

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

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| Meeting: | GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL |
| Date: | 13 TH SEPTEMBER 2004 |
| Subject: | HARROW COUNCIL FOR RACIAL EQUALITY (HCRE) – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING IN 2004/05 |
| Key decision: | NO |
| Responsible Chief Officer: | DIRECTOR FINANCIAL & BUSINESS STRATEGY |
| Relevant Portfolio Holder: | PARTNERSHIP & PROPERTY |
| Status: | PART 1 |
| Ward: | N / A |
| Enclosures: | LETTER FROM HCRE DATED 25.5.04 (APPENDIX 1) LETTER FROM HCRE DATED 23.8.04 (APPENDIX 2) |

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

- 1.1 HCRE are requesting additional funding in 2004/05 for additional work they have been carrying out since 1st April 2004.

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

- 2.1 That Members consider the request from HCRE for additional funding of £3,000 in 2004/05.

REASON: To enable HCRE to finalise its budget for the current financial year, or seek funding from alternative sources in relation to the additional duties they have been undertaking since 1st April 2004.

3. **Consultation with Ward Councillors.**

- 3.1 Not applicable

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

- 4.1 Grants Advisory Panel 26 November 2003 - The Panel agreed to recommend to Cabinet funding for HCRE in the sum £45,855, inclusive of salary inflation.

- 4.2 Grants Advisory Panel 8 March 2004 – Members considered a request from HCRE for additional funding to cover accommodation costs at their new premises and agreed additional funding of £6,220 in 2004/05.

5. Relevance to Corporate Priorities

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

6 Background Information and options considered

- 6.1 From 1st April 2004, HCRE have assumed responsibility for monitoring cases of racial incidents reported to Harrow Police. The Racial Harassment Sub Committee of the Harrow Police Community Consultative Group, whose funding was not renewed by the Council in the current financial year, previously carried out this task.
- 6.2 Monitoring of racial harassment cases has always been within the HCRE's potential remit. Members will need to decide whether HCRE could undertake these tasks with their existing resources, or whether they would need additional funding. Following further consultation with HCRE, officers have been informed (see letter dated 23rd August 2004, attached as Appendix 2) that "cases arising from these new duties number roughly 25-30 new per month; these are dealt with in addition to the existing caseload at HCRE. I estimate that around 25 hours per month are devoted to the completion of these new duties by HCRE staff..."

7. Consultation

- 7.1 Not applicable

8. Finance Observations

- 8.1 Members are reminded that the grants budget for 2004/05 has been committed already and that budgets are cash limited. Any additional grant would therefore require compensatory savings. However, this may in fact now be available as ADHD support group (Attention Deficit and Hyperactive Disorder) may not qualify for £3,000 funding reserved by the Grants Panel in the current year.

9. Legal Observations

- 9.1 None.

10. Conclusion

- 10.1 HCRE have been undertaking some additional work in relation to the monitoring of racial incidents reported to Harrow Police. The organisation stated that the additional work involves monitoring about 25 – 30 cases a month, which amounts to about 25 hours extra work per month.

11. Background Papers

- 11.1 None

12. **Author**

12.1 David Ward – Risk & Insurance Manager Ext. 2064. E-mail: david.ward@harrow.gov.uk