

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project/proposal

Supportive Communities Grants Programme

Contact name

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Department

Adult Services

Date to be published on Hantsweb

13 Sep 2016

Purpose for project/proposal

The purpose of this Equality Impact Assessment is to consider whether changes to the Adult Services grant programme in 2016-17 will have an impact on the voluntary sector organisations recommended for grant funding in 2015-16. In 2016-17 there has been an increase to the programme budget, and the changes proposed ensure that grants programme follows an outcome focused approach through three grants streams:

- Longer term grant funding for Hampshire wide, umbrella and infrastructure organisations, beyond the current one year ceiling
- Developing a small grants pot administered by the voluntary sector
- Short term grants to enable innovation and time limited projects

As part of this approach grants from the Adult Service Partnership Fund – Information and Advice, and Community Connectors Grant will be awarded to identified voluntary and community organisations between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2017.

Consultation

Has a consultation been carried out?

No

In September 2015 Adult Services wrote to all organisations who received a grant award from the Adult Services Main Grant programme in 2015-16, informing them of the review of the grant programme, reminding them that their current funding was for that year only with no expectation of future funding, but also asking them to contact Adult Services if they had any concerns about the impact of these changes. Furthermore, organisations who had been awarded a grant of £10,000 or more in 2015-16 were invited to meet with Adult Services between September and November to discuss their sustainability, including exploring the likely impact of both the new approach and delay in awarding grants in 2016-17, and to be directed to alternative sources of funding.

Adult Services has also held workshops to discuss the new approach to which all organisations who were awarded funding in 2015-16 were invited. The first round of these workshops were held in late September and early October 2015, with the second round of workshops being held in late November and early December 2015. A further workshop was held at the end of January 2016. In mid March 2016 and Early April 2016 organisations were invited to partnership workshops

Statutory considerations

Impact

Age	Low
Disability	Low
Sexual orientation	Low
Race	Low
Religion and belief	None
Gender reassignment	Low
Sex	None
Marriage and civil partnership	None
Pregnancy and maternity	None

Other policy considerations

Poverty	Low
Rurality	None
Other factors	None
If other please describe	

Geographical impact

All Hampshire

Have you identified any medium or high impact?*

Yes

No

Why do you consider that your project/proposal will have low or no impact?

The proposal that has been made will have a low impact for the Adult Services Grant Programme, as all applications which were agreed in the 2015-16 round will either:

- Have the opportunity to apply for funding through the Valuing Hampshire Communities fund established in April 2016;
- Will have the opportunity to apply in two further Adult Services grant rounds in 2016-17;
- Have the opportunity to apply for funding through the Solent Community Grant Programme, to support any work

they undertake to help individuals to move closer or into employment.

- Have identified, or have been directed towards, alternative sources of funding.

The establishment in April 2016 of the small grants pot, named Valuing Hampshire Communities, and administered by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation, has increased the visibility to voluntary sector organisations who have not previously applied for a grant from Adult Services, whilst still enabling organisations who have applied in previous years to apply. In administering the grant pot Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation will also provide support to organisations who are unsuccessful with their application, including sign-posting to alternative sources of funding. The Solent Community Grant Programme will also provide another opportunity for organisations to be awarded funds, to support in any work they undertake to help individuals to move closer or into employment. Adult services plan to hold further grant rounds in 2016-17, that will provide further opportunity for projects to be awarded funding.

The organisations recommended for funding provide services across the whole of the county, or specifically provide access to mainstream services for marginalised groups identified in the Equality Act 2010. This funding should have a positive impact on older people and people with disabilities, developing and improving activities and projects in local communities, promoting choice and community engagement and reducing social exclusion, isolation and loneliness.

Final decision date

Final decision date due
Decision to be made by

21 Sep 2016
Executive Member