

Meeting:	Grants Advisory Panel
Date:	5 th September 2005
Subject:	Information on the Council's support to the Voluntary Sector in 2004/05
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

Decision Required

To note Harrow Council's support to the Voluntary Sector in 2004/05.

Reason for report

For information only.

Benefits

Confirmation of Harrow Council's support to the Voluntary sector.

Cost of Proposals

None

Risks

None

Implications if recommendations rejected

Not applicable

Section 2: Report

2.1 Brief History

The new strategy for supporting the Voluntary Sector, agreed by the Cabinet on 14th October 2004, under the section "The Balance of Funding" states, amongst other things, "The Council's overall support to voluntary organisations will be collated centrally and shared with all relevant parties within the Council in order to ensure funding is based on the wider understanding of how the Council supports the voluntary sector".

2.2 Options considered

The report summarises the Council's support to the voluntary sector in 2004/05. In a future report, officers will try to provide figures under specific categories, which will be based on the annual Home Office survey on local authority funding to the Voluntary Sector.

A. The available figures are:

Rate Relief:

1. Mandatory rate relief	£1,754,614.87
2. Discretionary rate relief top up for charities	£ 107,136.71
3. Discretionary rate relief for non profit organisations	£ 83,015.07

Total **£1,944,766.65**

B. Health & Social Care Groups;

Grants Panel (Grants and SLAs)

£306,161

People First Contracts & SLAs

£1,879,078

Carers Grant Payments

£486,816.70

Other

£616,214.54

Total **£3,353,591.20**

C. Grants Panel Funding (grants & slas, other than to Health & Social Care Groups)

£753,307

D. Concessionary Lettings April 2004 – March 2005

£620,806

E. Contribution to the ALG

£760,344

Grant Total

£7,432,814.85

2.3 Consultation

Not applicable

2.4 Financial Implications

2.4.1 This report is for information only and there are no financial implications.

2.5 Legal Implications

None

2.6 Equalities Impact

None from this report, but the funding provided to the Voluntary Sector in 2004/05 supported groups from most of Harrow's diverse communities. The organisations that received funding provided services to older people, people with disabilities, to women, youth, refugees and asylum seekers and to people from other minority ethnic communities.

Section 3: Supporting Information/ Background Documents

Appendix A List of Health & Social Care Groups Funding

Appendix B Grants Panel funding Schedule 2004/05