

Community Relations Council
Audit and Risk Assurance Committee Meeting

3rd August 2022

Special Meeting on Grant Issue

Present: Mr J McCallister (Chair of Audit and Risk Assurance Committee), Mr M McDonnell (Board member), Mr R Campbell (Board member).

In Attendance: Dr J Irwin (CEO), Mr P Jordan (Director of Funding and Development), Ms H George (PA to CEO and Board).

Apologies: None

1. Papers

Prior to this meeting Mr P Jordan provided the Committee members with the following papers, related to the grant awardee:

- Letter from Funded Group
- Letter to Audit and Risk Assurance Members from CRC Director of Funding
- Letter to Funded Group from CRC
- Funded Groups Funding Contract
- Core Funding Contract Documents for 2022/23
- CRC Visions and Values
- Newspaper Articles re: Funded Group

2. Discussion

The Committee considered two questions:

- i) Are the Committee satisfied that the group have provided enough assurances around their safeguarding systems?
- ii) Do the Committee believe that there should be changes made to the funding application and contract to better ensure groups' safeguarding and their consideration of reputational risks?

The Committee discussed these issues and agreed that the documents provided by the group did provide assurance that no safeguarding risk has occurred while they have been receiving funding from CRC.

Mr P Jordan will write to the group to the group asking them to update CRC if the assurance provided has changed.

The Committee discussed the second consideration, on whether the language in CRC's funding application and contract should be strengthened around safeguarding

and risk. The Committee agreed that further requirements should be added to the contracts.

The following additions were agreed:

- CRC will add a copy of their 'Values and Objectives to the funding Guidance
- Wording will be added to the application form and the contract to require applicants to notify CRC of any investigation by the PSNI or any regulatory body, and to notify CRC of any issues that may result in a reputational risk or breach related to CRC's 'Values and Objectives'.
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These additions will be made to CRC's funding contracts, application forms, and funding guidance for all grant schemes.

3. Next Steps

Mr P Jordan will draft a letter to the group asking them to confirm that no safeguarding issues were detected. This draft will be circulated to Audit and Risk Assurance Committee members to review, before sending.

Mr P Jordan to send Mr R Campbell a copy of CRC's current funding contract and application form.

Mr R Campbell will suggested the appropriate wording to be added to the funding applications, contracts, and guidance.

The amendments to the funding documents will be presented at the September Board meeting, for decision.