

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

<b>Reference Number:</b>	1953
<b>Author:</b>	Louise Graham
<b>Department:</b>	Children and Families
<b>Contact:</b>	Louise Graham (Job Title: Programme Manager, Email: louise.graham@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158762177)
<b>Subject:</b>	VCS Infrastructure support 2015-16
<b>Total Value:</b>	£300,000 (Type: Revenue)
<b>Decision Being Taken:</b>	To allocate £300,000 of grant funding to the Area Based Grant Leads to deliver a Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) infrastructure support service in each of their areas.
<b>Reasons for the Decision(s)</b>	<p>The Infrastructure Support Service contract was released to open tender in October last year. After scoring and moderation it was determined that the information received did not meet the specification and Nottingham City Council would need to reconsider the model it would use to enable the provision of support services to the VCS. The Area Based Grant Lead Organisations are already delivering activity across the city and working in partnership, both with each other and with smaller organisations within their areas. The funding will be allocated across the areas based on need using the nationally recognised Indices of Multiple Deprivation. Lead Organisations will be tasked with providing a 'needs analysis' that demonstrates how the funding will be used in their area; this will be agreed with colleagues within the Early Intervention Directorate who are managing the programme.</p> <p>It is recommended that the services are delivered through the existing Area Based Grant (ABG) partnerships across the city, this will ensure resources are focused towards local VCS organisations and strengthen area relationships. The Neighbourhood Lead Organisations (NLOs) who co-ordinate and manage the ABG partnerships will be tasked with ensuring the delivery of the following priorities as identified in the specification;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Specialised support functions</li><li>2. Generic service support functions</li><li>3. Strategic support functions</li><li>4. Other infrastructure support</li></ol> <p>To enable this, the NLOs will be able to collectively purchase services from city wide providers as well as local partners.</p>

**Other Options Considered:** The option of the contract specification being released to tender for a second time was considered but rejected. As only one submission was received in the initial round, it was felt there was not the desire within the VCS for the services to be managed in this way and a different solution needed to be identified.

**Background Papers:** Specification - Support Services for the Voluntary and Community Sector in Nottingham City

**Unpublished background papers:** Support Services for the Voluntary and Community Sector in Nottingham.pdf

**Published Works:**

**Affected Wards:** Citywide

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:**

**Consultations:**  
Date: 17/12/2014  
Other: Councillor Alex Norris Councillor Jon Collins  
Consulted in his role as Portfolio Holder - Adults, Commissioning and Health  
Consulted in his role as Leader of the Council

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

**Crime and Disorder Implications:** Services will accessible on a more local basis leading to greater community and neighbourhood involvement in the VCS by citizens.

**Equality:** EIA not required. Reasons: This decision does not impact on the services available to the VCS or lessen the commitment of Nottingham City Council to the sector. An EIA was completed with regard to the Streamlining Investment to the Voluntary Sector Programme of which infrastructure services and the ABG programme are part.

**Decision Type:** Portfolio Holder

**Subject to Call In:** Yes

**Call In Expiry date:** 30/04/2015

**Advice Sought:** Legal, Finance

**Legal Advice:** This report does not raise significant legal issues. It is understood from discussions with the report author that the proposed recipients are already in receipt of grant and this additional funding will be added to their current grant agreements. The grant agreements will include provisions to ensure the funding is used for the agreed purposes. Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 05/02/2015.

**Finance Advice:** This decision aligns to the Nottingham Plan 2020 and one of the plans strategic priorities ie to work with the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) to strengthen communities and improve services. The Neighbourhood Lead Organisations will be able to achieve value for money by collective purchasing of services. Also as mentioned in the attachment to this report it is envisaged that the investment of £0.3m will enable significant further investment to be levered in to the city.  
  
The funding for this service was £0.571m in financial year 2014/15. To deliver savings and align with the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), the amount has been reduced to £0.3m in 2015/16. Advice provided by Dee Fretwell (Finance Analyst) on 04/02/2015.

**Signatures**

Dave Liversidge (PH Community Safety, Housing and Voluntary Sector)
SIGNED and Dated: 23/04/2015
Alison Michalska (Corporate Director for Children and Adults)
SIGNED and Dated: 22/04/2015