



Subject:	Department for Justice (DOJ) consultation paper on a Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector Funding Model
Date:	11 October 2016
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
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Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is for Members to consider and approve the draft consultation response in relation to the Department for Justice (DOJ) consultation paper on a Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector Funding Model.
1.2	The Department of Justice launched a consultation exercise with regard to the development of a new system of funding to the VCSE sector. Responses were invited by the closing date of Friday 23 rd September.
1.3	Due to time constraints, officers have drafted a response and submitted it noting it is subject to consideration by People & Communities Committee on 11 October and then full Council ratification on 1 November 2016.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider and agree the draft consultation response to the DOJ on the voluntary community and social enterprise sector funding model.

3.0	Main report
	Consultation background
3.1	<p>The consultation document indicates that DOJ have taken account of the new approaches set out in the draft Programme for Government Framework. The Department is reviewing current arrangements with the VCSE to develop a more outcomes based approach to planning, securing and measuring the delivery of services. As part of this work, the Department is developing a new system to fund the VSCE, founded on the principles of outcome based accountability and commissioning.</p>
3.2	<p>The Department's annual spend on services provided by the VCSE is in the region of £5million. This does not include funding of approximately £3 million disbursed by the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships. The new approach will focus on impact rather than the amount of money spent or the number of programmes, interventions or services introduced. It is envisaged that the new system for funding the VSCE will help strengthen partnerships with the VCSE and ensure that commissioned services are better focused on the Department's strategic outcomes. This should also secure best value and promote services which better deliver the Department's objectives and help bring about effects for a generation rather than the duration of the service.</p>
3.3	<p>The Department has highlighted in the document that they are working to develop a new system for funding the VCSE by Autumn 2016, enabling sufficient lead time for the sector to prepare as the new system takes effect from April 2017.</p>
3.4	<p>The document indicates that the new system has been developed in line with the Government's stronger focus on outcomes, as set out in the draft Programme for Government Framework, and the Department's drive to create a system which will disburse funding in a fair, equitable and transparent way. In establishing a new system of funding for the VCSE the Department wishes to secure a number of objectives. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ funding to reflect outcomes focused service; ▪ providing greater transparency in funding decisions; providing all VCSE organisations with fair and equitable access to funding; ▪ increased flexibility and responsiveness to priorities; ▪ promoting and securing the development of high quality services and best value; ▪ developing opportunities for collaborative work and better partnerships arrangements.

<p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p> <p>3.7</p>	<p><u>Consultation submission:</u></p> <p>As previously indicated, officers have considered the consultation paper and a draft response to the consultation questions is attached at appendix one for Member's consideration, revision and approval.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial & resource implications attached.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no equality or Good Relations implications</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Appendix 1: Draft consultation response: DOJ voluntary community and social enterprise sector funding model</p>