
BUDGET FOR GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2016/17

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the 2016/17 budget for grants to voluntary organisations.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council operates an annual small grants scheme to local voluntary and community organisations which meet eligibility criteria. The annual grant given to the Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service (RRAVS) is also awarded through this process.

3 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE AWARDING OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

- 3.1 It has been agreed previously by the Executive that the total grant allocation budget for each year would be agreed by Full Council. Once agreed, a Portfolio Holder Advisory Group comprising the Leader of the Council, the Portfolio Holder for Finance, the Leader of the main opposition Group and three additional Members will consider the applications. The deadline for completed applications was 20 November 2015.
- 3.2 Applications for grant funding have been open to all voluntary groups operating in the District from late September to mid November. RRAVS will receive top sliced funding from the revenue pot based on the previous year's performance in relation to their Service Level Agreement and action plan.
- 3.3 In previous years the Rochford and Rayleigh Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) was funded through this process. However, from April 2016 a new advice services contract will be awarded for three years set at £70,000 per year. Therefore, CAB funding will no longer be part of this process.

4 RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Approval of the budget for grants to voluntary organisations before the end of December 2015 ensures that the Council gives local groups enough time to plan their budgets for 2016/17. This meets Statutory Best Value Guidance. Failure to do so would hinder this budgetary planning.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The 2016/17 budget for grants to voluntary organisations to be set at £35,000.

6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES** that the 2016/17 budget for grants to voluntary organisations be set at £35,000.



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Background Papers:-

None.

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