

SMALL GRANTS

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

Portfolio: Resources and Efficiency

Ward(s) affected: Potentially all Wards

Purpose of the Report

To consider applications submitted to the Small Grants scheme for the first quarter of 2012/13.

Recommendation

That the Panel consider 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

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

1. Background

- 1.1 The Small Grants budget for 2012/13 is £22,000.00.
- 1.2 Voluntary & Community groups can apply for a grant of up to £2,500.00.
- 1.3 27 applications were received, and 17 grants were awarded in 2011/12; 4 of those received the full amount they applied for.
- 1.4 The average grant awarded in 2011/12 was £1,294.00

2. Issues

- 2.1 SG 1112 12 – North Staffs Autism & Aspergers Association were awarded a grant of £1,000.00 for their Social Club at the November 2011 Grants Assessment Panel, to be paid in two tranches of £500.00 dependant on progress with the project after the first 6 months. Performance was judged to be sufficient to warrant payment of the second £500.00 in April 2012.
- 2.2 Applications for consideration at this meeting are set out in the attached appendix.

3. Options Considered

- 3.1 For each application, GAP can award:-
 - Full grant.
 - Partial Grant.
 - No Grant.
 - Defer a decision until the next Panel meeting, either to obtain further information, and/or to invite the applicant to attend the meeting dependant on whether there are any time constraints on projects seeking funding.

4. **Proposal**

- 4.1 The applications received for consideration at this meeting are from eligible organisations, that contribute towards meeting the Council's Corporate Priorities and the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 4.2 Projects (not organisations) that receive a grant in two successive years are required to take a break for the following year before they are eligible to apply again.
- 4.3 Members consider each application on its merits, taking into account other possible funding options that applicant may be able to apply to.

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.

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

- 6.1 All the applications for consideration 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 All applications, if awarded, would be expected to have a positive impact on the communities that they benefit.

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 9.1 The annual budget for the Small Grants scheme is £22,000.00.
- 9.2 Applications submitted for this GAP meeting total £9,156.74. If all applications were approved for a full grant, that would leave £12,843.26 in the budget.

10. **Major Risks**

Not Applicable.

11. **Key Decision Information**

- 11.1 The applications for consideration potentially affect all Wards.

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

Not Applicable.

13. **List of Appendices**

Appendix - Small Grants details.

15. **Background Papers**

- 15.1 Copies of applications will be e-mailed to Panel members. Hard copies will not be made available to reduce printing costs, but can be viewed in advance - please contact Robin Wiles on 742493 or robin.wiles@newcastle-staffspartnership.org.uk.