

Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee



Wednesday, 23 June 2021 at 5.30 p.m.

Committee Room One - Town Hall Mulberry Place

Agenda

Chair

Councillor Candida Ronald
(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)

Members

Mayor John Biggs	(Executive Mayor)
Councillor Asma Begum	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Children, Youth Services and Education)
Councillor Sirajul Islam	(Statutory Deputy Mayor for Community Safety, Faith and Equalities)

Substitutes

Councillor Sabina Akhtar	(Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit)
Councillor Rachel Blake	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	Cabinet Member for Planning and Social Inclusion (Job Share) - Lead on Social Inclusion
Councillor Danny Hassell	(Cabinet Member for Housing)
Councillor Asma Islam	Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Realm (Job Share) - Lead on Environment
Councillor Eve McQuillan	Cabinet Member for Planning and Social Inclusion (Job Share) - Lead on Planning
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	(Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Growth)
Councillor Dan Tomlinson	Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Realm (Job Share) - Lead on Public Realm

[The quorum for the Sub - Committee is 3 Members]

Further Information

Reports for consideration, meeting contact details, public participation and more information on decision-making is available on the following pages.



Public Information

Viewing or Participating in Meetings

This meeting is open to the public – however seating is very limited due to Covid restrictions, and you must contact the Democratic Services Officer to reserve a place. Except where any exempt/restricted documents are being discussed, the public are welcome to view this meeting through the Council's webcast system.

Meeting Webcast

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<http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Contact for further enquiries:

Zoe Folley, Committee Services Officer,
Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG
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Web:<http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>

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Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee

Wednesday, 23 June 2021

5.30 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (Pages 5 - 6)

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, please see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are reminded to declare the nature of the interest and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it's the Members' responsibility to declare any interests form and to update their register of interest form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of your interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES (Pages 7 - 14)

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting held on 21st April 2021

4. CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Consideration of any written comments received from members of the public in relation to any of the reports on the agenda.

[Any submissions should be sent to the clerk listed on the agenda front page by 5pm the day before the meeting]

5. EXERCISE OF MAYORAL DISCRETIONS

To note for information individual decisions relating to the award of grants that have been taken by the Mayor the last meeting.

6. GRANTS DETERMINATION SUB-COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE, QUORUM, MEMBERSHIP AND DATES OF MEETINGS



7. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

- | | | | |
|-----|--|----------|-----------|
| 7.1 | Formal offer of Historic Buildings Grant to Columbia Market Primary School | 25 - 38 | Weavers |
| 7.2 | Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report - October 2020 – March 2021 | 39 - 92 | All Wards |
| 7.3 | VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority | 93 - 136 | All Wards |

8. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Next Meeting of the Committee:

Wednesday, 1 September 2021 at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room One - Town Hall
Mulberry Place



Agenda Item 2.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS– NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii) Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests. In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive.

(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless:**

- A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. **If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.**

(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

Guidance on Predetermination and Bias

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

Further Advice contact: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer,
Tel: 0207 364 4800.

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE GRANTS DETERMINATION (CABINET) SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL 2021

ONLINE 'VIRTUAL' MEETING - [HTTPS://TOWERHAMLETS.PUBLIC-I.TV/CORE/PORTAL/HOME](https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home)

Members Present:

Councillor Candida Ronald (Chair)	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)
Councillor Asma Begum	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Children, Youth Services and Education)
Councillor Sirajul Islam	(Statutory Deputy Mayor for Community Safety, Faith and Equalities)

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Leema Qureshi
(Scrutiny Lead, Resources)

Officers Present:

Awo Ahmed	(Programme Assessment and Monitoring Officer, Corporate Strategy & Policy, Communities Team)
Rupert Brandon	(Head of Housing Supply, Place)
Imelda Burke	(Regeneration Officer, Place)
David Esdaile	(Environmental Sustainability Officer, Place)
Jonathan Fox	(Principal Contracts Lawyer, Legal Services Governance)
Anna Zucchelli	(Heritage at Risk Projects Officer, Place)
Filuck Miah	(Strategy and Policy Officer, Corporate Strategy and Policy Team)
Zoe Folley	(Democratic Services Officer, Committees, Governance)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mayor John Biggs.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No Declarations of Pecuniary Interests were reported.

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

RESOLVED:

1. The minutes of the meeting of the Sub – Committee held on 3rd February 2021 be approved as a correct record of proceedings

4. CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

There were none

5. EXERCISE OF MAYORAL DISCRETIONS

None reported.

6. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 SME Energy Improvement Grants Programme 2021

David Esdaile (Environmental Sustainability Officer) presented the report. This would be the third phase of the programme to award funding to SMEs for energy reduction projects. Following feedback, changes had been made to the programme. It was proposed to provide:

- A 50% grants up to £10,000 to SMEs who carry out heat decarbonisation and renewable energy projects.
- To continue to provide 50% funding up to £5,000 to SMEs for all other retrofit projects that see the installation of energy efficient technologies such as lighting upgrades and more efficient machinery.

Councillor Leema Qureshi, (Scrutiny Lead, Resources) asked questions on the report regarding the following issues:

- Case study highlighted in the report. Clarification was sought about the overall costs and the SME's contributions to the grant.
- It was noted that the business would have contributed half of the costs covering such things as the purchase of solar panels and installation.
- The need to allocate a small business with a small turn over a £10K grant.
- It was noted that overall, the Council had supported around 43% of the costs of project. Therefore, it was felt that supporting 50% of the costs was appropriate
- The controls in place regarding the release of funding.
- It was noted that the SMEs were only paid the grant once the works had been completed. Due diligence checks were undertaken to ensure the works had been carried out in line with requirements.

The Committee asked a number of questions and discussed the following points:

- The work to encourage smaller businesses to compete and apply for grants. The reasons for awarding a 50% grant rather than follow the same approach for the school retrofit project.
- It was noted that SMEs varied in size. The first phase had been made up mostly of smaller businesses. It was considered that allocating businesses 50% of the costs (rather than the full amount) encouraged best practice and businesses to take ownership of the project. The feedback suggested that they supported the initiative and that the size of the grant was sufficient.
- Officers provided support to SMEs in applying for the funding, in a number of ways.
- The impact of Covid on the initiative and business investment.
- It was found that all of the funding for the previous rounds had been allocated quickly. In addition, Officers continue to receive lots of enquiries and it was found that SMEs still wished to take the opportunity to invest.

Members welcomed the programme to reduce the carbon footprint.

RESOLVED:

1. Approve the grant funding of £400,000 to deliver the SME Energy Reduction Programme 2021.
2. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to enter into grant agreements and make any associated decisions in order to distribute the funding in accordance with this report.
3. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to nominate a Council Officer or Officers as the Corporate Director Place shall determine to sign on behalf of the Council any grant agreements and or offer letters necessary for the fulfilment of this scheme.

6.2 Schools Energy Retrofit Programme 2021

David Esdaile (Environmental Sustainability Officer) presented the report. This was the third phase of programme to provide funding to schools for initiatives, to install energy efficient measures into schools that will reduce their energy consumption, carbon emissions and energy costs. A maximum grant of 30k may be awarded to each school to cover the costs of projects. Details of the schools supported by the initiative were set out in the report to deliver projects in line with the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration.

Councillor Leema Qureshi, (Scrutiny Lead, Resources) asked a number of questions as highlighted below:

- Section 3.3 of the report regarding the process for seeking expression of interest. Assurances were sought about the robustness of this process.
- Clarity was sought on the assessment criteria to ensure fairness to small schools.
- It was noted that Officers had worked to keep the process as straightforward as possible so that the initiative was accessible to all schools regardless of size and support they had available.
- A number of factors are taken into account in awarding the funding, such as the efficiencies that the school may achieve based on their emissions, as well as the wider benefits, rather than just the total carbon reduction that would be achieved. So all types of schools may benefit from the scheme.

The Committee asked a number of questions and discussed the following points:

- The merits of a building management system to remotely control heating to save energy and create savings.
- It was noted that Paragraph 3.4, (setting out the types of technology eligible for funding), included such a system.
- The Committee welcomed this initiative especially as it would help young people to be involved in energy efficiency projects.

RESOLVED:

1. Approve the grant funding of £250,000 to deliver the Schools Energy Retrofit Programme 2021.
2. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to enter into grant agreements and make any associated decisions in order to distribute the funding in accordance with this report.
3. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to nominate a Council Officer or Officers as the Corporate Director Place shall determine to sign on behalf of the Council any grant agreements and or offer letters necessary for the fulfilment of this scheme.

6.3 Changes to Grant Funding to Ocean Regeneration Trust (ORT)'

Imelda Burke, (Regeneration Officer, Place) presented the report seeking to amend the grant payment to the ORT, highlighting the key issues in the report. This sought to grant a one off payment of £80k ending the ongoing agreement with the ORT.

Members were advised of the key features of the previous Grants Determination Sub-Committee decision to allocate £809k in January 2019. Since that time, the situation had changed. There had been a number of

meetings with ORT to discuss the need to alter the funding whilst ensuring that the ORT and the Harford St Community Centre continued to operate. The ORT will continue to receive income from ground rents and this will continue to cover the running costs of the Harford St Community Centre.

Councillor Leema Qureshi, (Scrutiny Lead, Resources) asked a number of questions about the following issues:

- The proposal to revise the agreement and the impact of this. What other factors and alternatives had been taken into account?
- The consultation with the community over the proposals.
- In response, Members noted the existing funding arrangements with the shops on Ben Johnson Road and ORT. The reduction in the income from this earmarked funding has had an impact on how much funding was available to the ORT, which was an Interim Legacy Group.
- It was emphasised that that the ORT will continue to receive ground rents payments from leaseholder units for activities.

The Committee asked a number of questions and discussed the following points:

- The amount of ground rent from shop income.
- The ORT received ground rent totalling £118k 2020/2021. This income will enable the ORT to continue to operate as a community facility, but under a different model.
- That Officers were working with the existing tenants of the ORT and Harford St Community Centre which included Stepney Life Centre to ensure their continued use of this space, they were working on agreements.
- The use of the proposed grant fund. It was anticipated that the Grant funding would support the delivery of community grants, projects and some running costs.
- This running of the centre. The centre will continue to be managed internally by the Council's facilities management to provide a cost effective service.
- The proposals also sought to realign the allocation of ringfenced HRA funding in line with the aims of that funding.

RESOLVED:

1. To agree an amendment to the January 2019 approval of a three-year grant funding to ORT.
2. The amendment is for a one-off payment of £80k derived from shop income on Ben Jonson Rd. This would then end any future funding from the retail unit income to the ORT. This sum is requested from the £809k originally approved in January 2019, minus a sum of £80k already granted for 2019/2020 (as above).

3. The ground rent income will not be affected and will continue to be collected by the Council and transported annually to ORT first quarter of each year in line with the original Ocean Estate development agreement. The year 2019/2020 ground rents totalled £118k. This is an ongoing income for ORT and will not be affected by ending the recommendation of this report.

6.4 Formal offer of Historic Buildings Grant to Greenlight Youth Club

Anna Zucchelli (Heritage at Risk Projects Officer, Place) presented the report. This sought authorisation to issue a formal offer of grant of £12,000 from the Historic Buildings Grant budget, at the request of the Green Light Youth Club for works to the building. The youth club had been closed. It had also experienced break ins. The building is in need of joinery repairs to its front elevation due to the deteriorating condition of the timber. Works now will prevent large scale repairs in the future and further loss of historic fabric.

Only external works that are of public benefit are eligible for the Council's Historic Buildings Grant, therefore security works do not form part of this grant application.

The building is monitored as "vulnerable" by Historic England's Heritage at Risk team. Whilst the building is not currently on the Heritage at Risk register, if the condition and occupancy of the building does not improve in the near future, it may be added to the list. Grants were normally allocated to buildings on this register. However no applications for this had been received for this financial year. Therefore, it was considered appropriate to allocate grant funding for the building to prevent the building from being added to this list.

In response, the Committee felt that the works were necessary and supported the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

1. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to issue a formal offer of grant to Greenlight Youth Club to a maximum of £12,000 towards the cost of timber repairs to the first-floor bay windows, shutters and front door.
2. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to enter into the grant agreement and any such other agreements required to affect the grant and the use of the grant as detailed in paragraph 1.

6.5 VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority and Equalities Contract Provision Transition Fund

Awo Ahmed, (Programme Assessment and Monitoring Officer, Corporate Strategy & Policy, Communities Team) presented the report.

This report set out the VCS Funding awarded under delegated authority since last meeting of the Committee. It also asked the Committee to agree the

creation of £10,000 equalities transition fund to be delivered as a grant programme by the successful bidder of the Equalities Hub contract,

RESOLVED:

1. Note the update on funding awarded and available to voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since their last meeting.
2. Agree the creation of £10,000 equalities transition fund to be delivered as a grant programme by the successful bidder of the Equalities Hub contract, as set out in section 3.25 to be allocated in accordance with the terms of this report

7. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

None

The meeting ended at 6.15 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Candida Ronald
Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee

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<p>Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub Committee</p> <p>23rd June 2021</p>	 TOWER HAMLETS
<p>Report of: Director of Legal and Interim Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: [Unrestricted]</p>
<p>GRANTS DETERMINATION SUB-COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE, QUORUM, MEMBERSHIP AND DATES OF MEETINGS</p>	

Lead Member	Councillor Candida Ronald
Originating Officer(s)	Zoe Folley, Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Community Plan Theme	

Executive Summary

This report sets out the Terms of Reference, Quorum, Membership and Dates of Meetings of the Grants Determination Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2021/22 for the information of its Members.

Recommendations:

The Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub Committee is recommended to:

1. To note its Terms of Reference, Quorum, Membership and Dates of meetings for the Municipal Year 2021/22 as set out in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 to this report.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 This report is for the information of the Sub-Committee and no specific decisions are required.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Not applicable to reports for noting.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Each year in May the Council initiates a new municipal year at which time memberships of committees and the calendar of committee meetings are refreshed.
- It is customary that following the Annual General Meeting of the Council that the committees established:
 - Note their Terms of Reference as set out at Appendix 1.
 - Note the Membership for the forthcoming Municipal Year. These are set out in Appendix 1 and 2 to the report respectively.
 - Receive their calendar meetings for the remainder of the year which have been agreed by Full Council. This information is provided at Appendix 3 to the report.

4. GRANTS DETERMINATION SUB COMMITTEE

- 4.1 Decision making powers in respect of grants to voluntary and community organisations was returned to the Council on 17 January 2017.
- 4.2 To ensure that grant making decisions are delivered in an open and fair manner, the Constitution Part 4.4: Executive Procedure Rules, Delegations to the Executive has been revised to enable the Mayor to delegate grants decision-making powers to the Executive acting collectively in the form of the Grants Determination Sub-Committee.
- 4.3 In accordance with Part 4.4 of the Constitution, Rule 1.2 of the Executive Procedure Rules, *the Mayor may appoint such committees of the Executive as he considers appropriate from time to time* and he has appointed The Grants Determination Sub-Committee to determine decisions relating to grants (the Mayor has delegated the functions of this Sub-Committee to be carried out by the Sub-Committee collectively).
- 4.4 The terms of reference provided at Appendix 1 to this report provide further information relating to the function of this Sub Committee.
- 4.5 The Membership of the Sub-Committee is provided at Appendix 2 to the report.
- 4.6 The schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2021/22 is provided at Appendix 3 to the report.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

Matters brought before the Committee under its terms of reference during the year will include comments on the financial implications of decisions provided by the Chief Finance Officer. There are no specific comments arising from the recommendations in this report.

6. LEGAL COMMENTS

The matters for the Sub-Committee to note are in line with the resolutions made by Full Council on 19th May 2021 and the Mayor's Executive Scheme of Delegation.

7. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

When drawing up the schedule of dates, consideration was given to avoiding schools holiday dates and known dates of religious holidays and other important dates where at all possible.

8. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific Best Value implications arising from this noting report.

9. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

There are no specific sustainability implications arising from this noting report.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific risk management implications arising from this noting report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- List any appendices [if Exempt, Forward Plan entry MUST warn of that]
- State NONE if none.

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

Zoe Folley, Democratic Services, 0207 364 4877

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GRANTS DETERMINATION SUB-COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

3.4.3 Grants Determination Sub-Committee

Description: A Sub-Committee of Cabinet established to take Member level decisions in respect of Grants issues.	
Membership: The Mayor plus 3 other Executive Councillors as appointed by the Mayor – the remaining Members of the Executive are substitute Members.	
Functions	Delegation of Functions
1. To determine all applications for grant funding received by the Council that require a Member level decision where there is no specific delegation to officers	Various grants processes have been specifically delegated to officers (see 3 below).
2. To determine all applications for corporate match funding received by the Council.	No delegations
3. The Sub-Committee may delegate decision making to individual officers, provided that the extent of this delegation is made clear and that it is minuted properly	No delegations
4. Where decision making has been delegated, to receive a report advising as to the exercise of a discretion at the next Sub-Committee meeting following the exercise of such discretion.	No delegations
5. To receive quarterly update reports against defined parameters in order for the Council to demonstrate either: that delivery is in line with the application and, therefore, the grant achieved its purpose; or to provide clear delineation where outcomes were not achieved and the reasons for such failure are apparent. Such Monitoring should therefore include measuring performance against the expected outcomes.	No delegations
6. To determine criteria under which grant applications will be considered.	No delegations
Quorum: Three (3) Members of the Committee	

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

June 2021

GRANTS DETERMINATION (CABINET) SUB-COMMITTEE		
Membership: The Mayor plus three (3) other Executive Councillors as appointed by the Mayor or their nominees who must also be Executive Councillors		
<i>Members (4)</i>	<i>Substitutes</i>	
Mayor Biggs Councillor Candida Ronald (Chair) Councillor Asma Begum Councillor Sirajul Islam	Councillor Rachel Blake Councillor Sabina Akhtar Councillor Danny Hassell Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman Councillor Mufeedah Bustin Councillor Asma Islam Councillor Eve McQuillan Councillor Dan Tomlinson	

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SCHEDULE OF DATES 2021/22

GRANTS DETERMINATION (CABINET) SUB-COMMITTEE

Notes

1. In keeping with the schedule of Cabinet and Executive Sub-Committees it is proposed that meetings take place at 5.30pm on the following dates:
 - Wednesday, 23rd June 2021
 - Wednesday, 1st September 2021
 - Wednesday, 3rd November 2021
 - Wednesday, 12th January 2022
 - Wednesday, 9th March 2022

2. It may be necessary to convene additional meetings of the Sub-Committee should urgent business arise. Officers will keep the position under review and consult with the Chair as appropriate.

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<p>Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee report</p> <p>23 June 2021</p>	
<p>Report of: Ann Sutcliffe, Interim Corporate Director of Place</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Formal offer of Historic Buildings Grant to Columbia Market Nursery School</p>	

Lead Member	Councillor Eve McQuillan
Originating Officer(s)	Anna Zucchelli – Heritage at Risk Project Officer Michael Ritchie – Place Shaping Team Leader
Wards affected	Weavers
Key Decision?	Yes
Forward Plan Notice Published	25/05/2021
Reason for Key Decision	Impact on Wards
Community Plan Theme	A Great Place to Live

Executive Summary

This report relates to a formal offer of a London Borough of Tower Hamlets Historic Buildings Grant (HBG) of a maximum of £10,000 to Colombia Market Nursery School to contribute towards the cost of repair of the grade II listed railings, gate and gate piers and reinstatement of missing lanterns in front of the school.

The HBG would act as match funding for a grant of £15,000 from the Heritage of London Trust (HOLT). The proposed work will improve the condition and appearance of the gates and railings in a highly visible location within the Hackney Road Conservation Area and will ensure their future sustainability through appropriate conservation repair. The funding will additionally allow school children, parents and local community groups to learn about the conservation work and the history of the former Columbia Market through talks and informative sessions as part of the Heritage of London Trust’s ‘Proud Places’ programme.

Recommendations:

The Grants Determination Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to issue a formal offer of grant,

subject to conditions, of a maximum of £10,000 to Columbia Market Nursery School towards the cost of repair to the historic gates and railings.

2. Authorise the Corporate Director Place to enter into the grant agreement and any such other agreements required to affect the grant as detailed in paragraph 1.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The gate piers and iron railings in front of the school are listed separately from the school itself. Both are listed at grade II and are located in a highly visible location on Columbia Road within the Hackney Road Conservation Area. The gates, gate piers and railings are the last remaining elements of the Columbia Market complex, demolished in 1950 to make way for housing.
- 1.2 The proposed works will improve the condition of the gates, gate piers and railings and their future sustainability will be secured through appropriate conservation repair. The works will enhance the appearance, character and setting of the listed building, neighbouring listed buildings and the conservation area. This meets the conditions of the Historic Buildings Grant.
- 1.3 Whilst the grant is usually reserved for buildings at risk or considered vulnerable, there have been no applications in 2021/22 and there are sufficient funds in the budget. Unlike some other grant applications, this project offers a significant community engagement element and is an opportunity to allow school children, parents and local community groups to learn about building conservation and the history of the former Columbia Market through talks and informative sessions as part of the Heritage of London Trust's 'Proud Places' programme.
- 1.4 The Historic Buildings Grant would make up a shortfall in funding for the project, the majority of which is made by the Heritage of London Trust (HOLT). Without this additional funding, the full project may not be able to go ahead. HOLT have also supported numerous other restoration projects in the borough with funding.

2. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 2.1 Columbia Market Nursery School was built by the London County Council in 1930 and is one of the first municipal nursery schools built in the country,

reflecting shifting patterns of family life and concern for infant health and well-being. The building is of timber frame construction with weatherboarding and pitched tiled roofs, with unaltered folding partitions dating from 1935, which open onto an open courtyard. The building style is experimental for the time, using new materials and construction techniques not previously used, such as pre-fabrication.



Figure 1: Columbia Market Nursery School today

- 2.2 The gate piers and railings are older and date from the mid-19th century. The gate piers are made of polished granite with Portland stone caps. One pier contains a carved lion bearing a shield and two piers carry lamp standards, with missing lanterns. The railings originally surrounded Columbia Market (see figure below), paid for by the East End philanthropist, Angela Burdett-Coutts, with the intent of providing the surrounding poor with wholesome food at a fair rate. Unfortunately, it was unsuccessful from the start as traders preferred existing markets at Covent Garden and Billingsgate. Used briefly as workshops and a workhouse, it was demolished in the 1950s to make way for housing. The gate piers and iron railings on Columbia Road are all that is left of this magnificent building.



Figure 2: Columbia Market building (railings and gate piers to front) on Columbia Road (1870-1900)

- 2.3 The railings and gate have missing ironwork elements, e.g. finials, but the structural integrity is good. There are isolated failed mortar repairs to the Portland stone plinth base, as well as inappropriate cement repairs to Portland stone carved lion in far-left gatepost. Heavy corrosion to the lantern supports has caused the stone cap below to crack.
- 2.4 It is proposed to repair or replace the missing finials on a like for like basis. The dwarf walls and plinths will be cleaned using the DOFF cleaning method to investigate for failed mortar repairs and open joints and a steam cleaner to the carved stone lion. Repair will be in lime mortar to match appearance of Portland stone where required. Elements of sliding timber gate will be repaired where required and repainted. Iron gates will be stripped of paint and repainted. The missing lanterns will be reinstated, and corroded posts reinstated (this will require listed building consent, yet to be received, but the works are acceptable in principle).
- 2.5 The proposed work will improve the condition of the gate piers, gates and railings and their future sustainability will be secured through appropriate conservation repair. It will enhance appearance, character and setting of the listed buildings and conservation area.
- 2.6 The funding will additionally allow school children, parents and local community groups to be involved in the conservation work through talks and informative sessions as part of the Heritage of London Trust's 'Proud Places' programme - [Heritage Visits | Proud Places | London](#). The Heritage of London Trust (HOLT) were recently involved in funding the repair of the Northumberland House Arch at the Bromley-by-Bow Centre - [Northumberland House Arch | Heritage Visit | Proud Places](#). The conservation work will

support cross curricular learning across Early Years and Primary/ Secondary stage Arts, Science, Mathematics, English and craft. Early Years pupils will be able to experience, first-hand, tools, materials and design. At more advanced Primary and Secondary level, pupils will be able to experience aspects of physical materials, (nature and physical property in use and design), geometry and mathematics – in the construction and erection of the gates.

3. OFFER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS GRANT

- 3.1 The Council operates a Historic Building Grant scheme to assist owners and occupiers of listed buildings and buildings within conservation areas in meeting their responsibilities for the care and maintenance of the irreplaceable cultural asset which these buildings represent. The provision of this type of grant is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and section 57 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- 3.2 Each year the Council makes £25,000 available for its Historic Buildings Grant scheme. The money is allocated from the Planning & Building Control budget. Funds are now rolled over from previous years where they have not been allocated to specific projects. Normally preference for the Historic Buildings Grant is for buildings on Historic England's Heritage at Risk register, however there are currently no further applications for the grant or expressions of interest for the grant and there are sufficient funds in the budget.
- 3.3 The Historic Buildings Grant reserve currently holds £ 42,000, with a further £25,000 grant being allocated in 2021/22, giving total available funding of £67,000. A total of £12,000 has been allocated to Greenlight Youth Club (GDSC decision on 21 April 2021), leaving uncommitted funds of £55,000. If £10,000 is awarded to Colombia Market Nursery School, £45,000 would be left to fund future projects.
- 3.4 In addition to this, HOLT is offering a significant contribution towards the cost of the repair - £15,000 - and it would be a shame to lose this funding if it was not matched and the full works cannot go ahead. HOLT have recently supported other heritage projects in the borough with funding, e.g. the clock tower on Bow Church, painted statues on Raine House and the William Kent arch at the Bromley-by-Bow Centre. The project will offer learning opportunities for children and is a fantastic opportunity to engage local pupils in building conservation and local history.

- 3.5 Grants are targeted to achieve maximum visual benefit to the general community, with preference given towards reinstatement of architectural features (usually external). The building or structure must be included on the national or local list of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest or situated within a designated conservation area. The railings are grade II listed, located within the Hackney Road Conservation Area and are highly visible to the general public on Columbia Road, therefore they meet this grant criteria.
- 3.6 As a condition of the grant, three comparable quotes along with clear drawings/ photographs of the proposed works are required; these have now been received and a contractor chosen. The quotes have been inspected and choice of contractor approved by the Heritage at Risk Project Officer.
- 3.7 The total cost of the works is estimated at £24,020. HOLT is offering a grant of £15,000, which would leave a shortfall of £9,020. It is therefore requested that the offer of Historic Buildings Grant will be up to a maximum of £10,000. This amount is less than 60% of total cost of the overall works and therefore meets this grant criteria.
- 3.8 The school would like the work to commence before the start of the summer holidays to allow for pupil engagement. If this is not possible, then this date will be referred to September 2021.
- 3.9 As a condition of the grant, a sign acknowledging the Council's grant will be displayed on site throughout the duration of the works. The Council's Comms team have also been informed of the proposed works.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The proposed works would contribute to the conservation and enhancement of a highly valued community asset, contributing to the setting of the Hackney Road Conservation Area and neighbouring listed buildings.
- 4.2 The project proposes to involve a wide audience in the conservation work through talks and informative sessions as part of HOLT's 'Proud Places' programme.
- 4.3 The project thus contributes to the theme 'A Great Place to Live' in the Community Plan to build One Tower Hamlets.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 *Best Value implications*

The delivery of this project ensures the Council meets its commitment set out in the Council's Conservation Strategy. The restoration of this listed cultural asset part funded through the grant will benefit the wider community and is considered to offer excellent value for money.

5.2 *Environmental*

The works will improve the appearance of the conservation area and improve the long-term sustainability of the gates and railings themselves.

5.3 *Risk management*

The Council has not committed itself to a payment of a grant at this stage. A formal offer of grant can only be made on receipt of three detailed comparable quotations. Payment of the grant cannot be made until the work is completed and assessed to be of a good conservation standard by the Council's Conservation Officer or Heritage at Risk Project Officer.

5.4 *Crime reduction*

The railings and gate will continue to provide security to the school.

5.5 *Safeguarding*

The school will have safeguarding in place during the works as listed below by the headmistress:

- We will ask to have DBS information sent to us,
- We will make sure any workers are aware of our safeguarding policies and abide by them
- We will ensure all gates are clear for access.
- We will ensure all staff and parents are aware of the works.
- No unsupervised access to the nursery.
- There will be a designated safeguarding lead on site at all times.
- Ensure we have the contact details of the supervisor.
- They will be informed they are not able to take photos of the nursery or children
- A designated photographer will be able to record the work done.
- We will ensure the children are well supervised when they view the works and participate in any related activities.

6. **COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

- 6.1 LBTH allocates grant funding of £25k per annum to fund projects relating to historic buildings. Any monies that are not spent in a year are transferred to the balance sheet and held in a ringfenced reserve for future use. The

reserve has a balance of £42k, giving total available funding of £67k for historic building projects.

- 6.2 Commitments totalling £12,000 have been made in year against this funding. Therefore, there are sufficient uncommitted funds available from the 2021/22 grant and historic buildings reserve to meet the cost of this project. There will be no additional impact on general fund balances.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The Council has the legal power to make the grant described in this report.
- 7.2 The evaluation of the grant application was made in compliance with the Historic Building Grant scheme criteria.
- 7.3 Monitoring of the use of the grant will be supported by appropriate agreement terms. The agreement will ensure that the funding is used in compliance with the purposes stated in the grant application and the conditions highlighted in this report. This will assist the Council achieving Best Value in line with the law.
- 7.4 There are no immediate legal equality issues arising from this report.
-

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- List any linked reports
-
- State NONE if none.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Historic Buildings Grant application form

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

- List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.
- These must be sent to Democratic Services with the report
- State NONE if none.

Officer contact details for documents:

Or state N/A

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
HISTORIC BUILDINGS GRANTS

**Place Shaping Team
Directorate of Development and Renewal
Town Hall Mulberry Place
5 Clove Crescent
Poplar, London E14 2BG**

**APPLICATION FOR A GRANT UNDER THE PROVISION
OF THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND
CONSERVATION AREAS)
ACT 1990**

Please read the guidance notes carefully. These set out the criteria against which applications are assessed and may prevent unnecessary work.

The grant forms should be completed and returned to the address above. Please answer all questions; an incomplete form can not be assessed.

The form must be accompanied by two estimates broken down into the elements of the work and full details of work proposed and photographs of the building.
(See Guidance notes at the back)

1.a Full postal address of the building or site for which grant is sought.

Gate Piers and iron railings at Columbia Market Nursery School
Columbia Market Nursery School, Columbia Road, London E2 7PG

1.b Is the building a statutorily Listed Building under Section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990?

Yes

Grade II

The gate piers and iron railings are listed and are part of this application.

Columbia Market Nursery School is also listed but does not form part of this application.

1.c Is the building within a Conservation Area?

Yes – Hackney Road Conservation Area

1.d Is the building a “Locally Listed” building?

No

2. Name, address and day time telephone number of applicant.

Lynn Cottle

0207 7394518

head@alicemodel.towerhamlets.sch.uk

3. Is the applicant the freehold owner of the building or land concerned, and totally responsible for its upkeep and repair?

No

If No, please explain (use a separate sheet if required), the applicant’s legal interest in the property, and/or who is responsible for upkeep and repair.

Property belongs to LBTH

4.a What is the present use of the building or site?

Security gate and fence for nursery school for children aged 2-4

4.b What is the proposed use after repair? (If different from 4a)

Same as above

5.a Description of proposed works (a copy of the detailed specification and, if alterations are proposed, drawings of the buildings as existing and as proposed, must be enclosed).

The railings and gate have missing ironwork elements, e.g. finials, but the structural integrity is good. Isolated failed mortar repairs to the Portland stone plinth base. Inappropriate cement repairs to Portland stone carved lion in far-left gatepost. Heavy corrosion to the lantern supports which has caused the stone cap below to crack.

Repair or replacement of missing finials on a like for like basis. Dwarf wall and plinths to be cleaned with DOFF cleaning method to investigate for failed mortar repairs and open joints. Steam cleaner to the carved lion. Repair in lime mortar to match appearance of Portland stone where required. Repair elements of sliding timber gate where required and repaint. Iron gates to be stripped of paint and repainted. Reinstate lanterns (with lighting) and replace corroded posts

Condition survey and repair methodology attached.

5.b Please indicate how the proposed work including proposed materials will improve the sustainability quotient of the building (a copy of the material specification impacting buildings sustainability as proposed, must be enclosed).

The proposed work will improve the condition of the gates and railings and their future sustainability will be secured through appropriate conservation repair.

6. Three quotations for the works must be supplied based on the detailed specification prepared for Question 5 above. Estimated total cost should be provided in each case with the figure for VAT shown separately. Each estimate should include a breakdown showing the cost of individual items such as work on the roof, walls, joinery, etc. The estimates must be directly comparable. Copies of builder's tenders, if already obtained, should be enclosed; and percentage(s) to be charged detailed. If tenders are not yet available, estimates should be submitted.

Quote from London Stone Conservation provided.

Option 1: Repair gates & lantern only:

- Site set Up (incl. Hoarding license): £1400 +VAT
- Doff Clean: £960 +VAT
- Stone Repairs, Pointing: £3560 +VAT
- Iron Gate repair and repainting: £3400 +VAT
- New Wrought Iron Lantern posts: £2800-3600 +VAT

- 2 new lantern (incl. led engine and sensors): £4200 +VAT
 - Connection of lanterns to electric: £1420 +VAT
- TOTAL £18,400 + VAT

Option 2: Repair gates, lanterns and the whole run of railings & stone plinths

- Doff Clean: £647-00 +VAT
- Portland Stone Plinth Repairs: £1280-00 +VAT
- Railing Repair and Repainting: £8700-00 +VAT

TOTAL: £10,627

Discount if option 1 & option 2 carried out = £24,020 + VAT (saving of £5,147 + VAT)

7. When do you expect work to start?

Ideally before the summer school holiday 2021 so that school children can engage with the works

PLEASE NOTE: THIS APPLICATION WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM CONSIDERATION FOR A GRANT IF WORK STARTS BEFORE AN OFFER OF GRANT HAS BEEN MADE, OR WITHOUT THE COUNCIL'S EXPLICIT PRIOR APPROVAL IN WRITING.

8. Have you applied, or do you intend to apply for a grant from any other source?

Yes

If yes, please give details

Heritage of London Trust - £15,000 grant

Shortfall = £24,020 - £15,000 = £9,020 (NB only one quote received so far)

9. Can you reclaim VAT on eligible work?

Yes

10. Do you wish to include professional fees? (The resources available for grant aid will not normally permit grant aid towards fees).

No

And percentage(s) to be charged

11. Any additional information you wish to be taken into account when the application is being considered.

Additional funding from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets would enable us to participate in the restoration of the fence and gates of Columbia Market Nursery. This would lead to an offer to local parents, local historical groups, schools and our own pupils of a wide range of curriculum and cultural opportunities. For example, in restoration of the gates a wide range of trades specialists would be involved that would support cross curricular learning across Early Years and Primary /Secondary stage Arts, Science, Mathematics, English and craft. Early Years pupils would experience first hand tools and materials, design. They would be developing their knowledge of understanding the world, mathematics and communication. At more advanced Primary and Secondary level, aspects of physical materials, (nature and physical property in use and design), of materials, geometry and mathematics – in the construction and erection of the gates.

At a community level, parents and interested local community groups would be included in the execution of the restorative work by talks and informational sessions as the work progressed via the involvement of 'Proud Places'.

Overall, the ability of such a project would certainly promote a wealth of further learning for a wide range of groups within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and promote community cohesion.

I declare that I have read the guidance notes on Tower Hamlets Historic Buildings Grants and that the information given above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

M L Cottle

Signature _____

Print Name _____ Lynn Cottle _____

Address Columbia Market Nursery School Columbia Road Bethnal Green London E2
7PG _____

Date _1.05.2021_____

This application form with the supporting information should be sent to:

**London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Development, Design & Conservation
Mulberry Place (AH), P O Box 55739,
5 Clove Crescent, Poplar
London E14 2BY**

PlaceShaping@towerhamlets.gov.uk

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Grants Determination Sub-Committee 23 June 2021	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Sharon Godman, Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance	Classification: Unrestricted
Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report - October 2020 – March 2021	

Lead Member	Cllr Ronald, Lead Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector
Originating Officer(s)	Robert Mee, Programme Analysis & Review Officer Emily Fieran-Reed, Senior Strategy & Policy Manager
Wards affected	All
Key Decision?	No
Forward Plan Notice Published	
Reason for Key Decision	N/a
Community Plan Theme	All

Executive Summary

The Mayor in Cabinet agreed on 31st July 2019 to a programme of funding for voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations from 1st October 2019. A total of 50 projects were awarded funding totalling £9.31m up to 31 March 2023 to deliver activity across five themes - Inclusion Health and Wellbeing, Digital Inclusion and Awareness, Information Advice and Guidance, Employment and Skills, Community Safety

The performance report covers the period October 2020 to March 2021 and reports on the five themes of the Local Community Fund and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building funding. The Project Summary (Appendix 1) gives an update by project.

Recommendations:

The Grants Determination Sub Committee are recommended to:

1. Note the performance of the Local Community Fund programme as set out in 3.2 to 3.7 and Appendix 1 for Oct 20 – Mar 21
2. Note the updates on the funded organisations in Council premises and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building funding as set out in 3.8 to 3.9.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Regular performance updates ensure that the LCF themes and individual projects are on track to achieve the targeted outcomes.
- 1.2 Any issues that raise concerns can be addressed and appropriate remedial actions agreed. Where necessary, this could include the reduction, withdrawal or reallocation of funds to ensure that the overall Programme is making the most effective use of resources and maximising the potential achievement of agreed aims and objectives

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Information relating to various aspects of project and monitoring activity is contained within the report to provide Grants Determination Sub Committee with an overall understanding of how projects and organisations have performed against the key elements of their Funding Agreements.
- 2.2 Grants Determination Sub Committee could request further information or alter the recommendations

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 Background

The Mayor in Cabinet agreed on 31st July 2019 to a programme of funding for voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations from 1st October 2019. A total of 50 projects were awarded funding totalling £9.31m up to 31 March 2023 to deliver activity across five themes - Inclusion Health and Wellbeing, Digital Inclusion and Awareness, Information Advice and Guidance, Employment and Skills, Community Safety

3.2 Overview of Oct 20 – Mar 21

The 6-month period in this update included the national lockdown from January to March. Although projects have had experience throughout the last year of moving to online delivery there has been an impact on several projects.

The RAG rating and the criteria for this was agreed at GDSC 9 Sept 2020 but the impact of the pandemic has meant that this 3-stage rating doesn't capture the nuance of the issues facing the LCF projects. All projects, including beneficiaries and organisation staff, are impacted to some degree by the pandemic and the mitigation measures put in place. Some projects are hit harder than others, those who work with schools and those with intergenerational projects bring younger and older people together for example. Some projects can focus on other elements of their delivery but for some these types of issues have a significant impact on performance.

In order to capture these specific issues, we have introduced a 'Covid/Amber' rating where there is significant covid impact affecting performance.

Covid/Amber

- Theme 5 Scheme A: Kazzum Arts – Build
- Theme 5 Scheme A: Osmani Trust – Schools and Community Resilience Programme
- Theme 5 Scheme B: Four Corners – Into Focus Photography project
- Theme 5 Scheme B: Leaders in Community – Project Connect

Amber

- Theme 1 Scheme A: St Hilda's East Community Centre – Girls Driven Project
- Theme 1 Scheme C: REAL DPO – Taking Control of Your Life
- Theme 1 Scheme E: St Hilda's East Community Centre - Surjamuki Disabled Youth Project
- Theme 4 Scheme A: REAL DPO – Then and Now

All of the Amber projects are being supported by Officers and projects are expected to be back on track with issues resolved in order to move to Green in future updates.

3.3 Theme 1 Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing

Theme 1 incorporates 5 schemes supporting children and families, older people, and people with disabilities. There are 28 projects, focusing on improving the health and wellbeing of residents and the quality of the care services they receive.

- 3.3.1 During October 2020 to March 2021 activities were delivered largely online. Projects have continued to engage with service users and build stronger networks of information sharing and peer-support between users and those not accessing services. Some of the projects were able to deliver a level of in-person within Covid-19 guidelines. There have been mixed reactions to how online services have worked. Planned work by projects in schools continued to be hampered by Covid-19 restrictions. Canaan Project is one of the few partner organisations that George Green's School has invited back into the building to offer space to provide enrichment sessions after the Easter holiday.
- 3.3.2 Providers collaborated with community and statutory agencies to ensure the best outcomes for residents. Look Ahead (DV project) supported families to register for schools, nurseries and liaised with the Education Specialist

Advisor for school uniform grants/food bank and the Easter Holiday Scheme. It liaised with Kids Outs, ELBA programme and schools to support children with laptops.

- 3.3.3 Newark Youth – Girls project attended a Virgin Media apprenticeship webinar about employment in the media and technology field. The girls also took part in employment workshop hosted by the Canary Wharf Group and they gained insight into all the different roles within Canary Wharf Group. They also received support in creating a good CV and what employers look for. This gave them confidence to write their own CV and understand how employers select people.
- 3.3.4 Organisations have found ingenious ways to co-design and adapt their services. The Yard Theatre set up a new walking project in Spring for residents and workers to reconnect and rediscover Tower Hamlets. Local people will be matched up to go on walking trips pairs from Bow, across the A12 and ending up at The Yard. The project hopes to form relationships with other local organisations during recruitment and form a piece of research to help better understand the geographical barriers people face within Tower Hamlets.
- 3.3.5 St Hilda's Girls Driven Project will carry out consultations with residents and parents to find out their opinions on what they would like to see in youth services for their local area. This will be in the forms of surveys and face to face consultations.
- 3.3.6 Organisations have commemorated key calendar events. Half Moon Youth Theatre worked on 'Happened in 1990' project as part of its 30th birthday celebrations which had been due to take place in 2020; devising performances exploring notable events that happened in 1990. Parents noted their young people had grown in confidence over the term, appearing more engaged and that they have enjoyed still being given the opportunity to connect with other young people outside of their schools.
- 3.3.7 London Tigers most participants have reported positive feedback on improvements in both their health and wellbeing. The main highlight was the online International Women's day walking competition which was open for anyone to join in. This competition involved participants having to complete a minimum of 10,000 steps. Members uploaded their daily walking steps covering a minimum of 6000 steps daily and a maximum of 20,000 steps; star achievers names were highlighted to inspire and motivate others in the group.
- 3.3.8 Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activities produced a link to a fitness video during lockdown, that has been used to help young people keep active and motivated through this really difficult time:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BdA6N_5fU

3.3.9 Case Studies / Feedback from Services Users

Scheme 1A – Children, Young People and Families

E and 15 of her peers completed the ASDAN Leadership Award. She was able to work in her group where they learned about themselves and developed an understanding of the type of leader they could be. E was able to contribute to her groups presentation and encouraged others to do the same.

Scheme 1B – Older People

Mr LC was referred to the befriending service. Mr LC lives with his elderly mother who has dementia, and due to a rapid decline in his mother's health, he needed more support than ever. This had ultimately affected Mr LC a great deal, as he was unable to leave the house unless absolutely unnecessary. Mr LC has since reported that the phone befriending is going well and looks forward to having a warm friendly chat with AH, the befriender each week.

Scheme 1C – Access, information, and self-management

The focus is for older residents to be better informed and equipped to manage health conditions and some of the feedback received include: "During the lockdown, it gave some structure to my day and the companionship of like-minded people, the led meditations were very calming and enjoyable"

"It gave structure to my day during the periods of lockdown. It was good to be able to engage with people and helped me keep my anxiety in check".

Scheme 1D - Healthy living and healthy choices

The focus is for a) Residents to be better informed to make healthier choices, b) Increase engagement in physical activity.

A is 20-year-old who has sight loss with limited peripheral vision and can only distinguish objects within 3 metres. On top of his sight loss, Amir has very complex medical needs and developmental delay. A has been shielding with his mother and unable to go outside unless it was for an hospital appointment. A was struggling to stay positive and that she was also struggling to keep him active at home. RSBC provided 1:1 support through this period, but internet access & technology has been a massive barrier as the only device available to access the internet was mum's phone low bandwidth.

The intervention from RSBC and The Brighten a Million Christmases campaign provided A with a tablet and a data bundle which has enabled has A to engage in HAWB sessions every Saturday since January 2021. A has participated in 7 sessions so far and has achieved AQA's in the process such as Fitness (Unit 1&2), Introduction to movement with support, Teamwork in sport and Movement and actions through dance. Mum has expressed how grateful she is for receiving the Tablet and Data package and has also told us how much A has enjoyed the workout sessions "He really loved it and he wants to come to all of the workout sessions. It's great that he has something to do now."

Scheme 1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues

Woman’s Trust service users were referred by NHS talking therapies; others by Hestia, Victim Support and self-referral, showing the need for specialist DA therapy. Service users have reported positively on the KPIs, experiencing minor-significant improvements under each one and some of the feedback received include:

“It has been positive to talk and understand and get support to handle our circumstances more effectively”

“I felt supported and I was able to share my worries and hear the views of others”.

3.4 Theme 2 Digital Inclusion and Awareness

3.4.1 Scheme A: ICT Skills and Digital Careers

The projects under this theme and scheme have had different experiences of working with older people and digital access. Though some projects have been able to reach and connect with older people by supporting them with access to laptops/tablets and broadband connection; to set up digital connection and coaching people on how to use the devices has been time intensive for projects. Digital exclusion is a major barrier to benefits, works and access to services such as NHS website or NHS apps. Most older people who have been shielding live on their own so setting up laptops/tablets/smart phones and broadband connection for this group has not been easy. It was easier for older people who were living with their families who can help them to the devices to that they are able to access services or connect with other people. Projects have found that older people report other needs or may have other concerns such as housing and repair needs or experiencing difficulties in accessing their GP. During the last 6 months (Oct 2020- Mar 2021) some older people have benefitted from other services that have been provided through the Covid emergency support such as referrals to food banks, befriending and social activities.

3.4.2 Scheme B: Online Safety

The projects under this scheme have continued to provide remote/online activities for children, young people and their guardians. Projects have supported families to navigate online learning and how to implement safety measures for those who use online tutors. The projects report that parents’ have increased in their awareness of their children’s on-line activity and are more confident in recognising the signs of grooming and how to deal with it and they report increased confidence that their children are safe on-line. The projects under this theme have delivered Kahoot quizzes about online safety and other relevant topics and shared resources and links to combat the increase in loneliness and mental health related issues in the community. In addition, the Projects under this theme have delivered welfare checks to ensure that families and young people’s needs are met including their mental wellbeing and have supported families during the Christmas/Winter period where toys and foods packs were distributed to families.

The Covid situation has had a negative impact on families. The children learning at home during lockdown has had a toll on families from low-income households as they had to spend more money on food, fuel and internet data to support their children (schools and college re-opened from 8th March 2021).

During this period from Oct 2020-March 2021 we were still in lockdown, so centres remained closed while services were provided through online, telephone and social media platforms.

3.5 Theme 3 Advice and Information

The Advice Tower Hamlets partnership has been working very hard through October 2020 to March 2021. This has been due to the unprecedented situation of Covid-19. The partners have suspended face to face services and transitioned to telephone and online support following government guidelines and this continues although some agencies are now reverting to some face to face advice. In the last 6 months the Advice partnership has seen a change in case matters affecting individuals, such as facing employment issues resulting in sudden losses of income, thus resulting in a surge of Universal Credit claims, need of food bank support and other financial support and this continues into 2021. The Advice partnership works collaboratively with local food banks to ensure clients have access to the necessities. Working with the foodbanks, they took referrals of their clients where they advised them about options available to them. The advice agencies engaged the services of several law firms who provided specialist support and advice to clients with housing, immigration, employment and family problems.

During this period from Oct 2020-March 2021 we were still in lockdown so centres remained closed while services were provided through online, telephone and social media platforms.

The TH Advice Training and Capacity Building Project has supported 118 people/support workers on basic 'advice' issues in order to address the gap/need that volunteer advisors were filling. Topics covered include Money management, challenging benefit decision and Income maximisation.

The project offers NVQ workshops in Advice and Guidance. 15 candidates are currently registered for NVQs (12 for Level 3 and 3 for Level 4) and one completed L3 during Oct-Dec 2020.

3.6 Theme 4 Employment and Skills

3.6.1 Scheme 4A: Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work

There is only one project under this scheme. The project has carried out co-production sessions with disabled members to ensure effective guides are being created so that good practices can be adequately embedded in the workplace for people with learning disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work. The project has also carried out one to one advice sessions with employers assessing their current situation,

resources and capacity and agreed on goals that this project will help employers work towards.

Due to the nature of this work, it has proved challenging to meet the desired targets as almost all organisations have been closed. However, they are hopeful that more and more targets and outcomes will be met as lockdown eases further and further in the coming months.

3.6.2 Scheme 4B: Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups

Despite lockdown, vacancies being scarce and rising unemployment, projects have continued to work closely with their beneficiaries and project partners. One project has had to form new partnerships and alliances and extend their offer of supplementary courses for further development of women. The project together with other organisations held and celebrated International Women's Day in March 2021.

Another project has had to be innovative and station themselves at Job Centre Plus to directly engage and get young people signed up to their employment programme.

Another project took advantage of the rising opportunities in the construction field and encouraged their beneficiaries to pursue courses and job opportunities in that field.

“Without this organisation I would be at home thinking about doing things rather than actually doing it”.

3.6.3 Scheme 4C: Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries

The Covid-19 pandemic had a great toll on the arts and cultural industries, with most buildings closed to the public. However, most beneficiaries and participants have successfully managed to continue with their engagement, training and workshops online with little difficulty. This meant that projects were able to retain their participants and used social media platforms to increase take-up. With lockdown easing in the coming months, projects are optimistic in achieving their lifetime targets and outcomes and plan to increase the level of activities to stay on top of annual targets as they anticipate a dramatic rise in arts and cultural activities.

3.7 Theme 5 Community Safety

Theme 5 incorporates 3 schemes funding 6 projects.

Organisations continued to transform working practices and service delivery models, either by socially distancing, or digitalising their work and developing new practices. Covid safety measures have increased operating costs and there has been a surge in demand for services. Since lockdown reintroduced on the 6 January, projects working in schools and with older people have had significant challenges relating to with lockdown restrictions. Details of these impacts, alongside individual project achievements, are held in Appendix 1

3.7.1 Scheme A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups

Projects funded under this scheme continue to respond to safeguarding Young People at risk of violence and exploitation.

Case study Streets of Growth:

S was referred by social services. She was not attending school and going missing from home. We put a plan together with mum and school to engage S in the young leader's programme and once a week coaching session.

Issues uncovered through intervention work and relationship building:

- Exploited, being in company with older men and women
- Drug and alcohol misuse caused careless behaviour
- S in dangerous situations with friends
- Trouble with the police
- Family relationships break down
- S not following boundaries and restrictions at home

These extensive issues were uncovered by consistent relationship building with both S and mum. Over time, trust developed that has allowed us to get to the root causes of S behaviour. In dealing with these, we have conducted multiple workshops with S around appropriate relationships, drug, and alcohol abuse, dealing with emotions and a particular focus was rebuilding relationship at home with parents and siblings. S huge struggle is to follow boundaries which causes a lot of arguments at home and would then reflect her negative behaviour outside.

During the COVID-19 lockdown S was very depressed and was not coping well due to her own loneliness

The plan put in place during that time to keep S safe was as follows:

- Consistent contact via phone
- Supporting S mental well-being by going for walks in the park twice a week

After 4 weeks of doing well during the lockdown, one evening S relapsed by going out drinking with friends where she was highly intoxicated which then led to having a panic attack and assaulting a police officer.

We put two weeks intense coaching to support S to recognise the severity of her actions- reflecting to our previous coaching outcome around S strong values she has against alcohol. With support S was able to recognise that she was bored and needed structure and routine in her life. Which we then supported her to explore her options.

Progression:

- Currently is studying at OMG training to complete her Numeracy and Literacy
- Working part time at Boots
- Playing an active role in the young leader's programme – including the development of the new creative hub.

3.7.2 Scheme B - Improving the perception of young people in the community

This scheme supports relationships in the community by breaking down barriers that bring about positive relationships between people of different generations. These projects support a thriving, cohesive and well-integrated community.

Leaders in the Community replaced face to face meetings between older residents and young people with continuing to improve digital access to older people, by the younger people providing equipment, training and support to

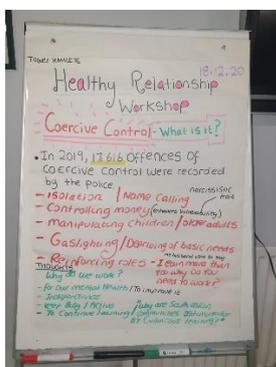
elders to use them. During period over 30 electronic tablets were provided to local elderly Tower Hamlets residents, predominantly from the Poplar area. Older recipients of the e-tablets also received an information pack that contained a “how-to use your device” documents that were created by younger members of the steering group and phone support.

3.7.3 Scheme C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances

One project is supported under scheme C. This case study from Hestia Housing demonstrates the impact of their work with women in the refuge on emotional and coercive control.

Statistics Before the session took place

- 4 women stated they have some understanding of Emotional Abuse
- 8 women stated that they have not heard of Emotional Abuse
- 2 women stated that they were unsure



Comments: ‘Most of the emotional abuse we face is from In Laws. The In Laws think that are eager to control daughter in laws from the beginning. The new bride must cook and clean. If she does not the family, will call her names and disgrace her by taunting her and hitting her. This is justified in the community. If she was a good girl, she would know her duty is to take care of the family and not talk back’

Statistics towards end of session

14 participants stated that they have an understanding of emotional abuse and would be able to recognise abusive behaviours.

3.8 Premises update

There are several organisations in receipt of Local Community Fund in Council buildings. The list below are those organisations that have an LCF funding agreement with the Council and does not include project partners.

- Age UK East London
- DeafPlus
- Limehouse Project
- Mudchute Association
- Osmani Centre
- REAL
- Stifford Centre
- Wapping Bangladesh Association
- Working Well Trust

The Asset Management team is working with the organisations to ensure appropriate property agreements are in place. Premises issues that require an update are below:

Age UK East London – discussions continue between the organisation and the Council to finalise the lease for the Russia Lane premises.

REAL – discussions continue between the organisation and the Council to put in place a 12-month licence for the use of space at Jack Dash House.

3.9 Infrastructure & Capacity Building

Although the current Infrastructure & Capacity Building funding was awarded through a separate process the management and reporting arrangements are the same as the Local Community Fund and performance reporting is included as part of this report. The Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS) are the lead organisation in a partnership that contains the Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH) and Tower Hamlets Community Transport (THCT). THVCS Infrastructure Partnership brings together the main Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) infrastructure support agencies in Tower Hamlets to increase the range and number of VCS organisations that are well-run, resilient and sustainable; and to strengthen the VCS as a key Public Sector Strategic Delivery Partner in Tower Hamlets. £260,000 was awarded per year for a 3-year programme – October 2019 to September 2022

3.9.1 THCVS - 66 different groups attended a couple of online meet the funders events that focused on general and online funding opportunities. THCVS received 11 positive responses out of over 30 groups feedback has been such a challenge. However, it has provided a case example with Island Advice that describes the new digital support service THCVS has been providing and the impact this contributes to.

In addition, in the quarter, THCVS achieved 2 significant partnership funding bids. It supported Osmani Trust to successfully lead on a partnership with Spotlight/Poplar Harca and Streets of Growth to bid the GLA violence reduction unit. They have secured a grant of £750,000 over 2 years. THCVS supported St Margaret's House to lead on a partnership bid to the Thriving Communities funding programme and secure £50,000 for this project.

61 VCS organisations supported on various topics including Vaccine (20), Funding (17), Digital (12), Governance (4), Networking and Partnership (4), Start Up (2), Premises (1), Project development (1)

3.9.2 VCTH – continues to exceed KPI targets for the quarter and towards its annual targets. The following is the percentage of VCS organisation staff reporting a positive outcome from training/peer learning workshops:
18 out of 23 participants (78%) completed the evaluation survey
100% of respondents rated the session as useful, with 22% rating is as excellent/ extremely useful and 72% as good/very useful
94% of respondents committed to making a change or taking an action as a result of the training (104% of target)
100% of respondents reported either an increase in knowledge or committed to making changes in their organisation

3.9.3 THCVS has an underspend of about £12,000 for 2020/21. The proposal is to use this underspend to extend the digital development officer role from 2 days a week to 5 days a week so that they can continue to support groups with

adapting to delivering their services online. A key element of this role will be to support groups with using the 'free' access to an online monitoring tool that we were able to secure through National Lottery and London Community Response grants in the last six months.

THCT is looking at options for partnership/merger to ensure there is a sustainable service.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 A strategic assessment was undertaken of the proposed Local Community Fund (LCF) programme with the Equality Analysis comprising part of the report recommending funding as agreed at the 31 July 2019 Cabinet. This included looking at the change from Mainstream Grants (MSG) to the Local Community Fund and whether the recommended projects were able to deliver against identified need.

4.2 The analysis identified some potentially negative impacts relating to age, race and disability and these were addressed by initiating activity outside the LCF programme including:

New themes developed for the Small Grants Programme

- Access and Participation
- Community Support Services for Older People

Commissioned Services contracts to address key areas:

- Young People's Mental Health
- Early Years
- Young People's Disability Sports
- Young Carers

4.3 The programme continues to deliver against the themes developed to address the identified need.

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 There are no other specific statutory implications relevant to consideration of this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no direct financial implications of this report. If report implications were to lead to re-alignment of funding then it would need to be within the agreed grant budget of £9.31M

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The Council is required to ensure it obtains Best Value in the administering of the various grants referred to in this report. A significant part of demonstrating Best Value is ensuring that the recipient organisations perform in accordance with the original applications and conform to the terms of the grant agreement. However, the impact of the Covid pandemic has meant that this may not have been possible in some cases. Central Government advice suggests though that it may represent better value to the Council to ensure that partner organisations remain in existence post pandemic rather than levy penalties under the relevant agreement terms. This has allowed the Council scope to make the alternative arrangements it has done relating to the pandemic.

7.2 It continues to be in the Council's interest to ensure that written agreements are in place for the use of all the Council's buildings by VCS organisations as referred to in this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Project Summary

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

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Theme / Scheme	1- Health, Inclusion & Wellbeing 1A - Children, Young People & Families
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to Youth Services 2. Provision of Early Help support to families 3. Support for young carers
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children and young people, in particularly girls and young women: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. have more confidence in themselves; b. are more resilient, and c. are able to, and do, access a range of spaces, activities and social opportunities across Tower Hamlets. 2. Girls and young women feel included, are able to participate in any service, and are more likely to train to become youth leaders and/or develop their own initiatives. 3. Children and young people who may feel excluded from participating in mainstream services and activities (e.g from minority groups, who are disabled, who are LGBTQI, or who are carers for others) can participate in a range of activities and experiences. 4. Children, young people and their families are listened to and their input is considered and included in decision making. 5. Young carers are supported and included; their needs and concerns are understood and are taken into account at local and strategic levels. 6. Children under 5 grow up in positive family environments and are supported to thrive.

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Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1a	Number of girls and young women have increased confidence	209	138	0	0	Survey results on increased confidence for this period will not be available until the next quarter reporting
1b	Number of girls and young women are more resilient	228	111	33	38	
1c	Number of children and young people are able to and do access a range of spaces and activities	1,631	718	255	234	

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Canaan Project / Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£100,835	Canaan Project provides activities for young women aged 11-19 on the Isle of Dogs. Working with George Green’s school and Café Forever we offer activities including cooking, craft, sports, and inspirational workshops at our weekly lunch and after school clubs as well as opportunities to join us for regular trips.	Since Christmas, the project has continued to offer a zoom session to the Year 7 Girls Group. a theme ("Her Story"), designed to have a clear structure to each weekly session. The Young Women's Workers engaged the girls in thoughtful conversation, activities and crafts designed to generate thought on who they are and their emerging sense of purpose in their communities and wider world.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities in the summer term.
Half Moon Young People's Theatre / Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£133,746	Professional theatre shows and inclusive participatory drama opportunities in an accessible and welcoming venue. The activity is for children and young people from 0-18 (or 25 for disabled young people) from all backgrounds and abilities from across Tower Hamlets, providing free access support to anyone who needs it.	An estimated 1,947 people watched the shows/workshop films. HFYPT presented filmed performances of plays for various age groups available online free of charge, along with some accompanying workshop activities for families to do together. There were filmed some stand-alone Winter Warmer workshop activities for families to take part in.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities in the summer term.
Look Ahead Care and Support / Domestic Abuse Children's Worker	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£141,825	A specialist Domestic Abuse Children’s Worker to support children who are vulnerable due to early exposure to domestic abuse. Providing emotional support through age appropriate engagement, e.g. play, to address challenges faced by children living at our LBTH Domestic Abuse Service and in the community.	During this quarter Look Ahead has supported 14 mothers and 17 children. It also supported 19 women and 6 single women. 6 mothers and 8 children have moved on and there was an intake of 4 mothers and 5 children. Staff have been trained in delivering the Hope 2 Recovery programme for better awareness around the patterns of domestic violence and its effects on mothers and their children.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It has been able to provide in-person services during this quarter.
Newark Youth London / Girls in Action	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£70,634	Our project aims to increase access to regular youth services by girls and young women so they develop	The project worked with the 20 girls from the Oct-Dec and 1 new girl joined Jan-Mar delivering 8 online, and 10 face to face session. 5 girls	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
			their confidence and lifeskills; make them resilient and enable them to participate in a six month social action project and other learning opportunities so they develop their leadership, communication and organisational skills.	completed 5 or more sessions and 16 achieved an accredited qualification.	outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities in the summer term and to complete an ASDAN volunteering course once indoor venues are open.
Osmani Trust / Family Mentoring Project (FMP) Early Help	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£126,000	Our project aims to provide through family mentoring a range of Early Help support to children, young people and their families to help them overcome their immediate challenges and meet their needs in order for them to thrive in healthy and safe families.	During Jan-Mar the project worked through its waiting list of new referrals and made progress with 4 new families joining the programme. The project successfully recruited new mentors to support the new young people. Feedback indicate that 5 young people and families now have more knowledge of services to support their needs, such as accessing debt and housing advice, employment and training services, welfare and benefit support and access to food banks.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities as the lockdown eases.
St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£57,624	St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project is an inspirational initiative designed to support, inspire, drive girls and young women to reach their full potential and realise their authentic ambitious life goals. Enhance core skills, confidence, grit, motivation, equality and leadership by building on current and long heritage of successful girls work.	During the months of January to March 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic second wave and subsequent lockdown before the Christmas and New Year break remained in place and prevented any face to face delivery for the Girls Driven Project and face to face delivery was therefore paused. However, our longstanding Volunteer and I continued to maintain contact regularly checking in and exchanging ideas about 1) what was safe and feasible and 2) With the beneficiaries to ensure they felt supported via social media, in particular posting positive messages about wellbeing.	AMBER Monitoring returns for Oct-Dec 20 and Jan-Mar 21 submitted late. Impact on delivery in Jan-Mar but project expected to be back on track going forward.
Stifford Centre	01/10/2019	£50,974	The Project will run a Young Girl's	The project has continued to offer zoom	GREEN

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Limited / Stifford Young Girl's Project	31/03/2023		Club that will offer disadvantaged young girls a safe space in which they can socialise, participate in a range of activities that encourage their wellbeing, improve confidence and learn skills that are useful for their future development.	sessions to a group of 11 girls. The girls requested sessions in mindfulness to support their mental wellbeing. The Project Manager reports that the young people expressed worries and concerns about everyday events and the future.	The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities as the lockdown eases.
The Yard Theatre Ltd / Tower Hamlets Teens	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£129,196	Free, fortnightly youth leadership workshops, weekly drama workshops, summer masterclasses, and schools' performances for Tower Hamlets teenagers. Delivered at Tower Hamlets assets, Hub67, The Yard, and local schools, it increases access to youth services, improves participants' health and wellbeing through cultural activities, and supports community cohesion through public events.	Based on feedback from the young people about what they want and need from the programme during this time, we have delivered more tangible skills-based workshops: Income: what can we expect to be paid and how to avoid working for free Cash flows: how to build and manage budgets Mentoring: how to develop useful and strong relationships Well-being: reflecting on what best makes you feel valued and heard in professional and personal settings	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities in the summer term.

Scheme:	1B – Older People
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ageing well and reducing social isolation 2. Provision of physical and health-promotion activities for older people
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduced isolation and loneliness among older isolated adults, particularly those who are housebound, and those facing additional challenges (e.g dementia, disability, limited English); 2. Older people are able to continue making a positive contribution to their communities; 3. Older people feel more included and integrated in their communities and are able to mix with people of different ages and from different backgrounds to increase the sharing of skills, experience and knowledge both amongst older people, and between different generations; 4. People living with dementia are supported to participate as much as, and as long as possible. Carers of people living with dementia are supported.

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1	Number of older people visited by a friend at home / befriender	595	288	85	135	
3	Number of older people participating in activities	711	325	63	85	
3	LGBT people over 50 accessing new social activity	84	37	12	14	

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Age UK East London / Caxton Hall, a dynamic activity centre led by older people for the whole community.	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£258,090	Caxton Hall is a dynamic activity centre led by older people. Come and enjoy a warm welcome, healthy snack at our cafe, meet your neighbours and connect to others young and old in your community.	Welfare Calls: Oct–Dec 2020 - 135 welfare calls to 107 individual clients. Jan–March 2021 - 241 welfare calls to 87 individual clients. Christmas Gift Bags: 150+ clients received festive gift bags containing items such as reusable face mask, toothpaste, shower gel,	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has continued to provide remote services (welfare calls and on-line website activities) during this

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
				biscuits, gloves/socks and chocolate.	period.
Age UK East London / Friend at Home	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£220,866	Matching housebound older people who would like a bit more company at home with volunteers who would like to share an enjoyable hour or two of conversation and company with them.	<p>Oct-Dec 20 Continuing a remote and online process of interviewing, vetting of DBS and ID. Virtual training sessions are being conducted for the Telephone Befriending Volunteers. Continued the volunteer peer support sessions which provide a meeting time for all mutual befrienders and are invited to meet once a quarter to network, discuss volunteering queries and experiences. This quarter, there has been 15 sessions run with 36 volunteers taking part. To date, there are have been 23 new befriending matches</p> <p>Jan-Mar 21 There were 12 new matches for the quarter. Volunteer peer support - This quarter, there has been 6 sessions run with 25 volunteers taking part.</p>	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has been able to deliver during the on-going pandemic, meeting the Project KPIs and grant conditions.
Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London / Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£114,548	The Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club project provides healthy lunches and social and health promotion activities for people aged over 50, from the Vietnamese and Chinese community in Tower Hamlets. The Club meets every Monday and Thursday at St. Nicholas Church, Aberfeldy Street in Poplar.	<p>Activities provided in the period included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distance befriending (smartphone) - Health information session (online) - Information and advice (smartphone). - Shopping and pick up prescription - Access to local Foodbank - Tai Chi exercise by Zoom platform - twice a week - Computer classes by Zoom platform 	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The project has been able to deliver online, telephone befriending, food and medicine delivery to vulnerable clients as well as provide newsletters and booking in vaccination jabs for clients.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
East London Out Project / Tower Hamlets LGBT Support	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£96,661	LGBT Community Support to enhance peer networks, lessen isolation and provide mental health crisis prevention support. Two facilitated social support groups, for older people, people with mental health needs or other disabilities, Individual mental health crisis prevention support provided. LGBT training available to other organisations.	<p>Oct-Dec 20 - provided individual mental health support to 8 new people who live in Tower Hamlets and have continued to support a further 12 people who started receiving support last quarter. Altogether we have provided support to 26 people this quarter.</p> <p>Jan-Mar 21 - provided individual mental health support to 7 new people and have continued to support a further 5 people who started receiving support last quarter. Altogether we have provided support to 27 people this quarter</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has continued to deliver online support/services to social and support groups and one to one support to individuals and has delivered on- line training</p>
St Hilda's East Community Centre / Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£105,000	'Feeling Good!' wellbeing project is based in Weavers Ward and open to older people from throughout the Borough, Monday-Friday. Providing nutritious lunches, it is more than an ordinary Lunch Club, providing invigorating opportunities from indoor sport, IT learning, singing, art, intergenerational activities with schoolchildren, outings and quizzes, and much more!	<p>Due to the pandemic we stopped providing lunches for 3 weeks in early January but delivered essential shopping to those who needed it. During this period, we stepped up our befriending calls with some users having daily contact with member of staff via the telephone.</p> <p>At the end of January the case rates began to lower and we made the decision restart lunches, free of charge in order to reduce contact once again doing the best we can to protect our service users. Since then we have provided lunches to around 40 service users twice a week resulted in 768 meals being delivered.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has continued to deliver an adapted service delivering increased welfare phone calls, hot meals, essential shopping and booking in vaccinations for clients.</p>
Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019	£175,000		Due to the corona virus, THFN have ceased	GREEN

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Friends and Neighbours / Older Peoples Befriending Project	31/03/2023		THFN will be providing befriending and advocacy services to older people in the borough. Our team of befriender advocates will provide regular one to one support to people in their own homes and assist with making appointments and help in accessing services, as well as organising small group outings locally.	face to face visits and adapted services to support beneficiaries remotely through a tele befriending service. The calls enable support with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare issues • Health issues • Family support • Increased advocacy 	The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project continues to support beneficiaries remotely through a tele befriending service ensuring that clients' welfare and health issues are being met/addressed; it continues to provide support for families of older people who do not live locally.
Toynbee Hall / The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£144,949	This project will offer holistic relational support to older people aged 50+ in Tower Hamlets. It aims to make Toynbee Hall's existing provision at our Wellbeing Centre more inclusive and responsive to needs and to build stronger networks of information sharing and peer-support between users and those not accessing services.	We have continued to focus on welfare calls, befriending, and digital inclusion work during the latest lockdown. Now that the restrictions are starting to loosen, we are planning to begin face to face activities again. At first this will concentrate on social activity, outdoor gardening sessions, and 121 IT support whilst we consult the community on what form they would like to see services take following lockdown. This is part of our commitment to continuous co-design.	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has continued to focus on welfare calls, befriending, and digital inclusion work during the latest lockdown - all of which are contributing toward achieving the overall outcomes of the project.

Scheme:	1C – Access, Information and Self-Management
Priorities:	1. Residents better informed/equipped to manage health conditions
Outcomes:	1. Residents of all ages are better informed/equipped to manage health conditions 2. Increased awareness of and access to local services, including crisis support 3. Residents and their families are aware of the benefits of healthy eating and eat more healthily

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1	No. of people with increased knowledge, awareness and confidence to self-manage health condition	168	82	24	50	Indicator from Take Back Your Life project

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Globe Community Project / Take Back Your Life	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£98,165	A mindfulness-based pain management programme, addressing chronic pain/illness, related social isolation and inactivity. Designed for Tower Hamlets residents with potentially lower language, literacy and income levels and/or from hard to reach groups. Based on the award-winning book: ‘Mindfulness for Health’ and delivered by experienced, fully accredited Breathworks trainers.	Oct-Dec - 1 x 9-week, online course (zoom), including pre-course 1:1 ‘Discovery’ sessions and post-course 1:1 ‘What Next?’ sessions’ 1:1 phone support session for 7 participants who can't access zoom. Jan-Mar - 9-week online Zoom Take Back Your Life for 8 participants and 2 course supporters who have attended previous programs. Weekly follow-on zoom sessions for attendees of previous courses. Pilot 1:1 zoom Health coaching sessions for 3 people; 10 1:1 sessions.	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has been able to deliver well considering the ongoing C-19 pandemic. Good partnerships forged with the NHS to recruit post-covid patients to the pain management courses

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Real DPO Ltd / Taking control of your life	01/04/2020 31/03/2023	£218,714	The "Taking control of your life? project delivers creative support planning support alongside a user-led co-production group harnessing the views of people with lived experience of disability. This project maximises independence, supporting people to make decisions on how they want to fulfil their ambitions and also help 'change the system'.	<p>Oct-Dec We have created several internal and external resources such as Taking Control of Your Life client journey map to streamline services, a glossary of terms, consent form, equality and diversity form, checklist of resources, a service flyer and poster. Due to our work moving online and virtually, we have created a Zoom guide for clients and professionals to attend meeting or events, to help our clients access our service.</p> <p>Jan-Mar Taking Control of Your Life service and Real has been awarded the Advice Quality Standard Accreditation. We have formalised our processes and procedures and created the following guides: Client initiated support request, signposting and referral, monitoring non-engagement, obtaining feedback, delays in service delivery, liaising with third parties, case closure, casework supervision and independent file review. We are seeking to create another 16 procedures to ensure uniformity of service.</p>	<p>AMBER</p> <p>The project manager is leaving, and a replacement needs to be appointed. LBTH Officer will work with organisation to ensure project achieves lifetime targets</p>

Scheme:	1D – Healthy living and healthy choices
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Residents better informed to make healthier choices Increased engagement in physical activity
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation in a wide range of culture, play, physical activity, leisure and sport that are inclusive of age, gender, disability, race and mobility More social opportunities for reducing isolation through participation in culture, play physical activity and sport. Increased participation from marginalised groups Creating opportunities for intergenerational relationships, shared experience through culture, play, physical activity, leisure and sport for all above

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1	Number of previously inactive children, young people and adults participating in sports and physical activity regularly.	700	167	100	40	From healthy active together project
2	Beneficiaries will state they are less isolated or excluded	438	31	62	13	From healthy active together project
3	Increased participation from marginalised groups	1103	310	57	96	

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
London Tigers / Exercise for health: BAME women, children and young people	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£149,590	Exercise for health project delivers a series of sports, physical activities and health-related workshops for women, young people and children to make positive choices about their health and wellbeing. It will provide pathways to stay involved, excel in sports, and	The project has continued use online platforms to engage women and children who are feeling lonely and isolated due to the pandemic. The sessions supported a group of 25 new children and 21 from the previous quarter / 48 new women and 46 from last quarter. Most participants have reported positive feedback on improvements in both their health and wellbeing.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities in the summer or when it

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
			develop healthier habits for life.	The online sessions included tailor-made 2 aerobics sessions, 1 boxing session and 1 chair-aerobics. The project organised walking challenge group where members uploaded their daily walking steps covering a minimum of 6000 steps daily and a maximum of 20,000 steps; star achievers names were highlighted to inspire and motivate others in the group.	is safe to do so.
MUDCHUTE ASSOCIATION / Playing out at Mudchute	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£70,000	We will use Mudchute’s unique natural facilities to provide a range of freely chosen play opportunities in a safe, stimulating environment. Enabling children access to participate in freely chosen, innovative leisure and sporting activities will promote; exercise, healthy eating, social and life skills through the process of ‘Learning through Play’	Have been successful in the use of digital resources, making the most of Social Media to ensure that it has continued to offer provision in the form of workshops. These have consisted of updates on the farm and the animals and arts and crafts workshops designed to offer activities for the festive season. Mudchute will continue with its co-design ethos, offering local people the opportunity to have an input into the service through consultation, using questionnaires to evaluate and develop the service.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities in the summer term, starting with play provision for visitors during the May Bank Holiday.
Newark Youth London / Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£98,399	The Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT) project will offer a wide range of sports and physical activities across the borough with the objective of engaging inactive young people (10 to 25) and their families in regular sports and physical activities to improve health and wellbeing and reduce isolation and exclusion.	The project delivered 39 online sessions in total, 23 for CYP, 16 women and adult sessions. There were 15 new women and 1 new CYP registering in this quarter. The project worked with the 4 online sessions - 2 sessions on Monday & Wednesday @ 5pm, using Zoom for children and young people (CYP) (10-19-year olds). There was a regular women only session every Tuesday at 6pm to keep women connected, active and support their wellbeing. The other session was mixed adults’ session every Wednesday 6pm to attract new adults, to become active during the lockdown.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities as the lockdown eases.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
				The Project Manager notes that the sessions are providing vital routes to helping people stay active and maintain their wellbeing as evidenced in evaluation questionnaires. Participants are more aware of the benefits of physical activities and healthy eating, taking part in regular physical activities about what they are eating and looking out for food that is bad for them.	
Stifford Centre Limited / Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£280,095	A free membership health club with over 20 different classes and groups per week, brought to you by seven different organisations working together. Build points, beat your personal best and feel your health improve. Health Club is suitable for all ages, and participants will design the activity program alongside providers.	Stifford Centre: An average 10 women / 8 men attended healthy activity sessions including sit fit classes, aerobics sessions for women, yoga through zoom. Have received positive feedback from participants from 1-2-1 telephone and group sessions. Shadwell Basin: This period included online sessions almost all the way through, with sessions taking place onsite from 29 March only. The online sessions were well received and had good attendance overall. Stepney City Farm: The project is currently only working with volunteers who have been participating regularly since before the pandemic. Dorset Community Association: The project has continued to deliver remote session, having suspended face-to-face sessions. Black Women’s Family and Health Support (BWHAFS): BWHAFS were closed permanently on 31 March 2021. The project provided very limited activity during this quarter due to the closure of the organisation.	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The partnership is monitoring changes in guidelines to ensure that safe and controlled activities will continue in person throughout the summer.
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM) / Live	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£75,397	‘Live Healthy, Enjoy Life’ will operate from BYM’s Women’s Centre providing proactive and responsive health	Continued to deliver the women health activities remotely/on-line. An average 15 women attended healthy activity sessions including, aerobics classes and domestic violence awareness workshop. 5	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Healthy Enjoy Life [the Female Health & Development Project]			development activities which ensure excluded BAMER women develop healthy lives and manage their own physical and mental health; peer volunteer befriending and development of social networks will alleviate isolation and facilitate inclusion.	attended workshops on volunteering, building skills/confidence and developing a stronger community. 17 attended sexual health workshop through zoom. Have received positive feedback from participants from 1-2-1 telephone and group sessions. Additionally, there have been 1-2-1 support including signposting, advice and guidance on various matters according to the needs of the participants.	outcomes. It hopes to resume in-person activities in the summer or when it is safe to do so.
The Royal Society for Blind Children / Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	63,463.00	Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets will enable 60 blind and partially sighted young people aged 8-25 to gain the confidence and motivation to participate in physical activities and inform their ability to make healthier choices over the next three years.	During October to end December, 16 of the 20 Live Well Live Active beneficiaries have continued to benefit from 1:1 support with 34 sessions provided across the quarter. Staff continued to motivate children and young people to keep active through sharing Health & Wellbeing workout activities and talking through them. In addition, all participants received a Holiday Workout Plan via email. Jan-Mar - the project have recruited 11 new starts and delivered 24 sessions. The 1:1 sessions continued to provide focused support, helping participants find effective ways of managing feelings of isolation and putting in place personal goals to help them remain active.	GREEN The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets

Scheme:	1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved health outcomes for disabled people 2. People experiencing mental health issues are better supported
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More mainstream services are culturally inclusive, welcoming and accessible for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues from different ethnic backgrounds, different faith backgrounds, and who are LGBTQI 2. Adults with complex needs (i.e who have multiple issues affecting their lives) have better health outcomes 3. Disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) are more independent b) are more aware of and more likely to participate in local services c) have a better quality of life 4. People experiencing mental health issues have improved knowledge of where to access support, including peer support, social activities, and activities that build confidence and develop resilience

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Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
3a	Deaf and hard of hearing adults and families will feel less isolated (some individuals will participate in more than one activity meaning a higher number than total unique participants)	294	108	42	25	

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
deafPLUS / Improving Health and Wellbeing for	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£158,249	A borough wide health and wellbeing project that will address health inequalities,	Oct-Dec We have organised 13 events including a 6-week healthy eating cooking course. As the government has failed to provide interpreters when	GREEN During this period, the project has been incredibly busy, with

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets			loneliness and isolation, mental health issues and barriers to employment, lack of confidence and self-esteem by bringing deaf and hard of hearing people together across communities.	making COVID 19 update we have produced workshops and videos in British Sign Language to make sure clients are informed of the restrictions etc. Jan-Mar The third lockdown this has had an impact with leisure centres still being closed but we've been able to deliver deaf awareness sessions to one of the sport providers	lots of events taking place. However, this has been a challenge with the third lockdown and being unable to have face-to-face events yet. The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.
ICM Foundation CIC / CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£45,952	From October 2019 to March 2023, 20 people with learning disabilities aged 18+ from Tower Hamlets will work in partnership with ICM Foundation. Three times each year we will design and deliver 5000 accessible newspapers, on the theme of health and wellbeing, distributed to communities that reflects the borough's diversity.	The second online edition of the newspaper was distributed to disability groups and users via email in January. This focussed on online activities and current COVID-19 health messages. We also organised an online film night in January with 12 attendees. We have maintained contact with our service users through our online sessions and have also encouraged other services to participate in our sessions too.	GREEN The project is on track to achieve outcome targets
St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Surjamuki Disabled Youth Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£45,231	Surjamuki disabled youth project supports young people with learning and physical disabilities across Tower Hamlets, offering a range of educational and recreational opportunities and free wheelchair accessible minibus transport.	The project team have continued to deliver an outreach service on the doorstep to young people and their families and in a virtual/online space by supporting the young people engaged to get online and keep their minds healthy and active.	AMBER The project has continued to be affected by staffing and bereavement issues. A new youth staff member has been recruited to support the project and the project plans

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
					to re-engage and rebuild momentum. It is anticipated as lockdown eases and community/public facilities open up the Project will be better able to serve disabled young people. This will ensure the Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes.
Woman's Trust / Therapeutic Support Groups for women affected by Domestic Abuse	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£67,478	Our Therapeutic Support Groups provide a safe, moderated space for female survivors of domestic abuse to share experiences and support each other. Groups help women to recover their mental health by reducing isolation, learning from shared experiences, being empowered by supporting others and thereby gaining confidence and independence.	<p>Oct-Dec Two groups completed during this quarter: 1) 26/8/20 to 14/10/20 and 2) 21/10/20 to 16/12/20. Several of the clients from the groups were referred by NHS talking therapies; others by Hestia, Victim Support and self-referral, showing the need for our specialist DA therapy. The project aimed for 6 clients in each zoom group. In the first group, there were some issues with 3 of the clients which meant they did not attend. The project was able to book in 7 women to the second group (knowing there would be drop off). All attended at least one session, with 4 women attending regularly.</p> <p>Jan-Mar The project had one group that completed during this quarter: 14/1/21 to 11/3/21. A second group began on 18/3/21 and will be reported on next quarter. The group began with 6 women (and so was full) referred by Overland Children’s Centre, Victim Support, Tower Hamlets Talking Therapies and three self-referrals.</p>	GREEN The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets
Working Well	01/10/2019	£379,698	Improve the wellbeing of	Oct-Dec Have continued to adapt its service to meet the needs of	GREEN The project is on track

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Trust / Upskill	31/03/2023		people with lived experience of mental health by supporting them to achieve their goals by accessing new opportunities and including support from their peer, enabling to reconnect with the local community.	<p>increasing referrals. Have seen more clients changing goals to access online qualifications. Although unable to offer one to one support at this time have engaged online and via phone to offer and support clients to access training volunteering and employment activities as well as befriending and wellbeing opportunities. Have further been able to offer clients the loan of IT equipment such as laptops and smart phones via Working Well trust digital inclusion project which has addressed issues of isolation with some of their most vulnerable clients.</p> <p>Jan-Mar</p> <p>Due to staff recruitment this quarter Upskill have been slightly below targets though reached 88% of engagement outputs and had some notable successes with individual clients becoming involved in covid response volunteer opportunities including NHS befriending service signing up for the digital inclusion project signing up to new skills and access online opportunities.</p>	to achieve their lifetime targets

Theme / Scheme:	2 – Digital Inclusion and Awareness 2A – ICT Skills and Digital Careers
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to ICT support and training for older people 2. Digital skill development for children and young people <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase awareness of careers in the digital sector, and b) Provide children and young people with the opportunity to develop the skills for the digital sector.
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residents with limited digital/ICT skills, particularly older residents, disabled residents, those with English as a second language or other barriers to digital inclusion: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Have increased confidence in using ICT, especially around security; b) Are able to use digital methods to access services, find information, and communicate with others, and do so more regularly; c) Have increased digital skills. 2. Working age residents have greater awareness of digital careers, have increased digital skills, and have increased access to work and work placements in the digital sector

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Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1a	Have increased confidence in using ICT	286	166	40	57	
1b	Are able to use digital methods to access services	155	165	23	58	
1c	Have increased digital skills	96	110	14	38	

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / DigiTIES	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£62,297	The aim of DigiTIES workshops is to prevent digital exclusion in older adults in order to prevent social isolation and increase their ability to access online health related support. The content of the workshop includes how to use social media, managing email accounts, and accessing online health related support services.	Limehouse Project has adapted our service delivery for DigiTIES, to ensure we support older and the most vulnerable individuals in Tower Hamlets, largely from BAME communities at risk of further social and digital exclusion during the crucial time of the pandemic and lockdowns. We have created additional material aimed to support beneficiaries to access more information of support during this period, provided one to one support remotely through different methods such as face time, telephone calls/social distance visits to drop materials/tablet and phone donations (Covid & H&S Compliant)	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has continued to provide remote support to existing clients to progress their digital skills as well as supporting new participants on the programme. Strong partnerships in place.
Newham New Deal Partnership / @online club network Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£68,320	@online club network will build the confidence of older residents (over 50s) to go online using tablet devices, learning in small friendly groups, through taster sessions and eight-week or longer programmes of practical activities based on the needs and interests of participants.	Oct-Dec We collaborated with Wise Age, an over 50s employment specialist based in Bethnal Green, to market the programme to Tower Hamlets residents who were unemployed or under-employed and registered with them. We originally had seven residents registered, but this reduced to six. We brought forward the socially distanced face to face induction session, which included a practical 'how to' session on tablet devices to Wednesday 28th October 2020. Jan-Mar During lockdown we have promoted the project: Emailed GP practices who have the highest levels of digitally excluded patients. Emailed housing associations with sheltered housing schemes in Tower Hamlets (many have their own digital support programmes) Undertaken Twitter to publicise the Tuesday advice line	GREEN The Project has supported 2 existing clients (over 50s) Jan-Mar and additionally recruited 2 new volunteers via Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets. It is anticipated that as lockdown eases and community centres open up, the project will be to collaborate with other voluntary and community organisations and offer sessions on site. Once this happens the project will be on track to achieving the desired outcomes.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Wapping Bangladesh Association / Digital First	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£16,503	Digital First will engage socially isolated BME older adults aged 55+ but not exclusively living in Wapping and Shadwell, who are not computer literate and are digitally excluded. The Project will deliver ICT and Internet training that will help older adults to cope with facing key life transitions or challenges.	Despite the hard time that we all have been facing due to Covid-19 over the year, Wapping Bangladesh Association have been working hard to deliver the services to our users those who have been registered to our digital project. We have met all specified KPI target successfully as we have delivered 6 sessions to 6 participants out of total 7 registered to the project. They have achieved more than 93% success result in terms of gaining digital knowledge. They have been contacted through to our WhatsApp sessions carried out by project tutor.	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has been able to continue supporting service users registered on the digital programme the project participants have also benefitted from other services such as receiving food and medicine collection and delivery.

Scheme:	2B – Online Safety
Priorities:	1. Children and young people online safety
Outcomes:	1. Residents are aware of potential dangers online and implement suitable prevention measures 2. Children, young people and their families know how to report online bullying and abuse 3. Older people are aware of how to identify online scams and how to keep themselves safe

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1	Participants have increased confidence with online safety	343	159	49	55	

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / E-Safety Champions	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£20,293	The E-Safety Champions project will train local women to become ‘champions’ for e-safety in the community. Weekly workshops will cover all areas of online safety. Once trained, our champions will go into schools and community groups to spread their knowledge to young people and parents/carers through presentations and workshops	Our group have been actively engaging in online projects where they have completed sessions with their children-learning how to navigate Instagram safely and use its features without sharing personal data. Our group have also come together and set-up a separate group focused on Autism Awareness as a few members of our group are parents of autistic children. This group is doing incredibly well with online meets and special guest speakers and has engaged numerous parents and carers who are wanting to learn more about services and support available. They have built up the confidence through their attendance at the sessions and support from our staff team to set-up, chair and manage online zoom sessions with numerous participants. They have displayed awareness of online etiquette, safety and respect for people’s privacy.	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has continued to support via online and practically such as food packs distribution, learning resource distribution and online programs such as cooking together and general knowledge quizzes.
Sporting Foundation / Building	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£30,811	Sporting Foundation will build the digital resilience of children	The Digital resilience project has now matured. We have been able to review with participants and partners in building a more bespoke programme this year. One of things	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Digital Resilience			and young people and raise the awareness of online safety with parents so that as families they are safe from risk and able to utilise digital resources and managed effectively and reduces harm.	<p>we learnt was that smaller groups were more conducive to learning and people having the confidence to ask more questions.</p> <p>Unfortunately, majority of this project’s life span we have been under COVID-19 restrictions. However, we have managed well and both the young people their parents have been excellent in learning from the workshops and other interactions. We have also added mental and health wellbeing as a supplement due to the prolong lockdown and the effect was having on young people in particular.</p>	outcomes. The Project is continuing to provide online digital services to parents and young people in small groups more conducive to learning. The Project has supported parents and young people with mental health and wellbeing resources these past 6 months.

Theme / Scheme:	3 - Advice and Information
Priorities:	This theme has a single priority, Social Welfare Advice and Information.
Outcomes:	<p>Reduce poverty across the spectrum of social welfare advice and information activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased access to social welfare advice and income from benefits 2. Improved personal budgeting, financial stability and reduction in personal debt 3. Reduction in the number of people negatively impacted by welfare reforms and housing repossessions 4. Individuals are more informed about their legal rights 5. Individuals are more informed about their housing rights 6. Increased employment security 7. Increased access to immigration/asylum advice and casework 8. Increased engagement of older people with social welfare advice services <p>Capacity building and training within the sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved coordination and cooperation between advice providers 2. Increased integration of service both within the VCS advice sector and with services in other sectors 3. Increased number of local volunteers achieving a recognised advice training accreditation 4. Improved liaison and co-ordination with public sector agencies 5. Improved access to information for providers

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1-8	Number of clients assisted	73,500	29,469	11,500	9,641	
1-8	Number of New Matter Starts (NMS)	122,500	53,925	17,500	17,346	
3	New matter starts successful by challenging decisions	52,493	22,900	7,499	7,793	
3	Clients supported to increase / maximise incomes	12,950	6,915	1,850	2,143	
	Income increased and / or backdated	£80.5m	£30.1m	£11.5m	£12.3m	

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
East End Citizens Advice Bureaux / Advice Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£3,234,357	Advice Tower Hamlets provides free, confidential, independent, quality-assured advice services to help Tower Hamlets residents resolve the problems they face, including welfare benefits, housing, money/debt, employment, immigration, consumer, education, community care, family, personal issues. This service is led by Citizens Advice Tower Hamlets, in partnership with twelve local advice agencies.	<p>LCF partners suspended face to face services and transitioned to telephone and online support following government guidelines and this continues although some agencies are now reverting back to some face to face advice.</p> <p>This has affected numbers due to the halt of drop in services and a decreased service due to many of our service users, largely from the BAME community possessing digital and language, as well other multiple barriers affecting their ability to engage in all our services.</p> <p>This report reflects the impact of the pandemic situation as well as the start to a new year We have seen a change in case matters affecting individuals, such as facing employment issues resulting in sudden losses of income, thus resulting in a surge of UC claims, need of food bank support and other financial support and this continues into 2021.</p> <p>Our advice services continue, and clients booked and contacted via telephone and SMS and supported. This includes help with forms where clients are unable to read and write any issues, they may have with UC verification and inability to log into their UC accounts, advice to the self-employed. We continue to promote community cohesion through partnership working which helps improve understanding for clients.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project is continuing to provide phone and on-line support. The KPIs will have been affected due to stop in drop-in services. The Project is still providing support and working with clients to resolve issues.</p>
Island Advice Centre / Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£175,000	The project improves capacity, training, quality and access to the borough’s advice services. We will develop coordination and cooperation between advice and other sectors providing recruitment and	<p>The project has developed from recruiting volunteers to increasing training services and information, this was due to lack of suitable volunteering work placements caused by office closures during Covid.</p> <p>Training sessions delivered digitally: Learning to Advise, a nationally recognised certificate, open to both voluntary and paid advisors in Tower Hamlets – there are 18 participants on this Advice work training workshops. One off, advice related</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has developed from recruiting volunteers to increasing training services and information. Sessions</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
			<p>training for volunteers, facilitation of the THCAN network, updated website of advice provision and information / factsheets, coordination of meetings, delivering formal training.</p>	<p>workshops. Open to all sector workers: social prescribers, mental health and other support workers, housing providers, tackling poverty, etc. NVQ workshops. We offer NVQ Level 3 and 4 in Advice and Guidance.</p> <p>Networking activities 5/2/2021 meeting, plus sub meetings on referral system. The partnership has been busy setting up a digital referral system, in very early stages but currently 4 organisations are part of it: IAC, BBBC, FF, LBTH with another 4 due to join within the next quarter. The long-term aim being for a centralised referral system for both advice, non-advice agencies (and clients) to use.</p>	<p>have been delivered digitally via Zoom</p>

Theme / Scheme:	4 – Employment and Skills 4A - Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work
Priorities:	1. Promoting ethical employer practices to focus on improving employment and progression opportunities for people with additional needs, with an emphasis for employers on sustaining or improving business productivity.
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More disabled people and people with mental health issues access work experience placements and employment opportunities 2. Disabled employees feel more comfortable and better supported in sustainable roles in the workplace 3. Disabled people have access to meaningful, relevant training and skills development 4. Tower Hamlets employers are more inclusive and employ more disabled people and people with mental health issues and are more aware of how to support them.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
REAL DPO / Then and Now	01/04/2020 31/03/2023	£405,729	A holistic package of services, underpinned by coproduction, to support Tower Hamlets companies develop the confidence and capacity to be excellent employers of disabled people, and increase levels of employment amongst them. The project creates communities of current and potential workers, and employers, to drive positive change.	<p>The ‘THEN and NOW’ Inclusive Employment Project has built on the extensive planning and promotional work already undertaken and has begun to deliver on the aims, outcomes and services as stated in the project funding agreement. We have now held two training events in collaboration with Evenbreak for local employers with a third scheduled for April 2021.</p> <p>We have also held another NOW Coproduction session in this quarter and have the next session booked in for April 2021. The session focused on reviewing the guides that are to be provided to all THEN members and ensuring the groups ideas and issues are incorporated into these. This has taken some time as there are strong and sometimes conflicting feelings from the group members about what should be included but engagement from members has been strong. We hope to have the first three guides finalised following the next NOW group session and ready to go out to THEN members soon after.</p>	<p>AMBER</p> <p>The project manager is leaving, and a replacement needs to be appointed. LBTH Officer will work with organisation to ensure project achieves lifetime targets</p>

Scheme:	4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups 2. Employment and volunteering opportunities for older people 3. Employment skills for vulnerable young people and those who are NEET 4. Employment and skills for young people at risk of achieving poor outcomes
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young people have increased life skills, employability skills, communication /presentation and interview skills and confidence, and have access to mentoring, work experience and internships 2. Older people gain life skills and secure employment and/or voluntary roles 3. Potential entrepreneurs/business founders have access to independent support and advice and increased knowledge of business and financial planning 4. Increased opportunities for women who are far from the labour market or on a low salary to develop their confidence, soft skills, and work ready skills to access employment or start their own business.

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Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1 - 4	The number of people who are NEETs and/or from workless households) access employment support at SocietyLinks’ job club every year to assist their employment prospects.	350	140	50	47	Indicator from the SocietyLinks Job Club
1	Number of young people engaged on a consistent voluntary basis, minimum of one face to face intervention per a week	157	48	22	13	Indicator from St Giles Choices project
4	Women self-report an improvement in personal and/or professional skill	60	70	9	25	Indicator from Limehouse Project Developing Potential project

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / Developing Potential	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£176,033	Developing Potential is an integrated programme of personal skills development designed to enable women to make informed choices on their futures, supporting them into training, volunteering and work. This project will link with the existing provision and act as a progression route forwards new opportunities for women in Tower Hamlets	Have continued adapting to remote delivery and working alongside delivery partners. Following Covid-19 government guidelines, remote participation has taken place (with priority face to face or extra support sessions for those struggling with digital inclusion set in line with Tier guidance). Continue with regular 6-month cohorts of Childcare, TA and other functional skills level 1 and 2 courses and further non and accredited programmes internally and sourced externally. These include identified need such as Health and well-being, Paediatric first aid, health and safety, Business admin, IT, along with planned innovative sessions around employability, mental health and well-being to provide well rounded support for beneficiaries' development and enable progression.	GREEN The project held a join event around DP with THH, Account 3 and WIT for International Women day, showcasing their courses and a DP participant shared her journey to becoming qualified and employed. The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.
SocietyLinks Tower / Job Club	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£53,536	This project will deliver two weekly job club sessions Mondays and Wednesdays 9-12 pm run by our experienced employment support worker. The sessions will include access to computers and tailored employment support with creating a CV, accessing emails, job searching, applications and using Universal Job Match.	We have continued to support service users online via email and telephone conversations. Many individuals who have come forth for employment support are young adults 19-25 years old who are either at university and have reduced learning and interactive hours and therefore are able to have time for part-time employment or those who have left education and are currently in between courses, training or employment. Other young people have expressed an interest in securing summer work for themselves once they have finished school and college.	GREEN Vacancies are currently very scarce still especially in the retail sector where young people usually are successful with applications however the project have seen an increase in vacancies and opportunities in the construction field and have encouraged individuals to pursue this if they are suitable and interested. The project has also been able to refer them to a training company that offers courses to receive qualifications to enable them to kickstart a career in construction. The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.
St Giles Trust	01/10/2019	£198,800	We will support NEET Young	We have continued to offer support during the	GREEN

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
/ Choices Tower Hamlets	31/03/2023		people who are facing multiple disadvantages to access education, skills development and employment. The project will deliver credible, consistent and holistic work via individualised one-to-one support, supporting the young person to address and overcome barriers to raise their aspirations and towards reaching their potential.	latest COVID lockdown, this has been predominately remote support with the option of COVID secure face to face for any emergencies. We engaged 9 new clients in Jan-Mar with referrals coming from Look Ahead Housing, Safe East and Probation. With employment opportunities being very limited at present for the client group due to the lockdown, we have focused on supporting the clients to increase their long-term employment prospects by progression into training opportunities. We had 6 young people who moved into training this quarter. This included Introduction to Childcare course, Functional skills Maths, SIA security training and a Nandos Customer Service programme.	With the introduction of the Kickstart Scheme, St Giles is acting as a national Kickstart employer and they have been able to recruit a Trainee Caseworker who will support the delivery of this project alongside their experienced caseworker. These Kickstart roles are in keeping with their general ethos of giving those with lived experience the opportunity to give the benefit of their experiences, having a young person who has had similar experiences, or can relate to their client group, will be good for the project. The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.
Stifford Centre Limited / BAME Women's Employment Support Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£106,323	This project will run a training programme to help long-term unemployed and economically inactive, isolated and disenfranchised BAME women and improve their job prospects. The focus is on carers and single parents of Bengali, Somali and BAME heritage with limited English language, confidence and secondary education for community learning.	Have delivered ESOL classes through Zoom. Participants are slowly becoming familiar with the digital platform. Their family members are helping them to join sessions. Our ESOL and Health & Social is continuing. Are delivering sessions with the smaller group of participants. Some employability sessions i.e. mock interview, CV preparations have delivered one-to-one through WhatsApp. Jan-Mar - have delivered business start-up training. Steering group meeting also carried out in this quarter. All participants thoroughly enjoyed the sessions. This again boosted their confidence, networking and social skills and general awareness and understanding encouraging integration.	GREEN Re: Steering Group meetings – An outcome in particular that was positive is many of participants that have enrolled onto the project have built up their confidence since first joining. The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.

Scheme:	4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
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Priorities:	1. Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Outcomes:	1. Increased opportunities in the arts and cultural industries for BAME people, women, disabled people, working class people, older people; 2. Increased access to industry relevant training; 3. Increase in people participating in arts projects for the first time

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1	Numbers of BAME and working-class young people attending portfolio review and mentoring workshops per annum, portfolio review and mentoring in Tower Hamlets schools focussing on HE progression for young people in particular BAME	630	114	90	22	Indicator from Auto Italia South East Learning Live! project

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Auto Italia South East / Learning Live!	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£38,500	Learning Live! is a training and mentoring programme designed to support young people in Tower Hamlets progression into higher education courses, with the aim to aim to increase access into the art and cultural industries.	We continued delivery of Strand 1 activities as online workshops in response to the ongoing legal restrictions in place for Covid-19. In Qtr4 Jan-Mar we delivered 6 online after school workshops for 22 participants. Participants in Qtr4 workshops collaborated to produce Issue 2 of 'Vaccine' a collaborative online magazine project that we have been producing with service users over the past year.	GREEN Strand 1 - Creative Technologies - They achieved their highest workshop attendance rate to date at 26 participants Strand 3 - Creative Futures have adapted activity to become 121 extracurricular workshops offered within Strand 1 online workshop activity. The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.
Four Corners Ltd / ZOOM	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£284,806	ZOOM Film School will work with 90 disadvantaged	In October the ZOOM project focused on recruitment, reaching out to local community organisations with direct flyer and poster drops at	GREEN The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Film School			residents particularly BAME communities, women and people with disabilities to nurture their creative talent, increase confidence and self-esteem, and enable them to acquire the practical skills, experience, and industry knowledge needed to move into work in the creative industries.	<p>numerous locations along the Roman Road and various community venues such as the Brady centre and Rich mix.</p> <p>In Jan we interviewed and recruited our new ZOOM cohort. We received 51 applications, interviewed 25 people and recruited 18 trainees. We recruited two more trainees than our target of 16 in an aim to both pick up numbers from last year and cover ourselves for potential dropouts this year. 8 trainees started and 6 are continuing. Two trainees dropped out of the FEB cohort by the end of March 2021. One due to long-term illness and the other due to gaining employment in the camera department on a film shoot.</p>	
Magic Me / Artworks	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£96,587	<p>Artworks is a new traineeship delivered by arts charity Magic Me, identifying and supporting talented Tower Hamlets Residents from BAME and working-class backgrounds to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to access careers in community arts coordination and producing.</p>	<p>Our trainee was able to work for her full 3 days again from October, following a period of part time furlough in September</p> <p>She has made huge progress in terms of her communication and ability to work unsupervised, which has made it possible for her to continue her placement with us until her contract finishes in January, despite long periods where we are all having to work from home.</p> <p>The first trainee completed her traineeship in January 2021.</p> <p>Magic Me supported the first trainee to find and meet virtually with a mentor from January - March to support her transition out of the placement, to clarify her goals for a career. She received support from Magic Me staff at the end of her placement who supported her set up a LinkedIn online profile and CV writing.</p> <p>The first trainee confirmed she had secured a job</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
				as a Junior Content Producer for a marketing agency in March 2021.	
The Bromley by Bow Centre / Creative Communities	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£202,237	Our project will equip at least 180 people from under-represented communities to increase their participation and readiness for employment in the creative sector. We will do this through a flexible community-based programme of engagement, needs assessment, practical group work and 1:1s, combining personal and core skills development, with individual support.	<p>Our fortnightly webinars have driven the participation intake and interest of participants; this has increased interest 372 Followers in Instagram https://www.instagram.com/bbbccreativefutures/ Average ages of followers 32% are between 25 – 34 and our 35 - 44-year-olds equate to 29%, interestingly 52% women 48% men. The activity of people’s access/usage to our pages tends to be consistent from 9 am – 6 pm and then drops off, the account receives the most activity on Fridays.</p> <p>We have gained approval to deliver arts-based qualifications and we have an occupationally qualified tutor on-board that works for East London Printworks, we are looking at how we can offer the qualification online during this current lockdown and therefore people will have more than employability skills achieved.</p>	<p>GREEN Jan-Mar the project struggled to achieve quarterly targets due to rise in Covid cases and children and young people being at home due to lockdown 3. Participants faced added pressure with internet access, the sharing of devices, and trying to find a space in the home where they could concentrate on taking part in the programme without interruption.</p> <p>Despite challenges this quarter, the project has recruited 12 new people and have increased developmental time on the project which has enabled them to provide a package of arts / employability activities from April - September. They are currently using the centre’s outreach and engagement team to recruit participants.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.</p>

Theme / Scheme:	5 – Community Safety 5A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups
Priorities:	1. Reduction in the exploitation of children and young people, and vulnerable groups
Outcomes:	1. Children, young people and other vulnerable people: a) Have increased confidence and critical thinking skills; b) Have an increased understanding of what a safe relationship is, what exploitation is, and how to spot the signs of abuse and exploitation; c) Have an emotional and actual vocabulary to articulate what is happening to them; d) Are better able to challenge and support each other around relationships.

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
1	Young people report an increase in their self-confidence to be able move away from harmful situation and unsafe relationships.	75	38	12	24	Indicator from Young Influencers project

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Kazzum Arts / Build	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£63,552	Build will support young people excluded from mainstream education, currently educated at a pupil referral unit (PRU) in Tower Hamlets. Students in this setting are at risk of exploitation and coercion into criminal activity. Through a programme of creative activities our project will develop confidence, emotional literacy and interpersonal skills.	Kazzum Arts continued creating and sharing resources for students to utilise at home as unable to work in the PRU since January. They developed resources to use in the PRU, other schools and wider provision. Their new resources on Young People’s human rights are being used within citizenship lessons across 10, year 11 classes. In terms of their KPI to support workers they released the 4th part of their ‘Animating Adversity’ Series Supporting professionals impacted by Trauma - This animation explores the impact of traumatic stress	COVID/AMBER Kazzam has met the green category by continuing to provide resources for the PRU and participants, as well as planned work with school staff. However, Covid restrictions in schools, including school bubbles, caused less flexibility for outside providers to work in schools or small groups with pupils from

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>upon professionals who are working alongside children, young people and communities facing adversity.</p> <p>Kazzum were awarded the 2021 CHWA ‘Practicing Well Award’, which recognises their continued efforts to support professional development.</p>	<p>multiple bubbles meeting to access services online. This has resulted in the project not being able to deliver all planned activities.</p>
Osmani Trust / Schools and Community Resilience Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£125,843	<p>This proposal seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. transform and change the attitudes and behaviour of secondary school children; improving their confidence, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence. 2. deliver a peer programme engaging young people as ambassadors to their peers, changes attitude, promotes understanding, increase community cohesion and ultimately empowers young people. 	<p>Work has continued to evolve and revolve in line with covid restrictions. This includes responding to the needs of young people going back into schools after a long period.</p> <p>Osmani concluded their Community Resilience Programme with last peer group as they completed their ASDAN certificate in Sports. 10 new young people were engaged on the project Jan-Mar. This group, from the Bethnal Green/ Globe Town area, were referred by parents that learnt how the project works with peer groups to resolve youth conflict in the community.</p> <p>For the Schools work, they started with working with new cohorts in March after pupils started returning to school again. They current schools they work with are Stepney Green, Morpeth and London Enterprise Academy.</p>	<p>COVID/AMBER</p> <p>Osmani has mainly concentrated on the Community Resilience Programme element of this award. They have also responded to emerging need as a direct consequence of Covid as well maintain contact with current participants from schools.</p> <p>However, Covid restrictions in schools, including school bubbles, resulted in less flexibility for outside providers to work in schools or for small group work to provided activities online. This has resulted in the project not being able to deliver some planned activities.</p>
Streets of Growth / Resilient Young Leaders Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£90,356	<p>The Resilient Young Leaders Programme is an innovative, impactful initiative led by and for young people (15-19 years) to enable young people to build skills and capacity to feel safe, confident, and responsible when demonstrating the</p>	<p>The Young Leaders programme has been renamed by the young people as the Young Influencers</p> <p>Over this period 10 new young people have engaged though targeted street work in identified estates, and referrals from social services, edge of care team and Young Carers programme. This results in a total of 23 young people remaining engaged.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Streets of Growth has worked to continue delivery online and young people remain engaged with the project, resulting in movement to outcomes. The organisation has also brought about significant impact in saving</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
			community safety and positive change they want to see in their neighbourhoods.	<p>Outcome monitoring undertaken with 13 young people at this point of monitoring shows increased confidence. Within the bigger group of 23 young people 18 have made significant progression in moving out of harmful and unsafe situations and relationships.</p> <p>A Youth Police Experience Survey is being rolled out to young people from the beginning of January over a three-month period. The aim of this survey is to give young people a voice when it comes to the policing of their community. The results of this survey will be shared with key partners to raise young people’s voices.</p>	some participants from dangerous situations.

Scheme:	B – Improving the perception of young people in the community
Priorities:	1. Improving the perception of young people in the community
Outcomes:	1. Children and young people are, and are seen to be, a positive part of the community 2. Increased community cohesion and sense of belonging 3. Residents, especially older people, people feel less wary of children and young people

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
3	Younger and Older People work together in project activities	970	136	185	108	

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / Into Focus photography project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£58,044	Into Focus offers an intergenerational photography project for 24 people each year (12 young people aged 14-25 years and 12 over-50s). Groups will create work for a final exhibition, focusing on social perceptions and misconceptions between older and younger people to promote positive attitudes and increasing mutual understanding.	The first projects public photo exhibition was codesigned, opened and accessed within covid restrictions. Recruitment started for an adapted project 2. Funding was achieved for equipment to enable adapted project is in place. However, recruitment did not achieve the target numbers and an intensive outreach programme was put in place. The second project started on Wednesday 28 April with 8 participants, plus 3 more joining in week 2.	COVID/AMBER Due to Covid restrictions this project has been unable to deliver planned activities in this period. However, the organisation has developed an action plan, approved by officers, demonstrating admirable project management to ensure they achieve project outcomes over the lifetime of the funding. They will do this by providing 3 concurrent projects between April - June, June - August and August - Oct with exhibitions in July/August and Oct/Nov 2021.
Leaders in Community / Project Connect	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£68,391	A group of young people recruited by LiC will collaborate with older people to design a programme of activities and celebrations, which enable long-term social connections to be	During this period, the Mind the Gap steering group coordinated the distribution of over 30 electronic tablets (Kindle Fire devices) to local elderly Tower Hamlets residents, predominantly from the Poplar area. In addition to this, LiC ran a successful 'Cook and	COVID/AMBER Due to Covid restrictions on engaged elders this project has been unable to deliver planned activities. However new activities have been put in place and agreed with officers

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
			<p>made, and ideas and points of view to be exchanged. The outcomes of the activities will be shared with the wider community.</p>	<p>Create' event, utilising the IT equipment. The young people provided free, healthy shopping items for older LBTH residents. As part of the event, residents were shown examples of the kinds of dishes they could make with the ingredients provided and given recipes to help and encourage them to make at home.</p> <p>The project has been well recognised, and the younger people are proud of their achievements.</p>	<p>to ensure that will achieve funded outcomes. This has resulted in older people being supported, engaged, and developing relationships with the younger people.</p>

Scheme:	C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances
Priorities:	1. Services for people affected by domestic violence
Outcomes:	1. More residents, particularly families and young people, are aware of the different forms that domestic violence and sexual abuse (DVSA) can take, know how to report it, and where to access support. 2. Young victims and witnesses of DVSA are supported to recognise and report it.

Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Target	Oct 20 – Mar 21 Actual	Notes
2	Children improve levels of self-confidence having gone through the project	175	79	28	28	
1	Adults will directly be introduced to the Bright Sky DVSA app during the awareness raising campaigns Partner organisations will promote the app to their service users and our staff will make additional visits to promote the app	525	106	80	32	Participants of events informs this KPI. So, this low number does not reflect current work being undertaken to accommodate Covid restrictions.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 20 – Mar 21	RAG Rating / Comments
Hestia Housing and Support / Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£80,850	This project will support families who have experienced DVSA and who are living in a local refuge to address the trauma they've faced and to learn about what a healthy relationship looks like. It will also raise awareness amongst the Tower Hamlets community of DVSA and how to report it.	The Project Worker has delivered Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DVSA) sessions within the refuge. Measured outcomes demonstrate movements in line with KPIs. Feedback from children's sessions demonstrates understanding by parents has grown resulting in healthier family relationships. Awareness raising focused on safe reporting in local pharmacies and access to DV advice on work based and community websites. Work has begun on reintroducing the events by working with relevant local VCS groups.	GREEN Continued to deliver programme in refuge resulting in movements towards measured outcomes. Secondary benefits identified - women gaining confidence to discuss issues and increased understanding of children's issue. Changes in the awareness programme were approved to enable funded outcomes whilst respond to Covid DV issues.

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Agenda Item 7.3

Grants Determination Cabinet Sub-Committee 23 rd June 2021	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Sharon Godman, Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance	Classification: Unrestricted
VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority and Equalities contract provision transition fund	

Lead Member	John Biggs, the Mayor Councillor Candida Ronald, Cabinet Member for Resources
Originating Officer(s)	Awo Ahmed, Programme Assessment & Monitoring Officer Emily Fieran-Reed, Senior Strategy and Policy Manager Robert Mee, Programme Assessment and Review Officer
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Forward Plan Notice Published	
Reason for Key Decision	
Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome	All

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on funding awarded to voluntary and community sector organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Draft Recommendations:

The Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the update on funding awarded to voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since their last meeting.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 There are a number of funding programmes to support voluntary and community sector organisations in the borough where decisions are made under delegated authority either by officers and, in the case of the Small Grants Programme, with the assistance of the East End Community Foundation. These decisions are presented to the Sub-Committee for noting.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The council could decide not to provide funding to VCS organisations through its various programmes. However, to do this would be contrary to the agreed policy to support the VCS in the borough set out in the VCS Strategy.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

Small Grants Programme

- 3.1 The Small Grants Programme was established to ensure that local people and community groups will continue to be able to get funding from the council to support community initiatives – people getting together to get things done. The programme is intended to make funds available to support grass roots activity in local communities that will help make life better in Tower Hamlets and achieve the changes set out in the Tower Hamlets Plan and the council's Strategic Plan. By establishing a single grants programme with different themes or activities to be funded, the council is trying to make sure local groups seeking funds will have a one stop shop to get to the funds best suited to their needs.
- 3.2 Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee there has been no further funding awarded from the Small Grants Programme.
- 3.3 The small grants programme has five themes that constitute the main programme and three that are focussed themes as detailed below.

Main themes

1. **Innovation** - to encourage innovation or pilot something new, especially where there is a gap.
2. **Prevention** - to promote grass roots activity to reduce the need for statutory services.
3. **Neighbourhood action** - to promote local neighbourhood initiatives
4. **Community cohesion** - to develop community resilience, promote cultural opportunities and reduce social isolation.
5. **Partnership working** - making the sector more effective through closer partnership working within the sector and across sectors.

Focussed Themes

6. **Community Support Services for Older People** – to combat social isolation of older people through the provision of community-based support services.
7. **Access and Participation** – establishing access and participation schemes to provide referral gateways for people from BAME communities.
8. **Loneliness** - Reducing the impact of loneliness and isolation.

3.4 Since the start of the pandemic, EECF have been liaising closely with all previously funded programmes and requesting Covid contingency plans detailing how they have re-purposed their small grants award since the pandemic. All contingency plans are sent to officers in Corporate Strategy and Policy for sign off. Further due diligence work is carried out by EECF with organisations that have re-configured delivery in light of Covid ensuring risk assessments and social distancing policies are applied. Approved contingency plans are set out in in **Appendix A**.

3.5 Round one of the small grant's awards closed for applications on the 10th May 2021 and applications are currently being assessed. Successful organisations will be informed w/c 19th July 2021.

3.6 Total budget available and expenditure across all the themes to date is set out below.

Small Grants Financial Summary						
Theme	2019/20 budget £,000s	2019/20 expenditure £,000s	2020/21 budget £,000s	2020/21 expenditure £,000s	2021/22 budget £,000s	2020/21 expenditure £,000s
Innovation Prevention Neighbourhood action Community Cohesion Partnership working	90	90	180	57	180	120
Community Support Services for Older People	0	0	100	100	100	100

Access and Participation	0	0	50	15	50	25
Loneliness	0	0	50	27	0	0
Totals	90	90	380	199	330	245

Innovation Fund

- 3.7 The council is keen to encourage and support innovation in the sector and acknowledged that this would require some funding to enable the sector to pilot new initiatives and approaches to service delivery and support.
- 3.8 Details of pledges agreed by officers under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Innovation Fund is set out in **Appendix B**
- 3.9 The Innovation Fund supports VCS organisations to "test and learn" new ways of working, new initiatives and new delivery models that if successful could be scaled up and commissioned more formally.
- 3.10 At the Commissioners Decision Making Meeting on the 12th April 2016 the creation of the Innovation Fund was agreed.
- 3.11 The Council has an agreement with the crowdfunding portal, Spacehive, to support local VCS organisations crowdfund for projects and the Innovation Fund budget is £180,000. Total awards to date are £133,479.25 with a remaining balance of £46,520.75
- 3.12 VCS organisations that crowdfund through the Our Tower Hamlets page of the Spacehive portal will have an opportunity to pitch for up to £10,000 (or a maximum of 50 per cent of an organisations crowdfunding target) in match funding for their projects.
- 3.13 Further details can be found on [SpaceHive Tower Hamlets](#) and the [Innovation Fund](#) pages with more information available in the [factsheet](#).

Contingency Fund

- 3.14 The Contingency Fund was set up by the Sub-Committee to extend the existing Emergency Fund from being purely a fund to support organisations facing 'life and limb' emergencies to a fund that may also support organisations facing the impact of a significant loss of council funding.
- 3.15 At the meeting held on 29 July 2020, Cabinet agreed to close the transition element of the Contingency Fund and extend the Fund further to include support for organisations affected by Covid 19. The Covid Community fund opened for applications on the 5th Nov 2020. For a limited period, Voluntary

and Community Sector (VCS) organisations in Tower Hamlets will be able to access funding and organisational support.

- 3.16 Awards are made from the Contingency Fund by the Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance in consultation with the Chair of this Sub-Committee. There have been no awards against this fund since the last Sub-Committee meeting.

Covid Community Fund

- 3.17 The Covid Community Fund Budget is £100k, to date three organisations have been awarded funding totalling £13,972. The remaining balance is £86,028.
- 3.18 Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee there has been no further funding awarded under delegated authority for the Covid Community Fund.

Emergency Funding

- 3.19 The Emergency Funding budget is £50,000 and the remaining balance is £43,153.00 There has been no funding awarded under delegated authority for Emergency Funding for this period.
- 3.20 Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee there has been no further funding awarded under delegated authority for Emergency Funding.

Community Benefit Rent Reduction

- 3.21 The Community Benefit Rent Reduction (CBRR) scheme was set up by the council to acknowledge the value of the work carried out by voluntary and community organisations leasing its premises through a reduction in the rent payable. The council charges an appropriate 'market' level rent for its premises and organisations can apply for up to 80% of this as a rent reduction
- 3.22 CBRR is only available for short leases of three to five years. To qualify, organisations need to meet a number of criteria relating to governance, management and quality standards. Full details of the scheme are set out on the council's website at [CBRR page](#).
- 3.23 Decisions are made by the Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee based on recommendations of an advisory panel which consists of the Head of Revenues (Chair), Head of Corporate Strategy and Policy and the Chief Executive of Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service.
- 3.24 CBRR awards that have been made by officers under delegated authority since the last Sub-Committee's meeting is detailed...

CBRR Financial Summary			
	Total rent payable pa	CBRR (80%) Grant per annum	Organisation contribution pa
Applications approved	£278,396	£207,037	£55,679
Leases completed and CBRR payable	£54,062	£45,051	£9,010

3.25 Community Benefit Rent Reduction has been approved to 11 Voluntary and Community Sector organisations and the funding is subject to the completion of their leases and an annual review. The following are four active CBRR cases with completed leases:

- Dorset Community Association
- Legal Advice Centre
- SPLASH
- Weavers Community Forum

3.26 Legal Advice Centre has been funded longer than a year. A successful annual monitoring review was carried out in conjunction with its LCF programme.

3.27 Black Women's Health & Family Support is now insolvent. The keys to its premises have been returned to the council. The lease was not completed.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 All grants awarded need to demonstrate how they meet they need of our diverse communities and support the council's Public Sector Equality Duty. Equalities data is collected as part of the monitoring process and this will be reported as part of the annual reporting process.

5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Best Value

Recent legislation, particularly the Localism Act 2010, has emphasised the role of communities working in partnership with local authorities to help achieve more effective and less costly services to local people. The process of co-production of services delivered by local voluntary and community organisations is a tool now widely recognised as a means to achieving this outcome.

5.2 Risk Management

There is a risk that, by not publishing details of funding awarded to VCS organisations, the council could leave itself open to challenge that it is not

fulfilling previous commitments to openness and transparency. This report is one of a series that will provide updates on funding decisions made under delegated authority and the VCS Annual Report will provide more detailed analysis.

5.3 Crime Reduction

There are no specific crime reduction considerations arising from this report.

5.4 Safeguarding

There are no specific safeguarding implications arising from this report. However, ensuring appropriate consideration is given to safeguarding will be addressed in the monitoring of the Small Grants Programme.

6. **COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

6.1 This is an update report and therefore there are no direct financial implications from the report.

7. **COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

NONE

Appendices

Appendix A Small Grants Contingency Plans

Appendix B Innovation Funding Award

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents

Appendix A - Small Grants Awards 2020/21

Small Grants Contingency Plans

LBTH Small Grants Fund - Contingency Plans				
Organisation	Round	Initial Project Plan	Theme	Proposed Changes
Spitalfields City Farm	Aug-20	<p>Proposed changes as approved by Tower Hamlets Council (Council approved but requested an update on the project in Feb 2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay the start date for delivery until March in hope for better weather to be outdoors • These weekly older generational sessions will be held outdoors, in our large farm gardens to allow for necessary social distancing, numbers will be limited to 10 per session. • Staff will wear PPE; more equipment will be purchased to allow for cleaning and rotation of tools. • We are researching how to allow for intergenerational gardening with social distancing. Currently we are proposing that these sessions will be delivered in school holidays, rather than evenly throughout the project and promoting sessions for grandparents and grandchildren, as a lot of these live together or have formed support bubbles. <p>Overall, our project remains the same but with a delay in start time and the intergenerational sessions held over school holidays not throughout the project. The limitations in numbers will be reviewed monthly with guidelines and changed accordingly.</p>	Community Cohesion	<p>Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the total beneficiary numbers will decrease from 200 to 100 beneficiaries to allow for safe social distancing. This will ultimately make the project better value for money, as the cost of the project will work out to be £50 per beneficiary. EECF has explored the possibility of increasing level of delivery with the organisation, but agree that reducing the beneficiary numbers will enrich the beneficiaries' experience. Updated request is to reduce the beneficiary numbers, and keep the project plan the same.</p>
Associates of Community Trust UK	Aug-20	<p>A 36-week programme of women only coffee mornings for older women from BAME backgrounds living in Bethnal Green and the surrounding areas. The project will aim to reduce the barriers that this group face when participating in the community and will include workshops on local history, people and culture. Sessions will last for 2 hours and will be participant led, refreshments will be provided and socialising will be encouraged. Most participants</p>	Community Cohesion	<p>The organisation would like to extend their end of project date until October 2021. Due to Covid-19, they have purchased food and necessary household items for their beneficiaries, and increased hours for the sessional worker. The total cost of the project remains the same.</p>

		will live in a similar area and activities will be designed to build friendships, increase self-esteem and enhance wellbeing.		
Un-Age	Aug-20	An intergenerational and entrepreneurial mentoring project that matches young people with food business ideas with older people that have skills and experience in the sector. The organisation will approach the council and it's established partners to recruit participants and arrange co-design sessions to ensure the programme best meets the needs of beneficiaries. Activities will then include finding a match, mentoring, business modelling, cooking, networking events and sessions with food start-ups and Un-Age alumni. From September to December sessions will be mostly taking place online and in the new year ideas will be tested in markets and fairs.	Innovation	Due to Covid-19 restrictions, and the ill-health of one of the project's lead mentors, the organisation has not been able to implement the project to date. The request is to adapt the project to implement a similar entrepreneurial mentoring project (minus the intergenerational aspect). Outreach is planned to begin ASAP, and the plan is that they'll run a first cohort that would impact 8 to 12 food start-ups finished on time in line with the end of project date (end of July 2021). This first cohort would then serve as a pilot and as a co-designing experience for the delivery of future cohorts.
Pe Lower Agents Coalition	May-20	To deliver the East End Canal Festival, celebrating 200 years of the Regent's Canal with workshops, presentations and open days in advance of the event. This will include an art exhibition inspired by the canal, boat trips, guided walks, stalls, children's activities, creative workshops and a floating cinema. The grant requested would cover project management, the costs of providing the boat trips and the production of a film by local filmmaker, gathering memories from Bangladeshi residents about living by water in Bangladesh to illustrate a history in common. This would then be screened at the event and used in the organisations work with schools and other local organisations.	Community Cohesion	Due to Covid-19, and difficulties finding a suitable venue in time, the organisation would like to postpone the 2021 Festival to 16 and 17 July 2022 when they have secured a new booking for the Art Pavilion.

<p>ALL 4 TEENS</p>	<p>May-20</p>	<p>The organisation is proposing to deliver a varied programme of sessions for 40 young BME people, aged 13-19, hosted at Granby Hall. Participants will be recruited through the organisations existing sport sessions, posters and links with other community groups. The project will run for 48 weeks and sessions will take place every Tuesday evening for two hours. Each week the participants will alternate between boys and girls and two qualified volunteer youth workers will support the delivery. The project plan includes the following for each group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 cooking and nutrition sessions • 6 life skills sessions on subjects such as budgeting and planning for the future • 3 workshops delivered by inspirational role models such as the Young Mayor of Tower Hamlets • 3 sessions on community issues such as drug and alcohol awareness and gang culture 	<p>Prevention</p>	<p>Due to Covid-19 and ill health of a lead staff member, the organisation has been unable to deliver the project. Requesting an extension of the project start date to July 2021, and monitoring report due date extended until March 2022.</p>
<p>Shahnaz Rifat</p>	<p>May-20</p>	<p>Funding to deliver a programme of support for 20 expectant and new mothers. The project will provide a safe space for mothers to share their thoughts and feelings and sessions will take place on a fortnightly basis. The activities will alternate between a talking group at which participants will discuss stress management and overcoming isolation and a walking group which will encourage physical activity and healthy behaviours. The group will meet at John Smith Children’s Centre and walks will take place at local parks. Mindful Mums aims to create intentional spaces of safety (both physical and psychological) for expectant and new mothers, to belong, to feel listened to, and valued. Talking group (once a month, 2 hours a session, alternating with walking group), and Walking group (once a month, 2 hour per session, alternating with talking group).</p>	<p>Loneliness</p>	<p>Shahnaz in partnership with Social Action for Health would like to adapt the delivery plan to deliver a Pilates class for expectant mothers and new mothers and birth support meetings. They will deliver these activities in a face-to-face setting in a hall starting in May (after Eid). The funding would be applied to pay for a Pilates tutor and venue hire. 1 x 1 hour antenatal and post-natal pilates class each week – Tuition@ £30 per hour = £30 x 26 weeks = £780. Venue hire - pilates – assuming we will be able to meet in person – 1.5 hours @£25 per hour x 16 weeks = £600. Total = £1,380. Project would support 20 beneficiaries (same as original proposal). Grant award is £1,000 and other costs will be covered by Social Action for Health</p>

Woodwork for Wellbeing	Aug-20	A year-long programme of weekly woodwork for wellbeing sessions for 10 participants at a time. Sessions will last for 2.5 hours and attendees will be encouraged to get to know one another and begin with simple projects that introduce techniques. Much of the sessions will be devoted to engaging with the people whilst working and offering tuition whilst providing respite from daily life. Participants will be referred to the programme through NHS services, particularly a specific local GP, and an established network of local organisations. The start date of this project was delayed - LBTH did not approve contingency plan due to Covid-19 restrictions in Jan/Feb 2021.	Prevention	The organisation would like to extend their end of project date until September 2021 and deliver the sessions - they would like to return to their original numbers (10 beneficiaries per session) - and will take all the necessary precautions regarding social distancing, and wearing face masks. If stricter regulations are in place, they will deliver the project in groups of up to six people. The end of grant report date will need to be extended to match this - recommending extending to September 2022.
Wadajiir Somali Community Centre	Mar-20	The organisation is applying for funding to continue delivering a lunch club for local Somali women aged 55 and over. Sessions will take place between 10am and 2pm Monday to Thursday and will be held at Teviot Community Hall. Approximately 20 women are expected to attend the club on a daily basis and each attendee will contribute £2 towards the cost of a meal. Sessions will also provide a chance to socialise, gain access to support services, learn healthy recipes and take part in traditional Somali dance classes, run by volunteers. Additionally, on Wednesdays and Thursdays an advice worker, already employed at the centre, will be present to give advice on issues such as benefits, rent and utilities. The club already has an existing member base and it is expected that new members will join the group through word of mouth and referrals from the organisation's other services. The project was originally due to finish in mid-April 2021.	Older People	The organisation has asked for the monitoring report due date to be extended to end of July 2021 . The delay in reporting on the project is due to staff sickness (Covid-19).
Wadajiir Somali Community Centre	May-20	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a programme of activities for 30 young Somali women aged 11 to 19. Drop-in sessions will take place for three hours on Saturday and Sunday afternoons at Teviot Community Hall and will provide the opportunity to socialise in a culturally appropriate environment. Activities will include arts and crafts, healthy eating sessions,	Loneliness	Final monitoring report due date to be extended to end of September 2021 . The delay in reporting on the project is due to staff sickness (Covid-19).

		higher education workshops and intergenerational Somali dancing. The Project was originally due to finish in June 2021.		
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Appendix B – Innovation Funding

No.	Organisation / Project	Total crowdfunding target	Recommended pledge	Reason for Recommendation
1.	<p>Fitzrovia Noir Community Interest Company Making Space in Poplar</p>	£35,968	£10,000	<p>Fitzrovia Noir CIC was incorporated in 2011, set up in partnership by Lucy Williams and Garry Hunter (Project Delivery Manager of Making Space in Polar)</p> <p>The pitch This project is a response to the Pandemic and they want to get people of their phones and devices and to take part in outdoor covid secure safe activities, working with the Royal College of Art & Crafts Council they will be training people in glass making. The organisation has been operating in the borough over ten years and they have conducted research on the demographics of the local community and would like to bring different communities together in glass making activities, volunteering and training – in a purposely built covid secure premises.</p> <p>Fitzrovia Noir acknowledge that most of the beneficiaries live in flats with no outdoor space, by encouraging residents to put down their devices that have become part of everyone’s lives in the last year and to come out and partake in outdoor activities.</p> <p>Delivery;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A large collaborative glass chandelier for the community to enjoy • New, Covid-secured outdoor and indoor Making Spaces • Opportunities to acquire new design and making skills <p>Steps to get it done;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collating raw/recyclable materials while promoting upcycling ideas • Demonstrating glassblowing, to recruit participants • Conducting fused glass workshops in safely distanced groups, indoors • Firing of elements, involving participants in assembly and lighting • Open invitation launch events for participants, their families and any interested parties • Expanding usable outdoor areas through a design and build project with young people • Securing work experience, apprenticeships and employment for young people with local developers • Securing more 'meanwhile spaces' locally to encourage more creative practice in the neighbourhood <p>Project Outcomes;</p>

- Creative making will facilitate cultural understanding and social cohesion across a very wide demographic.
- Giving people 'a place to be' to share their thoughts and issues, with applied arts and culinary practice offering opportunities to learn new skills.
- Most local residents have no personal outside space, so by creating a multi-use outdoor Making Space we can encourage wellbeing through physical activities including glassmaking and ceramics.
- The construction of an upcycled 'chandelier' will involve people of all ages, guided by professional glassmakers.

Project Page information – 05th May @ 11.52pm

Total amount – £35,968

Pledged to date – £23,183

Campaign deadline – 11th May 2021.

Number of backers – 98

Using the IF assessment criteria the organisation scored 89% - with this score the organisation is eligible for 50% of total target, this equates to £10,000.

Documents Attached

- Fitrovia Noir CIC Governance In the Light Of Covid 19 2020-2023
- Safeguarding Policy 2020-2023 (health and safety in the penultimate paragraph of page 2)

Experience of Glass Blowing/Making

Trained in the early 90's experienced Glass Makers Tom Chadwin curator of the Glass Biennale and a Board Member of The Crafts Council will be facilitating the sessions. This will be project managed by experienced tutor Doralba Picerno of Picture Utopia CIC, who has led creative learning at Tower Hamlets College and Barking College.

Additional Health & Safety Provisions

Health and Safety is at the absolute core of what we do, tuition in glass making and blowing (when safe to do so) is one-to-one and we cordon off the furnace/fuel well away from participants, who are carefully guided by makers to ensure everyone's safety. Audience members are kept well away behind a barrier and all equipment is fully tested the day before.

Additional Info provided by the project delivery manager – 5th May 2021

I'm now working with Caroline Murray who joined Poplar HARCA's Accents team in March, to involve youth groups from Spotlight at Langdon Park and have just been in

touch with both Jill at New City College and Tom at Volunteer-It-Yourself, who we first worked with eighteen months ago, their quotes copied in below - this is for a feature on the new Poplar London blog.

Conditions of offer

Fitzrovia Noir to obtain written consent from Landlords that they support the project and consent to the renovations

% Received	Amount to be pledged
76% - 100%	Recommended for funding – 50% of total target up to a maximum of £10,000

Using the innovation fund criteria above the organisation is recommended to be awarded £10,000 of the Innovation Funding providing the conditions above are met.





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TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL SMALL GRANTS FUND



2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT



TOWER HAMLETS

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INTRODUCTION

The Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund launched in 2019 to support grassroots community and voluntary sector organisations across the borough to address issues facing local residents. The Small Grants Fund was established as part of the Council's VCS Strategy 2019-23 which sets out the unique strengths of the VCS and the need to continue to support, empower and build the future capacity of the VCS for the sector to be able to continue to respond to complex issues spanning a range of areas including welfare, unemployment and housing.

The principle objective in developing the grants programme was to harness the distinctive characteristics of grants to promote sustainable and resilient communities and help enable the VCS to continue to make its unique contribution towards achieving positive outcomes for the community.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the world, the lives of local people and on the charitable organisations who support them. The National Emergencies Trust (NET) reported that seven million people expected to seek charity help in 2020 due to the pandemic, nearly two thirds for the first time ever.

With one in six people living in the UK having sought charitable support as a direct result of the pandemic, it's clear that local organisations with a deep understanding of the needs of local people are playing an essential role in navigating the affects of the coronavirus. The pandemic has had a significant effect on the delivery of funded activities through the Small Grants Fund, but we have seen groups adapt quickly to support those most in need.

This report reviews the Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund delivery in 2020-21.



Trapped in Zone One

GRANTS PROGRAMME

In 2019, Tower Hamlets Council engaged East End Community Foundation (EECF), a philanthropic advisor and experienced grant maker to manage and administer its Small Grants Fund over an 18-month period. Please see **Appendix A** for an overview of the grant management services provided by EECF.

In 2020-21 the Small Grants Fund was extended, and additional themes were added including Older People's Services, Access & Participation, Loneliness and later in the year; the Covid-19 Outreach and Engagement Fund. There were also some adaptations to the original themes of the Small Grants Fund, including an annual turnover limit of £250,000 across all themes. Each theme was developed by Tower Hamlets Council to achieve outcomes identified in the VCS strategy. Under each theme specific guidelines, criteria and outcomes were developed to maximise the potential outcomes for local residents.

The following themes were delivered this year:

Theme 1: Innovation

- Grants of up to £5,000 available to encourage innovation or pilot something new, especially where there is a gap in provision
- This theme focuses on start-up for seed projects that may be scaled up or provide a model which can be replicated
- Priority given to organisations with an annual turnover of less than £30,000 and to new organisations that have not previously been funded by the Council

Theme 2: Prevention

- Grants of up to £5,000 to promote grassroots activity to reduce the need for statutory services
- This theme has a particular focus on activities organised at a local level that address issues affecting residents and communities before they become serious problems
- Priority given to organisations with an annual turnover of less than £30,000 and to new organisations that have not previously been funded by the Council

Theme 3: Neighbourhood Action

- Grants of up to £5,000 to promote local neighbourhood initiatives
- This theme focuses on supporting local people to get together, get organised and get things done in their local neighbourhoods. This may be physical such as some sort of neighbourhood improvement or it may be to promote the interests of the local neighbourhood through a campaign on a specific issue of local concern or group to promote the interests of the local area.
- Priority given to organisations with an annual turnover of less than £30,000 and to new organisations that have not previously been funded by the Council

Theme 4: Community Cohesion

- Grants of up to £20,000 to develop community resilience, promote cultural opportunities and reduce social isolation
- This theme provides funding for projects and activities that will help make Tower Hamlets a place where people feel they belong, where diversity and difference is appreciated, where there are strong relationships between people and those from different backgrounds have similar opportunities
- £5,000 of the budget is ringfenced for Street Party applications, with grants of £250 available to support activities to celebrate VE Day 75, The Big Lunch or the Jo Cox Great Get Together in 2020

Theme 5: Partnership

- Grants of up to £5,000 to make the sector more effective through closer partnership working within the sector and across sectors
- This theme provides funding for organisations to come together to form networks and partnership arrangements which will help give VCS organisations a stronger voice in borough wide discussions and bring organisations together where they share a common purpose

Older People's Services

- Grants of up to £15,000 to combat the social isolation of older people through the provision of community based support services
- This theme focuses on supporting community based services run by BAME led community groups to deliver activities that bring older people together and provide activities that will increase independence and wellbeing and reduce social isolation
- To be eligible organisations must show that at least 50% of their trustees/committee/board members are from BAME communities.
- Priority given to organisations with an annual turnover of less than £100,000

Access & Participation

- Grants of up to £5,000 to establish access and participation schemes to provide referral gateways for people from BAME communities
- The purpose of this theme is to support voluntary and community sector (VCS) groups which are trusted by their communities to provide referral, support and informal advocacy services, connecting residents to the services that might best meet their needs and provide wider intelligence on the needs of their community
- To be eligible organisations must show that at least 50% of their trustees/committee/board members are from BAME communities.
- Priority given to organisations with an annual turnover of less than £50,000

Loneliness

- Grants of up to £5,000 to reduce the impact of loneliness and isolation
- The purpose of this theme is to support voluntary and community sector (VCS) groups to reduce the impact of loneliness and social isolation on the residents of the borough
- This theme welcomes applications for up to £1,000 from small local organisations including informal or un-constituted groups of residents

Covid-19 Outreach & Engagement Fund

- Grants of up to £3,000 to improve the uptake of test and trace in the community
- This theme focuses on co-producing a culturally sensitive and responsive approach that enables our communities to proactively engage with Covid-19 messaging
- Priority communities for engagement are young people, carers, homeless people, new migrants, students, people experiencing domestic violence or people experiencing digital exclusion and/or digital poverty

BUDGET

Across all nine themes a total of £411,000 from Tower Hamlets Council was available for distribution. In addition to this, EECF managed the relationship with the Locality Community Benefit Fund, facilitating an additional £20,000 that was distributed to support applications.

	Brought Forward & Locality	2020-21 Budget	EECF Administration	Total Grant Awards	Closing Balance
Themes 1-5	16,000*	180,000	21,600	195,050	950
Older People's Services	-	100,000	12,000	100,000	-
Access & Participation	-	50,000	6,000	24,913	25,087
Loneliness	5,000	50,000	6,000	54,730	270
Covid-19 Fund	-	30,000	3,600	29,500	500
TOTAL	21,000	410,000	49,200	404,193	26,807

*The £1,000 brought forward balance was due to a 2019-20 cancelled grant award

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

The Small Grants Fund opened for applications in January 2020 and an open call for applications took place across social media, through the Council and EECF's websites and via Tower Hamlets CVS. The EECF Grants Team hosted three funding workshops, one prior to each deadline to promote the Small Grants Fund and share tips on applying for support.

Three application deadlines were held in March, June and September. The Covid-19 Fund launched in October 2020 and applications were accepted on a rolling basis. Across all these deadlines 183 applications were received requesting a total of £865,126. EECF completed an assessment of all applications, due diligence checks and presented recommendations to Tower Hamlets Council for review. Recommendations were considered by the EECF Grants Committee and awards were approved by the EECF Board of Trustees.

On successful completion of the 2020-21 Small Grants Fund at total of £404,193 was awarded across all themes to support 104 local projects. Please see **Appendix B** for a full list of funded projects.

	Number of Applications	Total Amount Requested	No of Grants Awarded	% Success Rate	Total Amount Awarded
Themes 1-5	109	457,937	66	60%	195,050
Older People's Services	11	160,900	8	72%	100,000
Access & Participation	10	51,913	5	50%	24,913
Loneliness	29	123,824	15	52%	54,730
Covid-19 Fund	24	70,552	10	42%	29,500
TOTAL	183	856,126	104	57%	404,193

"This grant enabled us to connect with the community and provide them with a mural which we hope will provide a sense of pride in participating and more importantly sharing the message that discrimination in all forms is not welcomed in Tower Hamlets. Our activities enabled those in Tower Hamlets to play a part in our project and be creative during a difficult for all, discussing Black History Month at an important time with the Black Lives Matter campaign and bringing a sense of togetherness amongst all."

Trapped in Zone One Community Cohesion Grant

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

- **183** applications were received across all themes, requesting a total of **£856,126**
- In comparison to the 2019-20 programme, there was a reduced demand but the Fund was still oversubscribed with **more than twice** the available budget requested
- **104** grants were awarded totalling **£404,193** invested into the local voluntary and community sector
- **57%** of applications received a grant in 2020. This is a significant improvement from the prior year, where only 16% of applications were successful
- Similar to the 2019 the **highest percentage of applications** was received under the **Community Cohesion** theme
- The **Partnership** and **Access & Participation** themes were **under-subscribed**, with Partnership receiving no applications and only 50% of the budget was allocated in 2020 to support Access & Participation projects
- **30%** of the organisations were new applicants and had not previously applied for support
- **50%** of the organisations that applied had not previously received a grant from Tower Hamlets Council
- **48%** of applications received were from registered charities
- **96%** of applications received were from organisations based in Tower Hamlets
- **64%** of applications received were from organisations with an annual turnover of less than £50,000 and **64%** of grants awarded went to organisations with an annual turnover of less than £50,000
- **66%** of funded projects submitted change requests due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. These included activity adaptations as well as updated delivery periods

Please see **Appendix C** for further analysis of the applications received.

"As a new organisation, we don't often get the opportunity to showcase some of the talents in our community. Many young people in the borough are not only talented musicians/songwriters but are also incredible actors. This project gave us the opportunity to showcase what our young people are capable of, and also showcased our strength as an organisation."

True Cadence CIC - Covid-19 Outreach & Engagement Fund Grant

COVID-19 IMPACT & ADAPTATIONS

When the first lockdown was announced in March 2020, EECF joined the London Funders statement to stand with the sector, and to recognise and respond to the impact of the pandemic on civil society groups. You can read about EECF's commitment to flexible funding [here](#).

In an effort to translate this to the Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund we implemented a number of adaptations to the administration of the Small Grants Fund including;

- All grantees were contacted via email confirming that the EECF Grants Team was available for support throughout the life of their grant award and a reminder to get in touch with any change requests
- The programme guidelines were adapted to include statements about supporting Covid-19 adaptations and activities related to meeting immediate needs
- The application forms were updated to include contingency plan questions and to understand how the pandemic was affecting local organisations
- The end of grant report templates were updated to include questions about the impact of Covid-19 on project delivery and the organisations
- Offer letters were adapted to request contingency plans and updated budgets to ensure funded activities were still achievable
- A change request process was established with the Corporate Strategy & Policy, Communities Team. Project and timescale adaptations were reviewed by the EECF Grants Team and submitted to Tower Hamlets Council for approval

From April 2020 to March 2021 there were 69 change requests submitted and approved, 66% of all grantees. The pandemic had an immediate impact on the Street Party awards and the Older People's Services awards. The Street Party grants were initially suspended and the majority have now been extended to March 2022. The Older People's Services grantees submitted change requests to support older people with food provision and delivery services, and remote befriending, which were approved by Tower Hamlets Council.

These adaptations to the programme, while important to navigate the changes in community support, did add a significant amount of additional work to the grantees and to the EECF Grants Team. Feedback received from grantees highlighted that it was very challenging to submit effective change requests throughout 2020 due to the regularly changing Government guidelines and uncertainty about their own capacity and resources. EECF managed an average of nine contacts per grantee to finalise project plans and activities, highlighting how much additional support was required by the grantees of the Small Grants Fund.

OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

Of the total 126 grants awarded through the Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund (22 in 2019 and 104 in 2020) 28 projects have now completed and reported back on the reach and impact of their work. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many projects have experienced delays and will be reporting back throughout 2021. The main achievements of the 28 completed projects and outcomes achieved are provided below.

Please see **Appendix C** for further analysis of the beneficiaries supported.



1,999

RESIDENTS ENGAGED
IN ACTIVITIES FOR THE
FIRST TIME



6,334

RESIDENTS ENGAGED
IN FUNDED PROJECTS



978

ACTIVITY SESSIONS
DELIVERED



1,277

HOURS OF ACTIVITY
PROVIDED



448

RESIDENTS
VOLUNTEERED WITH
THE PROJECTS



3,178

RESIDENTS TOOK PART
IN COMMUNITY
ACTIVITIES



84

YOUNG PEOPLE WERE
DIVERTED AWAY FROM
ASB



2,065

RESIDENTS TOOK PART
IN CREATIVE
ACTIVITIES



112

RESIDENTS TOOK PART
IN OUTDOOR
ACTIVITIES

PROJECT STORIES

Bangladeshi Mental Health Forum - Prevention Grant

We delivered a variety of activities to raise awareness of, and improve, mental health amongst BAME residents, particularly within the Bangladeshi community.

We delivered 12 mental health wellbeing workshops at schools and community centres, with one workshop attended by over 35 parents. We trained 30 residents as Community Mental Health Champions and managed to deliver one event before the first lockdown. All together we reached over 340 local people.



"This grant substantially benefited our organisations development. It enabled us to be very proactive in the community to raise awareness of mental health, it increased our presence and more people are aware of us now and can reach out to us for support. It provided us with an opportunity to increase our partnerships with other local organisations and we've found great success in our signposting and information drop-in sessions which we want to continue."

Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club - Community Cohesion Grant

During the Covid-19 lockdown elderly residents were isolating for long periods, they missed coming to the weekly social OAP club where we used to cook fresh hot meals. Your grant kept this service going while we were needed the most, making meals at the OAP club kitchen and delivering to the doorstep weekly made them feel a part of the community, where they see a similar face regularly for a chat or getting their shopping now and again. We kept in contact by phone or sometimes speaking on the doorstep.

This service provided them with a little normality that they used to have at the centre. We gave residents information about Council services who also got in touch with elderly residents. The grant supported mostly isolated residents who live alone and who need to talk and feel someone is there for them. It is small amounts but made a big difference when people needed it the most.

Phoenix Academie - Innovation Grant

This project delivered unique and innovative hands-on and free Robotics & Coding activities for 15 young people. They received training on a variety of things including DIY construction of robots, anatomy of robots, working with Raspberry Pi, Smart Pi-Car, coding with Python, remote control and tuning.

We combined this with one-to-one support to explore further education options and career opportunities.



"I never thought I would ever be able to do coding so easily, as I was always afraid of programming. This course really helped me a lot."

Adele, aged 14

Prospect Walk Allotments Association - Neighbourhood Action

We purchased and installed two new water tanks and a communal shed at the allotments. While it's been challenging due to the pandemic the benefits of the project are expected to accrue gradually; for example, communal work days, open days and other public events should be easier to organise and attract people to become involved. For example we are planning to let the children who visit the site paint the shed with colours and pictures of their choice; this has already generated some interest!

"I would say that there are two main benefits from the grant. Firstly, there is the practical aspect; the appearance of the allotment site itself has been considerably improved, it shows the neighbourhood that we all care about the site and want to improve it. Secondly, securing a grant has strengthened the capacity and processes of the Association, something which many voluntary-run groups (including ours) struggle with; it has demonstrated the possibility and power of collective action that agreed and planned goals can be achieved; hopefully it will inspire residents to become more involved and contribute to the future development of the Association."

St Peter's Community Wellbeing Projects - Loneliness Grant

Through the pandemic we continued to provide essential outreach and befriending support for local elderly and/or vulnerable women, who are suffering from compounding physical and mental health problems resulting in high levels of loneliness and isolation.

We organised and delivered a telephone outreach, talk therapy and befriending service designed to reduce their feelings of loneliness and improve their wellbeing. We called regularly to check-in on their health and wellbeing, offered emotional support as well as providing opportunities to discuss practical issues.

The 48 women we engaged with told us they felt less lonely, felt more connected with the community and felt more positive and able to cope better with the pandemic.

"I am so grateful for your support. Earlier in the year, I had fallen into bad habit of waking up really late and not eating any breakfast, and sometimes even no lunch. Thanks to your regular sessions, I have got back to a normal routine, and that has helped my mood, and I now feel I have a lot more energy."

Mrs R

True Cadence CIC - Covid-19 Outreach & Engagement Grant

The project was about young people leading the safety conversation in their community while promoting the NHS Test and Trace service. We created a spoken word video in a short film style format. We put the video together in an engaging and relatable way to appeal to the target audience. The young people took complete control of the creative process, displaying commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism throughout. [Watch the video here.](#)



FUTURE OVERVIEW

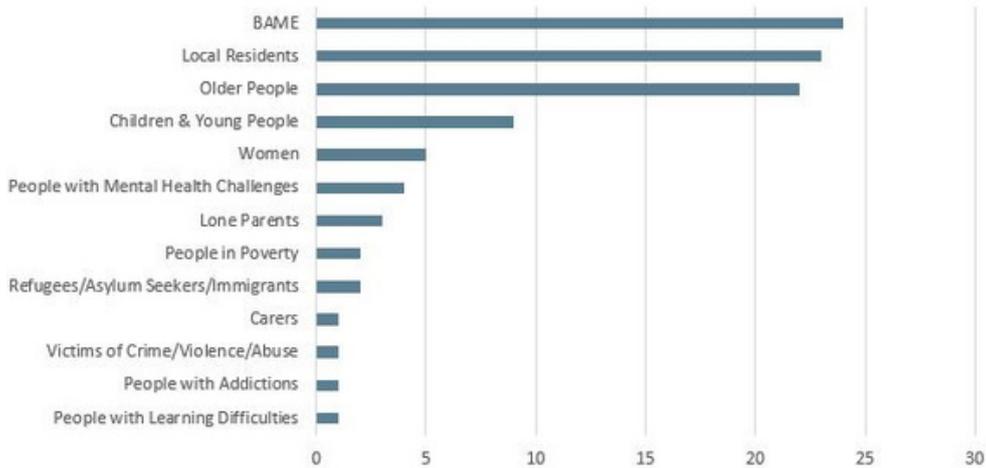
The pandemic has caused a large number of projects to experience delays and adaptations. However, based on current project data we expect the live projects to complete by the below schedule.

	2021-22 Q1 April - June		2021-22 Q2 July - September	
	No of Projects Due to Complete	Est. Beneficiary Numbers	No of Projects Due to Complete	Est. Beneficiary Numbers
Themes 1-5	16	2,529	33	13,475
Older People's Services	8	390	-	-
Access & Participation	5	2,322	-	-
Loneliness	5	180	1	40
Covid-19 Fund	1	25	9	869
TOTAL	35	5,446	43	14,384

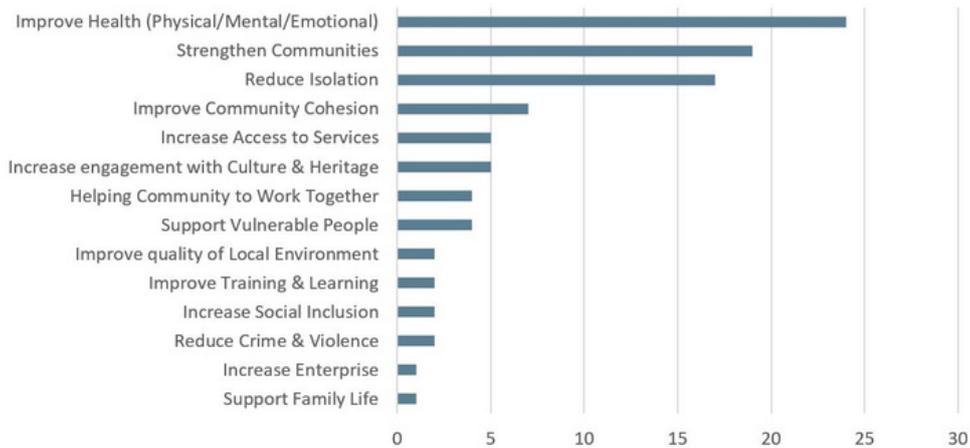
	2021-22 Q13 October - December		2021-22 Q4 January - March	
	No of Projects Due to Complete	Est. Beneficiary Numbers	No of Projects Due to Complete	Est. Beneficiary Numbers
Themes 1-5	6	521	9	4,901
Older People's Services	-	-	-	-
Access & Participation	-	-	-	-
Loneliness	3	500	3	230
Covid-19 Fund	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	8	1,021	12	5,131

Based on the information provided by the grantees in their application forms we expect a further **25,982 local residents** will be supported with funded activities. The projected outcomes and beneficiary demographics from the live projects are detailed below.

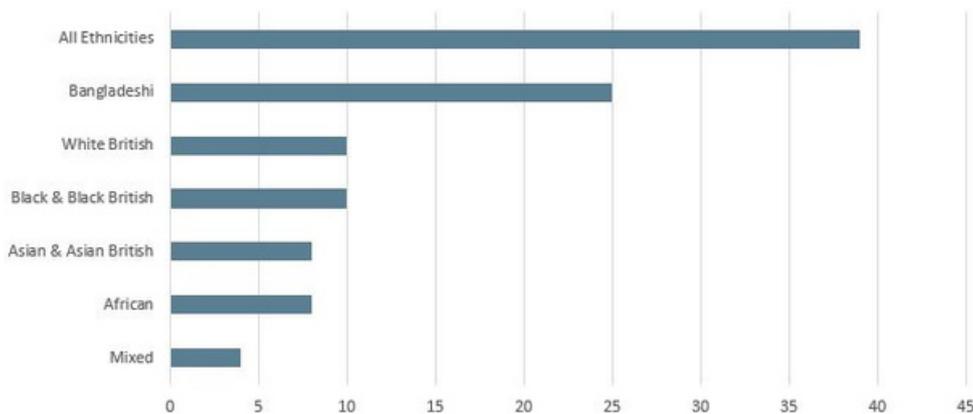
Expected Primary Beneficiaries



Expected Primary Outcomes



Expected Primary Beneficiary Ethnicity



SUMMARY

The Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund grew significantly in 2020-21, with four new strands of funding made available. Despite a tumultuous year, with the Covid-19 pandemic creating significant challenges for local groups and EECF, the Small Grants Fund was delivered successfully and over £400,000 was invested into the local community. It is anticipated that the projects funded will reach over 32,000 local residents and is achieving the aim of supporting the voluntary and community sector across the borough to build its future capacity and achieve positive outcomes.

The application level was reduced this year, which meant a significantly higher percentage of applications were successful (57% compared to only 16% the previous year). This can be attributed to a number of elements including the introduction of the annual income restriction and better awareness of the programme and theme priorities. We received a higher percentage of more relevant applications than the previous year. However, there was still more than double the budget available requested demonstrating the ongoing and persistent need for funding to delivery activities.

When the first lockdown was announced in March 2020, many groups had to quickly adapt provision to adhere to Government guidelines, and importantly to respond to the changing needs of local residents. Many projects that had delivery planned at specific venues (especially older people's social groups) had to figure out how to deliver services differently to many residents without online access. Food deliveries began and remote befriending became a lifeline for many isolated residents. Many projects had to fully pivot to virtual activities, overcoming technical challenges with varying degrees of success. However, the majority of projects have been able to adapt well and have improved their engagement levels by operating their services differently.

As the community has been isolated and further fragmented over the past year, a range of projects funded through the Small Grants Fund will be vital in supporting residents to re-engage and to re-build connections. As in the previous year, Community Cohesion attracted the highest volume of applications and many of the projects funded are continuing to deliver effective interventions to bring our diverse communities together.

We have now launched two further rounds of funding in 2021 for Themes 1-5, Older People's Services, Access & Participation and soon the Loneliness themes. From our own survey of over 200 voluntary sector organisations we know that core and project funding is the most pressing need for local groups and loneliness, isolation and mental health are the priority support needs for residents as we move into the next phase of Covid-19 recovery.

The strength and value of grassroots organisations has been highlighted particularly through the pandemic, they have been able to respond effectively to the changing needs of the community because of their local knowledge and relationships. These organisations will be an essential component of the recovery process particularly in supporting residents to re-integrate, access services and build cohesion.

We welcome any feedback on the development of the fund and look forward to delivering the next phase of the Small Grants Fund in 2021.

APPENDIX A: EECF Grant Management Services

With the 12% contribution to EECF for the management and administration of the Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund the Council receives a cost-effective solution to local giving, delivered by a team of community experts with over 32 years of combined knowledge of effective interventions to support the local community. EECF's service includes;

- Full programme management including fund set up and grant criteria shaping
- Creation of the Small Grants Fund structure including writing application and end of grant report forms, relevant to the size of grant award
- Fund promotion to over 2,000 voluntary sector organisations via newsletters, social media and community partners including the Tower Hamlets CVS
- Enquiry management services for local organisations to email or call the EECF Grants Team to receive information, advice and guidance on the Small Grants Fund
- One-to-one application support for applicants seeking grants of £1,000 or less
- A funding workshop prior to each application deadline (three times a year) providing advice and tips on applying for support
- Full assessment of all applications received and due diligence checks completed on shortlisted applications, with recommendations presented to Tower Hamlets Council
- Match funding opportunities with other grants programmes managed by EECF
- Notification to successful and unsuccessful applicants
- Negotiating and/or clarifying project outcomes, managing project change requests and ongoing support to funded projects
- Budget management and making grant payments to funded organisations
- An annual grants celebration event to meet funded organisations (not possible in 2020)
- Monitoring and evaluation of funded projects (spend and outcomes)
- An annual report to Tower Hamlets Council reviewing the Small Grants Fund and outcomes achieved

APPENDIX B: Funded Projects

Account Name	Project Name	Theme	Amount Awarded
London Young Stars Elite	Family Day	Innovation	4,500
Un-Age	Un-Age - Intergenerational Food Start-up Acceleration Programme	Innovation	4,000
You Be You	You Be You	Innovation	5,000
All 4 Teens (A4T) CIC	ISBEDEL	Prevention	4,949
Community Psychotherapy Network	Community Psychotherapy Network	Prevention	4,980
East India Over 50's Consortium	The Wild Women Collective	Prevention	4,510
ICM Foundation CIC	Aerobic Sessions for Adults with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities	Prevention	4,760
London Jaguars Community Association	Women's Only Fitness and Nutrition Sessions	Prevention	4,985
Our Time	Tower Hamlets KidsTime Workshop	Prevention	5,000
Sketch Appeal	The Art of Self-Love	Prevention	3,940
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM)	"Inclusive Advice" [Female Advice & Advocacy Initiative]	Prevention	4,891
The Shadwell Community Project	Grow, Cook and Eat!	Prevention	4,884
The Yoga for Life Project CIC	Yoga for Long Covid Wellbeing Programme	Prevention	3,500
True You Today	Movement for Survivors	Prevention	1,182
Walk East	'Dosh! Budget-friendly living in the East End'	Prevention	4,951
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Wapping's Mums Club	Prevention	4,940
Wapping Youth FC	Walking our Way out of Lockdown	Prevention	5,000
Woodwork for Wellbeing	Woodwork Club	Prevention	4,991
YourStance	YourStance	Prevention	5,000
Limehouse Community Forum	LimeGreen in Park and Ward	Neighbourhood Action	3,500
Prospect Walk Allotments Association	Prospect Walk Allotments Association Communal Shed	Neighbourhood Action	1,200
Roman Road Trust	Transform the Common Room	Neighbourhood Action	5,000

Alpha Grove Centre	Community Fun Day	Community Cohesion	678
Associates of Community Trust UK	Local Pride	Community Cohesion	4,991
Dorset Community Association	Community Access and Inclusion	Community Cohesion	4,959
East London Cares	Connecting Communities in Crisis	Community Cohesion	5,000
Ebeegees	New Year Seniors Trip	Community Cohesion	600
EFA London	Chisenhale ESOL Community Classes	Community Cohesion	5,000
Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club	Forever Young	Community Cohesion	1,000
Friends of St Eugene	Enabling Friendships 2020	Community Cohesion	900
Golden Girls	Coach Trips, BBQ & Refreshments	Community Cohesion	600
Grand Union Music Theatre Ltd	Independence Song	Community Cohesion	4,500
Innercity Films	Let's Celebrate Tower Hamlets	Community Cohesion	4,900
Island House Craft Club	Island House Craft Club	Community Cohesion	350
Kayd Somali Arts and Culture	Tower Hamlets Online Somali Week Festival	Community Cohesion	4,985
Lower Regent's Coalition	East End Canal Festival and Film Project	Community Cohesion	3,500
Outside Edge Theatre Company	Tower Hamlets Drop-in Drama	Community Cohesion	10,000
Individual: Patricia McCarthy	Sonali Day Trippers	Community Cohesion	1,000
Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest	Monthly Lunch Club	Community Cohesion	500
Rainbow Film Society	21st Rainbow Film Festival	Community Cohesion	3,500
SimpleGifts	Bethnal Green Social Action	Community Cohesion	4,924
Spitalfields City Farm	The Volunteer and Coriander Club	Community Cohesion	5,000
St John's (Isle of Dogs) Community Association	Thursday Bingo Group	Community Cohesion	500
St Paul's Arts Trust	The Long Family Dinner	Community Cohesion	5,000
The Geezers Club	The Geezers Club	Community Cohesion	500
The Oitij-jo Collective	TATI Textiles	Community Cohesion	5,000
Trapped in Zone One	Trapped in Zone One Creative Activities	Community Cohesion	4,750

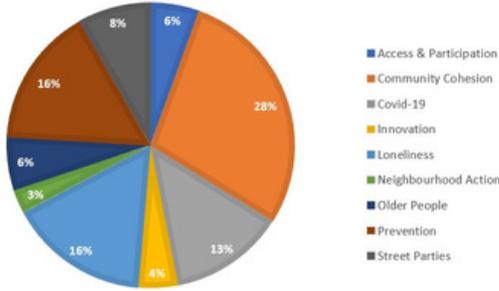
Udichi Shilpi Gosthi	Bangladeshi Book Fair, Literary & Cultural Festival	Community Cohesion	3,500
Weavers Adventure Playground Association	Cooking with Culture	Community Cohesion	3,500
Will Crooks Tenants and Residents Association	Tell us about Covid 19	Community Cohesion	1,000
Women's Inclusive Team (WIT)	Somali Community Exchange Project	Community Cohesion	5,000
Approach Community Garden (ACG)	The Great Get Together	Community Cohesion	250
Birchfield Tenant Association	VE Day 75	Community Cohesion	250
Dockland Settlements	VE Day 75	Community Cohesion	250
Ebeegees	VE Day 75	Community Cohesion	250
London House Music Choir	The Big Lunch	Community Cohesion	250
Love My Street	The Great Get Together	Community Cohesion	250
Neighbours in Poplar	VE Day 75	Community Cohesion	250
Sidney Estates Tenants & Residents Association	The Big Lunch	Community Cohesion	250
Spitalfields City Farm	The Great Get Together	Community Cohesion	250
St Clement's Residents Association	VE Day 75	Community Cohesion	250
St Matthews Bethnal Green	The Big Lunch	Community Cohesion	250
Stepney Jewish Community Care Centre	VE Day 75	Community Cohesion	250
Trapped in Zone One	The Big Lunch	Community Cohesion	250
Wapping Youth FC	The Great Get Together	Community Cohesion	250
Will Crooks Tenants and Residents Association	The Big Lunch	Community Cohesion	250
Dorset Community Association	Dorset Older People Lunch Club	Older People's Services	10,610
Hornafrik Integration Projects	E14 BME Senior Citizen Project	Older People's Services	12,770
Somali Senior Citizens Club	Somali Elders Lunch Club & Community Engagement Project (SELCEP)	Older People's Services	12,770
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM)	"Golden Years": Older BAMER People's Initiative	Older People's Services	12,770
The Ensign Youth Club	UNITY	Older People's Services	12,770
Wadajir Somali Community Centre	Wadajir Elderly Lunch Club	Older People's Services	12,770

Wapping Bangladesh Association	The Older People's Friendship Club	Older People's Services	12,770
Weavers Community Forum	Weavers Health Project	Older People's Services	12,770
Eastside Centre Ltd	Elderly and Pensioners Club	Access & Participation	5,000
Hornafrik Integration Projects	BME Bridging Project	Access & Participation	5,000
Isle of Dogs Bangladeshi Association and Cultural Centre	IoD Bangladeshi Pensioners' Club	Access & Participation	5,000
The Families Support Group	African Families Guidance Project	Access & Participation	4,997
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Community Information Access	Access & Participation	4,916
Individual: Abdul Rawkib	Chai Club	Loneliness	1,000
Babel Theatre	The Orpheus Project	Loneliness	1,000
Blossom Project	Blossom Together	Loneliness	4,986
BowHaven	Operation Loneliness	Loneliness	5,000
City Steps Guided Tours	Moonscape – Trip of a Lifetime 2020	Loneliness	788
My First 1000 Days	Carers Social Inclusion Project	Loneliness	2,900
Neighbours in Poplar	Loneliness	Loneliness	4,680
Olive Tree Education (OTE)	Older Sukoon (Harmony) Project	Loneliness	4,894
Individual: Shahnaz Rifat	Mindful Mothers Project	Loneliness	1,000
Somali Senior Citizens Club	"Golden Connections": Somali Elders Befriending & Support Project	Loneliness	5,000
St Peters Community Wellbeing Projects	St. Peters Women's Wellbeing Programme (Covid-19)	Loneliness	5,000
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM)	"Friends in Need" [Community Befriending & Support Initiative]	Loneliness	5,000
Toyhouse Libraries	Early Connections	Loneliness	3,482
Wadajir Somali Community Centre	Wadajir Girls Youth Group	Loneliness	5,000
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Step Up	Loneliness	5,000
Aishah Help	Communicating During an Outbreak	Covid-19	3,000
Brick Lane Women and Girls Project	Bangla T&T	Covid-19	3,000
Film Skool Deluxe	Film Skool Deluxe	Covid-19	3,000
Globe Community Project	Language of Wellbeing - Covid Outreach	Covid-19	3,000

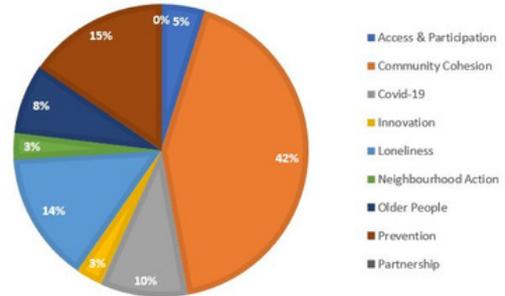
ICM Foundation CIC	Covid-19 Messages for Adults with Learning Difficulties	Covid-19	3,000
Nujum Sports	Covid 19 Awareness Workshops	Covid-19	2,500
Olive Tree Education (OTE)	OTE Covid 19 and Engagement Project	Covid-19	3,000
The Ensign Youth Club	Unity T&T	Covid-19	3,000
The Power Movement Organisation Ltd	Covid-19 Outreach Project	Covid-19	3,000
True Cadence CIC	The T and T Project	Covid-19	3,000

APPENDIX C: Application Analysis

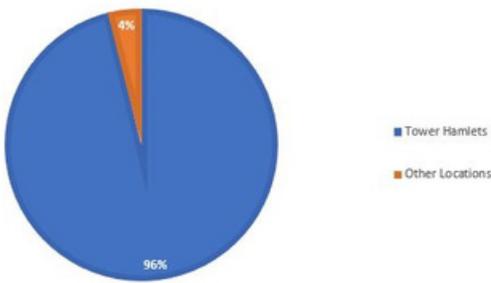
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THEME



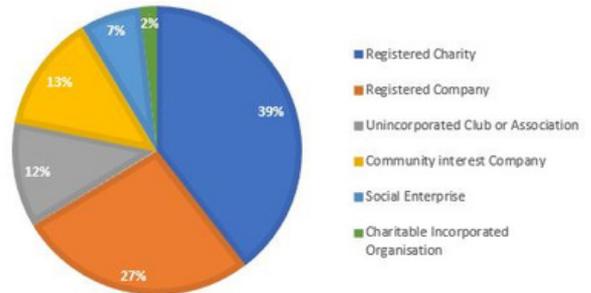
GRANTS AWARDED BY THEME



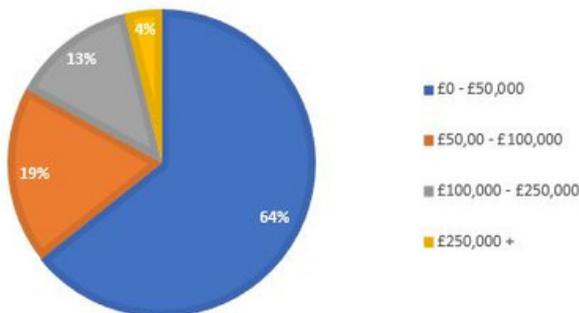
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY ORGANISATION LOCATION



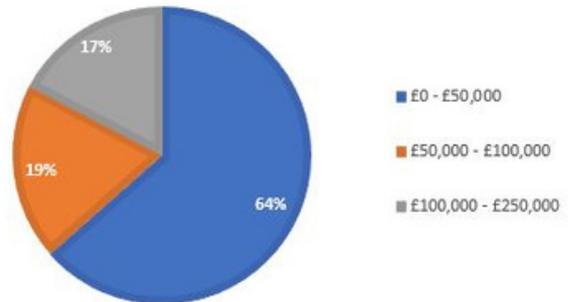
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY ORGANISATION TYPE



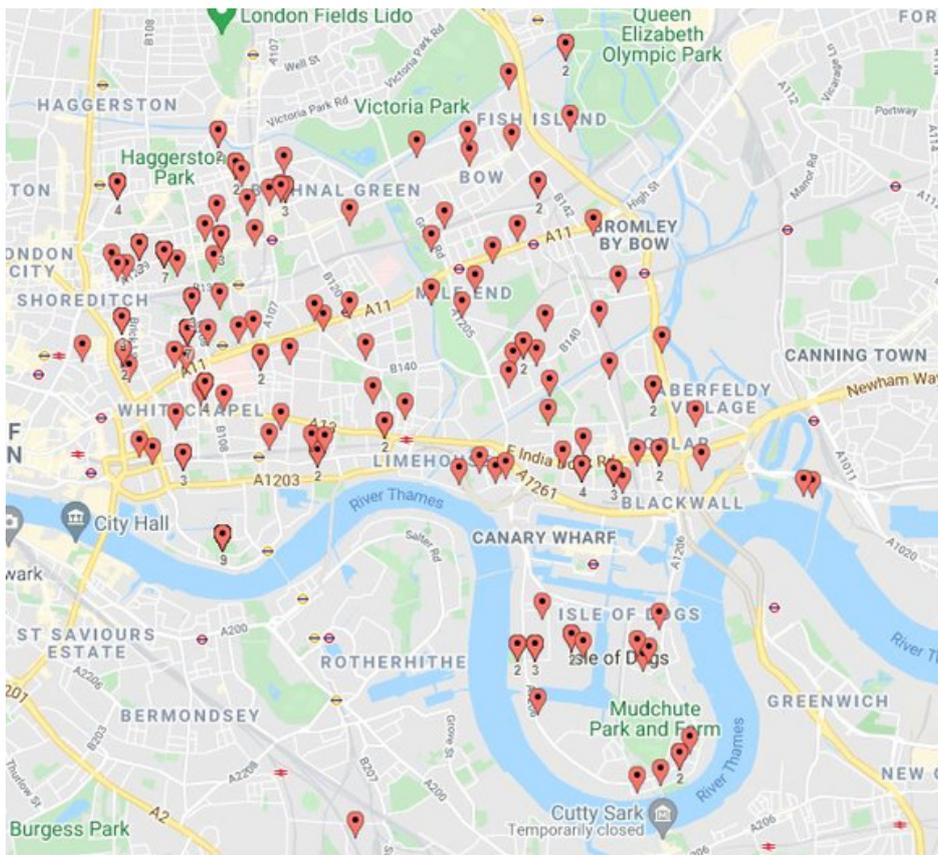
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY ORGANISATION ANNUAL TURNOVER



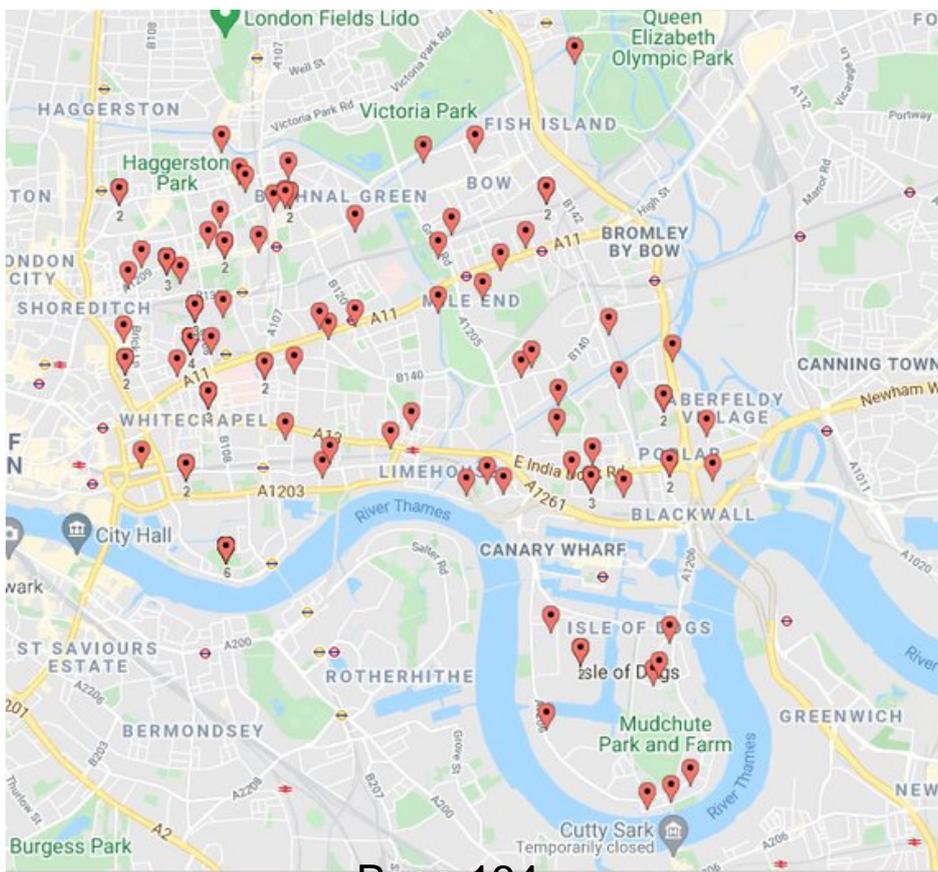
GRANTS AWARDED BY ORGANISATION ANNUAL TURNOVER



Geography of Applications Received

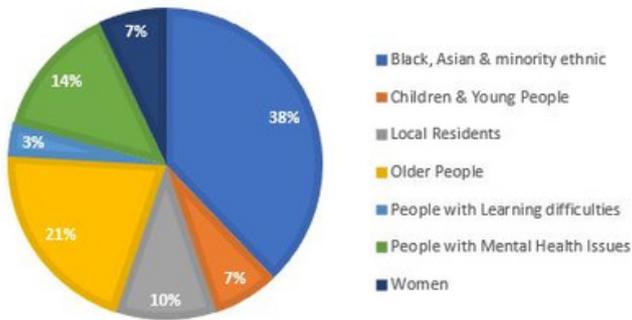


Geography of Grants Awarded

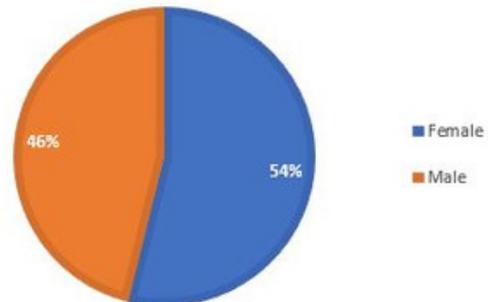


APPENDIX D: Project Beneficiary Analysis

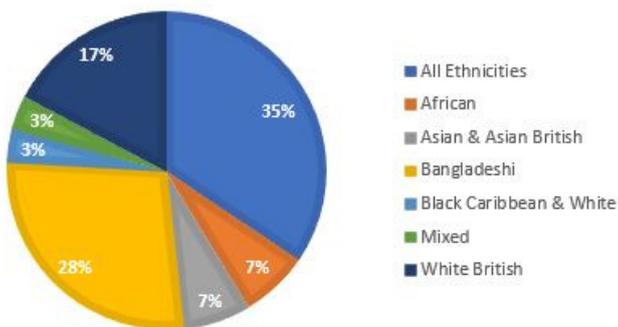
PRIMARY BENEFICIARY BY TYPE



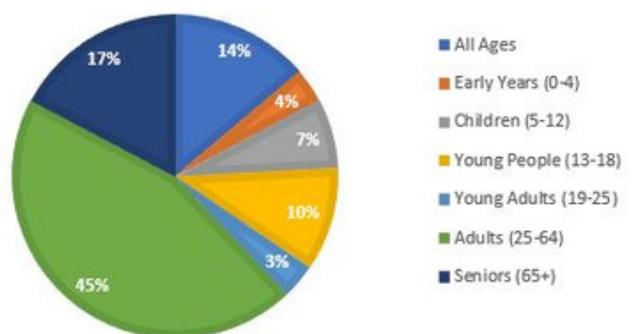
PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES BY GENDER



PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES BY ETHNICITY



PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES BY AGE



The data on beneficiaries is provided by the 28 organisations that have submitted their end of grant reports. Their results are selected from a provided drop-down list.

East End

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



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Company No: 8104415

Charity No: 1147789