

Individual Mayoral Decision Proforma

Decision Log No: (35)



Report of: Anne Canning: Corporate Director, Education, Social Care and Wellbeing

Classification:
Unrestricted

Small Grants for Older People

Is this a Key Decision?	No
Decision Notice Publication Date:	
General Exception or Urgency Notice published?	Not required
Restrictions:	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Social isolation and loneliness are often considered to be particular problems of older age. Reduced social contact, loneliness, isolation and being alone are thought to affect older people's quality of life and their health. There are a number of very small pensioners groups, often on estates, which go some way to alleviating social isolation and this funding offers support to these groups.
- 1.2 These small grants also ensure a range of peer support groups which promote independence and alleviate social isolation among older Tower Hamlets residents.
- 1.3 £25,000 has been allocated to be awarded to small local organisations can be met through existing budgets.
- 1.4 A paper was taken to the Corporate Grants Programme Board on 11th June 2013 and is attached as Appendix One.

DECISION

- 2.1 The Mayor is asked to confirm the recommendations of the Corporate Grants Programme Board to enable the process for the application and distribution of the small grants as noted below.

- Approve the processes and criteria for inviting applications for Education, Social Care and Wellbeing's small grants for pensioners groups 2013-14.
- Confirm the availability of the funding for the proposal
- Agree the process for agreeing the grant funding

2.2 The Mayor is also asked to delegate the funding decisions to the Corporate Director of Education, Social Care and Wellbeing having consulted with the Mayor

3. Comments Of The Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services)

3.1 The Council has a duty to ensure that all the people in the borough have access to this funding. This is guaranteed by advertising the availability of grant funding and then applicants can make a submission to be evaluated and therefore potentially access the funding.

3.2 When awarding grant funds the Council will have to undertake an equality impact assessment to ensure the funds are distributed in a fair and transparent way.

3.3 The Council must satisfy itself that the purpose of each grant is in line with the overall objectives of the Council. This can be seen by identifying the appropriate parts of the Community Plan and relevant Mayoral Priorities.

3.4 The use of each grant must be closely monitored. In particular the funds must be used on a "cost" basis and ensure that no profit element is retained by the funded organisation. If profit is made the grant would therefore constitute procurement activity and ought to have been subject to an appropriate level of competition.

3.5 The Council must satisfy itself that the funded organisation does not operate for profit. If the organisation does operate for profit and there is a cross border interest the grant would qualify as state aid and would therefore be illegal under European law as the organisation would gain an advantage in the commercial market place from a publically funded grant.

3.6 If approved, the grant should take place in conformity with the established grants processes and in particular should be represented by a written deed in a simplified version of the Precedent Grant Agreement produced in respect of other council grants

APPROVALS

1. (If applicable) Corporate Director proposing the decision or his/her deputy

I approve the attached report and proposed decision above for submission to the Mayor.

Signed *Paul Cannon* Date *02.07.13*

2. Chief Finance Officer or his/her deputy

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my *see section 7.1 and 7.2 of the attached report.* comments.

Signed *C. O'Neil* Date *3/7/13*

3. Monitoring Officer or his/her deputy

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

(For Key Decision only – delete as applicable)

I confirm that this decision:-

(a) has been published in advance on the Council's Forward Plan OR
(b) is urgent and subject to the 'General Exception' or 'Special Urgency' provision at paragraph 18 or 19 respectively of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

Signed *J. Bell* Date *5/8/13*

4. (If the proposed decision relates to matters for which the Head of Paid Service has responsibility) Head of Paid Service

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

Signed Date

5. Mayor

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

Signed *M. ...* Date *23/9/13*

DECISION

I have considered the above information and advice on the process for the allocation and award of Small Grants, as detailed in the report.


I have considered whether or not this is a Key Decision under Article 13 of the Constitution. In making this decision, I am of the view that:-

- The funding of these grant awards will be limited.
- The funding decisions are not of such import to result in substantial public interest.
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In light of the above, and taking all other considerations in to account, I am content that these awards as recommended by the Corporate Grants Board is a non key decision.

I have decided to accept the recommendation of the Corporate Grants Board and I agree that the processes to the application and agreement for these awards and I delegate decisions to the Corporate Director of Education, Social Care and Wellbeing in consultation with myself.

My decision is based on the following reason:

Signed


Executive Mayor

Dated
