

Resident Impact Assessment

Title of policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision: Community Festivals Fund small grants

Service Area: Employment, Skills and Culture

1. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, function etc?

The Community Festivals 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.

Proposal

It is proposed that the Community Festivals Fund be changed from an annual open competition to a grant programme where applicants are commissioned on a multi-year basis (3 year rounds) yet still required to report annually on the previous year's activities.

Key benefits

The revised three-year grant would see increased investment in a smaller number of strategic festivals that provide borough wide benefit and meet the council's priorities. This will also increase transparency and reduce the administrative costs considerably.

Restricting the funds to a set number of festivals will ensure that small community sector organisations do not waste their time and efforts applying for a very small pot of funding which is oversubscribed.

It is also anticipated that key proposed changes to the current funding criteria terms and conditions would:

- Provide a level of equity of council support across Islington's festivals.
 - Rationalise officer support for festivals focusing on advice and guidance rather than heavy administration.
 - Enable lead organisations to make strategic use of the core funding to lever additional grant funding from public sources.
 - Improve delivery of key council outcomes by providing programmes of arts and community engagement with local residents in the months preceding the festival and opportunities for local residents to perform at the festivals. It will also enable the festivals to plan ahead more effectively.
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- Avoid last minute funding allocations

Timetable

The proposal was presented at the Leadership Group meeting on 17 June 2019. It was agreed the Cultural Enrichment Team will write a paper to propose the changes to VCS Committee 4 November 2019 so recommendations can be implemented for festivals in the Summer 2020.

2. Resident Profile

Who is going to be impacted by this change i.e. residents/service users/tenants? Please complete data for your service users. If your data does not fit into the categories in this table, please copy and paste your own table in the space below. Please refer to **section 3.3** of the guidance for more information.

		Borough profile	Service User profile
		Total: 206,285	All groups
Gender	Female	51%	51%
	Male	49%	49%
Age	Under 16	32,825	32,825
	16-24	29,418	29,418
	25-44	87,177	87,177
	45-64	38,669	38,669
	65+	18,036	18,036
Disability	Disabled	16%	16%
	Non-disabled	84%	84%
Sexual orientation	LGBT	No data	No data
	Heterosexual/straight	No data	No data
Race	BME	52%	52%
	White	48%	48%
Religion or belief	Christian	40%	40%
	Muslim	10%	10%
	Other	4.5%	4.5%
	No religion	30%	30%
	Religion not stated	17%	17%

3. Equality impacts

With reference to the [guidance](#), please describe what are the equality and socio-economic impacts for residents and what are the opportunities to challenge prejudice or promote understanding?

The revised three-year grant would see increased investment in a smaller number of strategic festivals that provide borough wide benefit and meet the council’s priorities i.e. by providing programmes of arts and community engagement with local residents in the

months preceding the festival and opportunities for local residents to perform at the festivals. It will also enable the festivals to plan ahead engagement with disadvantaged groups more effectively.

Festivals will promote community involvement and 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.

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.

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, to actively take part in the festivals as audiences, participants and/or organizers:

- Disabled people
- Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee communities
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups
- Older people
- Young people
- Children

Applicants will need to detail in their proposals which of these groups will participate in the event and how they will encourage them to be involved. All festivals must be open and accessible to the general public and provide benefit across Islington, not just to the organisation's own members.

4. Safeguarding and Human Rights impacts

a) What safeguarding **risks** have been identified? Please provide bullet points below.

- None identified. Applicants must comply with relevant legislation regarding the activities being delivered:

- Where projects will involve event team members working alone with children, young people or vulnerable adults, the relevant lead event staff must have up to date Enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks.
- Staff and volunteers should be aware of who to contact if they are concerned a vulnerable adult is being abused or if they have concerns about a child or young person's welfare.
- Organisations/projects providing services or activities specifically for children/young people under 18 years or vulnerable adults must have in place appropriate safeguarding policies and procedures. These should be in line with Islington, London and national safeguarding policy and have been reviewed by the event organiser's management committee within the last two years.

5. Action

How will you respond to the impacts that you have identified in sections 3 and 4, or address any gaps in data or information?

For more information on identifying actions that will limit the negative impact of the policy for protected groups see the [guidance](#).

Action	Responsible person or team	Deadline
Develop new scheme including sound criteria and guidelines, RIA, new grant agreements and T&C.	Cultural Enrichment Team	October 2019
Organisations awarded a grant will be required to complete a participant's/audiences equalities information form annually. Develop an annual evaluation form to reflect this.	Cultural Enrichment Team	October 2019
Organisations working with children and vulnerable adults will be subject to onsite quality and safety audits; these would normally be scheduled, but may be unannounced if the council believes it has reasonable grounds for doing so.	Cultural Enrichment Team	Annually

Please send the completed RIA to equalites@islington.gov.uk and also make it publicly available online along with the relevant policy or service change.

This Resident Impact Assessment has been completed in accordance with the guidance and using appropriate evidence.

Staff member completing this form:

Signed: Angeles Gordo

Date: 11/09/2019

Head of Service or higher:

Signed: _____

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)