

**Community Initiatives**  
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# Report

**Report Subject** : Community Grants 2007-08

**Report to:** : The Cabinet

**Date** : Wednesday 31 January 2007

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**Cabinet Member for Community & Housing:** Councillor John Cole-Morgan

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## COMMUNITY GRANTS 2007/2008

### 1. Report Summary

To present to the Cabinet recommendations for Members to consider for awarding the community grants budget between voluntary organisations applying for funding during financial year 2007/2008

### 2. Background:

- Grant applications for the next financial Year total £205,099. This includes five VSC organisations that currently have service agreements in place.
- There is a total of £153,970 available in the budget. £127,250 is committed provision to those 5 organisations (as agreed by Cabinet 6<sup>th</sup> September 2006), which leaves £26,720 available for distribution subject to Members retaining the current level of funding in the 2006/07 financial year.
- The CAB, WREC, CIB, CVS and Community First applications are now taken separately under a Service Level Agreement, (where there is a provision of £127,250).
- Each of the other 18 applicants has completed an application form and a précis of each application has been prepared. These summaries are available to view at Community Initiatives, 16 Endless Street.
- Most organisations are now operating a 6-month reserve policy in order to retain qualified and experienced staff, minimising staff turnover and justifying investment in staff training. These reserves have been taken into consideration when presenting recommendations.
- These applications are the last to be considered through this unsolicited process of the Salisbury District Community Grant scheme. In future, as per agreement by Cabinet (Minute no.853) 6<sup>th</sup> September 2006, all grants will used to develop and strengthen a number of key infrastructure organisations and develop long-term service agreements.



Awarded in:  
Housing Services  
Waste and Recycling Services



- All voluntary and community sector organisations have been informed of the changes to the Salisbury District Community Grant scheme that will take effect in 2008/09.
- **The full applications are available for Members to refer to at Community Initiatives, 16 Endless Street.**

**Further Background Information:**

- Salisbury District Council continues to work towards full compliance with the Wiltshire Compact Board's Code of Good Practice on Funding and Procurement in Wiltshire.
- One emphasis of the Compact is on developing longer-term funding relationships with the voluntary sector in order to provide more stability for voluntary organisations and to make best use of scarce staff and volunteer time. Longer-term funding will require a more consistent approach to monitoring and review and ensuring that organisations funded from the public purse are meeting agreed requirements and outcomes.
- It is important therefore that if organisations receive funding from the Council that we can be confident that the service they give is meeting certain standards and requirements, apart from those set down by legislation. As an example, the Council would be required to know that the organisation had processes in place to gain the views of their members or service users, who in turn were enabled to be involved in the decision making processes of the organisation.
- The Compact also stresses that monitoring arrangements should be proportionate both in terms of the size and structure of the voluntary organisation and the level of funding.
- All grants were subject to grant conditions, which were endorsed at the Cabinet Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2006:
  1. Greater financial stability by recommending 3 year secured funding (subject to the Councils Annual Budget) for those organisations that currently have in place or are developing Service Agreements with SDC and its partners (e.g. other local authorities). To date that would include:
    - a. Wiltshire Race Equality Council
    - b. Community First
    - c. Citizens Advice Bureau
    - d. Salisbury CVS
    - e. Charities Information Bureau
  2. All organisations that have in place Service Agreements with SDC no longer have to complete an annual grants applications form.
  3. SDC will continue to work towards processes that are appropriate to the size and capacity of funded organisations, minimise the administrative burden for all parties and promote best value for money. It has now been acted upon that only organisations funded £5k and over submit a 6 monthly report on the progress of the organisation. All groups are to be asked to submit monitoring information however this must be reasonable to the size and funding of the organisations.
  4. Groups have been asked to demonstrate that they are actively seeking funding from other sources and have in place, where appropriate, funding strategies. Groups who are not actively seeking funding over a period of time from other sources may find their funding reduced or withdrawn unless justification can be provided.
  5. Groups have been asked to have in place appropriate strategies relevant and appropriate to the size and nature of the organisations. Where groups do not have the relevant policies in place these may impact on the decisions to allocate funding.

6. A library of Constitutions and Policies has been created so that regularly funded groups have not been asked to submit these with their application forms. Groups have been asked to notify SDC in writing of any changes to either constitutions or policies.
7. Annual Accounts have been submitted with all grant applications.

**Proposals:**

- **Appendix One** shows the Grant recommendations for Members to consider. The current budget does not meet the total amount requested therefore the table shows the amount recommended, last year's grant (where appropriate) the amount requested for 2007/2008 and is based on the grant assessment process.

**3. Recommendations:**

- I. That Members approve the recommendations agreed by the Grants Working Group as set out in Appendix One.
- II. That Members approve these grants subject to the Council's Terms of Conditions,
- III. That Members approve the continued funding to the CAB, CIB, CVS and Community Firsts subject to the Principal Community Development Officer's approval of the service level agreements annual and 6 monthly reviews.
- IV. That Members approve the withdrawal of funding for WREC. It is further recommended that £7k of the Salisbury District Community Grant scheme be kept in abeyance until an organisation representing BME interests can be found. It is further requested that the Portfolio Holder for Community & Housing and the Principal Community Development Officer be delegated responsibility for allocating the funds to a suitable organisation.
- V. That members note that withdrawing funding to organisations may result or contribute to the closure of that organisation.

**4. Implications:**

<b>Financial</b>	The proposed recommendations can be met from existing budget subject to Members approving a budget for 2007/2008 that retains funding at current levels. Any reduction in funding for the new financial year will reduce the levels of funding available for distribution.
<b>Legal</b>	None
<b>Community Safety</b>	Some of the grants support the work of Salisbury Community Safety Partnership's three year Crime and Disorder Strategy.
<b>Environmental</b>	One application supports the work of SW Local Agenda 21 and are in keeping with the Council's aim to raise awareness about waste minimisation, recycling and reuse in accordance with the principles outlined in the DETR Waste Strategy 2000.
<b>Core Values</b>	Community Grants support the following Core Values of the Council: Fairness and Equality Anti-Poverty and Social Exclusion Communicating with the Public Supporting the Disadvantaged Protecting the Environment
<b>Funding Code of Good Practice</b>	A new countywide Compact Code of Good Practice on Funding and Procurement is now in place.

**Community Grants 2007/2008**

Applications for the next financial Year total £205,099. This includes those organisations that currently have service agreements in place.

There is a total of £153,970 available in the budget. £127,250 ring fenced for 5 organisations that leaves £26,720 available for distribution.

<b>Application No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Recommendations 2007/08</b>	<b>Amount Awarded 2006/2007</b>	<b>Amount Requested 2007/2008</b>
001	SPLASH - Wiltshire	1,000	1,000	1,000
002	South Wiltshire Advocacy Network	2,000	2,000	10,000
003	South Wiltshire Credit Union	1,872	2,000	1,872
004	Salisbury District Age Concern	0	0	2,000
005	Youth Action Wiltshire	2,000	n/a	6,000
006	Home-Start South Wiltshire	2,120	2,120	7,527
007	Cruse Bereavement Care (Salisbury Branch)	1,000	1,000	2,000
008	The Community Foundation for Wiltshire & Swindon	2,000	2,000	5,000
009	Salisbury Lifestyles	500	1,200	2,500
010	Salisbury Clothing Centre	1,250	1,250	1,700
011	Salisbury District Community Transport	4,000	4,000	13,500
012	Mediation Salisbury & District	1,878	2,000	2,500
013	Salisbury Trust for the Homeless	4,600	4,600	6,218
014	Alabare Christian Care	0	1,000	3,182

015	Trussell Trust	1000	0	4,500
016	ASK	1,000	1,000	1,350
017	Pre-school Learning Alliance	0	1,000	1,600
018	South Wilts Agenda 21	500	1,500	2,000
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>26,720</b>	<b>25,170</b>	<b>70,849</b>

	<b>SERVICE AGREEMENTS</b>			
Service Agreement	Salisbury CVS	15,000	15,000	15,000
Service Agreement	Wiltshire Charities Information Bureau (CIB)	3,000	3,000	3,000
Service Agreement	CAB	95,250	95,250	95,250
Service Agreement	WREC	0	7,000	7,000
Service Agreement	Community First	7,000	7,000	7,000
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>127,250</b>	<b>134,250</b>	<b>134,250</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>153,970</b>		