



Grant Working Party 11 December 2012

2013/2014 Core Funding Applications from Voluntary Organisations

1. Summary and reasons for recommendations

- 1.1 In line with the Grants Policy, each year the Council awards core funding grants to a variety of organisations. As Members will recall, the bulk of the funding was allocated to organisations for a 4-year period (Report C252 refers). However, some organisations who were not considered to be making a direct contribution to Council service delivery were given notice that they would be provided with funding for a final year in 2012/2013. This approach has given limited opportunity for some new applicants to apply for Core Funding.

This report brings to the Working Party all the applications received for funding for 2013/2014. If Members of Grant Working Party wish to have more detailed information about any of the applications, officers will be happy to provide it.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that, subject to the budget setting process, the grants proposed for the respective voluntary organisations for 2013/2014, as detailed in Sections 6 to 8 of Report D220, be approved.

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3. Corporate priorities/Strategic Priorities

3.1 The recommendation meets the following, as contained within the Corporate Plan:

(a) Corporate priority: *'Working together for Strong, Healthy and Diverse Communities.'*; and

(b) Vision 2025: St Edmundsbury will be a place:

V:He3 where local support networks for the whole community are on hand to provide advice on emotional and physical wellbeing;

V:He4 with an excellent range of opportunities and access for people with disabilities;

V:He5 where measures are in place to allow an ageing population to remain in their own homes for longer and, when this is no longer an option, to offer a range of safe, staffed alternatives; and

V:He6 which is one of the safest Boroughs in England in which to live and work and where crime rates continue to be below the national average.

4. Key issues

4.1 Categories of grant applicants

To assist the Working Party in considering applications and the contribution organisations make to achieving the Council's responsibilities, applicants have been divided into categories. Last year the following headings were applied to assist members in making their decisions, however, this year there are not applications for every category:

(a) those that make a direct contribution to Council service delivery;

(b) voluntary infrastructure organisations;

(c) Countryside and In Bloom organisations;

(d) organisations with general charitable objectives; and

(e) organisations which support Substance Misuse projects

5. Funding available

5.1 Core Funding

5.1.1 Due to a number of organisations not receiving year-on-year funding this year, up to £6,050 is available to be allocated to new applications. A total of 3 new organisations have come forward requesting financial support totalling £18,300 for 2013/2014, one of which has requested £42,000 over three years

5.1.2 Substance Misuse Projects

Members will recall a funding of £5,000 was allocated to projects which support Substance Misuse issues (Report C254 refers). No applications for this funding were received in 2012/2013, however one organisation has come forward for 2013/2014 and the details are given at paragraph 8.1 below.

6. Voluntary Infrastructure Organisations

- 6.1 Members will recall that the three organisations the Council currently supports i.e. Bury Volunteer Centre, Haverhill Volunteer Centre and Haverhill Association of Voluntary Organisations (HAVO), are working with other partners across Suffolk to create a single county-wide infrastructure organisation. This is work in progress but there is a detailed programme plan in place to ensure that the new organisation is established and operating from 1 April 2013.

The three partner organisations that operate in St Edmundsbury and the Transforming Local Infrastructure – Suffolk Project Team are all keen to ensure that the new organisation is able to continue to carry out work in St Edmundsbury that will provide much needed services and support to frontline organisations and communities.

In the previous financial year, the Council provided a total of £21,000 out of which rental income for the shared office space in Haverhill was recouped from Haverhill Volunteer Centre and the costs of accommodation were covered by the Council for HAVO by internal transfer.

This year the new organisation, now known as Community Action Suffolk (CAS), has requested the same level of funding but has also requested the Council consider providing some office space free of charge to enable them to have a base in Bury St Edmunds.

Recommendation (1)

That £21,000 is awarded to Community Action Suffolk for 3 years, with a 2 year review, to provide infrastructure support to the voluntary sector in St Edmundsbury. This includes a sum for Haverhill Volunteer Centre to cover the cost of accommodation and the continuation of support to the organisation which is currently HAVO to cover the costs for the accommodation by internal transfer.

7. Charities/community organisations not contributing directly to the Borough Council service delivery

The following organisations are new applicants. All perform a useful service to the community but do not directly contribute to the Council's objectives:

7.1 St Edmundsbury Newstalk

Newstalk provides weekly audio recordings of news taken from local newspapers for blind and partially sighted listeners in the St Edmundsbury area enabling them to keep in touch with what is happening in their local communities. It also provides bi-monthly audio magazines featuring interviews, short stories and articles of local interest. Around 110 St Edmundsbury residents benefit from the free service.

St Edmundsbury Newstalk is requesting £2,700 to assist with Core Funding expenses. The organisation does not contribute directly to the Council's service delivery.

Recommendation (2)

That no award be made to St Edmundsbury Newstalk

7.2 Out & About

Out & About enables disabled children and young people, aged from 5 - 25 to become fully included in local, activities such as Cubs, Brownies, sports clubs and after school clubs by recruiting young people as volunteers and training them to provide support to their disabled peers within leisure activities. Out & About is requesting £14,000 per year for 3 years to recruit a part-time Inclusion Coordinator. Over the course of the project it expects 100 children and young people will have benefitted from the project. Although Out & About provides a valuable local service, it does not contribute directly to service delivery.

Recommendation (3)

That no award is made to Out & About.

7.3 Bury St Edmunds Foodbank

An existing recipient of grant funding, Gatehouse Caring in West Suffolk, are looking to set up a foodbank in Bury St Edmunds in response to increasing demand from families who are experiencing hardship. There is currently no town-wide foodbank and this project seeks to build on the ad-hoc provision from various churches in the town. The project will provide a co-ordinated approach and link into necessary public sector and other services. Gatehouse has sought the bulk of the funding for the project from elsewhere, but is asking the Council for £1,600 to make up the shortfall. The project will support a number of clients who come into direct contact with services provided by the Council including through Homelessness and Benefits.

Recommendation (4)

That £1,600 is awarded to the Foodbank project for 3 years with a 2 year review.

8. Substance Misuse Projects

8.1 Open Road are proposing to offer drug and alcohol recovery services to people living within Haverhill and the surrounding area. The services will:

- (a) reduce and prevent use of illegal drugs and alcohol and minimise their harm;
- (b) provide treatment and recovery for service users and improve their self-care and living skills;
- (c) increase community well-being, by developing meaningful social networks; and
- (d) reduce anti-social behaviour related to drug and alcohol misuse.

As part of the structured day programme, service users will participate in a range of activities including healthy eating workshops, basic cooking and

nutritional skills, IT and computing workshops and skills to develop and enhance their education, qualifications and employability

The majority of the funding for the project is being sought through Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) and is supported by volunteer time. Open Road are requesting £2,500 from the Substance Misuse allocation.

Recommendation (5)

That Open Road is awarded funding of £2,500 for three years with a two-year review.

9. Other options considered

9.1 No other options were considered

10. Community impact

10.1 Crime and Disorder impact

There will be no impact on Crime and Disorder

10.2 Diversity and Equality impact

There will be no impact on diversity and equality

10.3 Sustainability impact

There will be no impact on Sustainability

11. Other impact

These recommendations will have a positive impact on communities within the Borough by enhancing services to a range of local people.

12. Consultation

Internal consultation has taken place with other officers

13. Financial and resource implications

These recommendations will be met through the existing Core Funding Budget.

14. Risk/opportunity assessment

Risk area	Inherent level of risk (before controls)	Controls	Residual risk (after controls)
	High/Medium/Low		High/Medium/Low

15. Legal and policy implications

There are no legal and policy implications

16. Ward(s) affected

All

17. Background papers

None

18. Documents attached

Core Grants Scoring Matrices attached as Appendix A.

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Core Grants Scoring Matrix**Name** **Open Road****Date** **December 2012**

Criteria	This application	Score
Grant Scheme	Core Funding 2013- 2014	N/A
Summary of Organisation Services	Open Road is a charity, based in East Anglia. Open Road provides services for individuals, families and local communities affected by drug and alcohol addictions. Providing a range of services including group support sessions, counselling, practical help with housing and benefits and support with education training and employment.	N/A
Amount requested	£2,500	N/A
Projected Annual Costs	£21,628	N/A
External Funding Sources	1 pt. = Up to 50% external funding 3 pts. = 50 to 75% external funding 5 pts = Over 75% external funding	5
Council's core Objectives	Section numbers that apply from Corporate Plan. 1 pt = Up to 5 and 3 pts = 6 to 11.	1
Risk to the Council	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5pts.) Example of low priority is something that does not cause a loss of service by the Council.	1
Risk to the Bidder	Low (1 pt.), Medium (2 pts.) or High (3 pts.) An example of a high priority is the loss of a service which is important/vital to the community.	2
Community Impact	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5 pts.) High priority will generate increased usage, increased social inclusion and benefit others.	5
Number of Beneficiaries	The number of people benefiting from the service whilst taking into account the importance of the organisation to the community.	100+
Additional Information		N/A

Total Score 14.. (Maximum score 24)

Core Grants Scoring Matrix

Name **Bury Foodbank**

Date **December 2012**

Criteria	This application	Score
Grant Scheme	Core Funding 2013- 2014	N/A
Summary of Organisation Services	This project seeks to build on the existing goodwill of churches and community groups to deliver a town-wide FoodBank that is properly co-ordinated and links in with the necessary public services, ensuring all those in need, are aware of and able to access the FoodBank in times of crisis. In doing so the FoodBank will make certain that unnecessary hardship is avoided by individuals and families	N/A
Amount requested	£1,600	N/A
Projected Annual Costs	£5,630	N/A
External Funding Sources	1 pt. = Up to 50% external funding 3 pts. = 50 to 75% external funding 5 pts = Over 75% external funding	3
Council's core Objectives	Section numbers that apply from Corporate Plan. 1 pt = Up to 5 and 3 pts = 6 to 11.	1
Risk to the Council	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5pts.) Example of low priority is something that does not cause a loss of service by the Council.	1
Risk to the Bidder	Low (1 pt.), Medium (2 pts.) or High (3 pts.) An example of a high priority is the loss of a service which is important/vital to the community.	1
Community Impact	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5 pts.) High priority will generate increased usage, increased social inclusion and benefit others.	5
Number of Beneficiaries	The number of people benefiting from the service whilst taking into account the importance of the organisation to the community.	300
Additional Information		N/A

Total Score 11. (Maximum score 24)

Core Grants Scoring Matrix

Name **Bury St Edmunds NewsTalk**

Date **December 2012**

Criteria	This application	Score
Grant Scheme	Core Funding 2013- 2014	N/A
Summary of Organisation Services	This project provides recorded information for the blind and partially sighted	N/A
Amount requested	£2,700	N/A
Projected Annual Costs	£5,400	N/A
External Funding Sources	1 pt. = Up to 50% external funding 3 pts. = 50 to 75% external funding 5 pts = Over 75% external funding	1
Council's core Objectives	Section numbers that apply from Corporate Plan. 1 pt = Up to 5 and 3 pts = 6 to 11.	1
Risk to the Council	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5pts.) Example of low priority is something that does not cause a loss of service by the Council.	1
Risk to the Bidder	Low (1 pt.), Medium (2 pts.) or High (3 pts.) An example of a high priority is the loss of a service which is important/vital to the community.	2
Community Impact	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5 pts.) High priority will generate increased usage, increased social inclusion and benefit others.	1
Number of Beneficiaries	The number of people benefiting from the service whilst taking into account the importance of the organisation to the community.	110
Additional Information	This is an entirely free service and the running of it relies completely on donations and grant aid	

Total Score 6 (Maximum score 24)

Core Grants Scoring Matrix

Name **Out and About**

Date **December 2012**

Criteria	This application	Score
Grant Scheme	Core Funding 2013- 2014	N/A
Summary of Organisation Services	Out and About helps children and young people with disabilities access mainstream recreational activities such as brownies/cubs etc	N/A
Amount requested	£14,00 pa for 3 years	N/A
Projected Annual Costs	£29,342	N/A
External Funding Sources	1 pt. = Up to 50% external funding 3 pts. = 50 to 75% external funding 5 pts = Over 75% external funding	3
Council's core Objectives	Section numbers that apply from Corporate Plan. 1 pt = Up to 5 and 3 pts = 6 to 11.	2
Risk to the Council	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5pts.) Example of low priority is something that does not cause a loss of service by the Council.	1
Risk to the Bidder	Low (1 pt.), Medium (2 pts.) or High (3 pts.) An example of a high priority is the loss of a service which is important/vital to the community.	2
Community Impact	Low (1 pt.), Medium (3 pts.) or High (5 pts.) High priority will generate increased usage, increased social inclusion and benefit others.	3
Number of Beneficiaries	The number of people benefiting from the service whilst taking into account the importance of the organisation to the community.	80 (over 3 years)
Additional Information	Out & About have experienced a drop of 53% in funding due to cuts from SCC and charitable giving, The funding requested is to fund a p/t inclusion officer	

Total Score 10 (Maximum score 24)