

Report of: Head of Commissioning

Report to: Director of Adult Social Services (Interim)

Date: 19th February 2015

Subject: Adult Social Care Voluntary Sector Grants Schedule 2015/2016

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The report seeks the approval of the voluntary sector grant payments for the financial year 2015/2016.

Recommendations

2. The Director of Adult Social Services (Interim) is recommended to approve the payment of the voluntary sector grants as detailed in Appendix 1 for the financial year 2015/2016.
3. The Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care will implement this decision directly after it has been taken, subject to the necessary clearance process being completed, by issuing relevant letters to the organisations informing them that their grant has been extended for a further year.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 For the Director of Adult Social Services (interim) to make a delegated decision to agree the payments to the organisations listed in the Schedule of Grant Payments in Appendix 1 hereto, for the financial year 2015/2016.

2 Background information

- 2.1 All grants from the directorate are currently given to the voluntary sector on an annual basis. The directorate currently has an ongoing review process taking place, which is assessing the relevance of each grant against Adult Social Care's strategic aims, value for money and whether or not grant funding is the most appropriate method of funding a particular service.
- 2.2 The annual grants schedule showing the organisations and their respective funding amounts is shown in Appendix 1.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The grants to a significant number of voluntary sector organisations were reduced by up to 15% in 2011\12 and no increase to the grant payments we made during 2012/13 and 2013/14 and 2014/15. Given the significant financial pressures during the coming financial year, there will be no inflation increase on any grant payment made to the voluntary sector during 2015/2016.
- 3.2 The learning disability day service transformation grants are included in this grants schedule as recommended in the delegated decision report of the Director of Adult Social Services dated 16th December 2009. This grant programme was extended for a further year during 2013/2014 and 2014/15 and reviews have taken place and are ongoing in relation to these grants. Adult Social Care is currently in the process of transferring its learning disability provider service to an independent social enterprise called Aspire and a number of the grants which are identified in Appendix 1 will transfer to Aspire on completion of the transfer contract. This transfer to Aspire is expected to occur during the first quarter of 2015.
- 3.3 Adult Social Care is continuing to review the grant arrangements with the voluntary sector listed in this report, to ensure that grant funding is the most appropriate method of funding these organisations. Adult Social Care will continue to review, along with its partner agency commissioners, the grants listed in this report during the new financial year to ensure that the payments being made are strategically relevant, that performance of the organisations is monitored and demonstrated to be effective and that the Council is achieving best value for money. As part of this review process, a number of the grants shown in Appendix 1 which have historically been paid by Adult Social Care, have now been transferred to the Director of Public Health and now come within the Public Health budget. In addition, the largest single grant listed in Appendix 1, which funds culturally specific statutory homecare services will be included within the re-commissioning process for homecare which is currently being undertaken. A number of other grants have been moved to a contract following a review or

savings have been made after negotiations have been conducted with the organisation.

- 3.4 All organisations receiving grant payments this financial year will be subject to a relevant and proportionate monitoring process.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The report has been discussed with the Executive Member for Adult Social Care prior to the decision being taken.
- 4.1.2 Once the decision has been taken, Adult Social Care will inform the organisations receiving payment of the amount of the grant for the forthcoming year and the fact that no inflation will be paid. Should any issues arise with an organisation concerning the amount of grant which is payable, commissioning officers will work with that organisation to ensure the service can remain sustainable at the level of grant given.
- 4.1.3 A consultation exercise has been undertaken with grant recipients over the last three years to ensure efficiencies could be found within the services provided, which has resulted in a number of reductions to the grant payments during this period.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 An Equality Impact Assessment Screening Tool has been completed for this report and is included as Appendix 2. Where any service has been decommissioned or contracts put in place following a review, a separate Equality Impact Assessment will have been undertaken for that particular service.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 Services provided as part of the grant payments will contribute to the Council's Health and Wellbeing City priority Plan.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 All grant payments detailed in Appendix 1 are included within the Adult Social Care budget for 2015/2016.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 There are no specific legal implications as part of this report.
- 4.5.2 This decision has been placed on the list of forthcoming key decisions and is subject to call-in. The report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 There are no significant risks identified in making the decision recommended by this report.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The annual grant schedule continues to be reviewed, to ensure that the payments being made are strategically relevant, that performance of the organisations is monitored and demonstrated to be effective and that the Council is achieving best value for money.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Director of Adult Social Services (Interim) is recommended to approve the payment of the voluntary sector grants as detailed in Appendix 1 for the financial year 2014/2015
- 6.2 The Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care will implement this decision directly after it has been taken, subject to the necessary clearance process being completed, by issuing relevant letters to the organisations informing them that their grant has been extended for a further year.

7 Background documents¹

- 7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.