

Committee: Cabinet

Agenda Item

Date: 12 January 2017

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Title: Voluntary Sector Grant Awards 2017/18

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Lesley Wells

Key decision: No

Summary

1. The Voluntary Support Grant Scheme provides funding to larger charities and voluntary organisations working in the district. A review of the award process was undertaken in early 2016 to consider where improvements could be made and a report was taken to Cabinet for approval in July.
2. The inaugural meeting of the Committee of the Cabinet has now been held and funding allocated by the award panel for the next two years has been confirmed.

Recommendations

3. None. This report is for information only.

Financial Implications

4. There are no recommendations in this report which would change the budgeted amount available for grant funding

Background Papers

5. None

Impact

- 6.

Communication/Consultation	All voluntary sector organisations that made applications for 2017/18 funding have been advised of the awards. Further consultation will be required to progress changes to this grant award scheme in the coming years.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal	None

Implications	
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

7. Due to the council currently not being in a position to commit to high levels of long term funding, it was agreed by Cabinet on 14 July that the period for the next award of Voluntary Support Grants was restricted to two years. It was also agreed by Cabinet at the same meeting that the scheme would be a rolling programme to help organisations plan for the future.
8. A presentation evening was held in November whereby all applicants for 2017/18 and 2018/19 grants presented their cases for funding. The decision to award grants at this point in the year enabled the council to align the grants process with its budget setting processes.
9. The table in Appendix One attached details the awards that have been approved.

Risk Analysis

10.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Governance arrangements are not sufficiently robust	1	3	Ensure changes to the VSG allocation process are implemented to improve accountability, value for money and transparency at all times
Major grant funding awards do not contribute towards the council's objectives	1	3	Ensure VSG review and allocation process includes consideration for an organisation's ability to support council objectives

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR APPROVED GRANT ALLOCATION 2017/18 AND 2018/19					
Organisation	Amount Funded 2016/17	Requested 2017/18	Requested 2018/19	Members Agreed Funding 2017/18	Members Agreed Funding 2018/19
REVENUE BUDGET					
Council for Voluntary Service, Uttlesford	£32,000	£36,000	£38,000	£34,000	£34,000
Uttlesford Community Travel	£38,000	£42,000	£43,000	£42,000	£42,000
Uttlesford Citizen Advice Bureau *	Core generalist & debt advice services	Core generalist & debt advice services			
	£117,487	£144,908	£154,150	£145,000	£145,000
	Money Dr project	Frontline			
	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
	Money Advice Project				
	£5,000				
	Debt Advice				
	£25,000				
Volunteer Uttlesford	£14,000	£24,530	£43,145	£16,000	£16,000
Support 4 Sight	£11,000	£20,300	£20,500	£12,000	£12,000
Citizens' Advice East Herts	£11,440	£11,554	£11,670	£11,500	£11,500
Home-Start Uttlesford	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£8,250	£8,250
Voluntary Sector Training	£6,000	£6,900	£7,475	£6,000	£6,000
Action for Families	£12,000	£14,493	£14,945	£14,500	£14,500
Hearing Help Essex	0	£2,000	£2,030	£2,000	£2,000
St Clare Hospice	0	£20,000	£20,000	£3,750	£3,750
Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association **	0	£15,000	£15,450	0	0
Dunmow Malting Preservation Trust ***	£4,000	£5,000	£5,000	£4,000	£4,000
Total Spend	£285,927	£352,685	£385,365	£304,000	£304,000
Total Budget – Voluntary Sector Grants	£286,570	£286,570		£286,570	£286,570
+ / - difference	£643	-£66,115		-£17,430	-£17,430
Contingency Budget	£8,700			£57,000	£57,000
CAPITAL BUDGET					
Uttlesford Community Travel ****	£13,000	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000
* Uttlesford CAB - 2016/17 allocation includes one-off payment for debt advice					
** No funding offered at this time. Consideration will be given in the future for capital expenditure (replacement of bus).					
*** 2017/18 and 2018/19 funding for Dunmow Maltings Preservation Trust to be set up as standalone grant					
**** Uttlesford Community Travel allocated £15,000 capital budget specifically for vehicle replacement.					
over/under allocation to be supported by Contingency Budget					