

**Report to** Cabinet  
09 March 2016  
**Report of** Strategy manager  
**Subject** An overview of external relationships, contracts and grants  
2016-17

**Item**

12

## KEY DECISION

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### Purpose

To consider commissioned services for the period 2016-17. These are both planned and current relationships with external organisations including partnerships, grants, contracts and shared services.

### Recommendation

To note the partnerships and business relationships and contracts registers, as well as the grants to be awarded for 2016-17.

### Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority value for money services

### Financial implications

**Ward/s:** All Wards

**Cabinet member:** Councillor Waters - Leader

### Contact officers

Phil Shreeve, Strategy Manager 01603 212356

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### Background documents

None

# Report

## Background

1. This report provides an overview of the council's formal relationships with external agencies, focusing mainly on commissioned services. It collates the current and proposed contractual, partnership and grant relationships across the council in one central place. This ensures a transparent and comprehensive picture for decision makers. Analysis is below, with detailed information in the Appendices. Bearing in mind the number of partners and contractors we work with, this is an overview and therefore further information is available upon request. Some information is for the previous financial year, others are intended for the coming financial year.

## Business relationships register

2. The corporate business relationship and contract management framework has been fully rolled out for the platinum and gold contracts and the third annual monitoring reviews have now taken place:
  - 10 'platinum' = high spend (over £500k) and high criticality business relationships and contracts
  - 21 'gold' = low spend (under £500k) and high criticality business relationships and contracts.
- 3.

10 Platinum Contracts, 360 indicators			
		Movement	
Green	257	21	⬆️
Amber	24	242	↔️
Red	7	25	⬆️

Figure 1 – Framework performance data for the 10 platinum contracts

(Note 72 indicators have not been reported back, hence figures do not match)

- 3.1. The 25 indicators that have declined mainly relate to two contracts, which we are reviewing as part of our routine contract management processes. Improvement strategies have been developed and will be monitored on a monthly basis.
4. There are over 80 bronze contracts; low spend and low criticality contracts and relationships.
5. Appendix 1 includes a chart outlining the platinum and gold business and contract relationships in place.

## Partnerships Register

6. The register now records 35 partnership arrangements and their corresponding partnership significance score which is the same number as last year. One of the partnerships listed, the Great Eastern Mainline Vision Group, is currently inactive as all its work has been taken on by the parliamentary taskforce. However it may reconvene at some point in the future so is remaining on the register for now. One partnership has been removed and one added.

### 6.1. Partnerships removed

- 6.1.1. Heritage, Economic and Regeneration Trust (HEART). The decision was made in July 2015 that the charity would close. HEART was responsible for enhancing the reputation of Norwich across Europe as a centre for heritage. Three of its key achievements were the interpretation of heritage in Norwich, the promotion and delivery of Heritage Open Days and securing of European funds to interpret heritage in Norwich.

### 6.2. Partnerships added

- 6.2.1. East West Rail Consortium. Norwich City Council was previously a member of this group but withdrew from it in 2012. The council has now re-joined because the consortium is far more active than it was previously. Various pieces of work have been commissioned from consultants, the outcome of which will affect Norwich directly and membership is required for us to be in a position to influence these matters.

## 7. Highly significant partnerships

- 7.1. The significance of each partnership has been assessed through implementing the corporate governance framework. The scores can be seen in appendix 1. The council has identified the same two highly significant partnerships as last year:

- Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB)
- Norwich & HCA Strategic Partnership

- 7.2. These highly significant partnerships will be assessed more rigorously for the strength of their governance arrangements, taking into consideration that governance arrangements should be proportionate to the risks involved.

- 7.3. Additionally the following partnerships which are financially highly significant are not classified as highly significant overall:

- Greater Norwich Growth Board
- Norfolk and Norwich Festival
- Writers Centre Norwich

8. The majority of partnerships have remained static within their significance bandings with only the following changes:

- 8.1. New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has changed from moderate to major significance

8.2. Norwich Drug & Alcohol Partnership has changed from moderate to minor significance. There has been a change in the role of the partnership with the commissioning of drug and alcohol services now being the responsibility of the Director of Public Health rather than through NDAP and as a result the council's representative has reduced the level of participation to reflect this.

8.3. Norfolk Strategic Prevention Partnership (formerly Supporting People Commissioning Body) has changed from major to minor significance. This partnership now has a more coordinating approach to prevention, rather than having a commissioning role as previously which has resulted in the reduction in significance.

9. The exact amount of direct financial contribution the council makes to each partnership can be seen in appendix 1.

## **Voluntary, community and social enterprise sector grants**

10. A total of £306,828 amount has been made available in grants to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector organisations in 2016-17. This includes grants that were awarded for two years starting in 2015-16, awards that were initially awarded for one year in 2015-16 but have been extended as they remain effective or to more fully test the effectiveness as well as new awards that have been made for 2016-17. New awards for applications made this year total £48,828 against bids received valuing £108,360.

11. Details of the awards can be seen in appendices 1 and 2. Awards have been made against all corporate priorities, other than 'A healthy city with good housing'. This priority is met through a range of partnerships and commissioned services, including the council's participation in Healthy Norwich. In 2015, this partnership awarded around £92,000 worth of funding to the VCSE sector, including £40,000 of council funding to fund activities across the financial years 2015-16 and 2016-17 which support the Healthy Norwich priorities. These are not represented in this report.

12. As many of the awards are continuations of those awarded in 2015-16, there is only a small difference in overall funding levels of funding for specific priorities, as can be seen from the following table:

<b>Corporate Priority</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
Fair city	£210,500	£209,500
Prosperous and vibrant city	£76,100	£57,725
Safe, clean and low carbon city	£17,000	£15,000
Value for money services	£39,223	£24,603
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£342,823</b>	<b>£306,828</b>

13. The main exception to this resulting from what was made available is that under the corporate priority 'value for money services' there has been a change to the funding

for voluntary sector infrastructure. In 2015-16 this was a grant of £39,223 to provide generic infrastructure support to the VCSE sector, but in 2016-17 the council chose to make £25,000 available to develop an online platform for recruiting volunteers and a volunteer mentor programme. This is more closely aligned with the council's new approach to supporting community resilience and reducing inequalities.

14. Small grants and partnership organisations have not been included in the breakdown of grants in Appendix 1. Small grants are for £500 or less are agreed twice a year and listed on the website when awarded.
- 13.1 As part of the review of the neighbourhood model, cabinet endorsed a review and streamlining of the small community grants process in line with the community enabling approach and to target it on supporting future self-sufficiency. Details will shortly be made available on the council website once the review is completed.
15. Additionally we provide grants 'in kind' to the value of £36,935, which covers 32 separate arrangements ranging in value from £30.00 to £10,000. Under these arrangements we provide 'in kind' support to a range of VCSE organisations through such things as officer time, use of buildings and parking space. These are outlined against service area in appendix 1.



## Integrated impact assessment



**NORWICH**  
City Council

### Report author to complete

<b>Committee:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Committee date:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
<b>Head of service:</b>	Phil Shreeve
<b>Report subject:</b>	An overview of external relationships, contracts and grants 2016-17
<b>Date assessed:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2016
<b>Description:</b>	A register of intended relationships and funding for external organisations

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Value for money is one of the criteria for assessing grants, as well as partnerships when procuring and providing services
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial inclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued funding of a new model of financial inclusion delivery
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Through commissioning grants and contracts to organisations promoting welfare and well being of vulnerable residents
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specific grants to support cohesion agenda and the corporate 'fair city' priority.



	Impact			
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specific grant around city access
Natural and built environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grants and partnerships related to natural and built environment
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Recommendations from impact assessment**

**Positive**

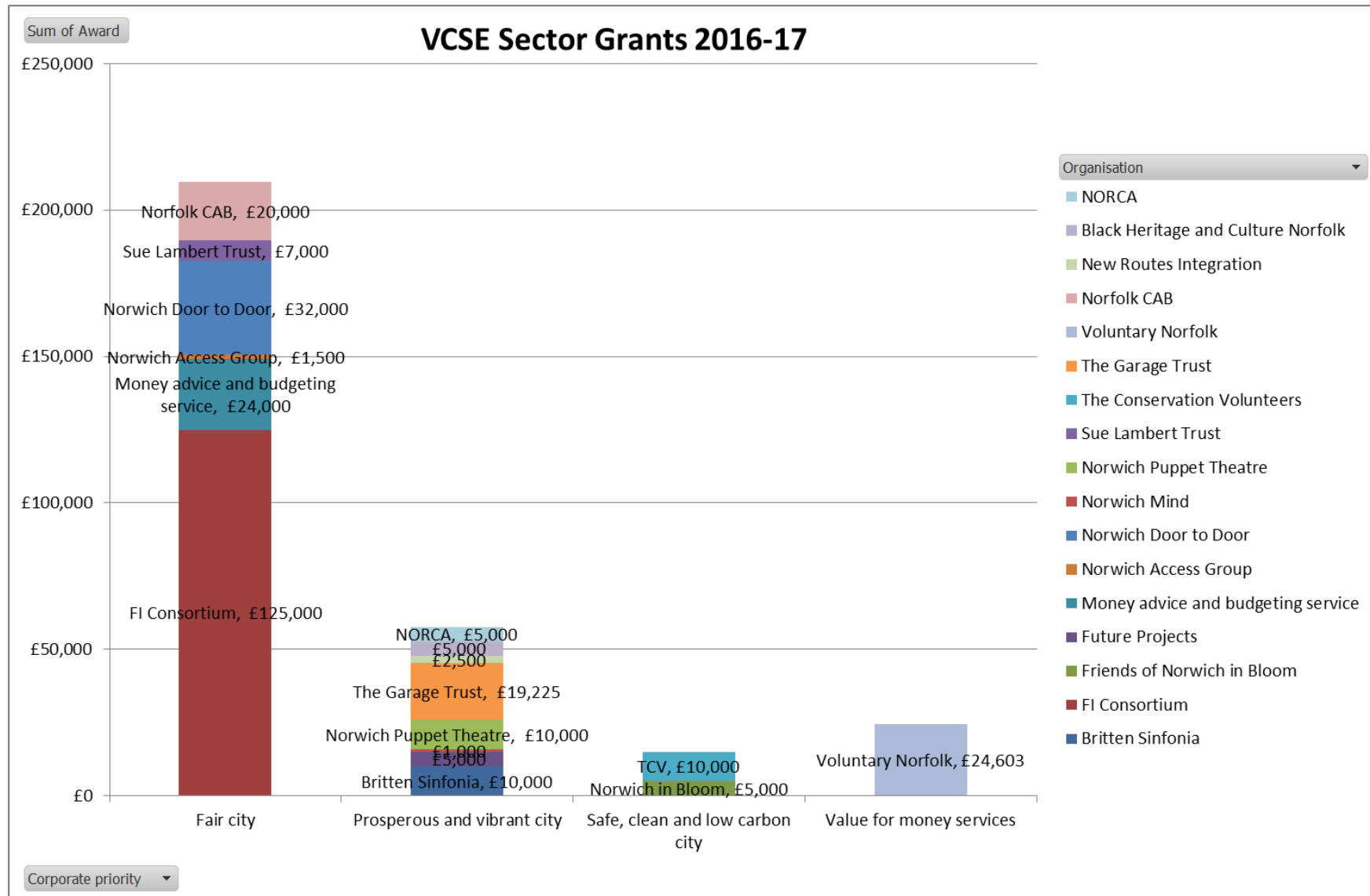
Ensure grants and partnerships processes continue to reflect wider relevant strategies, including reducing inequalities, environmental policy and Healthy Norwich. Explore opportunities to ensure greater cohesion between grants, partnerships and other council activities.

**Negative**

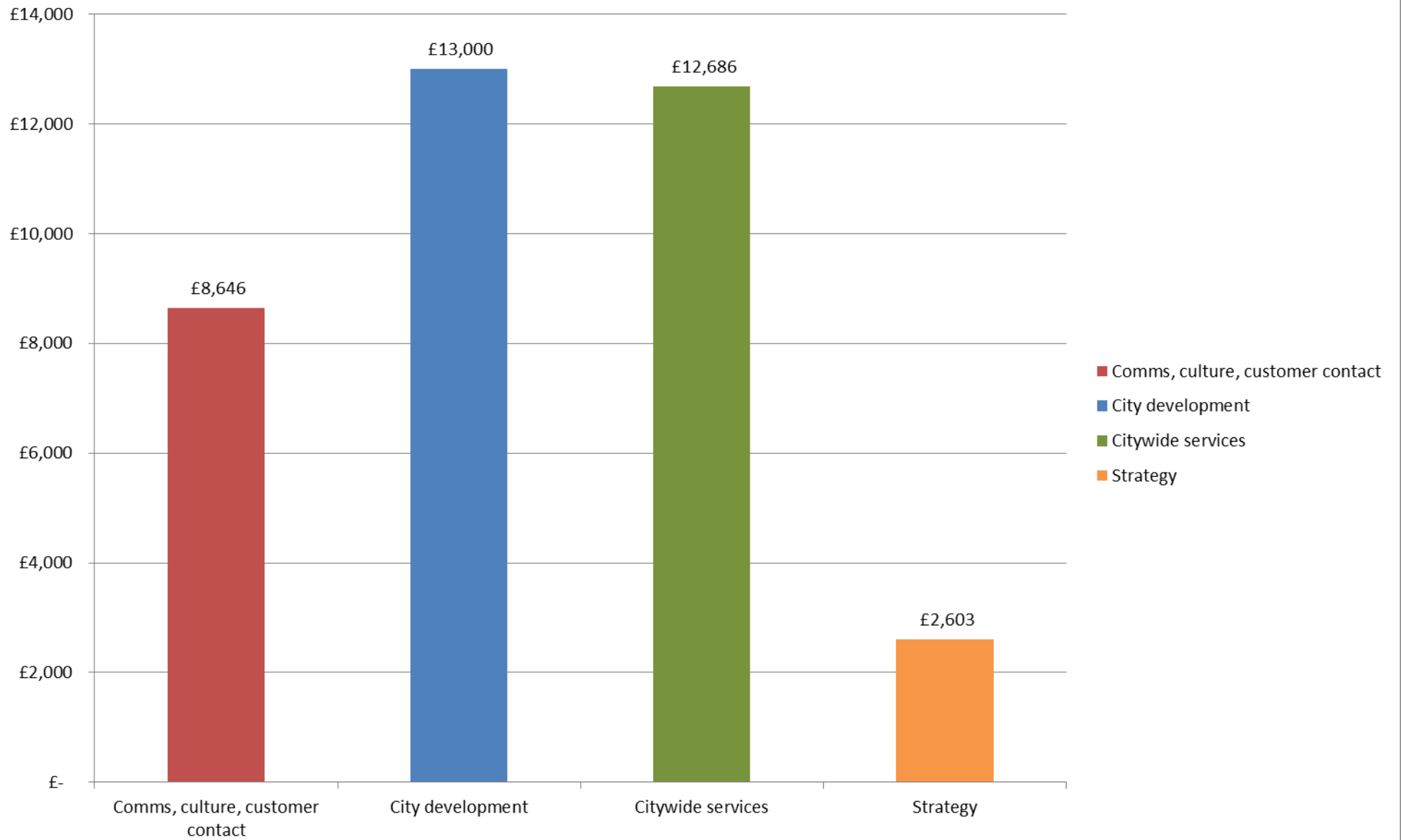
**Neutral**

**Issues**

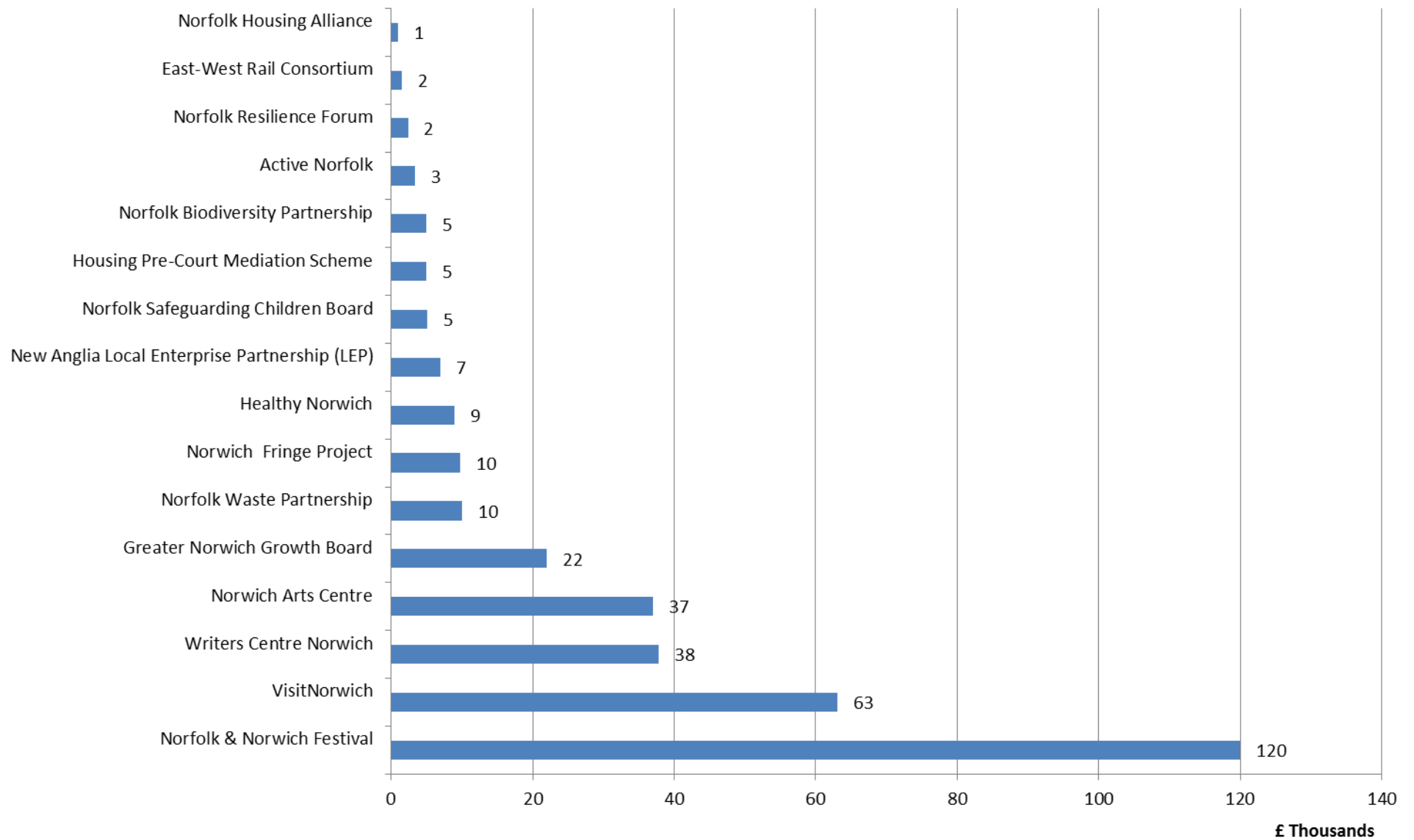
Please note that the graph below covering VCSE grants shows the upcoming 2016-17 financial year grant award decisions that have been made, whereas other graphs show existing arrangements for the current financial year 2015-16



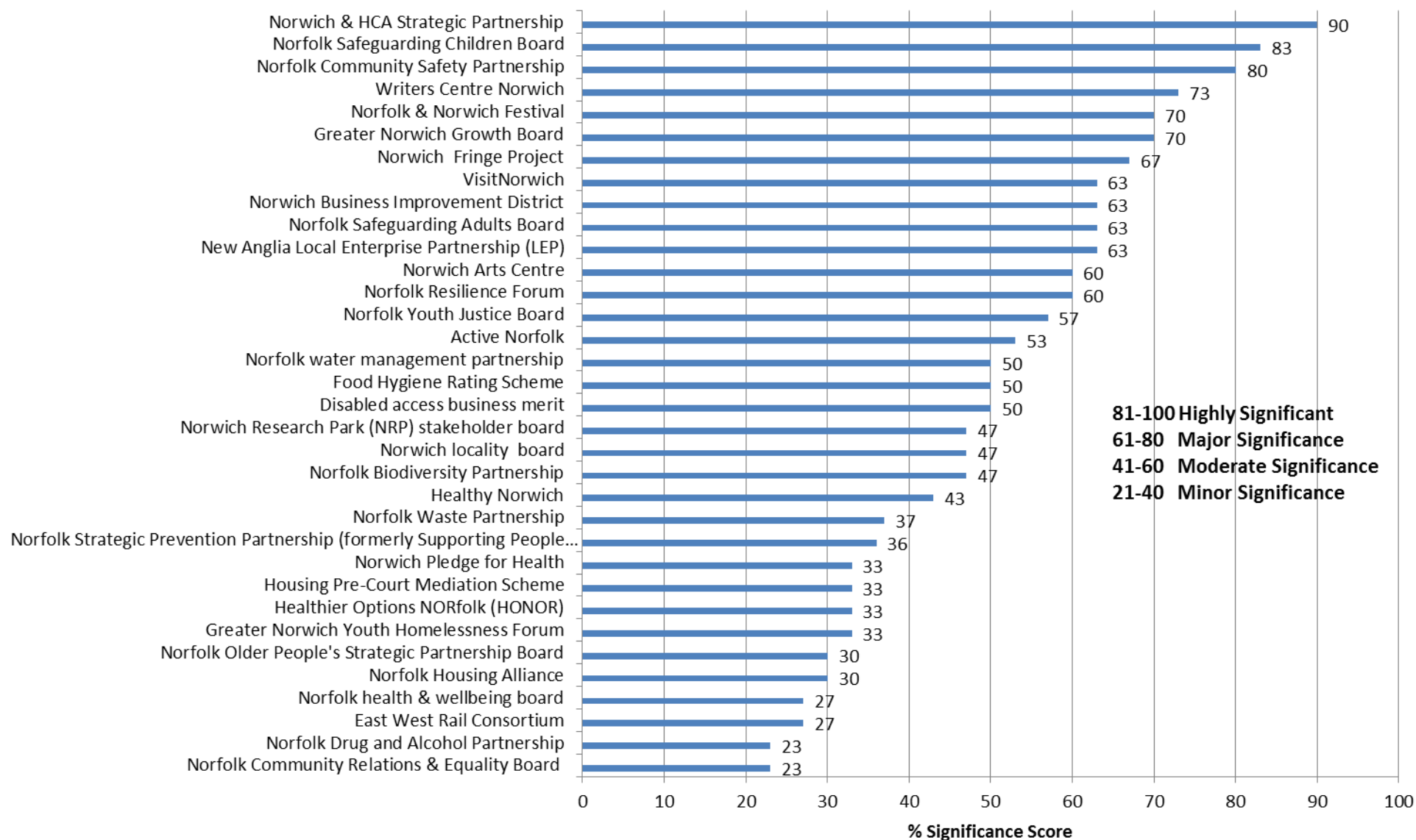
## Grants in Kind Value 2015-16

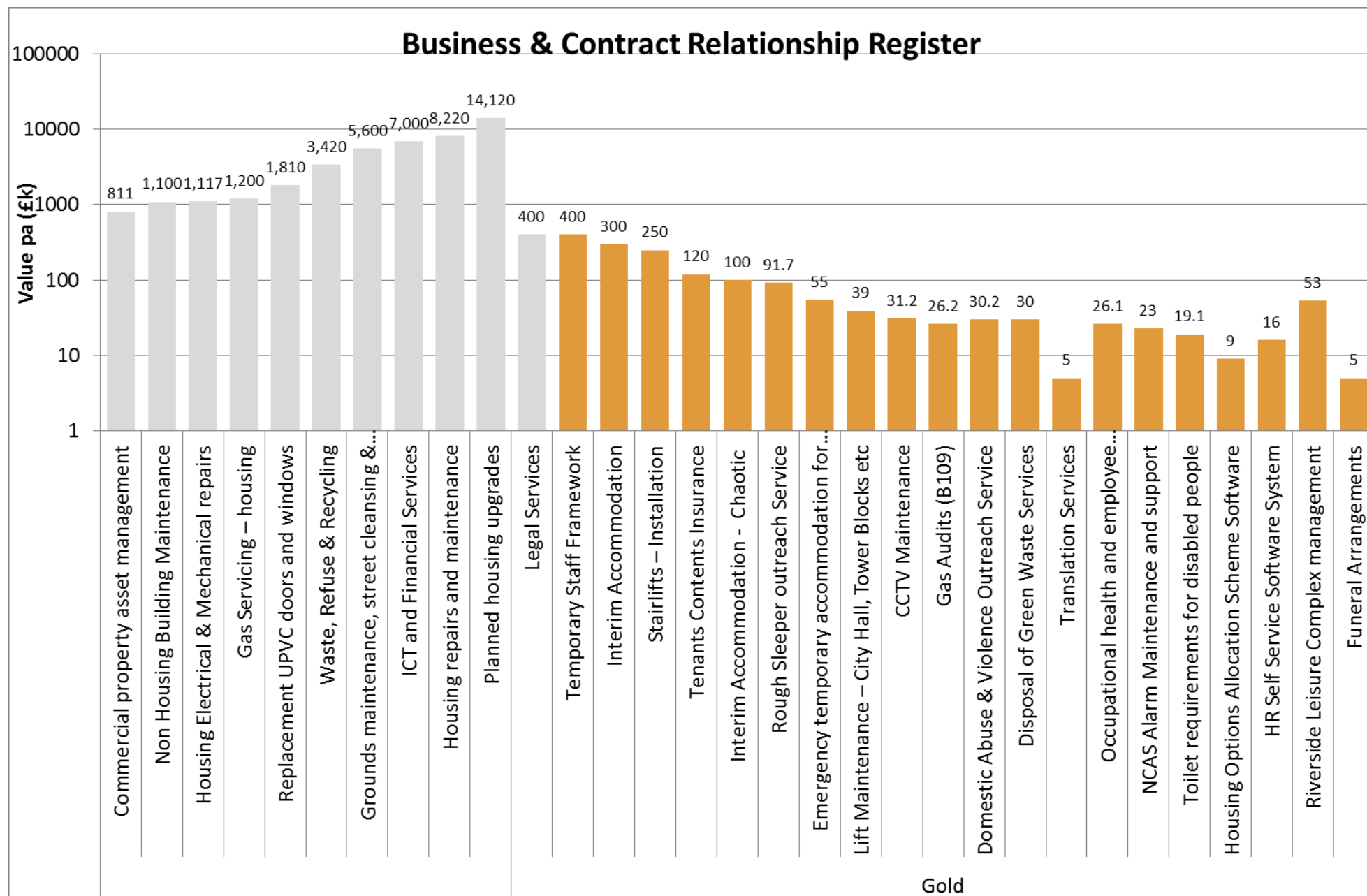


## Direct financial contribution made to the partnership 2015 -16



## Partnerships register significance score (%)





**Voluntary Sector Commissioned Activity 2016-17**

Sums shown in the Award column are just for this year

Organisation	Period of award	Activity	Award
<b>Fair city</b>			
Financial Inclusion Consortium (NCLS, Age UK Norwich, Equal Lives, MAP and Shelter)	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to work in partnership to deliver a range of social welfare advice, casework and representation services in order to reduce financial and social exclusion and inequalities.	£125,000
Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS)	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to provide an innovative debt consolidation and repayment service for families struggling financially, across the whole of Norwich.	£24,000
Norfolk CAB	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to support Norwich residents around social welfare issues through triage, initial advice and information, signposting and referral to other advice and support services.	£20,000
Norwich Access Group	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to support a local advocacy group of disabled people who are actively involved in trying to improve access for disabled people to all aspects of life in the city of Norwich and surrounding area.	£1,500
Norwich Door to Door	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to fund core costs to deliver a subsidised 'dial a ride' type accessible bus transport, to disabled children and adults and older mobility impaired people.	£32,000
Sue Lambert Trust	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to support core costs of providing a helpline and counselling service for men and women survivors of sexual abuse, past and present.	£7,000
<b>Prosperous and vibrant city</b>			
Black Heritage and Culture Norfolk	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	To support the delivery of the Black History Month festival and other associated events in October 2016.	£5,000
Britten Sinfonia	1 April 2015 to 31 March 2017	A grant to contribute towards core costs of delivering the orchestra lunchtime and evening series of concerts in Norwich and creative learning activity in the community.	£10,000



Organisation	Period of award	Activity	Award
New Routes Integration	1 April 2015 to 31 March 2017	To support the delivery of events during Refugee Week in June 2016.	£2,500
Norwich and Norfolk Community Arts (NORCA)	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to support core costs associated with continuing to develop the Carnival project and improve engagement with residents in deprived areas)	£5,000
Norwich Puppet Theatre	1 April 2015 to 31 March 2017	A grant to support the only puppet theatre in England outside of London in its ongoing linked education and production programme.	£10,000
The Garage Trust	1 April 2015 to 31 March 2017	A grant to provide a programme of live performances and events by new, emerging and professional artists and companies relevant to the interests of young people, along with accredited vocational training courses for young people aged 11 to 25; in particular those from disadvantaged backgrounds.	£10,000
The Garage Trust	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to increase access to the Garage's programme of activities for young people and families on the city fringes of Norwich.	£9,225
Future Projects	1 April 2015 to 31 March 2017	A grant to provide ongoing training and volunteering opportunities in radio and media, to learn new skills and improve employability.	£5,000
Norwich and Central Norfolk Mind	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to support delivery of the 2016 Festival of Cultures In the centre of Norwich.	£1,000
<b>Safe, clean and low carbon city</b>			
The Conservation Volunteers	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to operate practical environmental projects in Norwich to enable local people to help care for and improve their local environment, as well as develop practical conservation skills, life skills, experience and confidence.	£10,000
Friends of Norwich in Bloom	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	A grant to run local floral competitions and encourage wider support for horticultural or environmental improvements. As a group of volunteers working in partnership with the community and local businesses, it achieves recognition in national competitions demonstrating how Norwich manages its attractive and clean image.	£5,000
<b>Value for money services</b>			
Voluntary Norfolk	1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016	A grant to provide a volunteering infrastructure and deliver a volunteer mentoring programme	£24,603