

SMALL GRANTS

Submitted by: Robin Wiles, Partnerships Officer (Community Development)

Portfolio: Resources and Efficiency

Ward(s) affected: Potentially all

Purpose of the Report

To consider applications submitted to the Small Grants scheme for the final quarter of 2011/12.

Recommendations

That the Panel gives consideration to the applications set out in the attached appendix with a view to determining whether a grant should be awarded, and if so, at what level.

Reasons

The remit of the Grants Assessment Panel is to determine which of the grant applications placed before it meet the Council's Corporate Priorities and merit an award.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Small Grants budget for 2011/12 is £22,000.00.
- 1.2 Voluntary and Community groups can apply for a grant of up to £5,000.00.
- 1.3 The average grant awarded in 2010/11 was £1,997.86
- 1.4 The maximum grant awarded in 2010/11 was £3,000.00.
- 1.5 At the previous three Panel meetings for 2011/12, a total of £11,016.00 grants were awarded to eight organisations, leaving a current balance of £10,984.00.
- 1.6 Fifteen applications have been submitted by the deadline for the final Panel meeting of 2011/12 totalling £39,865.55.
- 1.7 Twenty six applications have been received for 2011/12 totalling £74,243.66.

2. Issues

- 2.1 Details of the applications received are set in the attached appendix.

3. Options Considered

- 3.1 For each application, GAP can award:-
 - Full Grant
 - Partial Grant
 - No Grant
- 3.2 Applications cannot be deferred given that this is the final quarterly meeting of 2011/12.

4. **Proposal**

- 4.1 The applications received are from eligible organisations, and contribute towards meeting the Council's Corporate Priorities and the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 4.2 The applications in total come to £39,865.55, with the current balance in the budget being £10,984.00.
- 4.3 Members consider each application on its merits, taking into account other possible funding options that the applicant may be able to apply to, and the extent to which the project for which funding is sought meets the Council's Corporate Priorities and Newcastle Partnership's priorities.

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

- 5.1 There may be other sources of funding to which applicants can be directed should they be awarded no grant, or a partial grant.
- 5.2 With the high demand for grants we need to ensure that the projects we fund are those that best help to meet the objectives of the Council and the Partnership.

6. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- 6.1 All the applications for consideration state that they meet both Corporate Priorities and those of the Sustainable Community Strategy – please see the applications for further details.

7. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

Not applicable.

8. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 8.1 A full Equality Impact Assessment has not been carried out on each application.
- 8.2 Members should consider the equality impact when determining which applications should be awarded grants.

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 9.1 The annual budget for the Small Grants scheme is £22,000.00.
- 9.2 Grants awarded to date leave £10,984.00 in the budget.
- 9.3 Applications submitted for this GAP meeting total £39,865.55. If all applications were approved there would be a deficit of -£22,881.55 in the budget.

10. **Major Risks**

Not applicable.

11. **Key Decision Information**

- 11.1 Not applicable.

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

12.1 Not applicable.

13. **List of Appendices**

Appendix – details of applications for consideration.

15. **Background Papers**

15.1 Copies of applications will be e-mailed to Panel Members on Monday 20 February 2012.