

## Appendix 1 – Summary of the Consultation Report

Key questions were asked of all categories of respondents regarding continued earmarked provision to support the wider voluntary community sector and then the concept of a thematic competitive grant fund to enable organisations to apply for funding for activities / projects that will enable Dorset Council to meet our community priorities. A highlight summary of the results are as follows:

*\*Net agreement is a scale of +100 to -100 according to the variation of those who strongly agree to strongly disagree. If an equal number of people agree and disagree the Net agreement will be 0.*

Question	Strongly agree + agree and Net agreement*	Consultation Analysis Comment
Dorset Council currently supports the provision for information, advice and guidance (currently provided by Citizen's Advice) for the general population to have access to housing, employment, debt and benefits advice. Dorset Council is considering continuing to offer this for the next five years. Do you agree with this in principle?	93.3% Net agreement +90%	All the categories of respondents showed very strong support for the proposal of continuing of the provision of information, advice and guidance.
Dorset Council currently supports the provision for support of the arts sector (currently provided by The Arts Development Company). Dorset Council is considering continuing to offer this for the next five years. Do you agree with this in principle?	84.9% Net agreement +78.8%	There was a notable difference in the net support between the responses from volunteers and users (+82.2%) and VCS Organisations (+63%)
Dorset Council currently supports the provision for Voluntary sector support (currently provided by Dorset Community Action, Volunteer Centre Dorset and Dorset Race Equality Council). Dorset Council is considering continuing to offer this for the next five years. Do you agree with this in principle?	85.3% Net agreement +81.5%	All the categories of respondents showed strong support for the proposal of continuing of the provision, with nominal variation.
Dorset Council currently has 4 Museums and 2 Community Centres which we have a reversionary interest for (this means we own the building or collection at each of these). We currently offer support grants to help maintain these. Dorset Council is considering continuing to offer this for the next five years. Do you agree with this in principle?	91.6% Net agreement +88.3%	There were many concerns about ensuring continuing support for accessible art and culture but there was also a lot of support for all four areas proposed for funding.
It is proposed that there will be a central pot of grant money that all VCS organisations operating in the Dorset Council area can apply to for projects that deliver against the Dorset Council	75.9% Net agreement +67.7%	There was a general feeling that the time period, suggested at 1-3 years was too short, with 5 years often suggested as a better alternative. Other

priorities. There will be funds available for local revenue and capital projects. These can be allocated on a 1 to 3-year term. Do you agree with this proposal?"		comments focused on money for the arts in Dorset and how important it was not to reduce the amount of money available and generally to ensure funding is made available for running costs, not just distinct projects.
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All categories of respondents were asked if they agreed with the proposed criteria used to allocate any grants distributed (aforementioned Q25 of consultation). These are set out as core criteria for all applications and then additional criteria for thematic areas of the VCS

Question	Strongly agree + agree and Net agreement*	Consultation Analysis Comment
Related to core criteria that applicants applying for any grant at Dorset Council will need to demonstrate	79.5% Net agreement +73%	There is a strong response to agree to each of the proposed criteria except for 20-year tenure which was strongly felt was too long. Full comment detail on pg. 19-20 of appendix 1
Additional criteria for grants to support community development, community events, play and sports development	67.2% Net agreement +56.9%	This is a reasonably good response; the main concerns were the expectation that events become sustainable and that sports must be recognised by Sport England is too restrictive. It was also commented that officer discretion should be permitted Full comment detail on pg. 22 of appendix 1
Additional criteria for grants to support leverage funding	71.5% Net agreement +66.3%	This is a strong response from all categories of respondents. Full comment detail on pg. 24 of appendix 1
Additional criteria for grants to support museums, cultural and heritage	64.6% Net agreement +67.1%	This is a strong response. The main concern was the economic benefit requirement would favour larger organisations. Full comment detail on pg. 26 of appendix 1

All categories were invited to tell us anything else (pg. 27 of appendix 1). The top 5 comments are:

- Support for Arts
- Support for organisations
- Support for local communities / community groups
- Important for cultural benefits
- Spread the wealth