

COUNCIL CABINET

21 FEBRUARY 2012

Key Decisions

150/11 Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Grant Aid Funding 2011-2015

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Grant Aid Funding 2011-2015. The Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) Sector Grant Aid Funding report approved by Council Cabinet on 27 September 2011 contained a recommendation to provisionally agree to no longer fund 19 currently funded organisations. A final decision on funding was to be taken following a detailed Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) and further consultation with these organisations, their service users and the wider community.

The report summarised the outcomes of the EIA and consultation process, making recommendations for future funding of 18 of these organisations. The remaining organisation would be the subject of a further report as outlined at paragraph 1.3 of the report.

The Children and Young People's Grant Aid was available for one year from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 to the value of £150,000. NHS Derby City had also allocated an additional £89,950 to the voluntary and community sector for children's services in 2012/13. Council officers had worked in partnership to ensure this funding was complementary to Council funding and supported sustainability within the voluntary and community sector. Consultation was still ongoing with Osmaston Family project identified in the Council Cabinet report of 27 September 2011. The outcomes from this would be reported to Council Cabinet in March 2012.

A summary of the consultation response was included in Appendix 2 of the report. The document contained selected key consultation metrics and recommendations for future funding of organisations. It also contained an assessment of the impact and any mitigating actions that may reduce the impact.

Appendix 3 of the report detailed the current funding and recommended future funding level for each organisation. The recommendation was to continue to fund 3 organisations: 2 for the full grant funding period, and 1 for the year 2012/13 only.

When making a decision on this matter Council Cabinet must have "due regard" to its duties under the Equalities Act 2010 which were set out in more detail in the Legal Implications in Appendix 1 of the report. In doing so Council Cabinet must take account of the impact the financial proposals could have on different equality groups and consider ways of mitigating or avoiding any adverse impact.

To assist Members make an informed decision on these matters a full Equalities Impact Assessment had been carried out and the results were set out in Appendix 4

of the report. A summary of the equalities impact assessment findings was contained in Appendix 1 of the report.

During the consultation period, four petitions were received containing 2404 validated signatures. Details were provided in Appendix 5 of the report.

Appendix 6 of the report was a list of correspondence to the Council from organisations and key individuals taking part in the consultation.

Appendix 7 of the report was a report which summarised and presented the findings of the consultation exercise.

Options Considered

To continue funding these organisations. However this would cause the Council to overspend its available budget requiring savings to be made from other areas.

Decision

1. To approve the funding recommendations listed in Appendix 3 of the report for individual organisations.
2. To approve the serving of 12 weeks notice on all organisations listed in Appendix 3 of the report from week commencing 27 February 2012.

Reasons

1. The consultation and equalities impact assessment carried out on the organisations listed in Appendix 3 of the report had identified 3 services that were recommended for continued funding and 15 that were recommended for ending funding. Those services recommended for funding received a strong favourable consultation response, demonstrate good value for money, had a broad impact and support key adult social care and health outcomes in the Derby Plan.
2. Where funding agreements were to be terminated, 12 weeks notice was required in accordance with the Derby Compact.
3. In order to put new agreements in place for the 3 organisations recommended for continued funding in Appendix 3 of the report, their current agreements needed to be terminated with 12 weeks notice in accordance with the Derby Compact.