Application for rent discount under the council's property lettings and disposals to the third sector, voluntary and community groups policy

Assessment carried out on 7 November 2013 by:

- Des Knight Accountant; GO Shared Services
- Richard Gibson Strategy and Engagement
- Helen Down Strategy and Engagement

| Name of Organisation: | Gloucester and District Citizens Advice Bureau |
|---|--|
| Registered Charity? | Yes: 1044706 |
| Does the organisation have a paying membership? | No |
| Name /address of property | 3 St. Georges Place Cheltenham |

| Based on their Business Plan, what contribution does this organisation make to the Council's Corporate Strategy and/or Cheltenham's Sustainable Community Strategy? | Which objectives does the Organisation significantly contribute towards? (Tick and give reasons where appropriate) | Does the business plan show how these activities are sustainable? | % subsidy awarded |
|---|---|--|----------------------|
| Objective 1: Enhancing & protecting our environment (includes investing in environmental quality, investing in travel and transport and promoting sustainable living) | No, the panel were not convinced that the organisation will make a contribution to the environment objective | N/A | 0 |
| Objective 2: Strengthening our economy | Yes: 58% of CAB clients face debt issues, 7% of clients needed help with employment related disputes and 22% with benefit claims errors. CAB's success in these areas increases client's pending power and therefore the local economy. | Yes, the income and expenditure accounts for 2013, show that the organisation will make a projected surplus of £20k in 2013-14. | 20% |
| Objective 3: Strengthening our communities (includes promoting community safety, promoting housing choice, building healthier communities and supporting older people) | Yes: CAB works with volunteers and community groups to provide advice on a range of issues. Often these events relate to housing issues in the private, RSL ALMO and HA sectors. Issues can range from avoiding repossession and/or voluntary homelessness to deposit recovery and neighbour disputes. | as above | 20% |
| Objective 4: Enhancing the provision of arts and culture | No. | N/A | 0% |
| Objective 5: A focus on children and young people i.e. where One or all of the following outcomes for | Yes: 13% of all CAB clients are young people aged between 16 and 24. CAB also provide the following to | as above | 20% |

| training programme for |
|------------------------|
|------------------------|

As agreed by the Cabinet in July 2010, a further 20% discount is available to any charity renting council property = 80% in total

| State Aid avoidance checklist: | | |
|--|-----|--|
| Is the proposed tenant a not for profit organisation? | Yes | |
| Is the use of the building for a community purpose? | Yes | |
| Are the activities carried out by the organisation of local interest only? | Yes | |

Recommendation:

The panel recommends that Cabinet offer an 80% rental discount off the market rent to Gloucester and District Citizens Advice Bureau.