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| Meeting: | Grants Advisory Panel |
| Date: | 8 September 2009 |
| Subject: | Grants Advisory Panel Meeting 4 March 2009 |
| Responsible Officer: | Hugh Peart – Director of Legal and Governance Services |
| Portfolio Holder: | Councillor Jean Lammiman – Portfolio Holder, Community and Cultural Services |
| Exempt: | No |
| Enclosures: | Portfolio Holder Rationale for revised allocations |

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the comments of the Director of Legal and Governance Services in response to resolution 172 (i) of the Minutes of the Grants Advisory Panel dated 8 June 2009.

Recommendations:

The Panel is requested to note the report.

Section 2 – Report

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 At its meeting on 8 June 2009, this Panel considered an item relating to the Grants Advisory Panel Meeting on 4 March 2009 under “Any Other Urgent Business”. The Panel resolved “That the Director of Legal and Governance Services submit a report to the Grants Advisory Panel meeting on 8 September 2009, outlining the rationale for amending the Grants Advisory Report from the meeting of 4 March 2009 submitted to Cabinet on 26 March 2009.
- 2.1.2 At its meeting on 4 March 2009, this Grants Advisory Panel (GAP) considered the Grant Funding applications for 2009/10. The Panel agreed to recommend to Cabinet the allocation of funding to voluntary organisations for the 2009/10 financial year.
- 2.1.3 Prior to the recommendation being submitted to the Cabinet, the Portfolio Holder for Community and Cultural Services reviewed the recommendations with a view to ensuring adherence with the Grants criteria. As a result, some of the GAP recommendations were adjusted. The rationale for each of the revised recommendations is set out in the attached Appendix 1. (Recommendation 3 to the Cabinet Report of 26 March 2009).
- 2.1.4 The report to Cabinet on 26 March 2009 included all the recommendations from the GAP meeting of the 4th March, as well as the recommendations which were being put forward by the Portfolio Holder.
- 2.1.5 The recommendations from the Portfolio Holder for funding to the voluntary organisations for 2009/10 as set out in Appendix 2 to the Cabinet report of 26th March were approved.

2.2 Current Situation

- 2.2.1 The allocation of grants is an executive function and decisions can only be made by the Executive or individual Portfolio Holders. However, the Executive may appoint advisory panels to assist in the carrying out of its functions.
- 2.2.2 The functions of GAP are contained in the Allocations of Responsibilities in the Council’s Constitution. This states that the Panel is “To review grant applications annually ensuring that they meet agreed criteria and conditions, and make recommendations for funding to Cabinet or the portfolio holder as appropriate”.
- 2.2.3 As the GAP can only make recommendations, these can be accepted, amended or rejected by the Cabinet.
- 2.2.4 In this case, the Portfolio Holder, who as Chairman of GAP, did not vote on the various applications, undertook a review of the recommendations in order to ensure that these complied with the Grants criteria. As a result, the Portfolio Holder proposed certain

amendments to the Panel's recommendations. These amendments could either have been made orally at the Cabinet meeting, or as in this case by an amended report thereby giving Cabinet and members advance notice of his proposal. It was then open to Cabinet to accept or reject his suggestions.

2.2.5 Cabinet, having considered both the recommendations from GAP and the recommendations and rationale from the portfolio holder, decided to approve the recommendations proposed by the portfolio holder.

Financial Implications

This report contains no financial implications.

Risk Management Implications

There are no risks associated with this report.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

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| Name: Steve Tingle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer |
| Date: 26 August 2009 | | |
| Name: Hugh Peart | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Monitoring Officer |
| Date: 21 August 2009 | | |

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Elaine McEachron Assistant Lawyer Corporate
Governance telephone: 0208 424 5414.

Background Papers:

Grants Agenda and Minutes 4 March 2009
Cabinet Agenda and Minutes 26 March 2009

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

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| 1. | Consultation | YES / NO |
| 2. | Corporate Priorities | YES / NO |