

18 December 2014

BRENTWOOD ASSIZE HOUSE

Review of Grant Award Criteria

Report of: Christopher Potter – Monitoring Officer and Head of Support Services

Wards Affected: All

This report is: Public

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Brentwood Assize House ('the Charity') (Charity Number 230138) is a small charity under the terms of the Charities Act 2011.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to review the award criteria

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the existing award criteria be re-affirmed as set out in Appendix A to this Report. **OR**
- 2.2 That the award criteria be approved as set out in Appendix B to this Report.

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 On 17 October 2012 the Trustees approved the grant award criteria in Appendix A to this Report.
- 3.2 Shortly before that date on 4 October 2012 the Charity Commission had approved the extension of the area of application of the Charity to the geographical area of Brentwood Borough Council.
- 3.3 Financial constraints are continuing and bids for funding are likely to be increase due to such constraints.
- 3.4 As a result the Charity needs to be certain that its award criteria remain 'fit for purpose'.

4 Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

- 4.1 The issue is what award criteria are appropriate for 2014/2015 and subsequent years.
- 4.2 Appendix A sets out the current criteria.
- 4.3 Appendix B also lays down award criteria. Apart from layout, the main change is as regards removing an apparent requirement for match funding so as to give some greater flexibility in the exercise of discretion by the Trustees.
- 4.4 The Trustees may however wish to suggest different criteria or set up a working group of the Charity to inform the Trustees at a subsequent meeting of the Charity.

5 Reasons for Recommendation

- 5.1 To be review and agree the award criteria.

6 References to Charity's Purposes

- 6.1 The Charity's objectives are for the general improvement of the Borough. This is consistent with Brentwood Borough Council's 'Street Scene and Environment', 'Housing, Health and Wellbeing' and 'A Safe Borough' priorities.

7 Implications

Financial Implications

Name & Title: Chris Leslie – Financial Services Manager

Tel & Email: 01277 312542 / christopher.leslie@brentwood.gov.uk

- 7.1 At the end of the financial year 2013/14 the Charity had £189,054 of available cash at its disposal and regular rental income of £2,000 a year.
- 7.2 In addition to this the Charity has two investment properties valued at a total of £237,500.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Chris Potter – Monitoring Officer

Tel & Email: 01277 312743 / christopher.potter@brentwood.gov.uk

- 7.3 Trustees are reminded that in law they are required to act in the best interests of the Trust.

7.4 Decisions on grant funding need to be made in accordance with the Charity's purposes and a fair process is required.

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

7.5 None

8 Background Papers (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright)

8.1 None

Report Author Contact Details:

Name: Christopher Potter – Monitoring Officer and Head of Support Services

Telephone: 01277 312860

E-mail: christopher.potter@brentwood.gov.uk