



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL CABINET
14 JUNE 2005

Report of the Director of Policy

Community Grants Budget Review

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To approve the revised criteria for the Community Grants Budget – CGB – for 2006/07.
- 1.2 To note that the criteria have already been considered by the Community Regeneration Commission.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The revised CGB criteria will assist decision-making and improve clarity between CGB and other Council grants.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 We have undertaken a review of the Community Grants Budget, involving the Cabinet Members for Community Regeneration, Social Care and Youth, and Lifelong Learning. This part of the review covered issues of clarity between CGB and other Council grants made by Social Services and Education.
- 3.2 We consulted the Voluntary Sector syndicate of the Compact Forum on the proposed changes to the criteria. The proposed criteria, attached at Appendix 1, have been fully revised to be more specific. This will assist decision-making and make it clearer to applicants whether or not they are eligible for CGB.
- 3.3 The three-year criteria now include organisations that provide voluntary sector infrastructure support on a neighbourhood basis.
- 3.4 Community Regeneration Commission considered the revised criteria on 10 May 2005 and supported the proposal. They suggested that the information provided to potential applicants should make clear that the criteria were not weighted in any way. This will be made clear in a covering letter sent to all potential CGB applicants.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4. None. The process of allocating the CGB for 2005/06 clearly demonstrated the need for change in 2006/07.

For more information contact: Emma Bates 01332 258539 e-mail emma.bates@derby.gov.uk
Background papers: Previous CGB themes and criteria on file in the Area and Neighbourhood Unit
List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications
Appendix 2 – Draft Community Grants Budget themes and criteria
Appendix 3 – Community Grants Budget – current criteria
Appendix 4 – Draft 2006/07 CGB Approval Timetable

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None directly arising. The Community Grants Budget for during 2005/06 is set at £846,323.

Legal

2. Each organisation receiving a grant is required to enter into a funding agreement with the Council. Continuation of three-year funding agreements is conditional upon a satisfactory annual review.

Personnel

3. None.

Equalities impact

4. The revised themes and criteria will clarify access for voluntary organisations to the Community Grant Budget. As the themes and criteria are more specific, it will also assist in clarity in the decision-making process.

Corporate objectives and priorities

- 5.1 The proposal comes under the Council's objectives of **healthy, safe and independent communities**, and **a shared commitment to regenerating our communities**.
- 5.2 The proposal furthers the priority of **working in partnership to achieve socially cohesive communities**.

Proposed Community Grants Budget Criteria

The Community Grants Budget – CGB – provides funding to voluntary and community sector organisations of over £2,000. It is only available for core revenue funding; project costs are not eligible. It does not support specialist service provision such as social care or education.

It provides both one-year and three-year grants.

All applications must meet one of these criteria:

1. To support voluntary and community sector infrastructure.
This means organisations that provide development support to the voluntary and community sector

or

2. To strengthen communities by:
 - a providing advice, information or advocacy, **or**
 - b supporting new and emerging communities, **or**
 - c supporting activities designed to develop socially excluded communities or access to services for those communities, **or**
 - d supporting organisations that have a specific role in taking forward neighbourhood development.

Three-year criteria

1. Organisations who are concerned with supporting voluntary and community sector infrastructure, city-wide or in Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy priority neighbourhoods

or

2. Organisations who play a strategic role in helping people to access information and advice on a city-wide basis.

Community Grants Budget – current themes and criteria

The Community Grants Budget – CGB – provides funding to voluntary and community organisations of over £2,000. It is only available for core revenue funding, project costs are not eligible.

It provides both one and three-year grants.

All applications must meet one of the following CGB themes

- To support the voluntary and community sector infrastructure - capacity building or training activities
- To make communities powerful - providing the opportunity for communities to take part and influence decision making processes
- To deliver services - deliver services around social inclusion, anti-poverty and social cohesion
- To test out and deliver innovative approaches - new approaches to services delivery.

Three-year funding criteria

Organisations need to meet one of the following criteria to be eligible for three year funding.

- Organisations concerned with supporting the voluntary and community sector infrastructure, city-wide. For example, "are you providing development support for voluntary or community groups?"
- Organisations who play a strategic role in partnership with the Council in supporting its service areas on a city wide basis.

Draft 2006/07 CGB Approval Timetable

18 April	Consultation – Compact Forum Voluntary Sector Syndicate
April	Regeneration Coordination
10 May	Community Regeneration Commission
14 June	CGB review of criteria to Council Cabinet
End May	Plan and agree publicity
1 st week of June	Send out CGB publicity with deadline for receipt of applications 2 September 0505
June - August	Send out application packs according to request
August - September	Annual Review of 3-year granted organisations carried out for the period April 2004 - August 2005
2 September	Deadline for receipt of applications
2 - 23 September	Appraisal process by VSS Team of new CGB applications
September	Compact Forum Fair
October	Appraisal Panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new CGB applications - review of 3-year grants: Panels confirm or otherwise continuation of funding. Recommendations form part of the normal CGB report to Cabinet.
November	Compact annual review
December / January 2006	Community Regeneration Commission
January 2006	Council Cabinet