

North East Derbyshire District Council

Cabinet

26 October 2016

Funding to Voluntary and Community Organisations – Presentation of Outcomes for 2015/16

Report of Councillor G Baxter MBE Leader & Portfolio Member for Building a Better Council

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- By way of introduction, to provide context to the 15 minute **presentation (Appendix 1)** of outcomes by five voluntary sector organisations, funded by the Council in 2015/16.
- To note any comments from Members to inform future commissioning arrangements.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 At Minute No. 186 (2013/14), Cabinet approved new commissioning and monitoring arrangements following a review of funding to voluntary and community sector organisations, in accordance with the Shaping The Future (“Total Council”) Approach. Last year members received a series of informative presentations from voluntary groups and it was agreed that this process be continued.
- 1.2 In accordance with Service Level Agreement monitoring arrangements, a data collection exercise is supplemented by a requirement for each funding recipient to present their outcomes to Cabinet/Council. This now provides a yearly opportunity for active engagement with (voluntary sector) partners to benefit our communities in accordance with Corporate Aims to “Transform our Organisation”, to “Provide our Customers with Excellent Service” by supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged people and contributing to improving health and wellbeing (“Supporting our Communities to be Healthier, Safer, Cleaner and Greener”).
- 1.3 Investment in these voluntary organisations is now measured in accordance with the Corporate Plan 2015-19 target to assist over 13,000 vulnerable and disadvantaged households year on year. This baseline was established following the presentations and year end monitoring exercise conducted last year. The following table shows the Council’s overall investment and the number of vulnerable and disadvantaged households assisted since the target baseline was set:

Council Investment		Vulnerable and disadvantaged households assisted
2014/15	£131,312	13,565
2015/16	£132,799	18,319

The monitoring exercise has shown an increase in customer demand for these services and the Council can be reassured that its investment is targeting services to people in crisis and when it is needed the most for roughly under £10 per household in 2014/15 to £7 per household last year. The data collected helps to highlight an increase in demand on specific issues, and services from specific communities, enabling the identification of 'hot-spot' areas within the District. Organisations will report on the context of the increase in demand for services at their presentations.

1.4 The Council has recently decided to maintain current levels of funding for 2016/17 in spite of budgetary constraints, in return for the maintenance of current levels of activity by the funded organisations in our District. It is known that neighbouring authorities have made decisions to reduce voluntary sector core funding by at least 10% for 2016/17.

1.5 The following five organisations have been invited to attend separate Cabinet meetings scheduled in accordance with the commissioning cycle:

- North East Derbyshire Citizens' Advice Bureau – 29th June
- Derbyshire Law Centre – 3rd August
- Rural Action Derbyshire – 31st August
- Links CVS – 28th September
- Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre – 26th October

1.6 The presentations will provide an insight of our continued efforts in partnership to keep abreast of emerging issues and targeting appropriate services in accordance with needs in our localities. Members will be invited to ask questions following the presentation.

1.7 The presentation by the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre will also cover its promotional work on a **Welfare Charter (Appendix 2)** and Cabinet will be requested to consider whether the Council will support this.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

2.1 Members are asked to note the content of the presentations and any comments will be collated to inform future commissioning recommendations.

2.2 To ensure that the Council maximises efficiencies and outcomes through commissioning voluntary sector organisations to help us achieve our Corporate Priorities.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

3.1 All monitoring and service developments have equality as a core aim and are subject to the Council's Equality Impact Assessment Framework.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 These presentations aim to provide first-hand accounts from the voluntary sector of services already commissioned by the Council. No alternative options are considered appropriate as the aim of the aforementioned review was to increase transparency and accountability of commissioned services.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

- 5.1.1 There are no financial implications in the current financial year. Any recommendations that may have future financial and risk implications will be considered at a later date in the commissioning cycle.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

- 5.2.1 The monitoring and presentation arrangements form part of a legally binding Service Level Agreements with the Council.
- 5.2.2 All data monitoring information and agreements are stored securely.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

- 5.3.1 There are no human resource implications as a result of this report.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That the presentations be received by Cabinet.
- 6.2 That any comments from Members arising from the presentations be included in future commissioning considerations.
- 6.3 That Cabinet consider whether it wishes to support the Welfare Charter as presented by Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre.

7 Decision Information

Is the decision a Key Decision? (A Key Decision is an executive decision which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Affected	All
Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework	Providing our Customers with Excellent Service – supporting vulnerable and disadvantage people; Supporting our Communities to be healthier, safer, cleaner and greener – contributing to improving health and wellbeing; Transforming our organisation – actively engaging with partners to benefit our communities

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
Report Author	Contact Number
Steve Lee/Dawn Raybould, Partnerships Team	217512/217618

Partnerships Team/Shaping the Future/Grants to Voluntary Sector/Monitoring 2015-16/Draft Cabinet and Council Report – Presentations by Voluntary Organisations 2015-16