

Agenda item:

Title of meeting: Resources Portfolio Decision Making Meeting

Date of meeting: 12th March 2015

Subject: Support for the Voluntary and Community Sector 2015/2016

Report by: Preeti Sheth, Head of Integrated Commissioning Unit

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to make recommendations on the allocation of funding for the Voluntary & Community Sector in the grant year 2015/16

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Resources Portfolio Holder
- Agrees the allocation of funding for 2015/2016 in appendices 1-3

3. Background

- 3.1 As part of its support to the Voluntary & Community Sector, Portsmouth City Council normally operates an annual grant programme. In line with the previous year organisations currently receiving funding were invited to re-apply for grant funding for 2015/16. The decision was taken in recognition of the fact that due to budget savings grant funding has been reduced across the board over the past five years. If funding for grants is limited expectations can be raised unfairly by advertising an “open for all” programme. The closing date for applications for funding was 5th January 2015
- 3.2 The criteria for grant aid from portfolios are attached to this report (Appendix 4) and support each department’s recommendations. All applications are held by the Voluntary Sector Team in the Integrated Commissioning Unit and recorded on the central grants database.
- 3.3 The application form requires that bids support the themes of the Vision for Portsmouth and a monitoring form will be sent to ensure spending of the grant and progress towards targets and outcomes at the end of the year. All

applicants are required to provide accounts, evidenced organisational status and reserves policy in order to be eligible to receive a grant.

3.4 A list of grants awarded will be posted on the Portsmouth City Council Website, together with a link to this report and the accompanying appendices. We will continue to provide information about alternative sources of funding, including Lottery Funding and local funding streams, and a link to the Funding Central website.

3.5 Whilst the information presented in the following table is presented by service all voluntary grant applications are made to the Portsmouth City Council rather than to separate services within the city council. The applications are allocated to a service portfolio that is considered to be the best fit and then assessed accordingly.

Service	Total Grants Requested	Total Recommended
Resources	£18,965.00	£5,400.00
City Development & Cultural Services	£5,150.00	£3,942.00
Environment & Community Safety	£14,050.00	£8,000.00
Totals	£38,165.00	£17,342.00

4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 Recommendations are supported by portfolio holders in consultation with directorate grants officers.

5. Equality impact assessment (EIA)

5.1 An equality impact assessment is not required as the recommendations do not have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics as described in the Equality Act 2010.

6. Legal comments

6.1 The Council has the power to make discretionary grants upon such terms as it may consider appropriate. In deciding whether or not to make the grant it must consider each case on its own merits having regard to the recommendation.

7. Finance comments

7.1 The financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report and appendices. The proposed grants are included within the approved budget.

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Signed by:

Appendices:

- Appendices:**
- Appendix 1 Resources**
- Appendix 2 City Development and Cultural Services**
- Appendix 3 Environment & Community Safety**
- Appendix 4 Criteria for grant aid**

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Grant Application Form	Voluntary Sector Team
Grant Application Criteria	Voluntary Sector Team
Conditions of Use	Voluntary Sector Team

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: