

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSIONERS' DECISION MAKING  
MEETING**

**HELD AT 6.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**C1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT,  
LONDON, E14 2BG**

**Members Present:**

Max Caller (In the Chair) (Commissioner)

Chris Allison (Commissioner)

**Councillors Present:**

Councillor Peter Golds (Leader of the Conservative Group)  
Councillor Rachael Saunders (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for  
Education & Children's Services)

**Officers Present:**

Stephen Murray (Head of Arts and Events, Communities Localities  
& Culture)

Jackie Odunoye (Service Head, Strategy, Regeneration &  
Sustainability, Development and Renewal)

Alison Thomas (Head of Housing Strategy, Partnerships and  
Affordable Housing, Development and Renewal)

**APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR FOR THE MEETING**

It was noted that Chair, Sir Ken Knight had tendered apologies for the meeting. Commissioner Chris Allison nominated Max Caller and, there being no other nominations, it was

**RESOLVED**

That Commissioner Max Caller be appointed Chair for the duration of the meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Sir Ken Knight and Alan Wood.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made.

### **3. DECISIONS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The published decisions of the meeting held on 9 September 2015 were noted.

### **4. CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS**

There were no public submission requests relating to any printed agenda items.

### **5. EXERCISE OF COMMISSIONERS' DISCRETIONS**

The Chair advised that no urgent Individual Commissioner decisions had been taken since the previous Commissioners Decision Making Meeting on 9 September 2015.

### **6. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

The Commissioners noted that items 6.1 and 6.2 concerned grant requests of a similar nature and agreed to consider the applications jointly.

#### **6.1 The Greenwich and Docklands Festival**

Steve Murray, Head of Arts & Events, introduced the report which asked Commissioners to approve event grant applications for two festivals set out at agenda items 6.1 and 6.2, for the sums of £25,000 and £5000 respectively. He informed Commissioners that following discussion on the nature of these payments with Legal Services, it had been determined that they should be regarded as grant payments since the Council had a discretion and therefore the applications had been brought to the meeting for determination.

The Chair asked attending Members to respond to the information presented and they indicated that they had no observations that they wished to make.

The Chair supported the grant requests made and asked also that a report be made to a future Cabinet meeting on an appropriate strategy for all events that will be supported by the Council. The strategy will include the intended aims and outcomes of these events.

#### **RESOLVED**

1. That a payment of £25,000 be made to the Greenwich and Docklands International Festival event organisers for this year's event.
2. That it be noted that a report setting out the proposed arrangements for future events will be produced for consideration by the end of December 2015.

3. That a report be made to a future Cabinet meeting on an appropriate strategy for all events that will receive support from the Council and which will include the intended aims and outcomes of these events.

## **6.2 The East End Film Festival 2015**

Commissioners considered this application in conjunction with item 6.1 and the rationale is recorded above.

### **RESOLVED**

1. That a payment of £5,000 be made to the East End Film Festival event organisers for this year's event.
2. That it be noted that a report setting out the proposed arrangements for future events will be produced for consideration by the end of December 2015.

## **6.3 Emergency Funding Application Account 3 - Additional Information**

Zena Cooke, Corporate Director for Resources introduced the report which requested emergency funding for Account3 on the basis of additional information provided in the report.

Councillor Saunders spoke in support of the request and Councillor Golds commented that he supported the request also.

The Chair noted that a previous application for emergency funding from this organisation had been considered and refused. However on the submission of fuller information which disclosed that the Council had failed to issue capital funding that had been previously awarded, Commissioners were satisfied that purpose of the request was solely to mitigate a failure to process the original bid.

Commissioners asked officers:

- to ensure that the Council's processes should not cause such a situation to recur in future.
- to ensure that future reports fully detail all pertinent information and circumstances relating to grant applications.

### **RESOLVED**

1. That the award of £19,400 for Emergency Funding for Account3 be approved on the basis of the additional information provided regarding the delay in the funding allocation for capital funding.
2. That Council officer's work with Account3 to ensure the organisation has a sustainable business plan in place by the end of March 2016.

## **6.4 Provision of Home Repairs Grants under the Council's Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy 2013-15, to four individual owner occupiers**

The Chair thanked the presenting officers for the revised and anonymised report which enabled the applications and the good work delivered by the Council to be placed in the public realm.

Jackie Odunoye Service Head, Strategy, Regeneration & Sustainability and Alison Thomas, Head of Housing Strategy, Partnerships and Affordable Housing, presented the report which concerned four applications for home repairs grants under the Council's Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy 2013-15. Approval of the grants would enable these vulnerable residents to retain their independence and spare the Council additional costs for provision of alternative forms of support which it would otherwise be required to provide.

The Chair asked attending Members to respond to the information presented. Councillor Golds commented that he supported the publication of this of report. Councillor Saunders indicated that she had no observations that she wished to make.

The Commissioners enquired about implementation and monitoring of the contracted works and were satisfied that the Council's surveyors had been appropriately involved in scheduling the repairs.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Home Repairs Grants totalling £12,534.58, be approved to the four qualifying individual home owners for the following amounts.

1. Grant to Ms A, in the sum of £4,152.10 to fund urgent repairs to her kitchen and replacement of the central heating combination boiler.
2. Grant to Ms B in the sum of £2,570.04 to fund two extended warranties for an internal curved track stair-lift and an external wheelchair step-lift.
3. Grant to Mr C, in the sum of £1,012.44 to fund urgent minor adaptations to his home to ensure his safety and independence.
4. Grant to Mr D in the sum of £4,800.00 to fund urgent repair works to the leaking main roof of the property.

#### **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 6.49 p.m.

In the Chair: Max Caller  
COMMISSIONER