

Cabinet

22 February 2017



Title	Annual Grants 2017-18		
Purpose of the report	To make a decision		
Report Author	Joanne Jones		
Cabinet Member	Councillor Tony Harman	Confidential	No
Corporate Priority	This item is not in the current list of Corporate priorities but still requires a Cabinet decision		
Recommendations	Cabinet is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree the grants awards for 2017/18.• Note all other support to the voluntary, charity sector.		
Reason for Recommendation	The agreement to award grants for 2017-18 will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- enable a number of charities to continue operating in the borough for the year ahead;- maintain service levels where charities provide complementary activities to Council frontline services;- enable new charities and community groups to begin working in the borough, or expand their operations		

1. Key issues

- 1.1 The grants programme for 2017/18 was publicised in October 2016 and 37 applications were received. This compares with 21 last year.
- 1.2 The Voluntary / Community Sector is seen as a key driver of services under the Localism Act 2011.
- 1.3 The Health and Social Care Act came into force in April 2013, creating local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) which directly commission services for their populations. Previously, clinicians in many areas were frustrated by negotiating with Primary Care Trusts to get the right services for their patients. The CCGs see the voluntary sector as important providers of certain services to complement their services and address unmet need.
- 1.4 It is likely that if the voluntary sector did not provide services there would be even more pressure on local authorities (it is widely acknowledged that for every pound spent by a local authority in grant aid, six pounds of value is received).

2. Options analysis and proposal

- 2.1 To agree proposed funding to our major organisations for 2017/18 and to agree / not agree to the recommendation for the remaining funding for 2017/18
- 2.2 Following a meeting of the Grants Panel - Cllr Tony Harman, Cllr Jean Pinkerton OBE, Cllr Colin Barnard, Joanne Jones (Community Development Manager) and Mary West (Sport & Active Lifestyle Officer) - the following grant support is proposed.

Major organisations

• CAB (Runnymede & Spelthorne (Impartial advice on debt, divorce, benefits, family matters)	£75,000
• HomeStart (Family support charity)	£15,000
• Rentstart (Assists homeless singles and childless couples)	£30,000
• Shopmobility (Assists those with mobility problems access facilities)	£15,000
Total	£135,000

Other applicants

• Browns Community Services (Support for vulnerable adults with complex needs)	£1,000
• Crest (Support for anyone affected by cancer)	£800
• Crossroads (Respite breaks to unpaid carers)	£3,500
• Daybreak (Day respite care, older people)	£2,000
• Mulberry Centre (Cancer info & support)	£3,000
• N Surrey Domestic Abuse (Independent, confidential, impartial advice)	£3,000
• One to One (Social activities for adults with learning disabilities)	£1,000
• Revitalise (Respite breaks with care)	£1,000
• SCAN (Improve access / awareness for people with disabilities)	£500
• Spelthorne Community & Arts Assn	£2,400
• Spelthorne Sports Council	£2,400
• Talk (Support for those with communication difficulty after stroke)	£1,000
Total	£21,600

- 2.3 The panel proposes to ring-fence the remaining funds for 2017-18, to support provision of services formerly provided by Voluntary Action In Spelthorne (£18,000) and AgeUK Runnymede & Spelthorne (£25,000) which represents the sum that would have been allocated for these services in 2017-18. Officers are currently working on options; it is intended to outline proposals before the commencement of the new financial year.
- 2.4 A sum of £10,000 would be held back as contingency funding, to be allocated throughout the financial year as new applications come in.
- 2.5 It is also proposed that any organisations receiving in excess of £5,000 enter into a service level agreement to ensure that the Council is receiving value for money and also that the receiving organisation supports the Council's priorities.

3. Financial implications

- 3.1 The grant funding awarded is £209,600.
- 3.2 The funding or support in kind for 2017/18 is projected to be as follows.

Grants	£209,600
Rate Relief	£50,000
Free facilities	£1,269
Business rates	£6,484
Accommodation	£22,207
Neighbourhood Grants	£39,000
Total	£328,560

See Appendix A – Other support for charities and community organisations

4. Other considerations

- 4.1 The Voluntary Sector offers services to a wide range of communities in Spelthorne. The value of the sector shows itself in its involvement with residents from across the borough. It can deliver outcomes the public sector finds hard to deliver on its own, such as one-to-one support, dedication to a specific group or cause; expert guidance and advice and non-statutory services. Some providers represent or advocate for minorities, user groups and faith communities. The sector's activities enhance aspects of health and wellbeing, self-reliance, community resilience and social cohesion.

5. Timetable for implementation

- 5.1 Grants to be paid in April 2017; ring-fenced grants to be paid when new services are set up or commissioned, subject to Service Level Agreements. Contingency funding to be paid out as applications are received during the financial year.

Appendices: Appendix A – Other support for charities & community organisations