

Subject:	Three Year Strategic Grants 2010-13: Decision on Outline Bid Applications		
Date of Meeting:	21 May 2009		
Report of:	Anthony Zacharzewski: Acting Director Strategy & Governance		
Contact Officer:	Name:	John Routledge: Communities Team Manager	Tel: 29-1112
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Key Decision:	Yes	Forward Plan No : CAB9429	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Decision on invitation to Full Bid stage covering 98 Outline Bid applications for Three Year Strategic Grant funding 2010-13 from community & voluntary sector organisations with an income of over £35,000 pa.

For a simple overview on each applicant organisation and how requested grant monies would be used in support of associated work please see Appendix 1: "Narrative Summary of Applicant Organisations & Purpose of Grant".

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet agree to invite the recommended 74 applicants to Full Bid Stage for Three Year Strategic Grants 2010-13.

For a summary of applicants that are recommended for invitation to Full Bid please see Appendix 2: "Outline Bid Recommendations".

Please note that applicants not invited to Full Bid but recommended for an alternative support package are highlighted in grey and those not currently in receipt of three year grant are italicised.

- 2.2 That Cabinet also agree the recommended alternative support package where appropriate for the 24 applicants not invited to Full Bid stage.

Please see Appendices 1 & 2 above plus Appendix 3: "Narrative Summary of Alternative Support Package".

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Following a process of consultation with service heads, and the council's cross-party Members Advisory Group on Grants (MAG), Cabinet (20 November 2008) agreed recommendations to consolidate & build upon the council's corporate discretionary grants programme for 2010-13. This includes a new 'vision' for grants accompanied by four updated eligibility criteria reflecting new corporate priorities.

For additional narrative encompassing strategic background and the wider context for Brighton & Hove City Council 'grant giving' please see Appendix 4: "Vision, Criteria & Practical Examples".

- 3.2 Cabinet also agreed size of programme budget 'to be determined by the 2010-11 budget strategy subject to council financial position, the indicative amount being equivalent to the 2008-09 budget level plus appropriate inflationary uplift (approx £1,584,000 pa. please see 5.1)'.

Thus budget available for Three Year Strategic Grants is approx £1.25M pa. with the remainder to be allocated each year across the 7 schemes that comprise council's complementary Annual Grants Programme for 2010-13.

- 3.3 Finally Cabinet agreed a two stage application process defined as Outline & Full Bid stages.

For all the key dates in this process please see Appendix 5: "Timetable for Decision Making".

The specific allocation of individual grants comes at Full Bid stage later in the year and a dedicated Cabinet Report (3 December 2009) will be produced in this regard.

Outline Bid stage is designed to identify those robust organisations where it is anticipated that a Full Bid would have a real opportunity to secure grant monies. It is also designed to identify as early as possible those applicants that may not yet be ready for Three Year Strategic funding, or do not fully meet programme criteria, and to identify an alternative support package where appropriate.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 98 Outline Bid applications were received following application deadline earlier this year requesting in total £2,458,272 pa. for the period 2010-13. Please see Appendix 1 above.
- 4.2 MAG met on 26 March 2009 to discuss progress made and agreed that, to support Cabinet in decision making on all bids, the following appraisal process would be undertaken for each application:

- **Initial eligibility check** covering nature of organisation, criteria fit & area of benefit
- **Full technical appraisal** covering governance arrangements, finances / accounts & funding relationships with council / other major funders
- **Consultation with service heads** to address wider strategic impact, council links & partnership working etc. framed within 'discussion groups' and covering 18 specific service specialisms (please see Appendix 6: "Officer Engagement & Consultation")

MAG met again on 23 April to consider all completed appraisal reports and agreed cross-party support of the following recommendations to Cabinet.

- 4.3 It is recommended that 74 applicants are invited to Full Bid stage and 24 applicants not invited to Full Bid offered an alternative support package where appropriate. Please Appendices 2 & 3 above.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Financial Implications:

Outline Bid stage is not about the immediate allocation of grant monies, however, the recommendations will have potential budget implications at both Three Year Full Bid stage and in the later allocation of Annual Grant monies, where this programme is identified as part of an alternative support package.

The total indicative grant programme budget is anticipated at £1,584,000 pa for the years 2010/11 to 2012/13 however this is subject to resources being available to fund the programme in each of the three years.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley – Head of Financial Services
Date: 29 April 2009*

5.2 Legal Implications:

The appraisal process referred to in section 4 is a reasonable one and there are no immediate legal implications arising.

Lawyer Consulted: Bob Bruce – Principal Solicitor Date: 5 May 2009

5.3 Equalities Implications:

Actions to promote equalities issues are prioritised in the vision & criteria for grant aid as outlined above.

A number of Three Year Strategic Grant recommendations directly address & support equalities issues. In addition specialist annual grant schemes identified as part of an alternative support package also address key council strategies in this regard.

An Equalities Impact Assessment is underway & ongoing. It is due for completion later in 2009.

5.4 Sustainability Implications:

Actions to promote sustainability issues are prioritised in the vision & criteria for grant aid as outlined above.

A number of Three Year Strategic Grant recommendations directly address sustainability issues. In addition specialist annual grant schemes identified as part of an alternative support package also address key council strategies in this regard.

5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:

Actions to address crime & disorder issues are prioritised in the vision & criteria for grant aid as outlined above.

A number of Three Year Strategic Grant recommendations directly address crime & disorder issues. In addition specialist annual grant schemes identified as part of an alternative support package also address key council strategies in this regard.

5.6 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

Promotion of opportunity is prioritised in the vision & criteria for grant aid outlined above.

Mechanisms for the appropriate management of associated risk underpin outlined process and are acknowledged / addressed in the recommendations made.

5.7 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

Recommendations made support a number of council priorities as outlined.

For example:

- Our Corporate Plan 2008-11
- LAA Strengthening Communities Indicators NI: 4, 6 & 7

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 Alternative options have been considered and where appropriate identified as part of the consultation exercise outlined in this report.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Reasons for recommendations are documented throughout the appraisal

process, outlined in this report & supported by the attached appendices.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Narrative Summary of Applicant Organisations & Purpose of Grant
2. Outline Bid Recommendations
3. Narrative Summary of Alternative Support Package
4. Vision, Criteria & Practical Examples
5. Timetable for Decision Making
6. Officer Engagement & Consultation

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. n/a

Background Documents

1. 'Our Corporate Plan 2008-11'
2. Cabinet Report 20 November 2008: "Discretionary Grants Programme 2010-13: Three Year Process, specifically Appendix 3: 'Strategic Reference Index'.
3. *For reference Appendix 4: "Vision, Criteria & Practical Examples" of this report*