

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting15th June 2006

1. Title of Item/Report

Voluntary Sector Support Fund Review

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a proposed process for reviewing the Council's Voluntary Sector Core Funding, which currently provided financial support in the region of £400k per annum to eleven of the main voluntary and community sector organisations in the Borough.

The review reflected changes made to the sector including an independent review of the Stockton Voluntary Development Agency (SVDA) and Stockton Residents and Community Groups Association (SRCGA) umbrella organisations which was currently underway. It was anticipated that the independent review of the Stockton Voluntary Development Agency (SVDA) and Stockton Residents and Community Groups Association (SRCGA) umbrella organisations would be finalised and organisational changes implemented by the end of June 2006. Therefore it was proposed to hold a seminar in July to inform Council Members of the final arrangements and to kick start the review of the Voluntary Sector Support Core Funding. This seminar would also include representation from services across the Council to help identify desired outcomes from the voluntary sector which would support key strategies. It would be important to build into the review consultation with the voluntary and community sector as appropriate.

Details of the timetable of the review; which would culminate in a further report to Cabinet in September 2006, were submitted.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approve the proposed process and timetable for the review of the Council's Voluntary Sector Core Funding.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Cabinet meeting on 11th November 2004 agreed indicative allocations for the main voluntary sector organisations through to March 2008. An interim report was submitted to Cabinet on 9th March 2006

outlining changes to the sector, including new governance arrangements and agreeing allocations for 2006/7 subject to compliance by recipients in meeting the Council's 'Code of Practice-Governance'. At that meeting Cabinet also agreed a comprehensive review of the fund later in the year to reflect changes to the sector including an independent review of the Stockton Voluntary Development Agency (SVDA) and Stockton Residents and Community Groups Association (SRCGA) umbrella organisations which is underway.

This report outlines a process to carry out a comprehensive review to culminate in a report to Cabinet in September that will recommend indicative allocations over the next three years.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillors Coleman, Gibson, Leonard and Kirton each declared personal, non-prejudicial interests in respect of their association with various voluntary sector groups in receipt of the funding under review.

Councillor Mrs Cains declared a personal non prejudicial interest in this matter as her husband was an adviser to Stockton District Information and Advice Service.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By no later than midnight on Friday 23rd June 2006

Proper Officer
06 July 2006