

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

Meeting:	GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL
Date:	1 JULY 2003
Subject:	GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2003/04 – RESERVED GRANTS
Key decision:	NO
Responsible Chief Officer:	ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Relevant Portfolio Holder:	DEPUTY LEADER (PARTNERSHIP & PROPERTY)
Status:	PART 1
Ward:	N/A
Enclosures:	APPENDIX A – SUMMARY OF GRANTS ALLOCATED TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR 2003/04 APPENDIX B – HARROW IN EUROPE FORM

1. **Summary/ Reason for urgency (if applicable)**

- 1.1 This report summarises the grants awarded to voluntary organisations for 2003/04 and provides further information on the grants that are currently reserved.

2. **Recommendations (for decision by Portfolio Holder)**

- 2.1 **To decide whether to release the reserved grant funding to a number of groups, based on the information provided in this report and appendices.**

REASON: To finalise the allocation of grants to voluntary organisations for 2003/04.

3. **Consultation with Ward Councillors** – Not applicable

4. **Policy Context (including Relevant Previous Decisions)**

- 4.1 Grants Panel – 6 March 2003 – Members concluded their decisions on grants for 2003/04, but reserved a number of grants pending receipt of further information.

5. **Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

- 5.1 This report addresses the Council's stated priority of 'strengthening Harrow's local communities by promoting social inclusion amongst all Harrow residents both young and old, by seeking to eradicate poverty and by reducing the fear of crime'.

6. **Background Information and options considered**

- 6.1 **Harrow African Caribbean Association:** Funding of £2,500 is currently reserved in order for the organisation to assess whether or not they could secure joint funding to appoint a Co-ordinator. We have been advised by the Social Services contracts Team that HACAS have advertised for a voluntary co-ordinator and would be able to pay expenses with the reserved grant of £2,500. HACAS also applied to the ALG for grant funding to appoint a salaried co-ordinator. The Contracts Team recommends that the

reserved grant be released to HACAS to enable them to appoint a voluntary co-ordinator, pending the outcome of their application to the ALG.

- 6.2 **Harrow In Europe**: Funding of £2,500 was released in April 2003 for civic duties carried out on behalf of the Council and a further £2,500 was reserved pending details of the people on low income, young people and people with disabilities the organisation has assisted with twinning activities. They have now re-designed the application form they use for groups of people who fall into these categories (Appendix B) and have started to collect this information. However, as they only started to use the new form in June 2003 they are not in a position yet to present details of the individuals that have been assisted. The situation will become clearer by the time of the Panel's next meeting in September.
- 6.3 **Harrow Neighbourhood Watch**: Please see separate item on the agenda.
- 6.4 **Harrow Women's Centre**: Funding of £45,285 was released in April 2003 and a further £5,000 was reserved pending a review of the organisation's Service Level Agreement in October 2003. The organisation has recently moved into new premises and will be in a better position to estimate running costs when they have occupied the building for at least six months.
- 6.5 **Harrow Agenda 21 Environmental Forum**: Please see separate item on the agenda.
- 6.6 **Harrow Kuwaiti Community Association**: A grant of £1,000 was reserved, as this was a newly funded organisation in 2002/03 (they received their grant in March 2003) and officers were monitoring their progress. Officers have since met with them on a number of occasions and given them help and advice with setting up systems but progress is slow. Officers recommend that Members continue to reserve this funding until such a time that officers feel confident that they have made sufficient progress.
- 6.7 **TIPTO**: This project has now been renamed 'Kids can Achieve'. As anticipated in the original report to the Grants Advisory Panel, this organisation has been successful in attracting funding from other sources. They will have sufficient income to meet their planned expenditure for 2003/04 and therefore the reserved funding of £2,000 should be retained in the grants budget.
7. **Consultation** – not applicable
8. **Finance Observations** none
9. **Legal Observations** none
10. **Conclusion**
 - 10.1. Members could decide to release some of the deferred grants, alternatively they may decide to wait until the Panel's September meeting when more information would be available.
11. **Background Papers**
 - 11.1 Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2003/04 Application Forms (circulated with papers for Grants Panel meeting held on 5 December 2002).
12. **Authors**
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