218/08 Corporate and Adult Services Voluntary and Community Sector Grant Funding for 2009/10

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Corporate and Adult Services Voluntary and Community Sector Grant Funding for 2009/10. The report set out Corporate and Adult Services grant funding, from the Community Grants Budget (CGB), Adult Social Services and joint funding with partner agencies, to be provided to voluntary and community sector organisations in 2009/10.

Options Considered

There were no options considered.

Decision

- 1. To approve the proposed grant funding allocations for Corporate and Adult Services, set out in Appendix 2 of the report, subject to the final decision on the revenue budget made by Council.
- 2. To provide an inflationary increase of 2.5% across Council grant funding to the community and voluntary sector.
- 3. To advertise new grant funding opportunities to meet the day support needs of older people from the Indian community and to address the other identified gaps in grant funded support.
- To extend the Older and Disabled People's Groups programme for small grants, which aim to reduce social isolation and promote wellbeing.
- 5. To approve the changes to joint funding arrangements set out in the report.
- 6. To ask the Scrutiny Management Commission to carry out a fundamental review of grant funding across the Council.

Reasons

 Voluntary and community sector grant funding plays a key role in supporting corporate priorities, strengthening communities and delivering preventative services to vulnerable people. Recommendations for changes to grant funding arrangements were based on the results of reviews, incorporating value for money considerations, strategic priorities and anticipated increases in demand for some grant funded services, as a consequence of the economic downturn.

2. The recommended inflationary increase had been considered carefully in consultation with NHS Derby City and takes into consideration affordability as well as recent and projected inflationary changes.

219/08 Children's Social Care Voluntary and Community Sector Inflationary Increase for 2009/10

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Children's Social Care Voluntary and Community Sector Inflationary Increase for 2009/10. Children and Young People's Department currently provide funding for a range of voluntary and community sector projects. The outputs and outcomes of the activities of the projects meet the priorities and challenges identified in the Children and Young People's Plan CYPP 2008-2011. All of these projects are subject to an annual review process within the three year funding agreement.

Options Considered

None. The Council is committed to developing the role of the Voluntary and Community sector in delivering services.

Decision

- To approve the proposed grant funding allocations for Children's Services set out in Appendix 2 of the report, subject to the final decision on the revenue budget made by the Council.
- 2. To increase the projects funding listed in Appendix 2 of the report by 2.5% from 1 April 2009. This inflationary increase was being recommended for grant funding across all Council departments. Payments would be subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of Funding Agreements.
- 3. To ask the Scrutiny Management Commission to carry out a fundamental review of grant funding across the Council.

Reasons

There were no reasons.

220/08 Annual Arts Grants 2009/10

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Annual Arts Grants 2009/10. We had scrutinised the options for the allocation of arts grants for 2009/10. A total of 12 organisations had applied for Arts Grants in 2009/10. All of these were organisations which received arts grants in 2008/09. The annual review process had highlighted four organisations with low performance. These

would be closely monitored over the next year and recommended to have their grant removed in 2010/11 if there was no improvement in performance. Additional revenue funding awarded to QUAD as agreed by Cabinet on 30 November 2004 had now been incorporated into their annual grant total. The additional funding was £194,000 in 2008/09 and would be £200,000 in 2009/10. The funding allocated for produced theatre in Derby to be awarded to Derby LIVE for this purpose. The total level of Annual Arts Grants for 2009/10 was £942,988.

Options Considered

There were no options considered.

Decision

- 1. To approve the allocation of arts grants for 2009/10 as detailed in the report, subject to the approval of the Council's budget in March 2009.
- 2. To ask the Scrutiny Management Commission to carry out a fundamental review of grant funding across the Council.

Reasons

- 1. Arts grants achieve three important objectives:
 - The first was to sustain and, where possible, increase the capacity of those organisations which were doing most to assist the Council in the achievement of its aims and priorities, as assessed through the Performance Matrix process.
 - The second was to sustain organisations which provided continuity in the calendar of arts and cultural opportunities in the city.
 - The third was to nurture new organisations as they build up their expertise and capacity. This was an investment in the future cultural life of Derby.
- In most cases the Council's grants were used as match funding in bids to external sources. Our grants were directed where they would maximise this total income for arts activity.

226/08 Local Area Agreement Refresh and Financial Planning

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Local Area Agreement Refresh and Financial Planning. In developing our new Local Area Agreement, LAA, for 2008-2011, the limited timeframe, lack of final definitions and minimal

baseline data from Central Government, meant that not all of the 35 measures in the LAA had confirmed targets by the time the document was submitted to Government in June 2008. The Government recognised that this was a national issue and asked all LAAs to undergo a one off refresh process to:

- set targets where they were not able to be set before the sign off
- amend targets which were already set but where they are now felt to be unrealistic.

In relation to changing targets that had already been set it should be noted that Government Office for the East Midlands, GOEM, hade advised that if the only reason to change a target was because of the economic impact then the target should not be changed. Their reasoning behind this, was because the effects of the economic impact were currently unknown and unachievable targets could therefore be changed to equally unrealistic levels.

Derby's refresh of the LAA was currently underway and would run until 27 March 2009 when all target changes must have been agreed with GOEM and submitted in the refreshed document for Government. The Area Based Grant - ABG - funding was one of the funding streams that supported the LAA and the majority of ABG supports Council service delivery. Partners were being asked as part of their financial planning that they report how ABG funding was being allocated and/or realigned to support the relevant LAA priorities. This process would also help support the refresh of the LAA, and progress towards our aim for a successful Comprehensive Area Assessment in 2009. Section 3 of the report covered the completeness of the current 2008-2011 LAA and highlighted areas which were to be addressed during the LAA refresh process. The principles behind the 2009/10 Area based Grant would be reported to Cabinet as a separate report on the same agenda. Section 4 details proposals for conducting the LAA refresh process, key dates, and how members, key council officers and partners would be engaged in the process. Section 5 focused on aspects of LAA financial planning for 2008/09-2010/11.

Options Considered

There were no options.

Decision

- 1. To note the indicator targets that were to be reviewed during the 2009 Refresh process.
- 2. To refer report to Scrutiny Management Commission for information and feedback their comments.
- 3. To approve the passporting of the additional £57,000 Area Based Grant amounts received in 2008/09 onto the funded agency.

Reasons

There were no reasons.