



## CABINET REPORT

<b>Report Title</b>	Grant Funding to Citizens Advice Bureau, Northampton and Community Law Service, Northampton and County
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**AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC**

<b>Cabinet Meeting Date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2016
<b>Key Decision:</b>	Yes
<b>Within Policy:</b>	No
<b>Policy Document:</b>	No
<b>Directorate:</b>	Customer and Communities
<b>Accountable Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Anna King
<b>Ward(s)</b>	Borough Wide

### 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 To seek the approval of Cabinet to forward fund the Partnership Grant for years 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 to Citizens Advice Bureau, Northampton (CAB) and Community Law Service Northampton & County (CLS).

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.2 That Cabinet approves the forward funding from the Partnership Grant in the total sum per annum of £150,000 for CAB and CLS for years 2017/18 and 2018/19, to deliver information and advice services in the Borough of Northampton.

### **3. Issues and Choices**

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#### **3.1 Report Background**

- 3.1.1 The Council's Partnership Fund is allocated with the support of the Community Enabling Fund Advisory Panel (CEFAP), year on year. The panel is made up of five cross party elected members and three community and voluntary sector representatives, including the Chief Executive of Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire.
- 3.1.2 CAB and CLS have received funding for delivering Information and Advice Services and delivering monitored outcomes, both organisations have recently co-located to the One Stop Shop.
- 3.1.3 They are delivering against the corporate priorities of the Council, demonstrating value for money, showing evidence of working in partnership and have identified and have evidenced clear community demand and need for the services they offer to the public within the Borough of Northampton.
- 3.1.4 A 3 year funding agreement for both organisations would provide security and sustainability. The Chief Executive has exercised his delegated authority to approve the funding for 2016/2017, however Cabinet is asked to approve the forward funding. This would mean the Council's funding would run from 1 April 2016-to the 31 March 2019.
- 3.1.5 A total of £150,000 has been allocated for Information and Advice Services, year on year to (CAB) CLS). This forms part of the £550,000 Partnership Grant.

#### **3.2 Issues**

- 3.2.1 The funding would be subject to the budget being available, year on year; this would be reflected in the Service Level Agreement's for both CAB and CLS.
- 3.2.2 CEFAP would continue to have oversight of the grant, receive reports and monitoring information from both CAB and CLS, in the same way the other organisations do that are funded through the Partnership Grant.

#### **3.3 Choices (Options)**

- 3.3.1 To commit funding for CAB and CLS for 2017/18 and 2018/19
- 3.3.2 To continue to fund CAB and CLS on an annual basis, with them having to apply to the Partnership Grant year on year.

## **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **4.1 Policy**

4.1.1 The decision would involve agreeing funding for 2017/18 and 2018/19 for CAB and CLS. This would be £75,000 to each organisation, a total of £150,000 each year. £300,000 over 2 years.

### **4.2 Resources and Risk**

4.2.1 As above, however there would be a caveat in the Service Level Agreement, stating, subject to approval of the funding, for each year.

### **4.3 Legal**

4.3.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the report. Any extension to the funding will be supported by a formal amendment by LGSS Law to the existing Service Level Agreements.

### **4.4 Equality and Health**

4.4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on the Partnership Grant process in April 2016. 42 applications were received through the partnership grant process for 2016/17. In total 29 organisations were funded through the partnership grant and 8 through the small grants, most of which include the delivery of specific services around the protected characteristics.

### **4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)**

4.5.1 CEFAP have been consulted and are in support of the recommendation.

### **4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes**

4.6.1 Northampton on Track – Successful and vibrant Town, increased job opportunities

4.6.2 Making Every £ Go Further – Shared services, delivery of value for money services, resources targeted in areas most in need

- 4.6.3 Better Homes For The Future – People provided with timely advice and information to enable them to make informed choices, local housing needs provided, vulnerable people supported
- 4.6.4 Creating Empowered Communities – Empowered local communities with a greater capacity to become involved in community life, promote integration and cohesion
- 4.6.5 Promoting Health and Wellbeing – improved public health, widen participation in leisure activities across all sections of the community
- 4.6.6 Responding To Your Needs – Appropriate support provided to those most need, services are fair, accessible and responsive to individual needs, residents and customers feel informed and engaged in service quality and design

## **5. Background Papers**

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- 5.1 Delegated Authority Notice

**Vicki Rockall, Partnerships and Communities Manager, ext 7074**