

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Meeting:</b>                   | <b>GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL</b>   |
| <b>Date:</b>                      | <b>26 NOVEMBER 2003</b>  |
| <b>Subject:</b>                   | <b>GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS BUDGET 2004/05</b>  |
| <b>Key decision:</b>              | <b>YES</b>   |
| <b>Responsible Chief Officer:</b> | <b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BUSINESS CONNECTIONS</b>   |
| <b>Relevant Portfolio Holder:</b> | <b>PARTNERSHIP AND PROPERTY</b>  |
| <b>Status:</b>                    | <b>PART 1</b>  |
| <b>Ward:</b>                      | <b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>  |
| <b>Enclosures:</b>                | <b>APPENDIX A – LIST OF APPLICATIONS FOR 2004/05<br/>APPENDIX B – LIST OF INFLATION CALCULATIONS</b> |

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

- 1.1 This report summarises the proposed grants to voluntary organisations for 2004 /05. It provides details of the amount of funding requested for 2004/05, compared with the proposed budget, and the total amount of funding recommended by officers.
- 1.2 The report also provides information to Members about the amount of reserved funding recommended by officers and the amount of inflation additions for salaried required for 2004/05.
- 1.3 The report provides a full picture of the funding requested, the funding recommended, the recommended reserved funding and the salary inflation additions that would be required, should Cabinet agree to allocate inflation additions, in order to enable Members to reach as many decisions at this stage as possible.
- 1.4 Members need to be aware that, should they approve all the recommended grants, there would be a shortfall in the grants budget of £58,296. Members will, therefore, need to read this report in conjunction with the Grant Funding report, which gives details of the individual grant requests.

## **2. Recommendations (for decision by Cabinet)**

2.1 To note that the existing grants to voluntary organisations budget for 2003 /04 is £1,004,430. The budget for 2004 /05, after adjusted for inflation, is £1,034,630, but is subject to the Council approving its overall Revenue Budget 2004 / 05.

2.2 To agree that £5,500 from the unallocated fund for 2003/04 could be carried forward and used to fund one-off requests.

2.3 To note the amount of grant funding requested for 2004/05 is £1,281,267

2.4 To note that requests for growth from currently funded groups amount to £169,026.

2.5 To consider the recommended funding of £1,047,081 for 2004/05.

2.6 To note that the reserved funding recommended amounts to £31,000

2.7 To agree the amount of £14,845 inflation additions for salaries.

2.8 To note that the total recommended funding for 2004/05 is £1,092,926

**REASON: To enable the provision of grants to voluntary organisations in 2004/05.**

## **3. Consultation with Ward Councillors - None**

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

4.1 Grants Panel – 6 March 2003. Members recommended to Cabinet grant funding totalling £1,004,430 for 2003/04.

## **5. Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

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

## **6 Background Information and options considered**

**The London Borough of Harrow is empowered to make grants to voluntary organisations under Section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985.**

6.1 The total amount of funding requested for 2004/05 is £1,281,267

6.2 The total growth requested by currently funded groups is £169,026

6.3 The unallocated fund for 2003/04 is £5,500 (reserved grants that cannot be released in the current year). This amount could be carried forward and be used to fund one-off requests.

6.4 Officer recommendations, inclusive of recommended reserved grants and salary inflation additions, total £1,092,926.

6.5 Should all officer recommendations be approved, there would be a shortfall of £58,296.

## **7. Consultation Not applicable**

8. **Finance Observations**

8.1 No financial observations

9. **Legal Observations**

9.1 No legal observations

10. **Conclusion**

10.1 The Grants to Voluntary Organisations Budget 2004/05 is £1,034,630. The recommended grants for 2004/05 amount to £1,092,926. Should members approve all the recommended grants, there would be a shortfall of £58,296. Members will, therefore, need to scrutinise all individual grant requests to ensure that grant allocations do not exceed the budget.

11. **Background Papers**

11.1 None

12. **Author**

12.1 Zach Stavrinou – Temporary Grants Officer, Chief Executive's Dept. Ext. 2335. E-mail: zacharias.stavrinou@harrow.gov.uk