



Meeting: Grants Advisory Panel

Date: 5th March 2008

Subject: Grant Funding 2008/2009

Key Decision: Yes (Cabinet 13 March 2008)
(Executive-side only)

Responsible Officer: Javed Khan – Director of Community and Cultural Services

Portfolio Holder: Anjana Patel – Community and Cultural Services

Exempt: No

Enclosures: Appendix 1 – Schedule of grants, including funding awarded in 2006/07 and 2007/08, funding requested in 2008/09, and funding recommended for 2008/09.

Appendix 2 – List of Grants-based Service Level Agreements;

Appendix 3 – List of Organisations recommended to receive grant or continued funding in 2008/09;
Appendix 3a – Report summaries of Organisations recommended to receive grant or continued funding in 2008/09);

Appendix 4 – List of Organisations not recommended for grant or continued funding in 2008/09;
Appendix 4a – Report summaries of Organisations not recommended for grant or continued funding in 2008/09.

Appendix 5 – Brief summaries of applications rejected (not meeting grants qualifying criteria)

SECTION 1 – SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report presents the applications for funding and the grants-based service level agreements for 2008/2009:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members are recommended to:

1. Agree in principle the recommendations for funding to SLA groups as listed in Appendix 1 of this report and those relating to the individual reports in the appendices 3a, 4a and 5, which will be subject to the Council approving its overall Revenue Budget for 2008/09;
2. Agree to recommend that Cabinet approve the overall grants budget for 2008/09, inflation additions to salaries (if any) and the individual grant allocations.
3. Withdraw the reserved grant of £1,000 to Flash Musicals and use as an under spend for allocation in this financial year 2007/08 (see paras 2.2.13 and 2.2.14).
4. Agree to recommend that Cabinet approve in 2008/09 a grant of £15,000 to the Harrow Heritage Trust out of the Council's Capital Programme.

Section 2: Report

2.1 Brief History

2.1.1 Harrow Council is empowered to make grants to voluntary organisations under Section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985, as well as under other legislation.

2.2 Options considered

2.2.1 During July 2007, grant application packs were sent to all organisations currently in receipt of funding from Harrow Council (excluding those on 3-year service level agreements). Notices were placed in the local press, Harrow libraries, on the Harrow website, via the HAVS mail-out and at the Community Premises inviting local voluntary organisations to apply for funding. The deadline for receipt of completed application forms was Friday 28th September 2007.

2.2.2 Detailed monitoring of all grant-based service level agreements was carried out by officers from the Grants Unit during June/July 2007 (i.e. organisations in receipt of funding above £10,000 in 2006/07) and reports presented to the Grants Advisory Panel on 22nd November 2007. There were no concerns regarding the level and quality of the services provided by these organisations, therefore no further reports are necessary for this meeting. A list of voluntary organisations under 3-year SLA arrangements is listed in Appendix 2 of this report.

- 2.2.3 Applications were received by the deadline from 65 voluntary organisations (this includes 11 new applicants).
- 2.2.4 The following organisations, which are currently funded in 2007/08, have not applied for funding in 2008/09:
- Beyond Empowerment Ltd. (formerly Lifestyle Development) - £3,000;
Edo State Women Association - £900;
Flash Musicals - £1,000;
Harrow School of Gymnastics - £2,250;
Harrow Tamil School Association - £4,000;
Hindu Council - £1,800;
Light & Colour Workshop UK - £800;
Navnat Yuva Vadil Mandal - £450;
Rayners Lane Islamic Welfare and Cultural Association - £900;
Tongues on Fire - £1,000;
Wish Centre - £1,800;
Woodlands Community Association (Woodcottes Youth Club) - £3,600.
- 2.2.5 Of the 65 applications received, 6 have been rejected, as the applicants do not fully meet the grant qualifying criteria. These are:
- Girlguiding Middlesex North West (currently funded);
KSIM Senior Citizens Association (currently funded);
Afrika's Finest (new applicant);
Family Welfare Foundation (new applicant);
Sri Lankan Educational Cultural & Welfare Foundation (new applicant);
Web Play (new applicant).
- 2.2.6 Appendix 5 gives a brief summary on each of the organisations listed in paragraph 2.2.5 above, and the reasons for rejection.
- 2.2.7 Applications received from voluntary organisations that have been recommended for grant or continued funding in 2008/09 are listed in Appendix 3.
- 2.2.8 Applications received from voluntary organisations not recommended for grant or continued funding in 2008/09 are listed in Appendix 4.
- 2.2.9 All applicants were asked to complete Section F of the grant application form stating how much funding they had received from all other funding bodies in the current financial year. The information, where provided, has been incorporated into the attached individual reports.
- 2.2.10 Officers have met with all the 11 new applicants to pre-assess their application and to establish if they meet the Council's priorities and qualifying conditions. Officers have assessed all the applications received from currently funded and new groups for 2008/09, and have provided summaries and their comments / recommendations which have been incorporated into the attached individual reports, to enable Members to approve grant allocations in principle. Where applications related to specific Directorates, draft reports were sent to the relevant officers for their comments. Where Directorates have provided comments, these have subsequently been incorporated into the attached individual reports.

Financial Implications

2.2.11 The Panel are reminded that the Grants Budget was reduced by £90,000 in 2007/08, resulting in a reduction of approximately 10% to all SLA groups and currently funded groups. However a virement of £27,000 was approved in 2007/2008 to partially reinstate the provision for grants expenditure and this sum was allocated to the SLA groups.

2.2.12 The grants budget for 2007/2008 is set out below:

	£
2007/2008 Base budget	717,510
Virement	27,000
Total 2007/2008	744,510

2.2.13 The draft budget for 2008/09 reported to Cabinet in December 2007 is subject to approval by full Council on 21st February 2008. The final proposed budget is set out below:

	£
2008/2009 Base budget	717,510
Estimated inflation	14,350
Budget growth	90,000
Less: Harrow in Business	-59,250
Total 2008/2009	762,610

Note: Harrow in Business is no longer part of the grants budget

2.2.14 It is recommended that the original funding to SLA groups in 2006/07 be fully reinstated with an uplift of 2% for inflation in 2008/09, however funding to Harrow Weald Common Conservators should remain the same as for 2007/08 (i.e. £28,000), as currently there are no associated salary costs.

2.2.15 The Panel are reminded that there is also an under spend of £1,000 in 2007/08, arising from a recommendation by GAP on 7th March 2007, to reserve this amount in respect of Flash Musicals pending outcome of discussions with Adult & Housing Services (previously Urban Living) regarding lease arrangements for the community centre in Methuen Road, Edgware.

2.2.16 The issue regarding lease arrangements has still not been resolved, and discussions are still on-going. Members are therefore recommended to withdraw the reserved amount of £1,000 to Flash Musicals, and consider this an under spend in 2007/08. Should members wish to use this under spend to allocate to any of the grant applicants, it will need to be ensured that it is paid in this current financial year 2007/08 (i.e. by 31st March 2008).

2.2.17 From the total grants budget of £762,610 available for 2008/09, an amount of £758,468 has been recommended for allocation, leaving a balance of **£4,142** for contingency purposes.

2.2.18 It should also be noted that on 6th July 2006, the Panel recommended that where an officer's recommendation is amended, a clear reason is given and recorded. This can then be relayed to the organisation in question after Cabinet or the Portfolio Holder has approved recommendations.

2.2.19 Some of the organisations approved for funding may not deliver all the services they outlined in their grant applications, or the quality of their services may not be of a sufficiently high standard. Officers will address these risks through vigorous monitoring and support to groups in order to improve their capacity.

2.2.20 The Panel needs to be aware that the whole grants function will be part of a an overall review of Council support to the voluntary sector to be undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during 2008/09, which may impact on the way that voluntary and community organisations are funded in the future.

2.3 Equalities Impact Consideration

2.3.1 The funding proposals contained in this report have significant implications for the whole of the voluntary sector in Harrow. The proposals aim to address through funding inequalities and disadvantage and to promote equality of opportunity and better community and race relations. The funding proposed will assist organisations serving Black and minority ethnic communities, young people, women, people with disabilities, the elderly and carers.

Section 3: Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Barry Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 19 th February		
Name: Helen White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 22 nd February 2008		

SECTION 4 – CONTACT DETAILS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact: Kashmir Takhar, Service Manager, Community Resources & Projects (ext. 5332);
Parveen Vasdev, Principle Grants Officer (ext. 7625);
Charlotte Clark, Senior Grants Officer (ext. 2335).

Background Papers: Grant Applications 2008/09 - copies available on request.
Any reference to monitoring information for individual organisations (where required) is available in the report presented to the Grants Advisory Panel meeting on 22nd November 2007.

IF APPROPRIATE, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	YES - Draft reports sent to Voluntary Sector Advisor for comments.
2.	Corporate Priorities	YES

APPENDIX 2

GRANTS BASED SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS

Harrow Association of Disabled People (HAD)
Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO)
Harrow Association of Voluntary Service (HAVS)
Harrow Citizens Advice Bureau
Harrow Council for Racial Equality
Harrow Shopmobility Scheme
Harrow Sports Council
Harrow Weald Common Conservators
Harrow Women's Centre
Ignite Trust
Relate
Victim Support Harrow
Welldon Activity Group
Women's Aid Harrow

APPENDIX 3

LIST OF ORGANISATIONS RECOMMENDED TO RECEIVE GRANT OR CONTINUED FUNDING IN 2008/09

1. ADHD Support Group
2. Afghan Association
3. Angolan Civic Communities Alliance
4. Ashiana
5. Asian Elderly Group
6. Association of Senior Muslim Citizens
7. Bentley Priory Nature Reserve
8. Carramea
9. Community Link Up
10. Harrow African-Caribbean Association
11. Harrow Agenda 21 Environmental Forum
12. Harrow Anti-Racist Alliance (HARA)
13. Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO)
14. Harrow Bangladeshi Association
15. Harrow Bengalee Association (including Over 50's Society)
16. Harrow Bereavement Care
17. Harrow Community Transport
18. Harrow Emerald Circle Club
19. Harrow Gingerbread
20. Harrow Heritage Trust
21. Harrow in Europe Association
22. Harrow in Leaf
23. Harrow Iranian Community Association
24. Harrow Mencap
25. Harrow Over 50's Club
26. Harrow Pensioners' Action Group
27. Harrow Pre-School Learning Alliance
28. Harrow Public Transport Users' Association
29. Harrow Refugee Forum
30. Harrow Somali Women's Action Group
31. Harrow Tamil Association
32. Harrow Youth and Community Project
33. HAVS Trans-Age Project
34. Headway Harrow
35. Home Start Harrow
36. Islamic & Cultural Society of Harrow
37. Kids Can Achieve
38. London Kalibari
39. Middlesex Association for the Blind (previously known as Harrow Association for the Blind)
40. Mind in Harrow
41. Multiple Sclerosis Society – Harrow Branch
42. National Autistic Society – Harrow Branch
43. Pakistan Society of Harrow
44. Parkinson's Disease Society
45. Persian Senior Citizens Club

46. Russian Immigrants Association
47. Sangat Advice Centre
48. Special Connection
49. U.K. Asian Women's Conference
50. Wealdstone Active Community
51. Whittlesea Life Skills Association

**REPORT SUMMARIES OF ORGANISATIONS
RECOMMENDED TO RECEIVE GRANT OR CONTINUED
FUNDING IN 2008/09**

ADHD (ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVE DISORDER) SUPPORT GROUP

Grant requested:	£17,820
Current grant:	£7,400
Grant recommended:	£8,910

Background:

The ADHD Support Group in Harrow is a registered voluntary organisation, which started in October 1996. The group provides support, information, respite and parenting education to all parents, carers and sufferers of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and related conditions within the London Borough of Harrow, in a safe and non-judgemental environment.

Living and working with ADHD can be extremely difficult and challenging, as the children struggle with a range of problem behaviours which often prevent the child from learning and socialising. This is reflected in all aspects of the child's life, education and personal friendships.

Services provided by the organisation includes advice and information, parenting courses, anger management, one to one support, coffee mornings, social events for families and children, drama therapy and educational support within schools, respite through play schemes, junior football team and telephone helpline.

Their main achievements during the year include:

- Partnership development with HMS Grendon, in raising funds for their charity;
- Completing their quality assurance through PQASSO at level one and working towards achieving level two;
- Partnership working with Harrow CAMHS on clinic days;
- Launch of Adult ADHD Support Group;
- Development of partnership working with Youth Offending Team including giving talks at evening meetings;
- Launch of first ever ADHD Awareness week;
- Affiliation to ADDISS (Attention Deficit Disorder Information and Support Services) enabling the organisation to work towards a professional code of conduct and have regular contact with other affiliated groups throughout the UK, and allowing them to have a greater voice at National level.

Grant Request:

The grant requested is to pay for the Project Manager's salary to help run, support and co-ordinate the services already in operation as listed above, as well as working on funding applications to sustain current services. The Project Manager is currently paid to work for 15 hours per week and the organisation would like to increase this to 30 hours per week.

Comments and Recommendations:

The Group is the only service in Harrow that offers support, information, respite and training to sufferers and carers of people affected by ADHD, and partnership working enables the group to provide a service that is unique to the country, which has been highlighted by ADDISS (Attention Deficit Disorder Information and Support Services).

It is recommended that funding of £8,910 is awarded to the ADHD Support Group Harrow for 2008/09 as a 50% contribution towards the Project Manager's salary to enable them to increase the number of hours for this post.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

Carers Grant: - £17,534 p.a. for 3 years (ending March 2008) for childcare, playscheme, coffee mornings and parenting;

Wider Family Learning: - £1,448 for 1 year (ending March 2008) for Anger Management Weekend Project;

BBC Children in Need: - £10,418 for 1 year (ended August 2007);

BBC Children in Need: - £10,088 p.a. for 3 years (started September 2007) for Drama Therapy;

Capital Radio Help a London Child: - £1,540 for 1 year (ending March 2008) for Anger Management for Children;

Primary Care Trust (held by Kids Can Achieve): - £9,635 p.a. for 3 years (ending March 2008) for telephone helpline, one-to-one Parent Support, and coffee mornings.

Report produced by the Grants Team in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage

AFGHAN ASSOCIATION OF LONDON (HARROW)

Grant requested:	£9,000
Current grant:	£1,350
Grant recommended:	£1,540

Background:

The Afghan Association was set up in 1995 to provide an advice and information service to members of the Afghan community, which includes immigration, benefits, education, training and employment issues, health issues, and housing advice. They also run a women's group and the group leader specifically deals with women's problems as well as publishing a magazine for Afghan women and families with articles in Dari and Pashto. The Association also provides mother tongue and supplementary classes as well as after school activities, and a summer holiday scheme for Afghan youth.

The Association is a founder member of CARRAMEA and active in the Harrow Refugee Forum, HAVS and the Refugee Council.

Although the organisation is based in Harrow, it has expanded its service throughout North West London to meet the demands for its services. From a database of over 800 addresses, it has stated that 80% of its clients are from Harrow.

Last year, the Association dealt with over 6,212 enquiries (a decrease of nearly 27% from the previous year). Despite the decrease, it assisted more than 643 clients in the process of becoming British citizens. The Association's was awarded the Community Legal Services Quality Mark accreditation three years ago.

Grant Request:

The breakdown of the grant request is as follows:

Office rent	£5,000
Teachers expenses (for supplementary & mother tongue classes)	£1,540
Venue hire (at Rooks Heath High for the above classes)	£800
Stationery	£400
Insurance	£100
Publicity	£200
Postage	£110
Telephone	£300
CRB checks	£50
PC for teachers to prepare materials	£500
Total	£9,000

Comments and Recommendations:

The Afghan Association continues to provide a service to Afghan refugees and asylum seekers in Harrow. The Association is also a valuable resource for statutory and voluntary agencies in Harrow and indeed in the whole of London.

The Association's work has been recognised by many funding bodies, including London Councils, which has provided the Association with substantial grants over the past few years. The grant request has been made in relation to the costs for providing educational support in

terms of after-school English tuition and mother tongue classes. Funding of £1,540 is therefore recommended for 2008/09, restricted to teachers' expenses for English and mother tongue classes.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£51,063 per annum for 3 years from the London Councils (currently in it's last year) for salaries and running costs for the Advisory Service;

£16,000 per annum for 2 years from City Parochial Foundation (now ended) for salary costs for the Women's Group Leader;

£5,850 for one year from the Home Office for English language classes and other training.

Afghan Association of London (Harrow) is currently in receipt of community lettings discount for the hire of Rooks Heath High School.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

ANGOLAN CIVIC COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE (ACCA)

Grant requested:	£4,618
Current grant:	£2,700
Grant recommended:	£4,000

Background:

The Angolan Civic Communities Alliance (ACCA) was formed in 1998 in response to gaps in the service provision to the Angolan migrant, refugee and asylum seeking community and also to other Portuguese and French speaking communities living in Harrow. The organisation provides assistance to newly arrived refugees by the provision of a translation service and advice service regarding matters such as immigration, social and welfare rights, housing, community integration, education, training and employment. It also provides advice on health issues including health promotion, sexual health and HIV/AIDS awareness. In addition it provides sports activities for younger members of the local Angolan community.

The organisation currently occupies an individual office at the community premises where it provides most of its services including:

Advice and Advocacy - a drop-in-service on matters such as welfare benefits, pension and other third age entitlements, housing and council tax support, tenant & landlord dispute, tenancy issues and contracts, education and schools representations and a referral service.

Immigration Advice and Legal Representations - ACCA is an Office of Immigration Services Commission (OISC) regulated body to provide free Immigration Advice and Legal Representations. ACCA is also an Advice UK and Immigration Law Practitioners Association (ILPA) regulated member organisation to provide specialised services in advice work, including legal immigration and representation.

Children and Young People - ACCA runs a three-day partially funded supplementary school, after-school support and homework club mainly for the Portuguese, Spanish and French speakers and but with a small proportion of other communities.

Employment and Training - employment and training support as part of its advice and advocacy services in areas of job search, interview techniques, CV compilation, letter-writing techniques, application form filling support, speculative job search techniques and qualifications translation.

Grant Request:

ACCA are requesting £4,618 for its advice and immigration service. The breakdown of the grant request is as follows:

*Insurance (professional, trustees, legal expenses & public liabilities)	£1,800
Running costs (telephone, internet, stationery, postage)	£2,818
Total	£4,618

*The amount of insurance reflects the requirement by Advice UK, the Immigration Law Practitioners Association and OISC.

Comments and Recommendations:

ACCA is active at the Community Premises and is the lead organisation in the Harrow Refugee Forum. It provides free immigration advice and legal representations. The organisation has provided a breakdown of their casework statistics (asylum and immigration applications) for the last 6 months since their OISC accreditation, and these are outlined below:

Asylum: 16
Immigration: 4
Nationality: 10

Data by Country:

Angolan	-	6
Congo	-	5
Tanzania	-	2
Afghanistan	-	2
Guinea	-	5
EU	-	5
Somali	-	3
Latin America	-	2

Funding of £4,000 is recommended for 2008/09 to pay for the cost of insurance and a contribution towards their running costs, subject to the organisation offering it's immigration advice service to other communities.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

No other funding has been received, however the organisation has made applications to three other funding bodies (decisions currently pending).

ACCA have use of an individual office provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

ASHIANA

Grant requested:	£17,500
Current grant:	£2,700
Grant recommended:	£3,060

Background:

Ashiana is a local voluntary organisation, which supports children and adults from the Asian communities who have learning or physical disabilities, and their carers. The organisation aims to provide regular social activities for people (including outings), Asian arts and culture, singing and dancing. Ashiana currently holds a monthly entertainment leisure evening in a local school for service users and carers, and also a weekly activities programme for 2 hours (i.e. yoga and dance classes).

Grant Request:

The funding requested is for the following projects / activities:

- Venue hire of premises for monthly entertainment/leisure evening - £1,800;
- Venue hire for weekly activity centre for children and young people - £2,400;
- Professional fees for tuition classes (dancing, singing, drama and IT) - £4,800;
- Hiring of bands and professional entertainers - £500;
- Office rent and services - £2,600;
- Part-time staff costs - £5,000;
- Printing, postage, stationery, insurance, telephone and sundry costs - £2,350.

Comments and Recommendations:

The organisation was set up in September 2000, and has grown considerably in terms of membership (approx. 90% are from Harrow). They do not currently have an administrative base. During the year, the users performed on five occasions within the local community, e.g. Under One Sky. A total of 109 people took part in the organisation's activities during 2006/07.

Funding of £3,060 is recommended to Ashiana for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the amount awarded in 2006/07 (£3,000) as a contribution towards the running of their weekly activities.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

No other funding received in 2007/08.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

ASIAN ELDERLY GROUP (HARROW)

Grant requested:	£6,200
Current grant:	£3,500
Grant recommended	£5,500

Background:

The Asian Elderly Group was set up in 1975 to promote the interests of elderly Asians in Harrow, provide venues to meet, socialise, share information, participate in activities for better physical and mental health and spend time in company, rather than alone, for a better quality of life. Activities include card games, light physical exercises, lectures on health issues, help with translations, filling out forms, advice on social services, entertainment programmes, and outings. Feedback survey recently carried out by the organisation showed that a majority of the members benefited from meeting others, making friends and alleviating loneliness.

Grant Request:

The Group is seeking funding of £6,200 to pay for rent of the hall at Gateway House in North Harrow, for a total of 2 afternoons a week from 1-4pm (£2,100 per annum), insurance (£400), administrative costs (£200) and salary of a part-time Development Officer (£5,500 per annum) to run a drop-in / activity centre for elderly, frail and disabled Asians. The total cost of this activity is £8,200. The only other income they receive, other than the grant from the Council, is £2,000 in membership fees.

Comments and Recommendations:

Membership of this Group has increased to 400 compared to 389 in the previous year (100 male and 300 female members). Between 70-100 people attend each session on a regular basis.

This group provides a valuable service to the elderly, frail and disabled Asian community of Harrow. Due to a reduction in their funding in 2007/08, the Group had to terminate the employment of the part-time Development Officer. Funding of £5,500 is recommended for 2008/09 to enable them to re-instate this post.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

No other funding received.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR MUSLIM CITIZENS

Grant requested:	£5,000
Current grant:	£1,800
Grant recommended:	£2,040

Background:

The organisation was established in 2003 with the aim of improving the lives of senior Muslims in Harrow and surrounding areas by informing them of benefits, services and facilities that are available to them, including specific training and advice in health awareness, and to reduce social isolation.

The organisation has a membership of about 151 of whom a majority live in Harrow, and 8 regular volunteers specifically to provide 80-90 hospital visits annually to improve communication between hospital staff and patients.

Grant Request:

The organisation is seeking a grant of £5,000 as listed below:

Volunteers expenses	£1,100
Hire of venues	£750
Public liability insurance	£350
Telephone	£350
Postage	£350
Stationery	£350
Refreshments	£250
Administrative assistance	£1,000
Community transport	£500
Total	£5,000

The funding requested is to enable the Association to organise medical/health related seminars with representatives from the PCT and local GPs with topics covering diet, diabetes, heart disease, etc. They have organised a visit from a pharmacist from the Royal Free Hospital to give a seminar on cholesterol amongst Asian people. They will also organise information sessions on wills and inheritance tax, benefits entitlement, etc. The Association provides moral support through volunteers to sick members in hospital or in their home by maintaining telephone contact. Volunteers are reimbursed for expenses such as mileage and parking incurred for social and hospital visits. Various cultural functions and outings are also held throughout the year (funded from their own resources).

Comments and Recommendations:

Membership of this Association has increased to 151 compared to 129 in the previous year, although the number of volunteers has remained the same.

Funding of £2,040 is recommended to the Association of Senior Muslim Citizens for 2008/09, to pay for volunteer expenses and a contribution towards general running costs. This is a 2% inflationary increase on the amount awarded in 2006/07 (£2,000).

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

No other funding received.

Association of Senior Muslim Citizens have had use of accommodation on a casual basis provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road, however with effect from 1st January 2008, they now occupy a designated desk.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

BENTLEY PRIORY NATURE RESERVE

Grant requested:	£3,500
Current grant:	£2,200
Grant recommended:	£3,500

Background:

Bentley Priory Nature Reserve is a site of outstanding metropolitan importance and includes 3 acres of "special scientific interest" within its boundaries. The management committee through its volunteer sector assists the Council in creating a high quality landscape, in terms of biodiversity, education and leisure pursuits for all sectors of the community. Schools in Harrow and surrounding Boroughs use the Nature Reserve for field trips to educate the students in a natural environment.

Grant Request:

The organisation is seeking a grant of £3,500, mainly to fund qualified British Conservation Trust Volunteers to carry out scrub clearance, coppicing and general maintenance. The organisation hopes to increase their activities in local schools and £500 of this grant request is for the production of leaflets and promotional literature (they intend to seek match funding from other sources). Funding is also needed to pay the voluntary warden's incidental expenses as well as general administrative expenses.

Comments and Recommendations:

The Council has a responsibility to maintain current SSSIs and may be subject to sanction from Government Bodies if the Council defaults. The work carried out by the volunteers is essential in order to sustain and improve the SSSI status and has a proven track record of delivering quality conservation work and education. The application is supported by the Public Realm Maintenance Services and funding of £3,500 is recommended to Bentley Priory Nature Reserve for 2008/09, to be used in extending their work with schools in Harrow.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

None

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Public Realm Maintenance Services

CARRAMEA (CONSORTIUM OF ANTI-RACIST, REFUGEE AND MINORITY ETHNIC ASSOCIATIONS)

Grant requested:	£2,400
Current grant	£2,100
Grant recommended:	£2,400

Background:

CARRAMEA was set up in 1999 by five groups based at the Community Premises to consolidate the services they were providing and to develop additional services. CARRAMEA currently has 8 full member associations.

CARRAMEA has established good links with the statutory and voluntary sectors in Harrow and beyond. It has provided training and capacity building to individuals and groups, primarily to groups based at the Community Premises.

Grant Request:

The grant of £2,400 is requested to enable CARRAMEA to continue to provide people from black and other minority ethnic backgrounds (including refugees, students and unemployed people) with certificated ICT courses and customised ICT weekly workshops at a variety of levels in a welcoming and confidence-building environment. These people have the opportunity to develop skills in word processing, databases, desktop publishing, emailing and Internet research, in order to efficiently administer their organisations and facilitate entry into employment or onto vocational course in further education. The grant is also requested to continue providing 'QuickBooks' computerised accounts courses in partnership with C.A.S.H. (Community Accountancy Self-Help) for Harrow voluntary sector organisations.

CARRAMEA currently provides 2 beginners classes 2 days per week (4 classes), one multi-media class per week, QuickBooks courses for 2 full days every quarter and customised desktop publishing/internet sessions for 2 hours as and when required. Courses are advertised through member organisations, by leaflets advertised on notice boards at the Community Premises, and by recommendations from former trainees and word of mouth.

The grant requested is for contribution to running costs £1,200 and volunteer trainers' expenses £1,200.

Comments and Recommendations:

The ICT training has been beneficial and in 2006/07, 135 people attended ICT training for various courses and 6 completed QuickBooks training and 10 ESOL students used computers to develop their English. Of these, 31% were refugees, 77% were Asian, 21% were African, 1% was African-Caribbean and 1% was White European.

The Council's Community Learning Team have worked with Carramea on a number of initiatives and they are currently working together on a new project funded by the LSC, from the Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities fund. This has resulted in the establishment of an I.T. Learning Centre at the Community Premises where new equipment will be installed, networked and maintained by Carramea. This will provide a sustainable resource for several voluntary sector groups engaging learners from their own communities and as a training resource, providing the communities with an ongoing means of retaining some control of the learning process. Carramea will assist with the recruiting trainees for a

one-year 'I Media' course including digital photography, image manipulation, web design and animation leading to the award of City and Guilds Level 2 in I.T., which is part of the project.

Funding of £2,400 is recommended to CARRAMEA for 2008/09 as a contribution to running costs and volunteer trainers'.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£257 received from the Edward Harvist Trust fund in October 2007.

Carramea currently operates from the Resource Room at the Community Premises in Northolt Road.

Report produced by the Grants Unit I consultation with Community Learning.

COMMUNITY LINK UP

Grant requested:	£10,000
Current grant:	£4,500
Grant recommended:	£5,650

Background:

Community Link Up is a local charity, set up in 1981, which supports adults and children with learning disabilities in the borough through several different projects. The projects include:

- The Transitions Project for High School leavers.
- The Inclusions project for education/vocational placements
- Senior 1:1 Club – for people aged 18 and above;
- Individual and group friendships
- Volunteer Training
- Children’s activities/ Junior 1-1 club.

Community Link-Up has 250 volunteers currently supporting 480 people in Harrow who have a learning disability. Although the organisation is local it has been recognised nationally for the quality of the work it has undertaken with people with learning disabilities. Community Link – Up is involved with the healthy living centre in Wealdstone as well as partnership arrangements with other local organisations and provides services to people in residential care and day services. Changes Night Club is now run and managed by a group of people with learning disabilities with support from Community Link Up.

Grant Request:

Community Link- Up is requesting a grant of £10,000 as a contribution towards salaries, administrative and running costs in respect of the projects listed below. A full breakdown of the grant request is outlined below:

<u>Transitions Project:</u>	*Staffing costs - £1,250;
<u>Inclusions Project:</u>	*Staffing costs - £2,750;
	Fees & charges payable to other providers for activities - £1,250
<u>Volunteer Training:</u>	*Training for 50 volunteers over 12 months - £750
	Volunteer screening administration costs - £750
	*Volunteer expenses - £150;
<u>DOSTI Project:</u>	Production of literature & specialist information - £475
	*Staffing costs - £750;
<u>Junior 1:1:</u>	Cost of outings (3 per year @ £25 per person x 25 children) - £1,875
TOTAL:	£10,000

The total cost of all projects is £180,821 and to date the organisation has secured £66,743 however applications to a number of funding bodies have been submitted (decisions pending).

Comments and Recommendations:

Community Link Up continues to provide much valued services to adults and children with learning disabilities in the Borough through their varied activities. Despite the difficult financial climate, they have been able to maintain their prominence in the media and the quality of their work has been recognised by beneficiaries, carers and partner organisations. Funding of

£5,650 is recommended as a contribution towards all expenditure listed above marked by an (*), i.e staffing costs. Volunteer training, and volunteer expenses.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£4,500 – BBC Children in Need (Junior Club);

£48,959 – Big Lottery (Transitions & Inclusions);

£20,000 – City Bridge Trust (Inclusions);

£1,500 – David Solomans Charitable Trust (Core costs);

£19,404 – Harrow Council, People First (volunteers and spending on service users);

£2,000 – Mrs Smith & Mount Trust (volunteers);

£1,000 – The Steel Charitable Trust (Adult Club);

£2,000 – The Peter De Haan Charitable Trust (Adult Club).

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

HARROW AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION (HACAS)

Grant requested: £10,000
Current grant: £5,900
Grant recommended: £6,732

Background:

The aim of the organisation is primarily to unite African-Caribbean communities in the Borough, to actively encourage a thriving membership, and to provide a meeting place and foster friendship. Services are primarily for the elderly, disabled and isolated members of the African-Caribbean community.

Grant Request:

HACAS are requesting funding of £10,000 as a contribution towards their activities as outlined below:

Luncheon Club/Activity Day Centre
(to cover the costs of rent/cook/volunteer helper) £6,300
Volunteer Assistants x 3@ £20 each per week £3,000
Dance School – rent/teacher/insurance £3,000

The luncheon club/activity day centre meets at the Wealdstone Methodist Church from 11am to 4pm each Friday. Activities include keep-fit sessions (for which there is a small charge), board games, crafts, speakers on relevant topics, e.g. Age Concern, a cooked 2-course Caribbean lunch at a cost of £3 per member, which includes afternoon tea and biscuits.

Comments and Recommendations:

The Organisation provides a meeting place for approximately 100 elderly members of the African-Caribbean community so that they do not become isolated in their homes. There are health benefits arising from the various social events and day trips throughout the year.

The Organisation currently has use of a designated desk at the Community Premises in Northolt Road for their administrative work.

They have over the years been building up their Business Reserve Account, which currently stands at £44,545, and which they hope to use in acquiring their own premises in the future.

Funding of £6,732 is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09 for the associated costs of the luncheon club/activity day centre and a contribution towards volunteer expenses.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

No other funding received.

HACAS currently have use of a designated desk provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

HARROW AGENDA 21 ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Grant requested:	£9,646
Current grant:	£4,500
Grant recommended:	£5,730

Background:

The aim of Harrow Agenda 21 Environmental Forum is to increase the environmental sustainability of Harrow for those that live, work and visit the Borough. This will be done by influencing Harrow Council to introduce more sustainable policies and procedures, by encouraging and informing residents to help them engage in the local community and leading more sustainable lifestyles, through direct contact, and through schools, community groups and employers.

Grant Request:

Funding requested is to enable HA21 to meet part of the total running costs for their various projects including the HA21 Education Action Group, BME recycling volunteers, providing information to help local residents travel sustainably, training HA21 volunteers for key posts that build the capacity of the organisation and travel from the Brember Centre to the Community Allotment Project. The breakdown of the grant request is as follows:

Volunteer training incl. CRB checks	£700
Volunteer travel	£1,600
Telephone	£400
Postage	£150
Stationery	£1,000
Printing	£1,500
Insurance	£250
Advertising (Harrow Council Street Information Board)	£200
Public Events (shows, debates, street campaigning)	£330
Schools Events	£400
Hospitality (debates and talks)	£100
Website development	£2,500
Website hosting	£100
Software licenses	£216
*Filing cabinet	£200
Total	£9,646

* This is an item of capital expenditure and therefore cannot be funded from the main grants programme.

Comments and Recommendations:

Last year the organisation was able to support 5 Action Groups – Transport and Air Pollution, Waste Management and Recycling (and Energy), Planning, Ethical Consumer and Education. HA21 held events for members and organised speaker evenings and social gatherings to allow members to share volunteering experiences. Members receive a bi-monthly newsletter, which brings news of events, volunteering opportunities and project and campaign progress news. Members have opportunities to get involved in community environment activities. Conservation and allotment workdays are examples of these opportunities.

The HA21 group is a partner in the draft Biodiversity Action Plan, which will be adopted and implemented next year. This is a plan which looks at the various important habitats and species in the borough, it then lists a series of action that are to be undertaken. A considerable amount of the work relating to encouraging schools to increase pupil awareness about wildlife issues is being undertaken by the HA 21 Education Group. The Biodiversity Action Plan Officer considers HA21 to be making a valuable contribution to implementing a borough wide document and their involvement in this work will be of extremely beneficial to the Council.

To enable the organisation to continue its education and volunteer work funding of £5,730 is recommended to HA21 for 2008/09 to cover the costs of volunteer training (£700), volunteer travel (£1,600), advertising (£200), public events (£330), school events (£400) and website development (£2,500) as outlined in their grant request above.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None.

The organisation is in receipt of rent-free accommodation on a casual basis at the Community Premises in Northolt Road with effect from 1st January 2008.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with the Biodiversity Action Plan Officer

HARROW ANTI-RACIST ALLIANCE (HARA)

Grant requested:	£9,500
Current grant:	£2,700
Grant recommended:	£3,750

Background:

The Harrow Anti-Racist Alliance (HARA) is a multi-ethnic organisation, which was set up in 1993 with the principal objective of supporting people subject to racial discrimination and harassment. HARA runs anti-racist training courses; offers work experience and volunteering opportunities, and organises youth, arts and media events and projects. HARA provides the following services:

- Casework on racial harassment/discrimination and crime reduction.
- Guidance and support to people and families experiencing social exclusion and racial harassment/discrimination.
- Participation in existing crime reduction initiatives such as third-party reporting, CASEWORKS and MAF.
- Encouraging the inclusion of people of minority-ethnic heritage, refugees, the elderly and young people in a range of Harrow Council initiatives, including the Arts Festival and Black History Month.

Grant Request:

HARA is seeking a grant of £9,500 to expand a part-time Community Support Co-ordinator (CSC) post from one morning a week to 5 mornings a week to co-ordinate services provided by HARA supporting individuals who are subject to racial discrimination by undertaking frontline casework 5 days a week. The Co-ordinator will effectively liaise with other frontline statutory/voluntary agencies within the Harrow Strategic Partnership and other agencies as appropriate. The Co-ordinator will co-ordinate existing and new volunteers who undertake casework or provide assistance to HARA's clients. They will also be leading on casework, advisory work and enabling full participation in existing crime reduction initiatives, such as third party reporting, Caseworks, MAF, and the inclusion of minority ethnic, the elderly and young people in a range of Harrow Council initiatives, including the Arts Festival and Black History Month.

Comments and Recommendations:

HARA is active at the Community Premises, where they currently occupy an individual office, and is well respected by other voluntary organisations and statutory agencies. During 2006/07, HARA dealt with 24 racial harassment cases, 12 of which were referred by M.A.F; 8 referred themselves and 4 were referred by other organisations. An additional 137 non-racism cases were dealt with (e.g. housing, benefits, employment) for which language support was provided for around a third of those cases. In addition to the casework, HARA performed anti-racist drama/poetry at 7 events in Harrow and provided 9 Harrow residents with work experience, 8 of whom went on to find employment.

Funding of £3,750 is recommended to HARA for 2008/09, to cover 50% of the staff costs.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£1,500 from Lifelong Learning for a drama workshop

£700 from Harrow Council for Black History Month project

HARA currently have use of an individual office provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road.

Report prepared by the Grants Unit

HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (HASVO)

(‘Community Intervention Against Substance Misuse for Enhanced Development and Integration’)

Grant requested: £27,214 (in addition to SLA)
Current grant: £10,200 (continuation of SLA for 2008/09)
Grant recommended: £6,000 (in addition to SLA funding)

Background:

HASVO was set up in January 2004 to provide a united voice for the Somali community in Harrow; to help Somali groups to form a network and to improve the social and economic conditions of the Somali community. HASVO is the umbrella group of 8 Somali groups. In its role of providing community leadership and strategic planning, HASVO co-ordinates and allocates responsibility to member organisations for a specific service area or client group, i.e., disabled, women and mental health.

HASVO provides an open access and surgery to all members of the Somali community in Harrow from 2 venues: the Community Premises and its office in St. John’s Road. Advice and guidance is given on a variety of issues including social and welfare benefits, housing, education and health. Practical assistance is also provided with interpreting, translation, completing forms and letter writing. Often, volunteers accompany clients to the relevant services to interpret for them and liaise on the client’s behalf. Volunteers also visit some clients in their own homes and provide outreach work.

Grant Request:

Part of the grant is requested for the ‘Community Intervention Against Substance Misuse for Enhanced Development and Integration’ Project and will be used to continue funding the post of part-time Co-ordinator for this project (currently funded by Harrow Drug Action Team until April 2008). The services provided will address the wider issue of Khat Use and substance misuse among adult and young Somali people in relation to housing problems, family conflict, low educational achievement, unemployment and social isolation. The education and peer training programme will target at young Somali people up to the age of 25 who are involved in, or at risk of developing mental health problems, becoming involved in substance misuse and/or crime and disorder.

The other part of the grant is requested to fund a part-time Community Development Officer for the organisation, the expenses of five volunteers, the rent of the organisation’s premises at St. John’s Road and a contribution to administrative costs. The Officer will be based at the Community Premises to fill the current gaps arising from the organisation’s total dependency on volunteers from member organisations to cover the current rota in operation.

A breakdown of the grant request is detailed below:

A. Substance Misuse Project

Project Officer (17.5 hours p.w.)	£10,627
Office rent (St. John’s Road)	£6,000
Total	£16,627

B. Community Development

Community Development Officer (21 hours p.w.)	£9,087
Running costs (incl. Volunteers)	£1,500
Total	£10,587

Total A+B: £27,214

Comments and Recommendations:

Over the past two years, the Council's Drug Action Team and Harrow Stronger and Safer Community Fund have supported HASVO to run this pilot project on drug education and awareness for substance misuse among Somalis and other BME groups in Harrow. The project has made significant contributions in the provision of a range of services for this community particularly in the areas of drug education and awareness of substance misuse and increased awareness among the frontline staff and borough leadership of the BME substance misuse.

In 2007/08, HASVO does not receive any funding from the Safer and Stronger Communities due to the competitive crime and disorder agendas. The HASVO Drug Education Service has been picked up by the DAT's Adult Pooled Treatment Budget (PTB) for the delivery of advocacy, volunteer training, and user/carer involvement. However, there are specific terms and conditions of the PTB funding, which should prioritise the Class A drug clients and specialist treatment service provision. In view of the zero budget allocation for 08/09, there will be only a small amount (less than £5000) allocated to the advocacy and volunteer training service provided by HASVO.

Against this background, HASVO puts in a bid to the community grant to enable HASVO to provide a free and independent advice service over a range of social and integration issues which are beneficial to the community cohesion and social inclusion.

During 2006/07, HASVO assisted 822 people with the services mentioned. The project co-ordinator and his team of volunteers through out the borough conducted numerous workshops, conferences and debates. HASVO worked closely with Harrow Voluntary Service (HAVS) and co-facilitated the youth training project with their small group's development specialist. HASVO is a member of the Harrow Policing and neighbourhood safety committee to promote crime prevention. HASVO also provides ongoing support and partnership with the schools and Harrow Council Education Department and plans to develop a lesson plan on BME substance misuse for PCHE teachers in the secondary schools.

HASVO is also a key member of the BME Community Engagement (Substance Misuse) Steering group, which provides overall management of the BME substance misuse projects. The Steering Group champions and promotes the aims and the ethos of the BME project and provide it with co-ordinated leadership. HASVO has conducted a series of meetings with the Harrow Council Teams and voluntary sector leaders in order to highlight the plight and special needs of the Somali family and the impact of substance misuse on them.

A major achievement for HASVO last year was working in partnership with the Council's Community and Cultural Services on a report entitled 'Harrow Somali Community Needs Assessment'. HASVO enlisted the help of volunteers from the Somali community who helped with undertaking door-to-door surveys and facilitating discussion groups to ensure that the views of all sections of the community were reflected including children, young people, older residents and those with disabilities.

HASVO currently operates a volunteer casework service on a rota basis at the Community Premises. 4 of the Somali community groups based at the premises volunteer for one day each as part of the rota. When these volunteer caseworkers accompany clients to external agencies to advocate on their behalf there is no HASVO presence at the premises to attend to other clients. The service would benefit from part-time casework officer support based exclusively at the premises during casework service hours so that all clients who visit the premises during these hours can have a caseworker to assist them.

Officers from the Drug Action Team are supportive of this application and have stated that DAT funding will not be able to support this project beyond March 2008, which is likely to have a negative impact on both the Somali community and the DAT outcomes.

Although positive reports have been received about the Substance Misuse project, the limited amount of funding available means that this project can not be fully funded. £6,000 is recommended to HASVO for 2008/09 to cover the rental costs of the office in St. John's Road to assist the organisation in maintaining some stability whilst alternative funding is sought.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£8,000 from LAA for Volunteering/Breast Feeding project

£30,560 from Harrow Drug Action Team for the Community Engagement Against Substance Misuse project (comes to an end in March 2008).

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Drug Action Team

HARROW BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATION

Grant requested:	£3,360
Current grant:	£1,650
Grant recommended:	£1,900

Background:

The organisation was set up in 2004 to provide Bangladeshi cultural, intellectual and social welfare to young people of Harrow and promote good will and understanding of Bangladeshi culture to people of all ethnic origins. It currently runs a Bengali school at Whitmore High School on a Sunday to teach the Bengali language including reading, writing, speaking and listening and Bengali culture as well as good etiquette. Approximately 40 young people, aged 6–16 years old, attend.

Grant Request:

The organisation is seeking a grant of £3,360 as a contribution towards the cost of classroom hire (£960) and payment of teachers (£2,400) for the school for 3 hours per week for 40 weeks. This will enable the organisation to continue to provide the service free of charge to users. The remainder would be funded by individual donations.

Comments and Recommendations:

Funding of £1,900 is recommended for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the amount awarded in 2006/07 (£1,860). The funding is to be used as a contribution towards the overall cost of the provision of services by Harrow Bangladeshi Association.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None, other than individual donations amounting to £3,100.

Report produced by the Grants Unit.

HARROW BENGALEE ASSOCIATION (2 APPLICATIONS)

Grant requested:	£4,500 (1) and £2,500 (2) – Over Fifty Society
Current grant:	£2,400
Grant recommended:	£2,729

Background:

The organisation was set up in 1989 to provide a common platform for the Bengalee residents in and around Harrow to share their views, experience, concerns and practise and maintain their rich cultural heritage. The aims and objectives of the Association are to advance the education of the Bengalee community in music, Bengali language and culture and to provide facilities for recreation, with the object of improving the quality of life.

The organisation runs mother tongue classes and singing classes at Harrow High School every Saturday for 2 hours (term time). Approximately 19 people attend these classes.

The organisation currently has designated desk accommodation at the Community Premises and provides information and guidance on community welfare issues, interpreting and practical and emotional support to isolated families. Clients are seen by appointment and the number of people seen varies from week to week.

An 'Over Fifty Society' has recently been started in response to demands from the Bengalee families accessing the current services provided by the organisation. At the moment, activities include weekly yoga/keep fit sessions at Harrow High School, which are followed by health awareness sessions (monthly) and coffee afternoons (every two weeks). Approximately 20 people attend the yoga sessions and up to 40 people attend the health promotion sessions and coffee afternoons.

In addition, it also provides cultural events 2 or 3 times a year where up to 250 people attend and summer trips 2 or 3 times a year for approximately 120 people. Nominal fees are charged for these.

Grant Request (1):

The organisation is requesting £4,500 as a contribution towards various activities as outlined in the budget breakdown below (a more detailed breakdown is provided with the application).

2 Mother tongue teachers	£1,400
1 Music teacher	£875
Office volunteer expenses	£750
Rent for class room	£350
Hire of halls for various cultural events	£720
Cost of 2 cultural events	£1,480
Food costs for functions	£2,250
Printing/postage/telephone	£450
2 Family trips (coaches)	£1,240
Snack for children on family trips	£150
Total cost	£9,665
Total income expected	£5,050
Expected deficit	£4,615 (total requested £4,500)

Grant Request (2):

The second request is for the Over Fifty Society and is a contribution towards the cost of various activities as outlined in the budget breakdown below:

Hire of hall	£2,070
Yoga teacher/keep fit session	£2,200
Family activities – snacks	£1,380
Family trip	£1,600
Printing	£70
Total cost	£7,320
Total income expected	£2,700
Expected deficit	£4,620 (total requested £2,500)

Comment and Recommendations:

Harrow Bengalee Association holds charitable status and officers have advised that they should also explore possible funding from other sources, i.e. City Bridge Trust and Awards for All.

Funding of £2,729 is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09 as a contribution towards the activities outlined in 'Grant Request 2' above, specifically to pay for the associated costs of yoga/keep fit sessions, and a contribution towards volunteer expenses for their overall activities.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

No other funding received.

Harrow Bengalee Association currently occupies a designated desk provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road, and is also in receipt of concessionary rates for their lets at Harrow High School.

Report produced by the Grants Unit.

HARROW BEREAVEMENT CARE

Grant requested:	£9,500
Current grant:	£6,400
Grant recommended:	£9,500

Background:

Harrow Bereavement Care, formerly Harrow Churches Bereavement Visiting Scheme, was established in 1981 to relieve the suffering and distress caused by bereavement amongst the residents of the London Borough of Harrow and surrounding area, in particular, but not exclusively by:

- Offering support through the process of grieving.
- Raising public awareness of the need for effective bereavement support to be available in the community.
- Training and supervising suitable volunteers in visiting and listening skills for working with those bereaved (whether in their homes or in other appropriate places).
- Expand the services that are offered to support bereaved children.
- Co-operating with and offering training to other agencies engaged in similar work.

The aim is to respond to the needs of those who suffer from the distress and grief of bereavement. Volunteers offer comfort, support and re-assurance by visiting them, often in their own homes, for as often and as long as it takes. The organisation exists to support all people in the area, whatever their faith or lack of it.

There are currently 20 groups, each with a leader, that operate the bereavement scheme to meet the diverse needs of the borough. The groups include Christian, Jewish, Muslim and non-faith groups, which have volunteers that visit the bereaved in their own homes and/or provide telephone support and a drop-in service. The organisation receives referrals from GPs, Northwick Park Hospital Psychology Services, social workers, Palliative Care Team and the Probation Service.

Training for volunteer visitors covers a wide range of issues and this training is also offered to professionals in the statutory sector and other voluntary organisations. A greater understanding in specialist areas, such as the effect of death on children and death caused through traumatic occasions (e.g. suicide, natural disasters, terrorist activity) has led to the provision of specialist training for volunteer visitors.

A conference is held annually and focuses on a different topic each year, attended by around 100 people. Topics include children who are bereaved and loss and its effects on the family.

Grant Request:

The funding of £9,500 is requested as a contribution to support the core activities of the organisation including the salary of the Office Manager and office expenses including rent, photocopier, telephone, etc. A full budget projection has been provided and is attached with the application.

Comments and Recommendations:

The organisation continues to provide a very valuable service to bereaved people in the local community. Last year the organisation received 754 referrals, 490 people were visited and 50 volunteers trained.

Funding of £9,500 is recommended for 2008/09 subject to the organisation working towards their services being more inclusive to reflect the diverse communities of Harrow. The funding is also subject to them working closely with the Council during the year to ensure that all of their volunteer visitors undergo appropriate CRB checks.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£8,217 donation from the Emmanuel Church, Northwood.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

HARROW COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Grant requested:	£10,000
Current grant:	£3,500
Grant recommended:	£8,840

Background:

Harrow Community Transport is a registered charity, which provides fully adapted wheelchair accessible vehicles at low cost to individuals, families, statutory and voluntary organisations and community groups, who have difficulties with mainstream travel in Harrow by offering the following 3 modes of transport:

Group Transport Services:	Four vehicles all with passenger lifts: one 16-seater, two 13-seater plus two wheelchair users, and one 8-seater plus four wheelchair users. Service operates 7 days per week.
Individual Chairman Service:	Three vehicles that carry one wheelchair user plus carer. Service operates 7 days per week.
Community Car Scheme:	Volunteer car drivers using their own vehicles (currently 4). Service operates 5 days per week.

The provision of the service is a combination of one contract driver and volunteer drivers. The services provided by Harrow Community Transport enable individuals and voluntary groups to access a range of services and life opportunities, e.g. lunch clubs and social gatherings, which they would otherwise be excluded from. There is currently a 'shopping run' every Thursday where residents of six local sheltered homes are collected in a wheelchair access bus, taken to a local supermarket and driven back home again. On average, 497 people use the service per month.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting funding of £10,000 for 2008/09, as outlined below:

P/t Transport Coordinator/Admin Assistant - £8,840;
Office and telephone costs - £1,160
Total: £10,000

The organisation proposes to use the funding requested over the next 3 years to develop a Community Car Program, using a team of volunteer drivers. The funding will enable them to contribute to office space required (they currently have a small office at The Lodge, which is suitable for only one person) and recruit a part-time Co-ordinator for 4 hours a day, 5 days per week to oversee this service. The Director currently co-ordinates the service and as a result is unable to expand the service to its full potential. HCT aims to recruit more volunteer drivers (up to 25) to enable the community car scheme to operate 7 days per week and provide an increase of up to 3120 journeys per year. The Co-ordinator would be the main point of contact for both drivers and clients.

Comments and Recommendations:

HCT provides a valuable service to the most vulnerable individuals in the Borough: young and older people and those with a disability, enabling them to access a range of services and life opportunities thereby enhancing their quality of life. The organisation has developed over the past 18 months and has been successful in obtaining funding from other bodies. It has adopted baseline standards of the Community Transport Operation and is now registered with MIDAS as a Driver Assessment and Training Centre. Training courses are in place for volunteers and user group staff.

Funding of £8,840 is recommended to Harrow Community Transport for 2008/09 to cover the cost of employing a part-time Co-ordinator

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£30,000 from City Bridge Trust for the Director's salary.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

HARROW EMERALD CIRCLE CLUB

Grant requested:	£1,000
Current grant:	£450
Grant recommended:	£1,000

Background:

This organisation was established in 2002 by BIAS (Brent Irish Advisory Service). It now operates independently and is run by and for Irish pensioners in the Borough of Harrow. The aim of the Club is to provide an outlet for pensioners to join in social and educational sessions (keep fit classes, trip to the seaside, annual dance, basic computer course), and thus improve the mental and physical health and self-esteem of its members. These sessions are provided one afternoon a week, based at St Joseph's Church in Wealdstone. There are 30 current members / users. The organisation wishes to attract more members and provide more events.

Grant Request:

Funding requested is mainly for keep fit classes for members. Other activities include an annual dance, trips to the seaside, advice sessions on pensions, benefits and health and a computer class for beginners.

Comments and Recommendations:

This Club is the only organisation in Harrow catering specifically for the needs of Irish pensioners. Funding of £1,000 is recommended to Harrow Emerald Circle Club for 2008/09 as a contribution towards their overall activities.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

£4,000 from DION;
£2,000 from Irish Fund of Great Britain.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

HARROW GINGERBREAD

Grant requested:	£2,000
Current grant:	£500
Grant recommended:	£1,530

Background:

Harrow Gingerbread is a self-help and support group for lone parent families from different multi cultures, ages and backgrounds, and is a subsidiary of the National Gingerbread. They provide a meeting place for lone parents and their children, as well as emotional, moral and practical support. They also organise activities and events to bring people together to avoid isolation and meet others in similar situations. The organisation currently meets at the Pinner Youth Centre in Chapel Lane on one Sunday per month.

Grant Request:

Harrow Gingerbread is applying for a grant towards their healthy eating and awareness project. The project would support and encourage young people to create their own healthy eating plans from scratch, creating menus on a computer, researching recipes, keeping display books and taking photographs to keep and try out at home. Young people would be making a positive contribution to their wellbeing and independence by working in small groups to use utensils and ingredients to bring awareness of healthy eating into their lives and gain new skills and experience. From the £2,000 requested, £1,530 is for running costs and £470 is for equipment, e.g. pots and pans, utensils, toastie maker, smoothie maker, kettle, display books, digital camera/memory card, etc.

Comments and Recommendations:

Under the current grant qualifying criteria, the Council does not support funding for capital costs and equipment, but can support revenue costs (i.e. running costs of a project). Harrow Gingerbread have been advised to submit a separate application under the Edward Harvist Trust Fund for the purchase of equipment as outlined above.

Officers from Children Services, Early Years Team are supportive of the activities of Harrow Gingerbread. Funding of £1,530 is recommended for the running costs of the healthy eating and awareness project.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

No other funding received. Harrow Gingerbread are currently in receipt of concessionary rates for their monthly let at Pinner Youth Centre.

Report produced by the Grants Panel in consultation with Children Services, Early Years Team.

HARROW HERITAGE TRUST

Grant requested: £8,100 (plus £15,000 from Capital Programme)
Current grant: £8,100
Grant recommended: £8,100 (plus £15,000 from Capital Programme)

Background:

The Harrow Heritage Trust has been a focus for many heritage and environmental projects and initiatives since 1985. The aims and objectives of the Trust are to secure the protection, preservation, restoration and improvement of the character and amenities of the London Borough of Harrow, and to promote the preservation of lands and buildings of beauty or historic interest as well as areas of ecological or other scientific or environmental importance within the borough and to promote schemes and awards to assist the attainment of these objectives. The Trust operates through a number of sub-committees, each with its own specific role. These functions are co-ordinated through the Executive Committee. It also supports the Headstone Manor restoration through fundraising and advice.

Grant Request:

The Harrow Heritage Trust is requesting a grant of £8,100 to enable it to continue to assist Harrow Council with the maintenance of open spaces, organising extra-curricular projects for school children, assist the Council's biodiversity officer, choose suitable buildings or places for placing plaques and awards schemes, clear graffiti, give special help to community related projects and events and for the administration of all of the above.

Funding of £8,100 will cover the following:

Harrow Nature Conservation Forum	£4,000
Work with young people	£1,500
Administration	£1,800
Plaque and graffiti cleaning	£400
Ad-hoc special requests for projects	£400

Comments and Recommendations:

Harrow Heritage Trust have consistently provided an excellent support network for the enhancement of the environment and the Harrow Nature Conservation Forum has proved to be an effective volunteer network delivering quality conservation work and an excellent joint partnering facility with the Council. Public Realm Maintenance Services are supportive of the work of the organisation.

Funding of £8,100 is recommended for 2008/09. It is also recommended that the Grants Advisory Panel recommend to Cabinet that the Trust's application for a £15,000 Heritage Grant from the Capital Programme is approved.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

The Trust received £15,000 from Harrow Council Capital Programme (long-term commitment).

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Public Realm Maintenance Services.

HARROW IN EUROPE ASSOCIATION (HIE)

Grant requested:	£6,000
Current grant:	£4,500
Grant recommended:	£5,100

Background:

The aims of Harrow in Europe is to promote international friendship and understanding by strengthening the links formed by Harrow and Douai, stimulating and fostering mutual exchanges between the communities of the 2 towns. The twinning activities provide an opportunity to involve people of all age levels and interests, and should cut across boundaries, including political ones. Other aims and purpose includes:

- Raising awareness, including exchanges from the business, educational and disadvantaged communities;
- Provision of hosting facilities, hospitality and support to twinning visitors from Douai;
- Provision of support services in relation to agreed twinning activities, such as translations and interpreting services to the Council;
- Promotion of twinning opportunities by facilitating links between schools, Borough representatives and local groups, and twinning contacts in Douai.

Grant Request:

Harrow in Europe are requesting funding of £6,000 to continue to organise and carry out on behalf of the Council all tasks relating to official civic duties and functions of Twinning and Remembrance, and to promote International Friendship through school, sporting, cultural and leisure activities.

Comments and Recommendations:

Harrow in Europe hosted 4 events last year and sponsored 6 schools in visits to Europe. Approximately 817 individuals were involved in twinning arrangements or exchanges. They also increased their income through fundraising by 9% from previous years.

Funding of £5,100 is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the amount awarded in 2006/07 (£4,500). This funding is to be used for their range of events and work with children subject to the organisation including a wider range of people, e.g. people with disabilities.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

No other funding received.

Report produced by the Grants Unit.

HARROW IN LEAF

Grant requested:	£8,600
Current grant:	£900
Grant recommended:	£1,500

Background:

Harrow in Leaf was formed in 1998 as part of the LA21 initiatives to encourage horticulture, improve allotment facilities and raise awareness of allotments in the Borough. It's aims and objectives are to promote the interest and benefits of horticulture in Harrow, support horticultural groups and interested individuals in the borough, to monitor horticultural activity which impacts on members of Harrow in Leaf and to provide a forum for consultation and negotiation with the London Borough of Harrow and other parties and communicate the concerns of members of Harrow in Leaf.

Grant Request:

Harrow in Leaf is requesting a grant of £8,600 to fund it's 4th Horticultural Show in 2008, the largest horticulture art and crafts event in the Borough since the Harrow Show collapsed in 2004. It would fund the costs associated with staging the show, promotional materials to enable the group to reach out to all groups in the community to take part, publicity and prizes. In addition, part of the funding requested would go towards the maintenance of equipment, the creation of a website and general administration. A breakdown of the request is as follows:

Promotional publicity (leaflets, posters, etc)	£1,000
Maintenance	£500
Website	£100
*Horticultural Show	£7,000

*This includes table hire, catering for volunteers, security, marquee hire, insurance, fencing hire. The organisation is looking into the possibility of holding the show at Headstone Manor, depending on how much funding they receive.

Comments and Recommendations:

The consultative forum provides an indispensable link with allotment holders to formulate policy and promote allotments and a single allotment portal through the web site. The Horticultural Show affords the only opportunity to celebrate horticultural skills and carry on the tradition of horticultural showing and excellence following the demise of the Harrow Show. The application is supported by the Public Realm Maintenance Services.

Funding of £1,500 is recommended to Harrow in Leaf for 2008/09 towards publicity materials and maintenance as outlined above.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

No other funding received.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Public Realm Maintenance Services.

HARROW IRANIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (HICA)

Grant requested:	£10,000
Current grant:	£4,500
Grant recommended:	£5,500

Background:

The Harrow Iranian Community Association was set up in 1991 to assist Iranian refugees and asylum seekers with respect to settlement, health, education and integration into the mainstream of society in Britain.

HICA occupies an individual office at the Community Premises where it provides the majority of its services. The main role is to provide refugee assistance via a drop-in service and translation and interpretation services to non-English speaking Iranians. Some individuals are accompanied to various agencies (i.e. Benefits Agency, Hospitals, GPs) and others are visited in their own homes including visiting those that are housebound and acting as a go-between with them and agencies that they need to deal with. HICA provides a range of other services including:

- Saturday mother tongue school for over 122 pupils at Belmont First School.
- Elderly women's ESOL classes held twice a week at Community Premises with a tutor from Harrow College. These classes are open to all communities and on average 12-14 people attend.
- Elderly & Senior Citizens Lunch Club weekly at The Lodge (20-25 people attend).
- Occasional seminars and workshops on child psychology.
- Celebrating Iranian calendar events

HICA have the Community Legal Services Quality Mark for general advice with casework. They have also recently been awarded a PQASSO Level One award.

Grant Request:

HICA is requesting £10,000 for the following:

Venue hire	£3,000
Administration	£1,000
Telephone, web maintenance, postage	£2,500
Volunteers expenses	£3,000
Refreshments	£500
Total	£10,000

Comments and Recommendations:

Funding from the Big Lottery for all 3 workers (Co-ordinator and 2 Outreach Workers) came to an end in 2006/07 and yet HICA has continued to provide the same service to its users. The Co-ordinator has continued to work the same number of hours and has kept the drop-in service running at the same times, despite not being paid. HICA would consider this to be their main achievement.

HICA continues to provide well-used services to a substantial number of users and plays an active role in the Harrow Refugee Forum and CARRAMEA. In the past, they have been successful with applying for funding from other bodies and continue to make applications.

Funding of £5,500 is recommended to Harrow Iranian Community Association for 2008/09 to pay for volunteers' expenses (£3,000) and general running costs (£2,500) as outlined above. It is recommended that the organisation works closely with the Persian Senior Citizen Club in future, as they are both providing similar services to their community.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£8,900 from the Big Lottery
£2,470 from BBC Children in Need
£1,294 from Tribal
£3,290 from NIACE
£9,190 from other funders

It needs to be noted that all of the above funds have now come to an end. The organisation has re-applied to the Big Lottery but the application was unsuccessful. Feedback from the Big Lottery suggests that the application was of good quality but more good quality applications were received than it could fund.

HICA have use of an individual office provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road. HICA are also currently in receipt of concessionary lettings discount for venue hire for the mother tongue school.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

HARROW MENCAP

Grant requested:	£25,000
Current grant:	£6,700
Grant recommended:	£8,000

Background:

Harrow Mencap works with and represents people with learning disabilities within the Borough, to ensure their needs; rights and aspirations are met, as well as providing advice and support to families and carers. Current services include housing and supported living services, advocacy, person centred planning, leisure, sports and social club activities, an Asian outreach service, and a forum for people with learning disabilities. All of their work is focussed on user involvement and takes a person centred approach.

Grant Request:

The funding requested will be used to run after school clubs and holiday activities for children with learning disabilities in the Borough. These children are often excluded from the type of after school and holiday clubs enjoyed by other children because their disabilities mean that they require a high ratio of staff and volunteer support as well as specialised transport. The total cost of the after school clubs and holiday activities amounts to £48,769, broken down as follows:

Woodlands After School Club	£7,997
Woodlands School Holiday Club	£12,282
Kingsley After School Club	£7,997
Kingsley School Holiday Club	£12,282
Shaftesbury After School Club	£8,211
Total	£48,769

Comments and Recommendations:

The clubs at Shaftesbury, Kingsley and Woodland schools provide the opportunity for children to socialise and enjoy activities, which will broaden their horizons and foster transferable skills including social interaction, co-ordination, and confidence. The clubs have proved to be very popular with regular attendance.

Funding of £8,000 is recommend to Harrow Mencap for 2008/09 as a contribution towards the running costs of one of the after school clubs outlined above.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£213,393 – Harrow Council, People First;
£103,414 – Harrow PCT;
£603,974 – Harrow Consortium for Special Needs;
£3,798 – RSLB;
£25,000 – Connexions;
£19,306 – Football Foundation;
£13,000 – John Lyon;
£11,000 – Children in Need.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with the Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

HARROW OVER 50'S CLUB

Grant requested:	£5,000
Current grant:	Nil
Grant recommended:	£2,000

Background:

Harrow Over 50's Club is a newly-established voluntary organisation run by its management committee for the older residents of Harrow and surrounding areas. Its primary aim is to provide a social forum for the older residents of Harrow, many of whom feel isolated and lonely, to meet in an informal, welcoming environment so that they can socialise, exchange views and share their problems and worries. It also aims to assist them in areas of health and welfare.

They currently have membership of 50 older people (majority of these are between 60-70 years old). Whilst the initial membership is predominantly made up of members of the Asian community, it is the organisation's strong intention to widen the group's membership so that it is open to all members of the Harrow community, thus helping to improve social and cultural harmony amongst the older residents of Harrow.

Members meet monthly at Pinner Hill Community Hall. Activities include seminars on healthy lifestyle, discussions on local and national news, information about Council services, advice on benefits, and yoga exercises. A healthy balanced Asian meal is provided at a cost of £2.50 per person.

Grant Request:

Funding of £5,000 requested by the Club is listed below:

Hire of hall	£480
Health seminars/advice	£600
Keep-fit classes/exercises	£800
Social gatherings/refreshments	£600
Administration/running costs	£1,000
Social visits/assistance	£500
Day trips	£500
*Contribution towards purchase of projector	£510
Total	£5,000

* This is an item of capital expenditure and therefore cannot be funded from the main grants programme.

Comments and Recommendations:

The organisation have acknowledged that as their Club is newly-established, it is difficult to provide strong evidence about the demand for their service. More than 30 people attended the first meeting of the Club on 3rd August 2007, simply by word of mouth. Informal advertising generated a very positive response; hence the membership has now increased to 50. It is considered that the activities of the Club will provide health benefits for the older members of the Harrow community, and success will be measured by the growing attendance

of members over the year, and the organisations ability to attract members from the wider community.

Funding of £2,000 is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09, restricted to their rental costs, health seminars, keep-fit classes, and a contribution towards administrative costs (i.e. printing & stationery, telephone and postage). The organisation will be asked to provide evidence of an all-inclusive membership when monitored.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None, as this is a newly established organisation.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

HARROW PENSIONERS ACTION GROUP

Grant Requested:	£750
Current Grant:	£650
Grant Recommended:	£750

Background:

The group was established in 1975. It aims to facilitate people who are over 60 years of age to meet, discuss any difficulties they may have and to jointly seek possible solutions. The group meets on a monthly basis at the Baptist Hall in Wealdstone. They also arrange outings to places of interest and social activities.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting funding of £750 towards the cost of hiring the hall, delegate's fees and expenses, journals (printing and postage), catering and affiliation fees.

Comments and Recommendations:

Harrow Pensioners Action Group has a current membership of approximately 100 Harrow residents. The Group has representatives on the Partnership with Older People Panel.

The organisation continues to provide a focal point for all pensioners in Harrow. Funding of £750 is recommended to Harrow Pensioners Action Group for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

No other funding received.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

HARROW PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING ALLIANCE (HPSLA)

Grant requested:	£14,481
Current grant:	£3,800
Grant recommended:	£5,000

Background:

The Pre-School Learning Alliance is a leading educational charity specialising in the early years. They provide practical support to over 15,000 early years settings and make a positive contribution to the care and education of over 800,000 children and their families nationally every year.

The Alliance aims to enhance the development of education of children primarily under statutory school age, by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups. The Alliance provides support to pre-school playgroups and toddler groups that are members of the Harrow Pre-School Learning Alliance within the Borough. This Harrow branch is currently based at the Glebe First and Middle School.

Grant Request:

Funding requested will pay for the rent of the office at Glebe School, and salaries of the Administrator and Finance Officer posts. The Administrator's post is part-time of 12 hours per week for 40 weeks. This post supports families that call the office for help and advice and are signposted to other agencies or to staff in the office. The Finance Officer post is also part-time, working 6 hours per week over 36 weeks. A breakdown of the grant request is outlined below :

Administrator's salary (inc. NI)	-	£5,519
Finance Officer salary	-	£2,362
Expenses	-	£600
Rent	-	£1,000
Office costs	-	£5,000

Comments and Recommendations:

Most of the organisation's funding comes from the Early Years Childcare and Parenting Services. HPSLA continues to produce regular quarterly newsletters, which detail the many activities, events and training courses it organises for its members. Officers from Children Services, Early Years Team have acknowledged that this organisation provides useful support to pre-school and toddler groups in the Borough.

To enable the organisation to continue providing its services funding of £5,000 is recommended to HPSLA for 2008/09, restricted to the running costs of their office.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

£61,777 per annum for 2 years (ending March 2008) from the Early Years Childcare and Parenting Services – to provide a team of Development Workers to support Early Years settings to provide good quality care and education to the children and families in Harrow in line with the Day Care Standards Act 2000. The Early Years team has advised officers that this funding will continue for a further period of 3 years.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Children Services, Early Years Team.

HARROW PUBLIC TRANSPORT USERS ASSOCIATION

Grant requested:	£360
Current grant:	£270
Grant recommended:	£360

Background:

The Harrow Public Transport Users Association exists to look after the interests of the public transport users who live, work or travel through the London Borough of Harrow and to campaign for new services and improvements to existing services. HPTUA acts as an adviser to the Traffic and Road Safety Panel and the Council generally on matters relating to public transport.

HPTUA organises 5 public meetings per year and is responsible for the administrative and running costs of these meetings. It also Chairs (and help organise) the Borough's Rail Liaison Group and Bus & Highway Group, to protect and campaign and enhance the services provided to the public on bus and rail.

Grant Request:

The Association is requesting a grant of £360 as a contribution towards the overall running costs of the organisation and the administrative and organisational costs associated with holding the 5 public meetings per year.

Comments and Recommendations:

The chair has been an advisor to the Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel and its predecessor bodies for many years, and now also chairs the quarterly member-level public transport liaison meetings. There is also close officer co-operation with HPTUA.

Funding of £360 is recommended for 2008/09 for the purpose outlined above.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£80 from the Edward Harvist Trust as a contribution towards running costs.

Report produced by Grants Unit

HARROW REFUGEE FORUM

Grant requested: £23,743
Current grant: £5,400
Grant recommended: £7,000

Background:

The Harrow Refugee Forum is the umbrella organisation for the Refugee and minority ethnic community organisations in the Borough of Harrow, comprising of 60 affiliated members of which 50 are based in Harrow. The Forum assists local refugee community organisations with capacity building to enhance the quality of services provided and increase their ability to access resources. The Forum represents refugee groups in various partnerships, it also develops joint-working initiatives and articulates the views of refugee communities to statutory and voluntary bodies.

Grant Request:

The Forum has provided a breakdown of their request for funding of £23,743 for 2008/09 as outlined below :

Rent, premises, venue/hall hire, etc.	-	£7,000
Running costs (telephone, internet, stationery, etc.	-	£3,156
Salary (p/t Admin & Information Officer)	-	£9,828
Needs Analysis (BMER Consultancy Needs)	-	£3,759

The funding will also enable the Forum to continue providing capacity building initiatives to RCOs and member organisations.

Comments and Recommendations:

The Forum has reconstituted itself to be in future called Harrow Refugee and Minority Forum. Also, after losing its 3-year core funding, the Forum continues to be viable and sustainable as recognised by London Councils (a major donor) over the past 3 years. During 2006/07 they had 152 users (direct service provision). The Forum runs 5 yearly events. They organised several seminars, workshops and training sessions for Refugee Community Organisations and Minority Ethnic Community Organisations. These were specifically for raising awareness of refugee issues, capacity building, finance, fundraising, quality assurance, etc. They make referrals to other organisations providing capacity building (i.e. HAVS Small Groups Project, TIDE), and sometimes they receive referrals from others. Groups from other Boroughs often attend training as they have members in Harrow. Officers are aware of the important role of the Harrow Refugee Forum and recognise that their services are directed at some of the most disadvantaged members of the communities in Harrow. The Harrow Refugee Forum is active within the Harrow Strategic Partnership and the Voluntary Sector.

To enable the organisation to maintain some stability, funding of £7,000 is recommended to Harrow Refugee Forum for 2008/09 to be used for rental/premises costs as outlined in the grant request.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£23,845 from London Councils (ends 31.3.08) – transition funding;
£9,600 from Home Office (ends 31.3.08) – refugee activities.

The organisation has recently submitted an application for Change Up funding and will also be applying to the Big Lottery Fund and the Human Rights and Equality Council.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

HARROW SOMALI WOMEN'S ACTION GROUP (HASWAG)

Grant requested:	£18,280
Current grant:	£4,500
Grant recommended:	£5,100

Background:

The Harrow Somali Women Action Group (HASWAG) provides a wide range of activities and services to Somali children and their parents. It aims to address and promote the welfare of social, cultural, and development needs of the Somali community in Harrow. It provides practical support and tries to build a bridge between mainstream service providers and community members disadvantaged by cultural and language barriers and to build up the Somali community in exile through empowering in particular young people and women. HASWAG is a member of the Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO). The main aims of the organisation are:

- To provide advice, information and practical assistance to Somali families in all aspects of their lives;
- To organise and run educational and training courses for Somali children and their parents;
- To provide advocacy and representation to the needs of Somali children and their parents;
- To liaise with all local statutory and voluntary service providers and develop good working relationships.

HASWAG runs a supplementary school for Somali pupils twice a week at Wealdstone Youth & Community Centre. The supplementary school provides additional help with Maths and English homework and tuition in Science, following the national curriculum, for children aged 7 to 16 years. Between 40-50 young people attend these classes. Parents are given the opportunity to get involved and understand the requirements of the British education system and how to assist with school homework. Referrals are made by both primary and secondary schools and there is currently a waiting list. HASWAG liaises with the schools and discuss any concerns around the students' attendance and performance at school.

Once a week HASWAG runs a drop-in session for children under 5 years old at Hillview Children's Centre in South Harrow to take part in programmes for early years.

HASWAG also provides help and advice to Somali women and families via a drop-in at the Community Premises Monday – Friday, where the organisation occupies a designated desk. An average of 55 people use this service per month.

Grant Request:

HASWAG are requesting funding of £18,280 to continue to pay the salary of a part-time school co-ordinator and two sessional workers who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the supplementary school and the home work club.

Comments and Recommendations:

The supplementary school run by HASWAG aims to raise the self-esteem and confidence of children at school and help them integrate in the society and enhance their life chances.

HASWAG have stated that an average of 67% of Somali children are underperforming in Harrow's schools and therefore there is a need for supplementary services in the Borough. According to HASVO's own records, Somalis have the lowest school leaving attainment records and are becoming increasingly involved in youth crime. There is a concern amongst the local community that unless urgent action is taken there is a danger of young Somalis becoming involved in a spiralling trend of failures and unemployment.

Due to limited funding, full salary costs can not be awarded therefore an allocation of £5,100 is recommended for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the amount awarded in 2006/07 (£4,500) as a contribution towards salary costs.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£5,000 from Trust for London for running costs

£5,000 from LAA Stretched Targets for young people who are not in education or employment.

HASWAG currently have use of a designated desk provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road.

Report produced by Grants Unit.

HARROW TAMIL ASSOCIATION

Grant requested: £5,000
Current grant: £2,000
Grant recommended: £2,040

Background:

Harrow Tamil Association has been operating since 1996 and has since established itself as one of the main points of contact for the Tamil community in Harrow. Their main objective is to relieve need, hardship and distress of the Tamil people, particularly newly arrived refugees, through provision of a translation service and advice regarding matters such as immigration, social and welfare rights, housing, community integration, education, training and employment. They are currently running a day centre, luncheon and a Senior Citizens Club for the elderly at the Pavilion Tea Room at Roxeth Recreation Park for 4 hours a day for 4 days. The Association organises regular lectures and seminars on healthy eating and health issues. Current regular usage of the day centre is between 25-35 members. Activities at the day centre also include keep fit and yoga classes, and English classes. Cultural activities take place at the Community Hall in Pinner. They also organise day trips for their members every 3 months.

Grant Request:

The grant requested is to pay for the rental costs of the Pavilion (approximately £3,400 per annum) for the day centre/lunch club and the hire of the Pinner Community Hall (approximately £500 per annum) for cultural activities. The remainder is requested as a contribution towards the costs of hiring the keep fit and yoga instructor and English tutor.

Comments and Recommendations:

Harrow Tamil Association received funding for the first time in the current year, therefore officers have received no monitoring information. However, it is evident that the activities outlined above have been provided on a regular basis. Officers are at present unable to comment on the service until full monitoring has been undertaken (due in June/July 2008). Funding of £2,040 is recommended to Harrow Tamil Association for 2008/09, restricted to the hire costs of the Pavilion Tea Room.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£5,060 from Awards for All;
£148 from Age Concern.

Report produced by Grants Unit in consultation Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

HARROW YOUTH & COMMUNITY PROJECT

Grant requested:	£3,000
Current grant:	£2,000
Grant recommended:	£3,000

Background:

The Harrow Youth & Community Project was set up in 2002 to provide services for the local community, mostly in and around the Kenmore Park Estate area (Kenton). The services are aimed at young and elderly people and take place in the Kenmore Park Community Hall.

Two youth clubs are held every week, one on Wednesdays for 13-17 year olds (up to 20 young people attend) and one on Thursdays for 11-12 year olds (up to 12 young people attend). Activities include table tennis, air hockey, pool, computer and board games, karaoke, DJ and music mixing and day trips to places of interest.

Also, two elderly clubs are held every week, one on Wednesdays between 5 – 6.30 pm and one on Thursdays between 1-3 pm. The Wednesday session is mainly used for planned activities, including line dancing and bingo. The Thursday session is for less structured activities including playing cards, board games, table tennis, pool and just generally to socialise with members of the close community. Day trips are also organised once or twice a year. Up to 30 older people attend the two clubs per week.

Grant Request:

The organisation is seeking funding of £3,000 for the general running costs of providing activities for both the youth club and elderly club. It is hoped that more activities can be organised for the clubs, in particular dance and drumming classes for the young people and more trips to places of interest for both clubs.

Comments and Recommendations:

Young people attend the two youth clubs regularly from the local area especially the Wednesday session. There is limited youth provision in the area and therefore Harrow Youth & Community Project bridges a gap in provision. There has been a growing membership of the elderly club since it started about a year ago. Funding of £3,000 is therefore recommended to Harrow Youth & Community Project for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£125 from the Harrow Youth and Connexions Service for equipment.
£3,005 from the Local Network Fund for music mixing and DJ equipment

Harrow Youth & Community Project currently has use of rent-free accommodation on a casual basis at the Community Centre in Northolt Road.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with the Youth Service

HAVS TRANS-AGE PROJECT

Grant requested:	£5,000
Current grant:	£2,000
Grant recommended:	£5,000

Background:

Tran-Age's aim is to break down barriers between the generations by creating opportunities for the different generations to meet, thus promoting greater understanding between older and younger people outside of the family circle. They do this by developing ways of valuing and utilising the skills and experience of older people for the benefit of the community in which they live.

This organisation has set up a network of volunteers from both the younger and older communities. Older people work with young people in schools in Harrow, giving them support and extra help in areas such as English and other community languages. The Project involves approximately 100 older people and approximately 86 young people volunteering in this intergenerational project.

Young people volunteer to visit older people in residential homes and day care centres. For young people this experience can be used for accreditation with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Relevant training is provided by the organisation.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting a contribution of £5,000 to cover some of their core costs, which have previously been funded by other sources.

Comments and Recommendations:

At the start of the Autumn term 2007, over 100 older people were volunteering in First, Middle and High schools in Harrow and Day Care Centres for older people and 86 young people have been volunteering since January 2007 at Millmans Day Care Centre, Anmer Lodge, the Princess Alexandra Residential Home, Harrow Shopmobility, Kids Can Achieve and Welldon Park Holiday Scheme.

This project matches the Council's priorities on promoting good inter-generational relationships. Funding of £5,000 is recommended to HAVS Trans-Age Project for 2008/09 as a contribution towards their core costs.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£4,000 from POP (Prevention & Modernisation Grant) – ends 31.3.08;

£7,000 from NW London Foundation – ends December 2007;

£3,750 from Waterside Trust – ended November 2007;

£7,500 per annum for 3 years from the Rank Foundation for core funding – ends Jan 2008;

£850 from Awards for All for reminiscing toolkit - ended 30.6.07;

£10,000 per annum for 3 years from John Lyon's Charity – ends November 2009.

The organisation has applied to Big Lottery, Tudor Trust, and Esmee Fairburn for funding in 2008/09 (pending outcomes).

Report produced by the Grants Unit.

HEADWAY NW LONDON

Grant requested:	£16,800
Current grant:	Not currently funded
Grant recommended:	£5,200

Background:

Headway North West London is affiliated to Headway – the brain injury association. Headway NW London is now an independent charity and limited company with its own Board and management committee. The organisation has developed from a support group for brain injury survivors, originally known as Headway Harrow, which started in 1994. This was run by volunteers and met at the Lodge in Pinner Road one evening every month. Now known as the Harrow Support Group, this remains one of the facilities run by Headway North West London. They also run a support group in Brent. The organisation has also established a day service (named “The Link”) at Wealdstone Baptist Church currently operating one day a week. Office space is provided at Bentley Day Centre free of charge.

Grant Request:

The funding requested is primarily for the salary of a part-time Co-ordinator (currently 14 hours per week), who will oversee the running and development of the LINK. They hope to extend the Co-ordinator’s hours to 21 per week and provide day service for an additional day. The funding is also for the rental costs of Wealdstone Baptist Church. A breakdown of the total cost of the project for 2008/09 is given below:

Co-ordinator salary (21 hours per week)	£15,000
Rent of Wealdstone Baptist Church hall/running costs	£5,200
Equipment	£250
Total	£20,450

Total secured so far **£3,650**

Balance (grant requested) **£16,800**

Comments and Recommendations:

The Link services include:

- Providing an environment where brain injury survivors can offer each other peer support, start to develop a social network, and increase their confidence;
- Community-based activities (e.g. local shopping; using local facilities such as Harrow Leisure Centre, Harrow Association of Disabled People’s facilities, local library facilities, public transport);
- Counselling/psychological support to service users and their carers;
- Respite for carers;
- Informal neuro-rehabilitation;
- Signposting service users who need access to specialised help, e.g. benefits, housing, medical, further neuro-rehabilitation, psychological assessments, educational advice;
- Development of leisure-related activities, e.g. horticulture, computers’ local trips;
- Preparation of vocational training.

The services outlined above benefit approximately 100 residents of Harrow (brain injury survivors and their carers). Between 8-12 people attend the activities at the Wealdstone Baptist Church on a regular basis. Referrals come from Harrow PCT, North West London hospitals, NHS Trust and other private healthcare facilities, Harrow Council, HAD, HAVS, GPs and health centres.

This organisation is the only source of support and information in the Borough for people with a brain injury, many of whom feel stigmatised, socially isolated and depressed.

The work of the organisation is recognised, however due to limited funding, £5,200 is recommended for 2008/09 to cover the organisation's rental costs of Wealdstone Baptist Church Hall and running costs.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£6,500 from The Ajahma Charitable Trust (funding ends 31st March 2008);
£2,245 from Harley Riders (donation);
£615 from other donations.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

HOME START HARROW (First Time Mothers Group)

Grant requested:	£5,000
Current grant:	£4,500
Grant recommended:	£5,000

Background:

Home Start aims to alleviate stress for a vulnerable family where there is at least one child in the family is under 5. This is achieved through a volunteer home visiting scheme, group work including a Family Group, Drop In, Young Parents Group and a First Time Mothers Group. A Summer Scheme also runs for 4 weeks and includes children up to 10 years old. Home Start work with other voluntary sector organisations, statutory bodies and the Children's Centres to offer help to parents who require support with parenting, relationship difficulties including domestic violence, housing issues, etc. Health visitors attend the groups once a term to offer activities that address parents' health concerns.

Grant Request:

Funding of £5,000 is requested for the continuation of the First Time Mothers Group as a contribution towards the cost of the group leader's salary, aroma massage for mothers and baby massage. The total cost of this Group is £11,000, of which £6,000 has been secured as a result of an underspend from the funding from Harrow PCT in the last 3 years.

Comments and recommendations:

The "First Time Mothers Group" forms part of a Service Level Agreement, which is monitored by Children's Services, Early Years. The group has already been running successfully for over 6 years, during which time over 150 mothers have been supported. Health visitors value the service for the mothers and regularly refer families to this group. Officers from Children Services, Early Years Team are supportive of the activities of Harrow Home Start and feel that this is a crucial, much needed, service. In light of the positive comments received, funding of £5,000 is recommended for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£75,000 from Children Centre Programme for 1 year – Home Visiting Service;
£8,500 p.a. from Harrow PCT for 3 years (expires March 2008) – First Time Mothers Group;
£6,000 p.a. from Charles Heyward for 3 years (expires March 2009) – Volunteer Training;
£22,000 p.a. from John Lyon Trust for 3 years (expires Sept 2009) – Group & Summer Scheme Activities.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Children Services, Early Years.

ISLAMIC & CULTURAL SOCIETY OF HARROW

Grant requested:	£2,500
Current grant:	£900
Grant recommended:	£1,020

Background:

The Islamic and Cultural Society of Harrow is a registered charity and was established in 1973. The aims of the Society are to provide a common platform for Muslims in North West London, work with other organisations with similar interests and strengthen and enhance the role of the mother tongue and core education at a mother tongue/supplementary school. The school is held at Harrow High School every Saturday for two and a half hours (term time) and is attended by 36 pupils on average, aged between 5 and 16 years old. This has recently been expanded to include teaching in core subjects to GCSE and A Level standards in Urdu/Arabic, Maths, English and Science. There are 3 classes, one for the 5-9 year olds and 2 for the 10-16 year olds (one advanced and one up to GCSE and A Level standards).

In addition, the organisation holds regular cultural and religious functions and activities.

Grant Request:

The organisation plans to expand the educational activities next year to include Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 in Maths and English with 16-20 additional students. The grant is requested to supplement the teachers' wages (there are currently three teachers and plans to employ a fourth to cover the additional activities).

Comments and recommendations:

The organisation is currently in receipt of a concessionary lettings discount for the hire of classrooms for the mother tongue supplementary classes at Harrow High School. The organisation currently charges £30 per student per term (13 weeks) for the mother tongue supplementary school.

To enable the organisation to continue providing these classes funding of £1,020 is recommended for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the amount awarded in 2006/07 (£1,000). This funding is to be used as a contribution towards teachers' wages.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None.

Report produced by the Grants Unit.

KIDS CAN ACHIEVE

Grant requested:	£13,384
Current grant:	£5,400
Grant recommended:	£7,000

Background:

Kids Can Achieve (KCA) is a registered voluntary organisation that started in October 2002. They support and provide services for children and young people with special needs and their carers and families. Their young people have a range of emotional, social, behavioural and learning difficulties including Autism and ADHD. Services include a youth group, holiday schemes, after school clubs, outings, outreach in schools and family homes, sports and creative activities, family support and complementary therapies. All services are currently over-subscribed. The term-time education inclusion service has a 95% success rate in helping children back into education and preventing permanent exclusion. KCA provides placements for young people at the centre who are out of school or who are not coping with full time education. KCA also works in schools with groups of children or on a one-to-one basis to help them through difficult periods and to manage their behaviour and emotions.

Grant Request:

Kids Can Achieve is requesting funding of £13,384 to maintain the Youth Group at Shaftesbury School. They are continuing to provide 26 places for 12-19 year olds and access to adequate space, facilities and a range of activities, for one evening per week, 7-10 pm. The funding requested also includes salary for one Youth Co-ordinator, who will develop, plan and obtain additional funding for youth holiday respite and weekly youth group activities as well as running and implementing weekly youth group. In addition, the request also includes salaries for 3 youth workers.

Comments and recommendations:

KCA aim to develop the self-esteem, social skills and education of their young people and prepare them for integration into mainstream activities and independent young adulthood as far as possible. Their approach is to address the individual needs of service users and tailor provision for them accordingly.

Activities and strategies target young people at key stages of their development. Particular attention is paid to their smooth transition to settings/activities outside Kids Can Achieve and progressing to other groups.

The youth group currently have 8 young people on their waiting list. It is difficult to assess the average length of time an individual remains on the list. It all depends on the ages and abilities of the young people.

KCA work in partnership with Connexions and the Youth Service in Harrow to develop and integrate their activities in order to widen the range of activities and experiences.

There is no other organisation in the Borough providing the same service as KCA. Without this service there would be nowhere for the families they work with to go for activities and support. Many of the staff and volunteers have unique experience of the conditions the children have and are well trained to help them through the challenges they face.

KCA gives children and young people encouragement and opportunity, which can make a big difference to a person's life. Families have developed new skills and confidence and they are now implementing these into their day-to-day lives. The young people have been able to find new strengths in themselves away from their familiar environment and behaviours. Their self esteem has greatly improved as they have overcome a number of personal challenges, including anger, anxiety, feeling conspicuous or "not fitting in" in mainstream venues, eating out, and socialising in unfamiliar situations.

To enable the organisation to continue its work with children and families funding of £7,000 is recommended for 2008/09 as a contribution towards the salary of the Youth Co-ordinator.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

BBC Children In Need - £5,144 for 1 year (Youth Group);

Marchday Trust - £7,000 pa. Funding up to March 2009 (core funding);

There is also a joint service level agreement between Harrow Council and Harrow PCT funded as below:

- Harrow Council, Education Dept. - approx. £46,000 (respite day care for children temporarily out of school);
- Carers Grant - £38,328 (support, care and services);
- Harrow PCT - £50,000 (support, care and services).

Kids Can Achieve is currently in receipt of concessionary lettings for activities at Shaftesbury School.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

LONDON KALIBARI

Grant requested:	£4,500
Current grant:	£1,500
Grant recommended:	£1,530

Background:

The objective of London Kalibari is to establish a permanent community centre for the benefit of Hindu Bengalees in Harrow and surrounding areas to meet the social, cultural and spiritual needs of the community. Members meet regularly to raise funds for the community centre by holding music, dance, play and historical talks, senior citizens club, Bengalee language tuition, yoga, and bereavement services. These activities currently take place at various locations, i.e. Harrow Civic Centre, Ealing Town Hall, Welldon Centre, Sri Aurobindo Centre in Eastcote Lane, and proposed activities at Harrow Arts Centre. The activities outlined benefit approximately 300 people of Hindu Bengalee origin in Harrow.

Grant Request:

Funding of £4,500 requested will be used as contribution towards their rental costs (£300 per session for 6 sessions per annum) and revenue costs (transport, postage, volunteers expenses, and artist's fees).

Comments and Recommendations:

It has been estimated that there are around 25,000 Bengali Hindus of Indian/Bangladeshi origin in Harrow and neighbouring boroughs. London Kalibari have stated that the social and cultural needs of this community are quite different from other Indian/Bangladeshi communities, and that these needs are only partially met in a fragmented way through their involvement with this organisation. The user community have frequently expressed their view that there is an urgent need to integrate the various activities in a permanent base.

Officers consider that some of the activities of London Kalibari, such as yoga and health seminars at the senior citizens club, carry health benefits for the Hindu Bengalee residents of Harrow. Many of their social and cultural activities are very similar to that of the Harrow Bengalee Association, therefore London Kalibari are encouraged to work in partnership with this organisation in the future.

So that the organisation can continue its activities, funding of £1,530 is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the current grant. This funding is to be restricted to the rental costs for the hiring of various venues for their activities. The organisation is encouraged to work with other groups in the Borough serving the needs of the Bengalee community.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£300 from Black History Month;
£2,000 from Edward Harvist Trust – to purchase sound system and accessories.

Report produced by the Grants Unit.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

Grant requested:	£10,000
Current grant:	£4,200
Grant recommended:	£8,800

Background:

The Middlesex Association for the Blind (MAB) is a locally based organisation that aims to support people who are blind, partially sighted and deaf-blind, to lead independent lives. The Association achieves this through the local provision and delivery of a range of high quality services, advice and information to people across 9 London Boroughs (Barnet, Brent, Ealing, Enfield, Harrow, Haringey, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond). The Association continues to provide a sensory garden in Harrow Recreation Ground.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting funding of £10,000 for 2008/09 as outlined below:

Salaries (Resource Centre Coordinator and IT Manager)	-	£7,440.16;
National Insurance	-	£816.29;
Pension	-	£543.55;
Volunteers Travel	-	£100.00;
Office Supplies	-	£100.00;
Printing & Publication costs	-	£400.00;
Display/other materials	-	£500.00;
TOTAL:		£10,000

The funding requested is to continue to staff the Resource Centre (Bentley Day Centre) and provide staff for computer training to assist visually impaired people to receive the correct information, advice, demonstrations and support in becoming more independent.

Comments and recommendations:

Middlesex Association for the Blind have identified that there are potentially 3,500 people in Harrow who are affected by some form of sight related impairment. During 2006/07, the Association supported over 50-60 clients a week who had a visual impairment and over 30 carers directly. Indirect support was provided to over 100 clients and 80 carers. Their core activities are home visiting service, computer training, telephone helpline and Hospital Information Desks (improve signage and equipment).

The Resource Centre has the largest stock of daily living aids and low vision equipment available on display – from magnifiers to talking microwaves, from can openers to talking clocks, CCTVs and adaptive computer technology. Run by volunteers on a weekly basis, the Resource Centre has helped demonstrate to hundreds of people the right equipment for them.

The deaf/blind clients who are extremely vulnerable have received specialist support through Deafblind Communicator Guides. With additional funding from other sources, the Association have provided assistance to their clients through the telephone support scheme, access to welfare benefits, computer training, Braille training, information in alternative formats (i.e. Braille, tape, large print, CD and various languages) and support groups.

To enable the running of the resource centre, funding of £8,800 is recommended to Middlesex Association for the Blind for 2008/09, restricted to salary costs (including NI and pensions) of the Resource Centre Co-ordinator and IT Manager.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

The Association provides services across nine London boroughs and therefore receives a variety of funding from different sources. The following funding was received for Harrow services:

£6,963 from Harrow Council (Early Intervention Officer);

£34,000 from Harrow Council (f/t Rehabilitation Worker);

£6,000 from Harrow Council (specialist Home Visiting Scheme for Blind, Deaf Blind and Visually Impaired Adults);

£20,000 from Supporting People (specialist Home Visiting Scheme for Blind, Deaf Blind and Visually Impaired Adults);

£10,000 from Lloyds/TSB for computer training;

£8,000 from Milly Althorp for Hospital Desk;

£3,500 from Boshier-Hinton for Children's Service;

£2,000 from Dixie Findlay for Children's Service.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

MIND IN HARROW

Grant requested:	£7,722
Current grant:	£6,900
Grant recommended:	£7,722

Background:

MIND in Harrow was set up in 1967 and works to improve the quality of life for people experiencing mental health problems. They provide a range of services including a Befriending Scheme and the Stepping Stones Project.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting funding of £7,722 as follows:

£4,000 to continue to part fund the Befriending Outings Group Worker, to run 20 trips and outings during 2008/09 to local places of interest and London events and trips. This supports 20 Harrow residents with serious and enduring mental health problems, and facilitates their relearning of social and practical skills, and increases their confidence and independence;

£3,722 to continue to pay for publicising and running 9 courses over 3 terms in the year at a range of mainstream community venues, to improve the well-being and physical health of over 360 people.

Comments and recommendations:

Below are some of Mind in Harrow's key achievements during 2006/07:

- Offered information and signposting advice to 250 people via the Helpline. Over 50% were service users, 25% carers or concerned family members, and 25% professionals who wanted specialist information;
- Befriending services supported a total of 110 people, over 70% of whom had severe and enduring mental illness;
- Stepping Stones has 1,200 people on its database, and assisted over 360 people to access a sporting, leisure or educational activity of their choice, of which 250 enrolled on Stepping Stones courses.

The grant element of the total funding for all of the services provided by MIND in Harrow previously formed part of the Service Level Agreement monitored by the Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage Team. This has now been transferred to the CNWL Mental Health Trust.

To enable the continued provision of the befriending service and Stepping Stones project the funding of £7,722 is recommended to Mind in Harrow for 2008/09, as a contribution towards costs for these projects.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£172,486 per annum from Harrow Primary Care Trust (reviewed annually) – part-funding for core activities and services;

£125,427 per annum from Harrow Council People First (novated to CNWL NHS Foundations Trust) – part funding for core activities and services;

£25,000 from Harrow Council (SLAs) – mental health education project;
£5,000 from Big Lottery Fund (Awards for All) - Asian women's photography project;
£20,914 from Home Office – Refugee Advocacy Project;
£23,400 from Opportunities for Volunteers – User-led Training Project;
£50,000 from King's Fund – Somali Advocacy Project and research;
£20,000 from University of Lancashire/National Institute for Mental Health.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY – HARROW BRANCH

Grant requested: £1,000
Current grant: £900
Grant recommended: £1,000

Background:

The Harrow Branch of the MS Society was established in 1963, and is part of the national MS organisation. The main aim of the group is to promote awareness of people with MS and to offer information and support for people with MS and their carers. There are currently 200 members of the society in Harrow, some of whom are housebound.

Grant Request:

Funding requested for 2008/09 is to contribute towards the cost of printing and distributing the MS society bi-monthly newsletter. The newsletter is one of the primary ways that people with MS are able to receive information about social activities, contact numbers and information. The newsletter is also produced on tape for members who are blind or partially sighted. The group would like to increase the circulation of the newsletter, it is currently sent to approximately 200 members.

Comments and recommendations:

Funding requested would be for the production of a bi-monthly newsletter, which is their primary means of communication to all their members. The newsletter gives information on the activities run by MS Society and advice sections. The Society actively encourages feedback and regularly surveys their members as to the effectiveness of their newsletter. The Society has also been active in facilitating a MS Specialist Nurse in Harrow and, together with their MS Helpline, will be the first point of contact for many of their members.

Funding of £1,000 is recommended to the Harrow Branch of the MS Society for 2008/09 as a contribution towards the production costs of the bi-monthly newsletter.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

NATIONAL AUTISTIC SOCIETY HARROW BRANCH

Grant requested:	£10,000
Current grant:	£1,450
Grant recommended:	£1,683

Background:

NASH is a formally constructed branch consisting of members of the National Autistic Society charity organisation, but do not receive any financial assistance from the charity. The aims of the Harrow branch are to give information, training, provide support groups and practical help to families, carers and people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and support children with ASD through playschemes and special events. They have a lending library and helpline, and aim to raise awareness of the needs of Autistic families and provide input to planning processes when required, within the Borough.

Services currently provided include counselling, Saturday morning respite group offering music and drama therapy, a training programme for parents and carers called SCATT, free phone helpline, playschemes, adult Aspergers group, weekly coffee morning, quarterly newsletter and telephone, in person and email support to families and professionals with specific enquiries.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting a total of £10,000 for the continuation of the Harrow Autism Support project to deliver local support to parents, carers and professionals in Harrow, to approximately 500 people. This includes a weekly coffee morning for parents during term time, along with the ADHD Support Group.

Comments and recommendations:

The services of NASH are open to all members of the local community and provide written material on Autistic Spectrum Disorders in a number of community languages. The referrals to the projects over the last 4 years have been ongoing and over and above the demand they have been able to support. There are no other autism specific projects in Harrow which provides respite for children and adults, and this is now a relied upon service in Harrow and therefore continuation of these projects is crucial.

Officers from Strategy in People First, responsible for the administration of the Carers Grant, have advised that they have prepared a report recommending a grant of £10,000 per annum for 3 years to NASH. This report will go to full Council meeting in March 2008, therefore based on the information provided at the time of preparing this report, funding of £1,683 is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the funding received in 2006/07 (£1,650). The funding is to be used as a contribution towards the costs of their existing project to deliver local support to parents, carers and professionals in Harrow.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£33,121 per annum for 4 years from Carers Grant (expires March 2008) – to deliver the Saturday Respite Club, SCATT and an Adult Aspergers Social Group;

£10,000 per annum for 3 years from Harrow Council (expires March 2008) – to run a play scheme for children with autism for 2 weeks in the summer;

£1,596 from Help a London Child – to assist in running branch projects and support;

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

PAKISTAN SOCIETY OF HARROW

Grant requested:	£7,500
Current grant:	£5,900
Grant recommended:	£6,775

Background:

The Pakistan Society of Harrow was set up in 2002 to promote the interests of the Pakistani community living in Harrow in order to improve their health, education and access to employment, to enable them to make a positive contribution to Harrow. It targets most of its services towards young people, the elderly and women. For young people they organise inter-school debates, study circles, sports including badminton, cricket and swimming. For the elderly they run a photographic club, cycling club, reading club lunch club, Urdu classes and day trips to various places of interest. For women, they organise study circles, sewing classes, sports and computer classes and they also provide advice and support to women who suffer from forced marriages and domestic violence. A health newsletter for women was produced last year and first aid classes were held for all members of the organisation, in association with St. John's Ambulance.

In addition, the organisation holds various events and information session one Sunday a month, attended by about 25 people. It has recently held a Breast Cancer Research Awareness event, followed by a Mental Health Awareness event and it has also held a surgery, with the Pakistan High Commission, for advice and information on applying for visas and identification cards, which was attended by over 150 people.

The PSH believes that by accessing the services and functions that are run by the organisation, members of the community are benefiting both socially and educationally and those that are isolated are able to mix with other members of their community, which is uplifting. Also, access to services from Harrow Council and other government bodies has been improved by the PSH providing relevant information and signposting to the Pakistan community in Harrow.

The organisation currently occupies a designated desk at the Community Premises where the Co-ordinator organises the activities.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting a grant of £7,500 towards the cost of the salary of a part-time Office Administrator/Co-ordinator. The current Co-ordinator will be standing down from his post this year and the organisation have anticipated that in order to find a suitable candidate they would need to increase the salary to £8 per hour for 24 hours per week.

Comments and recommendations:

Funding of £6,775 is recommended for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the grant awarded in 2006/07 (£6,642). The funding is to be used as a contribution towards the salary of the new Administrator/Co-ordinator.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None.

The Pakistan Society of Harrow currently has use of a designated desk provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road and receives concessionary lettings discount for venue hire for their various events held throughout the year.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

PARKINSON'S DISEASE SOCIETY – HARROW BRANCH

Grant requested: £2,500
Current grant: £2,150
Grant recommended: £2,500

Background:

The Harrow Branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society was set up in 1976 to help people with Parkinson's and their carers, family and friends with the problems arising from Parkinson's disease; to collect and share information on PD; to encourage and provide funds for research into PD. The overall objective of the Parkinson's Disease Society is to be one of the leading neurological charities in the UK serving all people with PD. All the activities, including those of the branch, focus on achieving its aims, including education and professional development, research, information and support.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting a grant of £2,500 to continue to part-fund the Community Support Worker post. The worker provides support, information and advice to all existing and newly diagnosed people with Parkinson's Disease as well as their carers and families. The role ranges from advice on how to manage the physical and mental aspects of the illness, ways in which day to day tasks can be undertaken, how to access professional help which may be needed to manage the illness and to ensure access to any benefits to which they may be entitled. People living with PD, their carers and families may be confused or in denial and therefore unable to access the help they need or have the ability to complete the required forms. The Worker provides contacts and often makes the first contact for the people with PD and assists in completing forms as those with PD often have very poor handwriting and speech impairment so practical help is necessary.

In addition the Worker liaises with health and social care professionals to improve access to services and the quality of services provided in the area through appropriate information on PD, arranging training or information packs, raising awareness of the services she offers and signposting to other relevant services for the individual.

Comments and recommendations:

During 2006/07, the Community Support Worker dealt with 414 telephone calls, 123 emails, 31 letters for assistance and 51 home visits. This included 35 new referrals. In addition, the Worker attended and assisted in the organisation of community awareness sessions, carers groups, exhibitions, health awareness events, and gave talks and provided information packs to health and care professionals.

Funding of £2,500 is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09 to part-fund the post of the Community Support Worker.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage

PERSIAN SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB

Grant requested:	£6,900
Current grant:	£450
Grant recommended:	£2,000

Background:

This organisation was established in 2004 with the overall aim to provide a bridge into the broader community of Iranian elders, most of who entered the UK as refugees, and who exist on the margins of the community because of a poor understanding of English culture, practices and language.

Persian Senior Citizen Club main objectives are:

To reduce isolation and marginalisation experienced by Iranian elders through provision of a weekly environment that is culturally familiar and comfortable;
To assist members towards healthier lives and fuller engagement with the wider community, by increasing their knowledge and understanding, enhancing their health, well-being and general ability to participate more fully in community life.

The group meets once a week at Victoria Hall and provides advice, guidance, lunch, basic day-to-day English and health awareness and yoga sessions. Between 15-30 people attend the weekly sessions. They also organise day trips to places of interest about 5 times a year.

Grant Request:

The funding requested is for running costs (£4,500) and salaries (£2,400) to provide 24 regular 1 hour exercise sessions throughout the year on alternative weeks; 24 regular conversational English lessons throughout the year on alternative weeks; a healthy snack every week for all members; and 5 trips/outings throughout the year.

Comments and recommendations:

Funding received in 2007/08 was used towards running costs and rent of the hall for weekly meetings for their members. The organisation also organised cultural events such as the Iranian New Year.

Funding of £2,000 is recommended to the Persian Senior Citizen Club for 2008/09 to cover the shortfall in funding received from the City Bridge Trust (see below) to enable the organisation to continue it's weekly activities. It is recommended that the organisation work closely with the Harrow Iranian Community in future, as they are both providing similar services to the community.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

£5,000 per annum for 2 years from City Bridge Trust (expires March 2009) – towards salaries, rent, equipment, telephone, postage and stationary.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage

RUSSIAN IMMIGRANTS ASSOCIATION

Grant requested:	£5,000
Current grant:	£1,350
Grant recommended:	£1,530

Background:

The association was set up in 1999 to address the needs of London's large Russian-speaking community, which is not served by any other organisation. The main aims of the organisation are:

- To support community involvement, particularly among Russian-speaking people who are at greatest disadvantage and fully excluded, such as minority ethnic community, asylum seekers, refugees, people on low income, unemployed people and lone parents;
- To provide services for Russian-speaking refugees and asylum seekers including job seeking, counselling, training and advice on welfare benefits and rights;
- To provide necessary information about British law, culture, traditions, health service, and education system among Russian-speaking people.

Most of the clients have problems in adaptation in the UK, as the main problem is lack of knowledge of the English language. The Association provides translation and interpreting services for such clients, and distribute all official translated materials from the Home Office.

The organisation currently occupies an individual office at the Community Premises where it provides most of its services including:

- Basic skills for life in the UK (English language, job seekers club, counselling, training in IT, volunteering);
- Information service (publishing and distributing information, newsletter, fliers, leaflets, etc.);
- Advice service (legal and general advice support, family and children advice);
- Public activity for integration (sport club, children's music studio, environmental activities, festivals, etc.).

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting a grant of £5,000 as a contribution towards the overall running costs as follows:

Volunteer's expenses/training	£3,000
Interpreting and translation	£800
Telephone/fax/internet	£500
Stationery & postage	£300
Office equipment	£200
Refreshments	£200

Comments and recommendations:

In 2006/07 the organisation provided basic skills advice to 311 people, distributed information to 5,212 people, provided advice to 2,536 people and 560 people attended activities organised by the Association.

It is not clear how many people from Russia live in Harrow and this organisation plan to start research into this towards the end of the year. The organisation estimates that approximately 1500-2000 Russian-speaking people (originally from former USSR or Eastern Europe) use the services of the organisation per year and they have estimated that between 1800-3000 Russian-speaking people are living in the Borough.

Funding of £1,530 is recommended to Russian Immigrants Association for 2008/09, which is a 2% inflationary increase on the grant awarded in 2006/07 (£1,500). The funding is to be used towards volunteers' expenses.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£15,500 from the City Parochial Foundation for the Co-ordinator's salary

£12,000 from BBC Children in Need for children's activities

£30,000 from Comic Relief (expected)

Russian Immigrants Association currently has use of an individual office provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road.

Report produced by Grants Unit

SANGAT ADVICE CENTRE

Grant requested:	£28,000
Current grant:	£900
Grant recommended:	£14,000

Background:

The Sangat Advice Centre was set up in 1996 to provide advisory, consultancy, advocacy and any other related services to individuals, companies, societies, organisations and businesses concerning matters related to welfare benefits, housing, race relations, immigration, child care, matrimonial matters and general poverty. It provides free legal advice and casework and free appeals representations and also runs a children's project, disabled children's activities and IT training on a weekly basis.

The Centre is a company limited by guarantee. The Centre was the first BME organisation to be awarded the Community Legal Services Quality Mark. It has also attained accreditation in Investors in People and Matrix, and is authorised by the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner to practice immigration work.

The Centre provides an advice service in other languages including Gujarati, Punjabi and Hindi.

Grant Request:

The Sangat Advice Centre is seeking funding of £28,000 to run the service, which will cover staff costs as listed below:

Advice Worker salary (incl. N.I.)	£26,640
Training and Support	£1,360

The funding will enable the Centre to continue to provide free legal advice and case work on a range of welfare issues to prevent and reduce poverty, social exclusion, discrimination, family unity, settlement difficulties, debt, housing and other areas of benefits. The intended outcomes for 2008/09 are:

- To provide advice and advocacy for up to 500 individuals;
- To enable up to 200 clients to exercise their rights to British Citizenship and/or other immigration cases;
- To reduce poverty for up to 175 clients by dealing with Job Centre Plus, Housing Benefits, Disability Living Allowance, Social Services Department, etc;
- To prevent loss of accommodation and other housing case work for up to 125 clients;
- To improve working relations with two other local groups to improve/assist towards better advice services
- To organise two seminars for local participation on local needs and available services

Comments and recommendations:

In 2006/07, approximately 1,592 individuals were assisted with welfare benefits cases (over £750,000 was received in benefits by their clients) and 161 clients were assisted with debt, immigration and other issues.

The Centre provided basic IT training to 137 individuals, and provided information, advice and guidance to 382 clients. They were able to identify and support 136 BME carers. Some of their other achievements in 2006/07 were as follows:

- Provided advice and casework to 37 cases of domestic violence;
- Successfully ran citizenship classes for 46 individuals;
- Awarded nationally the 2nd best organisation with Charities Online Account awarded by Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

The Sangat Advice Centre has a good track record and the reputation for the provision of good quality services. The Centre's attempts to secure further funding from London Councils has been unsuccessful. Harrow CAB have confirmed that due to the high demand for their services, they often have to refer some of their clients to other appropriate organisations, in particular the Sangat Advice Centre.

The work of the organisation is recognised however due to limited funding available full costs cannot be awarded. With the loss of London Councils' funding the service is under severe threat therefore £14,000 is recommended to the Sangat Advice Centre in 2008/09 as a 50% contribution towards staff costs, subject to the organisation offering its various services to other communities.

This award is a one-off increase subject to satisfactory monitoring and the Council's forthcoming review of support to voluntary organisations.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£60,000 from London Councils for the legal service core costs/salary (funding ends 31st March 2008);

£8,000 from City Parochial Foundation for the legal and advice outreach service/salary (funding ends 31st March 2009);

£20,000 from the Children's Fund for work with children (funding ends September 2008).

£32,946 from the Harrow Carers Grant for a Support Worker

Report produced by the Grants Unit

SPECIAL CONNECTION

Grant requested:	£3,000
Current grant:	£900
Grant recommended:	£1,000

Background:

Special Connection is a registered charity organisation whose aim is to break down the preconceived perceptions of disability through the opportunity to work in an integrated environment on equal terms. The group covers the whole of the borough of Harrow. The aims of the project are:

- To break down the barriers that exist between those with Special Educational Needs and their peers in main stream education
- Through drama workshops to influence for the good the employers, colleagues and decision makers of the future
- To promote social inclusion and acceptance across the whole spectrum of the Borough.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting £3,000 to cover the running costs of at least 2 two-day drama workshops that will involve, in each one, 30 young people from a main stream school plus approximately 30 young people from 2 or 3 special schools. These will be aged related to 9-12 year olds and 13-19 year olds. Over the two days, the participants will work together on equal terms in small-integrated groups to produce, dress and rehearse a play, performing to each other on the second afternoon.

Comments and Recommendations:

Special Connection has worked hard to become included in the Harrow cultural arena, performing regularly at and assisting where possible with the development of the Harrow Arts Centre.

Last year, Special Connection held 2 two-day drama workshops at Harrow Arts Centre and 2 one-day special sensory drama workshops for those with profound and multiple difficulties at Kingsley and Woodlands schools. Overall, the services outlined were provided to approximately 300 individuals in the Borough.

Funding of £1,000 is recommended to Special Connection for 2008/09 (the same as the current year with a slight increase), so as to provide seed funding and the organisation is encouraged to seek other possible sources of funding, e.g. the organisation has recently applied to Awards to All.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£2,000 from the John Lyon Charity for drama workshops

Anticipated £15,000 from the London Boroughs of Ealing, Barnet, Hillingdon, Hounslow, West Herts, etc for drama workshops in those areas

Anticipated £12,000 from charitable trusts

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Arts and Events Unit

U.K. ASIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Grant requested:	£2,500
Current grant:	£2,400
Grant recommended:	£1,200

Background:

The "SEWA" drop-in service provides much needed services and support to Asian women of all ages. The Centre has been running successfully since 1991 and provides information, advice and support to Asian Women. They also organise activities like health programmes, seminars, educational and entertainment programmes and outings. This provides an opportunity for women who are lonely and isolated at home to mix with the community, exchange ideas, share experiences and gain confidence. The main purpose of the Project is to strengthen the community and help improve health and general well being.

Grant Request:

The funding requested is to pay rent for suitable venues for their various activities during 2008/09. The organisation was previously located at the Vaughan Centre, but moved in May 2007 whilst it closed for refurbishment, and has temporarily relocated to the Brember Centre. The rent for the Vaughan Centre was previously paid directly to the Council.

Comments and Recommendations:

During 2006/07, the project also organised regular sessions in alternative therapies such as reflexology, Reiki healing and Indian head massage. Other activities and achievements are as follows:

- Regular classes in yoga relaxation;
- Organised a health seminar at Harrow High School (total of 220 people participated);
- Ran Tai Chi classes for 6 months with the help of a qualified instructor;
- Sessions on colour therapy and meditation;
- Day trip to Windsor Castle in July 2006 for 50 Asian women, some of whom were elderly and disabled;
- Organised a sports day for people with disabilities and special needs in June 2006, where 100 people attended and 65 took part;
- Cultural function (during Navratri festival) for elderly women, people with disabilities and those with special needs (total of 90 people participated).

The UKAWC also run a much-valued translation and interpreting service, in respect of which they have a Service Level Agreement with People First. The Brember Centre is provided free of charge to the organisation. Funding of £2,400 awarded to UKAWC for their activities at the Vaughan Centre in 2007/08 has not been fully utilised due to their move to the Brember Centre. The organisation have commented that they have not been able to provide many of their proposed activities as their members find it difficult or are unwilling to travel to this Centre. They are hoping to use the funding to hire other suitable venues that are more accessible to their members from January 2008. For this reason, 50% of the current funding (i.e. £1,200) is recommended to this organisation for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

WEALDSTONE ACTIVE COMMUNITY

Grant requested:	£1,200
Current grant:	£900
Grant recommended:	£1,200

Background:

Wealdstone Active Community (WAC) was set up in 2000 and supports local people and businesses by building a sense of community, aids communication and enhances community safety through police contact and liaison with other services from the public and voluntary sector. Members are active on the Safer Neighbourhood Panel and Panel for Older People, Harrow Police Community Consultative Group and monitor planning applications and anything that could be detrimental to the community and environment of Wealdstone. Members of the organisation are active in public consultations with the Council and miscellaneous other projects on an 'as and when' basis.

The organisation has 10 open meetings per year plus events including Blooming Wealdstone, St. George's Day celebrations and Children in Need events. The open meetings aim to address various issues affecting the community and the environment of Wealdstone, e.g. crime, graffiti etc. These meetings are well attended by representatives of church organisations, residents associations, police and individuals.

Grant Request:

The organisation is seeking funding of £1,200 as a contribution towards the running and associated costs of organising 10 open meetings per year, the St. George's Day event, Blooming Wealdstone and a Community Safety Day event.

Comments and Recommendations:

WAC has been a partner to the Council and supported and assisted in disseminating information and consultations at their events and in their newsletters. The members are all active in the wider community and this means they reach further than would initially appear to be the case. The planned St. George's Day event is run independently of the annual Council-supported event held in Pinner. This event is run and managed specifically by the Wealdstone community. Funding of £1,200 is therefore recommended to Wealdstone Active Community for 2008/09 to enable them to continue their activities.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£100 from the Harrow Council PAT fund for bushes.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Planning, Development & Enterprise

WHITTLESEA LIFE SKILLS ASSOCIATION

Grant requested:	£5,185
Current grant:	£2,950
Grant recommended:	£3,900

Background:

The Whittlesea Life Skills Association (WLSA) was established as a charitable company in 1985. The Parent Teachers Association initiated the project originally in 1982. WLSA provides and maintains a chalet style bungalow known as the Whittlesea Lodge (or The Lodge), in the grounds of Shaftesbury High School in Headstone Lane, Harrow. The Lodge enables Harrow students, up to the age of 19 with moderate, severe and complex learning difficulties, to receive life skills education in a home-like environment. The objective is that students should be better able to integrate into the life of the general community and better able to look after themselves when their formal education ends. Use of the Lodge is shared between participating schools – Kinglsey High, Shaftesbury High and Woodlands First & Middle school. Membership of the WLSA is open to parents and guardians of students at the participating schools, staff of these schools and any other people interested in the education of young people with learning difficulties.

Grant Request:

The funding requested is to support the running of the Lodge as set out below:

*Ground Rent (payable to Harrow Council)	-	£1,000
*Insurance (fabric, contents & public liability)	-	£1,800
*Utility & Security costs (paid to Shaftesbury High)	-	£750
*Telephone (line rental and call costs)	-	£180
*Central heating boiler annual service	-	£100
*Photocopying, postage, stationery, etc.	-	£75
Companies House Annual Return	-	£30
Provision for non-routine expenditure items – (plumbing and heating system repairs, internal and external redecoration)	-	£1,250
Total	-	£5,185

Comments and Recommendations:

From the enrolment of the participating schools, the number of potential users of the Lodge is approximately 170. There is no alternative provision in Harrow, which combines all the home facilities under one roof for students with moderate, severe and complex learning difficulties. The use of the Lodge by Harrow College as part of their “Skills for Life” course is confirmation of this. The Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage are fully supportive of the activities of Whittlesea Life Skills Association. As a contribution to core costs Funding of £3,900 is recommended for 2008/09 for the items of expenditure listed above marked with a (*).

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Adults & Housing Contracts & Brokerage.

APPENDIX 4

LIST OF ORGANISATIONS NOT RECOMMENDED TO RECEIVE GRANT OR CONTINUED FUNDING IN 2008/09

1. African Women Initiative 4 Nationwide Development
2. Harrow Business Against Crime Partnership
3. KPS Gujarati School
4. Kuwaiti Community Association
5. National Council of Vanik Associations (UK)
6. Pakistan Women's Association Harrow
7. Pulse Harrow

**REPORT SUMMARIES OF ORGANISATIONS NOT
RECOMMENDED TO RECEIVE GRANT OR CONTINUED
FUNDING IN 2008/09**

AFRICAN WOMEN INITIATIVE 4 NATIONWIDE DEVELOPMENT (AWIND)

Grant requested: £9,684
Current grant: Not currently funded
Grant recommended: Nil

Background:

The aims and objectives of this new organisation are 'to improve the quality of life in the African community in London by providing assistance and research to identify their basic needs particularly in the field of career enhancement training and continuous development and in the provision of information in order to empower and enable informed choices in areas of education, health, law, employment, parenting and any culturally sensitive issues'.

The organisation is currently operating from an office in Marlborough House, Wealdstone, and is relying on donations from management committee members to operate at present.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting £9,684 to run a traditional dance project designed for young people between the ages of 13-18 years. It aims to teach three types of dance from different countries in West Africa as well as drumming sessions associated with the dance. It plans to focus on training a range of young people from different ethnic backgrounds to learn the dances and the values attached to them. The organisation has identified approximately 22 potential users of the project. The breakdown of the grant request is as follows:

Trainers x 2 x £50 per session x 48 sessions	£4,800
Project Co-ordinator – 12 hours per week @ £7 p.h. x 48 wks	£4,032
Volunteers expenses (2 volunteers x 2 days per week x £3.50 per day)	£672
Training materials	£180
Total	£9,684

Comments and Recommendations:

The Arts and Events Unit do not know the organisation and there are a number of similar dance-based organisations offering similar activity for the same target group.

The budget looks reasonable for the work they are trying to do, but it is unclear if they plan to link into Harrow's cultural programme and if so how, also if this is being targeted at Harrow residents.

There is a need for the work that this organisation proposes, however there is currently no information concerning their ability to deliver, artistic merit or community benefit and they would be working in competition with several other providers that do not receive funding though have committed themselves to cultural development in the area. Funding is not recommended for this group for 2008/09 but The Arts and Events Unit will work to integrate them into the Council's cultural programme through the Dance Forum.

Funding received from other sources 2007/08:

This is a new organisation and they have not yet applied for any other funding.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with the Arts and Events Unit

HARROW BUSINESS AGAINST CRIME PARTNERSHIP

Grant requested:	£25,000
Current grant:	£5,000
Grant recommended:	Nil

Background:

The Harrow Business Against Crime Partnership (HBACP) was set up in 2006 with the aim of reducing business crime in the Borough and making the trading environment safer for customers, visitors, staff and residents. Harrow Business Against Crime is a dedicated, formal and pro-active partnership between businesses, the Police, Harrow Council, Harrow Town Centre Business Forum, CCTV, and other crime reduction schemes. There are currently 70 members of the partnership. The HBACP contributes to and has access to a National Intelligence Database. The partnership has been accredited with the Safer Business Award in accordance with National Action Against Business Crime criteria. The scheme provides a unified approach to business crime in the Harrow area. Services currently provided are:

- Collates information to identify the most prolific offenders against businesses, their staff and their customers;
- Enters this information on the NID so it can be analysed effectively;
- Distributes this information to all members of the scheme so they know who to look out for and who is going to damage their business (including photographs of offenders);
- Shares information with police and other partners to increase the pressure on these prolific offenders;
- Runs an Exclusion Notice Scheme which can see offenders banned from all of the member's premises;
- Provides a single point of contact for businesses that wish to raise concerns about crime affecting their business premises.

The Town Centre Management Fund, the CCTV Fund, and the Harrow Council grant currently fund the post of Business Crime Reduction Manager, which oversees the scheme and co-ordinates meetings and groups including the Town Centre Security group, PubWatch, information sharing meetings, Illegal DVD Tactical Group and Crime Awareness Training.

Grant Request:

The grant will be used for the expansion of the scheme from Harrow Town Centre to Wealdstone and South Harrow and other parts of the borough. It is expected that membership will increase from 70 to 100 businesses by the end of 2007/08. It is anticipated that the rise in geographical area and membership will add additional costs to staffing, promotional materials and the costs of operating and travel across multi sites as opposed to just the town centre. The breakdown of expected expenditure is as follows:

Salaries	£50,830
Telephone/Fax	£800
Printing/Stationery	£3,000
Legal & Professional Fees	£1,235
Internet Services	£320
Total	£56,185

Funding of £25,000 is expected from the Town Centre Management Fund and therefore the Partnership is requesting match funding from the Council. The Partnership is considering charging a subscription for the scheme, which is likely to raise a further £15,000 to be used for additional staff and promotional costs.

Comment and Recommendations:

HBAC is part of a Government priority to reduce Business Crime – Action Against Business Crime (AABC) and has already received an award for best practice at the recent National AABC awards.

HBAC is an integral part of Harrow's Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, delivers and supports priority targets as well as direct LAA performance target.

A significant and unique development has been third party reporting of racial incidents and community tension by the business community as part of the scheme – BME groups run 95% of small businesses in the borough.

Due to the withdrawal of the Harrow Town Centre Management function, it is the only Town Centre initiative funded by the local authority. The scheme is also very much part of the on-going BID negotiations and directly delivers against wider corporate priorities with regard to economic development and working in partnership with businesses.

The scheme has achieved considerable growth in membership due to the support and proactivity of the Management Board and Business Crime Reduction Manager in particular. The scheme has already exceeded its 2007/2008 LAA target of 70 businesses and likely to increase to 100 members by the end of this financial year.

As an incentive to the businesses, the scheme has so far been free at the point of delivery. Through successful negotiations involving the radio suppliers and CCTV manager, from 1 April 2008 membership will be available to all businesses on payment of an annual subscription using a sliding scale of charges between £100-£300 depending on size of business.

The objective is for the scheme to become fully self-funded within the next 3-5 years. It is estimated that 200 subscribed businesses will be required to achieve this.

In the meantime the scheme will be dependant on external grants to support growth towards these subscription levels. In reality this is an invest to save strategic programme.

The scheme meets Council Corporate and Partnership objectives on community safety, regeneration and economic development and the bid is fully supported by the partner agencies and the Head of Community Safety Services.

Despite the positive comments received from other departments the aims and objectives of the service provided by HBAC mainly benefit the local business community rather than voluntary or community sector organisations, therefore it is recommended that it is not funded through the grants budget.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£25,000 from the Town Centre Management Fund

£8,200 from the CCTV Fund

£10,000 from the Safer Harrow Management Group

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with the Head of Community Safety Services

KPS GUJARATI SCHOOL

Grant requested: £10,000
Current grant: Not currently funded
Grant recommended: Nil

Background:

The organisation was established in September 2006 with the aim of providing and promoting the Gujarati language to children who are deprived of similar education in mainstream schools. In addition to Gujarati language classes, other activities include yoga, Indian music and dancing. Classes are held every Saturday between 9am to 12 noon during term time at Kenmore Park First & Middle School in Kenton. The activities benefit approximately 49 children. There are 4 classes each accommodating between 10-12 children from age range 5-14 years. They also hold an additional class specifically for adults to learn Gujarati. There is a cost to parents of £120 per annum for each child.

Grant Request:

KPS Gujarati School are requesting a grant of £10,000 for rent of Kenmore School, volunteers' expenses and tutors fees of £16 per 2 hours for 5 tutors (£3,600 in total).

Comments and Recommendations:

KPS Gujarati School are not currently in receipt of any concession for their let at Kenmore First & Middle School. From the register seen, classes are regularly well attended and delivered by qualified teachers (all have undergone CRB checks). However, due to the fact that they do not fully meet the eligibility criteria (i.e. 80% of beneficiaries must be from Harrow), funding is not recommend to KPS Gujarati School for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None

Report produced by the Grants Unit

KUWAITI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Grant requested: £13,567
Current grant: Nil
Grant recommended: Nil

Background:

The aims and objectives of the Kuwaiti Community Association are to relieve need, hardship and distress in the Kuwaiti Bidoon community and Arabic speaking communities, particularly newly arrived refugees, especially by the provision of translation services and advice regarding matters such as social and welfare rights, housing, community integration, education, training and employment.

The organisation is based at the Community Premises, as a casual user. It's main services include offering advice on benefits, housing, education and employment and accompanying clients to meetings with the Council, benefits agencies and health agencies and act as interpreters and assist them with completing paperwork and forms and writing supporting letters. They currently assist around 10-15 people per week. They have recently set up a football team, which currently has 14 members and meets every Saturday.

Grant Request:

The organisation would like to employ a part-time Co-ordinator to enable it to expand the services to include an elderly club and a youth club and computer classes. A detailed breakdown of these costs has been provided and is summarised as follows:

Co-ordinator's salary	£5,901
Elderly Club	£1,192
Youth Club	£1,496
Computer classes	£144
Running costs	£4,300
Website costs	£534

Comments and Recommendations:

This organisation has been a user of the Community Premises for a number of years and officers have met with them on several occasions to offer help and advice in terms of developing activities and keeping records, both financial and on services provided. The organisation is proposing several new activities, including an elderly club, a youth club and computer classes. It has failed to provide sufficient evidence that these services are required by the Kuwaiti community in Harrow and also the estimated costs of these activities are unrealistic.

Funding to Harrow Kuwaiti Community Association is therefore not recommended for 2008/09, however the organisation would be encouraged to take up the offers of support from officers to enable them to research and plan their activities, produce more accurate budgets and ultimately make applications to other funding bodies.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

None. Harrow Kuwaiti Community Association currently have use of a designated desk provided rent-free at the Community Premises in Northolt Road.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF VANIK ASSOCIATIONS (UK)

Grant requested: £8,000
Current grant: Nil
Grant recommended: Nil

Background:

The organisation was established in 1978 with the aim of promoting, in both the Vanik and wider communities, programmes that:

- Target the relief of poverty, sickness and family distress;
- Raise awareness of the importance of education and good citizenship;
- Aid the understanding of, and respect for, the cultural and religious heritage of members of all communities.

National Council of Vanik Associations aim to raise awareness of, and provide expert information/guidance about the key health issues facing members of their community. They hope to organise talks/seminars on various health issues such as obesity, cancer, diabetes, coronary disease, etc.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting funding of £8,000 to hire suitable venues in Harrow to hold health seminars about 6 times a year for approximately 250 Vanik members of the Harrow Community. The funding is also for publicity costs, volunteer expenses, and payment of fees to consultants/specialist doctors delivering the seminars.

Comments and recommendations:

The organisation has stated that it conducted a survey in 2005/06 that identified 1,200 households (nearly 4,000 members) of the Vanik community within the Borough. It stated that their own survey identified health issues as one of the primary concerns of the community. A copy of the survey has been provided however it provides only basic information and does not demonstrate sufficient evidence of need. Funding is therefore not recommended for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources in 2006/07:

None.

Report produced by the Grants Unit

PAKISTAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION HARROW

Grant requested:	£10,800
Current grant:	£900
Grant recommended:	Nil

Background:

The Pakistan Women's Association Harrow was established in 1984, with the aim of improving the lives of Pakistan women in Harrow and the surrounding areas by informing them of benefits, services and facilities available to them in order for them to become better informed and to reduce social isolation. Drop-in sessions are held twice a week with an average of 5 women attending per week. Issues dealt with include matrimonial problems, domestic violence, homelessness, information on welfare benefits, educational guidance, bereavement, match making and teaching English. Volunteers also accompany clients on hospital visits and solicitors appointments and make referrals for counselling.

In addition to the above, the organisation also runs a lunch club for Pakistan women over 60 years of age. Approximately 75 women attend monthly and share information, participate in activities and listen to talks on various health related illnesses, e.g. diabetes, breast cancer, heart disease. There are also sessions on yoga, art and sewing. Outings are also organised for all members of the association.

Grant Request:

The organisation is requesting a grant of £10,800 towards the cost of starting a group for women aged 22- 40 years old as they have been approached by members of the local Pakistan community who have expressed concern that there are no facilities for them. They would like to share issues and experiences with each other but there are currently no opportunities for them to meet. At the moment they are meeting in restaurants without the pressure of their elders but would like a private place to meet. In addition to this group, part of the grant request is to cover the cost of employing a part-time administrator and running costs. A breakdown of the grant request is as follows:

Hiring of premises	£1,800
*Purchase of laptop	£1,000
Running costs	£3,000
Part-time administrator	£5,000
Total:	£10,800

*This is an item of capital expenditure and therefore cannot be funded from the main grants programme.

Comments and recommendations:

The Pakistan Women's Association receives the concessionary lettings discount for venue hire for various events held throughout the year. The accounts for 2006/07 submitted by the organisation are not satisfactory and do not show balances brought forward from the previous year and the organisation has been unable to provide their book keeping records despite a number of requests. Also, the organisation has provided insufficient evidence of their activities and work with other local women's resources. In view of these concerns funding is not recommended for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources in 2006/07:

No other applications have been made but donations were received from Euro Hotel Harrow (£500) and Best Way Cash & Carry (£500).

Report produced by the Grants Unit

PULSE HARROW

Grant requested: £10,000
Current grant: Nil
Grant recommended: Nil

Background:

Pulse Harrow was established in 2005 to help reduce poverty, discrimination and gaps in education. They recently started a programme for children and young people at Harrow Leisure Centre. The programme, which is computer-based is aimed at overcoming the reading and learning difficulties as well as providing study and also literacy support to children and young people in Harrow. Qualified teachers provide the service 5 days a week – Tuesday to Thursday, Saturday and Sunday (Urdu classes for 8-9 children). The activities provided weekdays are after school from 4-7pm. Between 3-4 children attend each day. Each child works on reading and maths exercises for about 45 minutes to one hour. The age of children range from 5 to 14 years.

Grant Request:

Pulse Harrow is working in partnership with Learning Leap at Harrow Leisure Centre. The funding requested is for the provision of the services outlined above: contribution towards salaries for the teachers and some rental costs. Most of the rent is paid by Learning Leap, who provides space for Pulse Harrow, including software, training of staff, assessments and hire charges.

Comments and Recommendations:

The activities provided by Pulse Harrow include assessment, intervention exercises, monitoring and reassessment. There is a charge of £12 per hour per child for Maths intervention exercises. Their computer-based periodic assessments will show the improvement of the individual's academic ability and determine their level of achievement. There was evidence from reports examined by officers of the improvement children had made in their reading and maths ability over a period of time. Children are referred by schools and word of mouth. This appears to be a good project in principle, however they have failed to submit all relevant documents despite repeated requests for them to do so. Pulse Harrow have been asked to liaise with the Educational Psychology Service to discuss their programme of teaching, but again have failed to do so. In view of these concerns, funding is not recommended for 2008/09.

Funding received from other sources in 2007/08:

£6,000 from Harrow Council, Education & Environment.

Report produced by the Grants Unit in consultation with Psychology Services.

Appendix 5

Brief summaries of applications rejected (not meeting grants qualifying criteria)

AFRIKA'S FINEST (New Applicant):

Grant Request: £17,050

This is a newly established organisation with the aim of educating and promoting the African heritage and culture through African dance. The application has been rejected for grant funding as they do not at present meet the following grant qualifying condition:

- “The organisation must be properly constituted, have a management committee and a bank statement in the name of the organisation”.

FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION (New Applicant):

Grant Request: £19,440

This is a newly established organisation with the aim of running Arabic/English health advocacy courses in Harrow by a qualified professional. The application has been rejected for grant funding as they do not at present meet the following grant qualifying condition:

- “The applicant must be a voluntary group based in Harrow, with 80% of its beneficiaries either living or working in Harrow”.

Family Welfare Foundation has stated in their application that currently only 20% of anticipated beneficiaries are resident in Harrow.

GIRLGUIDING MIDDLESEX NORTH WEST (Currently Funded):

Grant Request: £5,000

Girlguiding Middlesex North West is an autonomous part of Girlguiding UK. The organisation, working in small groups and with commitment to a common standard, provides a varied programme of activities which teaches the girls values, life long skills, self confidence and the opportunity to reach their full potential and be aware of their local community and the wider world. Activities are provided in a safe environment at Willow Tree Centre. The application has been rejected for grant funding, as they do not meet the following grant qualifying condition:

- “The applicant must be a voluntary group based in Harrow, with 80% of its beneficiaries either living or working in Harrow”.

The Willow Tree Centre is based in the Borough of Hillingdon, and approximately 45.8% of the young people attending the Centre are from Harrow.

This group has been previously funded although it does not meet the grant qualifying conditions. To ensure strict adherence to grant qualifying conditions as agreed at the Grants

Advisory Panel meeting of 6th July 2006 the organisation is considered ineligible and therefore not recommended for funding.

K.S.I.M. SENIOR CITIZEN ASSOCIATION (Currently Funded):

Grant Request: £5,000

This Organisation was set up in 1988 and provides a weekly drop-in/day service for elderly, disabled or isolated members of the Shia Muslim community. Housebound members are supported at home or visited while in hospital. The application has been rejected for grant funding, as they do not meet the following grant qualifying condition:

- “The applicant must be a voluntary group based in Harrow, with 80% of its beneficiaries either living or working in Harrow”.

The organisation have submitted a current register of users, and it is evident that only 59% of the users are from Harrow, the remainder coming from neighbouring boroughs such as Watford, Hillingdon, Barnet and Brent.

This group was not recommended for funding last year however this was overturned by the Panel. To ensure strict adherence to grant qualifying conditions as agreed at the Grants Advisory Panel meeting of 6th July 2006 the organisation is considered ineligible and therefore not recommended for funding.

SRI LANKAN EDUCATIONAL CULTURAL & WELFARE FOUNDATION (New Applicant):

Grant Request: £10,000

This organisation is based in Brent with the aim of educating and introducing the Sri Lankan community to their traditional culture and groom the young members to become good law abiding citizens. Their activities include mother tongue classes, dance, music and sports. Their application for funding is to celebrate the Sri Lankan New Year by holding a major function at the Harrow Leisure Centre and Byron Recreation Ground.

The application has been rejected for grant funding, as they do not meet the following grant qualifying condition:

- “The applicant must be a voluntary group based in Harrow, with 80% of its beneficiaries either living or working in Harrow”.

The organisation has stated that approximately 50% of their members participating in their usual activities as outlined above, are from Harrow.

WEBPLAY (New Applicant):

Grant Request: £7,253

WebPlay, which is based in London Bridge SE1, is a national arts education charity that links primary school children from contrasting areas and backgrounds and engages them in collaborative, project-based learning using drama and technology. A pilot version of the

project was carried out in the summer of 2006, which included schools from Harrow. Three classes from Earlsmead and Newton Farm are already confirmed in participating in this project.

The organisation has been rejected as it does not meet the following grant qualifying condition:

- “The applicant must be a voluntary group based in Harrow, with 80% of its beneficiaries either living or working in Harrow”.