

Report of: Neighbourhood Renewal Business Manager

To: Executive Board

Date: 10th September 2007

Item No:

Title of Report : Small and Emergency Grants 2007/2008-Rounds 1 and 2

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To approve the recommendations for applications received applying for a small or emergency grant.

decision: No

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Altaf-Khan

Scrutiny Responsibility: Community

rd(s) affected: All

Report Approved by

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Altaf-Khan

Legal: Emma Griffiths

Finance: Nichola Stretton

Strategic Director: Michael Lawrence

Policy Framework: Oxford Community Strategy

Recommendation(s):

1. To approve officer recommendations for applications for a small or emergency grant.
2. To retrospectively approve small grants paid for 2007/2008

1. Budget

Neighbourhood Renewal holds a number of budgets for grants to voluntary and community groups. One of these budgets is for the allocation of small or emergency grants throughout the year, after the main grants allocation has been decided at the start of the financial year.

Community and voluntary groups can apply for a small grant up to £500 or an emergency grant up to £5,000.

2. Grants Budgets

For transparency, the cost centre budgets for grants held within Neighbourhood Renewal for 2007/2008 are:-

| Cost Centre's | Budget (£) |
|---|------------|
| Partnership Grants | 1,331,535 |
| Area Committee agreed grants & other City Wide grants | 265,449 |
| Small grants | 5,339 |
| Emergency Grants | 14,740 |
| Arts Development Grants | 10,000 |

3. Small / Emergency Grants Paid

Previously, for speed of decision-making, the small and emergency grants have been allocated with the approval of the Business Manager under delegated powers. To date 5 small grants have been paid out, listed below in Table 1.

Table 1

| Name | Request (£) | Recommended & paid (£) | Received |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Oxford Conservation Volunteers | 500 | 500 | Round 1 – May '07 |
| UDAYAN | 500 | 500 | Round 1 – May '07 |
| Anjuman-e-Adab | 500 | 500 | Round 1 – May '07 |
| West Oxford Community Association | 480 | 480 | Round 1 – May '07 |
| Oxford Swahili Community | 500 | 500 | Round 2 – July '07 |

It has come to light that this practice has not been consistent with the powers allowed under the new constitution. This report asks Executive Board to retrospectively approve the small grants paid this financial year, as shown in Table 1, above.

A précis for each of these applications is attached.

4. Small / Emergency Grant Applications Received July 2007

Balance for round 2 small grant applications £3,359.

Balance for contingency applications £14,740.

Thirteen applications were received. The panel recommended declining 11 and approving 2. The panel took this view based on the budget remaining to be allocated for 2007/2008. Only those scoring 30 or above were recommended. If these recommendations are approved, a total of £2,359 will remain for allocation of small grants for 2007/2008 and £14,740 for contingency/emergency grants. Table 2 shows applications received July 2007.

Table 2

| Name | Request (£) | Recommended (£) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Equality I Diversity Organisation | 500 | Nil |
| Home Start | 5000 (emergency) | Nil |
| Indian Union | 500 | Nil |
| Leys Lunch Club | 500 | Nil |
| Oxford Bonn Link | 500 | Nil |
| Oxford International Links | 500 | Nil |
| Oxford Swahili Community | 500 | 500 |
| Perm Association | 500 | Nil |
| Sunningwell Road Street Party | 500 | Nil |
| The Matrix – football weekend | 400 | Nil |
| The Matrix – boxercise | 350 | Nil |
| The Matrix – dance weekends | 300 | Nil |
| Third Space | 500 | 500 |

A précis for each of these applications is attached

5. Small / Emergency Grant Applications received August 2007

An unexpected grants panel meeting was held on 7th August 2007 to evaluate two emergency grant applications received, see table 3 below.

| Name | Request (£) | Recommended (£) |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| The Falcon Trust | 3,000 | Nil |
| WEA | 3,000 | 500 |

A précis of each for each of these applications is attached.

6. Recommendations to Executive Board

Executive Board are recommended to:-

- a) Approve officer recommendations for applications for a small or emergency grants.
- b) Retrospectively approve the small grants paid for 2007/2008

Name and contact details of author:

Julia Tomkins Tel. 01865 252597 email: jtomkins@oxford.gov.uk

Background papers: Small & Emergency Grants Criteria

