


Commissioner Decision Report 12 April 2016	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Zena Cooke, Corporate Director Resources	Classification: Unrestricted
Exercise of Commissioners Discretion	

Lead Member	Rachel Saunders
Originating Officer(s)	Everett Haughton
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Community Plan Theme	One Tower Hamlets

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out details of decisions made under the exercise of Commissioners Discretion. Such decisions are required to be the subject of a noting report at a subsequent Commissioners Decision Meeting in Public.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Commissioners are recommended to:

Confirm the decisions made under the exercise of Commissioners Discretion as set out in Appendix 1.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Agreed procedures require that reports be submitted to Commissioners Decision Meetings in Public to confirm/note grant funding and other decisions taken under the exercise of Commissioners Discretion.
- 1.2 The reporting of decisions taken under the exercise of Commissioners Discretion assists in ensuring that Members and the public are made aware of, and therefore able to scrutinise all Commissioners decisions.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Agreed procedure requires decisions taken under the exercise of Commissioners Discretion to be presented to the subsequent Commissioners Decision Meeting in Public.

- 2.2 To deviate from this procedure would require a sound reason. It is not considered that there is any such reason, having due regard of the need to ensure that Members and the public are kept informed of all decisions made by Commissioners under their discretionary powers.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 The decisions made under the exercise of Commissioners discretion are set out in the attached appendix 1. These decisions relate to Emergency Funding and other applications considered outside of Decision Making Meetings in Public.
- 3.2 These decisions were taken outside of scheduled meetings in public in order that grants awarded to organisations that are facing emergencies and other organisations and individuals can be made in a timely manner.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 4.1 The report asks commissioners to confirm the decisions they have made outside of a public meeting as detailed in Appendix 1. There were four grant requests from the Emergency Fund considered by the commissioners, three of which were rejected and one was partially approved. If the decisions are confirmed then this will commit and approve award of £3k from the £250k Emergency Funding Budget.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 5.1. Whilst the Commissioners are empowered to exercise their discretion in private, agreed procedures require that such decisions should be reported to Commissioners Decision Meetings in Public for ratification. This self-imposed procedure has been implemented in the interests of transparency.
- 5.2. There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1. This report is concerned with the notification of Commissioners decisions under the exercise of their discretions; and as such has no direct One Tower Hamlets implications. The extent to which there are One Tower Hamlets considerations arising from the original recommendations, these would have been addressed as part of those considerations.

7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Best Value implications associated with each of the Commissioners discretions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been identified and evaluated as an integral part of the process which led to the decisions.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 8.1 There are no sustainable actions for a greener environment implications arising from this report.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The risk management implications associated with each of the Commissioners' discretions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been identified and evaluated as an integral part of the process which led to the decisions.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Crime and disorder reduction implications, if any, associated with the decisions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been an integral part of the process which led to the decisions.

11. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Safeguarding implications including risks or benefits, if any, associated with each of the decisions as set out in Appendix 1 would have been identified and evaluated as an integral part of the process which led to the decisions

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – details of the decisions made under the Commissioners discretionary powers

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

- None

Officer contact details for documents:

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