



one Derby one council

Voluntary Sector Grant Aid Strategy 2011 – 2015

Issue 1 May 2011

Introduction

This document is based upon information contained in the 14th December 2010 Cabinet Report that introduced the Voluntary Sector Grant Aid Strategy 2011 - 2015 and the 12th April 2011 Cabinet Report that amended the strategy following consultation with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), service users, partner agencies and the general public. One of the key recommendations approved by Council cabinet on 12th April was to revise the strategy to bring it in line with the final version of the Derby Plan and Council Plan, reflecting the six key outcomes of the Derby Plan.

Background

The Council is facing unprecedented challenge in its role as a place-shaper, commissioner and provider of public services. It is becoming the most efficient Council it can through the One Derby One Council transformation programme. However local government will have significantly less resources over the next four years as steps are taken by the government to improve the country's financial situation.

The Government has significantly reduced local authority grants over the next four year period. Derby City Council has an estimated savings target of £58m over the period and is required to save £27m during 2011/12. This will mean significant challenges for all service areas including grant funded services. The target savings from grant aided services over the period amount to £845k. Given this financial situation it will be even more imperative that all grant funded services provide excellent value for money, produce positive outcomes for people and support the City's and the Council's plans and objectives.

Grant aid is not the only way that the Council supports the VCS as funding is also provided through contracts with the sector. Opportunities for contracting with the sector are likely to increase as part of the changing role of the Council and the One Derby, One Council transformation programme. The Council also recognises the contribution the VCS makes, through consultation and participation in multi agency partnerships, to the joint planning and development of new services for the local community.

The Council acknowledges the significant contribution of the VCS in maintaining and improving the quality of life for the local community. The strategy builds on the positive partnerships that the Council has developed with many voluntary organisations, and the commitments made in the Compact between the Council and the VCS.

Strategic Objectives

This strategy seeks to provide a framework to maximise the value and benefit of voluntary sector support to the people of Derby through grant aid. As stated earlier, it is important to recognise that this is not the only way the Council will give funding to the sector. It will still remain an important partner in the

provision of contracted services and those opportunities are likely to grow, as the Council takes a fundamental look at how services are provided.

Derby City Council wants to contribute to building a strong, cohesive society where families, networks, neighbourhoods and communities work together to build a strong community where people:

- Shape local services through active participation in the planning, design and delivery of services
- Problem solve on local issues
- Participate in local spending decisions such as the devolved Neighbourhood budgets
- Provide mutual aid and assistance to each other
- Increase civic participation

We believe the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector has a key role in helping us achieve these objectives.

The Strategy does:

- Focus Council grant aid funding on services that support the final version of the Derby Plan, the Council Plan and offer excellent value for money
- Maximise the benefit of Council grant funding for local residents
- Contribute toward creating a strong cohesive society where families, networks and neighbourhoods work together to build a stronger communities

Derby Plan, Council Plan and Grant Strategy Outcomes

The Grant Aid Strategy outcomes have been aligned with the final version of the Derby Plan and the Council Plan. Table 1 overleaf shows the link between each Grant Aid Strategy outcome and the two aforementioned plans.

Table 1 Relationship Between Derby Plan/Council Plan Outcomes and the Voluntary Sector Grant Aid Strategy Outcomes

| Derby/Council Plan Outcomes | VCS Grant Aid Strategy Outcomes: We will commission services that |
|---|---|
| All people in Derby will enjoy a thriving sustainable economy | Support economic growth by developing a vibrant cultural environment that will attract and retain talent. |
| | Develop Derby as a cultural destination with festivals playing a key role by increasing footfall in the city centre and attracting visitors. |
| All people in Derby will enjoy achieving their learning potential | Enable children and young people to be included in mainstream learning or activities that reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training, particularly teenage parents, young people with disabilities and young people who have been in the care system. |
| All people in Derby will enjoy good health and well-being | Prevent escalation to more intensive support services and provide an early intervention if something has happened to stop things getting worse. |
| | Provide advocacy, information and advice, so that people are able to access health, social care and universal support services to get the help they need, including help with support planning and brokerage. |
| All people in Derby will enjoy being safe and feeling safe | Provide targeted family intervention services which reduce the number of children and young people coming into care. |
| | Provide targeted support to protect young people at risk of experiencing exploitation |
| | Support young people to engage in positive activities, leading to reduced antisocial behaviour |

| Derby/Council Plan Outcomes | VCS Grant Aid Strategy Outcomes: We will commission services that |
|--|--|
| All people in Derby will enjoy a strong community | Support voluntary and community sector infrastructure support (second tier) organisations that help support and develop the sector |
| All people in Derby will enjoy an active cultural life | "Offer a creative approach to providing arts activities that will inspire achievement and contribute to personal wellbeing and confidence within communities." |