

	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS BY DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES & SECTION 151 OFFICER</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Title</p>	<p>Corporate Grants Programme, 2017/18 – grant applications</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of</p>	<p>Director of Resources & Section 151 Officer</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Enclosures</p>	<p>Grant assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A – Barnet Borough Arts Council • Appendix B – Barnet Friends of the Virtual School
<p style="text-align: center;">Officer Contact Details</p>	<p>Ken Argent, Grants Manager, Finance, Commissioning Group (ken.argent@barnet.gov.uk) (020 8359 2020)</p> <p>Flo Armstrong, Head of Libraries, Workforce & Community Engagement, Family Services, Children’s Service (flo.armstrong@barnet.gov.uk) (020 8350 7846)</p> <p>Chris Munday, Strategic Director – Children & Young People (chris.munday@barnet.gov.uk) (020 8359 7099)</p>

Summary

This report attaches assessments of grant applications by two not-for-profit organisations.

Decisions

That, subject to the council’s Standard Conditions of Grant:

- (i) a one-off grant of £1,400 be awarded to Barnet Borough Arts Council**
- (ii) a one-off grant of £4,990 be awarded to Barnet Friends of the Virtual School**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 Voluntary and community organisations may apply for a one-year start-up grant of up to £10,000 or a one-off grant of up to £5,000 from the corporate grants programme.
- 1.2 Article 10, section 10.5, Decision Making by Chief Officers, authorises chief officers to make decisions in accordance with the powers delegated (Article 9) and other officers under the Schemes of Delegation maintained by chief officers and published on the council's website.

2. REASONS FOR DECISIONS

- 2.1 The grant assessments herewith explain the rationale for awarding the grants in question.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 3.1 None.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The applicants will be formally notified of the decisions and the grants paid.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Corporate Plan, 2015-2020, identifies a set of strategic objectives which frame the council's approach to achieving its vision of making local services more integrated, intuitive and efficient by 2020, aimed at ensuring that Barnet is a place:

- of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life
- where people are helped to help themselves, recognising that prevention is better than cure
- where responsibility is shared, fairly
- where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer

- 5.1.2 The outcomes around which these objectives are prioritised, relevant to the awards recommended, include:

- To promote family and community well-being and encourage engaged, cohesive and safe communities
- To support the local economy to grow and improve living standards by boosting incomes and opportunities for people in Barnet
- To ensure that children and young people receive a great start in life
- To help disadvantaged children and young people who are most at risk of

not achieving their potential to close the gap with their peers; make a positive transition into adulthood; and prevent later difficulties

- To support Barnet's children in care to achieve their goals and aspirations

5.1.3 The voluntary and community sector has a significant role to play in the delivery of public services arising from the reduction in government funding, not only by increasing choice, accessibility and value for money but also by developing innovative solutions to problems and improving customers' perception of public services.

5.1.4 A Third Sector Commissioning Framework, approved by the former Cabinet Resources Committee in 2008, has brought:

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

5.1.5 The corporate grants programme offers help to voluntary and community organisations (a) to develop sustainable new services and activities and (b) to run a community event or meet certain non-recurring items of expenditure.

5.1.6 All applications are assessed on their individual merits against the council's policy objectives; the benefits to the local community; the effectiveness of the organisation in its service delivery; its overall value for money; its financial needs; and the budget for making awards.

5.1.7 The applications in question fulfil these criteria and are each recommended for an award.

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

5.2.1 The provision for making start-up and one-off grants in 2017/18 is comprised of funds deriving to the authority from the Edward Harvist Charity; a small and final allocation from the former Borough Lottery Scheme; and a remaining balance of £66,855 of a sum of £102,000 collectively allocated to the corporate grants programme by the area committees with the approval of the Community Leadership Committee.

5.2.2 The current position on the funding available in 2017/18, which reflects the sum that has been allocated to the corporate grants programme from the council's share of income to the Edward Harvist Charity, to be supplemented as further income from the charity is received, is as follows:

Budget item	Funding available, 2017/18	Approvals to date	Balance remaining	Recommended herewith
Edward Harvist Charity	£105,162	£83,422	£21,740	£5,317
Former Borough Lottery Fund	£5,523	£4,450	£1,073	£1,073
Allocation by area committees	£66,855	£5,000	£61,855	0
TOTAL	£177,540	£92,872	£84,668	£6,390

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

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

5.3.2 Article 10, section 10.5, Decision Making by Chief Officers, authorises chief officers to make decisions in accordance with the powers delegated (Article 9) and other officers under the Scheme of Delegation maintained by chief officers and published on the council's website.

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.

5.4.2 The shift towards greater community 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.

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 persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race, religion or belief; and sex and sexual orientation. The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into daily 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 Awards from the corporate grants programme fund projects and activities in support of people from all of Barnet's diverse communities, as in the case of the grants recommended.

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 The applications in question have been assessed in consultation with commissioning leads and service delivery units.

5.6.2 The chairman of the Community Leadership Committee has been consulted on this report and endorses the recommendations

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Cabinet Resources Committee, 22 July 2008 (decision item 11): approval of a Third Sector Commissioning Framework (<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/CeListDocuments.aspx?Committeed=151&MeetingId=424&DF=22%2f07%2f2008&Ver=2>)

6.2 Community Leadership Committee, 24 June 2015 (decision item 11): endorsement of decision by each area committee to allocate £17,000 of its annual grants budget through the corporate grants programme (<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=694&MId=8367&Ver=4>)

7. DECISION TAKER'S STATEMENT

- 7.1 I have the required powers to make the decisions documented in this report. I am responsible for the report's content and am satisfied that all relevant advice has been sought in the preparation of this report and that it is compliant with the decision-making framework of the organisation which includes constitution, scheme of delegation, budget and policy framework and legal issues, including equalities obligations.

8. OFFICER'S DECISIONS

- 8.1 **I approve one-off awards of (a) £1,400 to Barnet Borough Arts Council and £4,990 to Barnet Friends of the Virtual School, subject to the council's Standard Conditions of Grant.**

Signed

Director of Resources & Section 151 Officer

Date

28 November 2017