

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
GRANTS BOARD – 5 NOVEMBER 2018
REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR (HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS (ANNUAL GRANTS)

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 Six applications from voluntary groups have been received for Annual Community (appendix A) Grants.
- 1.2 The total amount available for Grants Panel to allocate for the financial year 2019/20 is £174,270.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 Members of the Grants Board are asked to consider the Annual Community Grant applications (Part II) and allocate the funding in accordance with the council's priorities and criteria.

3 Explanation

- 3.1 It was agreed in 2017/18 as part of the budget setting that for a 3 year period, Citizens Advice Bureau will have a ring fenced budget of £95,000.
- 3.2 As such the overall budget associated to Annual Grants for the financial year 2019/20 will be £79,270. However this subject to agreement from the Council's Cabinet during the budget setting process.

Implications

4 Legal Implication(s)

- 4.1 There are none arising from this report.

5 Financial Implication(s)

- 5.1 Annual Community Grant applications total £103,892.95 exceeding budget for Annual Community grants by £24,622.95.

6 Risk Management Implications

- 6.1 There are risks related to providing grants to voluntary organisations in that there is the possibility that the charity could go into administration and as such the funding would be lost. There is also the possibility that organisations do not spend the grant provided on the agreed projects or costs as per their applications.
- 6.2 The risks are mitigated as much as possible as all successful grant applicants' sign up to a service level agreement between WHBC and themselves. This

means that each successful grant has to provide information and evidence on where the funding was spent.

7 Security & Terrorism Implication(s)

- 8 In complying with the Prevent duty Local Authorities need to ensure that publicly owned resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views.

9 Procurement Implication(s)

- 9.1 There are none arising from this report.

10 Climate Change Implication(s)

- 10.1 There are none arising from this report.

11 Human Resources Implication(s)

- 11.1 There are none arising from this report.

12 Health and Wellbeing Implication(s)

- 12.1 Providing grants to the community organisations for the benefit of Welwyn Hatfield residents assists the council in meeting its objectives to improve the health and wellbeing of the borough.

13 Communication and Engagement Implication(s)

- 13.1 There is responsibility placed on all recipients of Council Grant to ensure that the council is mentioned within all associated publicity and promotion. Part of the organisation's feedback also includes evidence of this.
- 13.2 The council's communications department are given all associated details to ensure that publicity is given to successful grant applicants.

14 Link to Corporate Priorities

- 14.1 Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council Grants Board looks to support projects which help achieve Council's Corporate Priorities. Applications for community grants need to contribute to at least one of the following:
- 1. Our Community
 - 2. Our Environment
 - 3. Our Housing
 - 4. Our Economy
 - 5. Engage with our communities and provide value for money.

15 Equality and Diversity

- 15.1 An EqIA was not completed because this report does not propose changes to existing service-related policies or the development of new service-related policies.
- 15.2 Those organisations applying for a council grant are required to produce evidence of their commitment to equality and diversity.

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Background papers include the grant applications from the following organisations:-

Community Volunteer Service (Welwyn Hatfield)

Friendship House (Hatfield & District Age Concern)

RECOVER

Resolve

University of Hertfordshire

Women's Refuge (Welwyn Hatfield)