

Subject: Third Sector Recovery Action Plan
Date of Meeting: 11 March 2010
Report of: Director, Strategy & Governance
Contact Officer: Name: John Routledge Tel: 29-1112
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Key Decision: Yes Forward Plan No: CAB10416
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 Brighton & Hove's Third Sector Recovery Plan 'Ready, Responding and Resilient' sets out the vital role that the Third Sector plays in supporting the most vulnerable citizens and communities in the City in a recession. It proposes actions that will help the third sector contribute to the social, environmental and economic health of the city.
- 1.2 The plan was presented to the January 2010 OSC meeting and received strong support to take forward before being considered by the Cabinet Member for Community Affairs, Inclusion & Internal Relations and Cabinet. The plan was presented to the third sector ChangeUp Consortium in February 2010 and was roundly endorsed by all.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet adopt the Third Sector Recovery Plan as a council plan to enable officers to start implementing the actions to support the third sector in the city.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Brighton & Hove Third Sector Recovery Plan 'Ready Responding and Resilient' is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Consultation on the draft Action Plan is set out in the body of the report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The financial investment by the Council and partners in the third sector is set out in section 3 of the recovery plan. Future investment will be in line with budget strategies. The action plan does not assume any additional resources.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 25/02/10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report. Implementation of the Plan would accord with well-being powers and corporate priorities

Lawyer Consulted:

Bob Bruce

Date: 25/02/10

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Equalities implications have been considered in the drafting of this plan and an internal Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) will be carried out on the Action Plan prior to implementation

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 A healthy third sector contributes towards the prevention of crime and disorder.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 There is a risk that the actions proposed will not go far enough to prevent shrinkage in third sector services and a reduction in the quality of life for some residents if the fiscal climate worsens further. However, the actions will support the third sector to minimise the impact of recession and be better prepared for the next economic upturn.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 This action plan supports the corporate priority to 'reduce inequality by increasing opportunity' and supports a wide range of other city strategies, for example Community Strategy, Social Enterprise, Volunteering and the wider recession actions of the council.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 Several alternative options have been considered during the drafting of this plan, some of them with significant merits. However, the plan has more chance of success with a focus on a small number of priority actions rather than a long list of actions with no chance of being realised.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Decision is sought in order to adopt the plan and then implement the actions contained therein. These actions have the potential to protect the third sector from the worst impacts of economic downturn and declining public sector budgets.

- 7.2 This action plan, if approved, can help the third sector to position itself to take advantage of the next economic upturn and at a time when public sector budgets start to stabilise.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Brighton & Hove draft Third Sector Recovery Action Plan

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

