

# Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee



Wednesday, 1 September 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

The public are welcome to attend meetings of the Grants Determination Sub - Committee. Except where any exempt/restricted documents are being discussed, However seating is restriction due to the Covid – 19 restrictions. To reserve a seat you must contact the Democratic Services Officer.

The public are welcome to view this meeting through the Council's webcast system.

### Meeting Webcast

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system.

<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

Tel: 020 7364 4877

E-mail: [Zoe.Folley@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:Zoe.Folley@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Web:<http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>

### Electronic agendas reports and minutes.

Copies of agendas, reports and minutes for council meetings can also be found on our website from day of publication.

To access this, click [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee) and search for the relevant committee and meeting date.

Agendas are available on the Modern.Gov, Windows, iPad and Android apps.

Scan this code for an electronic agenda:



## Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee

Wednesday, 1 September 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 - 20)**

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

To note the record of the information discussion of the Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 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. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

6 .1	TERMS OF REFERENCE REPORT	21 - 30	
6 .2	Grant offer of £90,000 to Toynbee Hall for the Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme	31 - 72	Spitalfields & Banglatown
6 .3	One-off Restart Small Grants for Community Languages Providers	73 - 92	All Wards
6 .4	VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority	93 - 128	All Wards

## 7. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

### **Next Meeting of the Committee:**

Wednesday, 27 October 2021 at 1.30 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 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 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

This page is intentionally left blank

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**NOTES OF INFORMAL GRANTS DETERMINATION (CABINET) SUB-COMMITTEE (MEETING INQUORATE)**

**HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 23 JUNE 2021**

**DISCUSSION RELATED TO MAYORAL DECISIONS TO TAKEN BY THE MAYOR AND PUBLISHED**

**Members Present:**

Councillor Candida Ronald (Chair) (Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)  
Mayor John Biggs (Member) (Executive Mayor)

**Other Councillors Present – online.**

Councillor Asma Begum\* (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Children, Youth Services and Education)  
Councillor Leema Qureshi\* (Scrutiny Lead – Resources)

**Officers Present:**

Emily Fieran-Reed\* (Senior Strategy and Policy Manager, Communities Team, Corporate Strategy & Policy Strategy, Policy & Performance Division)  
Jonathan Fox (Principal Contracts Lawyer, Legal Services Governance)  
Robert Mee (Programme Analysis & Review Officer, Corporate Strategy & Policy, Communities Team, 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)

\*attended online.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Sirajul Islam

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Item deferred for considered at the next meeting

**3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES**

Item deferred for considered at the next meeting

**4. CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS**

There were none.

**5. EXERCISE OF MAYORAL DISCRETIONS**

There were none.

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

Deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

**7. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**7.1 Formal offer of Historic Buildings Grant to Columbia Market Primary School**

Anna Zucchelli presented the report.

This report related to a formal offer of a LBTH Historic Buildings Grant (HBG). This was for a maximum of £10,000 to Colombia Market 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.

This grant would act as match funding for a £15,000 from the Heritage of London Trust (HOLT).

The following issues were noted:

- The school and railings were in a highly visible location in the Conservation Area. The railings and gate etc were the last remaining remnants of the Columbia Road Market complex which had been demolished.
- Given this, it was proposed that the HGB, be allocated to the works. This funding was normally allocated to buildings on Historic England's Buildings at Risk register. An exception could be made in this case given the merits of the proposals, and that there are currently no further applications of expressions of interest for the grant. There was also sufficient funding in the budget for this work.

- The grant funding (of £10k) equated to less than 60% of the total costs of the project (with the rest covered by match funding). The proposals therefore meet the grant criteria.
- The proposals would significantly improve the appearance of the building, as well as support community engagement work.
- A contractor had been appointed to carry out the works (selected in line from the relevant requirements from 3 bids).
- The works were due to start in September 2022.
- It was noted that HOLT would carry out community engagement work with school pupils and community groups to learn about the conservation work and the heritage of the site. The committee noted an overview of the work.

The Committee discussed the following:

- The community engagement work. In particular, the aims of HOLT in providing opportunities for school pupils and community groups to learn about the heritage of the site – as part of their Proud Places programme. It was noted the school may also have their own ideas regarding how they wish to build on these activities.

Members felt this was an excellent proposal and supported the recommendations in the report.

**Recommendations (to be agreed by the Mayor as an Individual Mayoral Decision)**

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.

**7.2 Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report - October 2020 – March 2021**

Robert Mee provided an overview of this report. The performance report covers the period October 2020 to March 2021. It reported 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.

The following issues were noted:

- Whilst this had been a difficult period due to Covid, most of the projects had successfully adjusted to the difficult circumstances, through adapting the way projects were delivered.

- However, in view of the circumstances, a new 'Covid/Amber' performance rating had been introduced - to the RAG rating – to identify performance issues, where the Covid restrictions has had a particularly significant impact.
- For example, this rating had been given to projects involving schools or intergenerational projects which had been significantly impacted
- Other performance issues (for example relating more to other issues), continued to be rated as Amber. Details of these were set out in the report.
- Officers continued to work with these Amber rated projects to address the issues. They were confident that these issues should be resolved by the next update and they would gain a green rating.

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

- Members sought clarity on the need for the new Covid/Amber rating - given the previously agreed changes to the programme. The revised arrangements encouraged projects to take a more flexible and imaginative approach.
- Officers further explained the need for the new Covid/Amber rating. It was noted that these projects have worked hard to adapt their services and to take a more flexible approach, through for example, providing remote learning and online activities. Despite their best efforts, the impact of the restrictions has simply been out of their control. Only a small number of projects had been awarded this new rating.
- Officers had been working with these groups to help them make the adjustments and adapt their practices as best as they could to meet targets. It was noted that many of these projects sought to deliver projects that would help the recovery.
- It was also discussed that the format of Appendix 1 should be reviewed to make the RAG rating clearer.
- Members also discussed the need to plan for the next round of funding.

The Committee welcomed the report and thanked Officers and the voluntary sector for their work.

**Recommendations (to be endorsed by the Mayor as an Individual Mayor Decision)**

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.

### **7.3 VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority**

Robert Mee provided an overview of this report

The following issues were noted

- The report should be amended to read 'VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority', deleting equalities contract funding provision'
- Since the last meeting it was noted that, one new grant had been approved for glass making activities - as set out in Appendix B, Innovation Funding Award
- That in respect of para 3.26 (Legal Advice Centre)– it has been agreed to continue to pay the organisation the Community Benefit Rent reduction.
- That Appendix A sets out the small grants contingency funding plans
- Also attached to the report was the 2020/21 Small Grants Fund Annual Report – setting out the significant achievements of the projects.

The Committee welcomed the report and passed on their thanks to Officers as well as the East End Community Foundation for their hard work.

#### **Recommendation (to be endorsed by the Mayor as an Individual Mayor Decision)**

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

### **8. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT**

There were none.

The meeting ended at 6.15 p.m.

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

This page is intentionally left blank

<p><b>Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub Committee</b></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> September 2021</p>	 <p><b>TOWER HAMLETS</b></p>
<p><b>Report of:</b> Director of Legal and Interim Monitoring Officer</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b> [Unrestricted]</p>
<p><b>GRANTS DETERMINATION SUB-COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE, QUORUM, MEMBERSHIP AND DATES OF MEETINGS</b></p>	

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

**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 19<sup>th</sup> 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

This page is intentionally left blank

**GRANTS DETERMINATION SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Terms of Reference**

**3.4.3 Grants Determination Sub-Committee**

<b>Description:</b> A Sub-Committee of Cabinet established to take Member level decisions in respect of Grants issues.	
<b>Membership:</b> The Mayor plus 3 other Executive Councillors as appointed by the Mayor – the remaining Members of the Executive are substitute Members.	
<b>Functions</b>	<b>Delegation of Functions</b>
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
<b>Quorum:</b> Three (3) Members of the Committee	

This page is intentionally left blank

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**June 2021**

<b>GRANTS DETERMINATION (CABINET) SUB-COMMITTEE</b>		
<b>Membership:</b> The Mayor plus three (3) other Executive Councillors as appointed by the Mayor or their nominees who must also be Executive Councillors		
<b><i>Members (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Substitutes</i></b>	
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	

This page is intentionally left blank

**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, 1st September 2021
  - Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021
  - November/December(TBC)
  - 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.

This page is intentionally left blank

<p>Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee report</p> <p>1 September 2021</p>	 <p><b>TOWER HAMLETS</b></p>
<p><b>Report of:</b> Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director of Place</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted</p>
<p>Grant offer of £90,000 to Toynbee Hall for the Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme</p>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Councillor Eve McQuillan</b>
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Anna Zucchelli – Petticoat Lane High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) Project Officer Michael Ritchie – Place Shaping Team Leader
<b>Wards affected</b>	Spitalfields & Banglatown
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Forward Plan Notice Published</b>	[Insert date notice was published]
<b>Reason for Key Decision</b>	Impact on Wards
<b>Community Plan Theme</b>	<b>A Great Place to Live</b>

## Executive Summary

The High Streets Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) programme is a nationwide programme designed to secure lasting improvements to our historic high streets for the communities that use them. As part of this initiative, Historic England and partners have offered support and funding to local Cultural Consortia to develop a *Local Cultural Programme*. Following a grant application by Toynbee Hall, as the local Cultural Consortium lead for Petticoat Lane HSHAZ, £90,000 has been awarded by Historic England for the *Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme*. LBTH are required, under the grant conditions, to administer the funding and act as project assurance on behalf of Historic England. LBTH have already entered into a grant agreement with Historic England for this funding and now a third-party agreement between LBTH and Toynbee Hall is required.

## Recommendations:

The Grants Determination Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Authorise the Corporate Director of Place to issue a third-party HSHAZ *Local Cultural Programme* agreement of £90,000 between LBTH and Toynbee Hall as the Cultural Consortium lead.
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.

## 1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Toynbee Hall, as the Cultural Consortium lead, were successful in their application to Historic England for a *Local Cultural Programme Grant* of £90,000 in April 2021. It is a requirement of the grant that the local authority, as HSHAZ lead partner, administer the grant, monitor progress according to the Project Design and authorise and release payment. For this to happen, a third-party agreement between the Council and Toynbee Hall is required.
- 1.2 The *Local Cultural Programme Grant* is related to the £93,000 grant awarded to Toynbee Hall, following the Grants Determination Sub-Committee on 3 February 2021, to deliver community engagement and cultural activities as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) on Wentworth Street. This funding will be used by Toynbee Hall to form, lead manage a 'Community Decision Making Group', who will in turn collectively create, curate and deliver a Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) scheme on Wentworth Street.
- 1.3 The *Local Cultural Programme Grant* will cover the cost of a wide range of participatory community activities, cultural and training events, as part of the Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme. The cultural programme will enable residents, businesses, academic institutions and visitors to have an enriched understanding of the value and role of heritage, beyond the end of the programme, and enable local communities feel a sense of ownership with the scheme.
- 1.4 The Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme aims to help drive up footfall on and around Wentworth Street and thereby support local businesses and therefore supports the objectives of the overall regeneration programme.

## **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 If *Local Cultural Programme Grant* is not awarded to Toynbee Hall, then the funding must be returned to Historic England. The Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme may not be able to then go ahead unless other funding is found from other sources.

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

### *High Street Heritage Action Zone*

- 3.1 The High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) programme is a nationwide initiative designed to secure lasting improvements to 68 historic high streets for the communities who use them. Tower Hamlets Council was awarded £602,000 by Historic England in April 2020 for a programme of high street improvements in the Wentworth Street Conservation Area between April 2020 and March 2024.
- 3.2 The HSHAZ funding contributes towards capital work projects within the Middlesex Street Regeneration Programme (MSRP), being delivered by the High Streets & Town Centres team, as well as other projects being delivered by the Place Shaping team.
- 3.3 Toynbee Hall were brought on board from April 2021 to co-deliver the HSHAZ scheme over 3 years with community engagement and cultural activities as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) on Wentworth Street. A grant of £93,000 to Toynbee Hall was authorised at the Grants Determination Sub-Committee on 3 February 2021.
- 3.4 With this grant, Toynbee Hall will employ a Heritage Officer and Community Outreach Worker who will form, manage and lead a 'Community Decision-Making Group', who will collectively design, curate and deliver the Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme. These officers will report to the We Speak Programme Manager.
- 3.5 The funding for the activities contained within Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme are from a separate funding scheme, the *Local Cultural Programme grant funding scheme* (see below).
- 3.6 The Community Manager and We Speak Programme Manager at Toynbee Hall have also produced a Community Engagement Plan for the HSHAZ programme, co-produced and in consultation with the local community.

### *Historic England Local Cultural Programme grant funding scheme*

- 3.7 The aim of the HSHAZ programme is to make high streets a more attractive, engaging and vibrant place for people to live, work and spend time. Culture and creativity play a key role in this. In partnership with the Arts Council and the National Lottery

Heritage Fund, Historic England has offered support and *Local Cultural Programme* grant funding for the development and production of local cultural programmes and partnerships that will complement the work of individual HSHAZ schemes. The *Local Cultural Programme* grant funding is a separate from the main HSHAZ grant funding.

- 3.8 Cultural programmes supported by this funding are developed and delivered by Cultural Consortia and local communities in each place. The cultural activity celebrates the local character and heritage of the location and aim to make High Streets a key place to experience and participate in culture. Each cultural programme should enable the local community around the high street to be part of the programme – to create, encourage learning and local talent, build new skills and lead on activity which is taking place in their local area.
- 3.9 Each Cultural Programme takes place alongside the capital works project taking place on the high street and will act as a way for people to engage with that building and development work. The Cultural Programme also aligns closely with other planned community engagement activities in the area led on by the HSHAZ and the MSRP.

#### *Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme*

- 3.10 A Cultural Consortium of local community and cultural groups involved in and around the Wentworth Street Conservation Area was set up in September 2020. Organisations involved include Arts Admin, Whitechapel Gallery, Numbi Arts, Swadhinata Trust, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, Raphael Samuel History Centre, London Metropolitan University, Tower Hamlets Archives and Aldgate Connect.
- 3.11 Toynbee Hall emerged as the lead member of the consortium and put together, in consultation with the group, an application to Historic England for *Local Cultural Programme* grant funding in December 2020 (see appendix 1). The bid was successful and notification of an award of grant of £90,000 was announced in April 2021 for a programme of delivery from April 2021 to March 2024.
- 3.12 The *Local Cultural Programme grant* funding will be used by a Community Decision-Making Group, made up of local stallholders, businesses, creatives and residents, to collectively design, curate and deliver a cultural programme of bi-monthly themed activities and 2-3 annual festivals.
- 3.13 This means that the Community Decision-Making Group will make decisions on which cultural events will happen on and around Wentworth Street and will allocate funding towards them, within certain parameters as set out by Toynbee Hall and agreed by the HSHAZ project officer and Historic England.
- 3.14 The Cultural Consortium will support the Community Decision-Making Group with training, mentoring, and skills-building. The *Local Cultural Programme grant* funding also covers the cost of training for the Community Decision-Making Group. In this way the Cultural Programme will be truly community led and intends to leave

a legacy of cultural curation within the community beyond the length of the HSHAZ programme.

- 3.15 In summary, the *Local Cultural Programme* grant funding of £90,000 will cover:
- Community Decision-Making Group meeting expenses
  - Cultural Consortium costs, including cost for attendance for smaller organisations
  - Skills development, training and coaching for Community Decision-Making Group by cultural professionals
  - Publicity, social media
  - Bi-monthly event costs, including fees to cultural professionals
  - 2-3 annual festival costs, including fees to cultural professionals

#### *Administration of the Local Cultural Programme grant funding*

- 3.16 A condition of the *Local Cultural Programme* grant funding is that it must be administered by the HSHAZ lead partner, usually the local authority, who will distribute the funding to Toynbee Hall following submission of a quarterly progress update and an updated risk and issues log. This reflects the organisation and process of the overall HSHAZ programme where the HSHAZ project officer within the local authority maintains fiscal oversight, monitoring and evaluating progress of projects to plan.
- 3.17 In addition to this, Historic England have a team of Cultural Programme officers who will provide technical advice and guidance to local cultural consortia. They have met with Toynbee Hall on several occasions to discuss the local cultural programme. Toynbee Hall's quarterly progress update and an updated risk and issues log will also be submitted to Historic England for review.
- 3.18 The Heritage Officer and Community Outreach Worker will report regularly to the We Speak Programme Manager and Community Manager at Toynbee Hall to ensure that there is continuity with the Cultural Programme and prevent any delays in delivering the project in the event of staff turnover.
- 3.19 For the funding to be released, two *Local Cultural Programme* grant funding agreements are required – one between LBTH and Historic England, and one between LBTH and Toynbee Hall. A grant agreement between LBTH and Historic England was signed by Jen Peters, DD Planning & Building Control, in May 2021 (see appendix 2). A third-party agreement is now required between LBTH and Toynbee Hall as lead member of the Cultural Consortium.

## **4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 This project will allow engagement with a wide audience in the local area. Toynbee Hall is a grassroots community-led organisation with extensive community engagement and outreach experience. They have excellent connections and existing

networks with the local community around Wentworth Street and therefore can enable that all voices are heard. The Cultural Consortium will be able to provide further community connections, including those hard to reach and BAME.

- 4.2 This project will actively promote the involvement of local residents, businesses, students, etc. in deciding how local heritage is celebrated on the street. It will also provide understanding, knowledge and skills which will help protect the built environment beyond the duration of the programme.

## **5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

### *Best Value*

Toynbee Hall offer excellent value for money. They will be able to draw on their internal teams for outreach and consultation, event planning and support, comms, social media, fundraising and heritage learning & participation. As the funding for the grant comes from an external source, there are no cost implications to the Council. The Petticoat Lane Cultural Programme will be able to add to the current regeneration work in the area.

### *Risk management*

Toynbee Hall are a charity with a long-standing presence in this location and have a proven track record of offering advice services, youth and older people's projects and financial inclusion work. They have over 10 members of staff. Over the three-years, the work plan will be monitored with quarterly reports expected from Toynbee Hall, as well as monthly meetings with the HSHAZ project officer. Reports will be submitted to Historic England for review. Historic England's Cultural Programming team are also available to provide support to Toynbee Hall and the Cultural Consortium.

### *Crime reduction*

Increased activity on the street will reduce the opportunities for anti-social behaviour and crime. Improved appreciation and understanding of local heritage will result in buildings that are better cared for, resulting in reduction in enforcement action.

### *Safeguarding*

Staff at Toynbee Hall is an organisation that requires its staff to have DBS checks and to comply with best practice in safeguarding and other applicable legislation.

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

- 6.1 Toynbee Hall has been awarded a grant £90k from April 2021 to March 2024 from Historic England as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone grant funding scheme, and to develop a Local Cultural Programme. The council will act to administer the funding and act as project assurance on behalf of Historic England.

## **7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

- 7.1 The Council has no discretion as to the identity of the grant recipient as Historic England have mandated that the money is spent with Toynbee.
- 7.2 However, the way the funds are administered on this scheme is via the local authority. Therefore, the money is first given to the Council who then pay the money to Toynbee. This means that the expenditure is the Council's expenditure for the purposes of the law and is therefore subject to the Council's Best Value duty. It therefore follows that it accords with the Council's constitution that the delegation to make the requested grant falls with the Grants Determination Sub-Committee of cabinet.
- 7.3 The grant is subject to the Council's Best Value duty as it constitutes Council expenditure. The Council is acting in a quality monitoring capacity on behalf of Historic England and there will be a contractual agreement in place which reflects Historic England's requirements. Therefore, the Council will be able to ensure that the money is used for the purposes for which it is intended and there is sufficient quality of delivery in accordance with the original bid.
- 

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

#### **Linked Report**

- Grant to Toynbee Hall to deliver community engagement activities and a cultural programme on Wentworth Street as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone funded programme

#### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1: Local Cultural Programme grant application
- Appendix 2: Local Cultural Programme grant agreement\_HE\_LBTH

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

- NONE

#### **Officer contact details for documents:**

Anna Zucchelli - [anna.zucchelli@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:anna.zucchelli@towerhamlets.gov.uk) - 0207 364 6602

This page is intentionally left blank



Historic England

# High Streets Heritage Action Zones – Cultural Programme Grants

Application Form



Historic England



# Grant Application Form

Before completing an application form please read these guidance notes in full.

Please type directly into the boxes. They will auto expand as you type. If you would prefer not to use this form, please complete the application on a separate document, and use the sections below as headings.

If you require the form in a different format then please contact [CulturalProgramme@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:CulturalProgramme@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

## Section 1

### Programme Overview

**Historic England Reference Number (if already known/allocated)**

HSLSE07

**Programme Start Date**

January 2021

**Programme Name**

Petticoat Lane (full title/ subtitle to be decided by Community Panel)

**High Streets HAZ High Street**

Wentworth Street

## Version and Submission Date

15 December 2020

## Total grant amount being applied for (£):

Year 1

Year 2

37,400

Year 3

40,400

Year 4

42,400

Total for all years

120,000

## Programme Summary (150 words max):

A community decision making group (CDMG) made up of local stallholders, businesses, creatives and residents will collectively design, curate and deliver a Cultural Programme of art experiences, monthly themed activities & the annual Festival of Petticoat Lane. Proactive marketing of the programme will increase awareness of Wentworth Street and its market, increasing footfall and supporting thousands of people to discover and make use of this space.

An experienced Cultural Consortium will support the CDMG with training, mentoring & skills-building to ensure that they can continue the programme beyond the funded period.

Community connections will be built and the programme co-produced during the first six months, after which the CDMG and Cultural Consortium will commission creatives to create specific landmark experiences on the high street that are locally relevant, include local people in design and construction and raise the profile of the area to a broader London audience.

# Section 2

## Applicant Details

Name of Cultural Consortia Lead Organisation / individual applying

Toynbee Hall

Legal structure of Lead Consortium e.g. Company registration number, Charity registration number, VAT registration number if applicable

Charity & Registered company

Registered Charity Number: 211850 a company limited by guarantee – Registered number: 20080

Lead contact name responsible for managing the programme

Elizabeth Archer

Job title/position in the organisation

Head of Services & Service Design

Lead contact phone number

07715356652

Lead contact email address

Elizabeth.archer@toynbeehall.org.uk

Address and postcode for correspondence

28 Commercial Street

E1 6LS

### Cultural Consortia Details:

Organisation / Individual	Lead Contact	Contact email	Type of org: Charity/VAT etc.
Toynbee Hall	Elizabeth Archer	Elizabeth.Archer@toynbeehall.org.uk	Charity
Arts Admin	Deborah Chadbourn	deborah@artsadmin.co.uk	Charity - arts
Whitechapel Gallery	Luke Gregory-Jones	LukeGregory-Jones@whitechapelgallery.org,	Arts
Numbi Arts	Kinsi Abdulleh	kinsi@numbi.org	Charity – arts & culture
Swadhinata Trust	Julie Begum, Ansar Ahmed Ullah	julie@swadhinata.org.uk, philipchand@hotmail.com	Charity – heritage & culture
SPAB	Victoria West	victoria.west@spab.org.uk	Charity - heritage
Raphael Samuel History Centre, Queen Mary University	Nadia Valman	n.d.valman@qmul.ac.uk	Academic organisation
School of Art, Architecture & Design, London Metropolitan University	Jen Ng	J.Ng@londonmet.ac.uk,	Academic organisation
Tower Hamlets Archives	Halima Khanom	Halima.Khanom@towerhamlets.gov.uk	Local history library
Community Engagement Team, City of London	Laura Ratling	Laura.Ratling@cityoflondon.gov.uk	Local authority
Aldgate Connect Business Improvement District	Zoe Barwick	Zoe@aldgateconnect.london	Business representative

# Section 3

# Programme Details

## Programme Overview

Wentworth Street is located in East London, bordered by the City of London, Spitalfields, Aldgate and Brick Lane. The street was named after Lord Wentworth, Lord of Stepney Manor, in the early 17th century and is famous for the Petticoat Lane Market, a name given to the market spanning Wentworth and Middlesex Streets (the latter being Petticoat Lane until a change of name to suit Victorian sensibilities.. There is an additional weekday market on Wentworth Street only and it is closed on Saturdays, continuing in the tradition of the Jewish Sabbath observed by the many Jewish immigrants that settled in the East End from Eastern Europe in the late 19th century. In its heyday, Petticoat Lane Market was bustling on 'Golden Sunday' mornings. Characters along the street included Prince Monolulu or the giant Balloon Man. There were tailors making suits to measure, as well as stalls like the Sarspirilla stall, the gyroscope stall and the china demonstrators. Old school pitchers included men like Gussy Schwartz, Spiri Bessy, Sulkin Graham and Gary Tubby Isaacs. Nowadays, the market now sells luggage, cheap clothing, bric-à-brac, fruit & vegetables and cooked food. Wentworth Street has a concentration of shops selling West African fabrics and accessories. A significant proportion of current residents are of Bangladeshi heritage, with most immigration from the 1970s.

Given the area's layers of rich cultural history and interest in it from far and wide, there have been a number of cultural activities in the area, but few which focus in on Wentworth Street and Petticoat Lane Market and tell the story of the shop keepers and the market traders. There is a vast array of materials and memories about Petticoat Lane, collated well at 'Memories of Petticoat Lane and Surrounding Areas' on Facebook, but also through the archives on Bishopsgate and Bancroft Road, as well as with local historians. There are many cultural organisations in the local area, e.g. the Whitechapel Gallery, Numbi Arts, Arts Admin, the Swadhinata Trust and the SPAB, as well as community centres at Toynbee Hall, Artizan Street and the Attlee Centre, alongside two schools and a university.

London Borough of Tower Hamlets and the City of London are currently carrying out several community engagement activities in and around Wentworth Street as part of regeneration work in the area (these are not HSHAZ projects but involve similar stakeholders and outreach). These include a Banners Project, a Petticoat Lane Bunting Collective, an annual Aldgate in Winter festival and an Art Trail, spanning the length of Wentworth Street, between Brick Lane and Middlesex Street, to include art installations and murals to promote footfall and aid wayfinding.

## Aims and Outcomes/

Wentworth Street is within an area of huge cultural richness, including renowned galleries, historic settlements, universities and cultural venues. And yet this High Street does not reflect the surrounding area's regeneration and renaissance over the past decade. Indeed, the regeneration of the area has in some ways impacted on the amount of heritage space available and in others has excluded local people from the local economy. Wentworth Street, together with the neighbouring Middlesex Estate, is unique locally as a place where people who have lived and worked for decades continue to live and maintain small businesses, where in other areas across the borough we see locally run businesses being replaced with chains and local people moving out as the area becomes too expensive for them. With them, their memories are at risk of being lost. The Cultural Programme is an opportunity to celebrate the street's culture, history and heritage through old and new voices and experiences to shape an enduring identity and legacy for the street.

There is an opportunity to bring in regeneration to Wentworth Street in a way that reflects the history of the area and respects and values local people. There is a real sense of community in this area that we can tap into in order to ensure that everyone benefits from this project. The intention is to work within the wider Wentworth Street HSHAZ scheme to consider how local people and business owners can utilise heritage to make their own life better. By working alongside the capital works projects, as well as the building maintenance projects for local business owners, people will be equipped with the skills and motivation to continue to protect this area.

Wentworth Street is mostly traffic-free and its low rise, fine grain character sets it apart from busy and noisy neighbouring areas, however the street is currently underused and feels neglected. It suffers from poor waste management/ cleanliness, as well as anti-social behaviour and has a limited sense of place. The capital works, which include shop front improvements with traditional signwriting, and public realm improvements with new seating, market facilities and greenery, as well as the repair and conversion of the Victorian underground public conveniences, will make the street a more attractive and welcoming place. With the addition of the Cultural

Programme, Wentworth Street has the potential to be a place where more people will want to visit and linger, supporting stallholders, shop- keepers and adding to the vibrancy of the street.

The long-term aim of the Wentworth Street HSHAZ is a vibrant and prosperous high street with a busy market. The Cultural Programme supports the following objectives of the Wentworth St HSHAZ:

- Use the built historic environment on the high street as a catalyst to support local businesses by developing its distinctive identity and the social vitality of the street
- Work in partnership with local residents and businesses and gain commitment from stakeholders to the programme, building on existing networks set up by the High Streets & Town Centres team
- Local communities feel a sense of ownership with the scheme and are able to influence decisions
- Enable residents, businesses, academic institutions and visitors to have an enriched understanding of the value and role of heritage through a range of participatory activities, cultural and training events

The Cultural Programme will both establish new partnerships and developments, as well as consolidate existing ones. The Cultural Consortium is made up of both very small hyperlocal organisations and large university and cultural institutions. The consortium members are used to working with one another and to working in the community in which we are based, however an ongoing structured and invested collaboration with local employers and business owners will be a new collaboration that will result in a unique and vibrant High Street being maintained for the next generation. The formalisation of regular casual meeting spaces and opportunities for business holders to contribute to the local area in which they feel comfortable will revolutionise the interconnectedness of heritage and business.

We see the Cultural Programme as a fully integrated initiative with the community engagement projects as part of the wider High Streets HAZ programme (Projects 5: Historic Building Maintenance Skills & 6: Community & Project Hub), with a Community Organiser (Arts & Heritage) role, who will be based out of an empty shop unit within the High Street HAZ area.

The Community Organiser will concentrate on engaging hyperlocal stakeholders including, but not limited to, stall holders on the market, shop and business owners, local creatives and residents of the area. Working with them to interpret their shared ambitions for the area, understanding of its history and uniqueness and how that can be leveraged into a Cultural Programme that can benefit the area and the people in it. This proposal has several assumptions at its core.

- That people who live and work locally have the greatest stake in deciding how their heritage is celebrated. and in ensuring that any investment in the area has real impact on themselves and the economic state sustainability of the market.
- There needs to be some investment in some level of community organising in order to ensure that local people are heard and that their needs are reflected in what is commissioned.
- That the traditional ‘professional panels’ reinforce inequality, as larger organisations are more likely to have staff capacity to attend, whereas smaller grassroots organisations either won’t be able to send representation or will have to represent themselves unpaid. This re-entrenches inequality and is often reflected in commissioning practices favouring larger organisations.
- That any community decision making group not twinned with grassroots community organising is likely to reflect ‘the usual suspects’ rather than engaging overlooked points of view. And a transformational programme for an area has to engage those who expect to be overlooked and unheard.

The Community Organiser will support the formation of a community decision making group (CDMG) which will ensure the cultural grant benefits the local area by: reflecting its history, reinvesting in local organisations/ individuals, building skills in the local community, having a sustainable impact on cultural life in the area. They will facilitate and support community members to build a shared vision of what their monthly mini exhibitions and their annual festival will look and feel like, as well as plan how they’ll market the area and events to bring in people to the area and raise awareness of its history. They will then to seek out collaborators that complement values as well as support needs.

Support for the objectives of the Cultural Programme is outlined in the outcomes of the project below.

<p><b>Strand 2:</b> Facilitating cultural activities and events celebrating the history of the high street and its importance to local communities over the generations</p>	<p><b>Strand 3:</b> Giving local communities a key role in deciding what works they want to see happening on their high street and what sort of place they want it to be.</p>
---	---

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in visitors to the high street and market/ proportional reported increase in trade</li> <li>- Local organisations project positivity about the future of their business weighted against other streets in the local area to show that this high street is thriving.</li> <li>- High street polls on visitors show intent from visitors to come to this high street and an ability to identify what is unique and different about it.</li> <li>- An increased awareness of the cultural relevance of the high street</li> <li>- Press and website reach of content promoting both the activity and the heritage of the space.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More than a hundred local residents to be actively engaged in either commissioning or delivering activities</li> <li>- An increased proportion of residents say they feel more informed of and proud of the history of their local high street</li> <li>- An increased proportion of residents say that they feel that the Cultural Programme was owned by them and that they felt respected in decision-making</li> <li>- Local community members are identified who intend to sustain the annual high street festival beyond the initial three years</li> <li>- Numbers of stall holders who believe that an investment from them in the annual festival/ mini exhibitions is a good marketing investment.</li> </ul>
---	--

## Stakeholders and Partners

One of the key strengths of this project is the breadth of skills and experience across the already engaged stakeholders in the area, as well as the untapped potential of stakeholders who are not traditionally engaged in this kind of work.

The Cultural Consortium has met regularly since September. Meetings are attended by local authority neighbourhood team members, local charities, representatives of national arts organisations that are based in the area, internationally recognised galleries, two local universities and several small organisations who specialise in the history of the area of the people who live here. This established group has committed to understanding the neighbourhood's needs and supporting the development of local people in order that investment in this area is credible and genuinely improves the lives and prospects of people who live and work here.

The Community Decision-Making Group (CDMG) will be recruited through the many connections the Consortium has with local housing associations, schools, charities and social prescribers to bring as many stakeholders into this decision-making group as possible.

The Cultural Consortium will use their skills across architectural design, community developments, co-production, participation rights-based practice and cultural creating to mentor and support members of the Community Decision-Making Group both individually and as a collective to share our skills and assets with them in order that the work that they undertake is sustainable. We will help the decision-making group to map their own skills against their hopes and expectations for the area and consider how intellectual and physical resources can be best utilised.

## Project Plan

This project is made up of 5 discrete elements -

- 1) Developing the capacity of local stakeholders to work in partnership and explore new ways of sharing assets and resources between stakeholder groups for community benefit
- 2) Offering a rolling regular programme of cultural events that will drive repeat traffic to the market on weekends and encourage it to be considered as an area with a clear and consistent cultural offer
- 3) Undertaking an annual Petticoat Lane Festival. The purpose of this festival is to be a focus for tourism marketing in terms of press coverage and where people will travel from further distances to experience the historical and cultural offer in the space.
- 4) Providing an overall skills audit of local residents and business holders and working with the cultural consortia and wider groups of experts to develop the skills needed to sustain cultural activity beyond the period of the funding
- 5) Marketing and promoting the area and the cultural programme both using traditional media, social channels and by supporting local residents and stakeholders to build and use their own profiles.

We will use co-production methodology throughout this project in order to ensure that any work undertaken on Wentworth Street is aligned with the ambitions and intentions of the local community.

We will use the Community & Project Hub based in an empty shop unit (Project 6 of the wider HSHAZ programme) as the base of activities in order that there is a place that the local community know that they can go to for up-to-date information, to engage and to share their opinions. As the high street is already used as a market regularly no additional street closures will be needed however there will need to be work done to ensure that there are the correct licences in place for any additional activities or entertainments put on in the period.

Particular health and safety considerations will be around social distancing at least initially during public events. We may need to consider commissioning events that remain static for longer such as virtual treasure hunts and art trails rather than live music events at least while trying to manage numbers into the area. In addition, we will need to undertake risk assessments around all of the usual public events, concerns such as fire, crime, terrorism and bad weather and ensuring we have the correct provision of first aiders.

Building a long-term 3-year relationship with the local community based upon shared goals, planning and assessment, skills and shared assets will ensure that the people who need to continue the cultural programming once the funding period is over have had a complete planning and evaluation experience. At a community level there will be increased understanding of how to share and utilise power in order to ensure they have the resources they need.

Wentworth Street is an historically important area in a vibrant part of London. The hope and expectation from this project are that the people that live and work there now will be able to harness this as cultural capital to build the use and value of their shared spaces.

## Timeframe

For Year 1 of the 3 year programme the first 6 months will be devoted to the recruitment and training of a community panel who will work to understand what challenges different stakeholders are facing and the difference they hope the High Street HAZ and the Cultural Programme in particular will make in the area. This panel will consist of a cross section of people who live, work and study locally, recruited through partner organisations and through direct engagement with Petticoat Lane market. We will work with this group to deliver direct community engagement in order to shape themes for the commissioning process.

This group will be diverse and representative of the local community ensuring that BAME and LGBTQ voices are heard throughout.

This group will then lead a rolling programme of community engagement, cultural commissioning, and evaluation. Commission monthly mini exhibitions, tours or other micro events reflecting the themes developed through the community engagement process. As well as an annual larger scale 'Petticoat Lane Festival' including static works of art that would be in place over the period of a full month or more, and one or two weekend's worth of activity drawing visitors to the market/ area.

Through this programme of events we hope to celebrate the cultural and historical relevance of the area and build community cohesion among the people who live, work and study here. In addition to this the commissioning process will develop local skills and confidence to continue this celebration beyond the three-year cycle of the High Street HAZ programme. Skills development will enable local traders and residents to have the planning, marketing and evaluation skills to invest their time and resources in effective cultural activity that benefits their lives and businesses beyond the term of this project.

## Outputs

### *Output 1 – Community Scoping*

Forming of community decision making group made up of people who live, work, study or create in the area. Community information gathering results in clear indication of what success looks like for local people.

➔ Start Jan 2021 - Complete (first iteration) June 2021

- Cultural professionals- 3
- Participants – 20
- Audience in person – 150+
- Audience online – n/a

### *Output 2 – community commissions (x30)*

Monthly commissions for cultural experiences co- created with or inspired by local people/ heritage. Focused on drawing in increased footfall to the high street, new custom for traders, and building physical or virtual community assets (including new skills in community). Different each month but could be a geocaching experience along the market leading to portraits of local people by local school children, or a musicscape map of the market, or an autumn pumpkin trail where all stall holders have access to carve your own workshops, for example.

➔ Start July 2021, then monthly until January 2024

- Cultural professionals- 2 / month, 60 (total)
- Participants – 20 (a month), 300 (total – assuming some participants will get involved regularly, others only once)
- Audience in person– 150+ (a month), 3000+ (total, assuming some people will attend monthly, others as one off)
- Audience online – 20,000+ unique individuals over project period

### *Output 3 – Annual Market Festival*

Weekend festival, with month long installations bringing together commissions across the year with engagement and learning events and cultural happenings. All commissioned by and co-delivered with a community decision making panel.

➔ Start September 2021, then Sept 22 & 23

- Cultural professionals - 15 (average a festival) 45 total
- Participants= 60 each (150 total – assuming some participants will get involved regularly others only once)
- Audience in person = 600 + each year
- Audience online = 20,000 unique visitors over period

### *Output 4 – Virtual High Street*

Online archive of history, activities and ways to get involved

➔ From July 2021 onwards

- Cultural professionals – 4 +
- Participants – 10+ (local people developing & adding content)
- Audience (online only) – 20,000

### *Output 5 community training*

responding to our findings from initial skills and development scoping putting into place a skills development programme for local stakeholders to ensure that within the length of the program they have developed the skills they need to continue it beyond the funding period

➔ Start date June 2021

- Completion date January 2024
- Cultural professionals - 10 +
- Participants - 20 +

Audiences in person and online are equivalent of full audiences for festival

## **Communication and Marketing**

There are a variety of audiences for this piece of work which means that a blended communications approach will be applied.

- Local Residents – traditional outreach in person, physical presence on high street, leafleting, community walk rounds, community referrals.
- Local business owners/ traders – This follows the delivery model for local residents but also includes clear information on business benefits of revitalising and promoting historic relevance of the area

- People who work/ study here- targeted online promotions (via social with strong imagery), shop window posters, developing hyper-local influencers/ champions
- Potential consumers for business /cultural activity – full comms plan including development of web/ social channels, marketing through destination tourism (practically speaking this means that every monthly event should have some element that photographs well so that people will share on socials, and identifying micro- influencers who can help us reach local/ London wide audiences). The CDMG will want to agree on a strong visual brand for the area.

The promotions cost is more in the first year as in order for us to put together a really great site that links well to a variety of social media channel and build our initial base of imagery. Ongoing works will be commissioned from local people on a month by month basis to record and upload content. This budget might also include professional photography and advertising costs.

## Community Engagement

There will be a funded post (Community Organiser (Arts & Heritage)) who will focus on the Cultural Programme and the community engagement elements of the wider High Street HAZ scheme, supported by a Community Engagement Plan. All commissioning as part of the Cultural Programme will come from local residents/ workers/ creatives working together as a decision-making group. This group is not a replication of a professional commissioning panel such as you would see in local authorities, but a more organic community-led cooperative that works alongside other stakeholders to decide what it is they would like to see – and then to find people to deliver who share their values and have local links.. A community-led commissioning approach bases itself on trust and outcomes and on an equitable process being a core part of any interaction. This allows sustainable, mutually beneficial, relationships to be fostered that have impact beyond the life of the project

One of the key rules of engagement for this piece of work must be that the diversity of local communities and lived experience is reflected in the makeup of the group. In particular, it is important that the formats of meetings and interactions isn't one that will overly give preference to people with professional careers and experience over those working at a grass roots level locally on the high street or in the market. Boardroom style meetings will not be the best way to get the most out of our local community. Community coffee mornings and creative ideas sharing sessions, for example, work better.

The Community Organiser and Toynbee Hall will facilitate and support community members to build a shared vision of what their monthly mini commissions and their annual festival will look and feel like, as well as plan how they'll market the area and events to bring in people to the area

In order to ensure that local artists and local unconstituted groups that are doing good locally are not excluded from this process any applications to draw down the Cultural Programme funds will be done in a way that is accessible to local community groups. With the facilitating organisation ensuring that these meet procurement standards, but that the procurement system is not so arduous as it gets in the way of good work being done by local people.

The cultural consortium will support the work of the local community and the facilitating organisation by:

- Sharing ideas and resources that already exist with the CDMG to inform their thoughts
- Making suggestions as to how they could work with the group, and any investment needed for that
- Promoting the outputs of the panel both to artists/ organisers that might want to work with them and to the general public who might want to consume the outputs
- Help with thinking through maximising impact, and evaluating what works
- Help understanding historical/ artistic context where relevant

## Impact and Evaluation

In the first 6 months of the programme the CDMG will work together to baseline where the area is now and build agreed measures of success for the programme, they will do this with the support of the Local Authority, London Metropolitan University and others from the Cultural Consortium. These might include:

- Increased no. visitors to the high street & market/ proportional reported increase in trade by straw poll
- Local organisations projected positivity about the future of their business weighted against other streets by straw poll

- Visitors are able to identify what is unique and different about the high street by straw poll
- No. visitors visiting website and social media events
- 100+ local residents have been actively engaged in either commissioning or delivering the activities
- 100+ residents are saying they feel more informed of and proud of the history of their local high street
- 100+ residents felt respected in decision-making
- 100+ residents who say that they feel that the Cultural Programme (or some events within it) was owned by them
- No. stall holders and shopkeepers who believe that an investment from them in that festival/ mini exhibitions is a good marketing investment.

As well as measures of skills development, pride and satisfaction in local area of local residents, students and workers, as well as reduction in unlet commercial spaces and pitches for market stalls. The CDMG will be also able to draw on footfall data for Wentworth Street collected by the local authority.

## Related Projects and Programmes (Interfaces)

The Memories, Craft and Project Hub based out of an empty shop unit (Project 6 of the wider HSHAZ programme) will form a base for the Community Organiser and from which monthly mini exhibitions can be held. The Hub will also be a location for crafts workshops and building maintenance skills and advice workshops (Project 5 of the wider HSHAZ programme). These projects and the Cultural Programme will provide an opportunity for communities and audiences to engage with the capital works on the high street, by highlighting individual buildings as well as traditional building construction, skills and maintenance. It is an opportunity to tell the narrative of the people and events behind individual buildings (as in the Survey of London), archaeology (on Cobb St, Boar's Head Theatre), specific market stalls, particular street corners (assisted by, for example, local archives, local historians, Historic Area Assessment).

Toynbee Hall's heritage programme focuses on work alongside the diverse communities of East London to examine the history of social action at Toynbee Hall and build an accessible, inclusive visitor experience exploring this history with them and using this co-produced history to engage new individuals and community groups in Toynbee Hall's Heritage space, history and current work. This includes the evolution of our permanent exhibition and monthly Heritage Open Days. The most recent of these (pre Covid-19) had an attendance of 175 adults (most of whom attended with children). Toynbee Hall also has a Heritage Learning & Participation Manager.

Whitechapel Gallery have operated community programmes for over a decade, working with community partners on dedicated projects. The Gallery will be working closely with Tower Hamlets Council on their Art Trail in 2020 where there will be an arts competition for local artists to design murals and other artwork on and around Wentworth Street. This will provide an opportunity for collaboration and skills sharing and mentoring between the judging panel and the CDMG and Community Organiser.

## Sustainability and Legacy

The participatory methodology in this cultural application means that while it is more difficult to predict in detail activities undertaken each month, the development of skills and infrastructure in the hyper-local area is easier to predict, with participants in the CDMG all gaining the equivalent of a level 3/4 experience in marketing, heritage & cultural event production and creating cultural capital out of the unique history of the area.

As a result of the training and development programme we anticipate that the area's stall holders and business owners will continue to be able to run monthly experiences that draw people to the market after the project is completed. The skills they've developed in using culture and heritage as leverage for marketing, means that they will not only know how to do this, but understand the value to their business of doing so.

We would hope that over the 3-year period of working together as a consortium that new cross-pollination of ideas would happen and that all organisations cultural partnerships would be adjusted and changed around our shared experiences. Learning will be collated by the cultural consortia together with the Community Organiser and the local authorities both City and Tower Hamlets and will be held in an accessible format on the Petticoat Lane website that is created as a part of the project it will also be stored on Toynbee Hall's digital archive to ensure that is accessible to the heritage sector at large and searchable and usable by community high streets up

and down the country. In the final year 2023, we will host a high streets and heritage event to disseminate what communities learnt from the project, e.g. via a webinar, as an opportunity to share learning.

Physical art works will be maintained by the local neighbourhood team as a part of the ongoing neighbourhood upkeep for Wentworth Street and Petticoat Lane.

## Project Team and Experience

The Cultural Consortium lead is Toynbee Hall, where the Community Organiser will be based. This person will be recruited hyper-locally; this will be a local resident with deep grassroots community relationships and experience co-producing cultural events. From Toynbee Hall, staff inputting into the projects have substantial experience in grassroots community action, community services, events management, art curation and participatory action research. As a heritage building ourselves, we are skilled at making heritage accessible and disseminating information about heritage in a way that feels vibrant and inclusive.

This project will be delivered by a crossed cutting or cross organisational team made up of the Whitechapel Gallery, Artsadmin, the Swadhinata Trust, the School of Art, Architecture & Design at London Metropolitan University, Numbi Arts, Aldgate Connect Business Improvement District, the Community Engagement team at the City of London, SPAB, Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives and the Raphael Samuel History Centre. The skills provided in this group include historic research and using historical collections, guided walks and talks, community engagement (and plans), co-production of community events, small business support, youth and community programmes, local networking, capacity-building, schools engagement, language support, arts development and commissioning, festival production, oral history, public programme creation, project co-ordination and management, BAME community knowledge & connections, exhibition and interpretation of archive material, educational events online and in person, student project work, art design & architecture skills, brief development & tendering, local arts and heritage projects, international national and local artist networking, fundraising, etc.

A full list of the Cultural Consortia is provided in Appendix 5, with details on their skills and current or previous involvement in projects in the area.

## Performance Management

Toynbee Hall's Programme Management Co-ordinator will support the Community Organiser to create measurable milestones throughout the project and report against them every 6 weeks to the Cultural Consortium board who will have oversight of budgets, risk registers and monitoring the impact of the project.

The Community Organiser will be directly line managed within Toynbee Hall's Youth, Heritage and Arts team, but will be matrix managed in partnership with the High Street HAZ Project Officer at Tower Hamlets Council. Attending High Street HAZ meetings, and co-ordinating activity for maximum impact

## Please confirm all Consortia members and delivery teams have:

- Health and Safety Policy Statement
- Equal Opportunities Policy Statement
- Where relevant that all Disclosure and Barring checks have been undertaken

## Please confirm you are enclosing the following supporting documents with your application:

These documents are required elements which should be submitted along with your application for grant funding

- Programme Timeline
- Risk Log
- Task List

## Declaration

Your completed application form must be signed by the person within the Cultural Consortia lead organisation who has the authority to approve this application.

Date of application

16/12/2020

Signed Certification by an appropriate person within the organisation

E Archer

Print name

Elizabeth Archer

Date of signatory

16/12/2020

This page is intentionally left blank

**DATED 27/05/21**

**AGREEMENT FOR**

**CULTURAL PROGRAMME LOCAL CULTURAL CONSORTIA GRANT 2020-2024**

**BETWEEN**

**THE HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND**

**AND**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

This Agreement is made on the 27 day of May 2021

**BETWEEN**

Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England of 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cannon Bridge House, 25 Dowgate Hill, London, EC4R 2YA (“Historic England”)

And

London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Place Directorate, 2nd Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG (“Lead Partner”)

each a “Party” and together “the Parties”.

**1. BACKGROUND**

1.1 The High Streets Heritage Action Zones (“HS HAZ”) Programme is a nationwide initiative designed to secure lasting improvements to our historic high streets for the communities who use them.

1.2 As part of this overall initiative, and in partnership with Arts Council England and the National Heritage Memorial Fund, Historic England is making support and funding available for the development and production of the HS HAZ Cultural Programme (the “Cultural Programme”) with new partnerships on each of the 68 high streets participating in the HS HAZ Programme.

1.3 .

1.4 The Cultural Programme supported by this funding will be developed and delivered by the Cultural Consortia and local communities in each place. This cultural activity will celebrate the local character and heritage of the location, and make high streets a key place to experience and participate in culture.

**2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

2.1 In this Agreement, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

<b>“Agreement”</b>	means this agreement comprising the terms and conditions set out in this document, Annexe 1 (Project Design) and Annexe 2 (Milestones and Instalment Schedule/Spend Profile).
<b>“Confidential Information”</b>	means any information (however conveyed, recorded or preserved)

	<p>disclosed by a Party or its personnel to the other Party (and/or that Party's personnel) whether before or after the date of this Agreement, including but not limited to any information that ought reasonably to be considered to be confidential (whether or not it is so marked) relating to the business, affairs or plans of the disclosing Party. Confidential Information shall not include information which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) was public knowledge at the time of disclosure (otherwise than by breach of clause 19.1 of this Agreement);</li> <li>b) was in the possession of the receiving Party, without restriction as to its disclosure, before receiving it from the disclosing Party;</li> <li>c) is received from a third party (who lawfully acquired it) without restriction as to its disclosure; or</li> <li>d) is independently developed without access to the Confidential Information.</li> </ul>
<p><b>“Cultural Consortia”</b></p>	<p>means the regional partners as set out in the Project Design, responsible for designing and delivering the Projects.</p>
<p><b>“Cultural Consortia Lead”</b></p>	<p>means the lead of the Cultural Consortia as identified within the Project Design.</p>
<p><b>“Data Protection Legislation”</b></p>	<p>means unless and until it is no longer directly applicable in the UK, the General Data Protection Regulation (EU Regulation</p>

	2016/679) (the “GDPR”), the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018 to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy, and all applicable laws and regulations relating to processing of personal data and privacy including where applicable the guidance and codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner, in each case, to the extent in force, and as such are updated, amended or replaced from time to time, including any successor legislation to the GDPR or the Data Protection Act 2018
<b>“Data Controller”, “Data Processor”, and “Personal Data”</b>	take the meaning given in the Data Protection Legislation
<b>“EIR”</b>	means the Environmental Information Regulations 2004
<b>“FOIA”</b>	means the Freedom of Information Act 2000
<b>“HE Grant”</b>	means the sum specified in Annexe 2 Your Milestones and Instalments Schedule (Spend Profile) that Historic England will pay to the Lead Partner in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
<b>“Intellectual Property Rights” “IP Rights”</b>	means copyrights, moral rights, patents, trademarks, trade or business names, service marks, design rights (registered or unregistered), database rights, rights in undisclosed or confidential information (such as know-how, trade secrets and inventions) (whether patentable or not), rights protecting goodwill and reputation, rights under licenses and consents in relation to these things and other similar intellectual property rights (whether registered or not) and any applications for these rights which may exist anywhere in

	the world.
<b>“Joint Allocation”</b>	means the monetary contribution of each Party as set out in the Spend Profile for the delivery of the Projects in the Project Design.
<b>“Key Post(s)”</b>	Shall be the posts of the Lead Partner as detailed in clause 13.2
<b>“Milestone(s)”</b>	means each element of the individual Projects set out in the Milestones and Instalment Schedule.
<b>“Milestones and Instalment Schedule”</b>	means the document setting out the Milestones and payment schedule at Annexe 2.
<b>“Programme Delivery Guidance”</b>	means the guidance document titled “High Streets Heritage Action Zones Programme: Programme Delivery Guidance” issued and updated by Historic England from time to time;
<b>“Projects”</b>	means the individual projects/activities detailed in the Project Design;
<b>“Project Design”</b>	has the definition given to it in clause 3.1
<b>“Recipient”</b>	means members of the Cultural Consortia that receive grant funding from the Lead Partner under the Cultural Programme.
<b>“Shared Personal Data”</b>	means the Personal Data the Parties agree to share under this Agreement
<b>“Spend Profile”</b>	has the definition given to it in clause 4.
<b>“Subsidy Rules”</b>	means the law applicable in the United Kingdom pursuant to Chapter 3 (Subsidy control), Title XI, Part 2 of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and the United Kingdom.
<b>“Term”</b>	has the definition given to it in clause 3.3.

2.2 In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the singular includes the plural and vice versa;

- (b) reference to a gender includes the other gender and the neuter;
- (c) references to a person include an individual, company, body corporate, corporation, unincorporated association, firm, partnership or other legal entity or Crown Body;
- (d) a reference to any law includes a reference to that law as amended, extended, consolidated or re-enacted from time to time;
- (e) the words "including", "other", "in particular", "for example" and similar words will not limit the generality of the preceding words and will be construed as if they were immediately followed by the words "without limitation";
- (f) references to "writing" include typing, printing, lithography, photography, display on a screen, electronic and facsimile transmission and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form, and expressions referring to writing will be construed accordingly; and
- (g) the headings in this Agreement are for ease of reference only and will not affect the interpretation or construction of this Agreement.

2.3 Where there is any conflict between the documents that make up this Agreement the conflict shall be resolved in accordance with the following order of precedence:

- (a) these terms and conditions;
- (b) Annexe 1 Project Design
- (c) Annexe 2 - Milestones and Instalments Schedule – The Spend Profile for your project which is sent with this Agreement.

## **ALLOCATION OF FUNDS**

3.1 Historic England and the Lead Partner agrees, pursuant to sections 77 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (as amended), to make funds available in accordance with the programme and strategy for the delivery of cultural and community engagement activities set out in the document agreed between Historic England and the Cultural Consortia ("Project Design") which may be amended by the written agreement of the Parties in accordance with this Agreement.

3.2 Without prejudice to the Parties other rights and remedies, the HE Grant and the Joint Allocation may be varied only by written agreement between the Parties to this Agreement.

3.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the Agreement will commence on the date of this Agreement and end on 31 March 2024 (the "Term"). Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Lead Partner may make offers of grant during the Term in accordance with Project Design and Spend Profile. All expenditure to be

reimbursed by the HE Grant must have been incurred before the end of the Term, unless otherwise agreed by Historic England.

#### **4 SPEND PROFILE**

- 4.1 The profile of the projected spend for the Term (the "Spend Profile") shall be reviewed at an agreed quarter - point as part of the review process pursuant to clause 12.
- 4.2 The Lead Partner is, and shall ensure the Recipient is, obliged to remain within the Spend Profile set out in Milestones and Instalments Schedule unless a variation is agreed in writing with Historic England in advance.

#### **5 THE PROJECT DESIGN**

- 5.1 The Project Design shall operate in accordance with the timetable set out within the same. Only Projects contained in the Project Design will be eligible for grant.
- 5.2 The Lead Partner must seek Historic England's prior written approval for revisions to the Project Design. Historic England reserves the right to attach any conditions it deems appropriate to any approval it provides pursuant to this clause 5.

#### **6 PUBLICITY**

6.1 The Lead Partner agrees to and shall obtain agreement from the Recipient that they will:

- (a) publicise the Project Design throughout the Term; and
- (b) acknowledge the provision of Historic England funding in accordance with Historic England's guidance or any other guidance as may be provided from time to time by Historic England or in such other manner as the Parties to this Agreement may, from time to time, agree.
- (c) acknowledge the investment of National Lottery funding and the involvement of National Heritage Memorial Fund ("NHMF") in all promotion and publicity materials produced in connection with the Project Design.

6.2 Historic England may make public the purpose and amount of funding provided in whatever way it shall think fit. This may include Recipients being requested to display a sign acknowledging Historic England's grant funding of the Projects at their location while they are in progress.

#### **7 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS:**

7.1 Intellectual property rights:

- (a) The Lead Partner warrants that it has the necessary permission for either Party to use the photos, transparencies and images and other data the Lead Partner or Cultural Consortia provides, and it hereby grants Historic England a perpetual non-exclusive royalty free licence to use any IP Rights in such data prepared or developed pursuant to this Agreement. Historic England confirms that it will not use any IP Rights in such data for commercial gain.
- (b) The Lead Partner warrants that it has the necessary permission for NHMF and Arts Council England (“ACE”) to use the photos, transparencies and images and other data the Lead Partner or Cultural Consortia provides, and it hereby grants NHMF, ACE and their evaluators and researchers to use data and materials (including IP Rights) generated by the Project Design for the purpose of monitoring, evaluation, research and analysis and for the purpose of promoting the Cultural Programme;
- (c) The Lead Partner confirms that the data does not contain any Confidential Information.
- (d) All IP Rights in all data prepared or supplied by Historic England to the Lead Partner, the Lead Partner’s adviser or contractors shall remain the property of Historic England.
- (e) Historic England hereby grants a personal, non-transferable licence to the Lead Partner to use the IP Rights prepared or supplied by Historic England for the purpose of the Lead Partner performing their obligations under this Agreement and publicising and promoting the Project Design only and the Lead Partner is permitted to sub-licence the Recipient to use the same in order to promote the Project Design in accordance with clause 6.1.
- (f) Should the Lead Partner and/or the Recipient wish to commercially exploit any IP Rights generated by the Project Design, it shall
  - (i) seek the prior written consent of both Historic England and NHMF, and
  - (ii) be obliged to reinvest any profits generated as a result of the HE Grant to improve and develop the Project Design for the public benefit subject to the prior written consent and any additional conditions imposed by Historic England and NHMF;
- (g) the Lead Partner shall share non-confidential research and other knowledge and information with Historic England, NHMF, ACE and their partners and other grantees;
- (h) where requested by Historic England or NHMF, and provided that it would not cause the Lead Partner to breach its legal obligations, to share confidential research and information with Historic England, NHMF and ACE (which Historic England, NHMF and ACE shall not make public).

## **8 ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROJECT DESIGN**

- 8.1 The Lead Partner shall be responsible for the administration and management of the Project Design and, in particular, shall target funds in accordance with the Projects set out in the Project Design, assess and determine applications for grant, make offers of grant, inspect Projects in progress and on completion, and make payments of grant. These responsibilities shall be discharged in accordance with the conditions of this Agreement and such other rules and criteria as may from time to time be agreed by Historic England and the Lead Partner.
- 8.2 Offers of grant made under this Agreement shall not exceed in total the agreed Joint Allocation and Historic England shall not be liable to make any payments to the Lead Partner in excess of its agreed allocation.
- 8.3 Unless otherwise agreed with Historic England in writing in advance, a grant must not be offered if the Projects for which it is sought has commenced prior to submission of the application, or if such work commences thereafter and has not specifically been agreed to by both Parties as part of the approved Project Design.
- 8.4 The Lead Partner shall ensure that the Recipient complies with the Government Code of Conduct for General Grants.

## **9 PROCUREMENT**

- 9.1 The Lead Partner must ensure that it complies with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and any applicable internal procurement rules, regulations and procedures when awarding contracts. In addition, the Lead Partner is responsible for ensuring the Recipients comply with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 where applicable.

## **10 GRANT PAYMENTS**

- 10.1 Historic England will only release payment to the Lead Partner in accordance with the Spend Profile unless otherwise agreed in writing between the Parties. The Lead Partner will only release payment to the Recipient in accordance with the completed Milestones as set out in the Spend Profile unless otherwise agreed in writing with Historic England.
- 10.2 The Lead Partner shall, each quarter, submit to Historic England returns of grants paid to Recipients endorsed by an authorised signatory of the Lead Partner together with copies of any supporting documentation supplied to the Lead Partner in relation to the Projects. If no payments have been made, a nil return should be submitted.

- 10.3 The Lead Partner shall comply with the monitoring and evaluation requirements as described in the Section 7 of the Programme Delivery Guidance (“Monitoring and evaluation of the High Streets Heritage Action Zones Programme”) and as agreed in the Project Design.
- 10.4 Provided the returns set out in Clause 10.2 are completed, and in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, Historic England shall pay the Lead Partner by BACS within 30 days of receipt of a valid claim.
- 10.5 The Lead Partner shall keep and make available to Historic England upon reasonable request any correspondence, specifications, plans, drawings, invoices, or such other information as Historic England may reasonably require relating to any grant offered under the Project Design for a period of six years after the end of the Term.
- 10.6 All payments of the HE Grant in accordance with this Agreement will be deemed to be inclusive of all VAT and Historic England shall not be obliged to pay any amount over and above the amount of the HE Grant.

## **11 GRANT REPAYMENT**

- 11.1 The whole or any part of the HE Grant (in so far as it shall have been paid) shall become repayable by the Lead Partner to Historic England (and Historic England reserve the right to withdraw any future payments of the HE Grant) if in Historic England’s reasonable opinion:
- 11.1.1 the Lead Partner’s application for grant or other material subsequently submitted to Historic England is shown to have been completed fraudulently or materially misleading or inaccurate information has been provided to Historic England;
  - 11.1.2 the Lead Partner has acted negligently or fraudulently in connection with this Agreement;
  - 11.1.3 the HE Grant has been used for ineligible costs;
  - 11.1.4 payments of the HE Grant to the Council or grants paid to Recipients by the Council breach the Subsidy Rules; or
  - 11.1.5 the Lead Partner cease to exist or are declared bankrupt or are placed into receivership or liquidation or are the subject of an administration order.
- 11.2 The Lead Partner agrees that upon receipt of notice requiring repayment the Lead Partner shall repay the sums required within 20 days of receipt of such notice, unless otherwise agreed with Historic England in writing.
- 11.3 Where the Lead Partner recovers any grant monies from a Recipient due to a breach by the Recipient of its obligations under a grant agreement or otherwise, it shall return to Historic England the recovered

monies provided to the Recipient, unless otherwise agreed with Historic England in writing. The Lead Partner shall repay the sum to Historic England within a period of 20 days after it has received the monies from the Recipient, unless otherwise agreed with Historic England in writing.

## 12 REVIEW PROCESS

- 12.1 The Lead Partner and Cultural Consortia Lead shall undertake a yearly review of the Project Design in liaison with Historic England, to monitor progress and consider revisions as necessary. The Instalments and Milestones Schedule issued with this Agreement will state that a progress report is required from the Lead Partner to Historic England quarterly throughout each financial year the project is active. A final, more detailed review must be submitted to Historic England before the Agreement is due to expire to determine whether the objectives of the Project Design have been achieved.
- 12.2 If, in the Lead Partner’s or Historic England’s reasonable opinion either or both Parties believe that the Lead Partner will not have offered the total Joint Allocation by the end of the Term then Historic England reserves the right to withdraw the uncommitted balance of its allocation before the end of the Term.

## 13 STAFFING

- 13.1 In accordance with the Project Design, the Lead Partner shall make available, and shall ensure that members of the Cultural Consortia shall make available, and continue to make available, adequate and appropriate staff resources for the ongoing promotion, management, administration and implementation of the Project Design.
- 13.2 Post Title/s

(Please insert post titles and contact details of at least two members of staff of the Lead Partner)

<b>Post 1:</b>		<b>Post 2:</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Anna Zucchelli	<b>Name</b>	Michael Ritchie
<b>Job Title</b>	Heritage at Risk Projects Officer	<b>Job Title</b>	Place Shaping Team Leader
<b>Employer</b>	London Borough of Tower Hamlets	<b>Employer</b>	London Borough of Tower Hamlets
<b>Address</b>	Place Directorate, 2nd Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG.	<b>Address</b>	Place Directorate, 2nd Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG.

<b>Tel:</b>	0207 364 6602	<b>Tel:</b>	020 7364 3640
<b>E-Mail:</b>	anna.zucchelli@towerhamlets.gov.uk	<b>E-Mail:</b>	Michael.Ritchie@towerhamlets.gov.uk

13.3 Should there be any change in the Key Post(s) or should they cease for any reason to discharge the functions they currently fulfil in respect of the Project Design for a period of longer than one month, the Lead Partner shall notify Historic England within 14 days of the fact, and of what measures are to be taken to fill the Key Post(s). Any change to Key Post(s) must be approved in advance in writing by Historic England, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

13.4 Historic England

The focal point at the local Historic England office, to whom all correspondence and requests for advice should be sent, shall be:

<b>For technical and administrative matters:</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Cultural Programming Team
<b>HSHAZ CP Lead</b>	Simon Boase
<b>Historic England</b>	
<b>Office</b>	Cannon Bridge House
<b>Address</b>	4th Floor, Cannon Bridge House, 25 Dowgate Hill, London, EC4R 2YA
<b>E-Mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:CulturalProgramme@historicengland.org.uk">CulturalProgramme@historicengland.org.uk</a>

**14 TERMINATION**

14.1 Any Party to this Agreement may terminate it at any time by giving not less than 3 months’ notice in writing. Unless otherwise agreed with Historic England, the Lead Partner must not make any offers of grant after a notice under this clause 14 has been given.

14.2 Historic England may without prejudice to any other right terminate this Agreement in writing with immediate effect if:

- (a) the Lead Partner commits a material breach of any of its obligations under this Agreement and (where capable of remedy) fails to take all reasonable steps to remedy such default within such reasonable time as may be specified in writing by Historic England;

(b) the High Street Heritage Action Zone agreement between Historic England and the Lead Partner is terminated.

14.3 Termination shall neither affect the validity of grants properly offered or paid in accordance with the terms of this Agreement before the date of notice of termination, nor the Lead Partner's right to be reimbursed by Historic England in respect of such grants under the provisions of this Agreement.

14.4 Any provision of this Agreement that expressly or by implication is intended to come into or continue in force on or after termination or expiry of this Agreement including the definitions and interpretations noted at the start of this document, shall remain in full force and effect.

14.5 Termination or expiry of this Agreement shall not affect any rights, remedies, obligations or liabilities of the Parties that have accrued up to the date of termination or expiry.

## 15 WAIVER

15.1 A failure or delay in exercising any right or remedy provided under this Agreement or by law shall not be construed as a waiver of that or any other right or remedy.

## 16 ASSIGNMENT/SUBCONTRACTING

16.1 The Lead Partner shall not assign, sub-contract or transfer this Agreement or any part thereof without the prior consent in writing of Historic England.

## 17. SEVERANCE

17.1 If any provision of this Agreement is held by any competent authority to be invalid, unlawful or unenforceable in whole or in part, the validity, lawfulness and enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement and the remainder of the provision in question shall not be affected thereby.

## 18. DATA PROTECTION

18.1 This clause 18 sets out the framework for the sharing of Personal Data between the Parties where they are acting as Data Controllers in respect of the Shared Personal Data in connection with this Agreement:

(a) Each Party acknowledges that a party (the "**Data Discloser**") will regularly disclose for the purposes of this Agreement to another party or other parties (the "**Data Recipient(s)**") Shared Personal Data collected by the Data Discloser;

(b) The Parties shall comply with all the obligations imposed on a Data Controller under the Data Protection Legislation, and any material breach of the Data Protection Legislation by one Party shall, if not remedied within 30 days of that breach, give grounds to the other Party to terminate this Agreement with immediate effect;

- (c) Each Party acknowledges that the Data Recipient(s) was not involved in the collection of Shared Personal Data initially collected by the Data Discloser and provided to the Data Recipient(s). The Data Discloser shall ensure that it collects and processes such Shared Personal Data in accordance with the Data Protection Legislation;
- (d) Each Party shall ensure that it has all necessary notices and consents in place to enable lawful transfer of the Shared Personal Data to the Data Recipient(s) for the purposes of this Agreement;
- (e) The Data Recipient(s) shall process the Shared Personal Data only for the purposes of this Agreement;
- (f) Each Party shall be separately responsible for compliance with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation, in its capacity as Data Controller of the Shared Personal Data processed for the purposes of this Agreement, in respect of:
  - (i) the security of the Shared Personal Data when under its control;
  - (ii) any transfers of the Shared Personal Data outside the EEA for which that Party is responsible; and
  - (iii) any requests received from individuals in respect of their rights under the Data Protection Legislation exercised in respect of the Shared Personal Data in that Party's possession and/or control.

18.2 Each Party shall provide to the others such reasonable co-operation and assistance as may be necessary in relation to the Shared Personal Data including in responding to any request from a Data Subject and in ensuring compliance with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation with respect to security, breach notifications, impact assessments and consultations with supervisory authorities.

18.3 Each Party shall (and shall procure that any of its staff involved in connection with the Project Design shall) comply with any notification requirements under the Data Protection Legislation.

18.4 Historic England's full privacy and cookies policy can be viewed at <https://historicengland.org.uk/terms/privacy-cookies/>

## 19 CONFIDENTIALITY

19.1 Except to the extent set out in clause 19.2 or where disclosure is expressly permitted, each Party shall treat Confidential Information belonging to the other Party as confidential and shall not disclose any Confidential Information belonging to the other Party to any other person without the prior written consent of the other Party.

19.2 Neither Party shall be prevented from disclosing any Confidential Information obtained from the other Party:

19.2.1 for the purpose of the examination and certification of: (i) its own accounts; or (ii) pursuant to section 6(1) of the National Audit Act 1983, the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Party has used its resources; or

19.2.2 to any government department, provided that in disclosing information the Party only discloses the information which is necessary for the purpose concerned and requests that the information is treated in confidence and that a confidentiality undertaking is given where appropriate;

19.2.3 where disclosure is required by law, including under the FOIA or EIR.

## 20 INFORMATION ACTS

20.1 Both Parties acknowledge that the other Party is subject to the requirements of the FOIA and the EIR. Either Party may be obliged to release documents if the Party receives a FOIA or EIR request.

20.2 In respect of any FOIA or EIR request, the recipient of the request (“**Request Recipient**”) shall be responsible for determining whether any information, whether commercially sensitive information or otherwise, is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of FOIA or EIR or is to be disclosed in response to a request for information.

20.3 The Request Recipient undertakes to notify the other Party promptly (taking into account the timescales for responding to same) on receipt of any FOIA or EIR request relating to the other Party (or the Cultural Programme/HS HAZ programme where the Request Recipient is the Lead Partner) and to allow the other Party to make representations prior to substantively responding to any such request (taking into account the timescale for responding to FOIA and EIR requests) as to the confidential nature of any information requested or any other grounds on which the information should be withheld under the FOIA or EIR (or both).

## 21 SUBSIDY RULES

21.1 The Lead Partner hereby confirms that it has undertaken an assessment and obtained legal advice where necessary to ensure that the provision of the HE Grant awarded under this Agreement and provision of grants awarded to the Recipients comply with all applicable Subsidy Rules. The Lead Partner shall provide Historic England upon request with details of any exemption, where any such exemption is available under the Subsidy Rules, or any other justifications that the Lead Partner intends to rely upon with respect to the Project Design.

- 21.2 The Lead Partner acknowledges that Historic England may require all or part of any grant to be repaid if any information given or representation made in respect of the Subsidy Rules is found to be materially incorrect. The Lead Partner agrees that upon receipt of notice requiring repayment the Lead Partner shall repay the sums required within 20 days of receipt of such notice, unless otherwise agreed with Historic England in writing. The liability to meet such a demand shall be enforceable as a contractual debt. Historic England may require the Lead Partner to pay interest on any amount repayable in accordance with such rates as are appropriate pursuant to the Subsidy Rules.
- 21.3 Historic England reserves the right to vary the Subsidy Rules requirements within this clause in line with changes to any relevant legislation from time to time.

## **22 COMPLIANCE WITH ANTI-SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAWS AND POLICIES**

- 22.1 In performing its obligations under the Agreement, the Parties shall comply with all applicable anti-slavery and human trafficking laws, statutes and regulations from time to time in force including but not limited to the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

## **23 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- 23.1 In the event of any complaint or dispute (which does not relate to Historic England's right to withhold funds or terminate) arising between the Parties to this Agreement in relation to this Agreement the matter should first be referred for resolution to the High Streets HAZ Cultural Programme Manager or any other individual nominated by Historic England from time to time.
- 23.2 Should the complaint or dispute remain unresolved within 14 days of the matter first being referred to the High Streets HAZ Cultural Programme Manager or other nominated individual, as the case may be, either Party may refer the matter to the Regional Director of Historic England and the Chief Executive of the Lead Partner with an instruction to attempt to resolve the dispute by agreement within 28 days, or such other period as may be mutually agreed by Historic England and the Lead Partner.
- 23.3 In the absence of agreement, the Parties may seek to resolve the matter through mediation under the CEDR Model Mediation Procedure (or such other appropriate dispute resolution model as is agreed by both Parties). Unless otherwise agreed, the Parties shall bear the costs and expenses of the mediation equally.

## **24 LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

- 24.1 Historic England accepts no liability for any consequences, whether direct or indirect, that may come about from the delivery of the Project Design, the use of the HE Grant or from withdrawal of the HE Grant. The Lead Partner shall indemnify and hold harmless Historic England, its employees, agents,

officers or subcontractors with respect to all claims, demands, actions, costs, expenses, losses, damages and all other liabilities arising from or incurred by reason of the actions and/or omissions of the Lead Partner in relation to the Project Design, the nonfulfillment of obligations of the Lead Partner under this Agreement or its obligations to third parties.

24.2 Historic England's liability under this Agreement is strictly limited to the payment of the HE Grant only.

**25 LAW**

25.1 This Agreement shall be subject to and interpreted according to the laws of England and Wales and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the English Courts.

**26 COUNTERPARTS**

26.1 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall constitute a duplicate original, but all counterparts shall together constitute the one agreement. Delivery by electronic means is specifically permitted under this Agreement, be it by pdf, attachment to an email or by the delivery of an accessible web link to an executed counterpart.

An authorised signatory on behalf of the **Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England**

Signed.....  .....

**Name (capitals)** SIMON BOASE.....

**Position** HIGH STREETS CULTURAL PROGRAMME MANAGER

A duly authorised signatory for and on behalf of **Lead Partner**



Signed

**Name (capitals) JENNIFER PETERS**

**Position- Director Planning and Building Control**

<b>Grants Determination Sub – Committee</b>  01/09/2021	
<b>Report of:</b> James Thomas, Corporate Director, Children and Culture	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>One-off Restart Small Grants for Community Languages Providers</b>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Councillor Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit</b>
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Judith St John, Divisional Director, Commissioning and Culture  Jonathan Solomons, Strategy and Policy Manager, Children and Culture
<b>Wards affected</b>	All Wards
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Forward Plan Notice Published</b>	03/08/2021
<b>Reason for Key Decision</b>	This report has been reviewed as not meeting the Key Decision criteria.
<b>Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome</b>	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities  A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in

## Executive Summary

The report puts forward a proposal to launch a one-off small grants programme for community languages providers that plan to restart mother tongue classes from 2021/22 academic year.

The proposal is for the East End Community Foundation - EECF (who already run the small grants programme on behalf of LBTH) to manage this small grants programme of approximately £120,000 to support voluntary sector providers of community languages classes (mother tongue classes) with a one-off small restart grant. There are around 35 provider organisations in Tower Hamlets that would be eligible for this funding and it would be a closed application process with a maximum grant of £3,000 per grant. There would be an additional fee of 8% fee to EECF for the administration of the funds.

The report sets out the purpose, criteria and funding available and EECF's role in

managing the process of assessing the applications and distributing the funds in the autumn term 2021/22. It will also propose that a further final report on how the funds were spent be considered by the Grants Determination sub-committee later in 2022, once the academic year is complete.

<b>Directorate Leadership Team</b>
<b>Corporate Leadership Team</b>

**Recommendations:**

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Approve the provision of a small grants programme of £120,000 for voluntary sector providers who wish to restart community language (mother tongue) classes.
2. To approve the East End Community Foundation (EECF) to administer this programme on behalf of the council. The cost of this will be 8% of the total fund or £9,600
3. To authorise the Director of Commissioning and Culture to approve the grants, following EECF's evaluation of the applications received and a report with recommendations presented to the EECF board.

**1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 Cabinet took the decision in December 2019 to close the Community Language Service. A number of options were presented in order to do this and the decision was taken that a one-off grant would be provided to enable providers to deliver the classes themselves. This paper sets out the approach to how this decision will be actioned.

## **2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 The sub-committee could decide to suggest alternative options for the delivery of this programme or indeed that it is no longer appropriate for such a programme to be delivered at all.

## **3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

- 3.1 The Community Languages Service (CLS) began as the “Mother Tongue & Study Support” Service back in 1979. While information in relation to the rationale for establishing the service is limited, it appears that there are two main reasons. Firstly, to support children who spoke only English to learn their mother tongue. Secondly, as the time that the service was launched, languages were not being routinely being taught as part of the national curriculum and there is compelling research which outlines the benefits to educational development of being bilingual.
- 3.2 Since 2013, Modern Foreign Languages have been a part of the National Curriculum for primary school children (2004 for Secondary School); however, the service continued to deliver these classes, without very much change.
- 3.3 While the venues and associated costs were not borne by the local authority, the cost of employing the teachers was. There was also a small team of staff who managed and facilitated the service. The overall budget for 2018/19 was £684,400, with the vast majority of this being spent on paying for the teachers.
- 3.4 The CLS was a service that appeared to be unique to Tower Hamlets, particularly in the way that it is delivered, making direct comparisons with other local authorities difficult. The National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education (NRCSE) suggest that providers of supplementary education should be charging a regular fee to parents as this will support them to provide additional activities. There is also a strong argument that such a parental contribution supports engagement and commitment.
- 3.5 The decision was taken by Cabinet in December 2019 that the Community Language Service should close. Cabinet agreed a closure option that would provide a small one-off grant to existing providers who wished to continue to offer classes. The intention of the grant would be to support their initial set up costs.

- 3.6 From March 2020, the COVID pandemic effectively stopped all mother tongue classes from running throughout the past year and until the full closure of the CLS in March 2021. This fund will enable providers to restart their own community language classes in the 2021/22 academic year.
- 3.7 The total budget for the grants programme is £120,000. In order to be eligible, organisations will have to demonstrate that they intend to provide an ongoing programme of language classes. They will be able to apply for a maximum of £3,000 which can be spent on
- Accommodation
  - Tutors
  - Accreditations and/or training
  - Other expenses directly linked to the provision of language classes
- 3.8 Only organisations that previously provided classes with a teacher provided by the local authority or received mainstream grant aid for mother tongue classes in 2018/19 will be eligible to apply. This will limit the administrative burden of the programme as there will be a defined list of organisations that are able to apply. We are in the process of identifying a definitive list of organisations and we expect that this will be a maximum of 35. It is possible that not all organisations will be planning to continue to provide language classes and any grant funds not allocated will be returned to the council. Each organisation will only be eligible for one grant regardless of how many classes that they were previously offering.
- 3.9 We have approached the East End Community Foundation (EECF) who administer a number of other small grants programmes on behalf of the local authority and they have agreed that they would be able to administer this. They have agreed to do this at a cost of 8% of the overall programme which is £9,600. EECF will contact all eligible organisations to advise them of the programme. They are also able to provide support with the application process if this is required. EECF will undertake an evaluation of the applications received and provide a report with recommendations on who should receive a grant to the Director of Commissioning and Culture, following approval by their board for final decision on who should receive a grant. LBTH is represented on the EECF Board. The Director of Commissioning and Culture would require approval via delegated authority to sign off the grants. 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 or, in the case of the Small Grants Programme, the East End Community Foundation (EECF). These decisions are presented to the Sub-Committee for noting.
- 3.10 Should the sub-committee agree, we aim to open the application process as soon as practical. This is likely to be during the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> September with a closing date around four weeks later. We would aim to have a finalised list of successful organisations for review by the end of October 2021. We will endeavour to distribute the grants by the start of 2022 which will enable organisations to provide two full terms of teaching. This is a tight

timeframe and there is the risk of some slippage, particularly if the decision of the sub-committee is “called in” by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 3.11 A condition of the grant will be that successful organisations will have to report on their use of the funds and confirm that they have continued to provide language services. This will take place at the end of the school summer term and will be a one-off exercise.

#### **4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 A full equality impact analysis was carried out to inform the decision to close the service. This current proposal will support organisations to continue to provide language services should they wish to do so. These classes are primarily aimed at children from BAME communities.

#### **5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There is no statutory requirement to provide Community Language Services which is why at a time of increasing budget pressure, the difficult decision was taken to close the service. It is acknowledged that these classes were highly valued within the community and as a result this small grants programme has been developed to enable community organisations to continue to provide these should they wish.

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

- 6.1 The full budget for community Language services was given up as an MTFS saving and therefore the provision of the grants programme will create a pressure that will need to be met from elsewhere in the community and culture budget. The service will be requesting to reduce the current savings target to take account of the revised grants programme highlighted in this report which would then meet the costs. If approval to reduce the currently approved budget saving is not forthcoming, the service will need to identify budget reductions elsewhere to cover the costs, that presently are not budgeted for.

#### **7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

- 7.1 The Council has the legal power to undertake the actions referred to in this report.
- 7.2 Grant recipients are required to submit an evaluated application showing how the funds will be used. This will form a part of the grant agreement and allow the Council to monitor the use of grant against objectives and assist the Council to demonstrate Best Value is being achieved in respect of the grants.
- 7.3 A person’s language is legally a part of a person’s ethnicity and therefore this contract goes directly to the heart of the Council’s Equality Duty in terms of eradicating discrimination between people who have a protected

characteristic and those who do not. However, wider than that, the Council will evaluate the distribution of grant funding following the closure of the grant process to evaluate the overall effect of the grant and distribution in terms of ethnicity across the borough.

---

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

### **Linked Report**

- Cabinet report 18 December 2019 item 6.2 “Review of the Community Language Service” (web link: [Tower Hamlets Council - Agenda for Cabinet on Wednesday, 18th December, 2019, 5.30 p.m.](#))

### **Appendices**

- None

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

- None

### **Officer contact details for documents:**

N/A

<p><b>[Cabinet]</b></p> <p>18 December 2019</p>	 <p><b>TOWER HAMLETS</b></p>
<p><b>Report of:</b> Debbie Jones, Corporate Director- Children and Culture</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted</p>
<p><b>Community Languages Service Review- Options Paper</b></p>	

**Proposed Decision Path (indicate) – Delete Section Before Publication:**

	Step [Delete as applicable]	Date
DLT Level (Tier One)	DLT / CD	14.10.19
CLT Level (Tier Two)	CLT / CE	5.11.19
Member Level (Tier Three)	MAB / 121	27.11.19
Decision (Tier Four)	Cabinet / IMD	18.12.19

**Proposed Decision Path (indicate) – Delete Section Before Publication:**

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Councillor [Sabina Akhtar], Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit</b>
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	[Judith St John Divisional Director for Culture Sport and Leisure]
<b>Wards affected</b>	[All]
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes
<b>Forward Plan Notice Published</b>	[7 October 2019]
<b>Reason for Key Decision</b>	[Impact on Wards]
<b>Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome</b>	[1. People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities;  2. A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in;]

**Reasons for Urgency**

As the publication date for this report falls within the Pre-Election Period (Purdah) it has been decided to delay publication until after the election has taken place.

If this report were to be delayed to the next scheduled meeting of cabinet there will be a delay in the implementation of the chosen option and the possibility that this mean that the full savings within the MTFs will not be realised.

**Executive Summary**

Following the Council’s budget meeting on 20 February 2019, an undertaking was

made by the Mayor for a review of the Community Languages Service (CLS) to be established in order to look at where sustainable alternatives to delivering the service can be put in place to sustain service.

The objective of the review was to continue the provision of community languages in Tower Hamlets with a high-quality and sustainable teaching model delivered in a more cost-effective manner. In addition, the Mayor gave an undertaking that there would not be further savings beyond the £31k saving agreed for 2019/20 from the CLS, until proposals from the review for the future of the service progress to Cabinet for approval later this year. Any significant changes to the CLS, stemming from the review, would be subject to consultation and an equalities impact assessment.

A number of consultation events have taken place with key stakeholders including parents and representatives of the organisations that host these classes. There is no doubt that these classes are valued by those who use them, however it is also clear that there are significant differences in how this provision is provided across the service.

This report outlines the outcome of this review and presents recommendations for the Mayor in Cabinet to consider.

**THIS SECTION TO BE DELETED BEFORE PUBLICATION**

**Decision Type**

Key Decision?	Urgent Decision?	Exempt from Call-In?	Restricted Report or Partially Restricted (e.g. appendix)?
Yes	Yes	No	No

\*If the answer is yes make sure the forthcoming decision on the website states this or else the decision cannot be taken.

**Guidance Documents**

Further details on the procedure for Urgent Decisions can be found in the [Intranet Library](#) and the Guide to Report Writing [guidance note](#).

**Specific Issues for Pre-Decision Meetings**

(Officers may use the following table to add points of note for internal meetings such as CLT, MAB or DMTs. Content can be deleted at any stage and, in any case, will be before publication for the decision making meeting.)

Directorate Leadership Team
14.10.19

<b>Corporate Leadership Team</b>
5.11.19
<b>Mayor's Advisory Board</b>
27.11.19
<b>Communications</b>

**THIS SECTION TO BE DELETED BEFORE PUBLICATION**

**Recommendations:**

The Mayor is recommended to:

1. Approve Option 3 as set out in the report below.
2. Note the Equalities Impact Assessment.

**1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 The objective of the review was to continue the provision of community languages in Tower Hamlets with a high-quality and sustainable teaching model delivered in a more cost-effective manner.

**2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 There are four alternative options set out in this paper . The officer recommendation is the adoption of r Option 3 as it fully delivers the savings as outlined in the MTF5. The Mayor in Cabinet may wish to select one of the other options but it is important to note that Options 1 and 2 will not deliver

the full savings.

- 2.2 Alternatively, the service could continue as it does currently. Should this decision be taken, the savings targets will not be met.

### **3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

- 3.1 The Community Languages Service (CLS) began as the “Mother Tongue & Study Support” Service back in 1979. While information in relation to the rationale for establishing the service is limited, it appears that there are two main reasons. Firstly, to support children who spoke only English to learn their mother tongue. Secondly, as the time that the service was launched, languages were not being routinely being taught as part of the national curriculum and there is compelling research which outlines the benefits to educational development of being bilingual.
- 3.2 Since 2013, Modern Foreign Languages have been a part of the National Curriculum for primary school children (2004 for Secondary School); however the service has continued to deliver these classes, without very much change.
- 3.3 The CLS used to deliver a range of language based services including some that were funded through Service Level Agreements with schools, however for the past 3 years the service has been focused around providing after school languages classes. These are provided in a number of community venues and a small number of schools. These classes are free at the point of access to families, although there is obviously a cost to the LA to provide these.
- 3.4 While a number of children do go on to take GCSE’s in their mother tongue languages and this is something that parents see as a benefit, this is not the purpose of the service and is not something that the LA should be subsidising.
- 3.5 While the venues and associated costs are not borne by the local authority, the cost of employing the teachers is. There is also a small team of staff who manage and facilitate the service. The overall budget for 2018/19 was £684,400, with the vast majority of this being spent on paying for the teachers.
- 3.6 The aim of the review is to design a service model that
- Provides an inclusive offer for all children
  - Has high quality teaching
  - Operates on the basis of standard hours
  - Is accessible in a variety of locations across the borough
  - Is efficient and provides values for money.
- 3.7 Currently the following languages are offered:



3.8 These are delivered in 44 venues by 85 teachers. Currently there are, 1465 children were enrolled in classes which equates to a cost of around £460 per child although there is a significant range based on a number of factors particularly the number of children per class and the number of hours provided. In a review undertaken in 2016, the average cost was £335 per child per year but at its highest the cost per child was over £700. It is important to note that these are based on the number of children enrolled in classes; the figures for actual attendance are likely to be much lower.

See Appendix 1- map of provision

3.9 Each class is observed at least once a year by the Community Language Service Team to assess the quality of teaching and learning. This is undertaken by staff members from within the CLS who are qualified teachers. The breakdown of ratings are as follows:

**Grading** - observation of teaching and learning (OTL) at each venue

Grade	No. of venues
Excellent	2
Good / Excellent	6
Good	10
Satisfactory	23
Inadequate	3

- 3.10 This table indicates that only 41% of the venues are providing classes that are graded as good or excellent.
- 3.11 There is a significant level of inconsistency in respect to the offer. 45% of children receive around two to three hours per week, with a further 44% receiving 4 hours. Recent academic research suggests that while there are clear benefits to extra-curricular and supplementary education, these must be balanced against the need for family time, a good night's sleep and the opportunity to play. This is particularly relevant for primary school children who form the majority of the cohort who attend CLS classes. Children should also undertake a wide range of activities and the amount of hours that some children spend in classes provided by the CLS will limit other extra-curricular opportunities.
- 3.12 Currently 75% of children who attend classes are of primary school age with 24% of children being at secondary school. There are also a small number of under 5's recorded as attending which should not be the case.
- 3.13 The CLS is a service that appears to be unique to Tower Hamlets, particularly in the way that it is delivered; making direct comparisons with other local authorities difficult. The National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education (NRCSE) suggest that providers of supplementary education should be charging a regular fee to parents as this will support them to provide additional activities. There is also a strong argument that such a parental contribution supports engagement and commitment.
- 3.14 Where supplementary education classes are financially supported by local authorities this is usually "in kind" with for example venues provided at no, or reduced cost. This is the opposite model to the one that we have in Tower Hamlets, where community organisations provide venues and the local authority is responsible for providing teachers. Importantly, some of the language classes are supported by parental contributions.
- 3.15 A number of consultation events have taken place over two separate days. Two sessions were held for the organisations that provide these classes one at Whitechapel Idea Store and one at Bow Idea Store. These sessions were attended by a total of 15 different organisations, 14 who represented Bengali classes and one who represented a Lithuanian class. A presentation was delivered which outlined the current way that the classes operate as well as the principles that were being used to develop a model going forward. All providers were written to and those who were unable to attend were sent the presentation and invited to ask any questions or provide comments.
- 3.16 The offer should be based around the following principles:



- 3.17 Participants were given an opportunity to share some of their thoughts on these principles and made a number of observations
- These classes are clearly valued and those who provide them wish for them to continue as currently.
  - There was an understanding that the location of classes was not currently correct and hadn't changed as demographics of the borough did. There are lower attendances in the west of the borough whereas some classes in the east have waiting lists<sup>1</sup>.
  - Those who provide these classes see them as a way of ensuring the children who attend are safe and engaging in appropriate activities. The variability in the quality of teaching was discussed but this did not present as a significant priority.

<sup>1</sup> The classes advising that they had waiting lists are as follows (and have been asked to provide a copy of their waiting list to the CLS):

1. Poplar Community Language School based at Chrisp St IS (advised 12 in waiting list)
2. Whitechapel IS (advised 15-20 in waiting list)
3. Bow Bengali Forum (advised 5 in waiting list)
4. Redcoat Community Centre (advised 15 in waiting list)
5. Wapping Women's Centre (advised 10 in waiting list)
6. CISTH (advised 30 – 40 in waiting list)

- There was some support for the idea of a standardised offer, however the view was that this should be set at four hours not two.

3.18 Three similar sessions were run with parents and the Parent and Carer Forum. Well over 80 parents attended across the sessions. The sessions took the same approach as those for providers with a presentation delivered and the opportunity for attendees to ask questions and offer their thoughts.

- Those parents who attended clearly valued the classes. The primary reason was the connection that these afford with their culture and heritage. Many parents also commented on the fact that these classes supported their children to communicate with older members of the family who did not speak English. There was some discussion of the positive benefits of language acquisition and bilingualism but this did not seem to be a primary motivation for most parents.
- Some parents did seem to place emphasis on the quality of the provision although many accepted that variability was to be expected.
- There was an understanding for the need to consider the location of the classes, particularly to ensure their viability however most would not be keen to travel very far to attend.
- There are different funding models in place with some classes charging for classes. Parents who did pay towards these classes were surprised that many of the classes were provided for free. Unsurprisingly, parents who did pay felt that this was appropriate and did not influence their attendance, whereas those who did not felt that if a parental contribution was to be introduced it would put many off of attending.

3.19 We also wrote to all head teachers at schools that host CLS classes. While not all responded the responses from those who did were largely consistent. They understood that these classes were valued by parents, however they questioned the quality of teaching and how engaged the children were in the learning.

### **Proposals**

3.20 We are now considering three proposals

#### **Option 1 – Standard Offer by LBTH**

- All children receiving the same amount per week (suggest 1.5 - 2 hours), delivered by LBTH tutors.
- Standard class size of min. 15 children
- Offer aimed at primary school children only
- We would support providers to obtain a quality mark from the NRCSE (or equivalent) (national body for supplementary education)

This would aim to deliver £350k in savings in 2020/21 and also require funding of costs associated with the staffing implications that result from the reduction in the number of tutor hours. There would also be consideration of

parental contribution and whether this is an expectation or used to enhance the offer.

- 3.21 There are a number of ways the savings could be achieved. These include reducing the number of hours, classes or learners (or a combination of these). In addition introducing charging per child per class would help to achieve further savings
- 3.22 A reduction in places could be achieved by
- Withdrawing provision for secondary school children who could access languages at school (235)
  - Withdrawing languages that might not be seen as 'community languages' such as Spanish and Arabic.
- 3.23 By making these reductions, it would be possible to make significant savings in the management costs as the scope of the roles would be much reduced.

### **Charging**

- 3.24 A number of classes already charge. Making this consistent would go a long way towards achieving the savings. While it is clear from the consultation events that some parents would resist this idea, many feel that this is a parental choice and a contribution would be appropriate.

### **Analysis**

- 3.25 Simply reducing the number of hours per student per class will not lead to a reduction in management costs because of the number of classes delivered will remain the same. It is therefore prudent to consider instead a funding option whereby management cost and teaching hours can be reduced. There will however always be some management costs for any service that the council funds which will require monitoring and support.
- 3.26 If this option is taken, there must also be a plan to ensure that there are robust quality assurance processes in place to address issues that are currently present in relation to the quality are addressed.

### **Option 2 – Close the service but provide grant funding to providers for mother tongue classes**

- 3.27 This option proposes that we cease providing tutors for the classes and support providers to deliver the classes themselves. We would support providers apply for a standard grant based on geography and need. We would support providers to obtain a quality mark from the NRCSE (national body for supplementary education). This would aim to deliver £350k in savings in 2020-21 and also require funding of contract management and funding the staffing implications that result from the reduction in the number of tutor hours

- 3.28 Should this option be pursued, we would look for support from the Voluntary and Community Sector team to ensure that this is delivered in a sustainable way that ensures that the offer continues to meet the needs of the community.

### **Analysis**

- 3.29 Should this option be agreed it is essential that the new offer does not simply replicate what exists currently. There will need to be careful consideration of the location of these classes to ensure that they meet the needs of the community. There will also have to be an ongoing focus on quality assurance to ensure that the level of teaching is as strong as possible.
- 3.30 We will need to work closely with these organisations to ensure that they are fully prepared for the changes and that they understand their role and responsibilities. Changes to the number of tutors that would be required to fund the grants would also create a risk as providers may then be unable to source teaching staff directly. Conversely, where there are established relationships between providers and teachers, this may make it easier for providers to source teachers.

### **Option 3 – Close the service and provide time limited tapered support to the voluntary sector for mother tongue classes**

- 3.31 This option would lead to the local authority no longer directly providing tutors for the classes. We would provide a one-off grant to enable providers to deliver the classes themselves. We would support providers to obtain a quality mark from the NRCSE (national body for supplementary education). This would aim to deliver £350k in savings in 2020-21 and £250k in 2021-22 and would also require corporate funding for staffing implications.

### **Analysis**

- 3.32 This option would effectively mean that responsibility for the service is handed over to the voluntary sector in its entirety. This option will achieve the full savings as outlined in the MTFs and is therefore the officer's recommendation.
- 3.33 There are a number of ways that this could be achieved. Some organisations may wish to work together to form geographically based hubs. These could potentially operate out of a space that is provided as a grant "in kind" by the Local Authority – for example at an Idea Store. Some organisations that may wish to operate as they do currently could be supported to do so with the offer of transitional funding in the form of a one-off grant. There are some significant advantages for the providers in working within this model including the ability to make decisions for themselves about the best way to structure their offer to meet the needs of their particular users. This would also enable a quality threshold to be implemented, ensuring that the overall level of education provided is improved.

#### **Option 4 – Close the service**

- 3.34 This option would be for the service to be closed as quickly as possible. The Community Language Service is non-statutory and while it is highly valued it is accessed by relatively small numbers of users. The council would undertake the necessary processes as quickly as possible in order to wind down the service.

#### **Analysis**

- 3.35 This option would be the quickest way of achieving the savings target. However, by not providing any transitional or grant funding the most likely outcome would be that most classes would cease. Organisations would be free to apply for other sources of funding or to increase or commence parental contributions in order to fill the funding shortfall.
- 3.36 This option is clearly the most severe of the four presented but in a climate of continued austerity provides a level of certainty that the other options do not.

#### **4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 These classes are not statutory, nor are they generally aimed at the population at large. One consideration of whether parental contribution is required would be to ensure that any charges do not preclude parents with a low income for sending their children.
- 4.2 There is also the potential for any changes to impact on staff. Should this be the case then a full Equalities Analysis will be undertaken to seek to mitigate any impact. (

#### **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.
  - Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.
- 5.2 This report has potential Best Value Implications. The Community Language Service is a non-statutory service which is accessible to a relatively small

cohort of the population at significant cost. There are few examples of an equivalent service being provided elsewhere and not funded in the same way.

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

- 6.1 The Community Language Scheme has a current budget of £645.1k. This includes previously agreed MTFs savings of £31k for 2019-20. Future agreed MTFs savings are £350k for 2020-21 and £250k for 2021-22.
- 6.2 The service is currently forecasting a balanced budget for 2019-20. There are three options for consideration.
- 6.3 Option 1 – Standard offer by LBTH. This option is likely to achieve the £350k savings for 2020-21. Management costs will continue to be incurred for the service. As detailed in 3.21 above, additional savings could be made towards the £250k savings target for 2021-22.
- 6.4 Option 2 - Grant aided -Supplementary School model. This option may achieve the £350k savings for 2020-21, but is likely to incur additional costs for support to providers. It is unlikely this will achieve the £250k savings target for 2021-22.
- 6.5 Option 3 - Time limited support to voluntary sector. This option would achieve the full savings target of £600k over 2 years, but is likely to result in a reduction of both service and choice of locations.

## **7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

- 7.1 The Education Act 1996 empowers the council to ensure that young people aged 13-19 (or 25 for young people with a learning disability) have access to positive activities to improve young people's personal and social development. Before doing so, the council must consider whether it is expedient for the proposed action to be taken by another person, and if so, take all reasonable steps to enter into an agreement or make arrangements with such a person for that purpose.
- 7.2 Additionally, the 1996 Act empowers the council to organise activities for children in education, or to defray the expenses of such activities. This includes a duty to have regard to co-operating with any voluntary societies or bodies who provide similar activities.
- 7.3 Consequently, the council is empowered to pursue any of the 3 options discussed in this paper. In taking a decision as to which option to consult on, the council must make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness by virtue of section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999. This is known as its *Best Value Duty*

## Duty to Consult

- 7.4 There is no statutory requirement to consult in respect of changes to the Community Language Service specifically, but there is a duty to consult with representative groups of stakeholders when exercising the Council's best value duty to decommission a service. Additionally, the common law duty to consult is usually seen as an aspect of the common law duty to act fairly. In circumstances where a decision may be taken to cease to directly provide a service to individuals, this common law duty to consult will apply.
- 7.5 This should comply with the following criteria: (1) it should be at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage; (2) the Council must give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit intelligent consideration and response; (3) adequate time must be given for consideration and response; and (4) the product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account. The duty to act fairly applies and this may require a greater deal of specificity when consulting people who are economically disadvantaged.

## Employment and Equality Considerations

- 7.6 Changes to the staffing structure would require consultation and compliance with the Council's Handling Organisational Change procedure. The Council would need to consult with staff before applying any proposed changes to contracts, staffing implications or redeployment to other services.
- 7.7 When deciding whether or not to proceed with these decisions Cabinet must also have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristics and those who do not (the public sector duty). An equality analyses have been carried out to consider the impact on service users and staff, and once the proposal as to which option is being taken forward for consultation, the Equality Analyses will be updated to consider the wider consultation responses and the impact on staff.

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

### **Linked Report**

- List any linked reports
- State NONE if none.

### **Appendices**

- Map of provision
- Table of financial information
- List of providers for CLS
- Equalities Impact Assessment for Children and general population
- Equalities Impact Assessment for Staff (not public)

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

- None

### **Officer contact details for documents:**

Or state N/A

<p><b>Grants Determination Cabinet Sub-Committee</b></p> <p>1 September 2021</p>	
<p><b>Report of:</b> Sharon Godman, Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted</p>
<p><b>VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority</b></p>	

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

**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.

## **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.
2. Note the grant funding agreed through Individual Mayoral decision and cabinet from the Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund.
3. Note the new theme of the Small Grants Programme, Recovery from Covid-19 Loneliness and Isolation. And agree, for this theme only, the eligibility criterion for applications, relating to turnover not exceeding £250,000 per annum be waived.
4. Approve the extension of the grant variation for the Infrastructure and Capacity Building Grants Programme that was approved at Cabinet on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 for a further 12 months, from October 2021 to September 2022.

## **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 or, in the case of the Small Grants Programme, the East End Community Foundation (EECF). 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 VCS activities in the borough set out in the VCS Strategy 2020-2024.

## **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 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.

#### **Covid Recovery Cohesion Events Fund**

- 3.3 At the budget setting meeting of Full Council on the 4th March, 2021, it was agreed that the Council would establish a £3 million 'Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund (CRF)' to be used to "kickstart our community's recovery from the pandemic over the next 12-24 months.
- 3.4 Approved by Individual Mayoral Decision on 17 June 2021 were a number of projects within the Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund, including £50,000 funding for a cohesion events fund to be added to the current Small Grants Programme. This will fund a programme of community events to be held over a two-week period across the borough marking the pandemic.
- 3.5 Details of the first round of small grant awards for 2021 including the Covid Cohesion Event Fund and other grants is set out in Appendix A.

#### **Older Peoples Services Year 2**

- 3.6 For this theme of the small grants programme, Older Peoples Services projects across year 1 2020/21 all had the opportunity to continue funding for an additional year.

- 3.7 There were eight organisations awarded funding under this theme, six of the awarded projects have completed delivery and reported back on year 1. And have all requested funding for year 2 delivery.
- 3.8 The remaining two projects have yet to complete delivery of year 1, once this is achieved it is anticipated that they will request for year 2 funding.
- 3.9 The Older People's Services Fund Year 2 awards are set out in Appendix B.

<b>Small Grants Financial Summary</b>					
<b>Theme</b>	<b>2021-22 Budget</b>	<b>Brought Forward Balance</b>	<b>Available for Grant Making</b>	<b>Grant Awards</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
Small Grants Fund Themes 1-5	180,000	950	180,950	72,525	108,425
Access & Participation	50,000	25,087	75,087	29,870	45,217
Loneliness Fund	50,000	270	50,270	31,995	18,275
Older Peoples Services Fund	100,000	0	100,000	75,000	25,000
Cohesion Events Fund*	45,000	0	45,000	27,286	17,714
Additional Cohesion Fund*	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>470,000</b>	<b>26,307</b>	<b>496,307</b>	<b>236,676</b>	<b>259,631</b>

\*£50k Cohesion Events Fund approved 17 June IMD includes £5,000 admin costs, £50k Additional Cohesion Fund approved 30 June Cabinet includes £5,000 admin costs

### **Innovation Fund**

- 3.10 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.
- 3.11 At the Commissioners Decision Making Meeting on the 12th April 2016 the creation of the Innovation Fund was agreed.
- 3.12 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.
- 3.13 Decisions are made by the Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance in consultation with the Chair of this Sub-Committee based on recommendations of an advisory panel which consists of the Chief Executive of the East End Community Foundation, the Head of Corporate Strategy and Policy and officers from within that service.

- 3.14 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 £142,230.25 with a remaining balance of £37,769.75
- 3.15 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.
- 3.16 Further details can be found on the [Space Hive Tower Hamlets](#) and the [Innovation Fund](#) pages with more information available in the [factsheet](#).
- 3.17 Details of a pledge agreed by officers under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee from the Innovation Fund are set out in Appendix C.

### **Contingency Fund**

- 3.18 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.
- 3.19 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 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020. For a limited period, Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations in Tower Hamlets will be able to access funding and organisational support.
- 3.20 Awards are made from this Fund by the Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance in consultation with the Chair of this Sub-Committee.

### **Covid Community Fund**

- 3.21 The Covid Community Fund Budget is £100,000, A further three organisations have been awarded funding since the last Grants Determination Sub Committee Meeting totalling £14,956.
- 3.22 To date six organisations have been awarded funding totalling £28,928. The remaining balance is £71,072.
- 3.23 Details of awards agreed by officers under delegated authority from the Covid Community Fund since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee are set out in Appendix D

### **Emergency Funding**

3.24 The Emergency Funding budget is £50,000 and the remaining balance is £43,153.

3.25 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

3.26 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.

3.27 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 the [CBRR page](#).

3.28 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.

3.29

<b>CBRR Financial Summary</b>			
	<b>Total payable pa</b>	<b>CBRR (80%) Grant per annum</b>	<b>Organisation contribution pa</b>
<b>Applications approved</b>	£316,652	£253,321.60	£63,330.40
<b>Leases completed and CBRR payable</b>	£23,000	£18,400	£4,600

3.30 Community Benefit Rent Reduction has been approved to 12 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

3.31 At the Community Benefit Rent Reduction Grants Panel meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021, it was agreed to fund Women's Inclusive Team £30,605 per annum subject to satisfactory completion of their lease.

### **Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund**

3.32 At Cabinet on the 30 June 2021, new grant funding was agreed as part of the Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund. Those that have been committed to be awarded via grants are detailed below.

- An additional £50,000 to the Small Grants Cohesion Theme (This is in addition to the Cohesion Events Fund detailed above under Small Grants).
- £100,000 added to the existing Local Community Fund Advice project to provide further capacity to support residents up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- £350,000 to support local businesses with adaptation grants, aimed at small and micro sized Tower Hamlets Businesses.
- £90,000 for a project including small grants for VCS organisations to support residents in recovering from the impact of the pandemic.
- The Loneliness programme has been awarded £180,000, of which £166,000 will go in grants to help reduce the impact of social isolation and loneliness.

### **Recovery from Covid-19 Loneliness and Social Isolation**

3.33 Using the Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund, an additional small grants scheme is proposed that would enable VCS organisations to apply for grants with a maximum value of £25,000.

3.34 Through the Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund grants we want to encourage and support local organisations to identify and mobilise innovative and creative ways to address the pandemic legacy of loneliness and isolation, helping people to move gradually back to connecting with each other, enjoying each other's company and to restore or enhance their quality of life.

3.35 Larger VCS organisations with an annual turnover above £250,000 are generally excluded from applying for small grants but for these one-off grants, which are to be spent within one year, it is proposed that by exception all VCS organisations should be able to apply. After two rounds of the existing loneliness small grants scheme the Loneliness Taskforce are keen that there is an opportunity for larger organisations to demonstrate what they can deliver with the higher level of grant proposed from the Covid recovery fund. This enables some of the key voluntary sector service providers to play a part in the programme, to contribute innovative ideas and to align projects with others service delivery outcomes. Smaller organisations will still be strongly encouraged to apply for funding and be treated on a level playing field.

- 3.36 The Grants Determination Committee is requested to agree for this theme only, the eligibility criterion for applications relating to turnover not exceeding £250,000 per annum be waived.
- 3.37 The Council's Loneliness Taskforce, chaired by Councillor Denise Jones, will provide additional oversight on how the funded projects add value to existing services and programmes to support community recovery from the pandemic and to build resilience should any further restrictions on social contact be introduced in future.
- 3.38 East End Community Foundation will be administering this funding in line with the grants policy agreed by cabinet in 2018.
- 3.39 The Recovery from Covid-19 Loneliness and Social Isolation specification is set out in Appendix E.

### **Infrastructure and Capacity Building Grants Programme**

- 3.40 Cabinet agreed on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 to approve a grant variation for the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Grants Programme, managed by a partnership led by Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service, for October 2020-September 2021. The approved variation permitted the re-allocation of 60% of the £63,000 of Programme funds allocated over those 12 months to a Programme partner, Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH), to manage the delivery of the work of the COVID-19 Volunteering Hub relating to recruiting and supporting volunteers to be deployed in voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations in the borough to support the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These re-allocated funds were diverted from a number of lower priority volunteering infrastructure support activities for VCS organisations in the borough to the new main volunteering infrastructure priority for the VCS in Tower Hamlets - supporting VCS organisations to manage and deploy volunteers to respond to the demands of the pandemic. It is now recommended that this variation, on the above same terms, is approved for extension for a further 12 months, from October 2021 to September 2022, to allow VCTH to continue to manage the Hub's support for volunteering in VCS organisations to respond to the ongoing demands of the pandemic and the recovery process in the borough. These re-allocated funds would also be matched by £75,000 COVID Recovery Fund allocation between October 2021 to March 2023, via a contract, to support VCTH to manage the Hub's support for volunteering resources deployed by the council to respond to the above demands.

## **4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 All grants awarded need to demonstrate how they meet the needs 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 development of the Small Grants Programme, both through governance requirements and in the capacity building programme for the sector.

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

- 6.1 This report notes the update on funding awarded to voluntary and community (VCS) organisations under delegated authority. The total of grants awarded is contained within the approved budget.

## **7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

- 7.1 For the most part this report updates the sub-committee on various pre-approved grants. However, as part of the Council's strategy to assist the

community during the pandemic, the Council sought approval to amend the purposes of the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Grants Programme. Recommendation 4 seeks to continue the amendment for a further 12 months. The Council has the legal power to do this if it so wishes. The Council also now has the apparatus in place (in terms of grant agreement amendments and monitoring etc) to ensure that such extended variation will continue to achieve Best Value.

---

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

### **Linked Report**

NONE

### **Appendices**

Appendix A Small Grants Programme

Appendix B Older People's Services Fund

Appendix C Innovation Fund Pledge

Appendix D Contingency Fund – Covid Community Fund

Appendix E Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund: Recovery from Covid-19 Loneliness and Social Isolation Relief

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

- NONE

### **Officer contact details for documents:**

**Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund**  
Grant Awards

No	Organisation	Project Name	Theme	Project Description	No. of Beneficiaries	Grant Award
1	True Cadence CIC	The Expression Project	Innovation	Over 12 months, the organisation will work with over 30 young people aged 16-25 from East London, the majority of which are from the BAME backgrounds, to produce a series of videos showcasing the talents on "our doorstep". True Cadence will release new content each month that young people develop as part of a web series. A minimum of 12 videos will be created throughout the duration of the project. They will recruit participants through their community partners, social media and word of mouth. Young people will lead on the overall delivery of this project with paid opportunities available where applicable.	30	5,000
2	The Oitij-jo Collective	TATI Gardening Project @Republic London	Innovation	Oitij-Jo's TATI initiative is collaborating with Republic London to develop a gardening project on the grounds of the development. This is an 8-month project. The intention is to bring together workers and students based there alongside local residents. The food grown will be used to cook nutritious and healthy dishes. This will be led by TATI Members alongside those involved in the gardening project. The aim is to grow food all year around. This project will be collaborating with Women's Environmental Network, Food Growers Network and Spitalfields City Farm for support and advice.	15	5,000
3	Coaching for Unpaid Carers CIC	Coaching Unpaid Carers in Tower Hamlets	Prevention	Starting in September, over the course of the year, the organisation will offer a series of four workshops for carers (60 in total) and 4-6 additional sessions of 1-2-1 coaching for carers who need more in-depth support. Carers will be recruited through the Tower Hamlets Carers Centre, and attending Carers Forum meetings to talk about coaching. Sessions include tools and strategies that will support participants to work on things such as improving mental health, relationships, physical health, and getting back into work. Participants will also learn simple coaching tools and approaches which they can use to encourage and empower others. Participants will be asked to contribute £5 per session but will not be turned away if they cannot afford this. The project will take place through phone, online or in-person in the Carers Centre in Stepney Green area depending on restrictions and participant preference.	40	4,995
4	Bags of Taste	Bags of Taste Mentored Home Cooking courses	Prevention	Bags of Taste is running mentored home cooking courses for 65 vulnerable people. During the first stage of the course, individuals are provided with 9 recipes/food for 8 meals. They choose 3 meals to cook in their own time over a 2-2.5 week period. All the ingredients are delivered to them – and each individual joins a What's App group and is provided with a mentor as well as videos and tips along the way. Bags of Taste will provide localised shopping guides so the participants can continue to source food at the lowest possible price. At the final stage, students are invited to join a private Facebook/What's App group where they can be part of a supportive peer community and access over 70 recipes. Students/participants are recruited through outreach with local partners/agencies to identify those who will most benefit. Many of their beneficiaries are 'hard to reach' and a large majority have multiple/complex challenges.	65	5,000
5	Tower Hamlets Volunteer Police Cadets (VPC)	Covid Recovery - Duke of Edinburgh Award	Prevention	The organisation plans to support 40 Cadets to achieve their Duke of Edinburgh (DOFE) Award this year. This will help to improve their mental health and wellbeing as well as developing key skills. Many of these young people have never left Tower Hamlets previously. The VPC provides a safe and trusted space for them to learn and explore, and divert the young people away from anti-social behaviour and crime. The programme will enable the young people to develop useful skills and qualifications within the DOFE Award which will support them getting employment.	40	5,000
6	Cycle Sisters	Empowering local Muslim women as Ride Leaders	Prevention	The grant will enable the organisation to recruit and train 6 women from Tower Hamlets as volunteer Ride Leaders for the newly formed Muslim women's cycle group. The Ride Leader training programme will take place over a 2 month period - the participants will work towards achieving the Ride Leadership Level 1 Award with British Cycling, and will participate in first aid training, learn basic bike maintenance and attend an induction with Cycle Sisters. Through this programme, the organisation aims to empower local women as leaders with the skills and confidence to be able to run rides for local Muslim women. Following the training programme, the leaders will run weekly sessions for 10-15 participants.	25	5,000
7	Udichi Shilpi Gosthi	Bangladesh Book Fair Literary & Cultural Festival	Community Cohesion	The organisation is looking to deliver the 11th annual Bengali Cultural Festival, a literary and cultural festival showcasing Bengali writers, artists, performers and cultural activists organised by Udichi. All previous festivals were funded by Tower Hamlets Council Events fund, and received additional financial support from the Bangladesh Cultural Ministry. Other performances from groups representing the Somali, Chinese and Irish communities will also feature. Additional activities on the day will include poetry recitations, creative workshops and children's activities. Approximately 35 arts organisations and 150 artists will contribute towards the two-day event and the organisation expects to attract a multi-cultural audience of over 1000.	1,300	3,500
8	East London Cares	Tower Hamlets Together	Community Cohesion	The grant will support East London Cares to connect 250 older neighbours (65+) and 100 younger neighbours (18-35) with activities designed to bridge intergenerational, cultural, attitudinal and digital divides. The organisation will deliver 50 Social Clubs in venues across Tower Hamlets, with an average of 7 older and 5 younger neighbours per club (600 total) enjoying an exciting range of activities, including celebrations of the borough's diverse communities and cultures.	350	5,000
9	Wapping Youth FC	Burgers and Boardgames	Community Cohesion	The project will benefit young people aged 11-25 and those 50+ who have been affected by coronavirus the most, by creating a sense of community through board games and food. Wapping Youth FC aims to challenge the intergenerational gaps and the tension between faiths within the community that engages both younger and older people of all backgrounds. They will promote the event to older people from churches, mosques and temples to participate with young people from differing faiths. The event will be 3 hours long, every Saturday for the duration of 12 weeks from September-November 2021. They anticipate 20 younger people and 20 older people participating each session (leading to 300 different people total). They will provide the meals for participants to sit and eat together.	150	5,000
10	BluePrint Arts	Past, Present, Future! Our Borough on Film	Community Cohesion	The grant will be used to deliver an intergenerational project, exploring the history and culture of Tower Hamlets and culminating in a community celebration. The organisation will deliver a filmmaking course with young people as part of their Creative Ways into Work (CWIW) programme. Young people will work with the older generation to gather stories and develop ideas that explore a personal history delving into Tower Hamlets archives to find old video footage or images of the local area that can be incorporated into the finished film. Recruitment of 15 young people will be through an open call through established links they have with youth organisations locally. They are talking to local organisations who work with the older generation to find a suitable group/individuals up to 30. Running from September 2021 - April 2022.	45	4,930
11	Isle of Dogs Bangladeshi Association & Cultural Centre	IoD Bangladeshi Pensioners Club	Access & Participation	A contribution towards the cost of staff wages and volunteer expenses, office expenses and activity costs. The club runs 4 days a week: Tuesdays and Fridays: Drop-in-session on advice, information, signposting, escorting to DSS, Hospital etc. Wednesday Drop-in-session for working people on their day-to-day needs. Also separate services for women with sensitive cultural issues. Saturday (not awarded funding): Open day session with keep fit, health talks, socialising, sharing family matters, discussion on politics, and culture. (Separate Open day for women once a month). Also group shopping, visiting friends, summer activities etc.	45	5,000
12	Bangladeshi Mental Health Forum	Mental Wellbeing 1-2-1 Information and Advice (Signposting) Service	Access & Participation	The organisation will deliver a mental wellbeing 1-2-1 information, advice and signposting service, which will be culturally appropriate and accessible in the Bengali language. Sessions will take place in a variety of ways including locally based access within safe community spaces (GP practices, community centres) 3 days per week - this will be a 'satellite service' rotating throughout the borough in different locations, telephone and online one-to-one advice and signposting support by a trained counsellor or advocate. Referrals will be received from social prescribers, GPs, local faith organisations (mosques/church), schools and community organisations.	200	4,938
13	The Bangladesh Youth Movement	"Inclusive Access": Bangladeshi & BAME Female Participation Programme	Access & Participation	Inclusive Access is a 12-month support and signposting programme for BAME women. It will include peer-to-peer befriending to increase access to local services. There will be 2 x weekly sessions on advice and advocacy to advise local women about what services are available, how to access them, provide signposting and to prepare a plan to facilitate 'inclusive access' e.g. connecting individuals with a volunteer to support them. It will also include their female forum which was designed to engage local women to assist their peers to access local services. Beneficiaries will be encouraged to access local services with a befriender who will accompany them to centres throughout the borough to assist their confidence in accessing services.	100	5,000
14	Reach Aid Trust	Reach Aid Trust Covid-19 Recovery	Access & Participation	This grant would enable the organisation to deliver a 12-month skills and signposting service to support residents affected by Covid, to run along side the organisation's existing food distribution and food bank provision. These sessions would be monthly and will support up to 100 people per month in finding work by job search and application, public services signposting including qualification assessment, Citizens Advice Bureaux (CAB), housing, health care, education and benefits. All support will be made available in community languages with English Skills training made available and Covid-19 information distribution. The project workers will be recruited from their existing network and volunteer pool and will be from the local community. They will specifically be seeking local BAME residents who are multi-lingual in order to address language barriers with attendees and provide an opportunity to local people.	600	5,000
15	The Ensign Youth Club	Next Step	Access & Participation	The funding would increase the organisation's ability to support local BAME older people living in St Katharine's, Whitechapel, Wapping and Shadwell ward in Tower Hamlets. Sessions will run twice a week and provide general advice and guidance, support with language barriers and support with a variety of issues including housing, benefits, employment, family matters, social issues, cultural issues, mental health issues, social isolation etc. The organisation will be able to help or refer them to appropriate professional bodies. Regular workshops will be delivered to improve knowledge on local services that residents can access to meet their needs.	29	4,934

16	Wapping Bangladesh Association	Wapping Community Access Point	Access & Participation	The organisation will continue the delivery of the digital and online skills training to enable local residents to access and trust online services. This project was vital through the Covid-19 pandemic particularly with so many people being seriously impacted through sudden unemployment, closure or suspension of many frontline services, while other mainstream services diverted online, or were accessed by telephone. This project will continue to communicate the benefits of digital inclusion and online skills training so local residents acquire digital skills and the confidence to access online public services (e.g. Council, NHS, HMRC, Consumer & Utility). The first stage involves a weekly online training programme for up to 30 residents and the second stage involves a weekly drop-in surgery for residents to review their online skills and repeat any training elements needed. Residents will have free access to WBA's digital devices and broadband to practice and develop online skills independently.	70	4,998
17	Olive Tree Education (OTE)	Sukoon Older People Project	Loneliness	The organisation will be providing a service for elderly people 2 days a week, offering 2 hours a session each day e.g. 10.30 am to 12.30 pm over a period of 3 months (12 weeks approx.). The service includes: providing information, advice, advocacy, basic counselling, social activities, gentle aerobic exercises, cultural activities, discussion group, Eid celebration, health awareness services and offering food to the vulnerable group in this period of pandemic and poverty. Working in partnership with NHS and Age Concern UK and other third sector organisations to offer services e.g. monitoring blood pressure, vision screening, assessment of health and wellbeing checks (i.e. to identify risk factors for coronary heart disease, stroke and diabetes) as appropriate, and creation of additional resources and facilities. They intend to reach out to a minimum of 25 older people in this project.	25	4,999
18	BlindAid	Community Sight Support Worker Tower Hamlets	Loneliness	Organisation is seeking funding to continue this service in the borough of Tower Hamlets where they support 70+ people a year. The Sight Support Service offers practical and emotional support to people with a visual impairment. Some of the people the organisation works with just need support to get on their journey to independence; others will always rely on support due to their particular circumstances or isolation. The Sight Support worker for Tower Hamlets is multilingual, giving the organisation a unique ability to support people across the borough, particularly the Bengali community. For many beneficiaries these visits are the only regular social contact that they have.	70	5,000
19	Brick Lane Women and Girls Project	Spitalfields BAME Women's	Loneliness	The aim of the project is to create an opportunity for older BAME women to connect with others. The organisation will deliver twice weekly workshops to improve the mental health of service users by talking about topics such as basic physical exercise, coping with loss and change, healthy relationships, dealing with depression, anger management, emotional wellbeing and self-care. Sessions will be delivered on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11am to 1pm at Kobi Nazrul Centre. The project will run for 36 weeks.	32	5,000
20	Wapping Bangladesh Association	Wapping Mum's Club	Loneliness	The organisation is requesting continuation funding to deliver the Mum's Club which provides a variety of activities designed to reduce the loneliness and isolation of Mums. Activities include Mums Connecting Sessions, coffee morning session: hear, share their life experiences, support one another and make new friends over a coffee and biscuit, a monthly Cultural Breakfast Club (opportunity to taste breakfast dishes from Wapping's diverse communities, learning and sharing cultures and customs) and a variety of workshop sessions: Learn Coping Skills, Talks on Mental Health, Learning how to manage stress and anxieties. There will also be opportunities to participate in games, story-telling sessions, reminiscence sessions, small group gardening walks.	30	4,996
21	Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club	Saturday Group	Loneliness	The organisation is seeking funding to continue its weekly Saturday Club for predominantly older residents. The project will support residents acting as advocates, and facilitating access to the welfare benefits system by making referrals to relevant agencies. The organisation will also provide general friendship and social support to residents who have limited social contacts. The organisation will provide a tea and coffee morning drop in session in addition to light snacks for lunch which will cost small fee £1 pp. The majority of the clients will be over 60's but any age groups are welcome.	30	2,000
22	Neighbours in Poplar	Befriending Services	Loneliness	Their project is to establish a year-long befriending project for older people. The project involves befriending via door to door contact, meet and greet and developing genuine relationships outside of telephone calls. They will employ a coordinator to manage and train volunteers and match them with clients. Clients will be given the option of how they would like to use their allocated befriending time (such as by going shopping, to a local pub, out for a meal, visiting a Hub, having a chat about childhood memories etc.). Clients who are housebound will be offered one on one digital sessions with an IT tutor. They intend to start the project in the Isle of Dogs, Poplar and Stepney areas and that this funding will cover the cost of recruiting a part time coordinator to oversee this initiative and training for volunteers. To recruit participants they will work with their existing partners and have various referral networks through their year-round work of: GPs, social prescribers, occupational therapists, long-term enablement team, social workers and agencies such as Tower Hamlets Homes, etc. They are also currently running an outreach campaign where they are knocking on doors (and have so far knocked on over 500 doors).	75	5,000
23	Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours	THFN	Loneliness	The grant will enable the organisation to continue their tele-befriending service to ensure clients have social contact with somebody at least once a week. The grant will also help the organisation to support clients to ease out of restrictions when the time comes, providing support as required which could include accompanying clients outdoors to places they used to visit, shops, parks to help them rebuild their confidence. The programme aims to be a blended approach to include both face to face befriending and distant befriending, offering participants a choice on how they want to interact. The organisation will also organise group activities outdoors, such as picnics and work to develop local partnerships.	200	5,000
24	Grand Union Music Theatre Ltd	Bengal to Bethnal Green	Community Cohesion - Black History Month	The organisation is looking to recruit for the new season of Youth Orchestra masterclasses for young musicians playing non-European instruments and interested in exploring the music flourishing locally. The programme will involve music sessions for young people who will prepare for the delivery of 10 community music events. These include 'Bengal to Bethnal Green' performances with local Bengali artists and other musical traditions worldwide including Bengali, Somali, African, Caribbean, Chinese and East European. Several of the community events will celebrate Black History Month in Tower Hamlets.	333	4,200
25	Trapped in Zone One	Diversity of Tower Hamlets	Community Cohesion - Black History Month	The project plan is to create new theme murals for Black History Month on the Isle of Dogs, with an accompanying short film created by Wapping Youth FC which will be showcased during a virtual film night accessible to Tower Hamlets residents. This project will run for 8 weeks, hosting a 2-hour creative workshop during September open to 10 participants working alongside an artist to form a design for the mural which will be painted in E14, supported by The Utilize Project. The workshop will focus on what defines Tower Hamlets as a diverse borough, incorporating feedback from a social media campaign with planning and engagement with the online community and creative partners. The mural will be painted in the early part of October with local volunteers from GoodGym Tower Hamlets followed by a film night end of October.	30	5,000
26	Kayd Somali Arts and Culture	Somali Week Festival 2021	Community Cohesion - Black History Month	This funding is for a 5-day Somali Week Festival in Oxford House. This will be the 13th Somali Week Festival. The festival will include intergenerational activities and a book fair. Other activities include a British-Somali Play about the pandemic, poetry, and sessions from wellness experts.	2,500	5,000
27	Purple Moon Drama	Black History Month Youth Arts Festival at Poplar Union	Community Cohesion - Black History Month	Purple Moon Drama is delivering a 2-day arts event for local young people from BAME communities. The event will be an opportunity for young people to showcase the short plays, extracts, poems and spoken word pieces that they have written. 10-15 submissions will be selected and performed. Over the course of the two weeks, the young people will develop their pieces using audience feedback.	90	4,900
28	Trapped in Zone One	Together We're Stronger	Community Cohesion - Black History Month	The organisation is looking for funding to create new cultural theme murals in Shadwell for Black History Month, with an accompanying short film created by Wapping Youth FC. The project would run for 4 weeks, and would include the delivery of a 2 hr workshop for 10 participants to design the mural. The mural will then be painted later in October by volunteers from GoodGym.	30	5,000
29	East London Out Project (ELOP)	Trans Parents Day Event	Cohesion Events Fund	This online event will celebrate Trans Parents Day on 4 November 2021. This will provide an opportunity for trans parents and parents of trans children in Tower Hamlets to come together, to learn from each other, form networks and build a network of support to take from the event. The event is virtual and will include a presentation from a trans parent / parent of trans child, information about organisations that provide support and some poetry written by trans young people and a Q&A session. Event will last 1.5 hours and will be recorded so that it can be shared with others outside of the event.	2,540	500
30	Spitalfields City Farm	Spitalfields Supper Club Nights	Cohesion Events Fund	This project is to deliver two evening supper club events, one for residents who are feeling isolated as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the second to celebrate the work of their local volunteers. Their team will create a sit-down dinner for 70 attendees, that makes use of the farm's varied produce of fruit, vegetables, herbs and edible flowers. They aim for residents of Tower Hamlets to come together to experience the benefits of cooking and eating healthy food together, regardless of finance, confidence or ability. The events will encourage local engagement with the Farm and reinforces their positive impact within the neighbourhood post lockdown.	70	2,654
31	Leaders in Community	Generation Games (Oct Half-term 2021 Intergenerational Event)	Cohesion Events Fund	This project is for young people at Leaders in Community who have recently completed the leadership and bee keeping courses to deliver a fun, eco-event to older residents to raise awareness of green social issues. The aim of the event is for young people to help deliver eco-workshops and then engage in dialogue with older residents to help raise awareness on the plight and role of bees in our ecosystem, food waste and nutrition. The event will also include group games such as Eco-Bingo and hot food and refreshments.	30	3,000
32	Neighbours in Poplar	Neighbours in Poplar	Cohesion Events Fund	This grant is for a large street party to be held at St Mathias Community Centre in the first week of November 2021 celebrating the easing of social restrictions mitigating the impact of Covid 19. They are proposing two celebrations, an outdoor street party for the general community and an indoor event specifically for 50-60 volunteers who proved vital during the last 16 months providing services. Activities for the street party will involve Bollywood or Brazilian dance groups, Pearly King and Queen, assorted curries and traditional pie and mash, henna painting.	150	2,689
33	International Centre for Organisation and Cohesion	Beyond Dialogue: Building Community Cohesion After Covid-19	Cohesion Events Fund	The organisation is delivering a two-part programme. The first part includes the delivery of several dialogue sessions (will be delivered both online and offline at Christ Apostolic Church). The sessions will be an opportunity for residents from different backgrounds to come together and share experiences of Covid. The event will take place with food, music and lively discussion. Participants from the dialogue sessions will be invited to the event, as will the wider Tower Hamlets community.	140	2,920
34	East India Over 50's Consortium (Consortium50)	A Festival of Dark & Light, Chaos & Calm	Cohesion Events Fund	The organisation is delivering a series of 5 intergenerational events for the local community, exploring the themes of Dark and Light, Chaos and Calm, through arts and crafts and dance workshops as well as a Halloween party. The workshops will explore different moods e.g. happiness, sadness and discuss well-being strategies e.g. breathing techniques and meditation.	100	2,858

35	Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours (THFN)	Celebrating Telebuddies Tea Party	Cohesion Events Fund	The organisation is looking to deliver a tea party event for their volunteers (telebuddies) and clients to meet one another for the first time. The event will be an opportunity to celebrate the friendships that they have made over the past year. The event will take place at a local cafe.	40	1,705
36	Aishah Help	OUR BIG THANK YOU EVENT	Cohesion Events Fund	The organisation is looking to deliver a thank you event for volunteers and their families to celebrate the hard work of volunteers over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic at Weavers Field including a BBQ and games for volunteers and their families.	200	3,000
37	Lincoln Area Regeneration Group (Trading as Poplar Union)	Poplar Union Community Programme	Cohesion Events Fund	This funding request is for various activities and events Poplar Union is hosting between 25 Oct- 7 Nov, mostly specific to two festivals: Black History Month throughout October and Mindful Mess Festival throughout November. Activities this funding would go towards include (but not limited to): Black History Month focused Black Business Market, and Black Positivity Fashion Show showcasing black-owned businesses, designers and professionals, Mindful photography workshops, a Tower Hamlets family meet up event, seniors social dance class and community art class.	735	3,000
38	Purple Moon Drama	Mother's Utopia - A Wellbeing Event For Local Mum's And Their Children	Cohesion Events Fund	This is a well-being focussed event taking place at Christian Street Community Centre for local mothers. The goal is to bring local mothers together to create community and build cohesion. The organisation also aims to use this event to reconnect with this stakeholder group and ask them what they want from Purple Moon Drama's school holiday provision. The event will include speakers, surveys, panel discussions and wellness sessions such as yoga and massage therapists and will be catered with light refreshments and drinks. Mothers will be able to bring their children and have them looked after in a children's space run by a facilitator so that mothers attending can enjoy the event programme. This event is for women only.	80	2,950
39	CommuniGate	Early Years Communication Workshop	Cohesion Events Fund	This is a communication workshop targeting Bangladeshi families with children aged 0-5 in Tower Hamlets. Taking place at Haileybury Youth Centre, the workshop will include activities and advice to parents/carers about promoting positive interactions from birth and developmental milestones. Parents/carers will learn what they can do at home to improve their child's speech, language, and communication skills. This project will also include drop-in sessions where parents/carers can attend a 15 minute consultation with a qualified speech and language therapist. The event will last four hours.	50	1,050
40	Leaf Coaching	Creating Caring Communities: Virtual Resilience Building Workshop Weekend	Cohesion Events Fund	The organisation is looking to deliver a 2-day programme of workshops focused on building resilience, increasing confidence as well as helping people to engage with mental health services. The workshops will be delivered by a qualified life coach, who is experienced with dealing with issues faced by (predominantly) 2nd generation British Muslim immigrants. The application notes that BAME individuals living within a 1 mile radius from the Whitechapel Idea Store will be targeted.	30	460
41	West Indian Over 50's Social Club	Street Party	Cohesion Events Fund	This funding request is for a one-day (1 November 2021) street party in Bow. The aim of this event is to give back to the local community and funding will be used on refreshments, food and entertainment.	30	500

This page is intentionally left blank

## Tower Hamlets Council

### Older People’s Services Fund 2021-22



## Dorset Community Association

### Dorset Older People Lunch Club

**£14,400**

**Organisation Type:**  
Registered Charity

**Area of Benefit:**  
Weavers, Tower Hamlets

**Number of Project Beneficiaries:**  
60

**Primary Ethnicity:**  
All Ethnicities

**Primary Age Group:**  
Older People

---

#### Organisation’s Aims & Objectives

Dorset Community Association (DCA) is a grassroots BAME led voluntary organisation based in the Weavers ward of Tower Hamlets. DCA acts as a community hub for Tower Hamlets residents where 48% of residents are of BAME heritage from wards experiencing the highest 10% levels of deprivation nationally.

---

#### Project Details

The organisation is looking to run a hybrid service where participants can have food delivered to their homes or come to the centre to have lunch in-person. The same staff will be coordinating the project as in Year 1, and the organisation would like to run the lunch club service 1-2 days per week (at least every Thursday from 11 AM to 4 PM) for a year. The application also mentions the provision of health-related information and translation services.

Sessions will provide opportunities for elderly residents to meet and socialise, have freshly cooked meals and refreshments, go for outings, attend exercise sessions, healthy cooking & eating sessions, and get involved with quiz competitions, raffles, and attend information, advice and guidance sessions. The service users will also attend health check-up clinics and attend study circles on topics of interest; The organisation plans to celebrate social events including cultural activities such as Eid, Easter & Christmas parties and celebration of festivals and birthdays.

£14,400 is awarded to cover staff costs, volunteer costs, operational/activity costs (the cost of meals), office costs, publicity and other costs.

---

#### Year 1 Outcomes

Last year, the organisation was awarded £10,610 to deliver a weekly lunch club service for residents aged 50+, who were deemed to be at risk of social isolation or losing their independence. The organisation intended to deliver two five-hour sessions each week: one for 20 men and one for 20 women. The lunch

clubs were to include opportunities for socialising, cooked meals and the provision of advice and guidance.

The Covid-19 pandemic caused the organisation to adapt its services and it was agreed that the organisation would deliver food packages and meals to service users twice a week. The project reached 95 beneficiaries and achieved the following outcomes:

- The organisation delivered 20 to 25 food/ meal packs to local resident's homes who were unable to leave their homes.
- 95 people signed up for food delivery services.
- 4 volunteers helped to deliver food packages on the estates throughout the pandemic.



# The Ensign Youth Club

## UNITY Project

£14,995

**Organisation Type:**

Registered Charity

**Area of Benefit:**

Whitechapel, Tower Hamlets

**Number of Project Beneficiaries:**

38

**Primary Ethnicity:**

Black and Black British

**Primary Age Group:**

Older People

---

### Organisation's Aims & Objectives

---

The Ensign Youth Club is a community organisation that engages with young people in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets through recreational activities to help develop skills and create a strong affinity for the community in which they live in. The Ensign Youth Club seeks to promote social, educational, and cultural development of the local community by providing culturally sensitive services for all generations and being a responsive and vibrant community organisation.

---

### Project Details

---

This funding is for the continuation of the UNITY project which has been running since 2013. It provides social services for local BAME elderly people through weekly structured activities over the year. Starting in July 2021, they are planning in-person activities at their centre located at the border of St. Katharine's, Whitechapel, Wapping and Shadwell wards. Coffee and lunch club sessions will take place three times a week at the centre. Additional activities include healthy eating workshops held once a month for 10 people, self-management of chronic illness workshops held every six weeks for 10 people, ongoing advice, guidance and signposting and translation sessions held once a month for 20 people. The project will recruit those deemed disadvantaged from the surrounding wards, which have many multi-generation households.

The funding of £14,995 is for the full project with no funding raised so far. Most of the funding is for staff costs of a manager and assistant throughout the year and general premises and operational costs. Refreshments has been included in the budget at a cost of £2,025.

---

### Year 1 Outcomes

---

Last year, £12,770 was awarded towards the project which directly supported local older people from Bangladeshi and Somali communities. To adapt with Covid-19 and restrictions, they switched to offering advice and guidance remotely through telephone. They also provided a delivery service for their clients who are of a vulnerable population of household and food items including hot meals in partnership with Fareshare and Tower Hamlets Tackling Poverty Team. In Year 1:

- 42 BAME older people directly benefitted from the funding, 32 of which had a long-standing illness or health condition.
- 28 participants were new and received this support for the first time.

- 135 sessions were delivered remotely providing advice/guidance who were isolating at home.
- All participants reported improved physical/mental/emotional health through receiving hot meals and essential items which made their life easier during the pandemic.

This funding last year was essential to Ensign Youth Club being able to provide essential support to their most vulnerable clients and helped them to secure additional funding to extend their services.

Outcomes for Year 2 are to help reduce isolation and promote activities that will improve health and knowledge. There is also a focus to help their clients understand the easing of restrictions with Covid-19. Through this, they aim to see reduced pressure on the public health system in the long run. They will track progress by monitoring number of beneficiaries, sessions run, and will collect qualitative feedback through surveys and progress charts, case studies, and informal feedback and observations.



# Weavers Community Forum

## Weavers Health Project

£14,998

**Organisation Type:**  
Registered Charity

**Area of Benefit:**  
Weavers, Tower  
Hamlets

**Number of Project  
Beneficiaries:**  
35

**Primary Ethnicity:**  
Bangladeshi

**Primary Age Group:**  
Older People

---

### Organisation's Aims & Objectives

---

Weavers Community Forum (WCF) is a grass root led charity organisation based in the Weavers ward of London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The Forum was set up in 2010 to tackle poverty, deprivation and isolation being experienced by marginalised members of the community.

---

### Project Details

---

The organisation is applying for funding to deliver Year 2 of the Weavers Health Project, which aims to reduce social isolation and improve the wellbeing of older women from BME backgrounds.

The organisation aims to deliver two sessions per week on Mondays and Thursdays (11 AM-1 PM) for 35 women. 15 people will be supported per session. Using yoga, light movement and exercises, the project aims to improve the physical and mental health of service users. Coffee and refreshment will also be provided.

The application also notes that there will be additional services available for users: 1 x healthy eating workshop per month for 10 users, 1 x health promotion workshop per month for 10 users, Advice Information and Guidance/ Signposting: 15 people per month, 1 x Social Interaction session per month: TV and Translation

£14,998 is being applied for to cover staff costs, volunteer costs, operational/activity costs (including the cost of refreshments), office costs, capital costs and publicity costs.

---

### Year 1 Outcomes

---

Last year, the organisation was awarded £12,770 to deliver a programme of support for older BME women. 2-hour sessions were to take place every Monday and Thursdays for 45 weeks. Activities were set to include light exercise such as yoga as well as the provision of coffee and refreshments. Additional activities were also to be provided including healthy eating workshops, ongoing advice, guidance and signposting and translation sessions. The Covid-19 pandemic forced the organisation to adapt its services, and the organisation provided telephone advice services and essential food shopping and food delivery services to its service users.

The project reached 65 beneficiaries and achieved the following outcomes:

- The organisation reached 55 new people through the emergency food bank service.
- 65 people received weekly support with the delivery of food packages and household essentials.
- The organisation recruited 7 new volunteers as a result of the project.

In terms of the organisation's track record, the organisation is well established within the local community and provided vital support for 65 families during the first lockdowns. The organisation is well placed to deliver this project.

The project will directly increase the positive participation of older BME women living on the estates surrounding the Weavers ward. By engaging older women, the organisation seeks to increase the mental and physical health and wellbeing of service users. It is hoped that the physical activities and information provided surrounding healthy eating will help to reduce the risk of obesity and associated diseases amongst service users.



# The Bangladesh Youth Movement

## "Golden Years" : Older BAME People's Initiative

**£14,716**

**Organisation Type:**  
Registered Charity

**Area of Benefit:**  
Whitechapel, Tower  
Hamlets

**Number of Project  
Beneficiaries:**  
50

**Primary Ethnicity:**  
Bangladeshi

**Primary Age Group:**  
Older People

---

### Organisation's Aims & Objectives

---

Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM) supports over 2,000 people each year with a focus on ensuring local Bangladeshi & BAME communities have access to appropriate advice, information and support, to enable them to live independently in good physical, mental and financial health.

---

### Project Details

---

This funding is for Year 2 of their Golden Years project starting in September 2021 for 50 older people from BAME & Bangladeshi communities in Whitechapel. Similar to year 1 delivery, the project will offer a variety of support services and activities to older people, this year to assist them back into the community post Covid-19. Activities include community lunches and events/trips, advice services such as helping with access to pension benefits, various health-related workshops, volunteer befriending and continuing their Elders Forum. Services will be offered 2-days per week complemented by volunteer-led befriending activities outside project hours.

This funding is for the full project cost of £14,716 with no funding raised so far. Most of the funding is for staff costs of the project coordinator and elder's support worker, followed by activity costs for workshops and venue, volunteer costs and general running costs such as telephone and internet. Food costs is incorporated in the budget as a small cost of £25 for refreshments for volunteers.

---

### Year 1 Outcomes

---

Last year, £12,770 was awarded for their one-year pilot with older people from BAME and Bangladeshi communities experiencing health problems, financial hardship, and isolation. Bi-weekly activities were delivered such as exercise and advice sessions, volunteer befriending and the establishing of an Elders Forum. With Covid-19, services were adapted to telephone advice and online support. They found this was successful and plan to continue providing services this way along with their in-person support offer. In Year 1:

- 192 activity sessions were delivered.
- 40 older people directly benefited from the programme and identified improved physical/mental/emotional health.
- 12 volunteers were involved in the project, such as for befriending.
- 12 older people joined the Elders Forum to provide input and insight on programming, with six meetings held already

- 10 people gained new skills, such as through their ESOL classes.
- 2 participants gained employment through starting as part-time care workers as a result of support through this project.

With this funding, they were able to provide support to older people while trialling new ways to deliver services in response to the pandemic to keep their services running safely. The grant also enabled them to match fund against other grants and were awarded a large Lottery grant through showing they can deliver support through the crisis.

Outcomes for Year 2 are to improve health and wellbeing in their clients and reduce demand for public services by ensuring the older people they work with have access and knowledge to supports available. To measure results, they are tracking data such as number of elders accessing activities complemented by feedback and informal conversations with their clients and volunteers. Their Elders forum also provides ongoing input for project development.



# Wapping Bangladesh Association

## Older People's Friendship Club

£14,694

**Organisation Type:**

Registered Charity

**Area of Benefit:**

St Katharine's &  
Wapping, Tower  
Hamlets

**Number of Project**

**Beneficiaries:**

80

**Primary Ethnicity:**

Bangladeshi

**Primary Age Group:**

Older People

---

### Organisation's Aims & Objectives

---

WBA is charity setup for the benefit of people living in Tower Hamlets. Founded in 1981 as a self-help group to help, care, empower & improve the quality of life of the local community and their families/carers, young people and pensioners struggling to cope with daily life challenges as result of poverty, hardship and other racial and health inequalities.

---

### Project Details

---

Wapping Bangladesh Association has been awarded funding to continue the delivery of the Older People's Friendship Club, which began last April. The organisation aims to transition from online services (as provided in Year 1) to a gradual reopening of face-to-face delivery and drop-in services 3-days a week from September 2021 onwards.

The project aims to reduce the impact of social isolation on elderly people through the provision of a safe meeting space where people can engage in activities and make new friends. The organisation's volunteers will conduct outreach services such as home visits and regular telephone calls. The beneficiaries will also have access to information, training and skills to broaden their knowledge on cultivating a healthy lifestyle. The project will also include physical activity sessions and confidence-building activities.

£14,694 funding awarded to cover staff costs, operational/activity costs (including the cost of light refreshments), office costs and publicity costs. The total cost of the project is £20,553 and £5,859 has already been raised.

---

### Year 1 Outcomes

---

Last year, the organisation was awarded £12,770 to deliver activities three times a week, from 11 AM -4 PM. The activities were set to include social and cultural activities, in addition to information and advice on healthy living and the provision of a light lunch and refreshments, as well as physical and confidence-building activities. The organisation was forced to adapt its project due to the Covid-19 pandemic and provided food delivery, online Zoom classes, tele-befriending services and provided PPE equipment to vulnerable service users. The project reached 130 beneficiaries and achieved the following outcomes:

- The organisation delivered 120 emergency food Parcels to 120 vulnerable users' doorsteps. Each food parcel contained sufficient food

for up to 28 days.

- Wapping Bangladesh Association also delivered 650 hot, home-cooked, healthy, and nutritious meals. Each meal was sufficient for a person to consume over 1-2 days if refrigerated and reheated properly.
- The organisation also ran 130 tele-befriending sessions with the help of their volunteers and delivered 45 drop-in and 50 tele-advice sessions relating to topics such as debt, housing, and benefits.

The proposed outcomes of this project include re-building older people's confidence and willingness to engage and socialise with others, whilst also improving their mental and physical health. Light refreshments will also be provided. The project aims to engage 80 beneficiaries.



# Hornafrik Integration Projects

## BME Senior Citizens Project

£14,655

**Organisation Type:**  
Registered Charity

**Area of Benefit:**  
Poplar, Tower Hamlets

**Number of Project Beneficiaries:**  
50

**Primary Ethnicity:**  
African

**Primary Age Group:**  
Older People

---

### Organisation's Aims & Objectives

---

Hornafrik Integration Projects is a local community-led organisation that serves Somali and other BME communities in Tower Hamlets in the areas of education, community support, integration and cohesion. The charity's main focus is to address social exclusion by tackling poverty and economic deprivation of local BME communities.

---

### Project Details

---

This funding is for Year 2 of the E14 BME Senior Citizen Project starting in August 2021 taking place at The Reach Community Hub. It will provide user-centred advice sessions to isolated elders who face complex needs and other accessibility issues. The project will employ a sessional project worker, supported by project coordinator and two volunteers to carry out advice sessions once a week for 6 hours, helping elders in benefit entitlement, repair needs, health issues and help with possible Care Packages. The project will include workshops once a month focused on healthy eating and staying safe with the pandemic. There will be a total of 10 workshops throughout the project on different areas of knowledge with a hot meal provided on the workshop day.

£14,655 Awarded to cover the full project cost. The majority is for staff costs of their project coordinator and project sessional worker and operational costs for the monthly workshops. Hot meals for 30 participants of their 10 workshops has been placed in the budget at a cost of £1,950. Within their £1,000 allocated for volunteer expenses is travel expenses and refreshments for the two volunteers.

---

### Year 1 Outcomes

---

Last year, £12,770 was awarded to Hornafrik Integration Projects for the project. The original plan was to deliver their services in-person with a similar schedule to what is proposed for this year. When Covid-19 hit it greatly affected their programming as their clients are from a vulnerable population. The planned workshops proved very difficult, given the lockdown and other illnesses which hit their target group. With restrictions, the organisation instead ran a hot meal delivery service and provided £10 worth of essential shopping to vulnerable older people. They also arranged a few workshops on healthy eating and Test & Trace vaccination guidance. In Year 1:

- 45 people directly benefited from the project's support services, some with identified disabilities, and 25 of which were accessing support services for

- the first time.
- 50 activity sessions were delivered and with participant feedback indicating less stress, less sadness and improved overall wellbeing.
  - Language barrier support, such as the creation of a volunteer group made up of residents that aided with peer-led communication and advice helping with language barriers.

Hornafrik Integration Projects is rooted in the community and has worked with Tower Hamlets Council previously on research reports due to their experience in the borough. Last year, this project helped to combat social isolation in vulnerable older people, most from the Somali community. Continued need for the project has been demonstrated through feedback from their clients and from their volunteers seeing first-hand its impact. Most recently in May 2021, they consulted with 37 of their clients with over 95% wanting the project to continue as a source of this vital support.

Outcomes for this year are to continue to reduce isolation, measuring how many of their clients report less sadness and improved wellbeing from their programming. They aim to have at least 35 participants attending the monthly workshops and trying something new. Further to increasing client's knowledge of support services, they will track how many clients referred to services go on to utilise them. With restrictions easing and with the vaccine rollout, their outcomes for this year also include ensuring clients are aware of vaccine information and the most up-to-date guidance.

## Innovation Fund Pledge



### Aberfeldy Boxing Club

Total award - £8,751

#### Total Crowdfunding

**Target:**

£11,138

**IF pledge:**

£8,751

**Number of Backers:**

67

**Outcomes:**

40 Children receive free boxing for 4 weeks.

---

#### Organisation Details

---

Aberfeldy Boxing Club is a community led club, providing a safe environment for children, young people and wider community to come together to get fit, whilst addressing gang activity & knife crime.

**Previous experience**

In 2020 the organisation repurposed an unused unit on Aberfeldy High Street to create a dedicated boxing club and established a weekly boxing programme targeted and inclusive of the whole community providing sessions for all abilities and ages.

**Current programme of activities**

- Children's boxing classes
- adult box fit classes,
- amateur sessions for children/adults and classes for autistic children.
- Since opening the organisation have 200+ members from the local area

---

#### Project Details

---

**Aberfeldy Boxing Club – Summer School**

The organisation is proposing to run a summer boxing programme for the community. summer we plan to run a Summer School Programme during the school holidays - providing a comprehensive programme of free, fun, accessible boxing classes and activities for children and young people in the area. The holiday period can be extremely challenging time for families particularly post lockdown.

**Delivery**

- Run a free 4week Summer School Boxing Programme for a range of abilities
- Run 4 boxing classes per day with a qualified coach
- Provide refreshments for participants
- Hold an end of programme celebration for participants and their families.

This page is intentionally left blank

## Contingency Funding Covid Community Fund



### Four Corners

**Total award - £4,956**

---

#### Project Details

---

**Funding Category:**

Covid-19 Repurposing - major

**Amount requested:**

£4,956

**Total Award:**

£4,956

This project is a solution that will enable activities to operate whatever Covid restrictions change to over the coming months. It will increase the safety of participants and workers at a time when the average number of daily confirmed cases has been rising in recent weeks and with low vaccination rates in the borough.

The awarded funding will help the organisation to recover and continue to provide services in a post-covid world.

The organisation has taken steps to address the impact of covid:

- Accessed HMRC wage
- LBTH business support
- Raised £70,910 emergency funds from the Arts Council, London
- Cut costs by furloughing staff and reducing office spend
- Implementing covid related equipment and changes to building.
- Adapted services and continued to work with participants.

The organisation's experiences and local knowledge has helped Four Corners to demonstrate the need for the funding now and how it will contribute to the protection of future services.



## Poplar Union (PU)

**Total award - £5,000**

---

### Project Details

---

**Funding Category:**

Covid-19 Repurposing - major

**Amount requested:**

£5,000

**Total Award:**

£5,000

The organisation has been awarded funding to mitigate future income losses incurred due to reduced audience capacity at live events events/workshops/activities:

PU is an arts and community space and, as such, has been amongst the hardest hit organisations over the last year as the building was forced to close on the 16th March 2020 and did not re-open to the public until 12th April 2021. The organisation has been awarded funding of £5,000 to support their services/continue their adapted/repurposed programmes as they come out of covid and resume a more a full/open service and retain the infrastructure to deliver a hybrid service.

2x Theatre Shows: £540

13x Yoga Classes: £325

13x Zumba Classes: £325

13x Social Dancing Classes (50+ yo): £195

Baby Sensory Play Class: £115

Total: £1500

Income lost due to reduced or unmanageable studio hire requests. Due to ongoing social distancing restrictions and limits on capacity, the studios are now not fit for many of the community hires they ran previously (for example, local residents' weddings, birthdays and mehndi parties). Based on approximately 15 hours of lost hire time or 5x 3 hour hires, this will cost the organisation: £1123, or rounded down to £1000.

Total: £1000



## Island House

**Total award - £5,000**

---

### Project Details

---

**Funding Category:**

Covid-19 Repurposing - major

**Amount requested:**

£5,000

**Total Award:**

£5,000

Island House have suffered as an organisation since the start of the pandemic and it's beneficiaries have also been impacted as they have had services and projects close due to lack of funding and covid restrictions.

The organisation has been awarded funding totalling £5,000 for two pilot projects that will run for 9 months and can start immediately as the organisation have put the necessary Covid measures in place to run session once the full lockdown is lifted.

1. Time to Play – Parent and toddler session
2. Senior Social Club – craft club for older people

This page is intentionally left blank

## LB Tower Hamlets VCS Small Grants Programme

### Mayor`s Covid Recovery Fund: Recovery from Covid-19 Loneliness and Social Isolation

The aim of this programme is to identify ways to help people that have been impacted by the additional loneliness and isolation that the Covid-19 pandemic, with its accompanying social distancing and lockdown measures, has caused. We are looking for exciting, creative and innovative ways to enable people to re-engage and reconnect with other people in ways that are safe, supportive and fun and we can offer grants of up to £25,000. The grants are available to help people of all ages across the community and for different types of approaches. There are some ideas about the types of projects we could support below but we want to invite you to use your creativity and understanding of community needs to put forward something new and exciting.

As the pandemic control measures are relaxed and life becomes more normalised those who experienced serious isolation and its impacts including mental health impacts may need extra support and encouragement to re-engage with social contacts and to regain the confidence to re-enter the social world. This is likely to be most needed by people that already experienced feelings of loneliness before the pandemic including people with health conditions and physical or mental disabilities.

Multiple surveys and data sources have shown that one of the most damaging impacts of Covid-19 on population health overall has been to exacerbate loneliness and social isolation, especially amongst the most vulnerable. The ONS found that the “lockdown lonely” were over 30% of the population. This has been particularly noticeable amongst young adults living alone (over 50% said they were lockdown lonely) and people with health conditions and disabilities’ (including but not exclusively the clinically extremely vulnerable) where high levels of isolation have been felt.

Through the Mayor`s Covid Recovery Fund grants we want to encourage and support local organisations to identify and mobilise innovative and creative ways to address the pandemic legacy of loneliness and isolation helping people to move gradually back to connecting with each other, enjoying each other`s company and restoring or enhancing their quality of life.

Funding can be used flexibly but is primarily intended to cover revenue costs. Funds can be used to fund a whole project or to pay for elements of a wider project but there must be a quantifiable contribution to the proposed activity either in cash (other funding) or in kind (volunteer time, rent free premises etc). However, we do not require match funding. Projects should be deliverable within 12 months.

The total grants budget for this programme is £166,000 to be expended between September to 2021 to March 2022. We anticipate that this theme will fund 7-10 projects with a range of funding levels up to a maximum of £25,000.

#### Tower Hamlets Plan and Strategic Plan Priorities

C1	Strong, resilient, and safe communities	✓
C2	Better health and wellbeing	✓
C3	Good jobs and employment	✓
C4	A better deal for young people	✓

S1	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities	✓
S2	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in	✓
S3	A dynamic outcomes-based Council using digital innovation and partnership working to respond to the changing needs of our borough	

### Theme priorities (Links to Tower Hamlets Plan and Strategic Plan Priorities listed above)

1. **A welcoming and friendly Tower Hamlets** (links to THP C1 and SP S2)
2. **Neighbourhoods that are rich in opportunities for people to enjoy each other's company and where residents can be part of creating these opportunities** (links to THP C1 and SP S1)
3. **Reducing the loneliness and social isolation experienced by Tower Hamlets residents** (links to THP C2/C4 and SP S2)

### Theme outcomes

1. Reduced impact on Tower Hamlets residents of isolation and loneliness caused or increased by the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. Help and support accessible to the vulnerable groups in the community, who are particularly impacted by loneliness.
3. Identification of the people most at risk of loneliness and isolation and support to help them make confident, informed choices.
4. One to one support available for people of all ages to overcome the psychological impacts of lockdown and social distancing.

### Examples of projects and activities

Some examples of the type of activities we would support are shown below but don't be limited by this list as we are looking for creative proposals that we might not have thought of!

- Projects that will help vulnerable people to overcome the fears, anxieties, and barriers about engaging with others that have built up during the Covid pandemic and accompanying social distancing and lockdowns
- Innovative and creative ways of building new friendships, friendship networks and broader community connection in ways that address the pandemic legacy.
- Projects that draw on the arts, cultural practice or educational activities to offer ways to connect up, overcome barriers and do things together
- Support for people who have mobility issues to connect with others in a safe and supported environment, whether by getting out and about or in other ways
- Community online platforms that help those who are continuing to shelter at home and are continuing to be at risk of isolation and loneliness
- Projects that link people across social barriers such as health status, age, and

ethnicity to support people of all ages to get together to enjoy life whether in person (safely) or remotely

- Creative ways of connecting with the digitally excluded

## Eligibility

### 1. Size of organisation

We welcome applications from Tower Hamlets organisations and from other organisations that have a track record of delivery in the borough.

Individuals are not eligible.

### 2. Not for Profit

The grants programme will only support activities run by groups which can demonstrate they are set up as not for profit groups. The types of organisation which the Council considers to be not for profit are set out in the VCS Strategy and included in the Tower Hamlets Grants Policy framework

### 3. Locally based

The grants programme is intended to support the local VCS and community activity. The eligibility criteria for all grant themes reflect this principle.

Organisations based outside the borough are not excluded from eligibility but they must show very clear connections to Tower Hamlets either through existing activity or local leadership of the proposed project. Applications will be encouraged from organisations based across the borough.

### 4. Good governance

Organisations will be expected to achieve an acceptable level of governance with appropriate policies for the activities they propose to undertake. The acceptable level will be proportionate to the size of organisation and type of activity. The Council will accept applications from organisations in the process of developing appropriate policies but funding will not be paid until they are in place.

## Levels of Funding Available

1. Up to £25,000 to be expended on delivery of the project completing within 12 months. The funding is not recurrent.
2. The total budget for this programme is £166,000 per annum. We anticipate that this theme will fund 7-10 projects depending on the level of awards.

## Monitoring arrangements

1. Monthly reporting against agreed outcome measures will be required.
2. Six monthly progress report and annual/end of project report and visit.

This page is intentionally left blank