

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee:	Culture and Communities Select Committee
Date:	19 January 2015
Title:	Grants Review 2015 – Task and Finish Group
Decision Reference:	6405
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to request that a Task and Finish Group of the Culture and Communities Select Committee is set up to work with officers on a review of the Culture, Communities and Business Services (CCBS) Grants during 2015.
- 1.2. This report sets out the background and explains why a further review of the Grants scheme managed by CCBS is needed for the department to manage the likely budget reduction of the grant funding for the period 2015 to 2020.

2. Background

- 2.1. For many years the County Council has operated a grants scheme for cultural, community and recreational organisations across Hampshire. During 2011/12 there was a major review of the grants to cultural, recreational and community organisations and the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation approved the current scheme of five grant streams on [14 May 2012](#)¹.
- 2.2. There are four Revenue grant streams and one Capital fund (details in Appendix 1). The budget for the 2015/16 revenue grants will be £1,140,000, a reduction of 10% on top of the 2% reduction made in 2014/15. It is now known that the County Council needs to reduce its budget by a further £98m

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http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemsummary.htm?sta=&ref=Y&item_ID=3823&tab=1&co=&confidential=

by April 2017. This is likely to mean a further reduction in the grants budget of £159,600, 14% by April 2017, with the likelihood of further budget reduction of the same magnitude by 2020. It is felt that the best way to plan for these reductions is to undertake an in-depth review of the grants again in 2015.

3. Task and Finish Group

- 3.1. It is suggested that a small Task and Finish Group is set up by the Culture and Communities Select Committee to work with officers to develop recommendations for the Executive Member Culture, Communities and Recreation. The Group would need to be proportionately constituted and its proposed Terms of Reference are set out in Appendix 2.
- 3.2. The purpose of the review is;
 - a) to re-assess the options for the use of financial contributions to support the delivery of cultural and community services in the future taking into account the 14% reduction in the grant budget by 2017 and planning for the same reduction again in the grant budget by 2020.
 - b) for the Select Committee to make recommendations regarding the way forward to the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside in autumn 2015.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1. That the Culture and Communities Select Committee set up a Task and Finish Group with the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix 2.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement Plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement Plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement Plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Consultation on Financial Support to Cultural and Community Organisations	2996	08/07/2011
Review Panel – Future of Financial Support to Cultural and Community Organisations	3414	02/11/2011
Financial Support to Cultural and Community Organisations	3096	20/01/2012
New Grant Schemes for Cultural and Community Organisations in Hampshire (Select Committee)	3867	26/04/2012
New Grant Schemes for Cultural and Community Organisations in Hampshire	3823	14/05/2012
Grant Funding for Culture and Community Organisations in Hampshire 2013/14	4453	20/11/2012
Grant Funding for Cultural, Community and Recreational Organisations in Hampshire (SC)	5380	21/11/2013
Grant Funding for Culture and Community Organisations in Hampshire 2014/2015	5394	04/12/2013
Proposed changes to the Culture, Community and Recreation Grants 2015/16 (SC)	6066	02/09/2014
Proposed changes to the Culture, Community and Recreation Grants 2015/16	6070	16/09/2014
Grant Funding for Culture and Community Organisations in Hampshire 2015/2016 (SC)	6278	20/11/2014
Grant Funding for Culture and Community Organisations in Hampshire 2015/2016	6260	04/12/2014
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

- 1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
 - Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- 1.2. The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- 1.3. Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- 1.4. Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.5. An equalities impact assessment was carried as part of the 2011 review of grant funding support to cultural and community organisations. This was updated in July 2014 as part of the consideration of grants for 2014-16. A further equalities impact assessment will be carried out as part of the work of the Task and Finish Group and development of any proposed changes to the grant funding schemes.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. The County Council has a legal obligation under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all the decisions it makes on the prevention of crime. The proposals in this report have no impact on the prevention of crime

3. Climate Change:

- 3.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? Not applicable.
- 3.2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient in its longer-term impacts? Not applicable.

Culture Community and Recreation Grant streams (2012/13 to 2015/16)

Culture and Recreation Investment Fund

This provides investment in the major strategic cultural and recreational organisations in Hampshire. Decisions are only made once a year for applications to this grant stream. The Investment Fund grants have been reduced by 3% to almost every organisation in 2015/16.

Community Investment Fund

This provides support for not-for-profit community based organisations. Decisions are also only made one a year for application to this grant stream. The Investment Fund grants have been reduced by 3% to almost every organisation in 2015/16.

Culture and Community Activity Fund

This provides general support to groups and organisations which encourage and provide opportunities for individuals and communities to participate in community focused cultural and recreational activities. The maximum grant awarded from the Activity Grant has been reduced in 2015/16 from £5,000 to £3,000.

Organisational Change Fund

This fund supports specific, time-limited projects for organisations to achieve efficiencies and reduce on-going dependency on grant funding. Decisions can be made at every Decision Day for applications to this grant stream. The maximum grant awarded from the Organisational Change Fund has been reduced in 2015/16 from £10,000 to £5,000.

Community Buildings Capital Fund

This grant stream supports the small scale refurbishment and improvement of local community buildings that are managed and operated by the voluntary sector. Decisions can be made at every Decision Day for applications to this grant stream.