2015 / 2016 Grant Applications to the Annual Open Bidding programme

Strategic Objective: Strong, Active Communities

Organisation & project description	Area / City Wide	Grant awarded 2014/15	Amount Requested for 2015/16	Amount Recom'd 2015/16	Why?
Archway Foundation An organisation that supports individuals feeling isolated through disability, low income or health problems. The Archway Foundation provides a varied programme of events, activities and inclusive cultural projects for people who may not normally be given the opportunity. Funding has been requested to contribute towards their core running costs.	City Wide	£7,500	£10,000	£5,000	Strong in terms of targeting and evidenced a means of addressing social inclusion issues. Recommend awarding 50% of the request.
The Ark T Centre provides a range of creative workshops with a recording studio for young people to learn all aspects around music. Working in partnership with Thames Valley Police, funding has been requested to work with up to 30 young people who are experiencing challenging circumstances, (for example domestic, low income peer pressure), and provide positive adult role models, new skills and the opportunity to access a cultural life. The young people will be from Cowley and immediate areas of Blackbird Leys, Rose Hill, Wood Farm, Barton Littlemore and Northfield Brook.	City Wide	£4,690 (but for another strand of the music project)	£6.811	£6,811	Strong in terms of need and will be targeting young people classified as NEET and from the most deprived areas. A clear development route for young people, aged 18 – 23 years old. Aiming for: • 30 young people to perform at 3 music gigs (2 at the Old Fire Station & 1 at the Carnival) • 4 NEET participants mentored to run gigs in a professional venue • 2 NEET participants achieving one or more AQA accreditation • 2 participants investigating further music education /btech options. • To run 16 creative workshops x 2 hours each The panel recommend funding 100% of request.

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Asylum Welcome Asylum Welcome supports refugees and asylum seekers in Oxford and Oxfordshire. They provide: Information and signposting advice service Weekly lunch club English lessons and access to mainstream courses for better integration Specialist work with young refugees and asylum seekers, helping them with CV's, looking for jobs and budgeting. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the core running costs of the organisation.	City Wide	£7,500	£10,000	£7,500	Strong in terms of need and targeted work with asylum seekers and refugees who have recently arrived in the country and are living in Oxford. The panel recommend funding 75% towards this work conditional that it is not used for work outside of the city.
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) BBOWT is a voluntary organisation that is concerned with all aspects of nature conservation. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the 2015 Oxford Festival of Nature which will run over a period of 2 weeks. The funding would specifically fund the project coordinator and sessional arts worker costs.	City Wide	£0	£10,000	£0	An event that will be promoted across the city. It was unclear where activities and events will take place over the 2 week period although they mention running art activities within schools in areas of urban deprivation but give no specifics. Within the guidance and grants programme prospectus it does say that one of the items Oxford City Council does not wish to fund are projects and activities taking place in schools that target children and young people attending the school where the project is taking place. Limited risks mentioned when providing a public event and working with children. The application refers to a risk document that was not provided. The recommendation is not to fund.

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Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground A facility for children aged 8 – 13 years old living in Blackbird Leys & Greater Leys. Each week they are open Monday to Friday. During term time they are open from 3pm to 5.30pm and during half term holiday times they are open 10am to 4pm. They provide creative play and learning by getting the children involved with:- • Growing fruit and vegetables, how to cook and eat them • How to repair your bicycle • Music project Creative play including arts and crafts. Funding requested to contribute towards their core costs of running this project.	City Wide	£10,000	£10,000	£7,500	Strong in terms of need and delivered in an area of multiple deprivation and is one of the Council's Regeneration areas. Children pay £1 a day to attend after school activities and £4 a day to attend half term holiday activities. The panel recommend funding 75% of their request
Blackbird Leys Credit Union The Blackbird Leys Credit Union is owned and controlled by their members, who live or work in Blackbird Leys. They offer a savings facility and affordable loans to their members as well as being local. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the salaries of their part time staff that includes management, clerical and counter duties.	South East	£7,000 (through social inclusion fund)	£10,000	£0	No data on the number of active members regularly using the service or how they will ensure the service reaches socially excluded people. Lack of clear business plan for longer-term sustainability for the organisation. The recommendation is not to fund this request.

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Bramble Verbiage Funding has been requested to contribute towards the 2015 Wittstock Festival which will be held at Court Place Farm, Marston in June 2015. The Wittstock Festival is a two day music festival aimed at being more inclusive by being user friendly for marginalised groups.	City Wide	£0	£8,850	£0	The application has some strengths but the panel felt it lacked clarity of how the festival was going to be more accessible for marginalised groups. The recommendation is not to fund. However, because their aim is to make the festival more inclusive for marginalised groups (such as the disabled) it is suggested that they link up with the Community Specialist Officer in the Communities & Neighbourhoods team and to resubmit their application to the small grants programme early in the new financial year.
Broken Spoke Bike Co-op The Broken Spoke Bike co-op is a social enterprise which was set up to address social inequality, create a healthier environment and strengthen the culture of cycling in Oxfordshire. Tunding has been requested to run an 'Earn-a-Bike' course in Oxford with 15 clients of Asylum Welcome.	City Wide	£0	£6,280	£0	The application is requesting 90% towards the total costs of the course, the panel agreed this was an expensive initiative with no progression. The Council are already supporting this organisation by donating abandoned bicycles to them which are being used in partnership with Crisis. Therefore the recommendation is not to fund.
Community Emergency Food bank The Community Emergency Food Bank (CEF) is based at St Francis Church in Hollow Way. The CEF has been handing out non-perishable food for over five years. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the general running costs of the organisation.	City Wide	£0	£5,000	£5,000	Strong on evidencing the need and a project that targets its support towards vulnerable people living on a low income. The panel recommend funding 100% of this request.

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Cutteslowe Community Association Funding has been requested to contribute towards the cost of running a 3 week Summer holiday play scheme for 50-55 children aged 5 – 11 years old from the local area.	North	£3,380 (£2918 through social inclusion & £462 through small grants)	£10,000	£2,500	Strong on evidencing the need and targeted towards children living in a recognised pocket of deprivation in an otherwise affluent area of Oxford. The total cost to deliver this 3 week programme is estimated to be £19,750. This gives a cost per head of £23.94. In comparison to the last assessment done for activities delivered through the Council's holiday programme the average cost per head was £15. The panel agreed that the Cutteslowe play scheme is expensive. Therefore the recommendation is to fund 25% of this request.
Cutteslowe Seniors A club for local people aged 60 plus living in Cutteslowe and the surrounding area. Cutteslowe Seniors meet every second and fourth Friday morning of the month, alternating a social meeting (usually with a speaker) with an outing to a place of interest. It currently has around 30 members and is managed by a part- time coordinator. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the cost of hiring wheel chair compatible transport.	North	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	Strong on targeting and working with a vulnerable group within the local area of Cutteslowe. The panel noted that transport links in Cutteslowe are poor and there is a significant amount of isolation among the elderly in the area. The panel recommend funding 100% of this request.
Donnington Doorstep Family Centre A voluntary organisation that is based in East Oxford. Is open to all but focuses support on children and young people facing particular difficulties and social exclusion. Funding has been requested to contribute towards their core costs to deliver the 'Drop In, Play Out' project which offers leisure activities for 7-18 year olds who are largely at risk of social exclusion or at risk of being involved with anti-social behaviour or offending.	East	£7,500	£10,000	£5,000	Strong on evidenced need and targeted work with local vulnerable children and young people. The panel recommend match fundingthe contributions already confirmed from Children In Need which is 50% of amount requested

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Dovecote Voluntary Parent Committee The Dovecote play scheme runs on Greater Leys and is for children ages 4 - 14 years old.	South East	£0	£10,000	£2,750	Strong on evidenced need and targeted support for children and young people living in the ward of Northfield Brook.
Funding is requested to contribute towards the daily after school club to support the education and					It was noted that there is another educational programme also running on the Leys from the Jubilee Centre.
wellbeing of children and young people living in a recognised area of disadvantage.					Into Universityis an organisation that supports young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to help them attain either a university place or another chosen aspiration.
					The panel recommend match funding the cash contributions from the local housing associations of Catalyst & Green Square.
					Therefore the recommendation is to fund the Dovecote project £2,750
Exeter College Vacations Project (ExVac) The Exeter College Vacation Project (ExVac) is a project run by students from Exeter College.	City Wide	£0	£10,000	£0	A project that provides disadvantaged children and young carers the opportunity of a holiday away from the stresses of their daily lives.
cach year they offer two free holidays for children aged 7 – 11 years old who have been referred to					The organisation works closely with Social Services and many of the children referred to them are young carers.
them from Oxfordshire Social Services.					The panel agreed that support for young carers is the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council and falls under their Social & Health Care services.
					Therefore the recommendation is not to fund.
Friends of Holywell Cemetery The Holywell Cemetery is next to St Cross Church. North of Longwall Street, in the parish of Holywell.	City Wide	£0	£2,830	£0	The application had some strengths but weak on evidencing the need.
Formed in 1847 from land made available from					The cemetery has notable internments of which many of the people had links to the Colleges in Oxford.
Merton College. The cemetery is full and is now a wildlife refuge for many birds, butterflies and small mammals.					The panel felt it would be more appropriate for the Universities to support rather than the City Council.
Funding has been requested to contribute towards the maintenance of the cemetery and to encourage biodiversity of native plants.					Therefore the recommendation is not to fund.

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Innovista – Thrive Mentoring Project The Thrive project is a youth project working in Barton. Funding has been requested to run a year long intensive mentoring programme targeting 12 'high risk' young people on Barton & Sandhills. The programme will provide 1-2-1 sessions to help mentees develop skills and attitudes required for them to become productive members of their community.	North East	£2,892	£6,000	£6,000	Strong evidence of need and targeted work with a vulnerable group of young people living in an area of multiple deprivation. The quality of the work from this project is considered high. The panel recommend funding 100% of this request.
The Leys Community Market Funding has been requested to develop the market from a monthly indoor market to a weekly indoor and outdoor market.	South East	£0	£10,000	£3,500	This project identified a need for fresh vegetables and fruit at affordable prices in a recognised area of deprivation where many families are living on a low income. The recommendation is to fund £3,500 of the request specifically for the cost of events/publicity and marketing of the community market. The recommendation is conditional that a member of the Communities and Neighbourhoods team sits on the steering group.
Leys Community Development Initiative – Clockhouse Project. The Clockhouse Project delivers activities that address the needs of older people in the Leys to help them feel less isolated and alone. Funding has been requested to contribute towards providing low cost activities for older people living on the Leys to contribute towards the support costs to run and organise these activities.	South and East	£7,500	£10,000	£7,500	Strong in terms of need and a project targeted towards older people living in the Leys which is an area of multiple deprivation. The panel recommend funding 75% of this request with the condition that outreach is continued to encourage new people (from both sides of the estate) to get involved and take part in the activities.

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Leys News (Oxford Community Media) Leys News is a community paper that provides news and information about local events and issues, training and learning opportunities and advice on pertinent issues for local people on Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the costs for them to continue to support community groups across Oxford in publishing their own local community newspapers. This professional support includes editorial guidance, design, production, management and business development. They will also provide community journalism Paining, office work experience, skills development and potential employment opportunities.	South East	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	Strong in terms of targeted work with community groups in regeneration areas of the City. Currently working with 6 community newspaper groups in Cowley, Littlemore, Rose Hill, Wood Farm, Barton and Blackbird Leys with the potential to work in more areas next year. The panel recommends funding 100% of this request with the condition that a sustainability plan is produced to show how they will become self-sufficient in future years.
The Listening Centre The Listening Centre (TLC) is based in the Children's Centre at Blackbird Leys. They provide a counselling service to people on limited incomes, who would otherwise be unable to afford the services of a counsellor from the private sector. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the cost of employing a freelance Co-ordinator. Who will support and supervise their volunteers.	South East	£0	£10,000	£0	The panel felt there was little data to support the need for this project. It was also stated that the majority of their clients are referred to them from local GP's. The panel agreed that as clients are referred from local GP's it would suggest they have identified this as a valuable service for their patients and therefore it should fall to the Clinical Commissioning Group to fund. Therefore the recommendation is not to fund.

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Open Door Open Door provides a weekly drop in and sign posting service for local refugees and asylum seekers at East Oxford Community Centre. As well as providing a free hot meal and a space to meet they provide support with form filling and other general support to help them sort out problems. Basic English sessions are also provided. Funding is requested to contribute towards their general running costs.	East	£3,250	£4,465	£4,465	Strong in terms of targeted work with minority groups living in the City. The panel noted that generally they provide the first step before going to or being sign posted to Asylum Welcome. The panel recommend funding 100% of this request to contribute towards general running costs of the project.
Oxford City of Sanctuary Funding has been requested to celebrate Refugee Week in 2015. The project aims to offer an informative program of events including exhibitions, workshops, films, speakers, public debates, performances and social activities to inform the general public about the everyday contributions made by refugees in our society and in Oxford.	City Wide	£0	£2,000	£0	The panel felt the application lacked data that evidenced what the public perception of refugees is which raised concerns over the 'need' for this project. Oxford City Council is already providing support by linking in with the campaign. Therefore the recommendation is not to fund.

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Oxford Friend This organisation provides a confidential helpline service for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people living in Oxford. Funding requested to contribute towards their running costs for this service.	City Wide	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000 (to be moved into commissioning)	Strong on need and targeted work with a marginalised & vulnerable group. The only organisation in Oxford that provides a confidential helpline for lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people living in Oxford. The panel recommend that £3,000 is moved from the budget for the open bidding grants programme into the commissioning programme and that the service provided from Oxford Friend is commissioned through the Community Safety commissioning theme.
Oxford Credit Union Funding has been requested to employ a development worker for 3 days a week over six months to develop a marketing strategy with the major to expand their membership.	City Wide	£20,000 (through commissioning Programme)	£10,000	£0	The panel felt the application did not address the 'need' for the employment of a development worker. Nor does it estimate how many new members would be needed to ensure sustainability if they were able to increase the membership. The panel noted that no other funding was being sought to contribute towards this post. The recommendation is not to fund.
Oxfordshire Cruse Bereavement Care Oxfordshire Cruse is part of a national bereavement charity and is based in the Wesley Memorial Church on New Inn Hall Street in Oxford. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the establishment of a bereavement support service (counselling) in three hostels for the homeless in Oxford plus training for volunteers to sustain the service in the future. The support will be for both residents and staff of the hostels.	City Wide	£0	£3,800	£1,700	It was recognised that bereavement is a common factor in the lives of homeless people. The overall project will span over 3 years and funding through the open bidding grants programme is one year funding only. The recommendation is to fund £1,700 which is the initial start-up costs for this service and training.

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Oxfordshire My Life My Choice Oxfordshire My Life My Choice is a self-advocacy charity run by and for people with learning disabilities. Funding has been requested to contribute towards the costs of running a monthly social session that runs from Blackbird Leys Youth & Community Centre.	City Wide	£2,800	£2,400	£0	The application failed to evidence a 'need' for this monthly social event. It mentioned that there has been a decline of the numbers attending the sessions over the last 3 years, currently only 11 attend. The panel felt this would suggest the sessions are not needed and raised concerns for future sustainability. The recommendation is not to fund.
Oxfordshire Play Association This organisation provides practical and Professional support to all those who provide children and young people with opportunities to play. Funding has been requested for two projects:- The first project is to provide two inclusive play day events during 2015, one at either Northway or Marston and the other at Wood Farm. These events celebrate National Play Day which is an annual celebration of the child's right to play. The second project the organisation has requested funding for is to provide community play and activity days in streets that have been identified as having anti-social behaviour or other community concerns as an intervention to engage the communities.	City Wide	£1,250	£7,000	£2,500	Previous play days that have been delivered by this organisation have been inclusive and many local people attend them. The panel agreed that this type of activity helps build a sense of community cohesion. Evidence of need is weak for providing community play and activity events in streets. No data provided to evidence problems of antisocial behaviour and the application was unclear where they are planning to deliver them. The panel recommend a contribution of £2,500 towards providing two inclusive play days conditional that one is held on Northway and the other is on Wood Farm.

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Restore – Elder Stubbs Festival Funding requested to contribute towards the cost or organising and running the Elder Stubbs Festival planned to take place on 15.08.15	Cowley	£2,258	£5,586	£3,819	A popular annual event that works to dispel the misconceptions around mental health issues. The panel recommend funding £3,819 towards the volunteer recruitment and training, plus the practical items such as hire of toilets, first aid, sound equipment etc.
South Oxford Adventure Playground Based off Whitehouse Road, South Oxford Adventure Playground is a supervised playground for children and young people aged 7 to 15 years old. Funding is requested to contribute towards the core costs for a programme of school holiday play schemes. ON	City Wide	£10,000	£10,000	£7,500	A popular facility with a lot of children and young people from across the city. The recommendation is to fund 75% of the request.
TRAX TRAX is a motor project based in Oxford that works all over Oxfordshire. They provide a range of mechanical and practical based courses for young people aged 13-21. Funding has been requested to run a 2 hour evening club for vulnerable young people involved or are at risk of being involved with anti-social behaviour/ crime in Oxford.	City Wide	£8,449 (£3,500 through the youth ambition grants programme& £4,949 through the social inclusion fund)	£5,941.50	£0	Weak on evidencing the need with no detail or data to evidence how they established a need for this evening club. Funding from Children In Need has been secured to run this activity County wide so the panel were unclear why additional funding was needed and questioned if this could be double funding. The recommendation is not to fund.

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WEA - Oxford Community Branch The Workers' Educational Association (WEA) is a provider of adult education. The Oxford branch is based in Temple Cowley. Funding has been requested to run a community arts project in Blackbird Leys, Rose Hill and Littlemore. Targeting ethnic minority groups, the elderly, lone parents and the unemployed.	City Wide	£0	£9,877.50	£4,939	Strong on evidencing the need and targeted work with socially excluded / marginalised groups. The panel recommend funding 50% of this request conditional that the project is focused on Blackbird Leys and Littlemore.
Funding has been requested to contribute towards the continuation of the youth sessions in 2015.	North East	£7,000	£7,000	£7,000	Strong in terms of need and targeted work with vulnerable young people in a regeneration area of the city. The application showed progress in sourcing other funding and is a facility that is still much needed in the area where there is little else for young people on the estate. Therefore the panel recommend funding 100% of the request.
<u>Totals</u>		£122,020	£233,841	£101,984	

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