

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Three Year Strategic Grants 2013-16: Decision on Outline Bid Applications</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>12 July 2012</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Strategic Director: Communities</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Jonathan Best: Grants Officer</b>	<b>Tel: 29-1114</b>
	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:jonathan.best@brighton-hove.gov.uk">jonathan.best@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Yes:</b>		
<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2011 – 2015 sets out the priorities of tackling inequality, creating a more sustainable city and engaging people who live & work in the city. This includes support for a resilient and vibrant community & voluntary sector.
- 1.2 Cabinet on 19 January 2012 agreed to recognise the role of the grants programme in underpinning the council's working relationship with, and sustainable success of, Brighton and Hove's third sector organisations and the proposed vision, criteria and process for Annual Grants 2012-13 and a full cycle of the Three-Year Grants (Strategic & Annual) 2013-16.
- 1.3 This report is part of the agreed decision making process for the Three Year Strategic Grants requesting a decision on invitation to Full Bid stage covering 103 Outline Bid applications for Three Year Strategic Grant funding 2013-16 from community groups, voluntary organisations & not-for-profit social enterprise with an income of over £35,000 pa excluding council grant.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That members agree to invite the recommended 80 applicants to Full Bid Stage for Three Year Strategic Grants 2013-16.
- 2.2 That members also agree the recommended alternative support package where appropriate for the 23 applicants not invited to Full Bid stage.

**3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**

- 3.1 Decision on Three Year Strategic Grants 2013-16 is supported by a two stage application process defined as Outline & Full Bid stages.

For all the key dates in this process please see Appendix 1: "Decision Making Timetable".

- 3.2 The specific allocation of individual grants comes at Full Bid stage later in the year and a dedicated P&R Committee Report (29 November 2012) 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

- 3.3 103 Outline Bid applications were received following application deadline earlier this year requesting in total £2,703,855 pa. for the period 2013-16. The available budget at Full Bid will be approximately £1,250,000 pa. Please see Appendix 2: "Summary of Outline Bids Received".

The following appraisal process was undertaken for each application:

- **Initial eligibility check** covering nature of organisation, criteria fit & area of benefit
- **Technical appraisal** covering governance arrangements, finances / accounts & funding relationships with council / other major funders
- **Consultation with over 100 commissioners, service heads & specialist officers** to address the applicant organisation's wider strategic impact, council links & partnership working etc. framed within 'discussion groups' and covering 18 specific service specialisms.

Please see Appendix 3: "Officer Engagement & Consultation"

- 3.4 Members of the Communities & Equality Team met with the cross-party Members Advisory Group for Grants (MAG) on 25 May 2012. MAG provides challenge & support in relation to the Discretionary Grants Programme. MAG was asked to consider engagement & consultation so far alongside suggested recommendations on Outline Bids. Broad themes emerged to help 'frame' clear & coherent rationale for recommendations at Outline Bid:

- Business Planning required realism.
- Grants programme scope meant it was not always possible to prioritise national organisations or regional third sector providers.
- Scope to support additional project bids from certain host organisations continued to be minimal.
- Certain applicants would be best supported by an immediate alternative package (including annual grant, in-kind and / or fundraising support & commissioner networks) which had proven value.
- Despite challenges there was opportunity to send positive messages to partners including support / investment in neighbourhoods and of key grant criteria around community endeavour & resilience.

- 3.5 MAG unanimously supported recommendations on 95 Outline Bids and requested some additional information in 8 cases. Subsequently MAG unanimously agreed cross-party support of the following 103 recommendations to P&R Committee.

It is recommended that 80 applicants are invited to Full Bid stage and 23 applicants not invited to Full Bid offered an alternative support package where appropriate. Please see Appendix 4: 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.*

Please also see Appendix 5: Narrative Summary of Alternative Support Package.

#### **4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION**

Evaluation of process from previous Three Year Grant cycles documents substantial assurance from applicant organisations. Internal consultation with both members and officers is described above in paragraph 3.

#### **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### **5.1 Financial Implications:**

There is no allocation of grant monies at Outline Bid stage 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 budget available for the Full Bids is expected to be confirmed at approximately £1.25 million pa. compared with the 80 recommended outline bids requesting £2.1 million pa in total. Full Bids will be considered against the budget available by Policy and Resources Committee in November.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Name Anne Silley Date: 21/06/12*

##### **5.2 Legal Implications:**

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

*Lawyer Consulted: Bob Bruce – Principle Solicitor Date: 20/6/12*

##### **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 2012.

##### **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 and 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 Public Health Implications:

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

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

#### 5.8 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

Recommendations made support a number of council priorities as outlined.

For example:

- Our Corporate Plan 2011-15
- Creating a City of Opportunities: a sustainable community strategy for Brighton & Hove

### **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. Decision Making Timetable
2. Summary of Outline Bids Received
3. Officer Engagement & Consultation
4. Outline Bid Recommendations
5. Narrative Summary of Alternative Support Package

### **Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. na

### **Background Documents**

1. Cabinet Report 19 Jan 2012 - The Future for Discretionary Grants 2012-13 & Beyond
2. Vision, Criteria & Practical Examples
3. 'At a Glance' - Guide to Grants from Brighton & Hove City Council
4. Our Corporate Plan 2011-15
5. Creating a City of Opportunities: a sustainable community strategy for Brighton & Hove

