

Meeting:	Grants Advisory Panel
Date:	5 th September 2005
Subject:	Reserved Grants 2005/06
Responsible Officer:	Director Financial & Business Strategy
Contact Officer:	Chander Vasdev 020 8420 9249
Portfolio Holder:	Communications, Partnership & Human Resources
Key Decision:	No

Section 1: Summary

The report provides an update on the reserved grants to voluntary organisations 2005/06.

Decision Required

1. To authorise officers to release the reserved grant of £5,000 to Home Start Harrow.
2. To agree to take back into the grants budget the grant of £1,000 reserved for the Harrow Show Committee.

Reason for report

To enable the Home Start Harrow to utilise the reserved grant of £5,000 and to take back into the grants budget a reserved grant, which is no longer required.

Benefits

The release of the reserved grant to Home Start Harrow will help them enhance the services they provide to their users.

Taking back into the grants budget the grant to Harrow Show Committee, which is no longer required, will augment the contingency grants fund leaving a total of £8,319.50. This includes £3,414.50 returned from the Asian Elderly Group, which was unspent in 2004/05.

Cost of Proposals

None from this report, as the £5,000 recommended for release is already in the budget and reserved for this organisation.

Risks

The reserved grant of £5,000 needs to be released, because it is the matching fund for a grant the organisation received from the Voluntary Sector Commissioning Fund managed by the PCT. Non release would inhibit the capacity of Home Start Harrow to deliver the project.

No risk is associated with the withdrawal of the £1,000 reserved for Harrow Show Committee, as the Show has been cancelled this year.

Implications if recommendations rejected

The risks outlined above may materialise.

Section 2: Report

2.1 Brief History

- 2.1.1 Grants Advisory Panel 24th January 2005: The Panel decided to offer the Harrow Show Committee a grant of £1,000.
- 2.1.2 The Panel agreed to reserved £5,000 for Home Start Harrow pending the outcome of their bid to the Harrow Primary Care Trust.
- 2.1.3 Cabinet 17th March 2005: Cabinet approved all the recommendations of the Grants Advisory Panel on Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2005/06.

Options considered

- 2.2.1 Harrow Show Committee: The organisation informed the Council that this year's show has been cancelled. The reserved grant is not, therefore, required and it is recommended that it should be taken back into the grants budget.
- 2.2.2 Home Start Harrow: A grant of £5,000 had been reserved for Home Start Harrow, pending the outcome of their application for matching funds from Harrow PCT. The Council was informed that the organisation's application to the PCT was successful and, therefore, it is recommended that the reserved grant of £5,000 should be released to the Home Start Harrow.

2.3 Consultation

- 2.3.1 None

2.4 Financial Implications

- 2.4.1 The reserved grant to Home Start Harrow is already in the budget. The withdrawal of the £1,000 grant reserved for Harrow Show Committee will enhance the grants contingency fund.

2.5 Legal Implications

None.

2.6 Equalities Impact

- 2.6.1 Home Start Harrow provides services to alleviate stress for vulnerable families where there is at least one child under 5. The reserved grant is to part fund the First Time Mothers Group, which provides support for first time mothers, who are feeling low in self- esteem, are depressed or overanxious. The grant will therefore, benefit vulnerable women and babies.

Section 3: Supporting Information/ Background Documents

Not applicable