

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet

Date of Committee 2 February 2006

Report Title Funding of Black and Minority Ethnic Organisations

Summary This report sets out the proposed funding from the Race Equality Budget for Black and Minority Ethnic projects in Warwickshire.

For further information please contact: Arun Kang
Corporate Policy Advisor
(Race Equality)
Tel: 01926 746811
arunkang@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s) Cllr Boad, Cllr Longden, Cllr Verekar, Cllr Atkinson, Cllr Sweet (Chairs of Area Committees) and Cllr Tooth, Cllr Haywood, Cllr Dodd (Spokespersons for Adult and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committees).
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member Cllr Hayfield
- Chief Executive
- Legal David Carter
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils

- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

Cabinet - 02 February 2006.

Funding of Black and Minority Ethnic Organisations

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

Recommendation

Cabinet to endorse the funding proposed to Black and Minority Ethnic projects in Warwickshire.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Race Equality Budget provides specific support to organisations for projects that focus on the needs of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Communities across Warwickshire.
- 1.2 The budget also assists the County Council to meet its statutory duty to eliminate racial discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good race relations under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000.

2 Black and Minority Ethnic Communities in Warwickshire

- 2.1 The 2001 census data displays that the BME population has increased by 1% to 4.4% over the last ten years to approximately 22,352 people.
- 2.2 Warwick District BME population is 8,916 (40% of the county BME total). Nuneaton and Bedworth has increased to 5,864 (26% of county total) and Rugby to 5,268 (24% of county total). North Warwickshire has 839 (4% of county total) and Stratford on Avon 1,462 (6.5% of county total) people from BME communities.
- 2.3 In Warwickshire, the majority of people are of Indian origin mainly, Sikh and Hindu. These groups are originating from the north Indian state of Punjab. Their numerical dominance is particularly significant in Warwick district.
- 2.4 Rugby has a significant number of people of African Caribbean and Chinese origin and in Nuneaton and Bedworth borough there is a large Indian Muslim community. Warwick district now has a sizeable Portuguese community.

- 2.5 There are also new and emerging communities settling in Warwickshire including the Portuguese and Polish communities in Leamington Spa as well as Hungarian, Zimbabwean and South American families in Rugby.
- 2.6 A recent report commissioned by Leicester University, Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council on BME households living in Stratford upon Avon and North Warwickshire highlighted that some services were not reflecting the needs of BME households living in those rural areas.
- 2.7 It is important to note that some of these communities may share some commonalities but their needs and aspirations differ considerably due to their locality, ethnic, religious or cultural background.

3. Funding Arrangements

- 3.1 The Race Equality Budget is intended to assist Black and Minority Ethnic communities in one-off simple projects, not normally considered within other funding areas of Warwickshire County Council. BME organisations are also eligible to apply for grants from the Community Development Fund. The Race Equality Budget provides an additional opportunity for these organisations, reflecting the need to develop the infrastructure of the BME communities to recognise specific needs.
- 3.2 The criteria for funding has been refined to reflect changing circumstances and applicants were asked to focus on projects in particular around promoting good race relations and community cohesion. Consideration was also given to projects that provided research into the changing needs of the communities.
- 3.3 These changes will assist in developing projects around community cohesion, social inclusion as well as assisting us to meet our legal responsibilities.
- 3.4 Applicants need not necessarily be BME organisations but to be eligible for a grant a project must demonstrate that it is aimed at meeting the needs of the BME communities or relationships between communities including social, cultural and religious issues.
- 3.5 The upper limit on applications is £5000. The budget is intended to support as many initiatives as possible.

4. Funding Analysis

- 4.1 Bids were received from 19 organisations, 2 countywide, 4 from Rugby, 5 from Warwick district, 1 from Stratford upon Avon, 1 from North Warwickshire and 6 from Nuneaton and Bedworth.
- 4.2 17 applications are suggested for approval as set out in Appendix 1. The proposed projects for funding will benefit the diverse groups within the BME communities and the five districts of Warwickshire.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director of
Performance and
Development

Shire Hall
Warwick

5 January 2006

Appendix 1

| ASSESSMENT OF BME APPLICATIONS 2005/06 – RACE EQUALITY BUDGET | | | |
|--|---|---|----------------|
| | Organisation | Project Title | Funding Agreed |
| 1. | Benn Partnership Centre - Rugby | Improving community relationships | 3,000 |
| 2. | Nachda Punjab Bhangra - Rugby | Promotion of Bhangra | 1,000 |
| 3. | Rugby WIA – Women’s Group | Rugby Caribbean Carnival | 3,000 |
| 4. | Rugby Race & Disability Forum | Promoting Race and Equality | 5,000 |
| 5. | Rugby Warwickshire Chinese Society | Survey on changing needs of the Chinese Community in Rugby and Warwickshire | 3,000 |
| 6. | Hindu Samaj - Nuneaton | Refurbishing of 1 st and 2 nd floors | 5,000 |
| 7. | Nuneaton Caribbean Friendly Association | IT infrastructure upgrade | 3,000 |
| 8. | Nuneaton Khalifa Sports Club | Weekly activities for young and old | 1,500 |
| 9. | Nuneaton All Stars Youth Group | The All Star Community Tournament | 1,500 |
| 10. | Sikh Mission Centre- Nuneaton | Improvement to Health Centre | 4,000 |
| 11. | North Warwickshire CVS | Celebrating Diversity | 1,000 |
| 12. | Shree Krishna Community Centre – Warwick District | Free Way to Learn and Keep Fit | 2,000 |
| 13. | Sikh Community Centre – Warwick District | Equality & Diversity through Participation and Learning | 2,000 |
| 14. | SYDNI Centre – Warwick District | Festival of Light | 2,000 |
| 15. | Warwickshire Council of Disabled People | Asian Disabled People and Female Carers Group | 3,000 |
| | Total | | 40,000 |