Glasgow City Council Review of Integrated Grant Fund Briefing Note – Number 1 November 2018



This briefing note provides information on:

- The review of the Integrated Grant Fund (IGF); and
- Funding arrangements for 2019/20 for organisations that are currently in receipt of IGF.

You should use this information to brief your Board/Committee members and members of staff about how we intend to move forward for the remainder of 2018/19 and into 2019/20.

1. Why is the Council conducting a review of the IGF?

Since the introduction of the 2015-18 IGF Programme and its extension into 2018/19, there have been a number of significant changes in the strategic and political landscape including:

- Election of a new Council Administration in May 2017;
- Changes in partnership structures such as the establishment of the Health and Social Care Partnership;
- Community Empowerment Act including Community Asset Transfer;
- Development of Community Plan and Locality Plans; and
- Thriving Places.

Additionally, the current IGF programmes were informed by, and linked to, the then Single Outcome Agreement and Scottish Government National Outcomes. The programmes were also designed to encompass a broad range of services that were delivered via a number of previous legacy funds such as the Community Regeneration Fund and Fairer Scotland Fund.

It is timely to conduct a review of the IGF leading to the development of a new Fund that addresses current, emerging and future challenges.

This review is one of the strategic priorities for the City Government as set out in the Council's <u>Strategic Plan 2017-22</u>.

2. What are the objectives of the review?

The following key objectives have been adopted for the review:

- **Objective 1:** to consider and determine the policy priorities for the Fund;
- Objective 2: to establish new funding programmes and outcomes to deliver

on the policy priorities;

- Objective 3: to improve access to the Fund and consider eligibility criteria;
- **Objective 4:** to consider the funding model to be used as the basis for determining how funds are allocated;
- **Objective 5:** to examine how we can fund projects for longer than a year and how we facilitate reporting on spending;
- **Objective 6:** to rationalise grant administration processes and procedures including consideration of e-based applications and processes;
- **Objective 7:** to rebrand and promote the new Fund to clearly convey its values and vision; and
- Objective 8: to develop an approach to evaluation/impact of programmes that enables sharing and replication of good practice and informed decision making.

3. Who will be conducting the review?

The review will be jointly undertaken by Glasgow City Council and partners in the Voluntary Sector including the Third Sector Interface.

4. What will be the outcome of the review?

A brand new fund that will tackle specific strategies and priorities allowing resources to be directed where they are required and can make the most impact.

5. How long will the review take to be completed?

It is anticipated that the review will be completed in time for new programmes to be delivered from 1st April 2020 following an application process during 2019/20.

6. What will happen to projects currently funded through the IGF?

The IGF will cease operating on 31st March 2020. All existing funded organisations as well as those organisations not funded by the current IGF, will get the opportunity to input to the shape of the new fund, and, in due course, apply to the new fund for grants to deliver against new priorities.

7. Will we have the opportunity to be part of the review?

Yes. We are currently developing a stakeholder engagement and consultation plan. This will provide an opportunity for your organisation to be part of the review and contribute your views.

8. What will happen once the review is completed?

We anticipate that the objectives above will be addressed resulting in a brand new fund being in place from April 2020. We will continue to keep you frequently informed throughout this process.

9. Will the new grant programmes be opened up to new applicants?

It is our intention to widen access to the new fund to a greater range of organisations including those not previously funded by the IGF.

10. Will future funding be for more than one year?

As part of the review we will be examining how we can fund projects for longer than one year.

It is yet to be determined (based on the Council Budget) how much funding will be available as part of any new grant programmes and the amounts that organisations can apply for.

11. My organisation does not currently receive IGF – will we be able to take part in the proposed consultation?

Yes. The consultation is open to organisations that do not currently receive IGF as we want to gather views and opinions from a number of sources. We also plan to address issues of access to the fund as a key objective.

12. What will happen to IGF funded projects during 2019/20?

We believe that it is important to take time to plan for whatever changes we agree and to put in place appropriate support.

It is therefore intended to extend funding to existing community and voluntary sector IGF projects to 31st March 2020, subject to available finances. Further information will be made available on this as and when it is available.

At this time, there are no guarantees about funding beyond 2020 and all organisations should therefore, in general, take the normal prudent steps to plan for any potential changes to their income, to diversify their funding or seek capacity building support to do so.

13. Will you be providing any kind of capacity building support for organisations?

Council officers with partners will look at the possibility of providing a capacity building support programme. Further information will be made available in due course.