

GENERAL CRITERIA

Council financial support for voluntary organisations will be directed to:

- services or activities which meet defined needs in the Council's area;
- services for groups of people considered to be in special need;
- goals or activities which complement those of the Council and other organisations in the York area; in particular the Council's corporate aims and priorities
- organisations able to demonstrate the benefits of their activities to the community and to individual clients in particular
- organisations complying with relevant legislation, including equalities legislation (in support of the Council's Equality Strategy)
- Organisations able to enter into service level agreements with the Council
- Organisations able to sign up to the York Compact

The Council will not fund:

- services which it considers should be provided by other statutory bodies;
- groups working to further the aims of particular religious or party political organisations;
- the activities of individuals

CRITERIA FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVES FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The **Chief Executive's Department** focuses its funding on services and activities which support the Council's social inclusion policy and the Inclusive City theme of the Community Strategy. The voluntary and community sector provides an extensive range of services, often working alongside the Council or other bodies to reach out to those individuals or communities who are vulnerable, facing short term problems or crises in their lives and who are at risk of social exclusion. The Community Strategy supports a multi-agency approach to inclusion focusing on reduction of poverty, access to advice, finance and other services.

Chief Executives funding is therefore focused on:

- services or activities available on a citywide basis
- services or activities which help to build the capacity of the voluntary and community sector as a whole
- cross-cutting services or activities which help to reduce poverty and enable and help people and excluded 'communities of interest' to be socially included – in particular high quality advice and counselling services which help people to overcome some of the barriers to inclusion.

Applications for funding will be prioritised according to how well they:

- meet identified needs in the city (including existing services)
- provide clear outcomes from funding
- engage with excluded or vulnerable communities of interest including black and minority ethnic communities
- work alongside the Council and other agencies in a joint or multi-agency approach
- contribute to the Council's York Pride and Safer City priorities (particularly for new funding)
- provide value for money (including financial leverage)