

<b>Individual Mayoral Decision Proforma</b>  Decision Log No: <u>172</u>	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Corporate Director Resources	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Smarter Together Programme – Grant Thornton Consortia Contract</b>	

<b>Is this a Key Decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Decision Notice Publication Date:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2017
<b>General Exception or Urgency Notice published?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Restrictions:</b>	N/A
<b>Reason for seeking an Individual Mayoral Decision:</b>	The contract is a key part of delivering the Council's transformation programme and a swift decision is critical to ensure priority projects can be delivered.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In July 2016 Cabinet approved £1.1m for the Council to work with a strategic partner to deliver change in its services.

The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) identified the need to review services to achieve efficiencies in the light of Government cuts to the Borough's budget, so it has to save £58m over the period 2017-2020.

To assist in the delivery of what are a diverse range of proposals the Council undertook a legally compliant procurement exercise using a Framework of suppliers in order to identify and contract with a strategic partner who would support the Council in all aspects of the delivery of those savings proposals. The procurement exercise was won by Grant Thornton LLP. Their bid also included the ability to sub-contract to a number of other organisations which created a broad portfolio of skills which might prove necessary for the Council to achieve its objectives.

The original budget for the work was estimated by the Council by considering the types of work required and drawing upon the work previously undertaken with Members on an Outcomes Based Budgeting approach.

The budget was estimated on the best information available at the time, but additional budget is now required, in order to continue to achieve the transformation of Council services.

## DECISION

The Mayor is asked to approve an extension to the original contract with a revised estimated budget increased over the original 3 years of the contract to £3.5m.

### APPROVALS

**1. Chief Finance Officer or his/her deputy**

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

Signed  Date 18/08/17

**2. Monitoring Officer or his/her deputy**

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

I confirm that this decision:-

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  Date 18/8/17

**4. Mayor**

I agree the decision proposed in the recommendations above for the reasons set out in paragraph 1.1 in the attached report.

Signed  Date 18/8/17

| Am on balance happy to sign, but each deployment needs to be carefully justified and scrutinised, by management with a parallel strategy that reduces the call on this contract. I expect to see regular update reports.



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