


SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Grants Determination Cabinet Sub-Committee 26 th November 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Sharon Godman, Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance	Classification: Unrestricted
VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority	

Lead Member	John Biggs, the Mayor Councillor Candida Ronald, Cabinet Member for Resources
Originating Officer(s)	Emily Fieran-Reed, Senior Strategy and Policy Manager Awo Ahmed, Programme Assessment & Monitoring Officer
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Forward Plan Notice Published	[Insert date notice was published]
Reason for Key Decision	Not a key decision
Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome	All

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on funding awarded to voluntary and community sector organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Recommendations:

The Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the grant funding streams available to be awarded under delegated powers.
2. Note the covid contingency plans that have been agreed in relation to small grants.
3. Note that at the time of reporting there have been no further grants awarded under delegated powers since the last Grants Determination

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(Cabinet) sub-committee

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 There are a number of funding programmes to support voluntary and community sector organisations in the borough where decisions are made under delegated authority either by officers or, in the case of the Small Grants Programme, the East End Community Foundation. These decisions are presented to the Sub-Committee for noting.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The council could decide not to provide funding to VCS organisations through its various programmes. However, to do this would be contrary to the agreed policy to support VCS activities in the borough set out in the VCS Strategy 2016-19 and draft Strategy 2020-2024.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT**Small Grants Programme**

- 3.1 **Please note that no grants have been awarded since the last Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee. We are expecting a number of grants to be awarded in the near future and therefore the details of these will follow at the next Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee meeting.**
- 3.2 The Small Grants Programme was established to ensure that local people and community groups will continue to be able to get funding from the council to support community initiatives – people getting together to get things done. The programme is intended to make funds available to support grass roots activity in local communities that will help make life better in Tower Hamlets and achieve the changes set out in the Tower Hamlets Plan and the council's Strategic Plan. By establishing a single grants programme with different themes or activities to be funded, the council is trying to make sure local groups seeking funds will have a one stop shop to get to the funds best suited to their needs.
- 3.3 The collaborative partnership between EECF and LBTH has been instrumental in building the future capacity of the VCS sector and achieving the outcomes of the small grants programme. Having a single point of contact within the council for the small grants programme provides greater opportunities to discuss applications and make the required recommendations.

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- 3.4 The programme has eight themes. The five themes that constitute the main programme have been open for projects commencing from 1st October 2019 and three more targeted themes set up during 2019/20 have funded projects commencing from 1st April 2020.
- 3.5 An additional theme was agreed at Grants Determination Sub Committee on the 9th September 2020. Covid-19 Test and Trace Outreach and Engagement – further details in 3.6 of this report.

Main themes

1. **Innovation** - to encourage innovation or pilot something new, especially where there is a gap;
2. **Prevention** - to promote grass roots activity to reduce the need for statutory services;
3. **Neighbourhood action** - to promote local neighbourhood initiatives
4. **Community cohesion** - to develop community resilience, promote cultural opportunities and reduce social isolation, and
5. **Partnership working** - making the sector more effective through closer partnership working within the sector and across sectors.

Focussed Themes

6. **Community Support Services for Older People** – to combat social isolation of older people through the provision of community based support services.
 7. **Access and Participation** – to establishing access and participation schemes to provide referral gateways for people from BAME communities.
 8. **Loneliness** - Reducing the impact of loneliness and isolation
- 3.6 Details of the first round of small grant awards for 2020/21 are set out at Appendix A.
- 3.7 Applications to this round of the small grants programme were submitted prior to the restrictions put in place relating to Covid 19. Since the start of the pandemic EECF have been liaising closely with all previously funded programmes and requesting covid contingency plans detailing how they have re-purposed their small grants award since the pandemic. All contingency plans are required to be agreed by EECF in conjunction with council officers. Further due diligence work is carried out by EECF with organisations that have re-configured delivery in light of covid, for example ensuring that risk assessments are undertaken and social distancing policies are applied.
- 3.8 Details of the Covid repurposed contingency plans that have been approved or pending for further discussions are set out at Appendix B.
- 3.9 The new Public Health small grants theme was open for applications for VCS organisations to apply for small grants funding for improving the uptake of Test & Trace in the community. No grants have so far been awarded under

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this theme to date, although we are expecting awards in the near future. Any further details of grants awarded will be reported to the next meeting of Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee.

- 3.10 The priorities of this fund are to support projects that take a culturally sensitive and responsive approach to enable communities to proactively engage with NHS Test and Trace services and ensuring key public health messaging is reaching the following identified priority communities: Young People, Carers, Homeless people, New migrants, Students, People experiencing domestic violence, people experiencing digital exclusion and/or digital poverty.
- 3.11 The total budget for this theme is £30,000, grants of up to £1,000 are available to un-constituted groups of residents and grants of up to £3,000 are available to constituted not-for-profit organisations. It is anticipated that this theme will fund 10 to 20 projects with a range of annual funding levels up to a maximum of £5,000 per annum.
- 3.12 Details of the Small Grants Theme: covid-19 Test & Trace outreach & Engagement is set out in Appendix C.
- 3.13 The budget and expenditure across all the themes to date is set out below.

Small Grants Financial Summary				
Theme	2019/20 budget £,000s	2019/20 expenditure £,000s	2020/21 budget £,000s	2020/21 expenditure £,000s
Innovation Prevention Neighbourhood action Community Cohesion Partnership working	90	90	180	57
Community Support Services for Older People	0	0	100	100
Access and Participation	0	0	50	15
Loneliness	0	0	50	27
Covid-19 Test & Trace	0	0	30	
Totals	90	90	410	199

Innovation Fund

- 3.14 **No grants have been awarded under this fund since the last Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee.**
- 3.15 The council is keen to encourage and support innovation in the sector and acknowledged that this would require some funding to enable the sector to pilot new initiatives and approaches to service delivery and support.
- 3.16 The Innovation Fund supports VCS organisations to "test and learn" new ways of working, new initiatives and new delivery models that if successful could be scaled up and commissioned more formally.

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- 3.17 VCS organisations that crowdfund through the Our Tower Hamlets page of the Spacehive portal will have an opportunity to pitch for up to £10,000 (or a maximum of 50 per cent of an organisations crowdfunding target) in match funding for their projects.
- 3.18 Further details can be found on the [Space Hive Tower Hamlets](#) and the [Innovation Fund](#) pages with more information available in the [factsheet](#).
- 3.19 Decisions are made by the Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance in consultation with the Chair of this Sub-Committee based on recommendations of an advisory panel which consists of the Chief Executive of the East End Community Foundation, the Head of Corporate Strategy and Policy and officers from the VCS Team.
- 3.20 The Tower Hamlet's Food hub has been facing a significant shortage of food supplies to distribute to vulnerable residents in the borough.
- 3.21 One of the options presented to tackle the food shortage was to set up a Food Appeal Campaign on the council's Crowdfunding Portal 'Our Tower Hamlet's'. Agreed at CLT Gold on 23rd October the Emergency Food Appeal for Tower Hamlets campaign was launched on the 5th November 2021.
- 3.22 The Tower Hamlet's Food Hub campaign page can be found here; [Emergency Food Appeal for Tower Hamlets](#)
- 3.23 Briefing Note approved at CLT which details the processes and outcomes of the campaign are set out at Appendix D
- 3.24 Details of pledges agreed by officers under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee from the Innovation Fund and projects that have succeeded in reaching their targets are set out in Appendix E.

Innovation Fund Financial Summary		
Previous awards:	Amount pledged (£)	Amount released (£)
Total pledged	£87,292.50	
Pledged to organisations that met target	£77,292.50	
Released to date		£46,961.50
Original Budget	£120,000.00	
Remaining Balance	£42,707.50	

Contingency Fund

- 3.25 No grants have been awarded under this fund since the last Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee.

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- 3.26 The Contingency Fund was set up by the Sub-Committee to extend the existing Emergency Fund from being purely a fund to support organisations facing 'life and limb' emergencies to a fund that may also support organisations facing the impact of a significant loss of council funding.
- 3.27 VCS organisations that meet criteria set out in the Contingency Fund agreed by the Sub Committee at its meeting on 6th November 2019 may apply to the council for funding to meet 'life and limb' emergencies, normally significant financial liabilities that might not have been reasonably foreseen.
- 3.28 Where an organisation has recently lost significant funding from the council the Contingency Fund may also be used for transitional support for an ongoing service if an organisation can demonstrate that there is a reasonable chance of alternative funding being secured, normally within six months of the end of council funding.
- 3.29 At the meeting held on 29 July 2020, the Mayor in Cabinet agreed to close the transition element of the Contingency Fund and extend the Fund further to include support for organisations affected by Covid 19.
- 3.30 The Covid Community fund opened for applications on the 5th Nov 2021. **No grants have yet been awarded under this fund.** For a limited period, Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations in Tower Hamlets will be able to access funding and organisational support as detailed below;
- a. Covid Organisational Support Fund – Up to £5,000 Available for VCS organisations that need to restructure their organisation to incorporate the current Social Distancing and other restrictions or to respond to covid 19 more generally. This includes organisations currently funded to deliver frontline/direct contact services to residents who will need to restructure their organisation to reflect the current climate.
 - b. Covid Re-Purposing Fund – Up to £5,000 VCS organisations could apply for this fund, either to deliver services differently to residents and beneficiaries – adapting services to remote delivery or ii. where Covid has meant that there is good reason for the organisation to deliver different kinds of services. Funding could be applied to cover the up-front costs of changing the way services are delivered (e.g. any new equipment, or training), and then enabling to continue to deliver in these new ways (including staffing and ongoing service costs) to increase the reach and capacity of services.
 - c. Wider Support – Alongside the award of funding, council officers and Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS), will engage with organisations on the issues they face arising from or impacted by covid and work with them to develop a detailed organisational transition plan and agree support measures ranging from;

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- Repurposing delivery models including implementing social distancing measures and working in different ways
- Finances and funding including bid writing
- Business planning and business continuity
- Governance, strategy and policy
- Training and skills
- Matters relating to staffing or volunteers
- Communications and engagement including social media digital

3.31 VCS organisations can also apply for wider support on a standalone basis, without applying for funding.

3.32 Further details of the Covid Community Fund are set out on Appendix F.

3.33 The budget identified for 2020/21 for the Contingency Fund is £100k. There are already 2 awards made against this budget in this financial year totalling £25,795.50 and a further application pending approval of £5,000. There is therefore £69,204.50 remaining. A further £50,000 has been drawn down from reserves to support the Covid Community Fund. The total budget remaining for 20/21 is therefore £119,204.50.

3.34 Awards are made from the Contingency Fund by the Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance in consultation with the Chair of this Sub-Committee. Details of awards made by officers under delegated authority from the Contingency Fund since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee are set out at Appendix C

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 All grants awarded need to demonstrate how they meet they need of our diverse communities and support the council's Public Sector Equality Duty. Equalities data is collected as part of the monitoring process and this will be reported as part of the annual reporting process.

5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Best Value

Recent legislation, particularly the Localism Act 2010, has emphasised the role of communities working in partnership with local authorities to help achieve more effective and less costly services to local people. The process of co-production of services delivered by local voluntary and community organisations is a tool now widely recognised as a means to achieving this outcome.

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There is a risk that, by not publishing details of funding awarded to VCS organisations, the council could leave itself open to challenge that it is not fulfilling previous commitments to openness and transparency. This report is one of a series that will provide updates on funding decisions made under delegated authority and the VCS Annual Report will provide more detailed analysis.

5.3 Crime Reduction

There are no specific crime reduction considerations arising from this report.

5.4 Safeguarding

There are no specific safeguarding implications arising from this report. However, ensuring appropriate consideration is given to safeguarding will be addressed in the development of the Small Grants Programme, both through governance requirements and in the capacity building programme for the sector proposed.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 This report notes the update on funding awarded to voluntary and community (VCS) organisations under delegated authority. There have been no further grants awarded since the last report.

6.2 Grants awarded to date are contained within the available budget, along with the funding for both the Rent Relief Scheme, £93,696 and the Covid Community Fund, £119,205 which are included in the Covid-19 claim submission to central government.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report
NONE

Appendices

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- Appendix A Small Grants Programme
- Appendix B Small Grants Covid Contingency Plans
- Appendix C Small Grants Theme: covid-19 Test & Trace outreach & Engagement
- Appendix D Tower Hamlets Food Appeal Campaign
- Appendix E Innovation Awards
- Appendix F Covid Community Fund

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

**Appendix A – Small Grants Programme
Main Programme 2020/21 Round One**

1. This round of the Small Grants Programme closed on 9 March 2020. 40 applications were submitted with an overall total of £150,904 requested against the £180,000 in the small grants budget to be allocated in the three funding rounds for the current financial year.

Theme	No. of Applications	Total Requested £
Innovation	2	10,000
Prevention	12	2,150
Neighbourhood Action	2	55,659
Community Cohesion	24	83,095
Partnership	0	0

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Total	40	150,904
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2. Applications were received from a wide range of projects, though, as illustrated above, the half focussed on the community cohesion theme.
3. 24 projects are recommended for funding amounting to £57,427 as set out in the attached spreadsheet and summarised below. Of these, 12 projects are recommended £1,000 or less (total £8,578) and 12 are recommended more than £1,000 (total £48,849).

Theme	No. of Grants	Total recommended £
Innovation	1	5,000
Prevention	5	23,649
Neighbourhood Action	2	2,150
Community Cohesion	16	26,628
Partnership	0	0
Total	24	57,427

4. Of the 24 grants recommended:

- Five are from BME community led organisations;
- Eight focus on older people;
- Two focus on supporting women;
- Five focus on children and young people;
- Two focus on mental wellbeing

5 2020/21 Budget

2020/21 budget	£180,000
Round One grants	£57,427
Balance remaining for rounds two and three	£122,573

6 Locality Funding

Two projects have been recommended for funding through the LHC Community Benefit Fund, a scheme administered by Locality, the national community development organisation that the council has worked with previously on the development of community hubs.

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LHC is public sector procurement consortium providing specialist technical and procurement services to its members throughout the UK. As a not-for-profit organisation, any surpluses generated from procurement activity is returned to members. As part of this a Community Benefit Fund (CBF) has been set up with funding available for each of the member local authority areas in which it works, which includes Tower Hamlets. The CBF is particularly interested in funding small projects that have the potential to link in to its work on developing social outcomes.

Locality has been liaising with EECF to select small grants applications that would meet the CBF criteria. It is proposed the CBF will fund the community cohesion theme application from the Oitij-jo Collective and, in the Loneliness theme, the application from Bowhaven.

The two £5,000 grants will be administered by EECF as part of the small grants programme with no additional administrative cost to the council

Access and Participation Theme 2020/21 Round One

1. The Access and Participation Theme of the Small Grants Programme was set up as one of the Local Community Fund Equality Analysis Action Plan (EAAP) mitigating actions to support the role of smaller BME community led organisations as a gateway for people from those communities to gain access to mainstream services through signposting and referral and to act as an advocate for those communities that might not otherwise have a collective voice. This is the first round of applications to this theme.
2. This round of the Small Grants Programme closed on 9 March 2020. Three applications were considered with an overall total of £16,916 requested against the £50,000 allocated to this theme in the three funding rounds for the current financial year. The three applications and the amounts awarded are set out in detail in the table below. They are,

Organisation	Project Name	Amount recommended £
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Community Information Access	4,916
Isle of Dogs Bangladeshi Association	IoD Bangladeshi Residents Club	5,000
Hornafrik Integration Projects	BME Bridging Project	5,000
Total		14,916

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3. All three projects focus on the access priorities of the theme. This is the first round of the theme and there will be the opportunity during the year to promote the theme further and generate a wider range of applications.
4. The total budget for the theme is £50,000. £14,916 has been allocated in this round, leaving £35,084 for the remaining funding rounds.

Loneliness Theme 2020/21 Round One

1. The Mayor's task force on Loneliness aims to stimulate and support a social movement of people across the borough that are engaged and encouraged to take their own actions, however small and local, that will make a difference and bring people together to increased social connectedness at street level, neighbourhood level and across the borough. To help this an additional theme in the small grants programme has been established that focuses around loneliness and social isolation specifically. This is the first round of applications to this theme.
2. This round of the Small Grants Programme closed on 9 March 2020. Ten applications were considered with an overall total of £45,397 requested against the £50,000 allocated to this theme in the three funding rounds for the current financial year. The applications and the amounts recommended are set out in detail in the attached spreadsheet (worksheet 'Access and Participation'). The seven recommended applications are listed below
3. The total budget for the theme is £50,000. It is recommended that £26,666 is allocated in this round. Taking account of the £5,000 CBF funding for Bowhaven, £28,334 remains for the two further funding rounds.

Organisation	Project Name	Amount recommended £
Neighbours In Poplar	Loneliness	4,680
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Wapping's Mums Club	5,000
Wadajir Somali Community Centre	Wadajir Girls Youth Group	5,000
Blossom Project	Blossom Together	4,986
Individual Application - Shahnaz Rifat	Mindful Mothers Project	1,000
Individual Application - Abdul Rawkib	Chai Club	1,000
BowHaven	Operation Loneliness	5,000
Total		26,666

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4. This theme allows applications from individuals for 'micro' grants (ie £1,000 or less) where the funding is granted through an accountable body that is a constituted VCS organisation. In both cases the accountable body is Social Action for Health. This approach has been used successfully in the past by public health to deliver small grants to support very local initiatives.

Community Support Services for Older People Theme

1. The benefits of providing community support services for older people are well documented in helping to promote wellbeing and a longer healthy life through reducing social isolation, increasing physical activity and maintaining independence in older age. The Equality Analysis of the change from the council's Mainstream Grants programme to the Local Community Fund highlighted a potential negative impact on services for older people, particularly those from smaller minority communities who use services provided by organisations led by members of their own community.
2. This small grant theme therefore focusses on supporting community based services run by BME led community groups. It is set up to fund activities that bring older people together and provide activities that will increase independence and wellbeing and reduce social isolation.
3. In this theme priority was given to services for older people provided by BME community led organisations.
4. 13 applications were received amounting to £168,600. Of these, eight met the criteria and were awarded funding. One was declined because it duplicated a service provided through the Local Community Fund, two were referred to the main programme and were funded in the Community Cohesion theme. The other two were declined because they did not present good value for money.
5. This theme was set up as part of the Local Community Fund Equality Analysis Action Plan. It was intended to be awarded in full in a single round and the successful applicants will have the opportunity to renew their funding subject to satisfactory performance

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Small Grants Main Programme

N o.	Organisatio n	Project	Project Description	Grant
Innovation				
1	You Be You	You Be You	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a project focused on breaking down gender stereotypes amongst primary school children in the borough. They will provide fun activity boxes to be used by teachers and for parents to use with children at home and also plan to sell the associated Key Stage 1 curriculum resources to schools. The aim is to engage 10 schools in the first year and three schools in the borough are currently on a waiting list to take part. The organisation is in conversation with two more schools and there are plans to engage more through links with local community and parent groups, cooperation with Councillor Danny Hassell and targeting multi academy trusts.	5,000
Prevention				
2	ALL 4 TEENS (A4T) chic	ISBEDEL	The organisation is proposing to deliver a varied programme of sessions for 40 young BME people, aged 13-19, hosted at Granby Hall. Participants will be recruited through the organisations existing sport sessions, posters and links with other community groups. The project will run for 48 weeks and sessions will take place every Tuesday evening for two hours. Each week the participants will alternate between boys and girls and two qualified volunteer youth workers will support the delivery. The project plan includes the following for each group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 cooking and nutrition sessions • 6 life skills sessions on subjects such as budgeting 	4,949

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			<p>and planning for the future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 workshops delivered by inspirational role models such as the Young Mayor of Tower Hamlets • 3 sessions on community issues such as drug and alcohol awareness and gang culture 	
3	Sketch Appeal	The Art of Self-Love	<p>The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a six week course of weekly creative workshops for 15 adults that are socially isolated or living with mental health needs. The sessions will focus on personal development and utilise drawing as a form of mindfulness and creative play. Participants will be required to complete an application form to ensure that places are given to those most in need and, if successful, will be required to commit to the full six weeks. The organisation will also arrange eight monthly full day drop-in sessions for participants in need of ongoing support and social connection. Recruitment of participants will be through referrals from GP's and other social prescribers.</p>	3,940
4	The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM)	"Inclusive Advice" [Female Advice & Advocacy Initiative]	<p>The organisation is proposing to deliver a varied programme of advice and advocacy for local BAME women experiencing exclusion, debt and poverty. This will include a four hour drop-in advice session per week, one follow up appointment per week and ongoing telephone support for women who find it difficult to visit the organisation's centre. Women will be able to seek advice on subjects such as Universal Credit issues, housing support and debt management. Advice will be delivered by a dedicated Officer and the project will be supported by 10 volunteers, two at each</p>	4,891

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			session. The organisation is AQS accredited to deliver the advice service.	
5	The Shadwell Community Project	Grow, Cook and Eat!	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a food growing programme at Glamis Adventure Playground in Shadwell. The project will take place during the summer months and will produce fruit and vegetables for children to cook and eat. A gardener will be employed to run 15 planting sessions and a chef will teach children how to cook with the harvested ingredients. Three open access community events will also be arranged, the first of which will be delivered with the allotment users on Open Gardens Day in June. Volunteers, staff and young members will host activities and the Children's Cafe will raise funds for future activities. The organisation anticipate that a total of 400 local children and young people and 100 adults will visit the sessions.	4,884
6	London Jaguars FC	Women's Only Fitness and Nutrition Sessions	The organisation is proposing to deliver a varied fitness and nutrition programme for 20 adult BAME women in the borough. Sessions will take place for two hours each Saturday at Blossom Project and will run for 45 weeks. Activities will include Zumba, fitness sessions, group discussions, talks by guest speakers and an awards ceremony at the end of the year. The organisation has a waiting list of those that have expressed interest in the programme at a focus group and the sessions will be promoted through flyers, social media and word of mouth.	4,985
Neighbourhood Action				

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7	Prospect Walk Allotments Association	Prospect Walk Allotments Association Communal Shed	The organisation is seeking funding to purchase and install a large communal shed to store shared gardening tools and set up a seed bank allowing members to save and swap seeds in an organised way. The shed will also provide storage for advice leaflets, gardening books and other information and it is intended to use it as a focal point for future community open days. Part of the grant would also go towards replacing two of the allotments water tanks that are in an advanced state of decay.	1,200
8	Roman Road Bow Neighbourhood Forum	Bow People's Plan	The forum produced a draft plan with groups and individuals from Bow and want to carry out more public engagement to seek local responses to the plan before submitting it to the council. The engagement will be conducted through public activities and online consultations and afterwards the plan will be voted on in a local referendum.	950
Community Cohesion				
9	Alpha Grove Community Centre	Community Fun Day	To organise a community Fun Day at the Alpha Grove Community Centre during the summer for disadvantaged families. The event will consist of a barbeque, games, arts and crafts activities and other outdoor activities.	678
10	Ebeegees	New Years Trip for Elderly	A coach trip to Burstead Golf Club with lunch and entertainment for socially isolated elderly people.	600
11	Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club	Forever Young	Weekly activities providing breakfast and lunch sessions throughout the year for socially isolated elders. The grant will contribute towards weekly food shopping for the sessions and also hiring a mini bus from for a seaside trip.	1,000

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12	Friends of St Eugene	Enabling Friendships 2020	The grant will cover four get-togethers throughout the year for young adults who feel lonely in the area of Whitechapel and St Katherine's. The individuals have been identified from previous events delivered.	900
13	Golden Girls	Coach Trips, BBQ & Refreshments	The grant will cover three to four coach trips, barbeques, afternoon teas and refreshments for elderly from all backgrounds.	600
14	Sonali Day Trippers	Sonali Day Trippers	The grant will cover two seaside trips and one community barbeque for elderly residents at Sonali Gardens .	1,000
15	Island House Craft Club	Island House Craft Club	The grant will cover coach fees for day trips and arts and craft sessions delivered once a week for local elderly people.	350
16	St John's Bingo Club	Thursday Bingo Group	To carry on running the Bingo Club at St. John's (IOD) Community Association allowing the elderly to meet and have fun throughout the year.	500
17	The Geezers Club	The Geezers Club	To arrange combined trips for club members with Bow Bowls, Bow Belles and Age UK East London. Speakers from different local service providers will also give talks on a range of issues.	500
18	Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest	Monthly Lunch Club	The grant will cover the costs of a summer outing to a seaside resort, a theatre trip, guest speakers and Christmas gifts and birthday parties for elderly club members.	500

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19	Rethink Mental Illness	Carers Healthy Cooking & Gardening Group	To run a healthy cooking and gardening club for mental health carers. St Peters North Community Centre will be used to grow fruits and vegetables, as a kitchen and as a space to eat. The grant will be used to purchase seeds, soil, gardening equipment, cooking ingredients and utensils. There will also be nutrition and pain management advice for the carers.	1,000
20	Rainbow Film Society	21st Rainbow Film Festival	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver the 22nd Rainbow International Film Festival, taking place between 30th May - 6th June 2021 at Genesis Cinema and the Rich Mix Centre. The festival is anticipated to attract 1000 visitors primarily from Bangladeshi, Indian, Pakistani and Somali communities and they will be recruited through the organisations links with a range of local organisations and a marketing campaign. The festival will be supported by 25 volunteers and activities will include daily screenings of films from across the world, a poster and picture exhibition, Q & A sessions, dedicated screenings for children, a women's conference and film making workshop and an awards ceremony.	3,500
21	Udichi Shilpi Gosthi	Bangladesh Book Fair, Literary and Cultural Festival	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver their tenth Bangladesh Book Fair, a literary and cultural festival showcasing Bengali writers, artists, performers and cultural activists. Other performances from groups representing the Somali, Chinese and Irish communities will also feature. Additional activities on the day will include poetry recitations, creative workshops and children's activities. Approximately 35 arts organisations and 150 artists will contribute towards the two-day event and the organisation expects to attract a multi-cultural audience of over 1000.	3,500

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22	Lower Regent's Coalition	East End Canal Festival and Film Project	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver the East End Canal Festival, celebrating 200 years of the Regent's Canal with workshops, presentations and open days in advance of the event. This will include an art exhibition inspired by the canal, boat trips, guided walks, stalls, children's activities, creative workshops and a floating cinema. The grant requested would cover project management, the costs of providing the boat trips and the production of a film by local filmmaker, gathering memories from Bangladeshi residents about living by water in Bangladesh to illustrate a history in common. This would then be screened at the event and used in the organisations work with schools and other local organisations.	3,500
23	Weavers Adventure Playground Association	Cooking with Culture	The organisation is proposing to organise three events which will take place during the summer period and engage 25 parents and 75 children. Activities at the events will include a food festival during which children and their parents will cook using different methods, a communal meal, traditional music and dance from different cultures and the opportunity for parents to share their experience of living in Tower Hamlets with others. Each event will last for four hours and will be hosted at the adventure playground.	3,500
24	The Oitij-jo Collective	TATI Textiles	The organisation is proposing to deliver a six-week programme of textile skills training for Bangladeshi women. There will be 10 sessions in total and the course will involve four weeks of screen printing workshops, two weeks of sewing workshops and their will be the opportunity to exhibit and sell the finished creations. Recruitment of participants will be done via advertising on social media, flyers and word of mouth.	5,000
				57,427



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Access and Participation Theme

No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Grant
1	Wapping Bangladesh Association	Community Information Access	The organisation is proposing to deliver a programme of digital and online skills training to enable local residents to access and trust online services provided by organisations such as the council, NHS and HMRC. The project will comprise of two stages, firstly three cohorts of 10 people will take part in a four-session course teaching basic computer and internet skills, how to create an email address and how to access and navigate public services online. After participants have completed the course, the organisation will offer a weekly three-hour long drop-in session for residents to review their knowledge and practice their skills.	4,916
2	Isle of Dogs Bangladeshi Association	IoD Bangladeshi Residents Club	The organisation is applying for funding to continue to deliver their support services to the Bangladeshi community. Three times a week sessions will be held which include the provision of general information, support with health issues, legal advice and accompaniment to appointments. Once a week open days including keep fit sessions, refreshments and opportunities to socialise will be hosted. There will also be separate sessions for women held once a month and a programme of day trips and events throughout the summer holidays.	5,000

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3	Hornafrik Integration Projects	BME Bridging Project	<p>The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a project designed to reduce the barriers to accessing mainstream support services for Somali and other BAME residents in the Poplar, Blackwall, Canary Wharf and Island Gardens wards. The project will focus on signposting to services supporting residents to improve their English and to access employment and training opportunities. The organisation will use existing links with other groups and local schools to recruit participants and target those in most need of support. Trained volunteers will conduct three hours of outreach sessions a week visiting such organisations and will provide support in small groups or to individuals. There will also be quarterly workshops at which community members will be invited to identify gaps in provision and inform the future of the project.</p>	5,000
				14,916

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Loneliness Theme

No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Grant
1	Neighbours In Poplar	Loneliness	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a year-long programme of activities designed to compliment existing outreach work they are undertaking with older, vulnerable and disabled residents. As a result of the outreach, a number of activities to combat loneliness have been identified and they will be delivered through one session a week at three separate venues: a portacabin in Limehouse, a Tower Hamlets Homes centre in Wapping and an undecided venue in Shadwell. The activities will include arts and crafts, yoga, other exercise and IT sessions including a buddy system. The organisation expects to reach 80 beneficiaries throughout the course of the project.	4,680
2	Wapping Bangladesh Association	Wapping's Mums Club	The organisation is applying for funding to organise a user-led club for 25 lonely and isolated Bangladeshi and BAME mothers. The club will provide a safe environment to socialise, talk and build peer support networks. A range of activities have been designed in consultation with local mothers and they will encourage the building of relationships between participants. This will include coffee mornings, arts and crafts, exercise and music. Sessions will take place twice a week during school term time and there will also be a coping skills workshop once a month and a pampering session once a term. Participants will be recruited through the organisations existing participants, social media advertising, outreach on local estates and flyers.	5,000

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3	Wadajir Somali Community Centre	Wadajir Girls Youth Group	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a programme of activities for 30 young Somali women aged 11 to 19. Drop-in sessions will take place for three hours on Saturday and Sunday afternoons at Teviot Community Hall and will provide the opportunity to socialise in a culturally appropriate environment. Activities will include arts and crafts, healthy eating sessions, higher education workshops and intergenerational Somali dancing.	5,000
4	Blossom Project	Blossom Together	The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a project engaging 40 local people over the course of a year and building on the weekly intergenerational coffee morning they currently organise. Outreach to other community groups, doctors surgeries and cultural centres will be conducted in order to establish referral pathways. The programme of activities has been codesigned with local residents and existing service users and this will include weekly sessions including topical discussions on a variety of subjects, walking and exercise, and arts and crafts. Gardening will also be included on a seasonal basis and employability support will be offered twice a quarter to those expressing an interest in a career in community work . Two trips will also be organised as part of the project.	4,986
5	Individual Application - Shahnaz Rifat	Mindful Mothers Project	The individual is applying for funding to deliver a programme of support for 20 expectant and new mothers. The project will provide a safe space for mothers to share their thoughts and feelings and sessions will take place on a fortnightly basis. The activities will alternate between a talking group at which participants will discuss stress management and overcoming isolation and a walking group which will encourage physical activity and healthy	1,000

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

			behaviours. The group will meet at John Smith Children's Centre and walks will take place at local parks.	
6	Individual Application - Abdul Rawkib	Chai Club	The individual is proposing to deliver a series of eight community tea mornings for 15 elderly Bangladeshi women in the Bethnal Green area. Sessions will last for one hour and will provide the opportunity for networking and structured activities such as mindfulness, health advice, art and dance will also be included. Six out of the eight sessions will be delivered with the help of external professionals who will give short talks of 15 minutes and volunteers will also support the delivery.	1,000
7	BowHaven	Operation Loneliness	<p>The organisation is applying for funding to deliver a varied programme providing support and opportunities for local residents to connect in a number of settings. The project will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six meet-ups in Victoria Park and other public places including music, arts and crafts and other outdoor activities. • The creation of a communal art project in the park to give participants the chance to represent loneliness using physical materials and audio-visual techniques. • An online platform hosted on the BowHaven website featuring videos of people talking about their own experience of loneliness. • A weekly online meeting space, supported by BowHaven staff members, where people can drop in and socialise in a less pressurised setting. 	5,000
				26,666



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

	Organisation Name	Project Name	Summary of Request	Grant
1	Somali Senior Citizens Club	Somali Elders Lunch Club & Community Engagement Project	The organisation is proposing to continue delivering a lunch club for Somali elders, taking place five days a week for 48 weeks throughout the year. Sessions will take place between 1-3 at Granby Hall. As well as receiving a freshly prepared meal, participants will be encouraged to socialise, and staff will refer them to other support services provided by the organisation such as welfare advice and support with health issues.	12,770
2	Wadajir Somali Community Centre	Wadajir Elderly Lunch Club	The organisation is applying for funding to continue delivering a lunch club for local Somali women aged 55 and over. Sessions will take place 10-2 Monday to Thursday and at Teviot Community Hall. Sessions will provide a chance to socialise, gain access to support services, learn healthy recipes and take part in traditional Somali dance classes. Additionally, an advice worker employed at the centre will give advice on issues such as benefits, rent and utilities.	12,770

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

3	Wapping Bangladesh Association	The Older People's Friendship Club	The organisation is proposing to deliver an Older People's Friendship Club with the intention of helping them stay active and mentally healthy. The project has been developed through consultation and will offer a variety of activities which will take place at sessions held three times a week, from 11-4. Activities include socialising, a variety of cultural activities, information and advice on healthy diets, cooking and the provision of a light lunch and refreshments, physical activities such as walking, chair exercises and complementary therapies and confidence building activities supported by volunteers	12,770
4	Dorset Community Association	Dorset Older People Lunch Club	The organisation is proposing to provide a weekly lunch club for residents aged 50+ in the North West of the borough. Participants will be at risk of social isolation or losing their independence and two five-hour sessions will be delivered each week: one for 20 men and one for 20 women. The lunch clubs will include socialising, cooked meals and advice and guidance. Structured sessions on healthy cooking and exercise and social events to mark holidays such as Christmas and Eid will be organised.	10,610
5	The Ensign Youth Club	UNITY Project	The organisation is applying for funding to continue to deliver their UNITY project for Bangladeshi and Somali older people. Coffee and lunch club sessions will take place three times a week at the centre and this will run for 45 weeks. Additional activities will also be included as part of the project and include health eating workshops held once a month	12,770

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

			for 10 people, self-management of chronic illness workshops held every six weeks for 10 people, ongoing advice, guidance and signposting and translation sessions held once a month for 10 people looking at TV and newspapers	
6	Weavers Community Forum	Weavers Health Project	The organisation is proposing to deliver a programme of health support for older BAME women. Sessions will take place for 2 hours each on Mondays and Thursdays. The project will run for 45 weeks. General activities will include light exercise such as yoga as well as the provision of coffee and refreshments. Additional activities include health eating workshops held once a month, self-management of chronic illness workshops held every six weeks, ongoing advice, guidance and signposting and translation sessions held once a month looking at TV and newspapers	12,770
7	Hornafrik Integration Projects	E14 BME Senior Citizen Project	The organisation is seeking funding to deliver a project for BME elderly residents in E14, participants will predominantly be from a Somali background and live in the Phoenix Court and Mast House Terrace. The project will be hosted within Phoenix Court and at The Reach Community Hub, with travel provided. The organisation will host weekly four-hour sessions with a mixture of time to socialise and advice sessions on subjects such as benefit entitlements and health issues. Two healthy eating workshops a month will also be arranged.	12,770

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

8	The Bangladesh Youth Movement	Golden Years	<p>The organisation is proposing to deliver a one-year pilot programme targeted at older women living in Whitechapel, who are experiencing issues such as health problems, financial hardship and isolation. Between 30 and 40 individuals are expected to benefit throughout the year and bi-weekly activities will include trips and celebratory events, surgeries with health professionals, healthy eating and exercise sessions, and advice on welfare benefits and money management. The project will involve the training of volunteers to befriend and conduct home visits with local older people and an Elders Forum will be established to allow participants to input into the direction of the project.</p>	12,770
				100,000

Appendix B – Small Grants Covid Contingency Plans

June Round

Approved – Contingency plans have been reviewed and approved by EECF and LBTH officers.

Pending – Contingency plans are in discussion stage or awaiting further information from groups.

Organisation	Theme	Proposed Changes	Approved by LBTH?
The Bangladesh Youth Movement	Prevention	Advice to be offered online and over the phone from July 1st onwards. Face to face advice sessions will resume when government guidelines allow.	Approved
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Loneliness	If the centre is able to open for face to face sessions in August then social distancing will be observed, PPE will be worn and enhanced cleaning will take place. In order to observe social distancing measures, three sessions a week will be arranged for 10 mothers at a time, as opposed to two sessions a week for 15 mothers at a time. If the centre is not able to open then the project will either be delayed until October or the organisation will look to deliver it remotely. This would include the distribution of activity packs, group Zoom sessions and support via email and telephone.	Approved
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Access and Participation	If the centre is able to open for face to face sessions in August then social distancing will be observed, PPE will be worn and enhanced cleaning will take place. The number of people entering the centre at any one time will be restricted and people will be encouraged to access the advice service remotely. If the centre is not able to open then the project will be delivered remotely and this will include telephone support, email support and online sessions. If this is the case then the organisation will increase the hours the Advice Worker is available to help people.	Approved
St John's Community Association	Community Cohesion	The grant will be spent when the Bingo Club are able meet for their weekly sessions again.	Approved

Sonali Daytrippers	Community Cohesion	The grant will be used to arrange a daytrip to Brick Lane Music Hall and to organise a New Year party.	Approved
Udichi, Shilpi, Gosthi	Community Cohesion	Three options: 1. The event is delayed 2. The event is goes ahead but with rules enforced such as wearing PPE, disinfecting books and a maximum of 10 people attending at one time. 3. The delivery of a virtual book fair using the online platform Hopin. This allows for a 'main stage' and other areas where talks can be held and people can interact with others in different sessions. This will also allow people from Bangladesh to join the event.	Approved
Wadajir Somali Community Centre	Loneliness	The start of the project will be delayed until September and if necessary the number of attendees will be reduced to 15 girls per session in order to enforce social distancing.	Approved
Lower Regent's Coalition	Community Cohesion	The film will be ready in Autumn of 2020 and will be available online. The festival will not be delivered until next year and the potential dates are 3-4th April or July 3-4th. The date of the festival will be confirmed by the end of July	Approved
The Shadwell Community Project	Community Cohesion	The site will be open and sessions will delivered in smaller groups. The large outdoor area means children will be able grow things and whilst staying socially distanced. Each child will be supplied with a growing kit which the can use at home if needed and if sessions cannot be run on site the doorstep deliveries of activity packs, recipes and cooking challenges will be arranged.	Approved
Rainbow Film Society	Community Cohesion	The film festival was always scheduled for June 2021 and so there are no changes at this stage.	Approved
London Jaguars Community Association (changed name from London Jaguars FC)	Prevention	The target group are not proficient users of technology and so the preference is to delay the project until it can be delivered as planned. However, if this not possible by October then sessions will be delivered. If online sessions are delivered then this will reduce the cost of the project dramatically and the group will keep EECF updated about this.	Approved
Ebeegees	Community Cohesion	Delay the trip until it is able to go ahead.	Approved

You be You	Community Cohesion	Project delivery will now begin in January 2021. If schools are not fully open then they may need to reduce the number of schools they work and/or look at working in partnership with libraries and the Museum of Childhood. If shareable activity boxes are not able to be used then cheaper single use activity boxes will be produced. The curriculum will also be made available online.	Approved
Individual Application - Abdul Rawkib	Loneliness	All eight sessions will now be delivered in September and not into October as planned. This is to avoid the restrictions that would come about as a result of any second wave. Only 10 people a session will be able to attend instead of 15. Some of the planned budget for refreshments will be spent on PPE.	Approved
Prospect Walk Allotments Association	Neighbourhood Action	All work will be carried in small groups with social distancing in place and PPE will be worn.	Approved
Hornafrik Integration Projects	Access and Participation	If face to face outreach is not able to be arranged then the organisation will host bi-weekly Zoom meetings with parents and volunteers, distribute information leaflets and organise online mentoring and informal guidance for parents and children that need support with issues such as the transition back to school.	Approved
Blossom Project	Loneliness	Online activities arranged for those that are shielding and socially distanced face to face activities provided for a small 'bubble' of participants that feel safe in taking part.	Approved
Isle of Dogs Bangladeshi Association	Access and Participation	Face to face services have been paused unless the case is very urgent. The majority of support will be delivered over the phone instead.	Approved
Sketch Appeal	Prevention	Instead of a 6 week group course with 15 people the organisation will offer 17 weekly online social sketching and art sessions on Zoom. The sessions will be offered on a drop in basis instead of for the same cohort of 15 people.	Approved
Spitalfields City Farm	Street Parties	Instead of an event marking the Great Get Together the group want to use the grant to organise a Virtual Summer Fayre on 8th August. It will feature virtual stalls, performances, workshops and a farm tour. Alison Denning has been notified and has agreed to it.	Approved

Golden Girls	Community Cohesion	Activities and day trips will be delayed until it's safe to do so.	Approved
Alpha Grove Centre	Community Cohesion	Instead of a community fund day at the centre, food will be delivered to families instead.	Approved
All 4 Teens	Prevention	The sessions will go ahead as planned when the venue opens (expected to be in September). Young people will be required to wear a face mask and observe social distancing.	Approved
Friends of St Eugene	Community Cohesion	The events will be delivered with social distancing measures in place. For particularly vulnerable people that do not want to attend meals would be delivered and eaten with them or some kind of online interaction would be facilitated.	Approved
BowHaven	Loneliness	Each of the three project elements will be delivered with reduced numbers, social distancing and extra cleaning in place. The project end date will also be extended	Approved
Neighbours in Poplar	Loneliness	All activities - yoga, chair exercise coffee mornings etc will take place in bubble groups of reduced numbers.	Approved
Trapped in Zone One	Street Parties	A virtual Great Get Together event in Mid-October streamed live via Facebook. It will take place in a venue in Tower Hamlets with a small group from the Mohila Ongon Women's Group celebrating who are their 10 anniversary.	Approved
Weavers Adventure Playground	Community Cohesion	Food parcels have been delivered to families throughout the summer. Instead of a number of events that were scheduled over the summer there will be one event at the end of October. If guidelines do not allow this then a full day of online activities will be delivered instead including recipes and cooking workshops, 'stories from my childhood' from different cultures and music activities.	Approved
Island House Craft Club	Community Cohesion	Delay the trips until they can get access community transport	Approved
Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club	Community Cohesion	They are waiting until the council has conducted a risk assessment to open the centre and find out how many people can attend at once. If they are not able to open the centre then meals will be cooked and delivered to residents at home.	Approved
The Geezers Club	Community Cohesion	Project delayed until safe for venues to reopen again.	Approved

September Round

Organisation	Theme	Proposed Changes	Approved by LBTH?
Grand Union Music Theatre	Community Cohesion	The intention is for the five events to be public in some way. However if this isn't possible they have contingency plans to film and publicise the events online.	Approved
True You Today	Prevention	All face to face contact postponed and sessions will move to online delivery.	Approved
Trapped in Zone One	Community Cohesion	Workshops will be delivered remotely and the mural will be painted with social distancing in place and PPE worn.	Approved
Associates of Community Trust UK	Community Cohesion	Either delay the start of the project or deliver telephone and remote support instead of coffee mornings. This will be decided after consultation with beneficiaries.	Approved
St. Peters Women's Wellbeing Programme	Loneliness	All face to face activities have been postponed and before they begin in future a risk assessment will take place alongside Tower Hamlets Community Housing. For now they will deliver telephone outreach, video sessions, socially distanced gardening activities and delivery of winter care packages.	Approved
St Paul's Arts Trust	Community Cohesion	The project plan will not change much. Although more of the workshops will be scheduled for after Easter in the hope that this will allow for more face to face and not just online sessions.	Approved
Toyhouse Libraries	Loneliness	Delay the start of the project until January 2021 due to the ongoing uncertainty.	Approved
Un-Age	Innovation	Delay the delivery of the project until February 2021. preparation and recruitment will happen in the meantime.	Approved
Kayd Somali Arts and Culture	Community Cohesion	The event is still scheduled to be held online and the pre-cording sessions will be spaced out to adhere to the new government guidelines.	Approved

London Young Stars Elite	Innovation	Face to face activities will be limited to two families per session - this will mean less volunteers will be needed and the money saved will be spent on venue hire to put on additional activities. Sports will be held outside and there will also be puzzles and board game sessions delivered online.	Approved
Woodwork for Wellbeing	Prevention	Sessions will be delivered to smaller groups (maximum of six people in the room) and social distancing measures will be in place, tools cleaned and face masks worn.	Pending
Babel Theatre	Loneliness	See attached letter.	Pending
Olive Tree Education	Loneliness	See attached letter.	Pending
Eastside	Access and Participation	Most sessions will now be delivered virtually as the majority of beneficiaries have access to the internet. However, where vulnerable people are not able to access the internet, support and advice will be offered face to face, adhering to government guidelines and with social distancing in place. The planned gatherings for Christmas, Eid and Diwali will now not take place.	Approved
Wapping Youth FC	Prevention	Sessions will be delivered in smaller groups and online sessions will be held for those classed as vulnerable. All activities will be non-contact and no equipment will be shared.	Pending
EFA London	Community Cohesion	Classes will be moved online for the foreseeable future . If the situation changes they will work with the host venue to provide classes in person in a way which is safe. The trip at the end of the project will be carried out using social distancing measures and it will likely be a trip outside.	Approved

Appendix C – Small Grants Covid Test & Trace

LB Tower Hamlets VCS Small Grants Programme

Small Grant Theme: Covid-19 Test and Trace Outreach and Engagement

Improving the uptake of Test and Trace in the community

Tower Hamlets Public Health and partner teams and organisations plan to keep Tower Hamlets safe by coproducing a culturally sensitive and responsive approach that enables our communities to proactively engage with NHS Test and Trace.

Our engagement plan is focussed on NHS Test and Trace programme. It is designed to marry data on the success (or otherwise) of all aspects of NHS Test and Trace in Tower Hamlets with local intelligence on the messages and the way they are delivered that may make a difference.

We have generated a set of proposals around different modes of engagement and different supporting materials.

A literature review was conducted to ascertain which population groups are likely to be (i) disproportionately affected by coronavirus, and (ii) more likely to experience difficulties in adherence to NHS Test and Trace requirements. Alongside a pan-London community mapping exercise, and a Tower Hamlets community impact assessment, this generated a list of priority communities for engagement.

A perceptions survey has been commissioned to understand community-wide perspectives of the NHS Test and Trace programme so that we can understand more representative perspectives, which can provide a helpful counterpoint from which specific communities may differ. Healthwatch have also been applying their repository to collate relevant insights from their research activities.

Initial and repeated feedback has indicated that people are more likely to engage with NHS Test and Trace if they hear information from a trusted source, and there is a proactive offer of support.

A small pot of funding (in the region of £30K) will be made for community groups and members to apply for grants to support the dissemination of key messages. The nature and process of the grants fund will be developed once the other mechanisms of engagement described here have been established to ensure it is targeted for maximum added value.

The Public Health Healthy Communities Team has oversight of the programme of community engagement, ensuring appropriate and sufficient coverage of high-risk groups across all activity and maintaining professional input into the public health messages being shared.

A reporting tool will capture the calendar of activities and, for monitoring purposes, map the target community groups against sessions completed and attendees, forward planned dates, RAG rating of penetration in community and acceptability of messages with notes to explain.

Through the small grants we want to encourage local actions that help people to support the dissemination of key messages around Test and Trace. We are particularly interested in small local actions that make a difference to people at the high-risk of not engaging. To support this, small grants are available up to £1,000 which can be accessed by people without an established group, although you will need to identify an “accountable body” that will support you by holding the funds for you.

We will also support larger grants up to £5,000 if you can show how it will make a difference in a neighbourhood or to a wider group of people as well as being innovative.

Funding can be used flexibly but is primarily intended to cover revenue costs. Funds can be used to fund a whole project or to pay for elements of a wider project there must be a quantifiable contribution to the proposed activity either in cash (other funding) or in kind (volunteer time, rent free premises etc). However, we do not require match funding

The total budget for this theme is £30,000. We anticipate that this theme will fund 10 to 20 projects with a range of annual funding levels up to a maximum of £5,000 per annum.

Tower Hamlets Plan and Strategic Plan Priorities

C1	Strong, resilient and safe communities	√
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C2	Better health and wellbeing	√
C3	Good jobs and employment	√
C4	A better deal for young people	√
S1	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities	√
S2	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in	√
S3	A dynamic outcomes-based Council using digital innovation and partnership working to respond to the changing needs of our borough	

Theme priorities (Links to Outbreak Control Plan)

1. Innovative community engagement and information dissemination around Test and Trace
2. Projects and activities that address the PHE disparity report and target groups most at risk of the impacts of Covid-19

Theme outcomes

1. **People are aware of NHS Test and Trace and are willing to engage**
2. **People are able to identify symptoms of Covid-19 and self-isolate**
3. **People take a test in a timely way**
4. **People with a positive test for Covid-19 are all promptly followed up as part of test and trace**
5. **All contacts are contactable**
6. **All contacts respond to test and trace follow up promptly**
7. **All contacts self-isolate for 14 days (unless they test positive, from which time they self-isolate for 10 days)**

Examples of projects and activities

Some examples of the type of activities we would support (but don't be limited by this list as we are looking for creative proposals that we might not have thought of!)

- Posters or leaflet dissemination
- Materials to promote Test and Trace in neighbourhoods
- Other projects that contribute to the outcomes above

Eligibility

1. Size of organisation

We welcome applications from small local organisations including from informal/unconstituted groups for grants up to £1,000. We also welcome applications from established community groups for grants up to £3,000.

Organisations with an annual turnover in excess of £250,000 are not eligible to apply to the Small Grants Programme

Individuals are not eligible but small grants are available up to £1,000 which can be accessed by people without an established group, although you will need to identify an “accountable body” that will support you by holding the funds for you.

2. Not for Profit

The grants programme will only support activities run by groups which can demonstrate they are set up as not for profit groups. The types of organisation which the Council considers to be not for profit is set out in the VCS Strategy and included in the TH Grants Policy framework at.

3. Locally based

The grants programme is intended to support the local VCS and community activity. The eligibility criteria for all grant themes reflects this principle. Organisations based outside the borough are not excluded from eligibility, but they must show very clear connections to Tower Hamlets either through existing activity or local leadership of the proposed project. Applications will be encouraged from organisations based across the borough.

4. Good governance

Organisations will be expected to achieve an acceptable level of governance with appropriate policies for the activities they propose to undertake. The acceptable level will be proportionate to the size of organisation and type of activity. The Council will accept applications from organisations in the process of developing appropriate policies, but funding will not be paid until they are in place.

5. Other criteria

We are keen to support grant applications under £1,000 from informal or un-constituted groups but these should be supported by an organisation with appropriate levels of

governance which will act as the 'accountable body' for any funds awarded.

Levels of Funding Available

1. Up to £3,000 for projects

The total budget for this theme is £30,000. We anticipate that this theme will fund 10 to 20 projects with a range of funding levels

Monitoring arrangements

1. Three monthly progress report and annual/end of project report and visit.
2. Data will be cross referenced with borough wide take up rates of Test and Trace.

Appendix D – Innovation Fund Awards

Innovation Fund Awards

No.	Organisation Name	Project	Comments	Amount awarded
1	I am Tower Hamlets	4x Community Tea Dances	<p>I Am Tower Hamlets is a partnership between the council and Better that provides activities for the whole community in and around the borough's leisure centres, this charitable social enterprise arm of the GLL group have a range of community activities that promote physical activity across Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>This is a good project which aims to promote the Councils Community Plan theme 'A great place to live'.</p> <p>The TH Sports development team have pledged to this project on two different occasions indicating that this type of project/ activity is needed in the local community and backed by the Sport's Development Team</p>	£4,060.75
2	Christ Church Isle of Dogs	Open to All – Project to replace fixed pews in Christ Church and replace with furniture that can make space in the church so that it can be open for community events and activities.	<p>The Tower Hamlets Isle of Dogs Neighbourhood Plan sets out 20 key objectives that are pertinent to the local infrastructure, environment and social issues connected to this part of the borough which has a smaller number of VCS organisations delivering services to the local residents. Some of these objectives fall in line with the 'Open to All' project such as;</p> <p>Sufficient indoor and outdoor spaces for people to enjoy, which are open to the public to use, including space where children can play and everyone can relax.</p> <p>Christ Church has worked hard on raising the profile of their campaign. The PDM had very little experience of crowdfunding but was driven by the need of the local community and such has developed this campaign with a lot of local community support.</p>	£6,309.50

No.	Organisation Name	Project	Comments	Amount awarded
			In addition they have organised 3 fundraising events linked to their campaign, they have unlocked new support & pledges from posting updates on their Facebook page.	
			TOTAL	£10,370.25

Appendix E – Covid Community Fund

Covid Community Fund

The Voluntary and Community Sector in Tower Hamlets has been vital in responding to the Covid 19 pandemic across the borough. The rapid mobilisation and deployment of resources to meet the increase in demand and the adaptation of services demonstrate the sector's key role in responding to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic in the borough and its vital importance.

Tower Hamlets Council's focus is on achieving positive outcomes for the residents of the borough and enabling the borough to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. The pandemic, and now the second wave, will require changing previous ways of doing things and in support of this, Tower Hamlets Council has launched the Covid Community Fund.

For a limited period, Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations in Tower Hamlets will be able to access funding and organisational support as detailed below.

- **Covid Organisational Support Fund** – Up to £5,000 available for VCS organisations that need to restructure their organisation, either to incorporate the current social distancing and other restrictions, or to respond to Covid 19 more generally. This includes organisations delivering frontline or direct contact services to residents who will need to restructure their organisation to reflect the current climate.
- **Covid Re-Purposing Fund** – Up to £5,000 available for VCS organisations, either to deliver services differently to residents and beneficiaries, such as adapting services to remote delivery, or where Covid has meant that there is good reason for the organisation to deliver different kinds of services. Funding could be provided to cover the up-front costs of changing the way services are delivered (e.g. new equipment, or training), or continuing to deliver in these new ways, such as increasing the reach and capacity of re-purposed services.
- **Wider Support** – Alongside the award of funding, council officers and Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS), will engage with organisations on the issues they face arising from or impacted by covid and work with them to develop a detailed organisational transition plan and agree support measures. The elements of support that could be provided include, for example support with:
 - Repurposing delivery models including implementing social distancing measures and working in different ways
 - Finances and funding including bid writing
 - Business planning and business continuity
 - Governance, strategy and policy
 - Training and skills
 - Matters relating to staffing or volunteers
 - Communications and engagement including social media
 - Digital

VCS organisations can also apply for **wider support** on a standalone basis, without applying for funding. In order to access wider support if not applying for funding, simply email us at the address below and we will follow up to discuss how we can support you.

Please note, we have a limited amount of money and are expecting demand to exceed the money available. Please read the eligibility and criteria for the fund on the **links below** which will be used to assess all applications.

Eligibility & Criteria

FAQ's

Covid Community Fund Application Form

Completed applications and requests for wider support from VCS organisations not applying for funding should be returned to third.sector@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Please see the link below for the Tower Hamlets Plan 2020-23.

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community_and_living/community_plan/tower_hamlets_plan.aspx

Receipt of your application will be acknowledged, and we will keep you updated on its progress. You may be contacted if any further information is required.

Emergency Fund

None since last report to GDCSC

Transition

No.	Organisation Name	Summary of Request	Amount awarded
1	Green Candle Dance Company	Bridge funding for organisation's core costs needed to support projects and fundraising	£7,725
2	Rooted Forum	Bridge funding for MSG projects pending outcome of fundraising	£19,096
3	Udichi Shilpi Gostthi	Bridge funding for MSG projects pending outcome of fundraising	£3,750
4	Vallance	Bridge funding for MSG projects pending outcome of fundraising	£12,810
5	Weavers Adventure Playground Association	Bridge funding for MSG projects pending outcome of major Lottery funding bid	£5,100
6	Pollyanna	Bridge funding for MSG projects pending outcome of fundraising	£4,687
7	Attlee Youth and Community Centre	Bridge funding for MSG projects pending outcome of fundraising	£5,576
8	Shadwell Community Project	Bridge funding for core staff pending outcome of fundraising	£10,443
	TOTAL		£69,187

