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**CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, EQUALITY AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S ISSUES
Monday, 16th April, 2012**

Present:- Councillor Hussain (in the Chair) and Councillor Burton.

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Beck.

E60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest to report.

E61. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 12TH MARCH AND 2ND APRIL, 2012.

The minutes of the previous meetings of the Cabinet Member for Community Development, Equality and Young People's Issues held on 12th March and 2nd April, 2012, were considered.

Resolved: - That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 12th March and 2nd April, 2012, be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

E62. EXEMPTION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC.

Resolved: - That the following items be heard in the absence of the press and the public as being exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006) (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular individual (including the Council)).

E63. 2011/2012 INFRASTRUCTURE AND CORPORATE INITIATIVES FUND (ICIB) - GRANT AID FOR COMMUNITY LEGAL ADVICE & INFORMATION SERVICES.

Consideration was given to the report presented by Zafar Saleem, Community Engagement and Cohesion Manager, Resources Directorate. The report proposed that grant aid be made from the Infrastructure and Corporate Initiatives Fund in the 2012/13 financial year to the Legal Advice and Information and Advocacy providers the Rotherham Citizens' Advice Bureau, Kiveton Park Independent Advice Centre, Rotherham Diversity Forum, and Giving Real Opportunities to Women (GROW).

It was noted that the Council and Advice in Rotherham (AiR), the umbrella group for independent advice agencies in Rotherham, had an agreed service specification as a condition for the award of grant aid to Advice and Information providers.

These conditions stipulated that providers must: -

- Be a member of Advice in Rotherham and operate within the 'New Model of Advice for Rotherham' framework.

- Use the online booking and referral system 'Nellbooker' to facilitate timely and accurate cross-agency referrals.
- Operate common client monitoring functions to ensure that regular information relating to client numbers, outcomes, and equal opportunities was provided to RMBC staff in a complete, clear and accurate manner.
 - This linked to the work done through Advice in Rotherham to gain a commitment between all partners to work within a common counting system to ensure that all data reported demonstrated a true picture of need and delivery across Rotherham.
- Maintain a minimum threshold for quality assurance, alongside a commitment to work with the Advice in Rotherham Partnership to implement the 'New Quality Mark'.
- Address disadvantage, which would primarily be delivered by offering advice services targeted at those most in need. 'Social added value' could also be offered by Advice and Information providers developing and training volunteers to improve their skills and employability.
- Be based and located within the borough.

Discussion ensued and the following issues were raised: -

- Assessing the impact of the Advice and Information and Advocacy Providers;
- Assessment of need within Rotherham at present and in the future;
- Current management structure and organisation and future requirements.

Resolved: - That Infrastructure and Corporate Initiatives Fund grant aid be provided to the Community Legal Advice and Information and Advocacy providers as outlined in the submitted report.

E64. SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN AND FAMILIES ASSOCIATION (SSAFA).

Consideration was given to the report presented by Zafar Saleem, Community Engagement and Cohesion Manager, Resources Directorate, that proposed a grant aid contract be established to support the Rotherham Branch of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association, the organisation of the borough's Armed Forces Day and delivery of the Armed Forces Community Covenant. It was proposed that the grant aid contract be provided from an underspend in the One Town One Community 2011-12 activities budget.

The Rotherham Branch of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association aimed to support members and former members of the Royal Navy, Army and Air Force and their dependents. Support offered included help with benefits advice, counselling, advocacy and access to charitable funds.

The Armed Forces Community Covenant existed as a voluntary statement of mutual support between the civilian community and the local armed forces community with the aims of helping ex-military personnel and their families re-integrate into civilian life and utilise the skills of the ex-military officer within the local community.

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The Armed Forces Day was celebrated annually by Rotherham and events for 2012 were being planned by the Armed Forces Steering Group.

Resolved: - That a grant aid contract be approved in support of the Rotherham Branch of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association, the organisation of the Armed Forces Day and delivery of the Armed Forces Community Covenant.

E65. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING: -

Resolved: - That the next meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Development, Equality and Young People's Issues be held on Monday 11th June, 2012, to start at 11.30 am in the Rotherham Town Hall.