

<b>Grants Determination Sub-Committee Report</b> <b>28 March 2017</b>	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Zena Cooke, Corporate Director Resources	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Exercise of Discretions / Individual Mayoral Decision</b>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	Rachel Saunders
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Steve Hill – Head of Benefits Services
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Community Plan Theme</b>	<b>One Tower Hamlets</b>

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report sets out details of any decisions that have been made under the exercise of Discretions/ Individual Mayoral Decisions. Such decisions are required to be the subject of a noting report at a subsequent Grants Determination Sub-Committee meeting.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Grants Determination Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the Individual Mayoral Decision under Mayoral Discretion as set out in Appendix 1.

### **1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 Agreed procedures require that reports be submitted to the Grants Determination Sub-Committee to note grant funding decisions taken under Mayoral Discretion.
- 1.2 The reporting of decisions taken under Mayoral Discretion assists in ensuring that Members and the Public are made aware of, and therefore are able to scrutinise Mayoral decisions in respect of grants.

### **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 None.

### **3. DETAILS OF REPORT**

- 3.1 Any decisions made under Mayoral discretion are set out in the attached appendix 1. In this instance, a decision was made by the Mayor on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 regarding the Council's Emergency Funding, phase 8.
- 3.2 The decision relates to one organisation (The Rooted Forum) who had submitted an application in November 2016 for emergency funding but as further information was required from the organisation, a decision on whether to fund was deferred. The additional information was received and on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 a decision was made by the Mayor to award the organisation 50% of the emergency funds that had been requested. This was on the basis that without the funds the MSG project funded by the Council may be at risk. The reduction in the amount requested is due to the organisation choosing to use its reserves at risk and that the project has continued in the intervening period.
- 3.3 The Emergency Funding Programme was established in September 2014 with a one-off budget allocation of £250,000. A revised criteria was agreed by Commissioners at their meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016. The maximum available grant is £20,000 (within a rolling 12-month period). To date 18 awards have been made over 7 phases totalling £161,476 (excluding this current award). The available budget remaining is £88,524.
- 3.4 These decisions were taken outside of scheduled meetings in public in order that grants were considered and awarded in a timely manner.

### **4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

- 4.1 The decision set out in the attached appendix has already been made.
- 4.2 In taking his decision the Mayor is provided with a report setting out the relevant information to inform his decision and which includes specifically the financial implications of the proposed decision together with financial and legal comments provided by the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer respectively.

### **5. LEGAL COMMENTS**

- 5.1. Whilst the Mayor is empowered to exercise his discretion in private, agreed procedures require that such decisions should be reported to the Grants Determination Sub-Committee in public for ratification. This self-imposed procedure has been implemented in the interests of transparency.
- 5.2. There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

## **6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1. This report is concerned with the notification of Mayoral decisions under their discretions; and as such has no direct One Tower Hamlets implications. The extent to which there are One Tower Hamlets considerations arising from the original recommendations, these would have been addressed as part of those considerations.

## **7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Best Value implications associated with each of the Mayoral decisions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been identified and evaluated as an integral part of the process which led to the decisions.

## **8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

- 8.1 There is no sustainable action for a greener environment implications arising from this report.

## **9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The risk management implications associated with each of the Mayoral decisions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been identified and evaluated as an integral part of the process which led to the decisions.

## **10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Crime and disorder reduction implications, if any, associated with the decisions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been an integral part of the process which led to the decisions.

## **11. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 Safeguarding implications including risks or benefits, if any, associated with each of the decisions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been identified and evaluated as an integral part of the process which led to the decisions

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### **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

#### **Linked Report**

- NONE

#### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – details of the decisions made under the Mayoral discretionary powers

**Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)  
(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012**

- None

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