

Greenwich Action for Voluntary Service

GAVS

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Dear Colleague

Greenwich Council – Funding Savings from 1st April 2011

As many of you may now be aware, Greenwich Council announced last week that the Voluntary Sector Grant Budget, including for commissioned services, from 1st April 2011 will not be more than 50% of the current 2010-11 level.

This reduction in funding is part of the Council's overall budget savings across all services, following the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government announcement that local government should be braced for cuts of 40% to their formula grants. The Council have confirmed that all funding already committed to community, voluntary and faith groups this year, and up to 31st March 2011, is still secure.


GAVS is obviously very concerned about the implications of a 50% reduction in the Council's grants budget on the sector and on the vital services that the sector provides in the borough. GAVS will strongly object to any changes in funding unless proportionate savings are also made in the Council.

GAVS is committed to supporting our members during this difficult time and we will continue to work with the Council and the sector to ensure the best outcome possible.

The Third Sector Commissioning Framework 2011-14 will be continuing as planned. GAVS has emphasised to the Council the importance of keeping to the agreed decision dates so that sector organisations will have sufficient time to change their service provision or reduce staff as needed after 31st March 2011.

GAVS will keep you updated on all subsequent developments concerning these funding decisions and their implications on the sector. We welcome your feedback and if you have any concerns, please contact GAVS' Chief Executive, Naomi Goldberg or, one of the GAVS team on 020 8858 1363 or info@gavs.biz

Yours Faithfully



Martyn Coe
Chair of GAVS Board