

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
5 OCTOBER 2016
VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR GRANTS IN NOTTINGHAM
REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR RESILIENCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider an update on the Council's process for voluntary and community sector grant funding in Nottingham.

2 Action required

The Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Consider the way in which voluntary and community sector grants are processed in Nottingham;
- 2.2 Use the information received at the meeting to scrutinise the process;
- 2.3 Identify any potential areas for further scrutiny for inclusion in the work programme.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The community and voluntary sector play an important role in Nottingham, fulfilling a range of needs and services for the community.
- 3.2 Historically, a number of different grant programmes were administered to the Voluntary and Community Sector across various parts of Nottingham City Council. Since 2011, work has taken place to streamline this approach in order to make it simpler and more transparent.
- 3.3 In 2012, the Council undertook a review of the activities and funding of support services to the Voluntary and Community Sector. The Council's Executive Board Commissioning Sub-Committee agreed the move to a more streamlined approach to allocating funding, bringing together and replacing existing grant programmes. As part of this process, Voluntary and Community Sector organisations were asked to work in partnership to deliver outcomes and identify a 'Lead Organisation' for each partnership.
- 3.4 The Lead Organisation is the provider that has the relationship with Nottingham City Council and the Area Committee and is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all outcomes in an area are delivered. The process dictates that when funding becomes available that is to be invested at an area level, the Lead Organisations will be ideally placed to manage this process. Area based Grants is the funding allocated from

Nottingham City Council to Lead Organisations for the 8 areas across the city.

3.5 Lead Organisations head a partnership or consortium of locally based voluntary and community sector organisations, through which they deliver services to their local communities.

3.6 The Committee will focus on the following:

Since the last funding rounds in 2013, Nottingham has experienced significant changes to its population and overall demographic – how have the new funding arrangements taken account of this?

How does the Council monitor the performance and delivery of Lead Organisations and ensure that they are delivering on priorities?

How does the Council ensure that each area's priorities are developed and shaped differently to meet citizens' needs?

What are the future challenges for organisations delivering services in light of the financial landscape?

4 List of attached information

4.1 None.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

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