

Non-Executive Report of the:  <b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b>  Tuesday 17 November 2020	
<b>Report of:</b> Somen Banerjee, Director Public Health	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Local Authority COVID-19 Test and Trace Support Grant</b>	

<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Somen Banerjee
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards

## Executive Summary

Councils were informed by letter on 11<sup>th</sup> of June of allocation for the Local Authority Test and Trace Service Support Grant

The purpose of the grant is ‘to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred in relation to the mitigation against and management of local outbreaks of COVID-19’.

Tower Hamlets was allocated £3.2m and this report sets out current plans for its use to prevent and limit spread of COVID-19 in the borough

## Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Note the current use of the Grant]
2. Note the Equalities Impact Assessment/specific equalities considerations as set out in Paragraph 4

### 1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 There is no specific decision requested of the Board.

### 2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Not applicable.

### 3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 See attached report.

#### **4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The report notes that priorities for expenditure of the Grant are strongly informed by the PHE disparities report published in June 2020.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-understanding-the-impact-on-bame-communities>

4.2 Specifically, there is investment that is linked to the occupational, deprivation and ethnicity disparities associated with COVID-19 infection and impact.

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

5.1 The expenditure of the grant is under the terms of the Local Authority COVID-19 Test and Trace Service Support Grant Determination 2020/21: No 31/5075

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

6.1 London Borough of Tower Hamlets was allocated a grant of £3.22m out of the national funding of £300m in June 2020. This report sets out how the grant will be used in line with the grant conditions. Expenditure proposed should not create any recurring new financial burdens once the grant funding has been used up.

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

7.1 Section 2B of the National Health Service Act 2003 requires each local authority to take such steps as it considers appropriate for improving the health of the people in its area. This may include providing services for the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of disease.

7.2 When considering its approach to the matters set out in the report, the Council must 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 characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty).

7.3 The matter set out in this report comply with the above legislation.

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

#### **Linked Report**

- Local Authority Test and Trace Service Support Grant – proposed areas of expenditure

#### **Appendices**

- NONE (apart from in body or report)

**Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)**

**List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report**

- NONE

**Officer contact details for documents:**

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