
Report To:	Regeneration Committee	Date:	12th May 2011
Report By:	Corporate Director- Regeneration and Environment	Report No:	RC/11/05/11/SJ
Contact Officer:	Stuart Jamieson	Contact No:	01475 712402
Subject:	Grants to Voluntary Organisation – Commissioned Funding		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the review of the commissioned element of Grants to Voluntary Organisations and make recommendations in principal of funding durations to types of organisations.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Inverclyde Council has allocated in excess of £400,000 per annum over the last three years through the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Sub-Committee.
- 2.2 The Grants to Voluntary Organisations Sub-Committee decided in 2008 to allocate 3 years funding to a number of organisations, with a total annual allocation of some £196,000. As the funding period was drawing to a close, a review of the type of activity funded was carried out to ensure that the approach remains fit for purpose should the Sub-Committee decide to adopt a similar approach, subject to budget availability, going forward.
- 2.3 Sixteen different organisations have benefitted from this programme with grants ranging from £1000 p.a. to £50,000 p.a. The review has also identified that a number of organisations have been funded through the discretionary funding element of the budget and consideration should be given to adding them to the commissioned element.
- 2.4 In parallel with this review, a review has been carried out on the ten service areas identified in the Commissioning Workstream. It has become apparent that there is an element of cross funding to some of the organisations benefitting from grants in this programme.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That Members note that following the review of activities it remains appropriate that the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Sub-Committee should give consideration to allocating up to three year funding to suitable organisations, subject to budgetary considerations.

Stuart Jamieson
Head of Regeneration and Planning

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde Council has allocated in excess of £400,000 per annum over the last three years through the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Sub-Committee.
- 4.2 The budget is split between commissioned grants and small grants, a review of the small grants scheme is covered under a separate report on the agenda.
- 4.3 The Grants to Voluntary Organisations Sub-Committee decided in 2008 to allocate 3 years funding to a number of organisations, with an annual allocation of some £196,000. As the funding period was drawing to a close, a review of the type of activity funded was carried out to ensure that the approach remains fit for purpose should the Sub-Committee decide to adopt a similar approach, subject to budget availability, going forward.
- 4.4 The organisations which have benefitted from this funding regime are as follows:-
 - CVS Inverclyde
 - Victim Support Inverclyde
 - Sport Inverclyde
 - Port Glasgow Voluntary Transport Group
 - Inverclyde Women's Aid
 - Inverclyde Phoenix Car Club
 - Inverclyde Music Festival Association
 - Inverclyde Council on Disability
 - Inverclyde Autistic Support Group
 - Inverclyde Arts Board
 - Inverclyde & District Battalion Boys Brigade
 - Greenock Arts Guild
 - Greenock & District Scout Council
 - Gourock Youth Athletic Group
 - Gourock Garden Party Committee
 - IVCSS
- 4.5 The grants awarded have been used to support running costs, core services, development costs and event costs. Three year funding has allowed for the organisations to plan ahead with some certainty of a funding source.
- 4.6 An equitable approach has been adopted in the implementation of this programme. As part of the review it has become apparent, however, that a number of organisations with similar purposes eg other uniformed organisations, have been funded from the discretionary element of the fund.
- 4.7 In parallel with this review, a review has been carried out on the ten service areas identified in the Commissioning Workstream. As part of the mapping exercise carried out under the Commissioning Workstream it has been shown that there is an element of cross funding to some of the organisations benefitting from grants in this programme. For this reason it would be proposed that such organisations would not receive three year funding. Rather they would receive one year funding pending the review of the Commissioning Model, with a view to simplifying their funding models, where appropriate.
- 4.8 Documentation has been revised for this type of grant in order that organisations are able to highlight the impact of their grant funding.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance:

Financial Implications – One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
	n/a	n/a		n/a	N/a

Financial Implications – Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Personnel: N/A.

Legal: N/A

Equalities: Equality and diversity processes comply with EU requirements. Equal Opportunities, Issues of Gender & Disability and Social Inclusion have been addressed in the design of this programme.