists Ltd and Creative Fruits	
Holloway	Diarmaid Ward / Rakhia Ismail / Paul Smith	LBI Town Centre Development Team	Annual Christmas lights switch-on event for Nag's Head in partnership with the Nag's Head Town Centre Management Group. Funding to pay for installation of the festive lighting which will be wrapped around trees and be a permanent fixture (thereby reducing future installation costs) as well as having a greater impact.	Saturday 3 December 2016	Businesses, residents and visitors to the town centre	1,000	1,500	34,852 (including festive lighting)	£16,000 Holloway Section 106, £7,500 from businesses, £5,000 LBI Town Centre Development Team, £1,500 St George's LIF, a further £3,000 tbc from NHTCMG and businesses	£1,500 St George's LIF awarded to this project in September 2016.
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Friends of Foxham Gardens	Sign boxes in Foxham Gardens with updateable A4 sheets displaying information about plants, creatures, the history of the park and other relevant local information. Funding to pay for the purchase and installation of six sign boxes.	January to June 2017	All park users, especially children and dog owners	1,000	700	700	Not applicable	

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Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Junction	Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	Islington Mind	Three course Christmas dinner and celebration for service users, carers and volunteers. Funding to pay for food, soft drinks, cutlery and tableware, snacks, crackers, decorations and sundries.	23 December 2016	Service users, carers and volunteers	100	700	700	Not applicable	
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Olly Parker	The Parent House	Training of two parent volunteers who will then work with vulnerable disadvantaged parents in the Mildmay area to improve their take up of services and improve their access to training, education and employment. Funding to pay for volunteer support, visits to Mildmay organisations, training, review sessions and DBS checks.	January to November 2017 (term time only)	Vulnerable unemployed parents in Mildmay with few qualifications, lack of skills and low confidence	2 volunteer parents and 40 parents	824	7,949	£6,000 Islington Giving	
Mildmay	Olly Parker	Hawthorne Close TRA	Funding to pay for a Christmas dinner for older people at a pub/ restaurant and children's Christmas selection boxes.	December 2016 - exact date to be confirmed	Older people and children from Hawthorne Close	12 older people and 42 children	250	280	£50 already raised through a car boot sale and a donation	
Mildmay	Joe Caluori / Jenny Kay / Olly Parker	Burder Close and Boleyn Road TRA	Three course Christmas meal for older people from eight Mildmay TRAs at the Lady Mildmay Pub in Newington Green. Funding to pay for food and soft drinks.	December 2016 - exact date to be confirmed	Older people from Mildmay	45	550	900	£350 from LBI Housing resident engagement budget	
St Georges	Kat Fletcher / Satnam Gill / Nick Ward	St George and All Saints Church	Funding to contribute towards cost of four performances of a community pantomime which will be performed mainly by children and young people. Funding to pay for additional staging pieces and screening.	September to December 2016	Mainly children and young people	30 children directly involved in production, total audience of 600	995.28	5,495.28	£4,500 St George and All Saints Church (building hire, costumes, props, lighting and publicity)	

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St Marys	Gary Poole	Islington Veterans Association	Armed Forces Day display and ceremony on Islington Green. Funding to pay for first aid cover and event insurance.	25 June 2016	Veterans and the public	400	582.54	582.54	Not applicable	
St Marys	Angela Picknell / Nurullah Turan	The Parent House	Training of two parent volunteers who will then work with vulnerable disadvantaged parents in the St Marys area to improve their take up of services and improve their access to training, education and employment. Funding to pay for volunteer support, visits to St Marys organisations, training, review sessions and DBS checks.	January to November 2017 (term time only)	Vulnerable unemployed parents in St Marys with few qualifications, lack of skills and low confidence	2 volunteer parents and 40 parents	400	7,949	£6,000 Islington Giving	The amount requested from St Mary's is £824.
Tollington	Jean Kaseki / Richard Watts	Islington Chinese Association	Chinese New Year of the Chicken Celebration 2017. Funding to pay for publicity, printing, postage, artists, volunteers and venue hire.	4 February 2017	Open to all, but most will come from Tollington and neighbouring wards	500+	500	2,000	£1,500 Islington Chinese Association	
Tollington	Jean Kaseki	Hanley Crouch Community Association	Black History Month event featuring a talk by an organiser of the Notting Hill Carnival, singing, a fashion show and poetry acts. Funding to pay for acts, refreshments, printing of leaflets and posters and staff costs.	27 October 2016	Open to all	50 to 60	500	500	Not applicable	
Tollington	Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Awesome Elm CIC / Cornwallis Adventure Playground	Purchase of 24 new chairs and 8 new tables for Cornwallis Adventure Playground.	November 2016	Children and young people using the playground and those hiring the space	100 to 200 children, young people and local families	739.20	739.20	Not applicable	

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

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Tollington	Richard Watts / Flora Williamson	Hanley Crouch Community Association	Contribution towards centre manager's salary for time spent on community development duties on behalf of the Tollington Ward Partnership and for arranging a community event in March 2017.	June 2016 to March 2017	Residents in the Tollington ward and surrounding areas	500	3,000	3,000	Not applicable	
Tollington	Richard Watts	Hanley Crouch Community Association	Christmas buffet / party for socially isolated older people at the Tollington Baptist Church. Food will be donated by local people. Funding to pay for premises hire, artists/entertainment and drinks.	15 December 2016	Residents in the Tollington ward and surrounding areas	60 to 80	250	250	Not applicable	

**PROJECT CHANGES TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN NOVEMBER 2016**

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Highbury East	Aysegul Erdogan / Osh Gantly / Caroline Russell	Islington Mind	An LGBT annual Open Day and Christmas event. Funding to contribute towards food, decorations and prizes for both events.	25 October to 30 December 2016	Members of the LGBT community who are often isolated	20 to 30	363.34	400	£36.66 from local businesses tbc (through donations of prizes)	Grant originally awarded in June 2016 for a LGBT seaside trip for which there was an underspend of £363.34 (due to train on pier not working and the weather being too hot for funfair rides).

**Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining**

<b>Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2016-17:</b>	<b>£240,000</b>
Total allocations to be made from previous years' budgets:	£25,429
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£143,091
Balance remaining:	£122,338
<b>New proposals for November VCS Committee:</b>	<b>£42,463</b>
<b>Total amount remaining to allocate in 2016-17:</b>	<b>£79,875</b>

<b>2016-17 Balance remaining by ward:</b>	
<b>Ward</b>	<b>Balance:</b>
Barnsbury	£2,319
Bunhill	£10,406
Caledonian	£6,515
Canonbury	£6,296
Clerkenwell	£10,098
Finsbury Park	£7,094
Highbury East	£4,942
Highbury West	£875
Hillrise	£500
Holloway	£365
Junction	£2,450
Mildmay	£6,196
St George's	£6,338
St Mary's	£4,830
St Peter's	£8,231
Tollington	£2,419

**£79,875****Notes:**

Includes £2,209 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £560 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,437 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £821 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,529 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £925 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £25 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,697 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £10 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £3,832 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,764 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £5,800 from previous LIF allocations

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### Report of: Executive Member for Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2017		All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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## SUBJECT: LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND

### 1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The Local Initiatives Fund is a flexible devolved budget for councillors to use to address issues and priorities in their wards. It is an important element of the council's community provision and helps to meet the needs of local residents. In 2016/17 each ward has an allocation of £15,000 to spend on local schemes. Councillors consider project ideas for their ward and make recommendations to the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee. This report asks the committee to approve the proposals submitted by ward councillors for this financial year.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree that in order to address the issue of recruiting and retaining support for 15 ward partnerships, an incentive payment of £1,000 per annum be paid to each ward partnership co-ordinator and to agree that £1,000 per annum be set aside from each ward partnership Local Initiatives Fund budget to fund this support.

To agree therefore that £250 is set aside from each ward partnership LIF budget to fund this support from January to March 2017. The annual 2016-17 Local Initiatives Fund budget would reduce by £3,750 to £236,250.

To agree that the annual Local Initiatives Fund budget for subsequent years become £225,000. This is £14,000 per ward apart from the Bunhill and Clerkenwell ward budgets which will each become £14,500.

- 2.2 To consider the new proposals and changes to previous proposals submitted by ward councillors as set out in Appendix A and to agree these proposals in principle subject to the Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 2.3 To note the amendments to ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned. The amendments are detailed at paragraph 3.10 and are included in the budget summary on the last page of Appendix A.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 In March 2011 the council agreed to strengthen the role of ward councillors by building on existing 'neighbourhood arrangements' for some wards and establishing a mechanism for a more focussed ward based approach throughout the borough. From 1 April 2011 new ward partnership arrangements were introduced in place of the previous area committees.
- 3.2 Simultaneously a report relating to the Islington Community Fund was agreed by Executive. This included a proposal to create a Local Initiatives Fund with each ward having an allocation of £20,000 per year to spend on local projects.
- 3.3 In February 2015, the Executive agreed that the Local Initiatives Fund budget be reduced to £15,000 per ward (£240,000 total).
- 3.4 The Local Initiatives Fund enables councillors to respond directly to priorities in their ward that lie outside of current mainstream funding programmes and might not otherwise receive funding. It helps them to address the needs of local residents and suggest improvements to local services/facilities or new schemes that will enhance the area.
- 3.5 At Executive in March 2011 it was agreed that a Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Committee of the Executive should be set up to oversee the council's engagement with the voluntary and community sector and to ensure value for money and fairness in the allocation of council resources to the sector.
- 3.6 The VCS Committee's terms of reference include 'To be responsible for the allocation of the Islington Community Fund including...allocating the Local Initiatives Fund having regard to the recommendations of the relevant ward members/relevant ward partnership or neighbourhood group and on the basis that the funding will be allocated equally among the 16 wards making up the council's area'.
- 3.7 The committee agreed that each ward councillor should be given a notional allocation of the Local Initiatives Fund (i.e. divided equally between the councillors elected for each ward). In 2016/17 £15,000 is available to each ward; therefore the notional allocation for each councillor is £5,000. In September 2014 the VCS Committee agreed to introduce a minimum award of £250 per project.
- 3.8 The Voluntary and Community Sector Development Team in the Housing and Adult Social Services department is responsible for managing the Local Initiatives Fund in liaison with ward councillors and members of the VCS Committee. The team ensures that funds are used appropriately and for the purpose for which they are allocated.
- 3.9 The sixth tranche of proposals submitted by ward councillors for this financial year is set out in Appendix A. It is recommended that these proposals are agreed in principle subject to the Corporate Director of Housing and Adult Social Services being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 3.10 Occasionally projects do not proceed as planned and funding is returned to ward budgets or the use of a grant has to be changed.

There has been a number of overspends and underspends on plaques funded by Highbury East ward so £442.23 has been returned to the 2016-17 Highbury East budget for reallocation. This is made up of:

- £587.35 underspend on Kerridge Court plaque (March 2015 award)
- £71.44 underspend on Sir Francis Ronalds plaque (July 2013 award)
- £216.56 overspend on Alexander McQueen plaque (November 2013 award)

In November 2016, £400 was awarded from the St Mary's budget to the Parent House for the training of two parent volunteers who would then work with vulnerable disadvantaged parents in the St Marys area to improve their take up of services and improve their access to training, education and employment. £824 was the amount requested. The Parent House couldn't afford to offer a quality service with the £400 so this award has been returned to the 2016-17 St Mary's ward budget for reallocation.

In March 2016 and April 2016, £2,042 was awarded to City YMCA London for a City Job Ready Programme (six weekly workshops focussing on skills that young people need to sustain their employment after completing an employability programme). The organisation had difficulty recruiting young residents for the programme. This has resulted in a £1,645.50 underspend. City YMCA has asked if this underspend can be used for four workshops on photography and Adobe Photoshop in February 2017. More details are listed in Appendix A. A £37 underspend for a previous City YMCA project has also been returned to the 2016-17 Bunhill budget for reallocation.

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Financial implications:**

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

### **4.2 Legal Implications:**

The general power of competence pursuant to Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 which came into force on 6 April 2012 provides the council with very broad powers 'to do anything that individuals generally may do'. This covers the power to give grants to voluntary and community sector organisations as proposed in this report and includes anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the whole or part of its area or all or any of the persons resident or present in that area. The provision of resources through the Local Initiatives Fund is likely to promote the social and economic well-being of Islington's residents.

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

### **4.3 Environmental Implications:**

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

### **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:**

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

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

## **5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

The Local Initiatives Fund is an effective way of addressing local priorities and provides a mechanism for ward councillors to support small projects which might otherwise not be funded. Proposals submitted for approval represent a wide range of activity and will deliver significant benefit to local communities.

Agreeing to use Local Initiatives Funding to support the running of ward partnerships will promote local democracy and enable ward councillors to engage with residents and local organisations within their ward to discuss and influence decisions which affect their local area.

## Appendices

Appendix A – Local Initiatives Fund Proposals

**Background papers:** none

Final report clearance:

**Signed by:**

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

9 January 2017

Kaya Comer-Schwartz  
Executive Member for Community Development

Report Author: Patricia Keating, Ward Budget and Partnerships Officer  
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## NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JANUARY 2017

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Clerkenwell	Raphael Andrews	Ben Kinsella Trust	Three Knife Crime awareness workshops for young people in years 5, 6 and 7 which will centre around the Ben Kinsella Exhibition. Funding to pay for facilitators, an actor, staff costs and resources.	January to July 2017	Children and young people who go to school in Clerkenwell	60	568.35	568.35	Not applicable	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather / Michael O'Sullivan / Asima Shaikh	Healthy Generations	Remedial Exercise Class at the Andover Community Centre for those suffering from osteoporosis and those in danger of developing it. Funding to pay for the rent of the space for 44 one hour sessions.	January to December 2017	Over 55s	40 to 60	880	2,630	£1,540 Richard Cloudesley	
Page 17 Finsbury Park	Gary Heather / Michael O'Sullivan / Asima Shaikh	Finsbury Park Women's Group Network (c/o Holloway Neighbourhood Group)	International Women's Day at the Andover Community Centre. Funding to pay for food, paper goods, child care, cleaning, bouncy castle hire, entertainment and hall hire.	11 March 2017 (tbc)	Women, mostly from Finsbury Park and with a BAME background	150 women and children	1,100	1,100	Not applicable	
Finsbury Park	Gary Heather / Michael O'Sullivan	LBI Housing / Finsbury Park Community Hub	Annual outing to Southend for local families who otherwise would not have an opportunity to get out of London during the summer. Funding to contribute towards the hire of four coaches.	30 August 2017	Low income residents	280	1,500	4,900	£1,500 2017-18 LIF tbc, £1,900 tbc from ticket sales	
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	LBI Housing and Adult Social Services	Barrier gate to address illegal parking and alleged prostitution at the rear of Melchester House on Wedmore Estate. Funding to pay for the gate and the installation costs.	December 2016 to February 2017	Wedmore Estate residents	162 estate residents	1,075	1,075	Not applicable	

## NEW PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JANUARY 2017

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Junction	Janet Burgess / Kaya Comer-Schwartz / Tim Nicholls	SLOW - Surviving the Loss of Your World	Facilitation costs for a monthly support group for bereaved parents and siblings held at Cathcart Hill and a contribution towards business services and admin costs.	1 February 2017 to 31 January 2018	Bereaved parents and siblings mainly from Islington	200+	750	34,206	£438 LIF, £525 LBI Community Chest, £832 Awards for All Big Lottery, £31,661 tbc from further fundraising, applications and subscriptions	
Tollington	Flora Williamson	St Mark's CE Primary School	Funding to purchase a ready made walk in chicken run and a heavy duty cover to enable the school chickens to free range in a larger area.	Run will be in place by August 2017	School children, parents, carers and staff	300	778.98	778.98	Not applicable	

## PROJECT CHANGES TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN JANUARY 2017

Ward	Councillor	Organisation	Project Summary	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Governance and Human Resources Comments
Bunhill	Robert Khan / Claudia Webbe	City YMCA London	Four workshops teaching young people aged 14 to 19 the basic techniques of photography and digital editing using Adobe Photoshop. Funding to pay for a photography specialist, lunch and refreshments, a celebration and staff costs.	13 to 17 February 2017	Young people aged 11 to 18	15	1,645.50	5,058.10	£3,412.60 City YMCA, London	Grant originally awarded in March and April 2016 for a City Job Ready Programme for which there was an underspend of £1,645.50 (due to low attendance).

**Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining**

<b>Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2016-17:</b>	<b>£240,000</b>
<b>Amount set aside for support for fifteen ward partnerships:</b>	£3,750
<b>Total amended Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2016-17:</b>	£236,250
Total allocations to be made from previous LIF budgets:	£26,308
Amount allocated by VCS Committee to date:	£185,554
Balance remaining:	£77,005
<b>New proposals for January VCS Committee:</b>	<b>£6,652</b>
<b>Total amount remaining to allocate in 2016-17:</b>	<b>£70,352</b>

<b>Budget allocations</b>		
<b>Progress comparison 2015 to 2016:</b>		
	<b>Apr - Nov 2015</b>	<b>Apr - Nov 2016</b>
<b>Total budget awarded:</b>	£137,818	£185,554
<b>% of annual budget awarded:</b>	54%	70%

<b>2016-17 Balance remaining by ward:</b>	
<b>Ward</b>	<b>Balance:</b>
Barnsbury	£2,069
Bunhill	£10,318
Caledonian	£6,265
Canonbury	£6,046
Clerkenwell	£9,405
Finsbury Park	£3,364
Highbury East	£5,134
Highbury West	£625
Hillrise	£250
Holloway	£115
Junction	£375
Mildmay	£5,946
St George's	£6,088
St Mary's	£4,980
St Peter's	£7,981
Tollington	£1,390

**£70,352****Notes:**

Includes £2,209 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £597 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,437 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,500 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £821 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £1,972 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £925 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £25 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,697 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £3,832 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £2,164 from previous LIF allocations

Includes £5,800 from previous LIF allocations

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## Report of: Executive Member for Community Development

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	23 January 2017		All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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## SUBJECT: Islington Assembly Hall: Free Community Use Summer 2017

### 1. Synopsis

- 1.1 Each year, local community and arts organisations have the opportunity to apply for free hires of Islington Assembly Hall. Applicants are assessed against published criteria and, if successful, have to meet any additional costs (e.g. equipment or technical), which are not covered by the scheme. In 2015, the scheme criteria and application process were evaluated and amended in response to feedback from the sector and Assembly Hall staff.

There are two application rounds each year, one for the period July-September and one for January-March, amounting to a total of eight free hires. If, at any time, a successful applicant cancels their booking, the free hires for the subsequent round is increased in order to ensure that eight free hires per year are granted.

In July-September 2016, one of the allocated free hires was not been taken up by any applicant, and in January-March 2017, two applicants cancelled their bookings, making a total of 5 free hires granted in that year. The Assembly Hall has agreed to carry over an additional three free hires to this round January-March 2017, making a total of seven slots available in this round from July-September 2017.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To allocate one free hire for Summer 2017 to each of the following:
- MoveMe Dance
  - Breakin' Convention
  - Solace Women's Aid
  - Cubitt Education
  - IMECE Women's Centre
  - Baluji Music Foundation
  - Body & Soul

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

- North London Cares
- Arachne Greek Cypriot Women's Group

### 3. Background

3.1 The first round of the 2017-18 scheme was launched in October 2016 and was promoted through LBI Communications on the council external website, the izzi rotator, and the IC Bulletin, as well as through Creative Islington's newsletter, to the wider sector via LBI departments (Youth Services, Housing, VCS Team, BME Forum, School Improvement Service, Libraries), direct mailings to previous applicants and arts sector organisations.

The scheme received 30 applications from eligible organisations supporting a wide range of events, (see Appendix 1).

3.2 Applications have been assessed against the published criteria which requires applicants to demonstrate a commitment to provide events and activities that:

a) Have a strategic value, and in particular a focus on at least one of the following four areas:

- Community cohesion
- Children and young people
- Diversity
- Creative ways of engaging local residents

b) Have a borough-wide impact.

c) Demonstrate a commitment to good practice (events that are viable, of high quality, well managed and evaluated).

d) Promote the Islington Assembly Hall as a focus for high quality events, making best use of the high quality facilities available in the venue.

The scheme does **not** support:

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

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

### 4. Free Hire

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

<b>Moveme Dance</b>	<b>Moveme Islington</b> - Borough wide participatory dance event bringing together young people and elders
<b>Breakin Convention</b>	<b>Breakin Convention</b> - Hiphop/street dance event involving art exhibition, videos and performance workshops
<b>Solace Women's Aid</b>	<b>Young Women and Girls Celebration of Empowerment Event</b> - Celebration of borough wide Young Women and Girls Initiative with awards and performances

<b>Cubitt Education</b>	<b>Summer Ball 2017: Journeys</b> - Arts event and dance showcase bringing together local elders and younger generations
<b>IMECE Women's Centre</b>	<b>Celebrating International Women's Day</b> - Conference focusing on issues affecting Islington BAMER women, involving variety of stakeholders and policy makers
<b>Baluji Music Foundation</b>	<b>Inner Vision Orchestra</b> - Performance of orchestra of blind musicians and community participants
<b>Body &amp; Soul</b>	<b>Body &amp; Soul Summer Festival</b> - Community festival by HIV support agency with music, face painting and cakes

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

<b>North London Cares</b>	<b>North London Cares 6th Birthday Party</b> - Community celebration and tea dance with live music, bringing together several generations of local people
<b>Arachne Greek Cypriot Women's Group</b>	<b>Celebrating Arachne's 33 Years of Service To The Community</b> - Celebration event with Greek music workshops and performance

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

## 5. Financial Implications

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

## 6. Legal Implications

The Council can support voluntary and community sector organisations under the wellbeing power in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. This gives the Council the power to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the whole or part of its area or all or any of the persons resident or present in that area.

## 7. Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications.

## 8. 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.

The proposed events serve a wide range of communities and support the Council and Arts Services priorities, targeting young people, refugees, elderly people with activities that support health and well being.

## 9. Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

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

Final report clearance:

**Signed by:**

Date



Executive Member for Economic and Community Development

**Received by:**

Head of Democratic Services

Date

Report Author: Segun Lee-French

Tel: 020 7527 2234

Email: [segun.lee-french@islington.gov.uk](mailto:segun.lee-french@islington.gov.uk)

**APPENDIX 1: Islington Assembly Hall Free Community Use – All Applicants Summer 2017**

APPLICATION DETAILS			
Organisation	Estimated Attendance	Event Description	Recommended
<b>MoveMe Dance</b>	170	MoveMe Islington - a borough wide participatory dance event bringing together young people and elders	<b>Y</b>
<b>Breakin' Convention</b>	Unspecified	Breakin Convention - Hiphop/street dance event involving art exhibition, videos and performance workshops	<b>Y</b>
<b>Solace Women's Aid</b>	500	Young Women and Girls Celebration of Empowerment Event for borough wide Young Women and Girls Initiative with awards and performances	<b>Y</b>
<b>Cubitt Education</b>	230	Summer Ball 2017: Journeys - arts event and dance showcase bringing together local elders and younger generations	<b>Y</b>
<b>IMECE WOMEN'S CENTRE</b>	200	Celebrating International Women's Day - conference focusing on issues affecting Islington BAMER women, involving variety of stakeholders and policy makers	<b>Y</b>
<b>BALUJI MUSIC FOUNDATION</b>	300	Inner Vision Orchestra - community music workshop and performance event with orchestra of blind musicians	<b>Y</b>
<b>Body &amp; Soul</b>	300	Body & Soul Summer Festival - community festival by HIV support agency with music, face painting and cakes	<b>Y</b>
<b>Arachne Greek Cypriot women's Group</b>	250	Celebrating Arachne's 33 Years of Service To The Community - music workshop and performance event celebrating Greek Cypriot community women's group	<b>R</b>
<b>North London Cares</b>	150	North London Cares 6th Birthday Party - community celebration and tea dance with live music, bringing together several generations of local people	<b>R</b>
<b>Sport Islington</b>	150-200	Sport Islington and School Sports Awards - award ceremony celebrating sporting achievements of clubs, organisations and schools in Islington	<b>N</b>
<b>City Year UK</b>	200	City Year London Graduation 2017 - graduation ceremony celebrating work done with disadvantaged 18-25 year olds from across London	<b>N</b>
<b>Islington PE and School Sport Team</b>	100	Primary School Dance Festival involving competitors from all schools in Islington	<b>N</b>
<b>London Village Network</b>	150	Celebration of Youth: Connecting Professionals with Young People - networking event bringing young people together with local businesses	<b>N</b>

<b>The BIG Alliance</b>	300	Year 10 Mentoring Works Recognition Event - celebration of mentoring programme between adult business mentors and Year 10 students from across Islington	<b>N</b>
<b>Islington Children and Young People's Voluntary Sector Forum</b>	200	Children and Young People's Conference: Celebrating Childhood in Islington	<b>N</b>
<b>Victim Support</b>	Unspecified	Victim Support: Engaging and Supporting Diverse Communities - national conference targeting diverse communities	<b>N</b>
<b>Islington Play Association</b>	Unspecified	Islington Play's Big Fat Fundraising Quiz of the Year - fundraising event for applicant	<b>N</b>
<b>Mind Yourself</b>	300	Surviving Post-Brexit Britain - discussion event targeting diverse communities	<b>N</b>
<b>Family Plus Team</b>	100-200	Special Guardianship Family Event to support families and carers	<b>N</b>
<b>Humming in Harmony</b>	60	HUM - immersive concert of piano music for active listening	<b>N</b>
<b>Islington People's Rights</b>	120	Islington Advice Conference 2017 - conference aimed at Islington VCS organisations	<b>N</b>
<b>Remembering Srebrenica</b>	Unspecified	Silenced Voices: Stories from Srebrenica & Sarajevo - exhibition of photography and film screening	<b>N</b>
<b>Family Action</b>	200	Islington On Trend - charity fashion show event raising funds for applicant	<b>N</b>
<b>YOUNG ACTORS THEATRE ISLINGTON</b>	Unspecified	Young Actors FUN-DRAZER - fundraising event for YATI with performances by YATI students	<b>N</b>
<b>Laamiga Women's Mentoring and Training</b>	80-100	Celebration of Women - presentations by inspiring women, local businesses and FE colleges plus pamper sessions	<b>N</b>
<b>Ghana Union</b>	Unspecified	Black Star Community Youth Awards celebrating local young people's achievements	<b>N</b>
<b>Islington Pensioners Forum</b>	500	Summer Festival	<b>N</b>
<b>Islington Council Black &amp; Minority Ethnic Staff Forum</b>	170	Islington Council Black & Minority Ethnic Staff Forum Indian Summer Ball	<b>N</b>
<b>Family &amp; Staff Association, William Tyndale School</b>	180	Leaving Party for Year 6 students at William Tyndale PS	<b>N</b>
<b>Camden and Islington Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Centre</b>	100-150	Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Disorders Patient Conference	<b>N</b>



Report of: **Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety**

<b>Meeting of</b> Voluntary and Community Sector Committee	<b>Date</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2017	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Ward(s)</b> All
<b>Delete as appropriate</b>		Non-exempt	

### LONDON BOROUGH GRANTS COMMITTEE – LEVY 2017-18

#### 1. Background

- 1.1. This report seeks approval for the London Boroughs Grants Committee (LBGC) 2017-18 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 (£8.899m in 2017-18) and the Council's levy (£201k in 2017-18).
- 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 homelessness, unemployment and poverty. 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 2017-18 annual budget of £8.899m (**paragraph 3.3**).
- 2.2. To agree, Islington's estimated contribution of £201k in 2017-18, a decrease of £19k on the 2016-17 contribution, excluding the one off £12k rebate on our 2016-17 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. It is likely that the 15% reduction in the overall programme due to the cessation of the capacity building programme will lead to a commensurate reduction in funding to Islington based organisations.

- 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. The 15% reduction in the overall programme is also likely to lead to a commensurate reduction in the benefit to borough residents.
- 3.3. The total budget for the scheme will be £8.899m in 2017-18. Total borough contributions will be reduced by £1.332m to £7.668m in 2017-18, as a result of the cessation of the capacity building programme from April 2017. Borough contributions towards administrative costs included in the above will be £0.4m in 2017-18, unchanged from 2016-17. The remainder will be financed by European Social Fund grants (£1m) and from Grants Committee reserves (£231k).
- 3.4. The Islington contribution to the scheme is expected to decrease from £220k in 2016-17 to £201k in 2017-18.

## 4. Implications

### Financial Implications

- 4.1. The 2017-18 levy is within the estimated budget.
- 4.2. The budget is subject to the agreement of London Councils Leaders Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and the agreement of two-thirds of London boroughs by the end of January 2017.

### Legal Implications

- 4.3. 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 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

### Residents Impact Assessment

- 4.4. 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.

### Final Report Clearance

Signed by



Executive Member for Finance, Performance and  
Community Safety

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](mailto:mark.badcock@islington.gov.uk)