

### Scope of the Review

- Review the services provided by the main Infrastructure organisations. This will include bodies such as Community First, Herefordshire Voluntary Action, Ledbury Voluntary Action, HCCA, Citizen's Advice Bureaux, HCVYS and those not for profit organisations with whom the Council has Service Level Agreements (SLAs).
- Contrast the differences between services provided both from direct grant awards and through SLAs to help form a view on value for money from these different arrangements. Establish guidelines when it would be appropriate to use either funding mechanism. This will consider the implications for leveraging in additional funding, and agreeing the basis for calculating management costs.
- Examine the current management arrangements for the operation of the Voluntary Sector Grants scheme. The Review will involve the Voluntary Sector with particular reference to consistent application forms, criteria for grants, long term project sustainability without on-going grant awards, policies, priorities, and procedures including decision making arrangements.
- Establish clear and consistent monitoring arrangements of Voluntary Sector Grant awards and SLAs throughout the Council.
- Investigate the added value implications of whether services currently supported by grant awards are better provided in-house or if existing in-house services might be better provided by the Voluntary Sector.
- Detail the overall funding made available to the Voluntary Sector by the Council, and will include in kind contributions. Grants related to direct social services care will not be covered by the Review.
- Compare the extent of Voluntary Sector Grant support and the way it operates in Herefordshire against our Benchmarking Authorities.
- Undertake a literature search to identify models of Best Practice.
- Funding for the Voluntary Sector from third party sources such as Single Regeneration Budget or Objective 2 funding will not be covered by the Review.
- Funding support for Parish Councils will not be covered by the Review.
- Consider support arrangements for the Voluntary Sector Assembly.
- Recommend options for Voluntary Sector Grant support in the future.