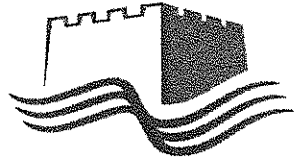


<b>Individual Mayoral Decision Proforma</b>  Decision Log No: 207	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director for Place	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Covid Local Support Grant</b>	

<b>Is this a Key Decision?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Decision Notice Publication Date:</b>	12 July 2021
<b>General Exception or Urgency Notice published?</b>	<b>Not required</b>
<b>Restrictions:</b>	None
<b>Reason for seeking an Individual Mayoral Decision:</b>	The Council has limited time to spend the DWP funding, or it must be returned to government and therefore an early decision is vital.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since December 2020 the Council has received a number of payments from the DWP in the form of the Covid Winter Grant, renamed the Covid Local Support Grant in April 2021.

The purpose of the grant is to provide food and essential household goods to residents. The most recent allocation is £1.1 million, received at the end of June and to be spent and all purchases distributed by 30 September 2021.

This report is seeking permission for two proposed uses of the grant:

1. To make small grants to four organisations working with specific cohorts of people that the council wants to reach and
2. To support administrative, storage and logistics costs for His Church charity, enabling the council to access high value donations of food and essential household supplies for the VCS hub, for onward distribution to local residents.

Both of these decisions require an Executive decision which is being sought via IMD due to the time constraints in distributing the funding.

Full details of the decision sought, including setting out the reasons for the recommendations and/or all the options put forward; other options considered;

background information; the comments of the Chief Finance Officer; the concurrent report of the Head of Legal Services; equalities implications; and other relevant matters are set out in the attached report.

### **Recommendations**

1. Approve up to £300,000 funding from the most recent allocation of the Covid Local Support Grant to be spent with His Church on administrative and transport costs, supporting the distribution of new, donated, food and household goods from major retailers to the VCS hub.
2. To give delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Place to enter into *contract* with His Church to give effect to the above,
3. To give delegated authority to the Corporate Director Place to agree to spend further monies with His Church should additional funding become available.
4. To approve the grants listed at 3.6 to be made from the Covid Local Support Grant to provide food and essential goods to specific groups of hard to reach residents on the council's behalf.

## APPROVALS

### 1. Corporate Director proposing the decision or his/her deputy

I approve the attached report and proposed decision above for submission to the Mayor. I confirm that the Mayor and/or Lead Member have agreed to this decision being taken using this process.

Signed .....  Date ...23 July 2021.....

### 2. Chief Finance Officer or his/her deputy

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

Signed .....  Date..... 29th July 2021.

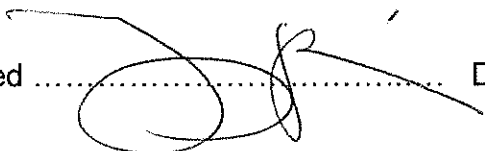
### 3. Monitoring Officer or his/her deputy

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

Signed ..... Date 30 July 2021.....

### 4. Mayor

I agree the decision proposed in the recommendations above for the reasons set out in paragraph 3 in the attached report.

Signed .....  Date 9/8/21.....

