

Cabinet – 1 March 2006

Funding to voluntary organisations 2006/2007

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Portfolio | Councillor Zahid – Communities and Partnerships |
| Service Area | Social Care & Inclusion |
| Wards | All areas of the Borough benefit from the services provided by grant-aided organisations. |
| Forward Plan | Yes |

Summary of report

This report provides outline details of applications received for Council financial support, sets out criteria for the allocation of available funds developed in discussions with the portfolio holder, and seeks Cabinet's endorsement of those criteria and Cabinet's decision on the allocation of funds as set out in paragraph 4 of this report.

Recommendations

- (1) Note the contents of this report including the 54 applications for Council financial support in 2006/07 received from local community and voluntary organisations, listed in paragraph 2.1 of the report
- (2) To endorse the criteria set out in paragraph 3 of this report as a means of determining the allocation of available funds.
- (3) In accordance with these criteria, to approve the allocation of funds to the 28 organisations as set out in paragraph 4, and in the sums stated there
- (4) Confirm that all awards greater than £500 will only be released following finalisation of an agreed Service Level Agreement (SLA) setting out how the council's financial support will be spent, and allowing access by the Council's internal audit service.
- (5) Carry forward those performance management procedures for the year ahead with SLA's and performance targets directed towards the achievement of the Council's vision and strategic objectives
- (6) Note that the present application and allocation process will be reviewed and revised for 2007-08, based on both the outcomes from the current on-going review by the Community Organisation, Leisure & Culture Scrutiny & Performance Panel, and the forthcoming Local Area Agreement

Resource and legal considerations

The budget approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 8 February, and to be recommended to Council on 6 March for adoption includes £441,528 set aside for financial assistance to voluntary and community organisations, as one element of the council's support for the third sector.

The council continues to keep under review its approach to providing support – in cash or in kind – to community and voluntary organisations. This particular funding arrangement is currently subject of scrutiny by the Community Organisation, Leisure & Culture Scrutiny & Performance Panel, with an expectation that the panel will make recommendations for the revision of the process for 2007-08. Also, there may well be opportunities to link the process to related work within the 'safer and stronger' pillar of the new Local Area Agreement. This means the application process, which has been refined for the current year, is likely to change further in future, and therefore, in the expectation of further change, consideration of the present applications has been taken in this context, so as to build new capacity in the third sector whilst not seeking to increase dependence on this funding stream. Financial assistance awarded this year to a particular organisation does not mean that equivalent support will be awarded to that organisation in future years.

As in 2005/06, it is recommended that all successful applicants receiving more than £500 in 2005/06 are required to agree a service level agreement (SLA) with the Council. As in the current year, such SLAs will be monitored closely to ensure that spending aligns with the application and award, and with the Council's vision and priorities. Service Level Agreements for the year ahead should include specific performance targets relating to business planning towards the longer term sustainability and continued development of the organisations concerned. Applicants receiving £500 or less will continue to be required to abide by the Council's conditions of grant aid, which include matters relating to financial monitoring, and to ensure that their funding award is utilised in an appropriate manner. This includes right of access by the Council's internal audit service.

Under Section 2 of part 1 of the Local Government Act 2000, regarding the promotion of well being, the Council may incur expenditure, which in its opinion, is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, its area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants.

Citizen impact

The community and voluntary organisations which have applied for Council financial assistance are locally based, either within the Borough, or within the broader metropolitan area, but in all cases providing services to the local community. Organisations were required this year to indicate which of the vision priorities their application would support.

Community safety

A number of applications relate to community safety issues, in whole or in part.

Environmental impact

The conditions of grant aid require that organisations adhere to appropriate health and safety regulations. Organisations have been required this year to indicate which of the vision priorities their application would support, including themes relating to environmental and economic issues.

Performance and risk management issues

Steps have been taken in the current year to ensure that those organisations awarded grant assistance have effective Service Level Agreements with the Council which include reference to the council's vision and strategic priorities, and include clear performance outcomes, which have then been monitored on a regular basis, including quarterly monitoring meetings. No organisation that has been awarded more than £500 has received payment without an agreed SLA.

Brief details relating to the present performance targets of these voluntary organisations, and a position statement as to the achievement by those organisations of their targets, bearing in mind that the year has just under a month still to run are available to Members in the three political group rooms. Cabinet should note that, in all cases, there is evidence that organisations have operated mindful of their SLA and targets, and have achieved, or will achieve those targets by the year end.

As in previous years, Internal Audit has maintained an overview of organisations in receipt of council financial support.

Also, the application process for 2006/07 included specific questions relating to the council vision and strategic priorities, and to proposed performance outcomes. In respect of funding allocated by Cabinet through this particular funding process, as in 2005-06, all successful applicants will be required to work with council officers on both the development of an SLA and throughout the year ahead, to ensure maximum alignment between the organisation and the council's strategic objectives.

It is anticipated that improvements to the process for the current year will be built upon in the coming year as the broader review of the Council's support for community and voluntary groups and organisations is pursued further and taking into account the views and recommendations of the Community Organisation, Leisure and Culture Scrutiny and Performance Panel which is currently reviewing this grant application process generally.

Equality implications

Some of the organisations listed in this report deal specifically with issues of equal opportunity. The grant conditions require that all organisations receiving grant aid should operate an equal opportunity policy. The council receives applications from a wide range of organisations, both large and very small, borough wide and more locally based, new and old, those funded for a number of years already and those previously not funded by the council. It is important that the allocation of funds is undertaken in a way which is fair to all applicants, and which reflects the council's commitment to the principles of equality and diversity.

Consultation

The council has regular dialogue with the community and voluntary sector, including work to develop the Local Compact which includes issues relating to funding. The council, working with the borough strategic partnership, the Community Empowerment Network and Walsall Voluntary Action, participated in the conference 'Realising our Vision' in January 2005 and is working with partners on the key outcomes from that event. Also, as noted above, the application process is currently being reviewed by the Community Organisation, Leisure & Culture Scrutiny & Performance Panel. It was intended that the criteria set out in this report to assist in the allocation of resources would have been discussed with the Scrutiny & Performance Panel at a meeting in February, but because of other pressures on the Panel's time, this meeting was deferred.

Vision 2008

The present application process requires all applicants for council funding support to indicate how their application supports the council's vision and its strategic priorities. For applicants awarded £500 or more, this will be addressed in more detail in Service Level Agreements drawn up between the council and those organisations.

Background papers

Application pack

Application forms received from the organisations and projects listed in the report

Contact officers

John Pryce-Jones, Principal Policy Officer (ext. 2077)
pryce-jonesj@walsall.gov.uk

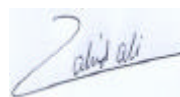
Ruth Allen, Policy Officer (ext 2029)
Allenr@walsall.gov.uk



Signed

Executive Director DAVID MARTIN

Date: 20 February 2006



Signed

Portfolio Holder COUNCILLOR ZAHID ALI

Date: 20 February 2006

1. The Application Process and SLA's

- 1.1 The Council operates an annual application process, with a single application form. Currently this is managed centrally by the Policy Unit, which liaises as appropriate with other services. As in previous years, potential applicants were made aware of and asked to consider the Council's financial position when preparing their application. Applicants were provided with details of other sources of national and local funding. As usual, all applicants seeking £500 or more were asked to provide details of their balances, as at 30 November 2005, to help determine levels of financial assistance. The application process was launched in October 2005, with a deadline of 25 November. Applications could be made via the council website, and a number were received by this route.
- 1.2 SLAs exist between the Council and those voluntary organisations which have received funding of more than £500 in the current year. This can assist financial planning by providing a framework for any changes in the level of grant aid. SLAs make clear that payment of grant should be quarterly or half-yearly in advance, during the year in question, and following detailed monitoring meetings reflective of annual targets. Although SLAs are based on a rolling three year basis, they are renewed annually, and make clear that continued funding is subject to the council's financial situation and to resources being available.
- 1.3 Cabinet will want to ensure that financial awards made are based on how well organisations align service provision with clear criteria and with the Council's vision. Successful applicants for 2006/07 will be required to work with officers to ensure this alignment prior to funds being released.
- 1.4 In some previous years, there has been a tendency for broadly the same organisations to be awarded funding each year, with very few additional organisations receiving funding. In making decisions on the allocation of funding, Cabinet will wish to ensure that decisions made reflect the council's commitment to the principles of equality and diversity, and therefore, in determining its allocations, Cabinet is recommended to award funding in a way which opens the allocation process to a broader range of organisations, so as to build new capacity within the community and voluntary sector. The set of criteria set out in paragraph 3 provides Cabinet with a clear framework for decisions on the various applications, so as to achieve this goal.

2. Applications Received

- 2.1 Table 1 summarises applications received, the level of assistance provided from this source only in 2005/06 (where applicable), the sum currently sought, and the applicants' declared uncommitted balances (if any), as at 30th November 2005.

| Organisation | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | Uncommitted |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | Allocation | Application | Balances |
| 425 (Aldridge) Squadron Air Training Corps | N/A | 4,500 | 6,789 |
| Aaina Asian Women's Group | N/A | 19,000 | 36,172 |
| AAOM | N/A | 2,000,000 | NR |
| ACSERG | 15,046 | 29,875 | 31,528 |
| Age Concern Walsall | N/A | 40,380 | 62,255 |
| Aldridge Manor House Youth & Community Association | N/A | Not stated | NR |

| | | | |
|---|---------|------------------|------------------|
| Autism West Midlands | N/A | 3,958 | NIL |
| Birmingham Boys & Girls Union | N/A | 5,000 | 322,795 |
| Black Country African Refugee Support Group | N/A | 14,944 | 6,437 |
| Comex Walsall Ltd | N/A | 11,396 | 24,150 |
| Community Care Entertainments | 950 | 4,000 | 17,664 |
| Cosmopolitan Family Restoration Services | N/A | 5,060 | 291 |
| Crisis Point | N/A | 13,874 | 72,948 |
| Dangerfield 50s Plus Club | N/A | 500 | 1,072 |
| Dartmouth Neighbourhood Forum | N/A | 4,500 | 32,376 |
| The Destiny Project | N/A | 12,560 | 6,388 |
| Fairtrade Steering Group | N/A | 500 | NIL |
| First Base Walsall | 17,817 | 43,090 | 1,131 |
| Goscote Valley Community Resource Centre | N/A | 3,170 | 1,400 |
| Home-Start Walsall | N/A | 6,000 | NIL |
| House on the Corner Community Project | 2,598 | 12,150 | 1,076 |
| Khushi Women's Group | N/A | 500 | NIL |
| NCH | N/A | 50,000 | No sep. accts |
| Open Door Project at St Chad's Church | N/A | 2,500 | 11,423 |
| Pelsall Physically Handicapped Persons Organisation | 1,894 | 1,970 | 1,007 |
| Pheasey Welfare & Handicapped Society | 200 | 200 | <500 |
| Phoenix Day Centre (received after deadline) | N/A | 5,000 | 4,510 |
| Regimental Association The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales') Walsall & Bloxwich Branch | 204 | 300 | <500 |
| Relate Walsall | 17,190 | 26,050 | NIL |
| Scallywags Kids Group | N/A | 500 | NR |
| Shelter | 306 | 450 | <500 |
| The Streetly Association Ltd | N/A | 15,000 | 72,244 |
| The Streetly Disabled & Senior Citizens Association | N/A | 2,050 | 2,893 |
| TORA UK | N/A | 36,838 | 1,396 |
| Unicorn Club Bloxwich | 204 | 400 | <500 |
| Union of Muslim Organisations - Walsall | N/A | 13,156 | 315 |
| Walsall Bangladeshi Progressive Society | N/A | 8,000 | 32,783 |
| Walsall Black Sisters Collective | N/A | 20,000 | 429 |
| Walsall CAB | 319,108 | 328,681 | NIL (*see below) |
| Walsall Civic Society 2005 | N/A | 1,440 | 540 |
| Walsall Co-op Bereavement Group | N/A | 5,000 | 394 |
| Walsall Deaf People's Centre | 16,402 | 34,888 | 120,174 |
| Walsall DIAL | 9,095 | 24,000 | 9,000 |
| Walsall Ethnic Business Association | N/A | 35,520 | 6,599 |
| Walsall Foster Carers Association | N/A | 5,000 | 14,319 |
| Walsall Independent Broadcasting Ltd | N/A | 34,281 | NIL |
| Walsall Mediation Service | 928 | 7,000 | 5,665 |
| Walsall Street Teams | N/A | 8,000 | NIL |
| Walsall Victim Support | 3,885 | 7,080 | No sep. accts |
| Walsall Voluntary Action | 76,412 | 244,113 | NIL |
| Walsall Youth Arts | N/A | 499 | <500 |
| Wiley Avenue South Peoples Group | N/A | 20,000 | 3,198 |
| Witness Service Walsall/Aldridge Magistrates' Courts | 2,000 | 2,000 | No sep. accts |
| WPH Counselling & Education Services | N/A | 16,669 | 20,434 |
| TOTAL | | 3,191,542 | |
| <500 No balances form required as grant sought is less than £500 | | | |
| NR Balances form not received | | | |
| * Walsall CAB's SLA with the council permits it to maintain a reasonable working reserve of funds, these are not reflected in the organisation's declared uncommitted balances, shown here. | | | |

- 2.2 Set out as Appendix 1 are brief details relating to each application, taken from the application form, including in each case an outline of the organisation and details of the purpose of the financial support that is sought from the Council. The application forms and any supplementary information submitted by each applicant are available for Members' reference, from the Policy Unit.

3. Criteria for allocation of resources

| | |
|-----|--|
| 3.1 | The budget approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 8 February, to be recommended to Council on 6 March for adoption includes £441,528 set aside for financial assistance to voluntary and community organisations, as one element of the council's support for the third sector. Applications total £3,191,542, a sum which includes one application from a new organisation for £2 million. In determining the allocation of available funds, the council must ensure that decisions are taken mindful of our vision, of our commitment to the principles of equality and diversity, and have been taken objectively, based on sound reasons. |
| 3.2 | Accordingly, in discussion with the portfolio holder, the following criteria have been discussed and agreed as a framework, this year, for the allocation of resources. These criteria which are set out below are of two kinds, those which relate to the strict application of the process as set out for applicants, and those which are driven by a combination of council policy priorities, equity, sound financial management, and the availability of resources, and mindful of the fact that the present process is one which has existed now for many years, and which currently supports a number of organisations, both large and very small. |
| 3.3 | <p>Set out below are technical criteria based on the application process itself. These include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that applications received <u>after the deadline</u> of November 25th should not be funded • that applications which are <u>incomplete</u> should not be funded. In this regard, Cabinet should note that, where necessary, officers have sought clarification and additional details from organisations immediately after the deadline, and that those applicants whose applications remain incomplete have had the opportunity to provide the information concerned. • that organisations seeking £500 or more, who have provided details of their <u>uncommitted balances</u>, should have those applications reduced in line with those balances. As in previous years, possible (maximum) grant awards have been reduced by 50% of the declared uncommitted balances in each case, where such balances exist. For some applicants this reduces their maximum award to zero. |
| 3.4 | <p>Secondly, set out below are policy driven criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that applications should support the council's <u>vision, priorities and pledges</u> for the year ahead |

| | |
|-----|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> particularly for organisations seeking support towards on-going running costs, the <u>sustainability</u> of those organisations in the longer term; Cabinet may wish to give close attention to new applications seeking assistance towards running costs, and to consider whether the funding of running costs to such applicants may be inappropriate at this time, when funding is limited, and the council may, through the forthcoming scrutiny recommendations or possibly through changes linked to the Local Area Agreement, be revising its approach in this respect. the availability of <u>other funding</u> streams, through partnership processes, and through the National Lottery and other such sources; Cabinet may wish to encourage organisations to work with Council officers in the external funding team and elsewhere on such matters the extent to which organisations receive <u>other support</u> from the council including support with premises, utilities costs, or through other forms of financial assistance. the council's commitment to <u>equality and diversity</u>, whereby the allocation of available funds should be fair to organisations that have been funded in the current year and to other organisations, including new applicants and should reflect the whole borough, including its local areas |
| 3.5 | <p>Thirdly, and in the context of the criteria set out above, Cabinet may wish to consider the following in respect of applications from <u>organisations that have received council funding in 2005-06</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the extent to which the award of funding to organisations for 2006-07 should reflect funding awarded to organisations in the current year whether a maximum level should be placed upon organisations funded in the current year, also reflecting declared uncommitted balances for organisations that have received more than £500 in 2005-06, their achievement against performance targets within their current SLAs. |
| 3.6 | <p>However, the recommendations for funding set out in this report, based on the criteria set out in this paragraph, seek deliberately to achieve a <u>balance</u> between the needs of new applicants and those of existing funded organisations. In reaching the conclusions on recommended allocations set out in paragraph 4 below, decisions have been taken not to prioritise new applications which focus primarily on running costs, particularly where those applications seek significant sums from the council budget for running costs, and to focus on those new applications where the maximum award after balances are taken into account would be £7,500. This approach enables the council to provide funding for 13 new organisations, on the basis of an award to each such applicant organisation of two-thirds of that maximum award, and based on a 10% reduction in funding to organisations supported this year, mindful that they include organisations providing key services to the borough as a whole.</p> |

| | |
|----------|---|
| 3.7 | In conclusion, Cabinet is recommended to endorse the set of criteria set out above as the basis for the allocation of funding to a broad range of organisations, including 15 existing recipients of funding and 13 new recipient organisations, for the year 2006-07. |
| 4 | Recommended allocations of funding |
| 4.1 | <p>Based upon the set of criteria set out in paragraph 3 above, and in discussion with the portfolio holder, Cabinet is recommended to allocate funding for the year 2006-07 in a way which seeks to develop capacity and activity in the sector, and reflects the criteria, allocating the available budget to 15 existing funded organisations, and to 13 new organisations, as set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 425 (Aldridge Squadron) ATC 730 • Aaina Asian Women's Group 600 • ACSERG 12,705 • Autism West Midlands 2,630 • Cosmopolitan Family Restoration Services 3,270 • Fair-trade Steering Group 330 • First Base Walsall 16,035 • Goscote Valley Community RC 1,640 • Home Start Walsall 4,000 • House on the Corner Project 2,330 • Khushi Women's Group 330 • Pelsall Physically Handicapped 1,310 • Pheasey Welfare and Handicapped 180 • Regimental Association 180 • Relate Walsall 15,475 • Shelter West Midlands 270 • Streetly Disabled and Senior Citizens 400 • Unicorn Club, Bloxwich 180 • Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau 287,290 • Walsall Civic Society 780 • Walsall Cooperative Bereavement Group 3,130 • Walsall DIAL 8,185 • Walsall Mediation Service 830 • Walsall Victim Support 3,490 • Walsall Voluntary Action 68,795 • Walsall Youth Arts 330 • Witness Service 1,800 • WPH Counselling and Education 4,303 • TOTAL 441,528 |
| 4.2 | As noted elsewhere in this report, no funding will be paid without formal agreement between the organisation concerned and the council (excluding those receiving £500 or less), including agreement on performance outcomes and targets to be monitored by the Policy Unit through the year. |

| | |
|-----|---|
| 5. | Risk Management Issues |
| 5.1 | The application process, including the requirement for organisations to provide full details relating to their organisation and bid, the Council's conditions for grant aid, and the monitoring undertaken by services and by Internal Audit, provide an effective means of managing possible risk. |

Brief summary of requests for funding 2006/2007

| | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | <p>425 (Aldridge) Squadron Air Training Corps – requested £4,500</p> <p>To replace old and vandalised minibus, minibus to be used to enable cadets to participate in a wider range of activities.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Aaina Asian Women's Group – requested £19,000</p> <p>To upgrade computer suite for an organisation which provides support for Asian women and their children in particular aiding access to services, and developing skills.</p> |
| 3 | <p>AAOM (Anti Abuse of Minorities) – requested £2,000,000</p> <p>The organisation is an independent investigation and prosecution service, focussing on institutionalised racism and addressing the abuse of minorities.</p> |
| 4 | <p>ACSERG – requested £29,875</p> <p>To continue to support running costs (rent, utilities, staffing costs) of organisation working with African/Caribbean community in the borough. In particular work on education and training, health and social welfare.</p> |
| 5 | <p>Age Concern Walsall – requested £40,380</p> <p>To provide funding for a service development manager of an organisation which works borough wide supporting elderly people.</p> |
| 6 | <p>Aldridge Manor House Youth and Community Association – no sum specified</p> <p>To provide funding for the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer upgrade • Recruit staff for weekly events • Recruit staff for holiday play schemes • Recruit IT Tutor • To fund training for staff and volunteers • To replace carpets in annexe • To install CCTV to cover outdoor facilities • To recruit staff for weekly film club |
| 7 | <p>Autism West Midlands – requested £3,958</p> <p>To fund course of practical sessions for parents/family members of children with autistic spectrum disorders.</p> |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 8 | <p>Birmingham Boys and Girls Union - requested £5,000</p> <p>To contribute towards running costs of Woodland Camp which provides educational and leisure activities for disadvantaged and needy children.</p> |
| 9 | <p>Black Country African Refuge Support Group – requested £14,944</p> <p>To contribute towards running costs of organisation which supports refugees and their families by providing English and ICT courses, advice and information.</p> |
| 10 | <p>Comex Walsall Limited – requested £11,396</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of project at Glebe Centre, Wednesbury Road, Caldmore which provides support, advice, counselling, practical help and recreational activities for homeless people. In particular to extend opening hours at weekend and in the evenings.</p> |
| 11 | <p>Community Care Entertainments – requested £4,000</p> <p>Based in Ryecroft, the organisation provides activities including trips, and events for elderly and isolated residents from across the Borough. The application relates to provision of Christmas meal.</p> |
| 12 | <p>Cosmopolitan Family Restoration Services – requested £5,060</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of organisation which organises cultural and educational activities for members of the Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities.</p> |
| 13 | <p>Crisis Point – requested £13,874</p> <p>To pay running costs utilities, staff costs, equipment costs and line management costs of project to provide support/counselling to victims of rape/sexual abuse, with particular emphasis on work with children and young people.</p> |
| 14 | <p>Dangerfield 50s Plus Club – requested £500</p> <p>To part fund costs for project arranging social activities for elderly residents in Darlaston.</p> |
| 15 | <p>Dartmouth Neighbourhood Forum – requested £4,500</p> <p>To contribute towards costs of social activities for elderly, sick and disabled residents at 'The Cottage' Ryecroft in particular a bingo machine refreshments and transport costs.</p> |
| 16 | <p>The Destiny Project – requested £12,560</p> <p>To contribute towards running costs of organisation which works with residents with alcohol problems and their families.</p> |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 17 | <p>Fairtrade Steering Group – requested £500</p> <p>To contribute towards running costs of organisation which aims to make Walsall a Fairtrade town by 2007.</p> |
| 18 | <p>First Base Walsall – requested £43,090</p> <p>Based at the Small Street Centre, Caldmore, the application is to provide funding for an organisation which provides support for vulnerable young people (16-25) in need of housing. The project principally serves St. Matthews's, Palfrey and Pleck wards, but provides access to its services Borough wide.</p> |
| 19 | <p>Goscote Valley Community Resource Centre – requested £3,170</p> <p>To provide funds for the replacement of vandalised a front door and windows for community centre which provides training, social and fitness opportunities for local people.</p> |
| 20 | <p>Home Start Walsall – requested £6,000</p> <p>To contribute to running costs (salary of admin worker) of project which provides support to parents in Walsall who are experiencing difficulty or stress.</p> |
| 21 | <p>House on the Corner Community Project – requested £12,150</p> <p>To fund and train volunteers at centre based in South Bentley, providing support for vulnerable people (counselling, self-help groups, parenting classes, social activities, educational support (health matters)).</p> |
| 22 | <p>Khushi Womens Group – requested £500</p> <p>To fund 'over 50's health awareness' run by an organisation which provides group sport and educational activities for Asian women.</p> |
| 23 | <p>NCH – Buddy Scheme – requested £50,000</p> <p>To fund scheme being developed by a national children's charity to provide individual support to vulnerable children who are experiencing developmental delay.</p> |
| 24 | <p>Open Door Project at St Chads Church – requested £2,500</p> <p>To fund project based at a church in Edison Road, Beechdale to work with young people particularly those excluded or partially excluded from school.</p> |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 25 | <p>Pelsall Physically Handicapped Association (group holiday for the disabled) – requested £1,970</p> <p>To pay costs of providing special vehicles/drivers and support to enable people with a disability and their carers to participate in organised holidays.</p> |
| 26 | <p>Pheasey Welfare & Handicapped Society – requested £200</p> <p>To contribute towards running costs of club which provides lunchtime meals and activities for elderly people and people with a disability.</p> |
| 27 | <p>Phoenix Day Centre – requested £5,000</p> <p>(received after stated deadline for application)</p> <p>To contribute towards running costs of centre based in Little Bloxwich which provides craft and social activities for adults with a physical disability.</p> |
| 28 | <p>Regimental Association The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales') Walsall and Bloxwich Branch – requested £300</p> <p>To contribute to costs of organisation which supports ex-servicemen and their families.</p> |
| 29 | <p>Relate Walsall - requested £26,050</p> <p>To make a contribution towards running costs of centre, which provides relationship counselling, education and training, borough wide, from premises in Walsall town centre.</p> |
| 30 | <p>Scallywags Kids Group - requested £500</p> <p>To provide funds to purchase toys, television and video for a breakfast and after school club based at Pinfold JMI school.</p> |
| 31 | <p>Shelter (West Midlands Housing Aid Centre) – requested £450</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of the centre based in Birmingham City Centre which provides advice and assistance to homeless and badly housed people in the Borough, and elsewhere in the region.</p> |
| 32 | <p>Streetly Association (New roof on Sports Hall) – requested £15,000</p> <p>To contribute to costs of a new roof for the sports hall.</p> |
| 33 | <p>The Streetly Disabled & Senior Citizens Association – requested £2,050</p> <p>To contribute to costs of (coach hire) providing social activities including a Christmas lunch.</p> |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 34 | <p>Trelawny Overseas Relief Association (UK) TORA Advice Project – requested £36,838</p> <p>To contribute to running costs, including salaries for an organisation based in Caldmore providing advice and guidance on a variety of matters (including immigration, benefit, training, health and housing).</p> |
| 35 | <p>Unicorn Club, Bloxwich – requested £400</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of club which enables disabled and non disabled people to socialise together.</p> |
| 36 | <p>Union of Muslim Organisations – requested £13,149</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of organisation which provides advice and support to Muslim residents of Walsall.</p> |
| 37 | <p>Walsall Bangladeshi Progressive Society – requested £8,000</p> <p>To contribute to running costs (rent, heating, insurance etc) of organisation which provides, advice, social and training activities for the Bangladeshi Community in Pleck, Palfrey, Alumwell and Darlaston Areas.</p> |
| 38 | <p>Walsall Black Sisters Collective – requested £20,000</p> <p>To contribute towards the running costs (salaries of manager, finance officer and project co-ordinator) of project which provides support and activities for black women in Walsall, including after school club, elderly day care, and mental health support.</p> |
| 39 | <p>Walsall CAB (core grant) – requested £328,681</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of organisation, providing advice across the borough on rights, benefits, social and emotional problems.</p> |
| 40 | <p>Walsall Civic Society 2005 – requested £1,440</p> <p>To provide start up costs for organisation which aims to promote pride in and awareness of the all aspects of Walsall, geography, history, natural history and architecture.</p> |
| 41 | <p>Walsall Co-op Bereavement Group – requested £5,000</p> <p>To provide funding for a short holiday for local people who have suffered a bereavement and need financial or other support to enable them to have a holiday, and transport costs to enable the same people to participate in social activities.</p> |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 42 | <p>Walsall Deaf People's Centre (Communication Support and Access for Deaf People) – requested £34,888</p> <p>To fund a full time BSL interpreter based at the Centre in Lichfield Street to provide local residents with quick and easy access to interpreting services.</p> |
| 43 | <p>Walsall DIAL (Disability Centre) – requested £24,000</p> <p>To contribute to running costs (staffing, utilities costs) of organisation based at premises in Lichfield Street, Walsall, which provides a specialist one stop shop for people with short and long term disabilities.</p> |
| 44 | <p>Walsall Ethnic Business Association – requested £35,520</p> <p>To fund recruitment of part-time development worker to extend the work of an organisation which supports the local ethnic minority in establishing and developing their businesses.</p> |
| 45 | <p>Walsall Foster Carers Association (Support mechanisms) – requested £5,000</p> <p>To contribute to drop in centre/crèche organisation for foster carers in Walsall to improve support/information exchange for foster carers.</p> |
| 46 | <p>Walsall Independent Broadcasting Limited – requested £34,281</p> <p>To provide funding for a local radio station targeted at involving hard to reach groups and providing entertainment and information.</p> |
| 47 | <p>Walsall Mediation Service – requested £7,000</p> <p>To contribute to running costs (rent, utilities, staffing costs) of organisation based in Lichfield Street, Walsall, which works borough wide to provide a peaceful resolution of disputes between Walsall residents.</p> |
| 48 | <p>Walsall Street Teams – requested £8,000</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of organisation which works with vulnerable children by providing education programmes, workshops and support for children likely to be in danger of being recruited for the sex industry or becoming dependent on drugs.</p> |
| 49 | <p>Walsall Victim Support – requested £7,080</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of organisation which provides support to victims of crime, across the Borough. Walsall Victim Support, which is part of Victim Support West Midlands, is based in Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.</p> |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 50 | <p>Walsall Voluntary Action (formerly Walsall Council for Voluntary Service) – requested £244,113</p> <p>To contribute towards running costs of umbrella organisation which provides information and support to local voluntary and community groups.</p> |
| 51 | <p>Walsall Youth Arts – requested £499</p> <p>To contribute to running costs of organisation which works with vulnerable young people using drama, music and art develop confidence and skills.</p> |
| 52 | <p>Wiley Avenue South Peoples Group – requested £20,000</p> <p>To fund extension to a community room (building owned by Walsall Housing Trust) which is used residents group for social activities.</p> |
| 53 | <p>Witness Service Walsall – requested £2,000</p> <p>To provide funds for volunteer training and expenses for organisation which provides emotional support and practical advice for witnesses attending Walsall and Aldridge Magistrates Courts.</p> |
| 54 | <p>WPH Counselling & Education Service – requested £16,669</p> <p>To contribute to running costs (staffing costs) of organisation providing support/counselling for residents with health/psychiatric needs as well as educational/support programmes.</p> |

Cabinet – 1 March 2006

Funding to Voluntary Organisations 2006/2007

Attached Members will find details of the performance of voluntary organisation currently funded by council grant assistance during the current year 2005-06.

As set out in the report's paragraph on performance and risk management issues, these details have been provided to the three group rooms. They are also available on the CMIS system on the Council website.

Cabinet 1 March 2006 – Item 12

Achievement against agreed outputs (figures in brackets show 2005/2006 grant)

1. ACSERG (£15,046)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council, and works with the African Caribbean community in the Borough with particular emphasis on education, housing, health and social welfare issues. The organisation has met targets relating to advice, dissemination of information and number of participants in cultural/regeneration events.

2. Aldridge/Walsall Magistrates Court Witness Service (£2,000)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. Agreed and achieved outputs relate to providing support for witnesses to crimes. For the period to the end of October 2005, 601 witnesses were provided with support and advice.

3. Community Care Entertainments (£950)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. The agreed output was to provide a Christmas party for 200 Walsall residents from socially deprived areas of Walsall.

A Christmas meal was provided for 200 elderly, disabled and infirm residents at Forest Community Association on 16 December 2005.

4. First Base Walsall (£17,817)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council and provides advice and support to homeless young people. Agreed outputs relate to the monitoring by age, gender and ethnicity of the persons advised and information on other support provided including involvement in educational activities, and a Healthy Eating programme. Monitoring figures have been received for the 9 months to the end of December 2005 and show that targets have been met for all these activities.

5. The House on the Corner Community Project (£2,598)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. The agreed outputs were to monitor the number of clients using the Counsellors' service; monthly statistics have been received for the nine month period until the end of December 2005 showing an increase of 10% in counselling hours from the previous year (from 120 hours to 132 hours per month).

6. Pelsall Physically Handicapped Association (£1,894)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council, and provides support to enable people with disabilities and their carers to go on holiday. Agreed and achieved targets relate information on those participating in holidays and feed back from participants.

7. Relate Walsall (£17,190)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. The agreed output was to provide 650 counselling hours during the year to April, and to date (the first nine months) 571 counselling hours have been provided.

8. Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau (£319,108)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. Agreed and achieved outputs include:

- provision of an open door advice service at 139-144 Lichfield Street
- operation of outreach advice (Aldridge, Beechdale (from September 2005), Bloxwich, Brownhills, Darlaston, Pheasey, Pleck, Willenhall and within Walk-in Centre in Digbeth)
- maintenance of an effective appointment system
- provision of a telephone advice line
- provision of home visiting service
- prompt response to enquiries
- provision of information on a website

The Bureau has dealt with nearly 31,775 clients (up until the end of December 2005) which encompassed nearly 89,420 issues. These totals exceed the agreed yearly targets.

9. Walsall Deaf Peoples Centre (Communication Support £16,402)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council, and provides support to the deaf community in Walsall including help with interpretation and social activities, agreed and achieved targets relate to additional provision of interpreting services, the monitoring and evaluation of the service, and progress towards achieving the CLSP Quality Mark at general help level.

10. Walsall DIAL (£9,095)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. Agreed and achieved outputs include:-

- producing newsletters
- providing facilities for 10 voluntary organisations
- providing facilities for statutory services
- providing training opportunities for people with disabilities

For the nine months until the end of December 2005, 2,753 local people received help from the centre.

11. Walsall Mediation Service (£928)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. Agreed and achieved outputs relate to the analysis of clients assisted by number, gender and ethnicity of clients. In addition, referrals are analysed on a geographical basis. For the period to the end of December 2005, 361 clients received advice.

12. Walsall Victim Support (£3,885)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. Agreed and achieved outputs relate to providing support for victims of crime. Nearly 1,500 people received support by the end of December 2005.

13. Walsall Voluntary Action (formerly Walsall Council for Voluntary Service) (£76,412)

This organisation has a Service Level Agreement with the Council. Agreed and achieved outputs include:

- participation in multi-agency initiatives (WBSP, Regeneration Zone)
- management of Local Compact
- providing support to local organisations through training and advice
- provision of information including bi-monthly mailings to 650 groups
- provision of development support – 153 groups
- provision of funding support – 174 groups

Policy Unit
21 February 2006