

	<p>Community Leadership Committee</p> <p>11 March 2015</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Title</p>	<p>Grant, 2015/16 – Love Burnt Oak</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Report of</p>	<p>Director of Strategy</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Enclosures</p>	<p>None</p>
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<p>Summary</p>
<p>This report recommends award of £40,000 (2015/16) to Love Burnt Oak, subject to the Council’s Standard Conditions of Grant Aid to cover the costs of their Community Coordinator.</p>

<p>Recommendations</p>
<p>1. That the Committee approve the following recommendation of an award of £40,000 to Love Burnt Oak, funded from Transformation Challenge Award monies</p>

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 That the Committee authorise the award of £40,000 (2015/16) to Love Burnt Oak, subject to the Council's Standard Conditions of Grant Aid to cover the costs of their Community Coordinator. The role of the grant will be to facilitate engagement between the Burnt Oak Jobs Team and the community and build capacity in the voluntary sector to support residents to move into work.
- 1.2 The power to award grants to voluntary and community groups is contained in the terms of reference of theme committees in the council's constitution - Annex A of Responsibilities for Functions.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Barnet is part of a successful West London Alliance Transformation Challenge Award bid called 'Working People, Working Places' that will attract £290,789 to Barnet on April 1 2015. The Transformation Challenge Award is funding from the Department of Communities and Local Government to build on the success of the Community Budget Pilots, to encourage and support places to re-design the way that services are delivered, both within councils and across local public services and the voluntary and community sector, to deliver better outcomes for citizens. The funding is for the year 2015/16.
- 2.2 Barnet will be delivering a Jobs Team in Burnt Oak. This project will deliver a multi-agency and community rooted team to support people back into work. It differs from the standard JCP offer in that it aims to reach the whole workless population including non-claimants and those on sickness related benefits. Strong community engagement and ownership is therefore critical to achieving the target engagement levels with the team and £40,000 provision was included in the bid to support Love Burnt Oak as the local umbrella group for voluntary and community action. Representatives from Love Burnt Oak are also part of the Steering Board responsible for delivery of the project.
- 2.3 As part of this grant Love Burnt Oak will be asked to deliver the following activity:
 - Facilitate a network of voluntary and community sector organisations that provide support to people who use the Jobs Team and provide some community coordination
 - Run a series of outreach sessions in the Burnt Oak area and co-locate with the Jobs Team where this is practical
 - Identify gaps in the support currently available and support development of voluntary and community sector action to meet those gaps
 - Identify and support volunteers in specific support areas.
 - Support community engagement and community feedback/ evaluation of the project
 - Support community action that support people into work

- 2.4 Love Burnt Oak was identified during the design process of the Jobs Team as an anchor in the local community, receiving positive feedback from the stakeholders and residents. A Love Burnt Oak Coordinator post is based at the Burnt Oak Resource Centre with a focus on coordinating services and activities in Burnt Oak, obtaining funding to respond to local needs and engaging the local community. Love Burnt Oak is working in partnership with organisations such as JCP, Barnet and Southgate College and Barnfield Children's Centre. The funding for this coordinator is ended in February 2015.
- 2.5 Love Burnt Oak is a community based registered charity initially supported by Barnet Homes and the LBB Innovation Bank that aims to reduce poverty, support work, education and training particularly among the unemployed, provide support and business advice to people setting up their own business, provide workspace for activities that further social aims and recreational activities for vulnerable groups.
- 2.6 Current Love Burnt Oak activities include;
- Coordinating a community network of over 30 organisations from across public, private, voluntary and community sector
 - Delivering a range of services at its own community facilities in partnership with the public and community sector
 - Delivering back to work programmes including a work club, adult community learning programmes, healthy lifestyle programmes, youth provision and a young offenders programme including financial and digital inclusion activities
 - Building the capacity and support of smaller organisations in the community
 - Bringing back a sense of 'community' in its approach to local engagement
 - Working with Barnet Council to provide intern placements for young people, including those benefiting from its Bridging the Gap programme
- 2.7 In order to deliver the Jobs Team as set out in the TCA bid it is recommended to Community Leadership Committee that a grant of £40,000 is made to Love Burnt Oak.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 None.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The applicants will be formally notified of the decision to award a grant. The grant will be made subject to the Council's Standard Conditions of Grant Aid
- 4.2 A monitoring schedule will be drawn up with Love Burnt Oak to monitor the activity listed in paragraph 2.3. This will include the following outcomes and targets agreed with Love Burnt Oak

4.3 Inputs

- Participation in the Jobs Team Steering Group chaired by London Borough of Brent
- Participation in the local operational group
- Dedicated staff resource to contribute to the Jobs Team
- Use of the shared database for tracking outcomes

4.4 Outcomes

- Contribution to improved employment outcomes measured through evidence of community involvement in 50 job outcomes
- Improved individual wellbeing measured through distance travelled measures completed with residents
- Increase in people's digital inclusion measured through access to training, PC use and brokering of affordable home broadband and hardware
- 100 new users are attracted to use support in Burnt Oak
- 10 new volunteers are recruited to support employment and wellbeing in Burnt Oak
- 2 new groups or activities are set up as directed by the needs of service users accessing the jobs team
- Existing groups/ activities continue where there is active demand
- Premises and places are identified for people to meet or activities to take place

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 The Corporate Plan for 2013-16 includes the following strategic objectives:

- Creation of the right environment to promote responsible growth, development and success across the borough
- Supporting families and individuals that need it – promoting independence, learning and well-being
- Improving the satisfaction of residents and businesses with the London Borough of Barnet as a place to live, work and study

5.1.2 The outcomes around which these objectives are prioritised include:

- To maintain the right environment for a strong and diverse local economy.

5.1.3 A core focus of the new Corporate Plan will be targeted support to ensure that all residents benefit from the significant opportunities which flow from Barnet being part of a growing and arguably booming London economy. Unemployment levels have fallen by a third in the last year, the number of 16-18 year old 'NEETs' in Barnet is, at 2.3%, the fourth lowest in England and fewer Barnet residents are claiming out-of-work benefits than the London

average. However there is more to do to ensure that all residents of Barnet can benefit from the opportunities of growth, whether through new employment opportunities or enjoying new neighbourhoods and places in which all people can live and age well. Burnt Oak has been selected as the area for this project as it has relatively high unemployment rates and high deprivation. This project supports employment and tackles particular barriers; be it, health, multiple disadvantaged families or long term unemployment. The business cases all highlight that in order to do something about these intractable issues it is important to do things differently.

5.1.4 The council is seeking to develop new and effective partnerships to deliver high quality public services having regard to the significant reduction in government funding. The voluntary and community sector has a significant role to play in this strategy, especially by increasing choice, accessibility and value for money, leading on innovative solutions and improving customers' perception of public services.

5.1.5 A Third Sector Commissioning Framework, approved by the Cabinet Resources Committee in July 2008, sets out guidelines to:

- bring consistency to the council's financial arrangements with the voluntary and community sector; and
- bring procurement from, and grants to, the sector into a single framework consistent with the council's procurement rules

5.2 **Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

5.2.1 The provision for this £40,000 grant is from £290,798 income to the council from the Transformation Challenge Award from the Department of Communities and Local Government.

5.3 **Legal and Constitutional References**

5.3.1 The council has power to make grants awards under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.

5.3.2 Under the Council's Constitution (Responsibility for Functions – Annex A) specific responsibility for the Community Leadership Committee includes:

- Grants to Voluntary Sector within the remit of the Committee

5.3.3 The recommendation to award £40,000 to Love Burnt Oak is in keeping with the aim of the Transformation Challenge Award and Barnet Council's successful bid.

5.4 **Risk Management**

5.4.1 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.

5.5 Equalities and Diversity

5.5.1 Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the council and all other organisations exercising public functions must have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by or under the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups;
- foster good relations between people from different groups

The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into day business and keep them under review in decision making; the design of policies; and the delivery of services.

5.5.2 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. Scrutiny of compliance with these considerations, and how they contribute to promoting good relations between people and communities, forms part of the standard procedure for assessing all applications

5.5.3 Voluntary and community organisations are required to demonstrate how their activities support the council in meeting its equalities obligations in accordance with the greater emphasis on commissioning and awarding of contracts.

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 This report will be discussed with the Committee

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Cabinet Resources Committee, 22 July 2008 (decision item 11): approval of a Third Sector Commissioning Framework.