

| <i>Organisation: Age UK Hillingdon, Harrow & Brent</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| <p>Support for Age UK is to meet the needs of older people and to reinforce our joint aims on early intervention and prevention, reducing loneliness and enabling people to live well and longer in their own homes.</p> <p>The 2023/24 application is based on three work streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information & Advice, including financial health checks • Social Wellbeing Services • Practical Support <p>Age UK has established a single point of access offering an assessment which identifies goals, agrees action plans and has measurable outcomes. All delivered to Age UK and National Quality Advice standards.</p> | | | | <p>£679,140 for provision of information and advice, befriending schemes and social activity opportunities and the Townfield centre.</p> <p>Note this includes support for the interactive club previously supported under separate grant.</p> | |
| | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £600,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 16,805 | 158 | 12,000+ | Met | £617,400 (Core grant of £582,400 plus £35,000 Interactive club) | £2,215,831 (Expected) |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 include:</i> | | | | | |
| Information and Advice | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first point of contact to assess need and triage requirements based on a more rounded assessment process. Helpline is available daily from 9am to 5pm. • Drop-in surgeries have resumed at Uxbridge, Ruislip and Townfield with high take up since pandemic. • Continuation of the successful financial health checks advice and support. • Housing options including support with applications. • Transport help (accessing Blue/brown badge, Dial a ride, Taxi- card, Freedom pass etc) | | | | | |
| Social Wellbeing Services | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for people to live independent, engaged and meaningful lives. Wellbeing support is closely aligned to services that support hospital discharge. Age UK will provide practical support to ensure that people return home safely from the hospital into a safe, warm, well provisioned and comfortable environment. • Befriending Services will promote independence and create opportunities to engage in physical and social activities and enable people to reconnect which has become very important following the Covid lockdown. This may include links into dementia and digital skills support. • Good neighbours service to provide occasional support in collaboration with falls service I&A, Hospital services • CST (Cognitive Stimulation Therapy) Dementia service works alongside dementia hubs and cafes and support services supporting those with dementia and their carers. | | | | | |

- Age UK will continue to work with voluntary and user led groups to help create more social groups and to help them to become self-sustaining.
- Ageing well groups provide weekly opportunities for communities to come together for social stimulation and companionship.

Practical Support

- Age UKH have expanded the **Help at Home service** including:
 - Shopping
 - Cleaning
 - Escorting to appointments
 - Meal preparation
 - Social contact
 - Dementia sitting to offer carers a break
- Age UK further monitor and develop their database of "trusted traders" vetted by cost, customer service and local reputation.
- Lasting power of attorney /Will writing support

Officer Comment

Age UK has established itself over a number of years and has a strong track record as the key voluntary sector provider of support, guidance and help for older people and their carers in Hillingdon, through the services as listed above. Our monitoring information confirms the breadth of positive services delivering locally.

In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, Age UK have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to:

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. Support for older people, therefore, will be considered for a tendering arrangement in due course, probably effective from April 2024. Meanwhile for 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need - activities of Age UK reflect priority needs identified in the Hillingdon Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and set out in the borough's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Specific priorities are in relation to early intervention and prevention to avoid escalation, promote independent living and to reduce social isolation.

Value for money – at £617,400 in 22/23 the grant to Age UK represents a substantial investment by the Council in local voluntary services. Age UK has demonstrated it can deliver a range of appropriate services to support older people where they need it and to adapt flexibly to emerging challenges as evidenced for example, through pandemic and growth in digital services. A significant challenge is to see that the support delivered demonstrably targets those most in need as well as offering support on a universal basis. The value in supporting Age UK comes from having a key partner agency ready and able to support older people and their families and carers; to assess their full needs and offer appropriate support.

Viable and sustainable – Age UK has demonstrated strong strategic planning, risk management and governance.

Support Council services – Age UK services help residents who may not meet statutory thresholds and provide support to reduce likelihood of requiring formal care and support from the Council.

Lever in external funding – Forecast income in 22/23 represents a broad 3.5:1 return on social investment, wider funding is achieved through projects and work for the NHS and health partners, traded income and external trusts, fundraising and subscriptions.

Explain reserves - 2022 draft accounts show healthy reserves in line with policy and with approx. 4 months worth of operating costs.

Work in collaboration – As a founder member of H4All and with established protocols and working arrangements with other agencies such as CAB, in addition to support for wider voluntary and social groups, Age UK has demonstrated that it works in collaboration with a range of agencies and charities across Hillingdon.

The proposed move to rationalise the Age UK property estate with a move to Woodside has been cancelled. Age UK are looking again at their leases and commitments to see whether alternative options exist which may be supported through access to Council premises or offices.

Given the additional pressures on the Council's budgets it is not recommended that an inflation uplift can be accommodated. It is recognised that this could result in revisions to activities proposed and to KPI's. A grant of £600k, (down from the £617,400 for 22/23) is recommended based on financial assessment that a reduction of this amount should be achievable. This is also subject to sight of satisfactory accounts for 2021/22 demonstrating Age UK's viability and need for continued grant support.

Corporate Finance Comment

DRAFT ACCOUNTS: The charity is requesting a £96,740 increase in grant for 2023/24, compared to the £582,400 awarded in 2022/23. The charity reports a deficit of £140,268 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £527,951 compared to the previous year surplus of £387,683. The LBH grant contributed 21% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £1,328,982. Total reserves decreased by £160,269 from £1,489,251 to £1,328,982 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £1,303,394, a decrease of £101,453 compared to £1,404,847 reported for the prior year.

Age UK Hillingdon Harrow and Brent have supported 16,805 Hillingdon residents in the past year.

CORPORATE GRANTS 2023/24 ADULT SOCIAL CARE

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Organisation: Digital Inclusion - AGEUK HHB/DASH | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| Description A further pilot support service to motivate and inspire those most at risk of being digitally excluded and to help them get online safely through knowledge, skills, provision of technology and one to one support. | | | | £77,000 | |
| | | | | Recommendation: £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 21/22 - 108 | 158 | 12,000+ | Not known yet (mid year) | £70,000 | £2,215,831 |

Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:

- Raise awareness of the benefits of digital engagement with key service user groups, disabled people (and their carers and families) and older people living in Hillingdon.
- Service users who have completed the basic Digital skills courses to participate in more advanced workshops to ensure skills are embedded into daily life.
- Raised awareness of the risks of scams and delivered understanding and strategies to mitigate risk. This will increase user's confidence in being safe online
- Supported service users to access community online services (council and health) to enable access to enable ongoing need to be met
- Improved our online offer to service users and the wider community and identified and shared key strategies for improving online presence accessibility
- Enabled service users to improve their social and wellbeing connections and engagement through a range of digital technologies
- Supported service users in accessing wider Adult Education Service resources through increased knowledge of services and capacity to engage digitally.
- Develop a better understanding of the barriers to accessing digital technologies (literacy, ESOL, etc) and identify any alternatives to enable appropriate access to services. Provide feedback to organisations locally on learning.
- Work with and provide feedback to a range of agencies/ statutory services across the borough of Hillingdon to evaluate and improve digital / online services for the residents of the borough. (LBH council site, Hospital, CAB and GP sites etc.)
- Ensure that Digital resources become an integral part of our services and projects that we deliver (CST, Social groups etc.)
- Improved connectivity with Community groups and services

Officer Comment:

Age UK and DASH were supported for 22/23 on a pilot basis to establish what services may be required to support tackling digital exclusion among some of Hillingdon's most vulnerable residents.

The programme is currently supporting residents through awareness raising, skills courses and one to one support and is based on work proven to have benefits elsewhere in Age UK. This application is seeking to continue to develop and deliver that offer into 2023/24. We do not have full evaluation or monitoring information for the 2022/23 investment at this stage as it is still in progress.

The Council will wish to consider the effectiveness of this service and how it may want to develop support for digital inclusion into the future. In addition, the move towards commissioning of services could mean that this work be incorporated into a wider commission or be commissioned separately depending on need and effectiveness. In considering this application against the criteria officers consider that :

Demonstrating clear need – the Council's strategy sets out the importance of delivering services digitally for all residents and in embracing modern technology. Ensuring that residents do not become

disadvantaged in any way and are able to access the services they need is of vital importance. So there is a clear need to establish how residents should be included in digital services and to support them to gain the skills and knowledge to do so.

Value for money – at £70,000 for 22/23 the grant to Age UK aims to deliver for approximately 1200 beneficiaries, from a baseline of 108 in 21/22. For 2023/24 the forecast beneficiaries are some 740 representing a unit cost of nearly £100 per person.

Viable and sustainable – The project is funded largely through grant and is viable in that it is currently delivering but is not at this stage sustainable as the long term direction including funding required is unclear.

Support Council services – Digital inclusion supports the Council strategy. A forthcoming digital skills and inclusion plan should help identify how this work may sit within the Council's ongoing strategic direction.

Lever in external funding – It is not clear how the DI project is fully funded and costed and what wider levered in value is achieved through partners and from the private sector.

Explain reserves - 2022 draft accounts show healthy reserves in line with policy and with approx. 4 months worth of operating costs.

Work in collaboration – As a founder member of H4All and with established protocols and working arrangements with other agencies, in this case DASH and others, in addition to support for wider voluntary and social groups, Age UK has demonstrated that it works in collaboration with a range of agencies and charities across Hillingdon.

The case to support wider work in the voluntary sector to promote digital inclusion remains and this project shows promise in being able to support and deliver training for different cohorts based on the expertise and reach of both Age UK and DASH. It lacks, however, full analysis of the need locally or systematic review of opportunities to intervene and offer support. It is not recommended that the current programme is funded further for 2023/24. The existing project needs to be evaluated fully and considered as an option within commissioned services.

Corporate Finance Comment

DRAFT ACCOUNTS: the charity is requesting an increase of £7,000 for 2023/24, compared to the £70,000 awarded in 2022/23. Please see Age UK above.

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Organisation: Harlington Hospice - (Respite Care)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| Harlington Hospice took over the respite services previously provided by Carers Trust Thames (CTT) in 2019. These services have operated in the borough for nearly 40 years. The service provides short breaks for carers alongside other activities and complements the Hillingdon Carers consortium contract. HH has reduced the cost to the Council for this provision from £135k over recent years. | | | | £90,000 for management salaries, operational costs and service provision in Hillingdon | |
| | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £45,000 for 6 months | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 160 with 9,500 care hours | 1 | 156 | Met | £90,000 | £6,271,257 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| The services provided include: | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short breaks for carers – provision of replacement care in the home to enable carers to take a break from their caring role. This service is delivered as a sub-contract of Hillingdon Carers Partnership. • Provision of volunteer companions for the cared for which enhances the offer to the cared for and is another way to provide additional support to primary carers. • Group activity sessions for the cared for to enable carers to attend courses, well-being sessions etc, often run by Carers Trust Hillingdon. • Availability of Tier 1 Carers' Assessments for all carers who access the respite service. This enables carers to be directed to other relevant services within the Hillingdon Carers' Partnership without having to re-tell their story to be considered for each service. • Provision of a foot care and nail cutting service for older people delivered in partnership with Carers Trust Hillingdon. | | | | | |
| In addition to the contracted service, Harlington Care will provide a comprehensive domiciliary care service in the home, including food preparation, household duties, medication administration and more advanced care tasks for people with complex needs. | | | | | |
| The respite service for carers is intended to ensure that carers in Hillingdon are provided with breaks. Carers taking breaks and taking time for themselves is linked to improving health and well-being and contributing to the ability to continue their caring role. | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HH has been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to : | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support | | | | | |
| To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. The core grant to HH for respite provision currently complements the services commissioned under the Hillingdon Carers consortium contract. This contract is due to be retendered to start from September 2023. Support for HH, therefore, will be subject to a tendering arrangement effective from September 2023. Until that contract comes into effect groups have been | | | | | |

advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – The important role of carers is set out in Hillingdon's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and supporting carers strategy.

Value for money – The respite service delivers 9,500 care hours which works out at less than £10 per hour, however, the key question in terms of value for money is how the service fits or complements the wider support for carers under the carers consortium contract.

Viable and sustainable – The service is established and HH is well resourced so is both viable and sustainable

Support Council services – Support for carers and by implication provision of appropriate respite is an important service to ensure vulnerable people are cared for and that carers in turn are supported to fulfil their roles.

Lever in external funding – HH is an established hospice provider and as such has significant assets and reserves and over £6m in turnover. A return on social investment assessment would produce a substantial number but is misleading in terms of the particular provision of respite care as this is a discreet workstream.

Explain reserves - Again as a larger charity HH has significant reserves to meet its ongoing obligations and liabilities beyond the provision of respite for carers.

Work in collaboration – As a founder member of H4All and the Hillingdon Carers consortium, Harlington Hospice has demonstrated that it works in collaboration with a range of agencies and charities across Hillingdon.

It is recommended that the grant be awarded at the amount requested for 2022/23 but on a pro-rata basis until the contract commences as planned in September 2023. For 6 months this should be £45k. Note also that the core support for Hillingdon Carers Trust is also to be considered in this way.

Corporate Finance Comment

UNSIGNED ACCOUNTS: The charity is requesting a £90,000 grant for 2023/24, equal to the grant awarded in 2022/23. The charity report a surplus of £40,353 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £146,990 compared to the previous year surplus of £187,343. The LBH grant contributed 1.6% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £3,861,197. Total reserves increased by £40,353 from £3,820,844 to £3,861,197 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £3,861,197, an increase of £228,188 compared to £3,649,353 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 12.7 months of running costs.

Harlington Hospice supports people with life-limiting illness living in the London Borough of Hillingdon and the surrounding areas including a provision of specialist end-of-life care, day care and wellbeing services. The charity has supported 130 clients in the last year, all Hillingdon residents. Note that Harlington Hospice are expecting to combine their charity with Michael Sobell Hospice Charity. The combined charity is expecting to report a deficit in 2022-23 and return a balanced position by mid 2023-24.

Note that Harlington Hospice states they are seeking to make the service profitable without the LBH grant within the next 3-5 years. However the impact of COVID has delayed the anticipated reduction in this year's application.

| <i>Organisation: Disability Association Hillingdon (DASH)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| DASH supports people with disabilities to achieve their potential and promote their independence and integration into mainstream life. DASH is based in Hayes with an activity Hub at Uxbridge town centre and operates programmes throughout the borough. | | | | £98,000 Core salaries and Advice and running costs | |
| DASH provides a range of services/activities for disabled individuals to meet their identified needs. These include : assistance with direct payments/personal budgets, advocacy services, advice, representation and information, form filling, benefits applications etc to sporting & recreational activities, social groups, volunteering, employment support, work experience, outreach and activities in day centres. | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £98,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 3,342 | 44 | Not clearly stated | Met | £98,000 | £310,000 (Expected) |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| DASH aims to: | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide timely support with advice, information and casework support in relation to disability related benefits, energy advice, income maximisation and housing advice to 2500 disabled people in Hillingdon. • Continue to provide support with claiming disability related benefits and challenging decisions up to Tribunal level to 380 disabled people in Hillingdon. • Continue to collect data which evidences the impact of the support that we provide, identify gaps in provision and evidence the demand for our services. • Provide benefit checks and budgeting advice for 100 disabled people in Hillingdon. • Continue to deliver affordable recreational and sporting activities and expand provision. • Increase the services/support that disabled people in Hillingdon can access. • Continue to increase the funding available to the organisation to maintain financial viability and services. • Work towards becoming a Disabled Person's Organisation | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| DASH is an established provider of services to disabled people in Hillingdon. The application is for continued core support to enable the charity to grow and meet the demands it faces. | | | | | |
| Following a few difficult years in terms of reduced income and activity due to pandemic the charity has recovered well and is delivering and growing its user base and services. | | | | | |
| In line with the stated new approach to support for the voluntary sector we would expect that support for DASH from April 2024 to be subject to a commissioned process. For 2023/24 the application for core grant is assessed against the criteria as : | | | | | |
| <i>Demonstrating clear need</i> –The needs of people with disabilities, particularly the disparities they face in accessing services and being able to live independently is clearly outlined. This is also consistent with Hillingdon's Health and Wellbeing Strategy. | | | | | |

Value for money – The services reach 3342 people for a grant of £98k (Unit cost of approx. £30) and lever in a further £223k to invest in services.

Viable and sustainable – The service is established and operating on a sustainable footing.

Support Council services – DASH is able to support residents to live independently and as such offers early intervention and prevention in line with Council priorities. Social activities also support wellbeing.

Lever in external funding – DASH has successfully offset the cost of services through grant applications and fundraising and through some fees and charges representing a return on social investment of approximately 2.2:1.

Explain reserves - reserves policy states £121k for 4 months running costs. Stated levels are within this policy.

Work in collaboration – As a founder member of H4All, DASH has demonstrated that it works in collaboration with a range of agencies and charities across Hillingdon.

Given the improved performance and turnaround of DASH delivery and external funding the application demonstrates good value for money and return on social investment. Moving forwards the charity needs to ensure that grant applications and fundraising includes requests to cover core costs to build resilience and reduce dependence on Council grant. For 2023/24 the recommended grant remains at £98k.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting a £98,000 grant for 2023/24, equal to the grant awarded in 2022/23. The charity report a deficit of £3,584 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £42,021 compared to the previous year surplus of £38,437. The LBH grant contributed 35% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £189,436. Total reserves decreased by £3,584 from £193,020 to £189,436 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £78,478, a decrease of £37,631 compared to £116,109 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 3.4 months of running costs. DASH supports disabled people in Hillingdon by providing advice and information on disability related issues. The charity has supported 3342 clients in the past year, all who are Hillingdon residents.

| <i>Organisation: Give Space</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Description Give Space CIC is a relatively new organisation which provides drama and movement psychotherapy interventions and designs and delivers bespoke wellbeing workshops across Hillingdon. Their work involves delivering mental health support through their workshops to provide alternatives to help those in need to express their emotions in a safe and secure environment and prevent the need for more intense one to one work that may be needed without the intervention of this work. The group received grant support for 2022/23 of £10k to help it become established. | | | | £18,803 for staff costs, salaries, CPD, supervision and overheads. | |
| | | | | Recommendation: £ Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 256 | Nil – due to the nature of the work | Nil | Met (mid year) | £10,000 | £37,750 |
| <p><i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 weeks of drama and movement group psychotherapy with between 16 and 20 clients p/a (to be split into separate interventions with changing clients for each psychotherapy group). • 20 weeks of 1:1 drama and movement psychotherapy. • 25 wellbeing workshops totalling between 50 and 150 participants p/a <p>The above activities will provide outputs which enable service users to experience an increase in positive mental health/wellbeing through providing a space to educate around mental health, whilst providing an opportunity for individuals to share and be supported around their own wellbeing needs. Another output will be service users gaining psychoeducational tools which will equip people with ways to better manage and cope with their own mental health outside of the therapy space or wellbeing workshop.</p> <p><i>Officer Comment:</i></p> <p>Give Space CIC is a therapeutic drama organisation that was borne out of a response to the rising mental health challenges from the pandemic. They have undertaken work in the borough with Carers Trust Hillingdon, HBTIG, P3, Hillingdon's Women's Centre and various others. The feedback has supported the benefits of this work.</p> <p>The model of delivery is to run various workshops and groups and 1:1 support delivered mostly by the CIC's two directors who hold professional qualifications and have extensive experience. A strong emphasis is placed on professional therapy (CPD, supervision and accreditation). Give Space offers an alternative for those who find it difficult to engage in talking therapies, provide a "holding space" whilst people are waiting for therapy to prevent escalation of mental health needs.</p> <p>Groups have been informed via briefing in 2022 that the Council's intention is that small grants are able to support the start-up of organisations and then be phased out to reduce dependency and to promote self-sufficiency.</p> <p><i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – It is clear that mental health issues have exacerbated during the pandemic and that statutory services and many voluntary ones are under pressure.</p> <p><i>Value for money</i> – The services reached 256 people for a grant of £10k and levered in a further £27k to invest the CIC services.</p> | | | | | |

Viable and sustainable – The service is becoming established and operating on a sustainable footing. The organisation demonstrates good governance and business planning.

Support Council services – The group supports people with Mental Health challenges in a creative way which is likely to reduce demand on Council services and relieve some pressure on NHS services.

Lever in external funding – Spend of £37.5k implies return on investment of 2.7:1.

Explain reserves - Reserves policy states £2k.

Work in collaboration – Give space are working well with local charities to deliver their service

The operating model for Give Space is to provide affordable therapy workshops delivered by the two Directors and costs are for the professional fees and overheads with some fees charged. Council grant during 2022/23 has helped the CIC to become established. It is not within the grant schemes aims for the CIC to become dependent on Council support and now the group is established, with more of a track record of fundraising and delivery, the recommendation is not to fund further for 2023/24.

Corporate Finance Comment

BASED ON ACC for y/e 31 OCT 2021 ACC - The charity is requesting an increase of £8,803 compared to the £10,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Financial statements report a deficit of £550 for year ending Oct 2021. The LBH grant contributed 70% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. There are no funds carried forward; total income for the year is reported as £15,999, offset by total expenditure of £16,549. Total reserves are nil and there are no funds to cover running costs.

Give Space was only incorporated on 21 October 2020 and is a drama and movement therapy service delivering one to one and group therapy, alongside bespoke well-being workshops, working in partnership with local organisations. Give Space intend to provide accessible and reasonably priced therapy to increase access to mental health and well being support whilst making sufficient income that is commensurate of the earning capacity for staff within the field.

| <i>Organisation: Heathrow Travel Care (HTC)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| <p>HTC's core work provides crisis social work at Heathrow for anyone coming in or out of the airport, taking referrals from local, national and international agencies. Clients are given an initial assessment followed by interventions, advice or advocacy support, and referral to other services. HTC also runs a number of targeted programmes such as help to rough sleepers, emergency planning, provision of responsible adults for minors and advice to British nationals in need.</p> <p>The organisation co-ordinates and provides initial Humanitarian Assistance following any major incident or disaster affecting Heathrow Airport. It hosts the Liaison group for voluntary and public sector partners including the Council for ongoing emergency planning. HTC assists LBH to discharge its Emergency Planning duties as a Category 1 responder under Civil Contingencies Act.</p> <p>During 2022 HTC also supported arrival of guests from Ukraine as part of the Heathrow Welcome Point.</p> | | | | <p>£45,000 contribution to staff salaries</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>£45,000</p> | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 1,600 | 26 | 550 | Met | £20,000 | £454,447 (Expected) |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support a total of 1,700 clients on person on airport (of which 1,200 attend HTC offices and 500 over the phone). • Continue supporting and advising on 1655 UK Nationals (200 return via Heathrow) abroad via our FCDO service – via our 4x HTC staff. • Continue to provide our emergency response service on behalf of LBH, including the training of our 25 volunteers and airport chaplains. This includes delivering monthly desktop training exercises • Continue to ensure rough sleeper numbers are between 0 and 5 per night. Assist in the annual LBH annual night time street count, attend LBH quarterly meetings and host monthly rough sleeper case conferences. • Provide a minimum of 10 induction / HTC overview training sessions. This includes HTC presenting to final year social work students at Brunel University. • Present to at least 8 new organisations to establish partnership links. • Continue to assist in the arrival process of Afghan Nationals. Continue to be fully involved in Ukraine arrival process (if still required). • Ensure anyone in Heathrow is provided with significant Mental Health concerns are provided with formal and/or informal mental health assessments | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| <p>HTC is established as offering a front-line social work intervention at Heathrow. HTC has collaborated with the Council on a number of activities especially around supporting potential social work cases and avoiding referrals, tackling homelessness at the airport, emergency planning preparation and more recently in providing welcome point support for Afghan and Ukrainian guests. Hillingdon is a port authority with consequential duties to support arrivals and HTC is in a unique position to offer early support and intervention.</p> <p><i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – HTC have proven the need for their services at Heathrow.</p> | | | | | |

Value for money – The Council benefits from HTC’s presence at Heathrow and gets a good return for the grant investment.

Viable and sustainable – The model is both viable and sustainable although HTC does also rely on partners especially FCDO and Heathrow for financial support.

Support Council services – Early intervention at Heathrow reduces demand on a range of council services, especially social care and Housing.

Lever in external funding – HTC receives funding support from FCDO, Heathrow Airport Limited and the Council. A return on social investment for the £20k grant verses expenditure of £450k+ is impressive, reflecting the unique nature of the operation.

Explain reserves – Reserves are £275k covering more than 6 months running costs and are held to allow for any changes in grant funding that may occur to enable HTC to adjust its offer over time.

Work in collaboration – HTC work in collaboration with key statutory partners.

For 2022/23 HTC grant was reduced to £20k recognising that during the pandemic period costs were saved and that reserves were healthy. Prior to this a core grant of £45k to cover staffing costs had been provided and this is the amount now sought as HTC is back to full operation. The case for support is well made and HTC clearly offers value for money and reduces burden on Council services. In line with stated direction of the grant programme it will be necessary to consider how HTC should be commissioned or supported beyond March 2024 but for the year to then it is recommended that funding reverts to the £45k awarded in previous years.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting an increase of £25,000 compared to £20,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Audited financial statements report a surplus of £25,577 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £53,694 compared to the previous year surplus of £79,271. The LBH grant contributed 4% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £274,291. Total reserves increased by £25,577 from £248,714 to £274,291 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £274,291, an increase of £25,577 compared to £248,714 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 7.2 months of running costs.

Heathrow Travel Care support 1700 clients (of which 1,200 attend HTC offices and 500 over the phone). Overall in 2021/22, Heathrow Travel Care received £130,000 from LBH (including LBH homelessness funding) as well as income from Heathrow Airport and Foreign and Commonwealth Office (£131,938 and £211,879 respectively). The £45,000 is requested for contributions for staff salaries. Staffing costs increased by £25,049 from 2020/21 to 2021/22.

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Organisation: Hillingdon Brain Tumour and Brain Injury Support | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| <i>Description</i> | | | | £30,000 Contribution towards staff costs | |
| HBTIG provides advice and support service for adults and children living with brain tumours and brain injuries. HBTIG looks at the needs of individuals, their families and carers and the support they will need so that they can make the best-informed decisions about their healthcare. | | | | Recommendation: £15,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 130 | 30 | 250,000 | Met | £30,000 | £123,360 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <p><i>"We expect to deliver and continue to grow as previous years, widening our remit on brain tumours and injuries in Hillingdon, continuing to work with healthcare professional charities business to provide cost effective and free support to all our clients. Training is extremely important, and we would like to develop an online training program."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop the overall structure of the charity • Continuing to deliver weekly activities for our members Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday : • Increase education on the prevalence of brain tumour in the borough and the signs and symptoms of brain tumour and injury. • Increase working partnerships with outside organisations, creating 4 new contacts • Build fundraising capabilities to allow the charity to grow and better support its members and educate the community and healthcare providers. | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| <p>HBTIG supports people with brain injuries and their families, by providing preventative help through information and campaigning (identifying early signs, promoting healthy eating and awareness of blood pressure etc.) and through their health care journey from diagnosis (including supporting referrals to private assessment to gain quicker treatment), through to treatment and to rehabilitation or palliative care. They have seen 30% increase in clients over the last year (103 to 130), 102 of which were Hillingdon residents.</p> <p>This group is now well established in Hillingdon and has attracted additional funding, mainly the lottery and through local fund raising and earned income through their charity shop/cafe. They are seeking funding of £30,000 for the continued support for three core staff : an operations manager, family support worker and a counsellor support worker for rehabilitation.</p> <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HBTIG has been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants from April 2024. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:</p> | | | | | |

Demonstrating clear need – HBTIG activities do meet a need, people with brain trauma are waiting for diagnosis and treatment from NHS and the charity offers support which can mitigate some of the impacts of this.

Value for money – at £30,000 in 2021/22 the grant to HBTIG supported 102 borough residents. This is expensive in unit cost terms but intervention can prove life changing and mitigate need for formal health and care support.

Viable and sustainable – HBTIG has operated for a number of years and grown in the ways it supports residents. It's cost base is significant, offset by income from the shop/café and fundraising. There is a reference to means testing and seeking payment for support where feasible.

Support Council services – The potential life changing impact of HBTIG's approach could reduce demand on social care services if support is offered and rehabilitation takes place sooner.

Lever in external funding – The return on social investment from the £30k grant is approximately 3.4:1 in terms of income generated to be spent in borough on supporting residents.

Explain reserves - Application is unclear and inaccurate (e.g. on Council grant) and reserves policy (stated as 3 months in accounts to Nov 21 and 6 months in reserves statement) but appears to have up to £24k in reserves based on application.

Work in collaboration – HBTIG has worked closely with a number of local charities to offer support.

The grant application is similar to recent years and the group is known for the support it offers to those experiencing brain injuries. The payment for staffing costs at £30k is significant in terms of unit cost and value for money and the group does now need to start to be able to support itself more through earned income, charges and fundraising and away from core grant. It is recommended that, with this in mind the grant be awarded at £15k for 2023/24, with the expectation that grant will not be awarded for subsequent years.

Corporate Finance Comment

BASED ON ACC for y/e 30 NOV 2021 ACC - The charity is requesting the same level of grant funding awarded in 2021/22. Audited financial statements report a deficit of £20,549 for year ending 30 November 2021. The LBH grant contributed 35% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £78,489. Total reserves decreased by £21,004 from £99,493 to £78,489 for 2020/21. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £78,489, an increase of £3,476 compared to £75,013 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 10.9 months of running costs.

Hillingdon Brain Tumour & Injury Support Group have placed several measures to increase sustainability which will provide sufficient support to continue services for 2 years. The charity provides bespoke support to meet the needs of clients and their families including advice, guidance and counselling, activities and funding for MRI scans and consultations.

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Organisation: Carers Trust Hillingdon</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| <i>Description</i> Carers Trust Hillingdon provides a range of services to carers including: | | | | £105,000 for core salaries, carers advice. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach, advice, information and education • Health and wellbeing including training & counselling • Services to support young carers • A carers centre based in Uxbridge • Support for transition (17-24) • Carers assessments <p>The organisation leads the Hillingdon Carers Partnership (HCP) established to deliver the Council's Combined Carers Services contract. It is also an active member of the Hillingdon for All (H4All) Community Interest Company (CIC).</p> | | | | Recommendation: £52.5k to cover 6 months | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 8,276 adult carers 1,066 Young carers | 37 | 1922 hours | Met | £105,000 | £1,460,073 (Expected) |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and support 500 new adult carers per year • Identify and support 30% (7,800) carers by 2024 • Via Carers Partnership (HCP), carers will access specialist support as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100 receiving specialist mental health support - 150 receiving specialist dementia support - 100 benefitting from therapeutic care - 140 carers receive 9,500 hrs of respite care • 100% carers new to the service will be offered a full carers assessment. • A minimum of 1,000 breaks from caring delivered outside the Carers Short Breaks respite care service. • A minimum of 5,000 pieces of information and advice given annually via telephone, face-to-face, public events or appointments. • 350 benefits checks performed annually • 500 face-to-face appointments with Advice team annually • 350 telephone consultations annually • 300 specialist dementia support sessions annually • 20 carers annually will access free IBB Advice Clinics. • secure at least £500,000 in carer-related benefits per year • secure and distribute at least 20 x £250 Hardship grants to carers per year • 500 carers annually will access face-to-face emotional support • 500 carers annually will benefit from peer support via Cafes and Peer groups • 100 carers annually will access HCP free counselling service <p>Young Carers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and support 50 new young carers per year - Identify and support 30% (735) young carers by 2024 | | | | | |

- 1,500 breaks from caring provided p.a. by number of visits made to:
 - o Young Carer Clubs
 - o Young Adult Carer Club
 - o School holiday activity programmes
 - o Residential weekends
 - o Personal development opportunities
 - o Whole-family trips and activities

Officer Comment

Carers Trust Hillingdon has proved itself as a key partner in providing vital support for carers in Hillingdon and in leading the local voluntary sector, both through the Hillingdon Carers Partnership and through H4All as a vehicle for delivering wellbeing services and for further collaboration.

In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, Carers Trust Hillingdon has been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. The core grant to HH for respite provision currently complements the services commissioned under the Hillingdon Carers consortium contract. This contract is due to be retendered to start from September 2023. Support for CTH, therefore, will be subject to a tendering arrangement effective from September 2023. Until that contract comes into effect groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – The important role of carers is set out in Hillingdon's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and supporting carers strategy.

Value for money – HCT serves many carers in many different ways and also receives council funding through the carers consortium contract. Over 9,000 beneficiaries for £105k grant on the face of it is good value but needs to consider the contract value too and these outputs are part of that. Indeed, it is difficult to define what the grant delivers outside of the contract as they are complementary.

Viable and sustainable – The service is established and HCT is resourced and is viable and sustainable. The retender of the carers contract from Sept 2023 will be significant.

Support Council services – Support for carers is identified as a key service to ensure vulnerable people receive the support they need and, wherever possible, to prevent escalation of needs to more formal services.

Lever in external funding – HCT has been successful in generating income from external funders. Against the £105k grant the return on investment would be about 14:1 but a more accurate picture would be to include the consortium contract value which would demonstrate a ROI of 2:1.

Explain reserves - Reserves are kept at a level to support running costs for 3-6 months, in the event that contracts or funding is withdrawn.

Work in collaboration – As a founder member of H4All and the Hillingdon Carers consortium, HCT has demonstrated that it works in collaboration with a range of agencies and charities across Hillingdon.

It is recommended that the grant be awarded at the amount requested for 2022/23 but on a pro-rata basis until the new contract commences as planned in September 2023. For 6 months this should be £52.5K. Note also that the core support for Harlington Hospice is also to be considered in this way.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting same level of grant awarded in 2022/23. Audited financial statements report a surplus of £21,001 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £18,677 compared to the previous year surplus of £39,678. The LBH grant contributed 7.5% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £332,096. Total reserves increased by £21,001 from £311,095 to £332,096 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £304,115, an increase of £16,299 compared to £287,816 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 4.7 months of running costs.

The organisations unrestricted reserves, £304,115, exceed the target level of reserves of £271,879 in 2021/22. Note that this is due to moving activities online due to the pandemic and receiving a single generous donation in year. The charity is investing in two new posts which will reduce their reserves back to the target level (Health Development Officer and a Schools Outreach post). Moreover, the Carers Trust Hillingdon is requesting £105,000, however, the actual costs of running the services is 2.5 times higher at £263,719.

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Organisation: Hillingdon Citizens Advice Bureau (HCAB)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| Provides qualified generalist advice, with casework where necessary, at bureaux in Hayes and Uxbridge. Clients can access the service via a telephone helpline and website for a call back service, assisted self-help, web chat and email channels as well as the traditional drop-in service. Availability varies in different sites but 'drop in' totals 38 hours per week across both sites. | | | | £285,000 for core staff and service costs | |
| | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £285,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 4,828 | 14 | Not stated | Met | £285,000 | £762,930 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1300 advice and information sessions through bureaux, telephone advice line and targeted advice projects • 15,000+ people to receive advice and information from HCAB • £1.5m in financial gains for clients as a direct result of HCAB advice • 500 non-financial positive outcomes of casework • Implementation of a new service delivery model through a triage service • Overall client satisfaction of over 80% | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| <p>HCAB is a key partner for the local authority. A high number of clients access the service for advice on a wide range of issues, in relation to benefits, housing, immigration and other issues. CAB is the established first point of call in the Borough for authoritative generic advice.</p> <p>The organisation uses trained volunteers in a range of capacities including front line assessors, receptionists, social policy co-ordinators, telephone gateway assessors, form filling etc. This frees up the time of paid advisers to work on more complex areas.</p> <p>A service delivery model is in place to provide a triage service to diagnose the problem, understand the clients' goals and how best HCAB can help them achieve them. This will reduce the waiting times for clients as identification of the right support first time will mean they get supported by the right person for all their goals.</p> <p>The Council provides 2 offices rent free although the Hayes base is not currently open.</p> <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, Hillingdon CAB has been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. The core grant to HCAB will need to be considered alongside any other support as part of a tendering exercise to run from April 2024. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:</p> | | | | | |

Demonstrating clear need – HCAB have demonstrated the need for front line advice services, demand is high and the group has developed its services to ensure triage and use of cost effective channels, with phone call back etc.

Value for money – HCAB has developed in recent years to spread its income so grant now accounts for approx. 42% of its income. Services are valued by residents who directly benefit from advice or referral on a range of issues to help them in their daily lives, including claiming benefits and being informed of rights in employment, immigration or Housing issues.

Viable and sustainable – HCAB is largely dependent on Council support and delivers a needed service. Their business model is practical and risk is now spread more widely.

Support Council services – Residents receive support on a range of issues which, if left unresolved can lead to debt or eviction or to calls on social care for further support all of which would have a direct cost to the Council. The Council is also able to refer generic advice requests that come to services such as the contact centre onto CAB to be picked up.

Lever in external funding – HCAB has levered in external funding from lottery and charitable support at a ratio of broadly 1.5:1

Explain reserves – Application states unrestricted reserves are £454K, with restricted at £258K and cash £626K.

Work in collaboration- HCAB has operating protocols in place and works well with more specialist providers to reduce potential overlap or duplication.

As the key provider of generic advice in the borough combined with the quality of services, and proven impact on poverty, health and wellbeing for residents, it is recommended to award the grant as in previous years and until a fuller tendered service may be in place from April 2024.

Corporate Finance Comment

DRAFT ACCOUNTS: The charity is requesting same level of grant awarded in 2022/23, £285,000. The financial statements report a deficit of £25,347 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £163 compared to the previous year deficit of £25,347. The LBH grant contributed 36% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £712,421. Unrestricted funds increased by £31,652 from £434,123 to £465,775 for 2021/22. The organisation has a Pension Deficit to cover.

HCAB provides free advice for Hillingdon residents around any issues they have. The charity has had 4,828 Hillingdon residents use the service in the past year.

CORPORATE GRANTS 2023/24 ADULT SOCIAL CARE

| <i>Organisation: H4All (Capacity Building)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| The application seeks to develop a programme of support to the wider voluntary sector in the borough building on the 2022/23 grant award. The activities proposed are set out below. H4All will employ dedicated posts focused on community development and volunteering plus overheads. | | | | £92,000 Core salary and overhead, finance, governance, training and travel costs | |
| | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 1866 | 75 (including those recruited by H4All) | 44,000 estimated | Not available | £70,000 | £2,201,958 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third sector training and support • Health and Wellbeing alliance networking and information events • Sector research to inform development of new support • Volunteer hub : 35 volunteers placed • Compassionate Hillingdon volunteer befriending programme : 35 active volunteers supporting 130 service users and families • Help 4 Hillingdon advice in community settings : 50 advice sessions and 250 residents supported (GLA funded) • Lung Health engagement 20 outreach events and 40 residents supported • LGBTQ+ community development : network meetings | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| <p>The grant award for the capacity building project in 2022/23 was focussed on providing infrastructure support for voluntary groups that were identified as struggling and at risk so as to help them to “turn around” and revisit business models to become sustainable charities post Covid. The second element of this support was allocated to grow and develop the community champions scheme so that volunteers recruited from communities could be trained and engaged to champion health messaging, initially in regard to Covid and to promote take up of vaccines. It was envisaged this cohort could then provide a legacy of support for health messaging on a regular basis. This programme is currently underway so final outputs to March 2023 are not yet available to gauge overall impact. In addition, further funding was provided via the DLUHC vaccine champions scheme for 2022 to build further on the reach and impact of the community health champions scheme. This additional funding was targeted to enable recruitment of an active cohort of 80 champions recruited from diverse Hillingdon Communities and willing to be called upon to support health messaging.</p> <p>The 2023/24 application does not propose outputs or outcomes for the infrastructure support to struggling groups nor recruitment or activities to deliver a legacy community champions scheme. Instead, further related programmes as above are listed for the coming year. These include several new areas of activity that have been developed in year, some of which are supported by other funders such as GLA and NHS.</p> <p><i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – The new areas proposed are evidenced based particularly in term of pressure experienced by the voluntary sector, citing national data and research.</p> | | | | | |

Value for money – It is hard to pinpoint outcomes that would be achieved against which to judge the value for money from a £92k investment. We would have reservations as to whether the programmes listed targeted groups most in need (as the £70k 2022/23 grant aimed to) or what legacy there would be for community champions.

Viable and sustainable – The capacity building programme is reliant on significant funding from the NHS – and others such as GLA - which may explain the new direction of schemes designed. As such it is viable and sustainable but has drifted away from Council priorities as per the 2022/23 award.

Support Council services – The desire to support a vibrant voluntary sector would support council services in that many groups have the reach and agility to meet wider community needs. The programme set out in the application, however, does not explain how these would meet the greatest needs.

Lever in external funding – Substantial leverage of £1.8m forecast mostly from NHS funding with a return on investment of nearly 20:1.

Explain reserves – Reserves stated at £264k. Policy in place.

Work in collaboration- Strong collaboration and support for wider groups.

The requested grant award is not recommended. The priorities set for the current year of funding have not all been delivered and the proposal moving forward deviates from the key aims of that project (namely 1:1 turnaround infrastructure support and a legacy cohort of community health champions). The new schemes do not demonstrate value for money in terms of outcomes against a £92K grant investment.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting £92,000, a £22,000 increase compared to the £70,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Draft financial statements report a surplus of £155,640 for 2021/22. This is an increase of £97,014 compared to the previous year surplus of £58,626 as reported in the voluntary grant workings for 2022/23. The LBH grant contributed 4.4% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. The total funds carried forward are £2,428,541. The total reserves increased by £155,641 from £2,272,900 to £2,428,541 for 2021/22. The split between restricted and unrestricted reserves is unknown.

| <i>Organisation: Hillingdon Mind</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| MIND provides support for clients with a range of mental health issues. It runs several social activities and clubs aimed at reducing social isolation and improving physical health and wellbeing. MIND also offers opportunity for work related activities including volunteering and employment support. | | | | £150,000 core salary staff, general support and rent | |
| Other services include a counselling service, including specialist addictions counselling, mental health awareness raising and training. They also hold Somali and Asian information & advice services and deliver Mental Health First Aid training. Services are aimed at reducing isolation for individuals through the development of peer support, friendships and social networks which aids integration into mainstream services and the community. | | | | Recommendation: £120,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 4070 | 92 | 13,100 | Met | £120,000 | £622,154 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult (25+) Mental Health Recovery Project • Young Adult Mental Health project (16-25yrs) • An Asian and Somali Information and Advice service, and social groups led by an outreach worker • An employment support service, offering workshops, group work, and mentoring to help people develop the knowledge and confidence to access learning, training, and volunteering opportunities and to thereby increase people's employability • A Serious Mental Illness assisted service (funded by CCG) • A Carers' Mental Health Key Working and Counselling Service - offered through our collaboration within the Hillingdon Carers' Partnership • A Free Counselling and Psychotherapy service (funded by CCG) • A Counselling for Depression Step 3 IAPT Service (funded by CCG) • A Low Cost (fee paying) Counselling Service for people who earn in excess of the income threshold to qualify for the free service • A Mental Health Awareness service – a development programme that delivers accredited Mental Health First Aid training, and a range of bespoke mental health awareness courses, funded through course fees • A Mindfulness & Eco therapy service, delivered through a series of nature therapy walks and group sessions • Trauma Counselling for those clients affected by severe trauma and requiring specialist help – • An Addictions Counselling Service • A range of social clubs • An Out and About Service – working on a one-to-one basis to overcome social anxiety and occasional group opportunities for visiting places of interest, and enjoying a range of group activities | | | | | |
| The peer support groups which encourage users to act as volunteers in the group, provide a useful link between the traditional social clubs and employment, acting as a steppingstone to increased independence and confidence. Their cohort of volunteers reflects the diversity of clients and as such they can deliver sessions in a range of languages. | | | | | |

MIND collaborate with statutory and voluntary sector partners: police, CNWL, LBH mental health services, GP's, and community health services. It contributes to several Council boards and forums and their work addresses aspects of the Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Mental Health Strategy.

Officer Comments

Hillingdon MIND is the main voluntary sector provider of mental health services in the borough established for over 35 years. They have requested an increase in funding due to sustained increasing demand for services, indicating both a trend of more people becoming confident in asking for help with regards to their mental health and those experiencing deteriorating mental health, further exacerbated by cost of living crisis and increases in debt.

In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, MIND have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. Support for MIND, therefore, will be subject to a tendering arrangement in due course, probably effective from April 2024. Meanwhile for 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – the increased demand seen for MH services and the changes in needs of people seeking help demonstrates a continued and sustained need for MH support.

Value for money – for core grant of £120k plus and Adult Social Care contract of £100k, MIND has reached over 4,000 people and offered early preventative support. This would represent a unit cost of £54 per intervention from Council investment.

Support Council services – Hillingdon MIND provides services which both prevent mental health deterioration and promotes recovery and stability; these services help to ensure that the secondary and primary care sectors do not become overwhelmed and provides early intervention, reducing demand on higher cost support.

Lever in external funding – Return on social investment for grant of £120k is £617k or just over 5:1, is calculated alongside the ASC contract then this moves to 2.8:1. External funding is largely from NHS (CCG) with traded income and some grant awards.

Explain reserves - £219k stated in line with policy.

Work in collaboration – MIND works closely with other organisations, especially within H4All but also more widely.

MIND has undergone significant review and restructuring of its activities and commitments in recent years, having streamlined its structure and shared accommodation. Over the same period the grant has increased to support this process and help MIND to meet demand. For 2023/24 it is recommended that the grant remains at £120k. For the subsequent period from April 2024 it is anticipated that the current ASC contract will be reconsidered to become the main vehicle for supporting MIND based on a commissioned service.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting £150,000, a £30,000 increase compared to the £120,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Draft financial statements report a surplus of £45,780 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £161 compared to the previous year deficit of £45,941. The LBH grant contributed 22.6% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. As reported in the grant application for 2023/24 and the voluntary sector grant working for 2022/23, the total funds carried forward are £230,827; the total reserves increased by £53,631 from £177,196 to £230,827 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £219,226,

an increase of £64,040 compared to £155,186 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover five months of running costs.

It is noted in the application, that their reserves cover over 6 months operating costs in order to raise a deposit to buy the premises that is currently rented in Uxbridge. 4070 clients in Hillingdon utilised the Hillingdon Mind services over the past year.

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Organisation: Hillingdon Shopmobility | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| Shopmobility provides mobility aids such as scooters and wheelchairs for use in and around Uxbridge Town Centre. They also hire out manual and powered scooters for periods outside the town centre for holiday excursions or day trips. | | | | £15,000 core staff salaries | |
| The service is available 5 days per week from 9.15am - 4.45pm and is staffed by 3 part time staff and 8 regular volunteers. Anyone who has a temporary or permanent disability or problems with their mobility is eligible for the service and a small membership and usage fee is charged. | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 1353 (70% Hillingdon residents) | 12 | 2045 | Partially met | £15,000 | £62,713 |

Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:

- Enable 3,000 individual visits to be made to Uxbridge over the next year.
- Provide 50 registered customers with an electric scooter or manual wheelchair to use outside Uxbridge Town Centre for holidays, respite and day trips to places like seaside, places of interest.
- Ensure that full take up is achieved at the annual Assisted Shopping Event in November with an anticipation of a 20% drop out rate, due to nature of our clients disabilities.
- Ensure that each customer and non-customer has access, when they visit Shopmobility, to the newsletter, which is printed in-house four times a year.
- Attend at least 3 outside promotional events over the next year (excluding the Assisted Shopping Event and the Uxbridge Autoshow).
- Stock and supply to customers and non-customers a range of small mobility aids aiming to make a profit of £800 over the next year.
- Register 200 new customers.
- Enable 5 elderly, disabled or isolated customers each week to attend local club or society meetings.
- Give the opportunity for 10 customers each week to take up voluntary positions, paid work or training courses by being flexible on opening hours.
- Work with our contacts in the financial world (in particular Barclays) to provide bespoke information activities to improve our client's financial wellbeing which is vitally important as we approach a substantial increase in inflation and our clients having to make some stark choices about staying warm, eating healthy and looking after their physical and mental wellbeing.

Officer Comment

Shopmobility continues to provide a service to people who need mechanical assistance to shop physically in Uxbridge, overall individual usage remains below pre-pandemic levels but has increased (544 in last application to 1353 in this application. 70% are Hillingdon residents). Overall levels of activity are lower than predicted for this year: from 5000 individual visits (forecast for 2022/23) to 3000 (forecast in this application for 2023/24) and from 70 to 50 uses for respite and social visits outside of Uxbridge. The number of new users forecast to be recruited is also down from last year (250 to 200).

Our 2022/23 assessment identified significant concerns regarding Shopmobility's sustainability, increasing reliance on Council grant funding to exist and poor levels of levered in income from wider business beneficiaries in Uxbridge. As such that application represented poor value for money and Cabinet agreed to reduce the grant to £5k for 2022/23. That decision was later reviewed, and it was

agreed to increase the award to £15k for 2022/23 to provide further fair warning of the Council's concerns and the need to seek alternative income streams over the extended 12 months.

This application does not represent a significant improvement during the intervening period and the application still requires Council support to meet costs. For 2022/23 expenditure is forecast to be £13,213 higher than income. Subscription income has increased by £2k although there is no indication this reflects a change in charging policy. Support from shopping centres and business seems to have increased from £15.5k to £19k although it is not clear if both shopping centres plus the Uxbridge Business Improvement District are supporting the charity.

In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, Shopmobility have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. Smaller grants will also be focussed on enabling groups to get to a stage where they can operate without grant funding. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – Shopmobility have supported people to shop and offer a popular service so in that respect meet a local need. Alternatives are for people to shop on line or seek their own support from friends and families.

Value for money – Core grant of £15K leads to unit costs of nearly £16 per individual Hillingdon user and about £5 subsidy per visit to Uxbridge. As such this is not good value for the Hillingdon taxpayer.

Viable and sustainable – The current operating model is not sustainable even with Council grant. Shopmobility is forecasting a trading loss of over £13k in current year. Whilst Shopmobility states that they will seek to increase income this has not yet happened and has been needed for several years.

Support Council services – Helping people with mobility issues to shop can lead to increased independence and this in turn can help health and wellbeing so there is an indirect link to supporting Council services in some way.

Lever in external funding – The return on social investment is broadly 2:1 with income mostly from subscriptions and sponsor donations.

Explain reserves - at £18k reserves represent nearly 4.5 months operating costs.

Work in collaboration -there has been collaboration with other Uxbridge based charities to support local people.

The recommendation is not to support Shopmobility for 2023/24. It is recognised that no Council funding will impact on the organisation but given the poor overall value for money it is not realistic to expect the organisation to be funded by the Council, especially in the absence of a viable and sustainable business model.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting the same level of grant awarded in 2022/23. Draft financial statements report a deficit of £2,047 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £2,831 compared to the previous year surplus of £784. The LBH grant contributed 28.94% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £23,599. Total reserves decreased by £2,047 from £25,646 to £23,599 for 2020/21. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £23,485, a decrease of £1,747 compared to £25,532 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover five and a half months of running costs.

London Borough of Hillingdon grants, inclusive of the Voluntary Sector Grant, was £22,000, accounting

for 44 % of total income from Hillingdon Shopmobility in 21/22. The expected expenditure benefitting Hillingdon Residents for 22/23 is £62,713 , this is approximately 12.5 times the Voluntary Sector Grant requested and 2.8 times that of all grants provided by Hillingdon, in which the charity supported 1,353 clients in Hillingdon.

| <i>Organisation: Hillingdon Somali Women's Group</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Description</i> Hillingdon Somali Women's Group was set up in 1995 by several refugee Somali women faced with extreme isolation. Within the community there is a significant proportion of women who are raising a family alone. The women they support face challenges in effectively navigating services meaning that they become disadvantaged through unemployment, low income, homelessness, increased health issues and barriers to learning. The application would support a range of services for Somali women relating to employment, training and other skills. | | | | £12,785 rent , utilities and other running costs | |
| | | | | Recommendation: £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 197 | 6 | 10 | Partially met | £10,000 | £25,908 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice, guidance and outreach services to 400 women • Work with Adult Education to deliver ESOL and digital skills classes with 80% of students meeting their learning objectives. • Run a monthly Somali Women's club, including walking activities to improve mental and physical health | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment:</i> | | | | | |
| <p>HSWG is established in the borough working to support Somali women into mainstream services where appropriate and aid them in accessing help with skills for work and / or education, benefits advice, and support, both physical and mental health support.</p> <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HSWG have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. Smaller grants will also be focussed on enabling groups to get to a stage where they can operate without grant funding. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:</p> <p><i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – HSWG are supporting some of the most disadvantaged residents in the borough.</p> <p><i>Value for money</i> – for £10k core grant HSWG has supported 197 residents in 2021/22, below estimate but impacted by Covid. This represents a unit cost of about £50.</p> <p><i>Viable and sustainable</i> – The group's plans are viable in that their approach does meet need and has done so for a number of years. Sustainability is questionable and the group must consider how it will function into the future, reviewing its costs base, opportunity for charging and fundraising and to lever in external funding.</p> | | | | | |

Support Council services – HSWG support work to promote ESOL through adult learning and are an important link into the Somali community in the Hayes area.

Lever in external funding – Return on social investment shows a ratio of approximately 1.5:1

Explain reserves - Limited reserves of under £5k

Work in collaboration- mention was made as part of last year's grants award to encourage capacity building through H4All. It is not clear if this has happened yet. HSWG should build stronger links and partnerships with other groups such as the Hillingdon Women's centre.

The group is requesting is £12,785 to cover their rent and utility costs. Their income is limited to Council and London Trust grant with no predicted other income for 2022/23 or 2023/24 which is of concern as their operating model is becoming reliant on grant. It is not recommended that a core grant be awarded for 2023/24.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting an increase of £2,785 compared to the £10,000 grant awarded in 2021/22. Audited financial statements report a surplus of £2,958 for 2021/22. This is an increase of £7,427 compared to the previous year deficit of £4,469. The LBH grant contributed 39% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £5,822. Total reserves increased by £2,958 from £2,864 to £5,822 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves total £469.

Note that the unrestricted reserves are significantly lower than the restricted reserves as all grant income, which is the majority of all income, has been considered part of the restricted fund (LBH, Hillingdon Community Trust, Trust for London). In 2021/22 LBH accounted for 19% of all income.

The expected expenditure benefitting Hillingdon Residents for 22/23 is £25,908, approximately 2.6 times the grant requested, in which the advice drop in session, support on average 3 clients per day for the advice drop in session and 12 clients per month for the monthly social club. In 2020/21 the charity had a loss of approximately -35 % from charitable activities, this was increased to a profit margin of approximately +11 % for 2021/22. The charity is currently in pursuit of the AQS accreditation to increase their attraction to funders, given the increasing challenges in obtain funding through charitable activities due to the cost of living crisis.

| <i>Organisation: Hillingdon Women's Centre</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>HWC provides a holistic range of services in a safe women-only space. Women access information, advice and guidance, are signposted to appropriate agencies, receive drop-in support, domestic violence intervention, low-cost legal advice, health and well-being support and social related activities and training opportunities.</p> <p>The organisation plays a key role in the Women in the Community Network which seeks to bring together women's groups in Hillingdon and promote and improve their services.</p> | | | | £50,000 core staff salaries | |
| | | | | <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>£30,000</p> | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 892 | 6 | 1600 140 from student social workers | Met | £50,000 | £156,000 |
| <p><i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and update of HWC business plan with input from trends and stakeholders' feedback. • Continue using and improving a monitoring and recording system to produce accurate and relevant data to evaluate the performance of the service. • Use data resulting from the monitoring system to create new services and continue delivering those that are relevant for women in Hillingdon. • Support 750 women via signposting, information, advice and guidance and provide evidence of the growth of services. • Support 150 women to access legal advice via volunteer/low-cost/pro-bono solicitors. • Support a minimum of 70 women with benefits-related interventions • Provide specialist support on DA to a minimum of 200 women (including risk assessment, safety planning, safeguarding and referring to relevant agencies) • Deliver four cycles of the DA programme Pathways to Healing • Delivery of 1 "Women in the community" Network event • Assist the Afghan Women's Support Group to continue its work through the provision of crèche workers. (Dependant on the group's delivery arrangements) • Ensure the financial viability of the Centre by securing external funding • Support Hillingdon based DA forums. • Develop relationships/partnerships with third sector organisations to create synergies that produce better services through savings and sharing of best practices. | | | | | |
| <p><i>Officer Comment</i></p> <p>HWC has been established in Hillingdon for many years. Over recent years the centre has focussed on stronger strategic planning and governance which is now showing results. Take up of services is steadily increasing post Covid (by 50% in terms of service users year on year). HWC places a strong emphasis on victims of domestic abuse, the Centre aims to support women after crisis intervention with more long-term empowerment aimed at developing economic independence, emotional resilience, peer support and skills. The application is for staff costs at the same level as for 2022/23 (£50k).</p> <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HWC have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> | | | | | |

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – HWC are receiving a large number of enquiries and referrals from other agencies. Performance data confirms the demand for women only services via a safe and independent agency able to assess, support and where necessary refer.

Value for money – for £50k core grant HWC has supported over 892 residents in 2021/22. This represents a unit cost of about £56.

Viable and sustainable – The centre's plans are viable and sustainable. Core grant is still important and the centre is not yet in a position to deliver the breadth of services its does without Council support.

Support Council services – HWC has a particular focus on supporting victims of domestic abuse although this is by no means everything the centre delivers. Helping victims to know their rights, move on and rebuild their lives in a resilient way helps to prevent calls on Council services, e.g. housing, social care.

Lever in external funding – Return on social investment shows a ratio of approximately 2:1

Explain reserves - Reserves held at approx. £30k (about 20% of annual expenditure)

Work in collaboration- HWC has worked collaboratively, especially with smaller more local groups (Afghan Women's Group, Austin Sewing group)

Officers recognise the significant journey HWC has been on over recent years and how through wider networking, delivery of important services and willingness to seek wider funding the group has become less reliant on Council grant and this direction needs to continue. The future is not certain under a new approach of commissioned early intervention services. For 2023/24 it is recommended that the grant be reduced to £30k in preparation for when support will only be available via commissioning of services.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting same level of grant awarded in 2021/22. Draft financial statements report a deficit of £24,028 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £78,136 compared to the previous year surplus of £54,108. The LBH grant contributed 39.18% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £84,063. Total reserves decreased by £24,028 from £108,091 to £84,063 for 2020/21. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £31,012, a decrease of £22,333 compared to £53,345 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover two months of running costs.

The reason for the net financial loss of -£24,028 seems to be that the funding from LBH to cover the continuation of the Workplace Safespace Project was not received until May 2022. Income for 2021/22 was £103,600, a significant decrease of £98,137 compared £201,737 received on the previous year. It is worth mentioning, however, that from the £201,387 income recognised in the previous year, £131,697 were restricted funds, whilst this year's restricted income was only £54,991. The reserve policy is to hold 3 months of costs within the reserve fund.

| <i>Organisation: MHA Communities West London</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| MHA CWL provides activities and support to elderly people in Northwood Hills and Northwood to promote wellbeing. Activities are aimed at promoting friendship, socialising, health and wellbeing and are provided with the assistance of trained volunteers. | | | | £29,000 Contribution towards core costs to support wellbeing activities for older people in Hillingdon. | |
| Activities include befriending, exercise, lunch and intergenerational events with schools. | | | | Note includes former dining club grant. | |
| | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 223 | 69 | 7000 | Partially met | £15,000 £10k grant plus £5k dining centre grant. | £81,940 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 Friendship Groups for up to 20 members in Northwood and Northwood Hills • 80 Seated Exercise classes (40 in person, 40 virtual) • 45 lunches /healthy eating opportunities • 80 seated yoga sessions • Monthly walks with an opportunity to eat together- weather permitting • Multi-generational events with local schools • Quarterly newsletter • All activities have participant registers and feedback is actively sought. • Close contact is maintained with 150-200 members and 77 volunteers to monitor activity levels | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| MHA merged the Northwood and Ealing Live at Home Schemes during 2020 to form MHA Communities West London. As we have reported in previous grants report to Cabinet this has meant that the capacity in Northwood to deliver the former Northwood Live at Home Scheme and the dining centre has reduced | | | | | |
| In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, MHA have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to : | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support | | | | | |
| To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements: | | | | | |
| <i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – There is a need to support older people to reduce isolation and to help them live independently at home. | | | | | |

Value for money – for £15k core grant in 2022/23 MHA has supported about 205 Hillingdon residents. This represents a unit cost of about £73 per beneficiary. Given that fees are also charged, and nature of interventions offered, this represents poor value for money.

Viable and sustainable – MHA plans do not appear to be viable. Even with core grant as activities look to be running at a forecast loss of about £11k.

Support Council services – MHA

Lever in external funding –. Return on social investment shows a ratio of approximately 3.7:1, with income from trusts and members contributions.

Explain reserves - Reserves stated in application as £42,747. Policy is to hold six months operating costs.

Work in collaboration - Some collaboration with Age UK and with local churches in delivery.

For the 2023/24 application the volume of activity has reduced with some elements such as the befriender home visits and assisted shopping appearing to have ceased compared to the current year. Friendship groups are proposed to reduce from a target of 50 in 2022/23 to 35 on 2023/24 and lunches from 60 to 45 over the same period. Our concerns regarding the use of reserves established under the Northwood scheme to fund provision in Ealing remain. As such it is difficult to justify continued grant support in terms of value for money which has been diluted over recent years.

The activities programme presented as part of the application sets out what will happen where and how much participants are to be charged. Many of these should be self-sufficient in terms of delivery (£10 for a lunch at Emmanuel Church for example). Other activities are clearly targeted on Ealing residents.

Against our criteria, therefore it is not recommended that MHA receive grant for 2023/24 for the wider operation or the dining centre grant received previously.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting £29,000, an increase of £14,000 compared to the £10,000 core plus £5k dining club grant awarded in 2021/22. Draft financial statements report a deficit of £15,567 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £25,627 compared to the previous year surplus of £10,060. The LBH grant contributed 13% of the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £130,449. Total reserves increased by £30,954 from £99,495 to £130,449 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £67,747, a decrease of £31,748 compared to £99,495 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 10.5 months of running costs.

2021/22 figures have been taken from the Voluntary Sector Grant workings from 2022/23 as the accounts for Ealing for 2020/21 have not been included as they have gone missing. MHA Communities West London reserves policy is to hold reserves sufficient to continue to operate for 6 months.

| <i>Organisation: Middlesex Association for the Blind (MAB)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Description MAB specialises in providing support to those with visual impairments through a home visiting service, a rapid response counselling service, employment support, IT/digital training and a mobile resource unit. | | | | £57,000 salaries, supervision, and contributions to Hillingdon costs, management and core cost. | |
| | | | | Recommendation: £ Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 74 regular support | 27 | 1296 | Not yet known | £3,000 | £75,000 |
| <p><i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly home visiting service for 72 people • Rapid response counselling, weekly for 12 people • Employment service for 4 people • IT/Digital support for 13 people • Ad hoc support via mobile resource unit for 825 • Telephone support for 150 people • Newsletter and large print calendar for 239 people. <p><i>Officer Comment:</i></p> <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, MAB have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:</p> <p><i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – The need for support for people with a visual impairment is well documented. People with visual impairments can be impacted in many ways such as losing employment or social networks and experience isolation.</p> <p><i>Value for money</i> – The cost to MAB of meeting needs of visually impaired in Hillingdon is stated as £60k currently. The application is for £57k and would therefore place the majority of that cost on the Council's core grant scheme. With some 74 residents receiving the home visiting or rapid response service this offers a unit cost of about £770. This does not take into account other ad hoc contacts such as via the mobile unit</p> <p><i>Viable and sustainable</i> – MAB has been in existence for many years and proven itself resourceful and well run. It is viable and sustainable.</p> <p><i>Support Council services</i> – supporting people who experience sight loss or impairment to lead full lives and manage their conditions helps prevent escalation of need and greater dependence on social care or health services.</p> | | | | | |

Lever in external funding : The programme for Hillingdon has attracted some direct support from funders, in current year this equates to about £15k and various applications are described as pending but it is not clear if these will relate to Hillingdon costs in part or exclusively. The return on the core grant of £3k in 2022/23 would be 5:1 but these figures are small.

Explain reserves - Reserves are £282k, explained as covering current costs for 8.7 months held to meet costs of reducing activity if funding were not to be achieved.

Work in collaboration - No clear evidence presented of collaboration with voluntary groups in Hillingdon, although MAB does offer a specialist service related to visual impairment.

MAB were awarded a grant of £3k for 2022/23 for the first time to contribute towards the operation of their mobile resource unit and its visits to Hillingdon. The application for 2023/24 extends this request considerably to include the majority of costs related to operating in Hillingdon. At a cost of £57k and with significant beneficiaries totalling some 74 this does not represent good value leading to a cost of intervention of some £770 per person.

The Council's core grant programme is designed to assist groups become established in the borough and to enable them to lever in wider external support. The application is not realistic in asking for the near total funding for Hillingdon to come from the Council. Officers do not recommend the grant is awarded.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting an increase of £54,000 compared to the £3,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Audited financial statements report a surplus of £12,517 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £33,567 compared to the previous year surplus of £46,084. The LBH grant contributed 0.8% to the total expenditure in the current financial year. Total funds carried forward are £624,723. Total reserves increased by £23,057 from £601,666 to £624,723 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £462,550, an increase of £23,477 compared to £439,073 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover three years and seven months of running costs.

It should be noted that according to the reserves policy, the Charity hold approximately 7 months of reserves. The expected expenditure benefitting Hillingdon Residents for 22/23 is £75,000, approximately 25 times the grant requested.

The Middlesex Association for the Blind provide one-on-one ongoing face to face support so that clients that experience sight loss are able to reshape their lives, rebuild their confidence and reduce depression and suicidal feelings. MAB collaborate with the Rehabilitation Team at the London Borough of Hillingdon, in which residents are referred to the charity to receive ongoing support after statutory rehabilitation has been completed. Within the past year, the charity have provided regular support to 74 people and ad hoc support to 675 people within Hillingdon.

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Organisation: RELATE London North West & Herts, Mid Thames & Bucks | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| <i>Description</i> | | | | £13,000 contribution to counselling costs | |
| <p>RELATE London North West & Herts, Mid Thames & Bucks provides counselling support to families in several areas including 8 London boroughs and in Hertfordshire, mid-Thames and Bucks. Counselling services in the borough include family, psycho-sexual therapy, 1-1, training, mediation and relationship counselling. This helps clients to strengthen their marriages and/or families, avoid separations, support children and enables divorcing couples to go through the separation process without court intervention.</p> <p>Sessions are held at various venues in Hillingdon such as Dovetail Community Outreach. They also provide back-office support to the Uxbridge Contact Centre, which provides opportunities for separated parents to meet their children in a safe neutral environment (see separate grant application).</p> | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 833 | Not stated | Not stated | Partially met | £5,000 | £112,000 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 576 supported relationship counselling sessions ● 158 supported initial consultations with a counsellor ● 158 supported psychosexual therapy sessions ● 158 Family therapy sessions <p>Qualified and experienced counsellors used at RELATE are required to continue with their professional development to maintain standards. RELATE provides supervision for practitioners and their supervisors. The effect of counselling sessions is measured using recognised evaluation tools that measure before and after change, communication scales and psychological distress scores. Together this provides a measure of the clients' journey and progress. They have seen an increase in clients needing PST (Psychosexual Therapy) and young people needing counselling, and therefore RELATE need to provide training to meet these needs.</p> | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, RELATE have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure better outcomes for residents ● Achieve the best value for money ● Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:</p> | | | | | |
| <i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – Demand indicates clear need and the desire to keep families together or to achieve amicable separation supports health and wellbeing. | | | | | |

Value for money. Grant of £5k in 2022/23 has enabled counselling sessions to take place at a below cost price (i.e. less than £75). Unit cost per beneficiary comes to approx. £6 for this grant.

Viable and sustainable – Relate has a wide geographical coverage and has survived in many areas by strong business planning and flexible charging. The application implies that this year the Hillingdon service's costs will exceed income by £32k (£112k v £80k).

Support Council services – keeping families together or to achieve amicable separation supports health and wellbeing and can directly impact on council services for children and families

Lever in external funding – no external funding other than income from charges is stated.

Explain reserves - Reserves are not stated for current year. At March 2021 reserves were considered significant.

Work in collaboration - Relate has worked with local agencies to receive referrals and to utilise local premises.

The corporate grant of £5k for 2022/23 subsidises the cost that clients have to pay for counselling in Hillingdon. Each session costs £75 to run which is made up of client contributions charged on a sliding scale based on income. This approach aims to make the service affordable to more clients. Relate now covers a vast area after several mergers and as stated previously it is noted that only a few financially grant fund the organisation. Other than funding from the Council the only other income is client costs. Relate have now sought an increased grant to £13,000 to further subsidise counselling support.

The current operating model is based on charges income topped up by ad hoc grants with no more forecast for next year. The grant has not led to Relate becoming more established in Hillingdon nor has it increased income to the borough to support services. Given the Council's stated intention to phase out smaller grants it is not recommended that a grant for 2023/24 is awarded.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting £13,000, an increase of £8,000 compared to the £5,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Draft financial statements report a surplus of £563,538 for 2021/22. This is an increase of £304,695 compared to the previous year surplus of £258,843. The LBH grant contributed 0.5% of the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £1,248,600. Total reserves increased by £563,538 from £685,062 to £1,248,600 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £1,135,755, an increase of £552,476 compared to £583,279 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 14.8 months of running costs.

RELATE support 833 Hillingdon Residents. A significant proportion of the income for 2021/22, relates to a merger that took place on 1st April 2021 between Trustees of RELATE LNWHMTB (the charity) and Relate Mid Thames and Buckinghamshire MTB, resulting in the donation of £355,463 from Relate MTB.

| <i>Organisation: Samaritans of Hillingdon</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>The Samaritans core service provides 24-hour emotional support by phone, email and text message, 7 days a week, for residents in need of acute emotional support. Their service is free and confidential, and clients can access the Centre at specific drop-in times. Hillingdon Samaritans have supported the Council's work on suicide prevention and the proposal to increase awareness of the service and to expand the number of trained volunteers supports the needs identified in the Hillingdon Suicide Prevention Plan.</p> <p>The organisation is entirely run by trained volunteers. Training takes 6 weeks and is scheduled 3 times a year.</p> | | | | £6,000 for volunteer expenses, room hire, training material printing, office expenses and training laptops | |
| | | | | <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>£Nil</p> | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2023/24 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 14,746 | 160 | 15000 | Met | £6,000 | £24,000 |
| <p><i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to grow our volunteer numbers to enable us to offer an additional capacity to residents, especially during the overnight hours when other services may be unavailable • Train additional volunteers to support Webchat services, improving our reach to vulnerable young people. • Continue our programme of outreach activities in the Borough, targeting opportunities to reach vulnerable people. • Continue to build relationships with faith-based and community groups to expand the reach of our services. • Building relationships with local employers, especially where there has been incidence of suicide by employees, customers, or clients. • Grow the number of contacts received by Samaritans of Hillingdon (ideally to pre-pandemic levels of +20,000 per annum) • An increased range and number of local outreach events, growing awareness and widening access to our services (targeting 1-2 events per month) • Reduced incidence of suicide in the borough by reaching vulnerable residents who need our services. <p>Clients can access the service through a range of means including face to face at the Samaritans premises which is staffed by a minimum of 2 volunteers. They provide an out of hours service and are linked to the National Samaritans system giving 24/7 availability to Hillingdon residents. A Webchat service is now in place for Hillingdon to increase access to services. Hillingdon Samaritans is 100% volunteer led and managed and so does not incur staff costs. Volunteers who work for Samaritans undergo thorough training. Hillingdon Samaritans participates on the Hillingdon Suicide prevention group and works with the local CCG on plans to develop urgent care services.</p> <p><i>Officer Comment</i></p> <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, Samaritans have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run</p> | | | | | |

and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – Samaritans meet a clearly identified need in providing people who have suicide ideation or who are struggling with their mental health a help line to call during crisis.

Value for money – for a core grant of £6k, Samaritans has reached 14746 clients suggesting a unit cost to the Council of about 40 pence. Samaritans has the potential and targets to reach some 20,000 contacts.

Viable and sustainable – The Hillingdon Samaritans operation maximises use of volunteers has low level costs, is based in own building and generates donations and other income.

Support Council services – Hillingdon Samaritans programme of support directly contribute to the borough's public health objectives and suicide prevention plan.

Lever in external funding – H Sams have raised funding locally and forecast spend of approx. £22k this year giving a return on social investment ratio of 2.6:1

Explain reserves – H Sams have a low cost base due to use of volunteers and own premises. Admin cost come to about £22k per annum.

Work in collaboration - H Sams have been a welcome member of the Borough's suicide prevention group and have developed productive relationships with wider partners such as in faith sectors

As a purely volunteer run group, Samaritans provides excellent value for money. They are well run and deliver a vital service. As well as providing individuals with emotional support to reduce suicides by those in crisis, they also seek to prevent crisis by working with schools, colleges, businesses and community groups and services to increase understanding of emotional health and improve the quality of interventions provided for those in need.

However, a grant for 2023/24 is not recommended as H Sams has substantial reserves which would seem to cover about 3-4 years of operating costs. Last year unrestricted reserves grew by more than the core grant. In these circumstances and against the grant criteria it is difficult to justify further grant.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting a contribution of £6,000 for 2023/24, the same level of grant awarded in 2022/23. The LBH grant equates to 31% of the total expenditure in the last financial year. Financial statements report a surplus of £8,458 for 2021/22; this is a decrease of £14,451 compared to previous year's surplus of £22,909. Total reserves increased by £8,458 from £115,241 to £123,699 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £115,699, an increase of £8,458 compared to £107,241 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover six years of running costs.

Income decreased by £23,454, primarily due to a reduction in donations, grant receipts and fund raising income. Unrestricted reserves include designated funds of £38,798 received to be invested in the charity's fixed assets. It is therefore not readily available for other purposes. During this financial year none of the Designated fund was utilised. This means that available unrestricted reserves total £76,901 which would be sufficient to cover four years of running costs.

| <i>Organisation: Bell Farm Christian Centre (BFCC)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| Bell Farm operates in an estate in West Drayton providing early intervention and prevention support services. Projects support children and families, older people support including dining club, the Doorway information advice service delivered alongside the Yiewsley and West Drayton foodbank, and social/recreational activities and training courses. BFCC also advocates on behalf of local traveller community and has developed its community café which support asylum seekers and refugees often in temporary or holding accommodation near the Airport. | | | | £99,675 contribution to salaries and advice work costs and older peoples dining club. | |
| | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £90,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 2,132 Across varied services, not including 2,800 + beneficiaries of food bank outside of application. | 91 | 4,986 | Met | £80,000 plus £18,000 dining centre | £289,650 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Families Provision: Toy Library, community parent support groups, one to one support, holiday clubs and children's events. • Older People's lunch and social club, day trips, holidays and outreach to isolated older people in the community • Doorway Advice, Information and Care Service delivered alongside the Yiewsley and West Drayton foodbank. • Advocacy for those who identify as Gypsy or Traveller including forums and outreach. • Fresh food produce distributed weekly to families in need through Foodbank and FairShare • Community café and support asylum seekers and refugees who may be temporarily placed, dispersed or settled. | | | | | |
| Bell Farm Christian Centre is situated in the centre of an estate which is in the top 20% of most deprived areas in England. Services attract and support over 2000 beneficiaries each year, the majority of whom are local and experiencing hardship as well as problems accessing services. BFCC is also very successful in working with members of the Traveller Community and asylum seekers, working to ensure they are fully integrated into the wider community. They have experienced a growing number of individuals seeking their advice and foodbank services from the Heathrow villages and have therefore identified the need to expand service provision locations. BFCC older person's provision provides healthy lunches and social opportunities together with outreach. | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, BFCC has been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to : | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money | | | | | |

- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – the popularity and demand for BFCC services evidences local need. Based in an area of significant deprivation having support embedded into the local community enables a variety of responses to changing needs.

Value for money – for 2022/23 core grant of £98K delivered support for over 2132 with unit cost of approximately £46, however it should be noted that this includes a wide range of activities from older peoples lunch club to advice and guidance sessions and playgroups and family support (does not include the Foodbank).

Viable and sustainable – BFCC has a good track record of delivery and has improved its business planning and governance to ensure it is viable and sustainable. At present however there is still some reliance on core grant to meet programmes.

Support Council services – The breadth of services offered by BFCC impact on council services in various ways. Early intervention with children and families can intervene early to ensure support with parenting, access to services and benefits, similarly with older people providing lunches and outreach can reduce isolation and allow residents to live at home longer with less need for social care intervention. BFCC's work with Travellers provides particular insight into this community and supports services such as educational participation.

Lever in external funding – Expenditure in 2022/23 is forecast at £289,650 against grant of £98k showing a return on social investment of 2:1. External income is achieved through other grant sources, trusts, local fundraising and earned income.

Explain reserves – set at levels in line with policy to meet between 3 and 5 months running costs. Stated as £61.5k which is at lower end of range.

Work in collaboration - BFCC works with other agencies in Hillingdon especially with H4All, CAB and DASH as well as other more local groups.

BFCC was awarded an increase in funding for 2022/23 (total £98k) to provide the capacity to meet the challenges of re-designing services to respond to different and growing needs brought about by the pandemic and to embed a new performance recording system so they are better equipped to evidence outputs & outcomes to compete for external funding. £5k of this related to a CRM system which is now in place.

BFCC have now sought the same grant this year but included a small inflationary uplift to help them deal with increased costs to £99,675.

Given the pressures on Council budgets it is not recommended that any uplift be awarded. In addition the CRM system now in place the additional payment for that last year should enable a small saving. Moving forward the Council will need to consider how it wishes to engage with Bell Farm CC and other significant providers as part of early intervention commissioned services from April 2024. Bell Farm has started to ensure that grant applications take into account full overheads and this is welcome. For 2023/24 it is recommended that a grant of £90k be awarded.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting a total contribution of £99,675 for 2023/24, an increase of £1,675 compared to grant awarded in 2022/23. The amount requested includes a contribution of £10,904 towards the Dining Centre. The LBH grant equates to 40.82% of the total expenditure in the last financial year. Financial statements report a deficit of £8,418 for 2021/2022; this is a deterioration of £18,263 from the

previous year's surplus of £9,845. Total reserves decreased by £8,418 from £326,952 to £318,534 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £88,771, a decrease of £3,761 compared to £92,532 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover seven and a half months of running costs.

Income remained stable thanks to income from charitable activities which offsetted a reduction of grants received during the year. Expenditure, however, saw an increase of £16,370 from £227,431 to £244,161 the higher impact on charitable activities related to Older Persons' projects.

| <i>Organisation: Centre for ADHD and Autistic Support (CAAS)</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>CAAS supports, educates and empowers individuals with ADHD and/or autism and their families and the community. Originally based in Harrow, CAAS moved to Eastcote several years ago and now also supports Hillingdon residents, who make up about 29% of its clients. CAAS offers a full range of information, support and training for parents/carers and siblings, as well as for adults and young people with autism and/or ADHD. Young people can access counselling, 1-1 mentoring, individual transition support, training, and various social clubs and activities. The programme of support for adults includes training, peer and therapeutic groups and 1-1 coaching.</p> | | | | <p>£27,109 contribution to core salary, delivery of training and running costs</p> | |
| | | | | <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>£15,000</p> | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| Approx 920 for Hillingdon | 2 | 220 | Met | £15,000 | £950,460 |
| <p><i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i></p> <p>CAAS provide support to ADHD/autistic people, their families and the wider community. They have over 20 years of experience, qualified staff with personal experience, and through talking and listening to ADHD/autistic people, they have an in-depth understanding of the support needs of their clients. Members of their team are parents of children with a diagnosis of either ADHD or autism, have ADHD/autistic partners or may be neurodiverse themselves. This gives real lived experience so they can relate to, and empathise with those who access services</p> <p>In 2023/24 CAAS expect to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See 200 clients at their centre/online through a range of services. • 200 through outreach in the community. • 14 individuals on an Understanding Autism Course. • 14 individuals on a Living with ADHD/Autism Parenting Course • Hillingdon clients can access the majority of CAAS services. <p>The charity records a range of successful outcomes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of individuals accessing drop-ins feel less isolated • 85% of parents accessing services have a better parental understanding and management of the conditions alleviating stress, isolation and depression of families affected <p><i>Officer Comment</i></p> <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, CAAS have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run</p> | | | | | |

and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – CAAS is able to meet a local need for families and individuals who may be coming to terms with a diagnosis or need support and guidance to reduce isolation and lead fulfilling lives.

Value for money - CAAS covers a wider footprint than Hillingdon, so the focus on core grant is to ensure that Hillingdon residents are able to access their services. For a grant of £15k some 920 local people and their families directly benefit - a unit cost of £16.30.

Viable and sustainable – CAAS's business model is viable and sustainable. They have generated a diverse range of income support from trusts and donations to spread risk of programmes struggling should funding cease.

Support Council services – Early intervention and support for autism and/or ADHD and for families helps reduce likelihood of need for high costs interventions in social care, NHS and in schools and in justice services.

Lever in external funding – It is hard to calculate any meaningful return on social investment and the figures provided, based on accounts, are likely to represent the whole organisation rather than benefit Hillingdon solely. CAAS has however achieved significant investment from a range of external funders, charitable trusts and lottery, as well as donations and earned income total for 2022/23 is expected to be approx. £750k. 29% of which = £217.5k and verses £15k investment would imply return on social investment of 13.3:1

Explain reserves - Reserves are held in the event that the charity needs to close -the reserves will meet contractual liabilities. Unrestricted reserves are stated as £245k

Work in collaboration - CAAS collaborates with a wide range of partners across the borough including HACS.

CAAS offers value for money in several ways, including financial and prevention. Most services are provided free of charge or at minimal cost. Their adult ADHD group is one of the highest rated groups within London and their Autistic Women's Forum and Girls Groups are one of the only groups in their area run specifically for autistic females. The majority of their funding comes from LB Harrow, CCG's, Trusts such as Children in Need, Comic Relief, and earned income and local fundraising. For 2023/24 CAAS has sought an uplift to £27,109 in grant to they feel more accurately the "Hillingdon benefit" of their services.

The Council will need to consider how its new direction in core grants signalled earlier in the year and the move to commissioning of early intervention support should reflect work with people with autism and ADHD and what should be in place from April 2024. For 2023/24 it is recommended that a core grant of £15k be awarded.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting the same level of grant award funding, of £15,000 in 2022/23. Draft financial statements report a surplus of £118,389 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £104,898 compared to the previous year surplus of £223,287. The LBH grant contributed 2.3% of the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £341,676. Total reserves increased by £118,389 from £223,287 to £341,676 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £254,158, an increase of £103,157 compared to £151,001 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 23 months of running costs.

The Centre for ADHD and Autism Support support 920 Hillingdon Residents. Overall in 2021/22, the centre received incoming restricted fund resources, amounting to £527,352, consisting of 17 different funding streams, including the £15,000 grant award from the London Borough of Hillingdon. It is noted in the reserves statement that the reserves are just under 3 months of total costs and there is a Forecast loss within their 6 month CAAS reserves policy.

| Organisation: Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support (HACS) | | | | Amount Requested and Use | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| <p>Description</p> <p>Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support (HACS) provides support in five main areas to those affected by Autism: Family support, Training service for parents/carers and professionals, Recreation service, Employment training and support and Autism awareness. Services support people with autism and their families. The organisation also works with schools, colleges, employers, social services and mental health services to improve the response to and, therefore, the experience of those with autism.</p> <p>It offers practical and supported work experience for people with autism via two community cafes.</p> | | | | £91,800 for core staff salaries | |
| | | | | <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>£40,000</p> | |
| No of Service Users | Active Volunteers | Volunteer hours p.a. | Previous yr targets | Corporate Grant 2022/23 | Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon |
| 1168 | 30 | 1,500 | Partially met | £91,800 | £668,650 |
| <p><i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i></p> <p>AUTISM AWARENESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in 4 Hillingdon Autism Partnership Meetings per year Exhibit HACS services at 6 community events per year (<i>subject to Covid restrictions</i>) Annual Autism Acceptance event (<i>subject to Covid event size restrictions</i>) <p>FAMILY SUPPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operate a telephone helpline for 43 hours per week 52 weeks Respond to 500 family support referrals (information, advice and guidance) Facilitate 33 autism surgeries per year (online/face-to-face blended approach) 3 well-being events for parents/carers 10 Behaviour Support Clinics per year 10 Anxiety Support Clinics per year <p>TRAINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 “Understanding Autism” workshops/webinars per year 10 specialist workshops / webinars per year Provide Autism training to 3 employers per year <p>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S SERVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 Saturday clubs per year “EXPLORERS” (7-13) 19 Saturday clubs per year “ADVENTURERS” (7-13) 19 Saturday clubs per year “YOUTH” (14-25) 33 weekly youth club sessions at Harlington Young People’s Centre for young people aged 11 – 25 years 33 weekly youth club sessions at South Ruislip Young People’s Centre for young people aged 11 – 25 years 16 Playscheme sessions per year “EXPLORERS” (6-13) 16 Playscheme sessions per year “ADVENTURERS” (6-13) 16 Playscheme sessions “YOUTH” (14-25) X 1 cohort specialist Girls Support Group <p>SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 people will receive IAG relating to further education, training or employment 20 people will complete a supported work placement 38 workshops per year in CV building, interview preparation, job application Provide in work support to 6 autistic people who have secured employment through our Skills and Employment pathways | | | | | |

- Provide job coaching support for 12 interns on Project Search (full time programme)

ADULT SERVICES

- 45 social activities for autistic adults using an in-person/virtual hybrid approach
- 90 fitness (body conditioning)/yoga sessions per year for autistic adults
- 60 autistic adults without intellectual disability will access wellbeing support
- 3 x 8 week open-access group learning programme per annum for autistic adults who have recently received a diagnosis of autism
- 12 monthly general advice/guidance drop-in sessions for practical issues e.g. letters/welfare/benefits
- 12 monthly discussion groups for autistic adults

Officer Comment

In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HACS have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – HACS is able to meet a local need for families and individuals who may be coming to terms with a diagnosis or need support and guidance to reduce isolation and lead fulfilling lives.

Value for money – HACS delivers services for 1579 clients (across a number of different services as above). The grant splits into two categories; £40k for core costs plus £51.8k for employment projects at RAGC and Brookfield. For the core element this equates to unit cost of £25.30. (40,000/1579). For the employment programme 20 places are proposed for the £40k allocated for the RAGC tea room producing a unit cost of £2,000. However, it is noted that monitoring reports for 20/21 cite numbers as reaching 46 which would then be £869. This assumes that the £11.8k payment previously allocated for Brookfield is no longer needed as now closed.

Viable and sustainable – HACS's business model is viable and sustainable. They have generated a diverse range of income support from trusts and donations to spread risk of programmes struggling should funding cease.

Support Council services – Early intervention and support for autism and/or ADHD and for families helps reduce likelihood of need for high costs interventions in social care, NHS and in schools and in justice services. HACS support for 2 x individuals on the PREVENT programme has been welcome.

Lever in external funding – HACS has achieved investment from a range of external funders, charitable trusts and lottery, as well as donations and earned income total for 2022/23 is expected to be approx. £579k which would imply a return on social investment of 13.4:1 on core grant (£40k) or 5.3:1 on full grant.

Explain reserves - Unrestricted reserves are stated as £616k. Reserves policy is to hold 6 months running costs (although this is also stated as £104k). Amount held would seem to cover nearly 12 months of all expenditure.

Work in collaboration - HACS collaborates with a wide range of partners across the borough including CAAS.

For 2022/23 HACS received approximately £91,800 grants made up of the core grant (£40k) and a grant for Rural Gardens Tea Rooms, Brookfield Café (£40k and £11.8k). The latter grant was subject to the sites opening post Covid, the Brookfield centre is now closed and has been repurposed.

The Council will need to consider how its new direction in core grants signalled earlier in the year and the move to commissioning of early intervention support should reflect work with people with autism and ADHD and what should be in place from April 2024. The core grant element is recommended to be funded for 2023/24 for £40k.

The employment support project at Brookfield is no longer needed. As an employment support programme benefitting 20 residents at £40k, the RAGC tea room project is expensive the tea room needs to become self-sustaining in some way. A grant of £40k for core costs is recommended again 2023/24. Funding of employment support programmes need to be supported by external funding routes such as ECHP or access to work support from DWP or even personal budgets rather than grant funded.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting £91,800, the same level of grant funding as awarded in 2021/22. It is unknown what the profit/loss for 2021/22 was. Total reserves increased by £220,102 from £454,076, as reported in the voluntary grant workings, to £674,178 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £616,442, increased by £200,553, compared to £415,889 reported for the prior year.

| <i>Organisation: Home-Start Hillingdon</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|---|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| Home-start works with families experiencing difficulties that have at least one child under five. Assistance is tailored to the needs identified and provides both practical and emotional support. | | | | £120,000 Core salaries, accommodation and administration costs and professional fees and volunteer expenses | |
| Support is flexible with many families receiving home visits by volunteers on a weekly basis for as long as required. For families with additional needs, a Family Support worker is available to provide 1-1 support. Occasional support is also offered by a co-ordinator where the home visiting support is deemed inappropriate to the family's needs. Their 2-year Perinatal mental health project has been supporting women who are at risk of or have mental health problems during the pregnancy and up to one year after. | | | | Recommendation: £120,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 93 separate families 156 separate Children | 39` | 564 hrs direct support (constrained by pandemic) | Met | £120,000 | £214,860 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 40 families will receive ongoing home visiting support • Support provided to 10 families within the Perinatal - mental health project • A further 15-20 will receive intensive 1-1 from the family support worker and/or co-ordinator • Run two volunteer preparation course training for 10-14 new volunteers x 40 hours • Improve parents' skills, parents' wellbeing, children's wellbeing and family management • Issue vouchers for Hillingdon Food Bank to families in need | | | | | |
| Home-Start specialises in working with hard-to-reach families who face significant and complex challenges including mental illness, isolation, physical disability, children with additional needs, poverty and inadequate housing. 9% of families are asylum seekers or refugees. The aim is to improve a family's resilience and ability to cope with their situation. Multiple issues and needs are common, so the service is tailored individually and the estimated time with a family is 6 months. HSH work with families referred to them by children's services, mental health teams, children's centres or health visitors, some of whom may have a child protection plan. Once families have been assessed by the co-ordinator and a plan of support is agreed, a trained volunteer with parenting experience provides support in the home to deliver the plan. | | | | | |
| Volunteers receive a thorough and intensive 40-hour training programme including safeguarding, understanding depression, listening and play skills, as well as ongoing supervision. They continue to have access to training throughout their time volunteering. In addition to the Volunteer supported service, Home-Start provide a Family support worker who deals with the more complex cases where the use of volunteers would be inappropriate. | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HSH have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to : | | | | | |

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – HSH meets identified need to support families to avoid crises and prevent breakdown. Demand is high reflecting the needs identified through practitioners who refer families to HSH.

Value for money – HSH delivered support for 93 families (and 156 children) during 2021/22 at a cost to Council of £120k. Unit cost therefore is £1290 per family. The preventative cost however is not calculable as it is not possible to prove a negative but if only a small number of these families or children required statutory interventions or care then this would prove good value.

Viable and sustainable – HSH business model relies heavily on core grant. The service is established and delivers for families utilising volunteers to extend reach.

Support Council services – Early intervention and prevention through support for families to prevent escalation of crises is a key part of Hillingdon Health and Wellbeing strategy.

Lever in external funding – Whilst HSH has made efforts to apply for external funding and has fund raised overall HSH remains reliant on funding from Council grant together with smaller amounts from CCG. The expected costs for current year are £153,400 representing a poor return on social investment of 0.28:1

Explain reserves – Reserves are £50k in line with policy, with £125k held as cash.

Work in collaboration - HSH works with local services well to ensure appropriate referrals and wider voluntary sector to signpost and to support families.

Home-Start has shown that it is able to intervene early and support the families referred to it and make a demonstrable difference to those families, avoiding crises and escalation of need, which may well have led to intervention from statutory services. The benefit of this service is not in doubt what needs to be questioned, however, is whether this type of intervention should sit as part of a wider early intervention and prevention commissioned service from April 2024 and wider preventative services via family hubs, and public health contracts, for example. For 2023/24 however, and to allow due consideration of those issues it is recommended that a grant of £120k be awarded.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting same level compared to £120,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Audited financial statements report a surplus of £20,209 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £12,488 compared to the previous year surplus of £32,697. The LBH grant contributed 59% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total reserves increased by £20,209 from £101,317 to £121,526 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £50,281, a decrease of £8,830 compared £59,111 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 4.1 months of running costs.

As at 31 March 2022, the charity held £52,110 in a separate bank account for non-budgeted expenditure, including any last-resort need to close down the scheme. During 2021/22 the charity supported 93 separate families and 156 children, all of whom were Hillingdon residents.

| <i>Organisation: Uxbridge Child Contact Centre</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | £7,308 Rent, staff and running costs | |
| UCCC provides a safe and neutral space where separated parents can spend time with their estranged children and maintain contact or be able to start to rebuild relationships where there is no other option available. UCCC is affiliated to Relate who provide infrastructure support. Sessions are held on a Saturday, twice monthly in Uxbridge. | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 40 (90% Hillingdon residents) | 7 | 231 | Met | £3,355 | 11,981 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <p>The Centre will continue to provide twice monthly supervised contact for separated parents and their children with the aim of supporting families to manage their own arrangements in the long term. Contact sessions are up to 3 hours for the non-resident parent and child. Grandparents and extended family members are also welcomed with the prior agreement of both parents, helping to sustain wider relationships that might otherwise not have the opportunity to flourish. Volunteers manage the sessions at the hall at Christchurch to ensure the smooth hand over from parents and supervise visits, providing refreshments, toys, books etc. The volunteer co-ordinator is responsible for recruiting and inducting volunteers and co-ordinating and booking the sessions between the separated parents, prior to the visit. The request includes £3,948 for this role.</p> <p>The co-ordinator is supported by Relate who carry out DBS checks on volunteers and manage the finances and fundraising for the service. They refer to and take referrals from the service and therefore it fits with their aims and supports their objectives. The National Association for Child Contact Centres (NACCC) is accessible to the co-ordinator who submits quarterly reports to them, and they provide the guidelines for running sessions, training volunteers and inductions etc. The co-ordinator can also refer to the CAF/CASS officer for advice and safeguarding issues are reported to the Council and NACCC.</p> | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, UCCC have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:</p> <p><i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – demand indicates there is a need and the desire to keep families together or in contact supports health and wellbeing.</p> <p><i>Value for money</i> – for 2022/23 for a grant of £3355 UCC aims to reach 25 clients, for 2023/24 the request is £7308 to reach 40 clients. This implies unit costs of £134 and £182 respectively.</p> | | | | | |

Viable and sustainable –the project depends heavily on core grant funding to cover the administration and supervision/co-ordinator costs. Whilst Relate has access to reserves it is not clear whether these would be used to sustain the UCCC without grant support.

Support Council services – Stronger families is a council priority in Health and Wellbeing strategy and wider council plan. The service may impact on council services if family breakdown, requiring statutory intervention ensues.

Lever in external funding – The application does not indicate any pending or applied for external funding and relies on core grant. Costs are expected to be £11,981 for 2022/23 and up to £13,500 for 2023/24. It is not clear how the difference between income and expenditure will be met. Other than £2.2k p.a. cited as for statutory income etc no other external funding has been sought. There is therefore no real return on social investment for the grant.

Explain reserves - Reserves for Relate are not stated for current year. At March 2021 reserves were considered significant.

Work in collaboration - It is not clear how UCC works with partners in voluntary sector.

The overall unit costs of this service questions the value for money of this intervention. In addition, the application for next year increases costs and UCCC would become more dependent on Council funding. There has been no attempt to reduce costs or increase external income which is a part of the grant criteria. The recommendation, therefore, is that the application should not be supported for 2023/24.

Corporate Finance Comment

See Above - RELATE financial statements.

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Organisation: Crane Valley Community interest company (CIC) (previously Green Corridor) | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| Description Crane Valley Community Interest Company is a small social enterprise formed in March 2021 as the new host of the Crane Valley Partnership. Crane Valley CIC is a partnership of charities, communities, local authorities, businesses and government agencies in the five boroughs bordering the River Crane. Its aim is to deliver environmental improvements to the river that will have a strategic catchment-wide benefit. CVCIC can provide expertise in environmental management, partnership working, co-ordinate catchment activities, harness teams of volunteers for projects and access external funding. Hillingdon covers 43% of the Crane catchment area. | | | | £10,000 contractor fees and admin | |
| | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £10,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| N/R | 9-12 | None provided | Met | £10,000 | Not recorded |
| Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include: | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen Crane water quality monitoring project has recently been incorporated into the Smarter Water Catchment catchments initiative guaranteeing that the LB Hillingdon will have river quality monitoring throughout 2023/24 and beyond. - Smarter Water Catchments urban pilot. Thames Water embarked on an integrated water resource management process to assist in managing water resources. The Crane catchment has been chosen as the urban pilot for the period of five years to 2025 with a £3m investment. A Crane Valley Grant programme was established through the SWC this year offering two funding schemes: The Community Fund (small grants up to £2k to local groups) and a Project Fund offering grants £2k-£100k to support delivery on the ground by stakeholders such as the Council. - Reclaiming the Riverside project – CVP partners including CVCIC will be involved in the delivery led by the Conservation volunteers. This project received funding of £211k to deliver environmental enhancement works along a 3km stretch of the Crane corridor. This is due to end on March 23 but may be extended. - Colne and Crane Valleys Green Infrastructure Strategy is being actively promoted by CVP. The strategy document has taken on additional significance following the recent government proposals for changes to the planning system which will require reviews of local authority Local Plans. - Cranford Park – CVP submitted a response in support of the planning application for restoration works at Cranford Parks historic core and LB Hillingdon has secured funding for this project and working with the project team. | | | | | |
| The CVCIC has been specifically set up to host the CVP. As a social enterprise it is well placed to promote the community voice within the partnership. They are developing an affiliates scheme for “Friends of” and other community groups to keep them informed of what is going on in relation to catchment management, canvas their views on key issues and provide guidance where needed on environmental stewardship issues. | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |

In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, CVCIC has been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – the need in this case is the environmental impact of providing stewardship of a significant waterway in the borough. Monitoring water quality, developing enhancements and creating infrastructure through volunteering and community engagement to provide oversight of this local asset.

Value for money – It is not possible to identify unit costs per beneficiary as the benefits are to the Crane Valley and its biodiversity and water quality. For a grant of £10k, the Council has been able to influence /access support via the £3m Smart Water Catchments fund provided by Thames Water.

Viable and sustainable – CVCIC has hit the ground running as the new Crane Valley Partnership and demonstrated a ability to both delivery strategic oversight and to lever in external funding.

Support Council services – The CVCIC support of management of green spaces and parks including Cranford Park projects and parks and meadows alongside the Crane river. The strategies will also support planning issues in understanding the area better. In addition, the CVP works to support our climate action plan.

Lever in external funding – The CVP is a consortium of smaller funders each reliant on others continuing to support the project. A Return on investment for current year shows about £137k raised though support, income and lottery, leading to ratio of 12.7:1. This does not factor in additional grant funding available and linked to the CVCIC such as the Smart Water Catchment grant set out above which are brought to the borough.

Explain reserves – Aim is for 9 months of annual turnover. Currently £13,244 and therefore below this.

Work in collaboration – CVCIC works closely with other local groups and statutory partners in communities but more widely such as with Heathrow.

The CVCIC has shown an impressive return on investment and brought to the area strategic structure which has led to wider investment such as the Smarter Water Catchment grants. For a return of £10k p.a. this still represents good value for the Council and reduces demand on wider services, delivering on environmental priorities. It is recommended that the grant be awarded for 2023/24.

Corporate Finance Comment

Crane Valley CIC was set up in 2021 and the financial year 2021-22 was its first year of operation. The total reserves are £13,244 for 21/22 and the expenditure for the year was £43,774. The LBH grant contributed to 23% of expenditure for 21/22. The reserves are sufficient to cover 3.6 months of running costs.

The charity's reserve statement states that the reserves should cover 3 months of running costs.

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Organisation: Hertfordshire and Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT) | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| <i>Description</i> The grant supports a programme of habitat management and conservation work at four nature reserves (Old Park Wood, Broadwater Lakes, Uxbridge Aldergrade, Stockers Lake and Springwell Reedbed). HMWT provide a range of volunteering opportunities for Hillingdon residents as well as leading on a number of wildlife activities at the reserves. | | | | £2,500 contribution towards Reserve Officer's salary | |
| | | | | Recommendation: £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| Hillingdon only: Estimated 4,500 unique visitors per year 289 individual members | 37 | 642.5 | Met | £2,500 | £28,253 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage and maintain the four nature reserves within the borough • Organise and deliver 4 guided walks, open to all Hillingdon residents. • Organise and deliver 10 talks, events and school visits to local groups and 2 community drop-in education events. • Organise and deliver 14 volunteer work parties. | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HMWT have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to : | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support | | | | | |
| To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements: | | | | | |
| <i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – environmental improvements and maintenance to 4 x nature reserves. If neglected would become overgrown and inaccessible reducing utility value for residents and impacting on biodiversity. | | | | | |
| <i>Value for money</i> – When compared to the potential contracted cost of maintaining nature reserves the grant to HMWT does represent value for money. | | | | | |
| <i>Viable and sustainable.</i> HMWT's model and use of volunteers represents a viable and sustainable approach. | | | | | |
| <i>Support Council services</i> – The site concerned are owned by H&MWT so whilst in Council interest to have them well maintained, doing so does not directly reduce demand on the authority | | | | | |
| <i>Lever in external funding</i> – expected expenditure in borough of £28.5k in 2022/23 v £2.5k grant equal ROSI of 10.6:1 | | | | | |

Explain reserves – HMWT reserves are substantial. Stated as unrestricted at nearly £2m.

Work in collaboration - Links to communities with local membership and volunteers.

Whilst the small grant to HMWT offers good value against the services delivered, it is hard not to conclude that the “need for funding” case has not been made given HMWT’s extensive financial reserves. It seems likely that their nature reserves could be maintained at these level using financial reserves for a number of years.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting same level of £2,500 compared to the grant awarded in 2022/23. Audited financial statements report a surplus of £141,000 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £171,000 compared to the previous year surplus of £312,000. The LBH grant contributed 0.1% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £5,383,000. Total reserves increased by £141,000 from £5,242,000 to £5,383,000 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £1,946,000, a decrease of £55,000 compared to £2,001,000 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 15 months of running costs.

Reserve policy is maintain unrestricted financial resources to meet 12 month' financial needs and set additional reserves to fund one-off projects that may arise during the strategic plan. With this in mind, unrestricted reserves of £1,946,000 include designated funds of £1,181,000 made up by £806,000 Endowment fund and £375,000 Legacies fund. If we take this into consideration, the unrestricted reserves would only have £765,000 available. This amount would be sufficient to cover six months of running costs.

The charity saw a decrease in their income due to a reduction on funding received from donations, gifts & grants, legacies and fundraising.

| <i>Organisation: Hillingdon Community Transport</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| HCT provide affordable accessible transport and drivers for local community groups and statutory agencies. HCT uses volunteer and paid drivers and provides driving training and general advice for staff and external partners. | | | | £32,000 core salaries | |
| Based at the Council Depot in Harlington Road, HCT has over 150 registered voluntary sector member groups accessing the service. In addition, it runs contracted services for schools and the Council using paid drivers. It also runs two "Shoppa Bus" services in South of the Borough where transport options are limited. It provides training for bus drivers and provides advice and maintenance for groups using their own buses. | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 21,260 of which just under 2000 are wheelchair users. All via member groups | 15 | Not stated | Met | £20,000 | £400,200 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim to carry 20,000+ passengers in 2023/24 of which just under 2000 are wheelchair users combining voluntary and contract work. • 500 shoppa bus passengers • Deliver 1,200+ carriage requests using volunteer drivers • Deliver accredited minibus training to 150 trainees including Council workers • Deliver 7 contracts for special needs transport for the Council • Maintain 3 minibus sharing arrangements with individual groups | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, HCT have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to : | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support | | | | | |
| To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements: | | | | | |
| <i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – HCT meets needs of groups who require transport to activities and services and their model is popular and well used. Numbers are showing signs of recovering post pandemic to their former levels of some 30,000 passengers a year. | | | | | |
| <i>Value for money</i> – HCT drove 21,260 clients from about 150 groups to venues and activities in the past year. At a grant of £20k this equates to a unit cost of under £1 a trip which in effect means grant subsidises each journey by nearly £1. | | | | | |

Viable and sustainable – HCT business model is in effect in two parts - the contracts for SEN transport which are won competitively and the voluntary groups transport support which is subsidised by core grant. Both cover their costs reasonably well but the latter is also currently dependent on grant so as to keep charges to service users as low as possible.

Support Council services – Many groups supported assist the council in meeting its priorities, indeed many receive core grants to do this. In addition, as a commercial provider of SEN transport HCT is an important provider of that service.

Lever in external funding – The service depends on contract payments and earned income from charging. There is no additional external funding raised by the charity.

Explain reserves – Unrestricted reserves are £214k held to cover closure, money is also earmarked to cover bus replacements and repairs with £22k stated as unallocated.

Work in collaboration -

Hillingdon Community Transport has been a long-term council partner and benefits from a base at the Council's depot in Harlington Road. This partnership has worked well for number of years but has been reliant on core grant to subsidise the community groups access to transport. The SEN contracts are self-funding and it is not possible under their S19 licence to subsidise community work from contracts. For the community groups work to become self-funding HCT needs to review its charges or to raise external funding. This has been pointed out to HCT and was a factor in reducing the grant in 2022/23 from £32k to £20k. In addition, the group holds significant reserves which could be used to meet anticipated deficit next year of £17,550.

Given the priorities set out for grant programme for 2023/24 it is not recommended that HCT receives further core grant but be encouraged to establish its community arm as self-funding by looking at charges, potential income for groups through the Bus Service Operators Grant or to raise funds externally.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting an increase of £12,000 compared to £20,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Audited financial statements report a surplus of £34,559 for 2021/22. This is an increase of £72,547 compared to the previous year deficit of £37,988. The LBH grant contributed 5.85% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £234,051. Total reserves increased by £34,559 from £199,492 to £234,051 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £234,051 an increase of £37,842 compared to £196,209 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover eight and a half months of running costs.

It is the policy of the Charity that they have an unrestricted and undesignated reserve of £100,000. Unrestricted funds of £234,051 include designated funds of £146,291 made up by £90,000 contingency fund, £19,341 invested in fixed assets and £36,950 bus replacement fund. If we take this into consideration, the unrestricted reserves would only have £87,760 available. This amount would be sufficient to cover three months of running costs.

| <i>Organisation: London Wildlife Trust</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | |
| London Wildlife Trust manage 10 nature reserves covering 200 acres of reserves on behalf of the Council. The group aims to:- | | | | £10,000 For direct management of 10 Council owned reserves | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● increase public access ● use the reserves as an educational tool ● protect London's green spaces ● enhance wildlife in the area <p>The practical maintenance work is carried out with the assistance of volunteers.</p> | | | | Recommendation: | |
| | | | | £10,000 | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| N/A accessible by the public | 12 active local & pool of 70 on staff-led projects | 2,123 | Met | £10,000 | £45,290 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 Highlights include:</i> | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manage 100ha of land on 10 nature reserves ● On 2 x SSI, improve through high quality appropriate habitat management e.g. grazing schemes in partnership with local farmers. Implement a 10 year management scheme on six of the sites through Higher Level Stewardship. ● Run weekly volunteer activity days to manage these reserves. ● Deliver 150 conservation workdays. ● Run nature walks during the summer on reserves and local green spaces. ● Attend public events and festivals to promote nature reserves and LWT work. ● Work with Colne Valley Landscape partnership to deliver key projects in the area. ● Sit on the HS2 mitigation panel to ensure not net loss mantra is implemented, ensuring wildlife has a voice in the HS2 development. | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | |
| In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, LWT have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to : | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure better outcomes for residents ● Achieve the best value for money ● Reduce dependency on grant support | | | | | |
| To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements: | | | | | |
| <i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – environmental improvements and maintenance to 10 x nature reserves. If neglected would become overgrown and inaccessible reducing utility value for residents and impacting on biodiversity. | | | | | |
| <i>Value for money</i> – When compared to the potential contracted cost of maintaining nature reserves the grant to LWT does represent value for money. | | | | | |

Viable and sustainable LWT's model and use of volunteers represents a viable and sustainable approach.

Support Council services - LWT's work across the 10 Council owned sites reduces the cost of maintaining these in house or via a contractor.

Lever in external funding – expected expenditure in borough of £45,290 in 2022/23 v £10k grant equal ROSI of 3.5:1. External funds are raised via charitable trusts

Explain reserves – LWT unrestricted reserves are £561k across a London wide footprint.

Work in collaboration - Links to communities with local membership and volunteers.

The grant to LWT offers good value against the services delivered and generates external funding for investment in Hillingdon. However, LWT does have sufficient reserves to cover this cost should it choose to do so. For 2023/24 it is recommended that the grant be awarded at the same rate but that discussion take place between the Council and LWT to establish what arrangements should be in place from April 2024.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting same level compared to £10,000 grant awarded in 2022/23. Audited consolidated financial statements report a surplus of £319,000 for 2021/22. This is a decrease of £489,000 compared to the previous year surplus of £808,000. The LBH grant contributed less than 1% to the total expenditure in the last financial year. Total funds carried forward are £4,491,000. Total reserves increased by £370,000 from £4,121,000 to £4,491,000 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £2,940,000, a decrease of £36,000 compared to £2,976,000 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover nearly nine months of running costs.

Unrestricted reserves are above the maximum required level of £300k. LWT has the capacity to drawdown from such surpluses for the 23-24 financial year.

DINING CENTRE GRANTS 2023/24

| Organisation: Dovetail Community Outreach | | | | | Amount Requested | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Description Dovetail Community Centre runs dining centre/lunch club focusing on offering older residents a place to enjoy a meal with others and build new friendships in a warm and friendly environment. The service is focused on the provision of a meal which supports maintaining good nutrition for those that attend. | | | | | £20,000 Contribution to catering manager costs. | | |
| | | | | | Recommendation: £10,000 | | |
| <i>No of Service Users p.a.</i> | <i>Cost Per Meal</i> | <i>Service User Contribution</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a</i> | <i>Previous yr targets.</i> | <i>Dining Centre Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend in Hillingdon 2022/23</i> |
| 60 | £13 | £5 | 20 | 1500 approx | Partially met | £15,000 | 51,740 |

Planned Activities for 23/24 include:

Dovetail provides freshly cooked 2 course meal with drinks. Open weekly Monday to Friday 10.30am with meal served at 12:00 noon and open to 1.30pm. Number of meals pre-covid 9,500 per annum, 800 per month, currently 350 per month or 4200 per year.

The centre is accessible for people with disabilities. Referrals are from the Council and local GP surgeries. Transport to the venue is via Dial-A-Ride, taxi, public transport and some clients walk. Group arrange regular survey for users in addition to regular conversations asking for feedback from clients.

Officer Comment

In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, Dovetail have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :

- Ensure better outcomes for residents
- Achieve the best value for money
- Reduce dependency on grant support

To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:

Demonstrating clear need – Dining Centres broadly support the Council's wider prevention agenda and the priorities in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in helping older people live well longer.

Value for money – Current service users are 60 with 40 attending on average per week. Lunches are subsidised by approx. £8 per meal. This equates to annual cost per person of approx. £250. (15,000/60=250). Cost of grant divided by each meal is 15000/4200 = £3.57.

Viable and sustainable – Dovetail relies on grant support to keep its charges affordable. Numbers have not picked up to pre-pandemic levels although they have shown some recovery, they remain at less than 50% of pre-covid levels. Expenditure is forecast to exceed income by £11,740 for this year including the £15k grant.

Support Council services – There is an indirect link to Council services as attendees at Dovetail who benefit from the meals and social opportunities are less likely to be lonely participation in positive activities can improve wellbeing.

Lever in external funding – No external funding levered in or forecast for 2022/23 or 2023/24. Income is grant and service user payments.

Explain reserves – unrestricted balances are £33k covering approx. 8 months of operating costs

Work in collaboration - Not directly stated

Dovetail Community Outreach is based, at Hillingdon Park Baptist Church, Uxbridge. The club employs a Catering Manager on 30hrs per week which is the basis of the grant application. Volunteers help with food preparation and service, general kitchen duties and to have many conversations with clients.

It is not clear if numbers will ever return to pre-pandemic levels and the future funding of Dovetail's provision has to be looked at in value for money terms. For the relatively small numbers of overall beneficiaries the grant is not achieving a cost-effective intervention. Dovetail are encouraged to consider seeking external funding and to review their operating model in light of reduced usage and to, perhaps, reduce costs.

For 2023/24 to enable time to achieve this a grant of £10,000 is recommended.

Corporate Finance Comment

The charity is requesting a contribution of £20,000 for 2023/24, an increase of £5,000 compared to the level of grant awarded in 2022/23. The LBH grant equates to 30% of the total expenditure in the last financial year. Financial statements report a deficit of £9,147 for 2021/2022. This is a reduction of £10,552 from the previous year's surplus of £1,405. Total reserves decreased by £9,147 from £46,601 to £37,454 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £32,874, is a decrease of £9,023 compared to £41,897 reported for the prior year, are sufficient to cover 8 months of running costs.

Activities in the year continue to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and it is expected that this will continue to affect activities into the forthcoming year. Income for the year remained at the same level as the previous year. Expenditure, however, saw an increase of £9,345 in Dining Centre consumables, from £4,342 reported the previous year to £13,687. The dining centre serves a total 60 clients all of whom are Hillingdon residents. The current cost of one meal is £13 and service users pay £5 per meal. The charity only has 2 income streams – the grant from LBH and the service user contribution.

DINING CENTRE GRANTS 2023/24

| Organisation: Ruislip, Northwood Old Folks Association - (Elm Park and Tudor Clubs) | | | | | <i>Amount Requested</i> | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | | | | | £90,000 Contributes to staff and food costs to run 2x dining centres | | |
| Ruislip, Northwood Old Folks Association runs two older peopled dining clubs (at Elm Park Club in Ruislip and Tudor Club in Eastcote). Both focus on offering older residents a place to share a meal with others, build new friendships and take part in activities in a warm and friendly environment. The services are focused on the provision of a meal which supports maintaining good nutrition for those that attend. | | | | | Recommendation: £30,000 | | |
| <i>No of Service Users p.a.</i> | <i>Per Meal</i> | <i>Service User Contribution</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a</i> | <i>Previous yr targets.</i> | <i>Dining Centre Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend in Hillingdon 2022/23</i> |
| 185 | £17.76 Based on full cost incl. drinks | £5.00 additional £1 non Hillingdon residents | 13 | 3,250 | | £50,000 | £181,970 (total expected both clubs) |
| <i>Planned Activities for 23/24 include:</i> | | | | | | | |
| <p>The association offers a cooked 3-course lunch consisting of soup, a main course and dessert prepared and cooked on each premises. Open every weekday 10.30am members have tea/coffee and converse with staff, volunteers and other members. Afternoon activities are available on 2 afternoons a week offering bingo, an arts and craft club and games. Clubs are open to 3.30pm when afternoon entertainment is provided and 1.30pm on other days. Monthly activities are also arranged such as outings to local attractions, theatre visits or visiting entertainers.</p> <p>The cost of each meal works out at broadly £17.76. Number of meals served weekly is approximately 175, monthly 700 and annually 8750.</p> <p>The association employs a general manager who oversees the running of both of the Association's lunch and social clubs.</p> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Officer Comment</i> | | | | | | | |
| <p>In line with the briefings held earlier in 2022, RNOFA have been notified that the Council now wishes to see changes to the way in which financial support is provided to the voluntary sector so as to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure better outcomes for residents • Achieve the best value for money • Reduce dependency on grant support <p>To achieve this the Council will move towards commissioning of early intervention and prevention services and away from core grants. For 2023/24 groups have been advised that core grants programme will run and applications will be considered on their merits against the criteria set, with greater emphasis on some elements:</p> <p><i>Demonstrating clear need</i> – Dining Centres broadly support the Council's wider prevention agenda and the priorities in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in helping older people live well longer</p> | | | | | | | |

Value for money – Current service users are 185 with 35 meals on average per day across the two sites. Lunches are subsidised by approx. £12.76 per meal. This equates to annual cost per person of approx. £270. ($50,000/185=270$). Cost of grant divided by each meal is $50000/8750 = £8.71$.

Viable and sustainable – The operating model for RNOFA depends on core grant. Estimated expenditure for 2022/23 is £181,970 with income £113,605, with grant at £50,000. Numbers have not picked up to pre-pandemic levels of nearly 12,000 meals a year although they are increasing.

Support Council services – There is an indirect link to Council services as attendees at RNOFA who benefit from the meals and social opportunities are less likely to be lonely and participation in positive activities can improve wellbeing.

Lever in external funding – Small amounts of fundraising have taken place but main sources of income are grant and service user payments and subscriptions

Explain reserves – Nearly £100k held as unrestricted balances.

Work in collaboration - Work with Age Uk and H4All.

The grant application is for £90k, per annum for the two clubs to cover costs of staffing, food and utilities.

Numbers at both clubs have begun to increase towards pre-pandemic levels but still come in about two thirds of previous levels. The future funding of RNOFA's provision has to be looked at in value for money terms. For the relatively small numbers of overall beneficiaries the grant is not achieving a cost-effective intervention. RNOFA will need to continue to seek external funding and to review their operating model in light of reduced usage. It may prove necessary to consolidate into one club and operate that at maximum capacity, for example.

For 2023/24 to enable some short time to redevelop the business model in a more self-sustaining way on one site, a grant of £30,000 for 23/24 is recommended.

Corporate Finance Comment

The application is to benefit two different sites; Elm Park & Tudor Club. The charity is requesting a contribution of £90,000 for 2023/24, an increase of £40,000 compared to grant awarded in 2022/23. The LBH grants equate to 34% of the total expenditure in the last financial year. Financial statements report a surplus of £5,357 for 2021/2022; this is a reduction of £30,741 from previous year's surplus of £36,098. Total reserves increased by £5,357 from £178,469 to £183,826 for 2021/22. Unrestricted reserves, totalling £175,030, is an increase of £8,797 compared to £169,672 reported in the prior year, are sufficient to cover 14.2 months of running costs.

Unrestricted reserves include reserve funds of £74,429 with NS&I. The dining centre has served a total 185 clients, of which 86% are Hillingdon residents. A 3 course meal costs £5 for Hillingdon residents and an additional £1 for non-residents. Due to lower membership numbers post Covid the full cost of providing a meal is £17.76. Previously this was £10.83 with higher numbers.

The charity account states that the trustees are concerned with the long-term effect of reducing the Council grant, from £84,000 to £50,000, on the continued operation of the charity.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Organisation: Hillingdon Federation of Community Association (HFCA) | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
| Description HFCA is a community organisation set up to represent 16 CAs across Hillingdon. Its aim is to provide a sustainable and effective hub for learning, support, advice and guidance enabling local community groups and associations to grow. | | | | £25,150 for salary, website, data collection and community engagement costs. | |
| | | | | Recommendation: £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| N/A | Not clear - stated as 160x4 | Not clear | N/A | NIL | £7,748 |
| <p><i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To engage with 20+ community associations • From the survey we know that these 20+ community associations run over 400 community activities. We want to increase this to over 500. • With 500 community activities to cascade engagement from 20,000 residents to 25,000 residents. • To increase the number of forum meetings with guest speakers from 4 to 6 in 2023. • To increase the number of administrators/manager network lunches from 1 to 4 in 2023 • To increase the number of management committee meetings/121's to ensure HFCA is on track to meeting the outputs. • To facilitate monthly training sessions – example list below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ management accounts for small organisations ✓ employing the right person ✓ essential trustees ✓ financial procedures and internal controls, ✓ safeguarding and community buildings ✓ Mailchimp • To expand the popular fortnightly HFCA e-newsletter to include more partnership networking, in particular Council updates. • To look beyond the bricks and mortar of community buildings by promoting the community development approach as good practice for engagement. • To work in partnership with the Council on voluntary sector leasing representing the community sector in the Borough. • To cascade new skills from training and access to the knowledge bank to enhance the experience of the community sector in meeting the needs of local residents. <p><i>Officer Comment:</i></p> <p>This is a new application from the HFCA and seeks funding to cover staffing costs of a freelance Community advisor to develop the Association's activities on behalf of its members. Whilst HFCA has existed for a number of years it has not directly employed anyone for over 10 years, working instead through volunteers and representatives of its membership. Additional costs are to cover administrative systems such as data collection and website.</p> | | | | | |

Against our stated criteria we need to consider this against our aims of improving services for residents, achieving value for money and avoiding creating dependency.

The HFCA does not directly serve residents. It works through its independent community association members who in turn offer space and help to community groups. Improving outcomes for residents would therefore be only indirect. In terms of value for money the proposal requires grant funding to become established with limited other income other than small membership contributions. There is no proposed additional external income which represents poor value for money for the investment. Lastly, given that the proposition requires grant funding and seeks no other income it would create a dependency on grant that the scheme is aiming to avoid.

For these reasons a grant for 2023/24 is not recommended.

Corporate Finance Comment

FROM APPLICATION (NO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS): This is a new application with Hillingdon Federation of Community Associations requesting £25,150. The current reserves are £8,250 unrestricted and £13,175 restricted.

The funding is specifically for an engagement advisor's salary for 2023/24.

| <i>Organisation: The Daniella Logun Foundation</i> | | | | <i>Amount Requested and Use</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Description The DLF is a new children's brain tumour/cancer support charity. DLF offers emotional, spiritual and practical support to children living with brain tumours & other cancers and extend this to their families and primary carers. DLF is active in providing a service that enables children & their families to have a smoother palliative care journey. DLF provides one to one holistic support to children and their families and establishing a Children's hospice/ Specialist medically equipped Home-Away-From-Home in Hillingdon. The group is looking for an office base to enable it to build, grow and eventually provide this Children hospice/end-of-life/palliative care support to our community. | | | | £45,000 for staff costs | |
| | | | | Recommendation: £Nil | |
| <i>No of Service Users</i> | <i>Active Volunteers</i> | <i>Volunteer hours p.a.</i> | <i>Previous yr targets</i> | <i>Corporate Grant 2022/23</i> | <i>Total Spend 2022/23 in Hillingdon</i> |
| 92 clients including children with brain tumours and other cancers and their families. 61% are Hillingdon residents. | 15 | 510 | N/A | NIL | £45,000 |
| <i>Planned Activities for 2023/24 include:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish x1 'Protected Wellbeing Space' within THH 2. Toy-Drive: deliver 15+ Dannie's Toy Box annually to our children and their siblings at Christmas. We will measure our impact through the number of Dannie's Gift Boxes delivered to our children. 3. Provide x1 social worker to maintain regular contact with our clients and an ongoing be-friending support service. We will obtain client feedback at the end of each session. We will refer carers and young carers to Carers Trust for additional carer support. 4. Run x12 monthly Coffee Afternoons to bring our families together to learn and support each other, form new friendships, meet our teams and find out about community support resources. We will obtain client feedback at the end of each session & measure the number of families that attend our coffee afternoons. 5. Collaborate with HBTIG to deliver & present at the Brain Tumour Awareness Conference in May. We will measure the impact through attendee feedback at the end of the conference. 6. Host x1 Childhood Cancer Awareness campaign in September & x1 free Family Fun event on the last Saturday of the month. We will obtain client feedback to measure impact 7. Host x1 Bike Ride in April to involve our menfolk to raise awareness of childhood cancer bereavement 8. Host x1 DLF Jazz Night in December to raise awareness of the sensitive emotional needs of children diagnosed with cancers and their families at Christmas. | | | | | |

9. We want to provide x12 monthly food drives of fresh fruit & vegetables & specialist vitamins to help our children reach a better intake of healthy food habits. We need more regular volunteer drivers and packers to help us do this.

10. We want to run x3 schools awareness programmes annually and the DLF will be introduced to local NHS community-based care teams; the GP Federation and the specialist paediatric diagnostic centres in Hillingdon, London & the surrounding areas. We aim to leverage our strategic relationships with teams as a front-line screening effort to reach more Children & Young People diagnosed with brain tumours, other cancers and their families.

Officer Comment:

Against our stated criteria we need to consider this against our aims of improving services for residents, achieving value for money and avoiding creating dependency.

We have also set out that all bids will be viewed against following criteria:

Demonstrating clear need – There is no doubt that children with Brain tumours and their families will benefit from the range of support proposed by DLF.

Value for money- at a £45k investment the grant request is large and there are not enough outcome measures presented to demonstrate value for money for this level of investment.

Viable and sustainable – The proposal is unclear as to how its business strategy is viable and sustainable or to give confidence that support would take the group to another level where it could become viable.

Support Council services – Family support at a time of crisis such as a diagnosis of brain tumour or cancer may reduce support that those families would need from statutory services.

Lever in external funding – The application is based on core grant for 23/24 and thereafter support from the Mayor's charity for 2024/25 with relatively little other fundraising or charitable funding applications.

Explain reserves – The group has no reserves or balances

Work in collaboration - links have been made to support families and refer onto other agencies. A key partnership exists with HBTIG.

DLF are at the beginning of a journey to becoming established. An application presented during last grants round was not considered as it did not meet basic criteria. As presented, this application does not provide confidence that the business planning or financial strategy is in place to lead to becoming a viable and sustainable group. The figures do not present value for money and no significant external funding is proposed so offers a poor return on social investment.

It is not recommended that grant be awarded.

Corporate Finance Comment

NO DETAILS PROVIDED ON APPLICATION FORM - WAITING FOR DRAFT ACCOUNTS-