

DELEGATED POWERS REPORT NO.**1751****SUBJECT:** Grants to Voluntary Sector Organisations for Barnet 16-18 year old NEETs from super output areas**Control sheet****All of the following actions MUST be completed at each stage of the process and the signed and dated report MUST be passed to the Governance Service for publishing**

All reports		
1. Governance Service receive draft report	Name of GSO Date	Jeremy Williams 30/07/2012
2. Governance Service cleared draft report as being constitutionally appropriate	Name of GSO Date	Jeremy Williams 30/07/2012
3. Finance clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of Finance officer Date	Kerry-Anne Smith 05/07/12
4. Staff and other resources issues clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of Resource officer Date	Rena Abrahams 03/07/12
5. Strategic Procurement clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of SPO Date	Nanette Young 19/06/12
6. Legal clearance obtained from (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of Legal officer Date	Steven Strange 16/07/12
7. Policy & Partnerships clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of P&P officer Date	Andrew Nathan 14/6/12
8. Equalities & Diversity clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of officer Date	Andrew Nathan 14/6/12
9. The above process has been checked and verified by Director, Head of Service or Deputy	Name Date	Jay Mercer 16/07/12
10. Signed & dated report, <u>scanned or hard copy</u> received by Governance Service for publishing	Name of GSO Date	John Murphy 31/07/2012
11. Report published by Governance Service to website	Name of GSO Date	John Murphy 31/07/2012
12. Head of Service informed report is published	Name of GSO Date	John Murphy 31/07/2012
Key decisions only:		
1. Expiry of call-in period	Date	N/A
2. Report circulated for call-in purposes to Business Management OSC members & copied to Cabinet Members & Head of Service	Name of GSO Date	N/A

ACTION TAKEN BY CABINET MEMBER (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION)

Subject Grants to Voluntary Sector Organisations for Barnet 16-18 year old NEETs from super output areas

Cabinet Member: Leader of the Council

Date of decision 23/07/2012

Date decision comes into effect 23/07/2012

Summary	This report seeks approval for making one-off grants to various voluntary sector organisations, to a maximum aggregate sum of £100,000, to fund employment placements for up to 20 NEET young people aged 16-18.
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Officer Contributors Elaine Runswick, 14-19 Lead, Children's Services

Status (public or exempt) Public

Wards affected All

Enclosures None

Reason for exemption from call-in (if appropriate) Not applicable

Key decision No

Contact for further information: Zoreena Daniels 0208 359 2011

Serial No. 1751

1. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 1.1 Cabinet 20 June 2012 (Decision Item 6) resolved a skills and employment package of targeted time limited support to help young people into employment, including those classified as NEET. Cabinet also resolved that the Leader of the Council be authorised to agree any minor changes to the Skills, Employment and Enterprise Action Plan and proposed support package in order to ensure effective delivery.

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 This project will support young people into employment and is aligned with the council's commitment within the Corporate Plan to developing a Skills and Enterprise action plan that engages local businesses and partners to improve employment opportunities for residents, including focusing on young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) or who are at risk of becoming NEET.
- 2.2 The purpose of this project is to reduce the number of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) aged 16-24. This meets the Council's objective to ensure Barnet is a 'successful London suburb'.
- 2.3 By working in partnership with Community Barnet this proposal supports the corporate plan priority to provide better services for less money, and the corporate objective 'to manage resources and assets effectively and sustainably across the public sector in Barnet'.

3. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 3.1 An area of immediate concern is the number of Barnet's 16 to 24 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) as a consequence of the current economic climate. By working with local partners to deliver a targeted, time-limited package of support for young people, the council can channel limited resources to good effect.
- 3.2 All grants are made subject to the council's Standard Conditions of Grant Aid, with which applicants are required to signify their compliance by signing a written undertaking. Amongst other things, the conditions cover how awards are spent, allowing council officers a right of access to proof thereof, and requiring notification of any change in an organisation's circumstances which significantly affect its finances, operations or grant entitlement. The council reserves the right to withhold payment of any approved grant, or to demand full or partial repayment, if it appears that an organisation has failed to comply with any of the conditions attached to the award.
- 3.3 The shift towards greater community-led involvement in the delivery of services has involved some relaxation in the attitude traditionally taken to compliance with eligibility criteria before an award is recommended. Whilst all applicants are expected to satisfy basic governance requirements, such as having an independent management committee, it is accepted that community-led and self-help groups often require the support of a parent organisation or other agency. In cases such as these, account is taken of other relevant factors, such as knowledge of a supporting agency and mechanisms to manage an applicant's financial affairs. All applicants are expected to work towards full independence within a reasonable period.

4. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 4.1 Of particular cause for concern is the fact that 41.6% of the total number of NEETs have been NEET for 1-2 years and 9.2% of NEETs were not ready/willing to work or learn. Targeted marketing and support, particularly in more deprived areas in the west of the borough, will aim to focus on some of these harder to reach groups who have been NEET for a longer period of time.
- 4.2 All voluntary and community organisations grant-aided by the council are required to demonstrate that they have an equal opportunities policy covering users, staff and volunteers, which promotes equal treatment for all, irrespective of their age, disability, gender, sexuality, ethnic background, faith, health, language or social and economic background.
- 4.3 As the council moves towards a greater emphasis on commissioning and awarding of contracts, voluntary and community organisations are required to demonstrate how their activities support the council in meeting its equalities obligations.

5. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.1 This project will be funding employment places for up to 20 NEET young people aged 16-18. A total of £100,000 will be funded from the £1 million Barnet Skills, Employment and Enterprise Action Plan aimed at supporting 16-24 year old residents and employers. This is being funded from the 'Service Priorities Fund' which was agreed as part of the council's budget for 2012-13.
- 5.2 There are no other staffing, ICT or property implications in the context of this report.
- 5.3 Community Barnet is the key partner as agreed by Cabinet. They will:
- Identify organisations with suitable vacancies
 - Produce job descriptions for each post
 - Develop service level agreements with the organisations
 - Check the organisations have the relevant insurances
 - Manage the relationship between the organisation and young person
 - Report to the council every term through a report an update of achievements against the project outcomes detailing all vacancies secured, young people employed and details of training commenced
- 5.4 The Children's Service 14-19 team will:
- make a grant payment of £4,925 to each organisation that Community Barnet identifies and a one-off payment of £1,500 to Community Barnet
 - monitor the budget to ensure £100,000 is not exceeded
- 5.5 The project will be monitored by a partnership steering group with representation from LBB Children's Service and Community Barnet.

6. LEGAL ISSUES

- 6.1 None

7. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 7.1 Council Constitution, Part 3, Responsibility for Functions, Section 3 (Responsibility for Executive Functions) - section 3.2 details the responsibilities of Cabinet Members and provides that the Leader of the Council may discharge any function of the Executive.

8. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 8.1 This programme targets support at young people aged 16-18 from areas of deprivation at risk of not fulfilling their potential, and offers them paid work experience and the opportunity to gain a level 2 qualification.
- 8.2 The project works to break intergenerational cycles of low skills and unemployment in deprived communities by offering an alternative, inspirational peer group / employer network for young people.
- 8.3 The objective of the project is to enable young people from Barnet's most deprived areas to become more engaged in their community and thus also supports the council's priority – sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities.
- 8.4 As part of the scheme each young person will be mentored towards developing a 'work ethic' and employability skills and will be supported in finding employment when the placement finishes.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 Cabinet paper – The Barnet Skills, Employment and Enterprise Action Plan 2012 - 2015. This paper can be accessed via the link below
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=119&MId=6575&Ver=4>

10. DECISION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

I authorise the following action:

- 10.1 To approve the making of one-off grants to various Voluntary Sector Organisations from the 2012/13 Service Priorities fund, to a maximum aggregate sum of £100,000, to fund employment placements for up to 20 NEET young people aged 16-18 subject to the Council's Standard Conditions of Grant Aid.

Signed



Leader of the Council

Date

23/07/12