

GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL

8 MARCH 2004

Chair: * Councillor Harrison

Councillors: * Arnold * Mrs Joyce Nickolay
 * Marilyn Ashton * Anjana Patel
 * Bluston * N Shah
 * Ismail * Thammaiah

* Denotes Member present

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 1 - Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2004/05 - Appeals Against the Panel's Decisions of 26 November 2003

The Panel received a report of the Executive Director (Business Connections) which outlined appeals received against the decisions made at the Panel's meeting on 26 November 2003.

Harrow Council for Racial Equality: The Panel had received a request to increase the funding allocated to this organisation by £7,500 to cover the additional rent costs of moving to a new premises. The Panel agreed that they should assist the organisation with their rent for their new premises, but should not contribute to the organisations remaining office accommodation at The Lodge.

Girlguiding North West Middlesex: The Panel had received a request from the organisation for a one-off grant to assist with wood treatment for the exterior of the building. Officers reminded the Panel that they had granted £1,500 three years ago for roofing.

In response to questions, officers informed the meeting that although the organisation was based in Hillingdon, about 50% of users came from Harrow. Following discussion, Members agreed that the organisation had a high level of reserves.

Pakistan Society of Harrow: During discussion, Members agreed that this was a well-run organisation, who had put the funds they already receive to good use. A Member commented that he felt that £5,000 was a lot of additional money to award and suggested giving the organisation an additional £2,500 instead. A Member noted that a grant of £5,000 was not consistent with previous Panel policy.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (To the Portfolio Holder)

That the Portfolio Holder agree the additional funds for organisations listed below, and agree the responses to the appeals heard;

Harrow Council for Racial Equality	–	£6,220 for accommodation costs
Girlguiding of North West Middlesex	–	No Additional Funding
Kurdish Association	–	No Additional Funding
Pakistan Society of Harrow	–	£5,000 additional funding

REASON: To enable the four Groups to finalise their budget for 2004/05.

RECOMMENDATION 2 - Harrow In Europe Association

The Panel received a request from Harrow In Europe Association to reconsider their grant allocation. Officers informed the meeting that the report submitted to the last meeting had been attached to the agenda for information.

A Member commented that he felt that the programme of events had not been comprehensively costed, and was disinclined to award the additional funds. He added that he supported the association in principle, but felt the information they submitted was not sufficient to receive additional funding.

In response, a Member stated that she was confident that the association would use the additional funds wisely, and that the organisation provided a value for money way of fulfilling the Council's twinning responsibilities. Officers reminded the Panel that the

organisation would have to illustrate that they were attempting to engage hard to reach sections of the community to be eligible for additional funding.

A Member commented that he was concerned that the failure to grant additional funding would impact on the range of events that the Association had planned for the upcoming year. In response, a Member stated that he was not certain of this, as no costs had been included for any events, and added that the association had adequate reserves. He proposed that the additional requested funds be reserved until the Association provided further information.

The Chair commented that he had been a Member of Harrow in Europe since its inception and had visited Douai on several occasions. He noted that there had historically been problems communicating with Harrow in Europe and agreed that it was important to keep them on a short reign.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (To the Portfolio Holder)

That the Portfolio Holder agree that the funding for Harrow in Europe be increased by £2,500, but this sum be released in September after the receipt of the specific information requested by the Council.

REASON: Harrow in Europe has additional information that they wish the Panel to consider.

PART II - MINUTES

106. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**

RESOLVED: To note that there were no Reserve Members in attendance at this meeting.

107. **Declarations of Interest:**

RESOLVED: To note that the following interests were declared:

The following Members declared personal interests in the business transacted at the meeting arising from their involvement with the organisations listed. Accordingly, they remained and took part in the discussion and voting on the relevant items.

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Member</u>
Item 11 – Harrow in Europe Association	Councillor Mrs Joyce Nickolay
Item 11 – Harrow in Europe Association	Councillor Arnold
Item 11 – Harrow in Europe Association	Councillor Harrison
Item 8 – Grants to Voluntary Organisations	Councillor Ismail

108. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

RESOLVED: That all items be considered with the press and public present.

109. **Minutes:**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2004 be deferred until printed in the next Council Bound Minute Volume.

110. **Public Questions:**

RESOLVED: To note that there were no public questions to be received at this meeting under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 15 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

111. **Petitions:**

RESOLVED: To note that there were no petitions to be received at this meeting under the provisions of the Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 13 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

112. **Deputations:**

RESOLVED: To note that there were no deputations to be received at this meeting under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 14 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

113. **Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2004/05 - Appeals Against the Panel's Decisions of 26 November 2003:**

(See Recommendation 1).

114. **Grants to Voluntary Organisations - Strategic Review:**

(This item was withdrawn from the agenda).

115. **Harrow In Europe Association:**

(See Recommendation 2).

(Note: The meeting having commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.14 pm)

(Signed) COUNCILLOR CYRIL HARRISON
Chair