

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Executive - 5 December 2012

Taunton Deane Borough Council's Grants Panel Recommendations for Voluntary and Community Sector Service Level Agreement payments for financial year 2013/2014

Report of the Strategy Lead Officer

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Warmington

1. Executive Summary

The TDBC Grants Panel met on the 8th November 2012 to discuss proposals for the allocation of Voluntary and Community Sector funding for the next financial year (2013/14) from each of the following service areas: Strategy, Economic Development, Housing, Community Development and Community Leisure.

Recommendations are being made as part of the annual Budget Review Programme from each individual service area on the allocation of budgets.

This report supplements these recommendations by giving an overview of all proposed VCS spending across the authority during 2013/14 and beyond, and makes further recommendations on the allocation of funding.

- The Grants Panel recommends that the proposals for the allocation of funding are supported as listed in this report.
- The Grants Panel recommends that an Impact Assessment be carried out on the withdrawal of funding from the Somerset County Council Accessible Transport.
- The Grants Panel recommends that the general fund contribution to the Youth Fund is increased from £5000 to £15000 to even out the geographical balance of projects that can be supported across the borough.
- The Grants Panel recommends that all Service Level Agreements are signed for a 3 year period (wherever possible) and that there is a commitment from TDBC to not consider those particular funding arrangements as budget savings during the 3 year period.

2. Purpose of Report

Taunton Deane Borough Council (TDBC) provides financial support to a wide range of VCS organisations that help us deliver our corporate priorities and meet wide ranging community needs.

TDBC released a total of £582,300 to the VCS in 2012/2013. Funding is awarded to the VCS through five main service areas:

- Strategy and Performance
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Community Leisure

The detail of historic VCS spend is provided at Appendix B.

This report will:

1. Give an overview of all proposed VCS spend for the financial year 2013 to 2014.
2. Highlight any areas of duplication and potential for providing joint support across service areas.
3. Identify any proposals that are not meeting community priorities.
4. Make recommendations to address any issues identified with the proposals.

3. Background

TDBC recognises the vital role the VCS play in providing services and advice to the community. They engage and empower local people and reach groups and individuals who may be marginalised or disadvantaged.

With a reduction in levels of service, and the removal of some services altogether across the County, TDBC recognises that the VCS are playing an increasing roll in the delivery of services.

The Grants Panel was formed to ensure that the Council has an overview of all VCS spending across the authority to enable Service Managers and Members to make informed decisions on the allocation of budgets.

The allocation of funding is proposed by the relevant Service Area Managers or Lead officers and presented to the Grants Panel for discussion in November for the following financial year.

The Grants Panel put forward their recommendations to Corporate Scrutiny and the Executive for approval as part of the annual budget setting process.

As budgets for the next financial year have not yet been confirmed the recommendations within this report may influence and will ultimately be dependant on the outcomes of the Councils Budget Review Programme.

4. Financial Support for the VCS 2013/2014

The following tables provide information on VCS funding recommendations for 2013/2014

It is the intention that all organisations due to receive funding will have a robust SLA in place from 1st April 2013.

A summary giving the details of each Service Level Agreement, including the services to be delivered, benefits to the community, outputs and deliverables and benefits to the authority, have been provided in Appendix A.

4.1 Strategy and Performance VCS funding

	Commitments 2012/2013	Recommendations 2013/2014
Citizens Advice Bureau	85,900	85,900
Community Council for Somerset	5,700	5,700
Accessible Transport (Taunton Deane Community Transport and Slinky)	9,400	Withdraw
Taunton Voluntary Action	24,900	24,900
North Taunton Partnership	5,000	5,000
Taunton East	5,000	5,000
Wiveliscombe Area Partnership and Wivey Link	32,900	31,900
Small VCS Grants	26,200	22,010
TBA dependant on decision to withdraw Accessible Transport Funding	n/a	9,400
TBA due to reduction in WAP funding		1,000
	195,000	190,810

The VCS grants budget was subject to savings in 2012/2013 with all but 2 organisations in receipt of SLA funding having their funding cut by around 6% from the previous year. The Small grants budget was also reduced by half.

The Grants Panel is reluctant to see a further reduction in this budget. However if savings were necessary a reduction of around £4190 (2 % of overall Strategy and Performance budget) would not impact upon any of the organisations in receipt of SLA funding.

The portfolio holder for Housing has offered to provide a contribution from the HRA to the Wiveliscombe Area Partnership SLA of £1000. The contribution has

been offered in recognition of the Housing Services use of the centre to hold Housing Advice Surgeries. The contribution from the Strategy and Performance budget will therefore be reduced by £1000 to keep the level of grant the same as the 12/13 (£32,900). This will release £1000 of general funds back into the Strategy and Performance budget for reallocation to the voluntary sector. Approximately £12000 of the total funding is used to deliver the Wivey Link Service, with the remainder funding the delivery of the Community Office services.

The Grants Panel raised the following concerns regarding the funding of the Accessible Transport Service provided by Somerset County Council:
 SCC has not been able to provide proof that services are being delivered that benefit residents of Taunton Deane.

Community Transport remains a Somerset County Council responsibility. SCC does not request the funding at the beginning of the financial year which raises doubt that there is a need for the funding.

There are greater priority areas and community needs that could be met through the use of this funding. If the Committee supports the recommendation that an Impact Assessment is carried out a paper will be brought before the Committee in December to assist Councillors in their decision to support the recommendation to withdraw this funding altogether from April 2013.

If the funding is withdrawn Strategy and Performance would look to reallocate this funding to another Voluntary Sector Organisation in line with the Councils Business Plan and to reflect community need.

The Grants Panel recommends that an Impact Assessment be carried out on the withdrawal of funding from the Somerset County Council Accessible Transport.

4.2 Community Development – Community Art Grants

	Commitments 2012/2013	Recommendations 2013/2014
Take Art	5,750	5,750
Actiontrack Performance Company	1,955	1,955
Somerset Art Works	1,380	1,380
Somerset Film	2,415	2,415
SPAEDA	500	500
	12,000	12,000

The Community Art Grants budget has been subject to savings over the previous 3 financial years from £32,000 to £12,000 with each organisation having a reduction again in funding during this financial year.

The Grants Panel is reluctant to see a further reduction in this budget for 2013/2014 and recommends continuing support for these organisations.

4.3 Economic Development

	Commitments 2012/2013	Recommendations 2013/2014
Brewhouse	152,000	152,000
Vista (Job Clubs)	12,000	12,000
Taunton Town Centre Company	42,700	TBC 42,700
	206,700	206,700

The summary sheets provided in Appendix A are based on the Service Level Agreements that are currently under negotiation, and have not yet been adopted by the provider or TDBC.

The Grants Panel have concerns regarding the specified services to be delivered by the TTCC and the related performance targets which require further clarification from the lead officer for Economic Development. The Grants Panel are not recommending the approval of this grant until further investigation has taken place. During Corporate Scrutiny on 22 November 2012, Cllr Horsley stated that he and David Evans (Economic Development Manager) were meeting with the TTCC to negotiate the terms of a new SLA.

4.4 Housing – Housing Revenue Account

	Commitments 2012/2013	Recommendations 2013/2014
North Taunton Partnership	10,000	10,000
Link Partnership	10,000	10,000
Tenants Forum	45,000	45,000
Wiveliscombe Area Partnership	Na	1000
	65,000	66,000

The HRA pays a contribution to the North Taunton Partnership and the Link Partnership SLAs as described in the summary sheet in Appendix A.

The Tenants Forum set aside £18000 from their grant to grant aid specific youth projects that benefit young tenants.

The HRA would like to contribute £1000 to the Wiveliscombe Area Partnership SLA (see note in 4.1).

4.5 Housing – Homelessness Prevention Grant from CLG

	Commitments 2012/2013	Recommendations 2013/2014
Shelter	Yet to be agreed	TBA
Open Door	12,000	TBA
TDBC Rough Sleeping Co-ordinator Post	15,000	15,000
YMCA, Bridgwater Homes Scheme	50,000	End of SLA
Pathways to Independence Youth Housing Service	n/a	50,000
TAH Outreach Worker	7,500	7,500
CAB – MAAP project	6,000	TBA
	90,500	72,500

The Department for Communities and Local Government have confirmed that the Council will receive an annual grant of £122,280 next 2 years for the prevention of homelessness.

Negotiations for the allocation of this grant funding are currently underway; therefore the proposals at this stage are not confirmed.

It is probable that Shelter will cease function as they have from March 2013, with services being reduced to a telephone helpline, or the service being withdrawn altogether. In return for its funding Shelter has provided a Housing Solicitor to run a court desk service to assist those at risk of becoming homeless and training for TDBC's Housing Officers.

With the loss of these services, and the main service provision there is a risk of increased pressure on other voluntary service providers and on the TDBC Housing Service itself.

The Housing Service is currently negotiating with other service provider's alternative means of providing advice and assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

It is likely that the funding for the specific Multi Agency group currently administered by the CAB will be withdrawn and replaced with alternative services as a result of current negotiations. Any new service specifications will be written into the current SLA we have with the CAB currently funded by the Strategy and Performance unit.

4.6 Community Development – TDBC Youth Fund

	Commitments 2012/2013	Recommendations 2013/2014
Youth Fund	20,000	20,000 (25,000)
Somerset County Council Youth Windfall		29,495
	20,000	49,495 (54,495)

The 2012/13 Youth Fund totaled £20,000. This was made up of £15,000 from the Taunton Unparished Area Fund and £5,000 from the General Fund. We received 22 applications totaling £63,600. The applications that came in were for projects spread across the whole of Taunton Deane. However, due to the make up of the fund it was felt by Officers and members of Community Scrutiny and the Executive that this gave an unfair advantage to projects from the urban (unparished) areas of Taunton.

Obviously budgets for the next financial year have not yet been confirmed. However, it is anticipated that the Youth Fund (now to be referred to as the TDBC Youth Fund) for 2013/14 will be made up of the same contributions as this year.

Somerset County Council has approached us and offered to contribute some funds to the TDBC Youth Fund 2013/14. Tone Leisure was holding £29,495 on behalf of the County Council for youth club provision in the town centre, namely the Chestnut Tree. As this project has not come to fruition Jeff Brown, The Development Manager for Somerset County Youth and Community Service, has gifted this funding to the TDBC Youth Fund. There is no specific criteria associated with this funding, but Jeff has asked that we give priority to projects providing youth work on estates and projects who can demonstrate a commitment to future sustainability.

Whilst this windfall from County Council is greatly appreciated, it is obviously not an on-going arrangement. It also does not address the issue raised above regarding the disproportionate make up on the Youth Fund from TDBC budgets, and the unfair advantage this gives projects from the urban areas of Taunton.

We do appreciate that both Council's Core Priorities and the Priority Areas Strategy, which the Youth Fund aims to support, indicate that preference should be given to projects working in areas of high deprivation. Clearly many of these areas high need areas are within the Unparished Areas of Taunton. However, there are many identified areas of deprivation, such as those in Wellington and the more rural areas of the Deane and it is currently considered that these projects are immediately disadvantaged due to their location.

Therefore, we would like members to consider increasing the TDBC contributions to the Youth Fund so that more General Fund money was available, thus helping to ensure that all projects have a fair chance when submitting an application.

The Grants Panel recommends that the general fund contribution to the Youth Fund is increased from £5000 to £15000 to even out the geographical balance of projects that can be supported across the borough.

5. Commitment to VCS Funding

The Somerset Compact asks authorities where ever possible to provide a longer term commitment to the Voluntary and Community Sector to enable them to plan ahead and ensure that their services are sustainable into the future.

The Grants Panel recommends that all Service Level Agreements are signed for a 3 year period (wherever possible) and a commitment from TDBC to not consider those particular funding arrangements as budget savings during the 3 year period.

There is a caveat within all Service Level Agreements that the Council is able to withdraw or reduce funding with 3 months written notice at any point during the period of the agreement. This allows the authority some security in case of it being absolutely necessary but should only be used as a last resort during the period of the agreement.

If it is necessary Service Level Agreements could stipulate a yearly decrease in the level of funding.

6. Finance Comments

The recommendations for the allocation of the VCS budgets are integral to the Council's Budget Review Programme. The recommendations need to be considered alongside projected budgets and service options.

If the recommendation to enter into 3 year SLAs with all service providers is supported it is advised that the Service Managers should consider future pressures on budgets when setting the level of funding each year.

7. Legal Comments

There are no legal implications relating to the proposals and recommendations.

If the Council is required to withdraw or reduce funding then 3 months written notice must be given to the service providers as specified in the Service Level Agreement.

8. Links to Corporate Aims

The funding recommendations made by the Grants Panel in this report have been made to ensure that the Corporate Aims are supported, especially 'Tackling Deprivation and Sustainable Community Development' and 'Regeneration and Growth'.

The service provided by Voluntary and Community Sector are able to support the Council in delivering our priorities and deliver on these priorities where the Council does not have the resources.

Future recommendations will be made in line with the Councils Business Plan.

9. Environmental Implications

It is reasonable to assume that there are no obvious environmental implications as a result of the recommendations.

The Community Council is funded by Strategy and Performance and is committed to helping communities to reduce their carbon emissions.

10. Community Safety Implications

The Grants Panel have considered the impacts of the funding recommendations on safety in local communities, especially those in areas of deprivation where Community Safety is more of a concern. The provision of funding to local community centres enables regular police surgeries to take place, youth initiative funding helps to engage those at risk of offending and has been proven to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour. The Grants panel are recommending support for organisations to help prevent homelessness and to provide a safe place for homeless people to stay, and are supporting job clubs to help people into work which reduces the risk of offending.

11. Equalities Impact

The Grants Panel has carried out an initial assessment and, as there are no reductions or any withdrawal of funding to any of the voluntary sector organisations, no negative effects have been found on service users, employees or the wider community as a result of these recommendations.

An impact assessment is currently being carried out by Shelter on the potential impacts of the loss of its service.

If the Committee supports the recommendation that an Impact Assessment is carried out on the withdrawal of Community Transport funding a paper will be brought before the Committee in December to assist Councillors in their decision to support the recommendation to withdraw this funding altogether from April 2013.

12. Risk Management

TDBC values its good relationship with the VCS. The Grants panel have the opportunity to develop further working relationships and support the VCS by through regular monitoring of Service Level Agreements and providing support to ensure that services are delivered to a high standard.

Any risks associated with the withdrawal of funding from Community Transport service will be detailed in the Impact Assessment.

There is a risk that committing to 3 year SLAs other organisations may have the opportunity to access funding during that time. This risk is mitigated through the allocation of small grants on an annual basis from the Strategy and Performance VCS budget and Youth Fund. Through this mechanism VCS projects and services can be trialled and if seen to be of long term benefit to the community can be considered for longer term funding through SLA's.

13. Partnership Implications

We have good working relations with the VCS. Many sit on the Taunton Deane Partnership or one of its sub groups e.g. Halcon MAG, NT MAG and the Spatial Planning Working Group. This relationship has been influential in developing important work-streams such as the Priority Area Strategy and the Local Development Framework. It is important to maintain these relationships through an open approach to allocating funding to the VCS.

A number of our existing SLAs are partnership SLAs with Taunton Deane Partnership, SCC and the Primary Care Trust.

14. Recommendations

- The Grants Panel recommends that the proposals for the allocation of funding are supported as listed in this report.
- The Grants Panel recommends that an Impact Assessment be carried out on the withdrawal of funding from the Somerset County Council Accessible Transport.
- The Grants Panel recommends that the general fund contribution to the Youth Fund is increased from £5000 to £15000 to even out the geographical balance of projects that can be supported across the borough.
- The Grants Panel recommends that all Service Level Agreements are signed for a 3 year period (wherever possible) and that there is a commitment from TDBC to not consider those particular funding arrangements as budget savings during the 3 year period.

Persons to contact

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Taunton Deane Borough Council

1 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	The Brewhouse Theatre & Arts Centre		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	152,000		
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>The Organisation shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produce a Business Plan for the forthcoming year, which sets out the vision and plans for the organisation, and demonstrates how the Organisations strategy meet the Local Authority's own strategies for the Borough's growth and town centre development.• Continue to produce and promote a high quality professional programme that sustains box office income and attracts additional and alternative income sources, including from corporate and public sponsorship. Further support from Arts Council of England or other sources will be sought to develop cross media work.• Establish, monitor and maintain a suitable financial management framework to enable the targets within the Business and revised Recovery Plans to be achieved, or variations to be identified.• Collect and share audience and participation data with the Councils and sponsors as requested, subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act		

<p>Benefit to the Community</p>	<p>The Service Purchaser and Service Provider maintain a shared vision for the 'Brewhouse' to become a vibrant 'Cultural Venue' of regional significance at the heart of Taunton, attractive to residents and visitors alike, providing a balanced mix of high quality professional and amateur performance arts, whilst also providing participation and learning opportunities in performance arts, digital media, and other art forms to residents of Taunton Deane and Somerset.</p> <p>The Brewhouse Theatre & Arts Centre Limited (The Brewhouse) makes a valuable and valued contribution to the cultural life and economy of Taunton Deane and Somerset. The Local Authority is therefore keen that it continues to function as an arts organisation offering a varied programme of performance arts and participatory activities for all ages and abilities, with a particular emphasis on engagement with young people and developing a programme that encourages greater participation from communities that have traditionally been less inclined to participate in cultural and creative activities</p>
<p>Outputs and Deliverables</p>	<p>See table below</p>
<p>Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)</p>	<p>The Service Purchaser has agreed to provide core funding to enable The Service provider to continue to function as Somerset's flagship theatre and arts centre, offering a varied programme of performance arts and venue based participatory activities for all ages and abilities.</p>

Outcome	Targets 2012/13	
1a Continue to produce and promote high quality programmes that generate increased box-office income and attract sponsorship	Maintain Box Office income to £500,000 in the 2012/13 financial year Sponsorship achieved to a minimum of £15,000 in the 2012/13 financial Year	
1b Secure funds for new media work	Arts Council for England and other grants of at least £90,000 to be secured	
1c Introduce new media work that attracts additional audiences, alongside new income streams	Develop and launch the new Brewhouse Cinema in Autumn 2012	
1d Continue to develop new and diverse audiences and participation opportunities that include young people as well as maintaining core audiences		Target
	Maintain theatre audiences at 2011/12 levels	Xxxxx
	Number of attendances at cultural events:	Xxxxx
	Number of children / young peoples' attendances at cultural events:	Xxxxx
	Number of participations in cultural activities:	Xxxxx
	Number of children / young peoples' participations:	Xxxxx
	Number of participations in physical activities:	Xxxxx
	Number of young people participating in physical activities:	Xxxxx
	Number of volunteers directly involved in the organisation:	Xxxxx
	Number of young volunteers directly involved in the	

organisation:

Xxxxx

See below for definitions

1e Increase and extend community participation with the performance arts.	Secure agreement on full-cost recovery or grant funding to ensure use of the Brewhouse for amateur and community groups of at least 8 weeks of the year, subject to demand.
1f Support the emergence and growth of voluntary sector cultural organisations in Taunton Deane	Actively support xxxxxxxxx voluntary sector cultural organisations in 2012/13.
1g Develop and implement a programme of cultural outreach activities in Taunton town centre enhancing the cultural content of major public events.	Active support for 4 major public events in Taunton, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taunton Stage of the Olympic Torch Relay on 21st May 2012,• The Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 6th June 2012• xxxxxxxxx• xxxxxxxxx

Taunton Deane Borough Council

1 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	<p>To be confirmed.</p> <p>Service provided during 2011/12 by VISTA</p>		
Amount to be granted	2013/14 12,000	2014/15	2015/16
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>Delivery of Job Clubs at The Halcon Link Centre, The Priorswood Community Centre, and The Wellington WHERE (Northfield) Centre to assist unemployed people in those wards within the Borough that demonstrate the highest levels of unemployment to obtain employment.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>To deliver opportunities for unemployed people in Taunton Deane to access the labour market through practical advice, mentoring and guidance, as well as community projects and local training courses.</p> <p>Job Clubs based at The Halcon Link Centre, The Priorswood Community Centre, and The Wellington WHERE (Northfield) Centre. Excluding additional job club sessions run by volunteers, each centre will receive 5 hours per week of time from staff employed by The Provider.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Attendances at Job Clubs: 40 per month</p> <p>Jobs achieved: 4 per months</p> <p>Undertaking informal learning course at Job Club, or undertaking work experience: 6 per month</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>Links to the Regeneration aim of the Corporate Strategy.</p>		

Outcome	Targets 2012/13	
1a Continue to produce and promote high quality programmes that generate increased box-office income and attract sponsorship	Maintain Box Office income to £500,000 in the 2012/13 financial year Sponsorship achieved to a minimum of £15,000 in the 2012/13 financial Year	
1b Secure funds for new media work	Arts Council for England and other grants of at least £90,000 to be secured	
1c Introduce new media work that attracts additional audiences, alongside new income streams	Develop and launch the new Brewhouse Cinema in Autumn 2012	
1d Continue to develop new and diverse audiences and participation opportunities that include young people as well as maintaining core audiences		Target
	Maintain theatre audiences at 2011/12 levels	Xxxxx
	Number of attendances at cultural events:	Xxxxx
	Number of children / young peoples' attendances at cultural events:	Xxxxx
	Number of participations in cultural activities:	Xxxxx
	Number of children / young peoples' participations:	Xxxxx
	Number of participations in physical activities:	Xxxxx
	Number of young people participating in physical activities:	Xxxxx
	Number of volunteers directly involved in the organisation:	Xxxxx
	Number of young volunteers directly involved in the	

organisation:

Xxxxx

See below for definitions

1e	Increase and extend community participation with the performance arts.	Secure agreement on full-cost recovery or grant funding to ensure use of the Brewhouse for amateur and community groups of at least 8 weeks of the year, subject to demand.
1f	Support the emergence and growth of voluntary sector cultural organisations in Taunton Deane	Actively support xxxxxxxxx voluntary sector cultural organisations in 2012/13.
1g	Develop and implement a programme of cultural outreach activities in Taunton town centre enhancing the cultural content of major public events.	Active support for 4 major public events in Taunton, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taunton Stage of the Olympic Torch Relay on 21st May 2012,• The Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 6th June 2012• xxxxxxxxx• xxxxxxxxx

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Actiontrack Performance Company		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£1,955.00		
Summary of Services to be delivered	Delivery of opportunities for individuals and groups to access practical involvement and training in music, drama, dance and the visual arts.		
Benefit to the Community	A range of high quality, original participatory arts events.		
Outputs and Deliverables	Inform and develop innovative thinking addressing the role of the creative arts in issues of rurality and cultural diversity. Raise aspirations and empower participants to find their voice and express their point of view. Develop projects that improve expectation, aspirations and life chances of the most vulnerable children and young people in the borough		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	Make an active contribution to the realisation of strategic partnerships in Somerset.		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Somerset Art Works		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Summary of Services to be delivered	£1,380.00		
Benefit to the Community	To give visual artists opportunities for innovation and excellence within a supportive and stimulating environment.		
Outputs and Deliverables	Support to the local economy through supporting local artists and makers. Increase in public awareness and involvement with visual artists and makers living in Somerset.		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	Delivery of the annual Somerset Art Weeks event to support local creative businesses. Develop initiatives to encourage local communities to engage in Art Weeks and other SAW projects that contribute to community cohesion and the health and wellbeing of communities within Taunton Deane		
	Delivery of curatorial services to extend the commercial visual arts market in Taunton Deane – e.g. sales initiatives and showcase events.		

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Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Somerset Film		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£2,415.00		
Summary of Services to be delivered	Provision of an accessible community media centre and base for the services of a registered charity Somerset Film & Video Ltd. To enable and undertake moving image projects across Somerset and the South West.		
Benefit to the Community	Support for grass roots media constituency in Taunton Deane. Provision of targeted support for the emerging independent film and digital sector.		
Outputs and Deliverables	Dedicated range of moving image based projects, facilities and services. Strengthen the role of digital media in areas of regeneration and education. Provision of training, sign-posting, nursery slope and incubator space support. Training support to freelance film and media practitioners.		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	Rise in skill levels and improved employability for people with a range of abilities and aspirations.		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	SPAEDA		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£500.00		
Summary of Services to be delivered	Enhancement of the life of every child and young person in Somerset through the arts and creativity.		
Benefit to the Community	Creation of more opportunities for children and young people to access high quality arts activities.		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Signposting service with information, advice and guidance.</p> <p>Database of participatory creative practitioners.</p> <p>Best practice and creative training and networking opportunities.</p> <p>Developing and sharing model project that further arts education.</p> <p>Events and showcases that celebrate young people's achievements.</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	Provision of advocate for best practice in arts education, placing the arts and creativity central to children and young people's development.		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Take Art		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£5,750.00		
Summary of Services to be delivered	Promotion of performance & participation in Somerset. Facilitate participation in the arts and explore innovative ways in which artists can enrich communities. Act as an arts development agency with guiding values and principles which occupies the space between public domain and private enterprise.		
Benefit to the Community	To make arts experience of the highest quality accessible to all communities within Taunton Deane.		
Outputs and Deliverables	Create opportunities within Taunton Deane for artists to flourish. Develop new opportunities for individuals to participate in as well as observe, appreciate and enjoy the arts.		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	Promotion the arts as an agent of development and change for individuals and communities. Foster links with participatory and other agencies working on a regional and international level as well as local level within Taunton Deane		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Citizens Advice Bureau		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£85900	£85900	TBA
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>Current SLA in place until April 2015.</p> <p>To provide a free, confidential and impartial advice service to the public to ensure that individuals do not suffer through lack of knowledge or of the services available to them.</p> <p>To provide outreach services in the most deprived areas of Taunton and Wellington.</p> <p>Funding is paid as a contribution to core running costs of the service.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>The ability to access free advice can help to alleviate poverty, debt and homelessness. The advice can also positively affect peoples health and wellbeing, especially that affected by stress.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Provide advice to the public that includes the following: Benefits, Housing, Tax, Consumer, Legal, Utilities, Employment, Relationships, Health, Debt and Utilities.</p> <p>Assessing problems, researching information, completing forms, negotiating with third parties, representation.</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>The advice and services provided help to reduce the strain on Council services by reducing the amount of advice and repeat contact with customers, as well as proactively assisting people so that there is less demand on council services such as housing, homelessness and benefits.</p>		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Community Council for Somerset		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£5700	£5700	£5700
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>To provide a Community Building, Community Regeneration and Community Advice service to TDBC staff and communities, especially those in rural areas.</p> <p>The funding covers specific service outlined below and some core costs enabling the organisation to remain viable.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>The community can request and are given regular information and advice on supporting the needs of people in their local area, to help develop and maintain suitable community building, to retain local shops and services and to plan for developing their communities in the long term. There are no other organisations that provide this type of advice locally.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Minimum of 20 hours advice to TDBC staff on Community Buildings and Community Regeneration.</p> <p>Provide written or verbal advice (including visits) to communities on communities buildings (including Governance, Legal, Finance and Funding, Community Consultation and Engagement), community regeneration (maintaining local services, social enterprises and local shops including Finance and funding, structure, legal, best practise and community consultation and evidencing need) and community development and planning.</p> <p>Produce 6 information and advice sheets per year.</p> <p>Provide a minimum of 1 information and networking event per year.</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>TDBC do not have the expertise to provide these services. The organisation adds value by maintaining up to date information, and providing trained specialised staff to assist communities in meeting their own needs. If this service did not exist the demand would fall on Taunton Deane to provide this advice to communities and parish councils which would place a burden on Council resources and the need for specialist staff and training.</p>		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Link Partnership		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£5000	£5000	£5000
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>Contribution to TDP SLA TDBC Strategy - £5000 TDBC Housing - £10000 TDP (Health) - £7500 Provision of a Community Resource Centre. Enabling statutory agencies to provide advice surgeries and job clubs. Supporting local community groups, especially during start up. Providing a drop in advice and signposting service. Providing large scale community events, and activities from the centre to improve skills and knowledge and support delivery of the PAS. Producing Community newsletters. Act as the 'Voice' of the Community.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>North Taunton is an identified area of deprivation. Provision of a Community Resource centre, advice, access to statutory agencies, job clubs and training all help to alleviate many issues associated with deprivation. The Centre also enables members of the community to come together to start new initiatives that benefit the community, especially for those who are vulnerable. The wider community also benefits from regular newsletters advertising community events and supporting local business.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Administration of community space for advice surgeries and job clubs. Administration of community meeting space. Provision of drop in advice service, leaflets and advice booklets. Regular promotion of community centre, events and services. Fundraising for small projects. 2 Community Newsletters per year. Administration of comments box. Attendance at the MAG.</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>Provision of locally accessible advice helps to alleviate pressure on council resources, especially repeat contact by the authority and reacting to issues that have arisen that might have been avoided. The Centre and the services it delivers has a significant impact on the delivery of the Priority Area Strategy and significantly helps to achieve Corporate Aim of Tackling Deprivation.</p>		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	North Taunton Partnership		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£5000	£5000	£5000
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>Contribution to TDP SLA TDBC Strategy - £5000 TDBC Housing - £10000 TDP (Health) - £7500 Provision of a Community Resource Centre. Enabling statutory agencies to provide advice surgeries and job clubs. Supporting local community groups, especially during start up. Providing a drop in advice and signposting service. Providing large scale community events, and activities from the centre to improve skills and knowledge and support delivery of the PAS. Producing Community newsletters. Act as the 'Voice' of the Community.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>North Taunton is an identified area of deprivation. Provision of a Community Resource centre, advice, access to statutory agencies, job clubs and training all help to alleviate many issues associated with deprivation. The Centre also enables members of the community to come together to start new initiatives that benefit the community, especially for those who are vulnerable. The wider community also benefits from regular newsletters advertising community events and supporting local business.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Administration of community space for advice surgeries and job clubs. Administration of community meeting space. Provision of drop in advice service, leaflets and advice booklets. Regular promotion of community centre, events and services. Fundraising for small projects. 2 Community Newsletters per year. Administration of comments box. Attendance at the MAG.</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>Provision of locally accessible advice helps to alleviate pressure on council resources, especially repeat contact by the authority and reacting to issues that have arisen that might have been avoided. The Centre and the services it delivers has a significant impact on the delivery of the Priority Area Strategy and significantly helps to achieve Corporate Aim of Tackling Deprivation.</p>		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Pathways to Independence (P2I) Youth Housing service		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£50,000	£50,0000	TBC
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>Pathways to Independence (P2I) is a multi-agency integrated housing related support service for young people aged 16-25. The service will be designed to allow young people with housing related needs to progress along a pathway of outcome focused needs led provision until they are able to live independently without the need for support. First and foremost however it will attempt to prevent the need for a young person to step onto the pathway at all through targeted prevention measures. A young people focused 'Access Point' in each District will provide advice and information on a range of issues. It will also assess and coordinate housing and accommodation related support for young people according to need.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>The service aims to support young people to maximise their opportunity and ability to enter and sustain independent living. This will help to prevent incidences of anti social behaviour, will help young people into work, or back into education.</p> <p>Through the pathway young people will be encouraged to engage and take an active role within their communities through volunteering and social activities.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>P2I will deliver a range of preventative and housing related support services to include as a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets prevention activities in schools and colleges • Mediation with families • Floating support and resettlement activities • Emergency accommodation, including nightstop • Supported housing <p>The tendering process is currently underway and we are looking for</p>		

	innovative and flexible responses to service delivery.
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>P2I will fulfil the authority's statutory responsibility to young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. It will help the most vulnerable young people in our society preventing the need for more costly initiatives.</p> <p>The project is being funded by Somerset County Council and all other District Councils within Somerset, TDBC's contribution to this project will ensure that more funding is brought into the area.</p>

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Somerset County Council – Community Transport		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£9400	£9400	£9400
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>Contribution to the overall service of Community Transport and Demand Responsive Transport provided by Somerset County Council in the Taunton Deane Area.</p> <p>To provide a complementary door to door specialist accessible transport service for eligible registered users, where the user is unable to use existing public transport services, for residents across the Borough.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>The vast majority of passengers using the service are made by vulnerable residents of Taunton Deane including the elderly and disabled who cannot use conventional bus services due either to mobility issues or because they do not have a bus service available close by.</p> <p>The buses are suitably adapted to provide a transport service for individual elderly, disabled persons and those that are socially excluded and rurally isolated.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Provision of a small fleet of vehicles and 14 full and part time drivers and escorts.</p> <p>Administration of passenger register, timetabling and provision of vehicles, drivers and escorts.</p> <p>The service will be monitored through the number of passengers journeys made, number of registered users, age range, disability and gender monitoring information and various other measures.</p> <p>During the last full year (2011/12) a total of 63,431 passenger journeys were completed across Taunton Deane.</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>In April 2011 TDBC ceased funding its concessionary Taxi Voucher scheme (vouchers were provided for people who could not access conventional buses). In April 2012 TDBC ceased funding its £30k contribution Community Transport.</p> <p>Awaiting confirmation of the Corporate Business Plan – early indication is that the CBP will prioritise Priority areas and access to services. Transport for those in rural and socially excluded areas has been highlighted as a key issue.</p> <p>Transport remains a SCC statutory responsibility.</p>		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Taunton Voluntary Action		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£24900	£24900	£24900
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>To provide support to voluntary organisations including organisational development, training, assistance with funding applications and back office services.</p> <p>To provide a volunteer centre acting as a broker to match volunteers with organisations.</p> <p>To act as an Umbrella Body for CRB disclosures for paid and unpaid staff.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>Provides access to a central service to find work as a volunteer, increases chances of gaining employment, self esteem, skills and experience.</p> <p>Enables new and established voluntary organisations to become sustainable and provide services that meet wider community needs, especially the needs of the most vulnerable members of our communities.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Engage with Voluntary Organisations and provide development support.</p> <p>Carry out funding searches, help complete application forms, develop policies and procedures, provide advice on legal frameworks. Produce and distribute monthly information fact sheets and quarterly newsletters. Provide networking opportunities and events. Organise and deliver training and workshops to the voluntary sector.</p> <p>Promote volunteering, especially to those who face barriers to volunteering.</p> <p>Advertise volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>Provide a brockage and advice service for volunteers.</p> <p>Process CRB checks</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>Provides a service that supports TDBC's corporate aim of growth and development by increasing chances of employment and building skills. Assists with Tackling Deprivation in our priority areas, specifically by running projects to attract people to volunteering in the community and boosting self esteem.</p>		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Voluntary and Community Sector Small Grants		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£22010		
Summary of Services to be delivered	The fund has been created to support organisations and projects which seek to improve the lives, health and wellbeing of people in Taunton Deane, and to help organisations become sustainable for the future.		
Benefit to the Community	Various		
Outputs and Deliverables	Various		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	Cost savings and relieving pressure on council services.		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

3 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Wiveliscombe Area Partnership		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£32900	£32900	£32900
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>A community advice office in Wiveliscombe to provide signposting advice, enable services to be delivered by statutory agencies, provide the community with free internet access and administration services and provide community groups with a low cost meeting space. Provide a tourist information point and provide advice on local attractions. Supporting new and young community groups with advice and holding their funds. Provide the Wivey Link transport service to individuals whose needs are not met by conventional public transport. The funding also helps to contribute to core running costs to enable to service to remain viable and to organise celebrations such as the 10 Parishes festival, street market and carnival. Approximately £12000 of this funding is used to deliver the Wivey Link Service, with the remainder funding the delivery of the Community Office services.</p>		
Benefit to the Community	<p>The community are able to access the police, cab and housing services without the need to travel into Taunton Deane, helping to alleviate issues associated with rural isolation.</p> <p>The tourist information point, festival and street market encourages tourism into the area and promotes local services and places of interest helping to attract economy into the area.</p> <p>Support for new and young community groups encourages new initiatives to be started to meet community need.</p> <p>The Wivey Link transports service provides a door to door transport service for people who are physically or socially excluded from accessing transport helping to alleviate issues associated with rural isolation.</p> <p>Demand for this has increased since the withdrawal of a local bus service.</p>		
Outputs and Deliverables	<p>Provide space for weekly or monthly advice surgeries from the Police, Tenant Advice and Parish Council.</p> <p>Provide up to date information (including planning apps, transport timetables, leaflets on benefits, tourism, education, health, local events)</p> <p>Provide a PC, internet access, photocopier and telephone.</p> <p>Provide a meeting space of community groups.</p> <p>Provide the Wivey Link transport service.</p>		
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	<p>Assists the council in reduce rural isolation and deprivation in Wiveliscombe.</p> <p>Removes the need for the council to provide a community outreach office in Wiveliscombe.</p>		

Taunton Deane Borough Council

1 year Service Level Agreement – Recommendation Summary

Name of Organisation	Taunton Town Centre Company		
Amount to be granted	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	42700		
Summary of Services to be delivered	<p>a) Design and delivery of an exciting and innovative programme of events in Taunton town centre. The programme will comprise a pre-Christmas and a Summer event as well as occasional, smaller events held throughout the year. The provision of all events will be subject to the securing of additional funding from third party organisations.</p> <p>b) The design and consultation amongst businesses on a new Business Improvement District programme in the town centre, to be progressed and submitted for ballot during 2013.</p> <p>c) The design and delivery of programmes, across various media, to promote Taunton as a shopper, event and visitor destination, to include the Taunton Town Centre Company website and a shopper 'App'.</p> <p>d) Maintain an awareness of trends and issues in the town centre and provide written reports to the Council twice per year on the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footfall levels in various locations • Vacancy numbers and rates amongst retail properties • Visitor and shopper perceptions • Business perceptions • Overall trends affecting the vibrancy and vitality of the town centre <p>e) Introduce a busker development programme, progressed alongside the Brewhouse Theatre and Arts Centre, intended to encourage high quality busking throughout the town centre.</p> <p>f) Provide support to the Bath Place Traders Association and the xxxx Traders Association</p> <p>g) Maintain the xx poster points in the town centre with up to date and relevant information on events and activities</p>		

Benefit to the Community	The primary objective of Taunton Town Centre Company is to increase the vibrancy and appeal of Taunton town centre; making it the first choice destination for shoppers, visitors and those who come to work, study or live in the town.
Outputs and Deliverables	See table below
Expected Benefit to the Authority (supporting Corporate Business Plan objectives and legislative requirements)	Supports the Regeneration aim of the Corporate Strategy

	Performance Measure	Performance Indicator / Output
a	Events Programme	
	<i>Delivery of two major events, ie. pre-Christmas and Summer</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 major events held
	<i>Delivery of other smaller public events</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual programme delivered
b	BID Preparation	
	BID Ballot consultation and preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date agreed with TDBC for BID ballot during 2013 by end of SLA term
c	Marketing and promotion	
	Increase traffic to TTCC Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of visitors to TTCC website in comparison to previous years
	Town centre app beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of app users • Number of businesses posting offers on app
d	Trend analysis	
	Written reports to TDBC on subjects specified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two reports per year, received in May and November
e	Busker development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme in place before end of SLA • Number of individuals benefiting from development programme