

A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter considered at a meeting must disclose the interest to the meeting at which they are present, except where it has been entered on the Register.

A Member with a non pecuniary or pecuniary interest in any business of the Council must disclose the existence and nature of that interest at commencement of consideration or when the interest becomes apparent.

Where sensitive information relating to an interest is not registered in the register, you must indicate that you have an interest, but need not disclose the sensitive information.

Notes

	General		
1.	I have a disclosable pecuniary interest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 below
2.	I have a non-pecuniary interest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	You may speak and vote
3.	<p>I have a pecuniary interest because</p> <p>it affects my financial position or the financial position of a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest</p> <p>or</p> <p>it relates to the determining of any approval consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to me or a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below</p> <p>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below</p>
4.	<p>I have a disclosable pecuniary interest (Dispensation 16/7/12) or a pecuniary interest but it relates to the functions of my Council in respect of:</p> <p>(i) Housing where I am a tenant of the Council, and those functions do not relate particularly to my tenancy or lease.</p> <p>(ii) school meals, or school transport and travelling expenses where I am a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or are a parent governor of a school, and it does not relate particularly to the school which the child attends.</p> <p>(iii) Statutory sick pay where I am in receipt or entitled to receipt of such pay.</p> <p>(iv) An allowance, payment or indemnity given to Members</p> <p>(v) Any ceremonial honour given to Members</p> <p>(vi) Setting Council tax or a precept under the LGFA 1992</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>You may speak and vote</p> <p>You may speak and vote</p> <p>You may speak and vote</p> <p>You may speak and vote</p> <p>You may speak and vote</p>
5.	A Standards Committee dispensation applies (relevant lines in the budget – Dispensation 20/2/13 – 19/2/17)	<input type="checkbox"/>	See the terms of the dispensation
6.	I have a pecuniary interest in the business but I can attend to make representations, answer questions or give evidence as the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	You may speak but must leave the room once you have finished and cannot vote

Prescribed description

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by M in carrying out duties as a Member, or towards the election expenses of M.

	This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to M's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to M's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

"body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest" means a firm in which the relevant person is a partner or a body corporate of which the relevant person is a director, or in the securities of which the relevant person has a beneficial interest; "director" includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society;

"land" excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for the relevant person (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income; "M" means a member of a relevant authority;

"member" includes a co-opted member; "relevant authority" means the authority of which M is a member;

"relevant period" means the period of 12 months ending with the day on which M gives notice to the Monitoring Officer of a DPI;

"relevant person" means M or M's spouse or civil partner, a person with whom M is living as husband or wife or a person with whom M is living as if they were civil partners;

"securities" means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

'non pecuniary interest' means interests falling within the following descriptions:

- 10.1(1)(i) Any body of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by your authority;
- (ii) Any body (a) exercising functions of a public nature; (b) directed to charitable purposes; or (c) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union), of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management;
- (iii) Any easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
- 10.2(2) A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well-being or financial position or the well-being or financial position of a connected person to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward, as the case may be, affected by the decision.

'a connected person' means

- (a) a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association, or
- (b) any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;
- (c) any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
- (d) any body of a type described in sub-paragraph 10.1(1)(i) or (ii).

'body exercising functions of a public nature' means

Regional and local development agencies, other government agencies, other Councils, public health bodies, council-owned companies exercising public functions, arms length management organisations carrying out housing functions on behalf of your authority, school governing bodies.

A Member with a personal interest who has made an executive decision in relation to that matter must ensure any written statement of that decision records the existence and nature of that interest.

NB Section 21(13) of the LGA 2000 overrides any Code provisions to oblige an executive member to attend an overview and scrutiny meeting to answer questions.



AGENDA ITEM: 4(a)

CABINET: 2 FEBRUARY 2016

Report of: Interim Borough Transformation Manager

Relevant Managing Director: Managing Director (Transformation)

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Y Gagen

Contact for further information: Mrs S Griffiths (Extn. 5097)
(E-mail: susan.griffiths@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY & OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING GROUP

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To advise of the recommendations of the Funding of Voluntary and Other Organisations Cabinet Working Group meetings of 10 August, 15 December 2015 and 14 January 2016 in respect of the applications for one year revenue funding from 2016.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the recommendations arising from the scoring of the applications received from voluntary organisations for one year revenue funding from April 2016 onwards by the Funding of Voluntary and Other Organisations Cabinet Working Group at its meeting on 14 January 2016 be endorsed as detailed in the minutes of the meeting attached at Appendix 4
- 2.2 That the call-in procedure is not appropriate for this item as the recommendations of the Working Group form part of the considerations when the Council's budget is finalised on 24 February 2016.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The current grant agreements/service level agreements with the voluntary organisations currently funded by the Council expire on 31 March 2016.

- 3.2 The Working Group met on 10 August 2015 to consider options for an approach to revenue funding to voluntary organisations from 1 April 2016 onwards.
- 3.3 The Working Group resolved to advertise the availability of the funding in line with the Equality & Diversity agenda. Accordingly, a notice was posted on the Council's website and in the local press. Subsequently a scoring mechanism was adopted to formulate a priority list of applicants.

4.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 14 applications for revenue funding were received and the Working Group met on 15 December 2015 and 14 January 2016 to score and prioritise and make recommendations as to the amount of funding (or otherwise) to award.
- 4.2 The minutes of the meetings containing the recommendations to Cabinet, are attached as an Appendix to this report.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The total grants recommended by the Working Group to be made in 2016-2017 exceed the current budget by £1,840 and have recommended a growth bid.

6.0 COMMENTS OF THE INTERIM BOROUGH TRANSFORMATION MANAGER

- 6.1 The Working Group were provided with details of how (or otherwise) the applicants had met the eligibility criteria, an analysis of each of the organisation's financial statements and business plan together with a commentary on each of the applicants health & safety policy.
- 6.2 Applicants have been advised of the Working Group's recommendations and that funding is not guaranteed but will form part of considerations when the Council's budget is finalised on 24 February 2016.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a significant direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report.

Appendices

1. Equality Impact Assessment

2. Minutes of the Funding of Voluntary & Other Organisations Working Group held on 10 August 2015
3. Minutes of the Funding of Voluntary & Other Organisations Working Group held on 15 December 2015
4. Minutes of the Funding of Voluntary & Other Organisations Working Group held on 14 January 2016

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate: Transformation

Service:

Completed by: Sue Griffiths

Date: 13 April 2015

Subject Title: Review of Revenue Funding to Voluntary Organisations

1. DESCRIPTION

Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	Yes
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	Yes
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	Yes
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	Yes
Is a programme or project being planned:	No
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	Review of mechanism for revenue funding to Voluntary Organisations.

*If you answered **Yes** to any of the above **go straight to Section 3***

*If you answered **No** to all the above **please complete Section 2***

2. RELEVANCE

Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	Yes
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: <i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i>	

3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION

Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	Yes, impact on the voluntary sector in West Lancashire and users of their services.
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	Users of the services provided by the Voluntary organisations currently in receipt of revenue funding from the Council.

Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	
Age	Yes
Gender	Yes
Disability	Yes
Race and Culture	Yes
Sexual Orientation	Yes
Religion or Belief	Yes
Gender Reassignment	Yes
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Yes
Pregnancy and Maternity	Yes
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	Residents in the Borough have access to the services provided by the voluntary organisations in receipt of revenue funding.
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	Risk that the voluntary organisations currently in receipt of revenue funding may not be successful in continued funding which may have an impact on their services. Conversely other voluntary organisations are afforded the opportunity to apply for funding.
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	Client satisfaction statistics will be sought from the voluntary organisations applying for revenue funding from 2016 onwards.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	<p>Applicants for revenue funding are required to offer equality of opportunity in service delivery, employment and all other aspects of its work having particular regard to the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010; and to provide the Council with an up to date statement of its equal opportunities policy.</p> <p>The voluntary organisations currently funded by the Council provide services to users/stakeholders with protected characteristics.</p>
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	None
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	There is a risk that people with protected characteristics may not be able to access services, if a voluntary organisation's funding ceases or discontinues. Other organisations not currently funded by the Council may be successful in obtaining a grant in order to enhance their services.

6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	<p>Notice will be given to voluntary organisations currently funded by the Council, that a revised mechanism will be adopted and that the availability of grants is to be advertised.</p> <p>The revised mechanism will ensure that the grant process is fair and transparent and in accordance with Counsel's Advice.</p>
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No Actions
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	The Funding of Voluntary and Other Organisations Working Group will consider all issues in relation to voluntary sector funding.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Dowling (Chairman)
Davis
Owen
West

Officers: Transformation Manager (Mr S Walsh)
Principal Member Services Officer (Mrs S Griffiths)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Davis and Dowling declared non-pecuniary interests in agenda item 5 (Review of Revenue Funding to Voluntary Organisations) in view of their appointments by the Council to the West Lancashire Council for Voluntary Service.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the minutes of the last meeting of the Working Group held on 16 December 2014 be agreed.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consideration was given to the Terms of Reference of the Working Group.

RESOLVED That the Terms of Reference be noted.

5. REVIEW OF REVENUE FUNDING TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Consideration was given to the report of the Transformation Manager which outlined options for a revised mechanism of funding to voluntary organisations from April 2016 onwards. He explained how grants were currently awarded and reviewed and reported that the findings of an equality health check and recent advice had provided an opportunity to revise the current mechanism and proposed that option 2 as outlined in the report would be an appropriate way forward.

- RESOLVED
- A. That the Transformation Manager under his delegated authority revise the mechanism for the making of grants to voluntary organisations in line with Option 2 outlined in Appendix A to the report.
 - B. That in order to achieve best use of resources, determination of the amount of grant (if any) to be allocated to individual voluntary organisations be undertaken after the applications have been received.
 - C. That Cabinet be recommended to award the grants from April 2016 by way of a one year Grant Agreement and a further review be undertaken in relation to the allocation mechanism for 2017/2018 onwards.
 - D. That the Transformation Manager be requested to arrange visits to the voluntary organisations in receipt of funding in 2016/2017 by Members of the Working Group.

**FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS CABINET WORKING
GROUP**

15 DECEMBER 2015

Start: 6.00pm
Finish: 7.20pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Dowling (Chairman)
Davis
Owen
West

Officers: Transformation Manager (Mr S Walsh)
Service Accountant (Mrs K Samosa)
Principal Member Services Officer (Mrs S Griffiths)

6. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

8. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the minutes of the last meeting of the Working Group held on 10 August 2015 be approved as a correct record.

9. APPLICATIONS FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR REVENUE FUNDING FROM 2016 ONWARDS

Consideration was given to the report of the Transformation Manager which provided details of applications from voluntary organisations for revenue funding from 2016 onwards.

He reported upon the voluntary organisations that were currently in receipt of funding from the Council until 2016 and the current budget for this provision and indicated that the applications received for funding for the financial year 2016 far exceeded the amount within this budget.

He went on to remind Members of the revised mechanism for awarding funding that had previously been agreed by the Working group and provided a summary of how (or otherwise) the applicants had met the eligibility criteria. He also provided an analysis of each organisation's financial situation and business plan, together with the other information submitted by the applicants, for example in relation to Health & Safety and Equality & Diversity etc..

FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS CABINET WORKING GROUP

15 DECEMBER 2015

In accordance with the mechanism Members were requested to consider whether each application had met the eligibility criteria and to score and prioritise the applications and make recommendations to Cabinet.

Prior to consideration of the applications discussion ensued on possible future mechanisms for funding of voluntary organisations from 2017 onwards and in particular the exploration of the adoption of a commissioning style approach.

RESOLVED (A) That in accordance with the priority list, Cabinet be requested to:-

i) Provide the following funding by way of a one year Grant Agreements to:-

- | | |
|--|---------|
| • Lancashire West CAB | £50,000 |
| • Dial A Ride Association | £28,575 |
| • WL CVS | £32,500 |
| (subject to receipt of a satisfactory Health & Safety policy in accordance with the Council's Health & Safety Manager's recommendations /financial statements) | |
| • Disability Advice WL | £ 5,900 |
| • Bereavement Counselling Services | £ 5,922 |
| • West Lancs. Ark | £18,000 |
| (subject to receipt of satisfactory Health & Safety policy in accordance with the Council's Health & Safety Manger's recommendations) | |

ii) Advise the following organisations that funding is not available due to their position on the priority list:-

- Age UK
- Lancashire Community Finance
- Timesavers

iii) Refuse the following applications for the reasons indicated:-

- Communities in Action NW (not met eligibility criteria – in having not provided end of year financial statements)
- Forward Motion Art CiC (not met eligibility criteria – in having not provided end of year financial statements)

- Homestart (not met eligibility criteria – inadequate health & safety policy)
- Learning Stars (not met eligibility criteria – in not having provided satisfactory financial statements nor business plan)
- Relate – Lancashire (not met eligibility criteria – Inadequate health & safety policy)

- (B) That Cabinet be requested to consider a growth bid of £4,560 to the Funding of Voluntary Organisations budget in order to provide one year grants to the voluntary organisations listed in A) i) above. If the growth bid is not achieved the proposed grants to the Lancashire West CAB and the Lancashire Dial A Ride Association both be reduced by £2,000 and the grant proposed to the West Lancashire CVS be reduced by £1,000.
- (C) That the applicants be advised that the recommendations of the Working Group will not guarantee funding, but will form part of considerations when the Council's budget is agreed on 24 February 2016.

FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS CABINET WORKING GROUP

HELD: 14 JANUARY 2016

Start: 6.00pm

Finish: 6.40pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Dowling (Chairman)
Owen
West

Officers: Transformation Manager (Mr S Walsh)
Service Accountant (Mrs K Samosa)
Principal Member Services Officer (Mrs S Griffiths)

10. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Davis.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

12. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the minutes of the last meeting of the Working Group held on 15 December 2015 be approved as a correct record.

13. APPLICATION FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION FOR REVENUE FUNDING

Consideration was given to the report of the Transformation Manager which provided further details in respect of the application for revenue funding from 1 April 2016 onwards received from Homestart Central Lancashire.

He indicated that since the meeting of the Working Group on 15 December 2015 further information that had been submitted with their original application had been identified and the application now met the eligibility criteria. He requested the Working Group to consider the application in accordance with the process adopted in relation to the other applications and to revise the priority list and make recommendations to Cabinet.

He further provided an analysis of the organisation's financial situation and business plan together with the supporting information submitted by the applicant.

FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS CABINET WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED (A) That in accordance with the revised priority list, Cabinet be requested to:-

i) Provide the following funding by way of a one year Grant Agreements to:-

- Lancashire West CAB £ 45,000
- Dial A Ride Association £ 25,720
- WL CVS £ 29,250
(subject to receipt of a satisfactory Health & Safety policy in accordance with the Council's Health & Safety Manager's Recommendations/financial statements)
- Disability Advice WL £ 5,310
- Bereavement Counselling Services £ 5,330
- West Lancs. Ark £16,200
(subject to receipt of satisfactory Health & Safety policy in accordance with the Council's Health & Safety Manager's recommendations)
- Homestart Central Lancashire £11,270
- (subject to confirmation that grant funding is to be used in West Lancashire)

ii) Advise the following organisations that funding is not available due to their position on the priority list:-

- Age UK
- Lancashire Community Finance
- Timesavers

iii) Refuse the following applications for the reasons indicated:-

- Communities in Action NW (not met eligibility criteria – in having not provided end of year financial statements)
- Forward Motion Art CiC (not met eligibility criteria – in having not provided end of year financial statements)
- Learning Stars (not met eligibility criteria – in not having provided satisfactory financial statements nor business plan)
- Relate – Lancashire (not met eligibility criteria – Inadequate health & safety policy)

FUNDING OF VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS CABINET WORKING GROUP

- (B) That Cabinet be requested to consider a growth bid of £1,840 to the Funding of Voluntary Organisations budget in order to provide one year grants to the voluntary organisations listed in A) i) above.
- (C) That the applicants be advised that the recommendations of the Working Group will not guarantee funding, but will form part of considerations when the Council's budget is agreed on 24 February 2016.