



Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 18th October 2007

Subject: Council funding and police charges relevant to community events

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>ALL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Council Function <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p>

1.0 Late Item

1.1 This is a late item due to a delay in the release of information crucial to the report. Figures in relation to the charges levied by the police for community events throughout Leeds were not received until after the Committee report deadline.

2.0 Purpose Of This Report

2.1 This report provides the Area Committee with an overview of Leeds City Council funding for community festivals across the city, including well-being contributions.

2.2 The report also provides information in specific relation to the charging policy of West Yorkshire Police for the policing of community events.

3.0 Background

3.1 Funding figures are provided in the report in relation to a number of festivals across the city, this is not a comprehensive list but does represent a cross-section of events held within Leeds. The figures given should not be subject to direct comparison with each other given the diverse size, geographical coverage and background to each event. A number of the festivals noted have not only a local attraction but also a city-wide and sometime regional appeal.

4.0 Funding

4.1 In addition to fundraising, there are a number of funding streams available to festivals. Each festival is funded using a variety of the funding streams available.

4.2 Within the Council there are a number of different sources of funding for events. These include:-

- Arts@Leeds
- MICE money
- Well-being
- Arts & Events core funding
- In kind funding, such as free venue use
- Other non-specified funding, i.e. core budget

4.3 The information below shows amounts of well-being and other Council grants awarded to festivals. The total cost of the events is also noted.

Event	Well-being Funding	Other Council Funding	Total Cost
Kirkstall Festival 2006	£500	£1,000	£23,000
Unity Day 2006	£4,000	£2,200	£18,200
Otley Carnival 2006	£500	0	£7,000
Beeston Carnival 2006	£1,300	0	£13,000
West Indian Carnival 2004	0	£50,000	£77,000
I Love West Leeds 2006	£50,000 (£25,000 from each West Area Committee)	0	not known
Leeds Mela 2006	0	£32,000	not known

5.0 Charges

5.1 Recent changes Council regulations have required festival organisers to ensure a minimum level of provision of facilities such as toilets, security and medical support. Failure to meet these standards could result in an event not being granted permission to proceed.

5.2 In addition, West Yorkshire Police have the discretion to charge for the policing of community events. Current national advice and guidance exists, issued by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO). This is under review; due to be completed by March 2008.

5.3 Both factors referred to above can have a significant impact on the costs of staging a community event. This is true for all community led events, but particularly so for medium sized events where attendance levels take them over the threshold limits whereby charges are incurred (in the polices case this is where more than 20 man-hours worth of policing is required).

5.4 All festivals and events must comply with the Council's regulations and therefore the charges incurred may push up the amount of funding needed to be raised by organisers.

- 5.5 ACPO's 'Guidance on Charging for Police Services' identifies the continuing need for the police service to identify the basis of recovering costs, or charging for its services. It states that the charges applied should be transparent and consistent and that the recovery of charges should not be detrimental to the local community. The main principle is to ensure that an event does not direct police resources away from their main responsibilities, thereby preserving police duty time for core policing in the community.
- 5.6 The guidance recommends a matrix for charging events, based on the cost of policing the event. This indicates the following % charges:-

<u>Type of Event</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Commercial events (concerts, sports events, etc)	100%
Charitable and community events (fairs, carnivals, etc)	50%
Statutory events (remembrance day, jubilee, etc)	0%

- 5.7 This is only guidance and the decision to charge and at what level rests with regional Chief Constables, often delegated to the Divisional Commander.
- 5.8 The following information has been released by West Yorkshire Police in relation to community event charging.

Event	2006	2007
Kirkstall Festival	£626	£1,184
Unity Day	£0	£0
Otley Festival	£0 (event cancelled)	£719
Beeston Carnival	£0	£0
West Indian Carnival	£0	£0
Garforth Arts Festival	£0	£0
I Love West Leeds	£0	£0
Leeds Mela	£0	£0

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 Each festival or community event across the city raises funding from a variety of different sources. For some there are historical funding streams, as is the case with the West Indian Carnival. The purpose, size, type and location of festivals all have an impact on what funding is available to them.
- 6.2 Although an additional burden on festival organisers, the amended Council regulations apply across all such events.
- 6.3 The charging for of police time is an issue that is currently under review and is recognised, by the police, as not being consistent nationally and regionally.
- 6.4 The only direct resource the Area Committee is able to influence in terms of ensuring the sustainability of community events in the inner north west area is the well-being fund. The Committee could, if it chose, create a fund specifically for community events.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 That Area Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.