

Meeting of:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 15 April 2019
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Corporate Performance and Resources
Report Title:	Grants to Voluntary Organisations
Purpose of Report:	To seek Cabinet's approval to the awarding of grant funding for 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
Report Owner:	Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources
Responsible Officer:	Managing Director
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Due to the corporate nature of this report, no ward member consultation has been undertaken.
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for Executive Decision by Cabinet
Executive Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This report requests Cabinet to approve funding for the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) and Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 • A review of the services provided by both organisations has been undertaken to ensure that they continue to meet the key priorities for the Council and provide the support required by residents of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Recommendations

- 1.1** That a grant be awarded to Cardiff and Vale Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) of £154,250 in 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22.
- 1.2** That a grant be awarded to Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) of £95,530 in 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22
- 1.3** That delegated authority is granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to execute a Deed of Grant with GVS

Reasons for Recommendations

1. To award monies to assist CAB
2. To award monies to assist GVS
3. To have an appropriate agreement in place for the provision of services and support

1. Background

- 1.1** As part of the Reshaping Services Programme a review of the funding made available to the Third Sector has been completed. This resulted in the development and implementation of the Stronger Communities Grant Fund which has streamlined the way in which Community Funding is managed across the authority and has encouraged the creative and innovative use of funding to support community initiatives.
- 1.2** There are still a small number of organisations for which the Council provides grant funding to support the core operations of the organisation, namely the Citizens Advice Bureau and Glamorgan Voluntary Services. The funding agreements with CAB and GVS have also been subject to review therefore both organisations were only awarded funding for one year in 2018/2019. These arrangements have now come to an end.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1** Discussions have taken place with CAB and it is agreed that there is ongoing uncertainty concerning the roll out of universal credit and the impact this may have on demand for services and support from the organisation. CAB provides a range of support to residents in the Vale of Glamorgan including information relating to :
 - benefits and tax credits;

- consumer goods and services;
- debt management;
- housing; and
- relationships and family.

2.2 In the past 12 months a draft deed of grant has been developed with GVS which outlines the services and support that GVS will be providing. This includes :

- Participation in relevant local and regional partnerships, partnership activities and joint working groups;
- Raising the profile of volunteering throughout the Vale of Glamorgan including supporting awards schemes ;
- Provision of support services to voluntary and community sector organisations as identified by the sector and in accordance with best practice
- Co-ordination of the voluntary sector involvement as a key strategic partner in the development, implementation, monitoring and review of key Vale of Glamorgan Council Strategies

2.3 In discussions with both organisations, the Council has been asked to consider whether a three year funding arrangement could be agreed as this will enable each organisation to plan and manage their service with a better understanding of the resources available.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** The proposals consider the long-term service delivery and sustainability arrangements for key services provide by the third sector within the Vale of Glamorgan and the potential impact that these services can have on citizens.
- 3.2** The awarding of this finance is consistent with the Council’s vision as articulated in the Corporate Plan. Working with the Voluntary Sector is a key project within the Council’s transformational change programme, Reshaping Services.

4. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 4.1** On the basis of the above, it is proposed that the following funding is made available for the financial years 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 :

- CAB to receive £154,250 for each of the coming three financial years. This maintains the level of funding at the same level as in the current financial year.
 - GVS to receive £95,530 for each of the coming three financial years. This maintains the level of funding at the same level as in the current financial year
- 4.2** This funding is available within the policy budget for the coming three years.

Employment

- 4.3** There are no direct employment implications for the Council as result of this report.
- 4.4** The guarantee of three year funding will enable both organisations to continue to employ staff to undertake the services outlined in this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 4.5** As part of this agreement, GVS will be required to agree and sign a Deed of Grant

5. Background Papers