

Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-committee Monday 6 March 2019	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Debbie Jones, Corporate Director, Children's and Culture.	Classification: Unrestricted
Event Fund Report - Applications and Awards 2018-19	

Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Culture and Youth
Originating Officer(s)	Alison Denning
Wards affected	All Wards
Key Decision?	No, no decision required
Forward Plan Notice Published	01/02/19
Reason for Key Decision	
Community Plan Theme	One Tower Hamlets

Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of Event Fund applications received and awards made for the financial year 2018-19.

Following on from feedback received, we have changed the format to just 2 reports.

The first, this report, (Event Fund Report – Applications and Awards 2018-19) will include the applications received and the awards made for the entire year from April 2018 to March 2019. It will also include an overview of the wards that are expected to be covered and the beneficiaries that it should reach based on the applications. There will be no post event monitoring and evaluation information included for events that have taken place.

The second report, (Event Fund Annual Report – 2018-19) will be presented at a GDSC meeting in late summer once all of the evaluation and monitoring has been received for the year, and will compare the post event and projected outcomes and outputs for the year and providing the monitoring and evaluation information.

The Event Fund is a small grant fund for community arts events which has been operating successfully for a number of years. The fund works on a rolling programme and previously operated to a monthly grants deadline. With the introduction of reporting to the Grants Determination Sub Committee and Commissioners the monthly deadlines became unworkable and it has been operating to quarterly deadlines since 1st April 2017.

The Event Fund is designed to encourage participation from the local community across the borough. to support small scale local events, high quality public events and festivals which have arts content.

Although there is a new Tower Hamlets Plan and One Tower Hamlets is no longer an entity, this Report will refer to the Community Plan and One Tower Hamlets as the applicants are asked to demonstrate how they will meet the priorities from the plan and One TH principles:

The events should demonstrate that they are accessible to, and of benefit to the community and promote the One Tower Hamlets principles across the borough, which are:

- Tackling Inequality
- Strengthening Community Cohesion and,
- Building Community Leadership

The fund is part of the Council's revenue budget and is intended to support the delivery of the Council's Community Plan priorities and contribute to its four themes:

A Great Place to Live

A Fair and Prosperous Community

A Safe and Cohesive Community

A Healthy and Supportive Community

The projects are expected to demonstrate:

Administration and management of events

- An engaging programme of events through a combination of directly delivered events and events which are delivered in partnership with other groups or community organisations.

A robust process for collaborating with community groups or organisations

- Evidence they have a strong approach to partnership working with local organisations across the borough and robust partnership processes in place.

A strong understanding of equality, including:

- Understanding of the council's commitment to equality through the Community Plan and ideally, also some understanding of the council's commitment across the protected characteristics as detailed in the Single Equality Framework.
- A proposal that outlines what issues or topics will be addressed through the events, why these have been selected and how they help the council to achieve the One Tower Hamlets principles.

Mayor's Priorities:

The Event Fund contributes towards the following strands of the Mayor's key priorities:

- Creating Jobs and supporting the growth of the Local Economy;
- Young People and Schools;
- Older People and Health;

- Community Safety and Community Cohesion;
- Environment and Public Realm; and
- Arts, Heritage, Leisure and Culture.

The application forms used for the Event Fund Grant ask people to show how they will meet the Council's Community Plan themes and Mayor's priorities. The level of detail depends on the size of the event and the size of the grant. Special small grants of £250 were offered for people to come together and organise street parties and community gatherings to commemorate the life and contribution of Jo Cox as part of the Big Lunch / Great Get Together. For these small grants the emphasis is less on arts, and more on demonstrating community cohesion and accessibility.

Recommendations:

The Grants Determination Cabinet Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the report.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 No decisions are required, this is for information only

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 There are no alternative options

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

Event Fund Report - Applications and Awards 2018-19.

- 3.1 This report gives an overview of all of the applications received for the financial year 2018-19. A total of 60 applications were received and 43 received funding with an overall budget of £52,500.
- 3.2 Applications were all assessed by three officers independently of each other. Applications were initially checked for eligibility. If not eligible they were rejected and not assessed. If eligible, applications were scored across a number of areas:
 1. Track record of delivery of the organisation;
 2. Event details,
 3. Benefit (how it will involve the community, skills development etc),
 4. Partnerships
 5. Innovation (their approach to planning, programming and whether they are bringing new audiences to the arts)

6. Accessibility & marketing,
7. How they are meeting one or more of the community plan themes
8. Value for money.

These areas form 8 sections on the assessment form for the Event Fund and each area attracts a maximum score of 5 where score 1= very poor and score 5 = Excellent, with the overall application receiving a maximum score of 40 by each assessor for grants of £501 - £2500 and 40 for grants up to £500. The three assessors' scores are then added together to give a maximum score of 120 or 90 respectively. Applications not scoring sufficiently during the assessment process were declined. The minimum score of 3 out of 5 for each section, was recommended by the Commissioners with an absolute minimum of 3 for the question of benefit, in order to be considered for funding. The ultimate decision on successful awards and amounts was made by the Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure, Culture & Youth on a quarterly basis once applications had been assessed and scored by officers. For full details of the Guidelines and Criteria, please see Appendix A.

3.3 Quarter 1 - £8,700 was awarded.

A total of 13 applications were received.

A total of 5 applications were awarded funding.

A total of 8 applications were declined funding.

Big Lunch / Royal Wedding / Great Get Together - £1500 was awarded

A total of 6 applications were received

A total of 6 applications were awarded funding

A total of 0 applications were declined funding

Quarter 2 - £16,000 was awarded

A total of 12 applications were received

A total of 9 applications were awarded funding

A total of 3 applications were declined funding.

Quarter 3 - £18050 was awarded

A total of 21 applications were received

A total of 17 applications were awarded funding (including 7 for Black History Month Events)

A total of 4 applications were declined funding

Quarter 4 - £8750 was awarded

A total of 8 applications were received

A total of 6 applications were awarded funding

A total of 2 applications were declined funding.

£1000 was allocated from the budget for workshops for each quarterly deadline.

Quarter	Total Award	Number of applications	Number awarded	Number declined
1	£8,700	13	5	8
Big Lunch / Great Get Together / Royal Wedding	£1500	6	6	0
2	£16,000	12	9	3
3	£18,050	21	17	4
4	£8750	8	6	2
Workshops	£1000			
Total	£52,500	60	43	18

A full list of the applications received can be seen in Appendix B.

- 3.4 A total of 89 events are scheduled to happen during the year. We have continued to encourage events to be organised in under-represented wards in the borough and specifically encouraged applications for events in the eastern and southern wards of the borough, however we did not receive applications for events in Blackwall and Cubitt Town, Island Gardens or Mile End Wards. The majority of events happen in wards where there are existing venues such as Lansbury, Spitalfields and Banglatown and Weavers and to a lesser extent St Peter's and Bethnal Green.

For the full list of venues and wards projected see Appendix C.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

Monitoring & evaluation

- 4.1 Organisations are expected to have a system in place to measure the outputs and outcomes by the protected characteristics as set out in the Public Sector Equality Duty where relevant and appropriate.
- 4.2 Monitoring and Evaluation information will be submitted post event. Each successful applicant is given a monitoring and evaluation form to complete post event and a sample monitoring sheet to use to gather the information.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:
- Best Value Implications,
 - Consultations,
 - Environmental (including air quality),
 - Risk Management,
 - Crime Reduction,
 - Safeguarding.
- 5.2 None of the above implications are relevant to this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 This report complies with the requirement to provide updates to the Grants Determination Sub Committee on payments awarded from the Events Fund. The total amount available for the community arts events fund in 2018/19 is £52,500.

6.2 A total of £52,500 has been awarded for 2018/19 (quarters 1 -4) with no overspend anticipated at the end of the financial year.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 There are no legal issues arising from this report

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

none

Appendices

- Appendix A: Guidelines And Criteria
- Appendix B: Event Fund Applications and Awards 2018-2019
- Appendix C: Venues and Wards

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

- NONE.

Officer contact details for documents:

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