

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
DALES, MAPPERLEY AND ST ANN'S AREA COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday 15 May 2012

Time: 7.00pm

Place: Committee Room, Ground Floor at Loxley House

Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting on the date and at the time and place stated to transact the following business.



Acting Corporate Director of Resources

Constitutional Services Officer: Carol Jackson Direct dial - 8764297

AGENDA

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillors, colleagues or other participants in meetings are requested to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest in any matter(s) on the agenda

6 MINUTES

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (a) Meeting of St Ann's and Dales Area Committee held on 13 March 2012 (for adoption) | Attached |
| (b) Meeting of Mapperley and Sherwood Area Committee held on 20 March 2012 (for adoption) | Attached |

7 **COMMUNITY SMALL GRANT PROGRAMME**
Report of Director of Neighbourhood Services

Attached

8 **ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

(a) **TITLE OF THE AREA COMMITTEE**

To agree the title of the Area Committee

(b) **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

To consider meeting on the following Tuesdays: 4 September 2012,
13 November 2012 and 12 February 2013

(c) **VENUE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

To agree the venue for future meetings

(d) **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

A discussion of items for possible inclusion on future agenda's.

**IF YOU ARE UNSURE WHETHER OR NOT YOU SHOULD
DECLARE AN INTEREST IN A PARTICULAR MATTER, PLEASE
CONTACT THE CONSTITUTIONAL SERVICES OFFICER SHOWN
ON THIS AGENDA, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE
MEETING, WHO WILL PROVIDE ADVICE IN THE FIRST
INSTANCE.**

**CITIZENS ATTENDING MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT
LEAST FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE
MEETING TO BE ISSUED WITH VISITOR BADGES**

**THE LOCALITY MANAGER WILL BE AVAILABLE TO SPEAK
WITH COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ATRIUM AT
LOXLEY HOUSE FROM 6.30 PM ONWARDS ON THE DAY OF THE
MEETING.**

Agenda, reports and minutes for all public meetings can be viewed online at:-
<http://open.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/comm/default.asp>

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**ST ANN'S AND DALES AREA (SIX) COMMITTEE****MINUTES**

of meeting held on **13 MARCH 2012** at

Loxley House from 7.02 pm to 8.35 pm

Present

- ✓ Councillor G Khan (Chair)
 - ✓ Councillor Johnson (minutes 40 to 42 inclusive)
 - Councillor Collins
 - ✓ Councillor Liversidge
 - ✓ Councillor Mellen
 - ✓ Councillor Williams (Joint Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Indicates present at meeting

Community Representatives and citizens in attendance

- Ms J Summers - (Joint Vice-Chair) St Stephen's Church
- Miss C James - Gains Tenants' and Residents' Group
- Mrs D Moore - Nottingham Local Access Forum
- Mr D Sanderson - Sneinton Hermitage Community Centre
- Mr P Wright - Sneinton Tenants Outreach Programme
- Mr G Feltham - Sneinton Tenant and Resident Association
- Mr A Khan)
- Mr W Asif) Residents
- Mr C Lydall)

Others in Attendance

- Miss S Bedford)
- Mr P Luniw) Network Rail
- Mr D Thomas)
- Miss C Underwood - Renewal Trust

City Council Colleagues in Attendance

- Mr E Curry - Head of Parks and Open Spaces)
- Ms D Holmes - South Area Manager) Communities
- Mr N Martin - Area 6 Clean Team)
- Mr M Sunderland - Area 6 Neighbourhood Environmental Manager)
- Mr J Lee - Senior Rights of Way Officer - Development
- Mrs Z West - Constitutional Services Officer) Resources
- Miss L Wilson - Constitutional Services Officer)

Please note: except where otherwise indicated, all items discussed at the meeting were the subject of a report which had been circulated beforehand.

40 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Collins.

41 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Khan declared a personal interest in agenda item 5 (minute 44), Sneinton Railway Crossings, insofar as he was a member of the Development Control Committee where this item had also been discussed, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

42 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 10 January 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

**43 URBAN FORESTRY STRATEGY
(Director of Sport, Culture and Parks)**

Mr Curry, Head of Parks and Open Spaces, introduced the report and presented the Committee with the following information:

- the Urban Forest Strategy covered all trees growing in Nottingham City, regardless of land ownership. Nottingham City Council owned one of the largest tree stocks in the East Midlands, estimated in excess of 100,000 specimen trees and 155 hectares of woods, spread across the City in parks, open spaces, highways, housing gardens, schools and cemeteries and crematoria;
- trees had historic importance and defined the character of an area, created a sense of place and helped to make an area more attractive for new business, potentially increasing the value of property. They created habitats and supported an extensive range of flora and fauna species. They helped to combat climate change by reducing CO2 and other emissions and trapping and removing dust particles from the air, providing shade and cool environments, reducing the urban heat island/temperature in the City, reducing soil erosion and flash flooding, and providing local food growing opportunities;
- they could also create problems, including weed and sucker growth in tree pits around the base, obstruction of CCTV, light, views, satellite dish reception, view of traffic lights and signs, dangerous limb failure causing personal injury or damage to properties, damage from fruit, sap and bird droppings, and tree root damage to roads, pavements and properties;
- there were a number of threats to local trees from disease and pests, which were exacerbated by climate change;
- the strategy set out a plan to enhance the urban forest. It ensured the Council's legal obligations for trees and tree safety were fully met. It maximised resources and sought to enhance the urban forest. It provided new policy and procedural advice and would help to manage expectations through improved communication with citizens. It recognised the importance of trees and had strong links with the City Council's aims and priorities and with national policy guidelines;

- the strategy proposed a number of policies for consideration, which had been prepared in response to large tree species, maintenance of trees, risk management, a Responsible Neighbours Guide and factors to be considered for development areas;
- the draft strategy and appendices could be viewed online at: <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=13308>, or hard copies were available to view in all local libraries. Comments should be sent by 30 March 2012 to ufs@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or by post to:
UFS, Tree Services,
Woodthorpe Grange,
Woodthorpe Drive,
Nottingham
NG5 4HA

Comments from the Committee, community representatives, colleagues and citizens included:

- common sense needed to be applied when planting trees in smaller gardens and near to buildings, with consideration given to their size as they grew. "Right Tree, Right Place" which was part of the strategy, gave practical advice on this to citizens, developers, and Nottingham City Homes staff;
- waiting times for cutting back trees had improved in recent years, as the tree service worked with a wide range of contractors, but the number of requests continued to be high;
- although local and historically relevant tree species were preferable, having a mix of species helped with resilience to disease;
- whilst it was noted in the strategy that planned works would be displayed on the website, and on-street notices, it would be helpful for notices to be sent to local groups and local residents;
- whilst there were often requests for more fruit trees which could help with biodiversity and sourcing local produce, they could lead to problems with mess and slip hazards from un-harvested fruit, and pests such as wasps;
- the strategy would contain advice for preventing root damage, including advice on the right type of tree, and preventative measures and precautions that could be taken by developers;
- the strategy would help to clarify priorities, and provide the policy on which decisions would be based.

RESOLVED that the presentation be noted, and that any further comments on the strategy to be sent by 30 March 2012 to ufs@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or by post to:

**UFS, Tree Services
Woodthorpe Grange
Woodthorpe Drive
Nottingham
NG5 4HA**

44 SNEINTON RAILWAY CROSSINGS

(a) Presentation by Network Rail

Mr Thomas of Network Rail, presented the Committee with the following information on the replacement of Meadow Lane and Trent Lane level crossings with footbridges:

- the Nottingham re-signalling project was a £95 million project to renew and improve the signalling, and related infrastructure, within the Nottingham Station area to enhance the operating ability of the railway;
- as part of the project the level crossings at Meadow Lane and Trent Lane were to be renewed. The Nottingham re-signalling project had been asked to try to replace the level crossings with footbridges;
- the 20 April 2013 was the final date for a decision to be made on whether to move forward with the replacement of the level crossings with footbridges or seek to renew the level crossings;
- Network Rail identified that their greatest risk to the public was through level crossings, and the level crossing at Trent Lane was subject to misuse by local youths;
- currently barrier down times were 20-40% per hour at peak times at the Meadow Lane level crossing, this was likely to increase in the future due to the Nottingham re-signalling project providing increased capacity for trains to be run eastward out of Nottingham Station;
- Network Rail believed that replacing the level crossings with footbridges would be extremely beneficial as it would eliminate the interface between the public and the railway, making crossing the railway safer and more commodious;
- the footbridges would take cycle traffic as well as pedestrians, and would have ramped access as well as stairs.

Comments from the Committee, community representatives, colleagues and citizens included:

- on the current level crossing you had to go down from the Greenway Centre to the level of the railway and back up the other side, on the plans it seemed that people would stay on the same level to cross the railway and this should open up the route for cyclists and be very beneficial;
- concerns were raised over safety of the bridges in terms of the width of the bridge and the height of guard rails, especially if football foot traffic was compressed at this point. The issues had been considered, and the 3 metre width of the bridge and the height of guard rails were considered appropriate according to railway safety standards. The plans had also been discussed at Development Control Committee, and higher guard rails could make the bridge too enclosed;
- a consultation event took place at the Greenway Centre, with mostly positive feedback from local residents. In general the bridges seemed much safer than the level crossings, even with concerns regarding guard rail height;

- there were no plans for a footbridge at the crossing on Colwick Road by the racecourse and it was planned that the replacement be like for like;
- Network Rail were improving the infrastructure and increasing the potential capacity of the rail network, but it was up to the rail operators whether they took advantage of the increased capacity with more trains. The bridge height took into account the possibility of future electrification of the track;
- CCTV was not planned at this stage, instead of a reactionary measure, the design of the bridges being more open would serve as a deterrent to crime, as would the increased foot and cycle traffic attracted by the bridges;

RESOLVED that Mr Thomas be thanked for his presentation.

(b) Requests for authorisation to divert part of the footpaths at Meadow Lane (Sneinton Junction) and Trent Lane level crossings onto the new bridges (Urgent items)

(Corporate Director of Development)

The Chair of the meeting was of the opinion that these reports should be considered as a matter of urgency in accordance with Section 100(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the special circumstances that there was no further meeting of the Area Committee scheduled before May 2012, and that it would be unreasonable to delay the works to be undertaken because the Area Committee could not otherwise consider the matter before then.

Mr Lee, Senior Rights of Way Officer, introduced the reports and informed the Committee that as the level crossings were public rights of way, they would require formally extinguishing and diverting onto the new bridges. The reasons for diverting the public right of way were:

- (i) Meadow Lane Section 119 Highways Act 1980: This application was made by Network Rail in the interests of the public because the bridge would improve the local rights of way network in the area;
- (ii) Trent Lane Section 119A Highways Act 1980: This application was made by Network Rail in the interest of the safety of the public using or likely to use the crossing, as there had been incidents of misuse and safety concerns.

RESOLVED

- (1) that, subject to the receipt of appropriate additional information from Network Rail (the applicant), which meets the relevant statutory tests of S119 Highways Act 1980, the Corporate Director of Development be authorised to divert that part of the footpath at Meadow Lane (Sneinton Junction) Level Crossing onto a new bridge as shown on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report (by way of extinguishing the relevant part of the existing path and the creation of a new one);**
- (2) that, subject to the receipt of appropriate additional information from Network Rail (the applicant), which meets the relevant statutory tests of Section 119A of the Highways Act 1980, the Corporate Director of Development be authorised to divert that part of the Trent Lane footpath (footpath 116) crossing the railway onto a new bridge as shown on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report (by way of extinguishing the relevant part of the existing path and the creation of a new one);**
- (3) that, if the orders are unopposed, the Corporate Director of Development be authorised to confirm the orders;**

- (4) that, if the orders are opposed, the Corporate Director of Development be authorised to refer them to the Secretary of State for confirmation.

45 WARD PRIORITIES

(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

Mrs Holmes, South Area Manager, introduced the report which outlined the priorities for St Anns and Dales.

Comments from the Committee, community representatives, colleagues and citizens included:

- the priorities were not very detailed, nor were they quantified, which many may find helpful. This was, however, just a starting point and there would be more detailed information surrounding each priority in the Ward Action Plan;
- the recent citizen survey showed high levels of satisfaction with Council services;
- an excellent job was done by City Services, particularly with cleaning the streets, but without education, information and prevention it was a constant cycle of cleaning, and the streets were messy as soon as they had been cleaned;
- there was a particular problem with litter in front gardens in certain streets in Sneinton, and there was a lack of a dentist or opticians in St Anns, and these had both been listed as priorities;
- there was a potential impact on Area Committee decisions if Nottingham opted to have an elected mayor; and on the current availability of ward councillors.
- it was felt that ward Councillors were not always available, although regular surgeries were held in the area;
- it was felt that a lot of issues could be dealt with using normal Council services or through co-operation with Community Protection Officers, many did not feel the need to involve Councillors or the Area Committee with local problems such as bins on streets or high litter levels.
- overcrowding in family housing and houses in multiple occupations may lead to increased litter, bulky waste and fly-tipping.

RESOLVED that the ward priorities, as outlined in the appendices to the report, be noted.

46 AREA CAPITAL FUND

(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

Mrs Holmes, South Area Manager, introduced the report which outlined the latest proposals under the Area Capital Fund (general provision), including highways and footways and notified the Committee of an error to the Dales public realm schemes on page 26 of the agenda which should have read £6,028 rather than £5,000.

RESOLVED

- (1) **that, subject to the public realm schemes amount being amended to £6,028, the Dales Area Capital Fund, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;**
- (2) **that the St Anns Area Capital Fund, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.**

47 DELEGATED AUTHORITY
(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

Mrs Holmes, South Area Manager, introduced the report which outlined the use of delegated authority by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities to approve Ward Councillor budget allocations.

There was some confusion regarding the position of Lord Mayor and the Lord Mayors event detailed in the appendix. The Committee was informed that the Lord Mayor had a civic role and was different to the elected mayor mentioned earlier in the meeting, and that the Lord Mayors event was being held on St George's Day for the whole City and Councillors had been asked to contribute to.

RESOLVED that the actions agreed by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities in respect of projects and schemes within Area 6, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, be noted.

48 LAND AND PLANNING POLICIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT – ADDITIONAL SITES
(Corporate Director of Development)

Mrs Holmes, South Area Manager, introduced the report which detailed the consultation period for an additional site for development within Area 6.

Consultation was open until 30 April 2012, and the consultation document could be found at:
<http://www.mynottingham.gov.uk/localplan>.

RESOLVED that the current consultation on the additional site, and the opportunity to input into the process, be noted.

6b

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

MAPPERLEY AND SHERWOOD AREA COMMITTEE (AREA 5)

MINUTES

of meeting held on **20 MARCH 2012** at

the Council House from 5.34 pm to 6.52 pm

- ✓ Councillor Dewinton (Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Molife (Vice Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Ball (minutes 48 – 55 inclusive)
- ✓ Councillor Healy
- ✓ Councillor Parbutt
- ✓ Councillor Urquhart

Community Representatives

- Mr P Smith - Alexandra Park Tenants' and Residents' Association
- Ms J Button) Ball Street Tenants' and Residents' Association
- Mrs F Wallace)
- ✓ Mr R Stalvies - Carrington Tenants' and Residents' Association
- ✓ Ms C Juby - Coppice Farm Tenants' and Residents' Association
- Ms J Brown - Edwards Lane Tenants' and Residents' Association
- Mr J Fyles) Friends of Coppice Park
- Ms K Fyles)
- Mr M Cox - Mapperley Park Residents' Association
- Mr P Henson - Mapperley Road Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator
- Mr R Huskinson - Sherwood Estate Tenants' and Residents' Association
- Mrs S Gardner) St Ann's Allotment Association Limited
- Mrs M Kenning)
- Rev J MacGillivray - Church of St John the Evangelist
- Rev G Hadfield - St Jude's Church
- Ms E Hutchinson - St Martin's Church

✓ - indicates present at meeting

City Council colleagues, partners and others in attendance

- Mr D Towers - Mapperley Park Residents Association
- Mrs E Khan - Resident
- Ms P Bradbury - SSE Contracting Lighting Services
- Mr A Henry Neighbourhood Environmental Manager)
- Mr P Maxfield - Neighbourhood Action Officer) Communities
- Mr A Mohammed - Area Manager)
- Mr J Pell - Horticultural Services Manager)
- Mrs C Sullivan - Swimming Development Officer)

Mr S Johal	- Planning Projects Officer)	Development
Ms D Ross	- Housing Development Officer)	
Mr G O'Connell	- Director of Legal and Democratic Services)	Resources
Miss L Wilson	- Constitutional Services Officer)	

Please note: except where otherwise indicated, all items discussed at the meeting were the subject of a report which had been circulated beforehand.

ACTION

46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Ruth Greenberg, Dorothy Holmes and Bob Huskinson.

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

48 MINUTES

(a) Confirmation

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

(b) Matters Arising

In relation to the second bullet point of minute 42 (Citizen First) on page 9, it was not clear whether the Head of Benefits, Council Tax and Welfare Rights, or one of her colleagues, had been given the dates of Ward Forum meetings.

**Dorothy
Holmes**

**49 URBAN FORESTRY STRATEGY
(Director of Sport, Culture and Parks)**

Mr Pell, Horticultural Services Manager, presented the Committee with the following information:

- the Urban Forest Strategy covered all trees growing in Nottingham City, regardless of land ownership. Nottingham City Council owned one of the largest tree stocks in the East Midlands, estimated in excess of 100,000 specimen trees and 155 hectares of woods, spread across the City in parks, open spaces, highways, housing gardens, schools and cemeteries and crematoria;
- trees had historic importance and defined the character of an area, created a sense of place and helped to make an area more attractive for new business, potentially increasing the value of property. They created habitats and supported an extensive range of flora and fauna species. They helped to combat climate change by reducing CO2 and

ACTION

other emissions and trapping and removing dust particles from the air, providing shade and cool environments, reducing the urban heat island/temperature in the City, reducing soil erosion and flash flooding, and providing local food growing opportunities;

- they could also create problems, including weed and sucker growth in tree pits around the base, obstruction of CCTV, light, views, satellite dish reception, view of traffic lights and signs, dangerous limb failure causing personal injury or damage to properties, damage from fruit, sap and bird droppings, and tree root damage to roads, pavements and properties;
- there were a number of threats to local trees from disease and pests, which were exacerbated by climate change, but mitigated by good species variety in the stock;
- the strategy set out a plan to enhance the urban forest. It ensured the Council's legal obligations for trees and tree safety were fully met. It maximised resources and sought to enhance the urban forest. It provided new policy and procedural advice and would help to manage expectations through improved communication with citizens. It recognised the importance of trees and had strong links with the City Council's aims and priorities and with national policy guidelines;
- the strategy proposed a number of policies for consideration, which had been prepared in response to issues concerning large tree species, maintenance of trees, risk management, a Responsible Neighbours' Guide and factors to be considered for development areas;
- the draft strategy and appendices could be viewed online at: <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=13308>, or hard copies were available to view in all local libraries.

Comments from the Committee, community representatives, colleagues and citizens included:

- the information in the strategy was clear and helpful, and the 'Good Neighbour Guide' was welcomed;
- trees caused a number of problems for houses, some of which were mentioned in the strategy, but damp was a major issue and did not appear to be included in the strategy;
- in Mapperley Park Conservation Area some trees were too big for the space in which they had been planted and it was unclear what action could be taken;
- the strategy was a quality document but more work needed to be done to promote the variety of horticulture in the City;

ACTION

- in Mapperley Park some large trees had been removed, but the stumps were left behind, which were unsightly;
- it was important to consult local residents before a tree was removed so that they understood why the tree needed to be removed;
- giving reasons for decisions on trees was a key issue and needed to be improved.

In response to the comments, made Mr Pell provided the following additional information:

- the issue of trees causing damp in houses was mentioned within the 'Good Neighbours Guide';
- priorities and actions bespoke to each area would be included in the Ward Action Plans;
- planning permission could be sought if trees in a conservation area were too large for the space in which they had been planted. Providing the work was reasonable, it was likely that permission would be granted;
- promoting the variety of trees, etc in Nottingham would have to be picked up in separate document to the strategy, but could possibly be included in the promotional material for parks and open spaces;
- it was important to have a diverse range of trees to ensure they were resilient to disease, and for advice to be available on the suitability of areas for planting;
- if trees were removed, people should be encouraged to replace them with a variety suitable for the area.

RESOLVED that the presentation be noted, and that any further comments on the strategy to be sent by 30 March 2012 to ufs@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or by post to:

**UFS, Tree Services
Woodthorpe Grange
Woodthorpe Drive
Nottingham
NG5 4HA**

**50 DRAFT INFORMAL PLANNING GUIDANCE FOR THE FORMER KINGSTHORPE AND KILDARE FLATS
(Director of Planning and Transport)**

Mr Johal, Planning Projects Officer, introduced the report which detailed the broad principles for the redevelopment of the site for high quality family housing, and the provision of a new relocated playground, which were

ACTION

currently out for consultation.

Comments from the Committee, community representatives, colleagues and citizens included:

- it was important to ensure that adequate consultation was carried out in the local area;
- residents would also be consulted when a planning application was received;
- the draft guidance should make a difference to the area and help attract a retail offer to the Gardeners Public House site;
- affordable housing needed to be provided on the site;
- at the meetings of the Development Control Committee in May and October, it had been specified that there should be feasible archaeological work on site to identify any remains of the well before development took place on the Gardeners Public House site;
- the tree survey was welcomed as some trees in the area were in a poor state;
- secure perimeter fencing needed to be included in the guidance, as did the provision of bungalows.

In response to the comments made, Mr Johal provided the following additional information:

- consultation meetings were held throughout the planning, re-housing and demolition phases with local residents at a local community centre. All residents on the Kingsthorpe Estate were invited. There were also notices around the site, on the Councils website and in the Robin Hood Chase Library;
- there would be mixed tenure on the site and 20% of the housing would be affordable, e.g. shared ownership;
- the opportunity for the provision of bungalows could be included within the draft guidance.

RESOLVED that the draft planning guidance be noted and the views of the Committee be fed into the consultation process.

**Sukjinder
Johal**

51 **DRAFT INFORMAL PLANNING GUIDANCE FOR THE FORMER HAYWOOD SCHOOLS SITE**
(Director of Planning and Transport)

ACTION

Mr Johal, Planning Projects Officer, introduced the report which detailed the broad principles for the redevelopment of the site for high quality family housing, and the provision of new public open space and improved connectivity through the site with new pedestrian/cycle routes.

Comments from the Committee, community representatives, colleagues and citizens included:

- there was a concern that some residents would not engage in the consultation so it was important that work was done to encourage them to become involved;
- there were also concerns regarding the points of access to the site;
- the proposed number of houses to be built on the site needed to be explained.

In response to the comments made, Mr Johal provided the following additional information:

- there would be two points of access to the site from Edwards Lane, and the access from Cragdale Road would be reviewed and possibly become pedestrian access only;
- there would be 35/40 houses per hectare, which equated to 100/120 houses on this site. It was possible that the varying ground levels on the site would have an impact on the number of dwellings that could be built.

RESOLVED that the draft planning guidance be noted and the views of the Committee be fed into the consultation process.

**Sukjinder
Johal**

52 NOTTINGHAM PFI STREETLIGHTING – MAPPERLEY AND SHERWOOD

Ms P Bradbury, Customer Care Manager, SSE Contracting Lighting Services, played a ten minute DVD for the Committee regarding the work to be carried out to renew the street lighting, and circulated a schedule of streets to be completed in July, August and September 2012 in the area and a list of streets already completed.

Comments from the Committee, community representatives, colleagues and citizens included:

- there was no detail on the work to be carried out in the area in 2013;
- the streets listed were residential, but work was also being done on main roads;
- roads needed to be prioritised to ensure that those with the highest

ACTION

levels of crime/anti-social behaviour were targeted first;

- footpaths between streets needed to be included;
- it was important to ensure that the lights were brighter and more energy efficient. It was also important to ensure that non-working bulbs were replaced within as short a period of time as possible.

In response to the comments made, Ms Bradbury provided the following additional information:

- it would take approximately 5 years to replace the lighting around the City and SSE would be responsible for the maintenance of the lights for 20 years;
- half of the streets in Mapperley and Sherwood were being done in 2012, the remaining lights would then be completed in 2015, but the list of roads for 2015 had not yet been drawn up;
- some columns did not need to be replaced. On good condition columns only the lanterns would be replaced and a list of where this would happen could be provided and circulated to the Committee;
- prioritisation of replacing the lights was predominantly done on age, but the risk profile of the area was also considered;
- footpaths were incorporated in the list provided;
- new lighting was 30% more efficient and would be brighter than the current lighting. Traffic route lighting was slightly different to the lighting used in residential areas;
- the Service Level Agreement specified that non-working bulbs had to be replaced within 3 working days and there was a 24 hour hotline for reporting faults with lights. The expected life of a bulb was 3 to 5 years and there was a programme for replacement in place;
- there was remote monitoring and control of the lighting which meant it could be turned off, on or dimmed from the control centre. The lighting column would also send a signal to the control centre if the light was not working.

**Dorothy
Holmes**

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

53 DELEGATED AUTHORITY PROJECTS
(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

Mr Mohammed, Area Manager, introduced the report which informed the Committee of the use of delegated authority by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities.

ACTION

The Chair clarified that delegated authority was used to give effect to recommendations of Councillors outside of the meeting, where decisions needed to be taken urgently and to ensure that the community were informed of decisions at a public meeting.

RESOLVED that the actions agreed by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities in respect of projects and schemes in Area 5, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, be noted.

54 AREA CAPITAL FUND – 2011-2013 PROGRAMME

Mr Mohammed, Area Manager, introduced the report which informed the Committee of the latest spend proposals under the Area Capital Fund (general fund), including highways and footways.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Area Capital Fund programme of schemes for Mapperley, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;**
- (2) that the Area Capital Fund programme of schemes for Sherwood, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.**

55 WARD PRIORITIES

(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

This report, which was marked 'to follow' on the agenda, was withdrawn and would be considered at the May 2012 meeting.

56 MAPPERLEY AND SEHRWOOD AREA COMMITTEE

The Chair advised the Committee that boundaries for Area Committees would change from the annual meeting of Council in May 2012 and that, consequently, this was the last meeting of the Committee. She thanked Councillors, community representatives, residents, City Council officers and officers of partner organisations for their attendance and support over the years.

AREA 6 COMMITTEE May 15th 2012

Title of paper:	Community Small Grant Programme	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Lianne Taylor Neighbourhoods and Communities Tel: 0115 8764713 lianne.taylor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Steff Webber - Single Gateway Tel : 01158762176 Email : steff.webber@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Louise graham – Grants manager Trish Gilby - Service Manager (Voluntary Sector Sustainability) Tel : 0115 8762172 Louise Graham	
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
World Class Nottingham		
Work in Nottingham		√
Safer Nottingham		√
Neighbourhood Nottingham		√
Family Nottingham		√
Healthy Nottingham		√
Leading Nottingham		√
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
<p>Nottingham City Council continues to recognise the importance of a thriving voluntary and community sector in delivering its priorities in local communities. In response to this the council has developed a new small grants programme providing £200K of revenue funding citywide for April 2012 to March 2013.</p> <p>Each of the Cities wards will have an allocation of this funding; this has been distributed based on need, using the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), a nationally compiled set of data, which cover a range of social, economic and housing issues into a score for each small area of the country. See Appendix 1.</p> <p>The grants will be allocated against the local ward priorities as identified in the local ward planning process that has been supported via Neighbourhood Management. Ward Councillors will make the decisions regarding grant allocation, they will be supported by a ward grant panel which consist community representatives nominated at area Committee. Together they will make up Ward grants panels.</p> <p>The first round of funding was opened 2nd April with a closing date May 8th, applications are being assessed and decisions will be made, via the ward grant panels by the end of June 2012.</p>		
Recommendation(s):		
1	To note the process for awarding small grants with a value between £1001 - £20,000 via the Area Committee. See Appendix 2	
2	<p>To nominate <i>one or more</i> community representatives per ward to be members of the ward grant panels. Who will assist the Ward Councillors to make decisions regarding community small grant allocation.</p> <p><i>Or</i></p> <p>To devolve responsibility to the chair of Area Committee to nominate the community representatives outside of the meeting.</p>	

3	To delegate decision making be given to ward grant panels in relation to the allocation of Community Small Grants.
4	All decisions, made by the ward grants panel, regarding small grant allocations to be noted at Area Committee.

BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The distinctive nature of small grants will enable larger voluntary sector organisations and small grassroots community groups, their members and volunteers meet some of the needs of the local community. The grants will support the voluntary sector to thrive, enabling it to effectively contribute towards the local Ward priorities that feed into the City's strategic priorities as set out in the Nottingham Plan.
- 1.2 Analysis of voluntary and community sector feedback showed strong support for the continuation of grant funding alongside commissioning, offering added flexibility and the opportunity to directly respond to local needs.
- 1.3 Nottingham City Council have consulted widely with local communities and the voluntary and community sector on the proposals for setting the priorities, principles, eligibility and allocation for the new Small Grants Programme.
- 1.4 Grant priorities will be those agreed by Area Committees as part of the ward planning process. For city wide communities of interest there will be an alternative process that will be assessed and decided by the Equalities Board, in consultation with its Community Equalities Forum.
- 1.5 Decisions regarding the allocation of grants to a specific ward will be made by a ward grants panel as agreed by Area Committee; they will have the local knowledge that helped shape the ward priorities.
- 1.6 The applications process will be supported by Locality teams, Single Gateway and Nottingham CVS.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Small grants will assist the City Council in narrowing the gap between more deprived and marginalised communities and the least deprived and more affluent areas of the City. This grant strand aims to facilitate the engagement of priority communities, empowering them to join in and deliver activities within and for their local communities. This will enable the communities to organise and manage projects themselves.
- 2.2 The Council recognises the importance of working with the voluntary sector to set the criteria and priorities of grant aid so that it best meets the needs of Nottingham's communities. The sector was invited to contribute to the small grants consultation process held Jan – Feb 2012. In response to this we have made the appropriate adjustments to the process and guidance. Grant priorities reflect those agreed by Area Committees following local consultation.
- 2.3 The recommendations are in line with the Nottingham Plan as well as the government's vision for a "Big Society". They complement both the Council's existing policies and procedures which enable local councillors to make small grants to grassroots community organisations. To help keep the process transparent, the Area

Committee will nominate Area Committee community representatives to support the Councillors in the grant allocation process.

2.4 The size of the Community grants are designed to give local decision makers maximum flexibility in making awards. There is likelihood of funds being oversubscribed. Groups will need to set a realistic budget for their project to avoid the tendency to apply for the maximum amount available, which is a common feature of grant applications. The recent consultation with the voluntary and community sector suggested it would be useful to have upper limits set on the amount of funding available for each Ward, giving the groups realistic guidance and avoiding disappointment. Respondents to the consultation also suggested their preference for two application opportunities per year, to be aligned with May and Sept/ October 2012 Area Committees.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 *To end grant funding to communities* - This option was dismissed as it is contrary to the national and local priorities to support and engage with the excellent work provided by the voluntary and community sector. Also, a submission received from Nottingham Community and Voluntary Services in June 2011 and feedback from recent consultations show that grant funding is valued by Nottingham's voluntary sector.

3.2 The size of the Community small grant is designed to give local decision makers maximum flexibility in making awards. The level of funding being awarded to a single application could remain open; however there is likelihood of funds being oversubscribed and unrealistic expectation being offered to applicants. Therefore a limit to funding has been agreed of between £1,001 to £20,000 per application.

3.4 The timing of grant rounds was considered. A rolling programme for Community Small Grants dispensed by Area Committees was originally selected in preference to a single grant round or staggered grant round because it provided the community with more opportunity to input over the year. However, in response to the consultation it was identified this could be difficult to administer and organisations who wish to apply later in the year could be disappointed to find all the funding had been allocated. It was felt a two grant round would be preferred.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY)

4.1 Community Small Grant Programme £200,000.00 was agreed to be distributed via Area Committees at Executive Board executive subcommittee 16.11.11

4.2 The Community Small Grant Programme will be administered via Single gateway and Neighbourhood Management with reporting mechanism through to Area committee's.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS AND EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 The proposals set out in the report raise no significant legal issues. The Council has the power to award grants by virtue of its "well being powers" under s2 Local

Government Act 2000 provided that the necessary criteria are met. Clearly regard will need to be had to these when deciding the merits of any grant application.

5.2 The other legal duties which the Council must have regard to are in relation to Equality Impact which is addressed below and to the effect on crime and disorder of any proposal.

5.3 It is also suggested that as part and parcel of any grant approval clear outputs and outcomes are fully defined and where appropriate fully bolted down through a signed off service level agreement.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS (EIAs)

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached – this was completed as part of the report presented to the Executive Board Commissioning Sub Committee by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities Nottingham City Council), November 2011. This was developed to address both the Ward allocated and the City Wide strand of small grants. See Appendix 4

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

NONE

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

8.1 Report to the Executive Board Commissioning Sub Committee by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities Nottingham City Council, November 2011.

<http://open.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/comm/download3.asp?dltype=inline&filename=49535/GrantAidforCommunitiesNov2011.pdf>

Appendix 1

Allocation to Area Committees by index of need.

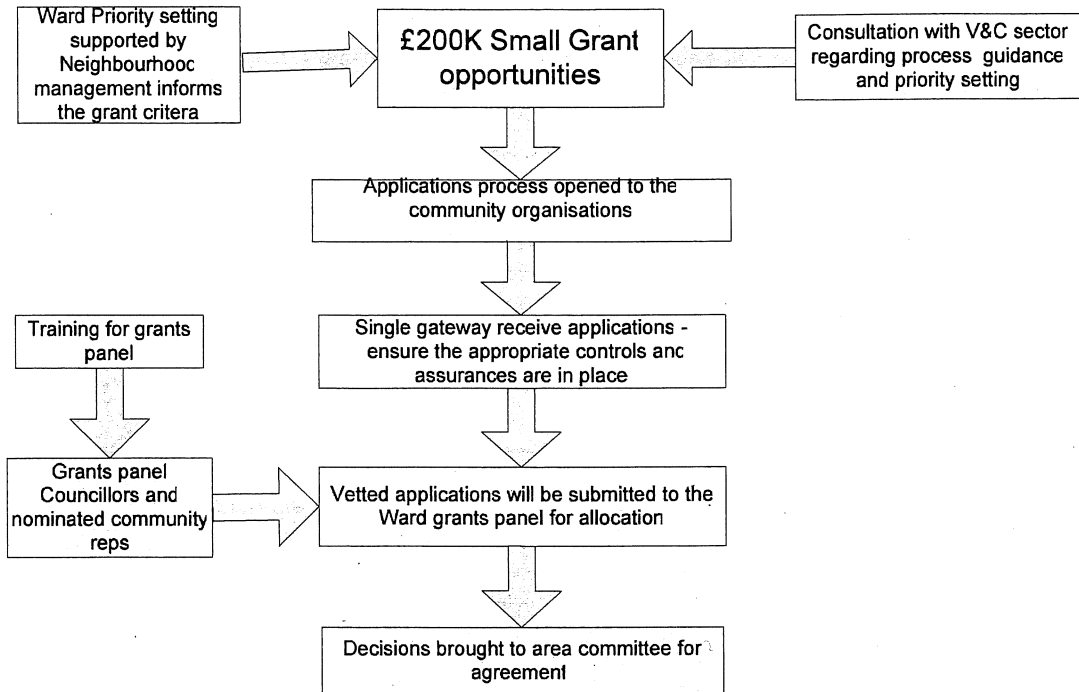
The £200,000 will be distributed based on need using the Indicators of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), a nationally compiled set of data, which cover a range of social, economic and housing issues into a score for each small area of the country.

Area	Ward	Average weighted score	Community Grants £ / ward	Community Grants £ / Area Committee
1	Bulwell	48.7	14,507	22,490
	Bulwell Forest	26.8	7,983	
2	Basford	35.4	10,545	23,384
	Bestwood	43.1	12,839	
3	Aspley	55.4	16,503	37,950
	Bilborough	46.7	13,911	
	Leen Valley	25.3	7,536	
4	Arboretum	40.6	12,095	26,095
	Dunkirk and Lenton	21.8	6,493	
	Radford & Park	25.2	7,507	
5	Berridge	31.7	9,443	17,814
	Sherwood	28.1	8,371	
6	Dales	36.7	10,932	35,121
	Mapperley	31.5	9,384	
	St Anns	49.7	14,805	
7	Wollaton East & Lenton Abbey	14.4	4,289	7,714
	Wollaton West	11.5	3,425	
8	Bridge	37.7	11,231	29,432
	Clifton North	26.9	8,013	
	Clifton South	34.2	10,188	
			Total	£200,000

Average weighted score shows the percentage of deprivation of each ward in Nottingham as scored by the IMD when compared with national figures. The higher the score, the greater the level of deprivation.

Community Grants - £ / Area Committees shows the amount given to each of the Area Committees to be allocated from Community Grants.

Appendix 2. The process of Grant applications and time lines for implementation.



Small Grants Time Line

Date	Activity
Nov 16 th	Small grants funding stream agreed at Executive sub committee
Jan 16 th – Feb 24 th 2012	Consultation on Small Grant programme to be completed in line with the guidance from overview and scrutiny (Nov 2011) , Compact and Best Value Guidance.
April - May 8th	Open the grant round for applications.
May / June	Chairs briefing in prep for Area Committees
May / June	Area committees to discuss small grants process and conform grant panel reps and delegated authority
May / June	Training for Community reps and Cllrs re funding panel responsibilities.
June 13 th	Grants panels to be held and small grants allocated
June / July 2012	Review process and adjust . Agree time line and funding limits for the second round of grants.
End of June	Inform applicants of the outcome
Sept 2012	Announce grant allocation at area committees

Appendix 3. General Guidance for Applicants

(DRAFT to be confirmed at the closure of the consultation period)

1. Small Grants (Area Committees)

£200,000 will be allocated on a needs index basis through the eight area committees that will operate across the city in 2012/13. It is proposed that in all cases, funding for these grants is allocated to frontline delivery organisations. This will ensure that decisions are locally owned and reflect local needs. Priorities will be based on evidence of community need and consultation undertaken by these bodies. Thus, local people will be able to have a say in where funding is spent in their area. It is imperative that the Council and voluntary sector work together to set the criteria and priorities of small grants so that they best meet the needs of Nottingham's communities.

Grants of £1,001 to £20,000 will be available on a rolling programme that sits within the scheduled bi-monthly meetings of the committees. Committees will have the option to place a ceiling on the amount anyone organisation can apply for in any single funding period. Lessons learned from earlier grant making via area committees will be used to devise a streamlined process, in conjunction with the Area Committee Chairs and Area Managers, to ensure that the new grant scheme is fair, robust and transparent, whilst minimising the time and paperwork required.

If a group is seeking funding for less than £1,000 from the Council they may approach their Ward Councillors to see if support is available from their Councillor's Allocation.

2. Eligible organisation and groups

All voluntary and community sector groups that are eligible under the Council's standard terms and conditions of grant aid are able to apply for grants. See Appendix 3 below. These were developed in consultation with the voluntary and community sector.

3. Purpose of grants

Grants enabling an organisation "to be" may contribute to core organisational or running costs. Organisations will need to demonstrate how this will enable them to lever in or generate other funding so they can carry out their activities. Grants may also be used as a contingency, for instance, to bridge a gap between one funding stream ending and another commencing or as a resource to help the group develop a complex funding bid.

Grants enabling an organisation "to do" will support the development of new activity. Organisations will have to demonstrate there is a need for this new activity and that the grant will support the project in gaining external funding, generating income or enable the organisation to build its capacity. This is often referred to as "pump-priming" or "seed corn" funding. Applications for the continuation of existing activities are unlikely to be supported without clear evidence of future sustainability.

4. Principles and Process

The grant making process managed by the Communities Grant Team will ensure the appropriate controls and assurances for councillors, and will work with them to create a streamlined process in proportion to the size of the grant that can be then implemented across all areas of the City. Information should be easily available on the Council's website, including details on the assessment process.

There is a further move towards grants being outcome focused rather than output focused. This approach can help to improve service delivery by focusing on the changes that it

brings about and gives a greater understanding of the value of an activity. The voluntary and community sector has itself requested a simplified and transparent process that is Compact compliant and adheres to best practice. This would see a process that provided a clear rationale for all funding decisions, ensuring transparency. The sector has also recommended a “true” single point of contact for advice and information about grants and other voluntary sector issues. Finally the sector recognises that no group should have an automatic right to grant aid.

Louise Graham
Programme Manager – Resources
27 October 20

Appendix 4. Equality Impact Assessment

Name and brief description of proposal / policy / service being assessed

Proposal: New Small Grant Programme for Communities

It is proposed that a new small grant programme be set up with revenue funding of £250,000 per year which will be available to local voluntary and community groups starting in the new financial year 2012/13. This grant programme, if approved, will complement other arrangements for supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector which will be provided through commissioning.

The aim of the small grant programme is to narrow the gap between more deprived areas of the City, marginalised communities and the least deprived, more affluent areas and communities.

The establishment of the small grant programme will also support the Nottingham Plan, the Council Plan and also the government's vision for a big society by actively supporting grassroots community programmes.

The purpose of this EIA is to assess whether the small grants scheme is inclusive ensuring that groups from different sections of the community find the grants process accessible.

This EIA recommends that the final proposals for the small grant programme, if approved, will take into account feedback and suggestions received during consultation on the new small grants scheme.

Appendix 2 of the Executive Board Report (attached) outlines the details of the small grant programme and the three schemes which make up this programme. There is a broad assessment of the potential adverse impact of the changes to the grants process.

Information used to analyse the effects on equality

In late 2010 an EIA was carried out for VSIP (three year grant aid) provision. This review recognised that smaller grassroots voluntary and community groups would potentially experience a negative impact in terms of funding. The introduction of the small grant programme aims to mitigate this potential impact by ensuring that grassroots voluntary and community groups can access funding which can help in leveraging further additional funds from other sources. This will support them to carry out their functions and at the same time build trust between the local authority and community groups.

Since the 2001 Census there has been some significant change to the local communities. For example, "Black African" has quadrupled from a low base (1281 to 5400). This may partly be due to migration, partly to natural increase as a young population. "Chinese" has trebled from a low base (1715 to 5200) This may be partly due to the increase in Chinese students at the universities. Individuals under the "Other White"

have almost doubled (6680 to 10,200) which is likely to be mostly due to immigration from Eastern Europe. "Other" has trebled from a low base. (1256 to 4800) which may include migrants from Arab/Middle Eastern countries. The category "Indian" has doubled (6,096 to 13,700). It is likely that these figures will increase further once data is available from the 2011 census.

The Equality and Community Relations Team support a number of new and emerging community groups. These groups require considerable input in applying for grants and accessing information to establish themselves in order to provide support and assistance to their communities. It is recognised that such groups may need additional support and assistance in accessing the grants process. Details of this support are outlined below however it must be noted that the support afforded to groups in the future will be constrained by budget reductions and may therefore need to focus on the much smaller less established groups such as the Somalian Women's Group who are not experienced in applications, have language barriers and lack confidence as a result.

This EIA shows that there will be a positive impact from the introduction of a small grants programme in the context of funding changes to the commissioning of services. However there is a small risk if the process itself is inaccessible to the smaller grassroots groups. The actions outlined below therefore aim to mitigate this risk.

	Could particularly benefit (X)	May adversely impact (X)	How different groups could be affected: Summary of impacts	Details of actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact (or why action not possible)
People from different ethnic groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A number of the organisations who may experience a reduction in their funding are "of or for" Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities and provide services, which specifically target vulnerable people within their communities.	Subject to approval, the small grant programme will be fully consulted upon prior to being finalised. This work will be led by the Grants Team and supported by colleagues within Neighbourhood Management, Community Cohesion and Equality and Diversity. The consultation will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asking groups about the accessibility of the literature promoting the small grants scheme as well as the application forms • The eligibility criteria • Support for completion of
Men, women (including maternity/pregnancy impact), transgender people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Disabled people or carers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
People from different faith groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lesbian, gay or bisexual people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A number of services also have relatively high proportions of female clients including female lone parents. Some of the provision is provided to support specific needs of women such as women experiencing Domestic Violence. Services provided by the voluntary and community sector for women suffering domestic violence may already have been adversely affected by unavoidable reductions to Area	
Older or younger people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (e.g. marriage/civil partnership, looked after children, cohesion/good relations, vulnerable children/adults)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

		<p>Based Grants (ABG) and Supporting People funds</p> <p>This also extends to disability since members/users of the affected organisations include relatively high proportions of people with mental health conditions and/or learning difficulties. Changes to the support arrangements as part of the AGB grants may also have had a disproportionate effect on disabled people, for example where the organisations workers or volunteers have developed familiarity with an individual's needs, or where changes or reduced levels of support result in deterioration to an individual health or aggravation of existing conditions.</p> <p>At least one organisation provides services specifically based on faith (Muslim Community Organisation) and a reduction in available grants is likely to have an adverse affect on the delivery of their activities/initiatives.</p> <p>At least one organisation provides services for lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) service users who might be particularly affected if the proposals are not implemented resulting in increased risk of lack of support available in the local area.</p> <p>A number of organisations have relatively high proportions of older members/ service users. Some of the provision is provided to meet specific needs of older people such as activities</p>	<p>grants forms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment process. • Feedback if unsuccessful • Criteria and priorities <p>The small grant programme will target new and emerging communities and groups identified in the data above to ensure they have an opportunity to apply for a grant. Specific support for the small groups will be offered by Project Offers subject to capacity</p> <p>Once finalised the small grant programme will also be publicised widely through established links with groups, community development officers, neighbourhood action officers, other Council officers working directly with voluntary and community organisations and groups, NCVS newsletter, internet and mail outs to ensure a wide take up by the smaller less established community/voluntary groups.</p>
--	--	---	--

			for older people. Services provided by the voluntary and community sector for older people have already been affected by unavoidable reductions to Area Based Grants and Supporting People funds	
Outcome(s) of equality impact assessment: No major change needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjust the policy/proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse impact but continue <input type="checkbox"/> Stop and remove the policy/proposal <input type="checkbox"/>				
Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this proposal / policy / service: This assessment may be reviewed in light of the consultation with the community/voluntary groups and the findings from that work				
Approved by (manager signature): Trish Gilby	Date sent to equality team for publishing: Send document or link to equalityanddiversityteam@nottinghamcity.gov.uk			