

- Depending on the results of the above, to liaise with the Interim Chief Financial Officer to select a sample of partnership schemes for VFM reviews.
- To consider the impacts on accountability and service delivery when/if funding ceases or is changed.

The review considered the various areas referred to above. It did not consider the accuracy, completeness and validity of the data provided in relation to grant applications and receipt and any compliance with the terms and conditions of grants as this was deemed to be outside the agreed scope of the review. We did confirm that where grants had been applied for and/or received, these amounts had been reflected in the Council's accounting records and that where monitoring and reporting to funders on the use of grants was required, arrangements were in place to ensure this would be done. We have also considered the potential consequences of the cessation of funding.

Due to the funding received it was agreed with the Director of Services that a review of VFM issues was not appropriate as the more significant amounts of funding received were already subject to monitoring by the funding organisations. We also confirmed with the Director of Services that at this point in time potential partnerships in 2015/16 and beyond were as yet unknown.

Findings and Conclusions

We were able to confirm that the Council was in receipt of a limited number of grants during 2013/14 totalling £327k and expected in 2014/15 to total £331.6k including an application to the Arts Council England for £35k, the result for which is due in November 2014.

The material funding is summarised as follows:

Funding Source	2013/14 (£)	2014/15 (£)	2015/16 (£)
Leicestershire and Rutland Sport Commissioners and Partners	243,250	218,043	Uncertain
Positive Action for Young Persons (PAYP) & 515 Funding – (LCC)	62,699	36,863	Uncertain
Domestic Abuse Commissioning - (LCC)	9,000	9,000	Uncertain
Police and Crime Commissioner	12,000	7,700	Likely 19,800
Edith Murphy Foundation	-	25,000	Likely more may be available but amounts unknown
Arts Council England	-	35,000 *	Uncertain

It is our opinion that the amounts received in grants is relatively small in relation to the Council's overall net budget and would suggest that the Council's future approach to identifying available grant funding could be reviewed with a view to maximising such income received and hence benefit for residents of the borough. We also found there was no central coordination point within the Council for all grant applications and funding receipts with undue

dependence sometimes being placed on Finance staff to provide details, in some cases which they were not fully aware of. We would therefore recommend a central coordination point for grants and donations be considered for the future.

We have provided separately in more detail the sources and amounts of funding we have identified as part of this review, and an assessment of the potential impact if funding ceased, by the officers directly responsible for administering the funding received.

We will report on the outcome of this review to the next Policy, Finance & Development Committee meeting accordingly.

If you would like to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks to those involved with this review for their co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Tim Ridout
Chief Internal Auditor

Compliance with applicable standards

Our review of compliance against the applicable audit standards has confirmed that this engagement has been conducted in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing. In conducting this assignment we can confirm that there have been no impairments to our independence or objectivity, either as an organisation or as individual auditors involved in delivering this service.

Responsibility Statement

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