

EDUCATION CHARITY SUB (EDUCATION BOARD) COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 17 July 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the Education Charity Sub (Education Board) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 1.00 pm

Present

Members:

Henry Colthurst (Chairman)

Ruby Sayed

Ann Holmes (Deputy Chairman)

Officers:

Alistair MacLellan

- Town Clerk's Department

Jack Joslin

- Central Grants Team

Anne Pietsch

- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department

Emily Rimington

- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department

Jeanne Barnard

- Community and Children's Services Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Tim Campbell, Veronica Wadley and Philip Woodhouse.

2. DECLARATIONS

Henry Colthurst and Ann Holmes declared an interest in Item 5 (b) City Education Trust Fund – Grant Recommendations (Application – City of London Academy Islington) by virtue of being governors (and directors and trustees) of the City of London Academy Islington.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members considered the terms of reference of the Education Charity Sub (Education Board) Committee as set by the Education Board at its meeting on 17 May 2018. The Town Clerk noted that the Sub-Committee was carrying two vacancies for appointment by the Community and Children's Services Committee.

RESOLVED, that the terms of reference be received.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2017 be approved as a correct record.

5. GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS - CITY EDUCATIONAL TRUST FUND (290840) & CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION COMBINED EDUCATION CHARITY (312836)

Members considered a report of the Chief Grants Officer regarding Grant Recommendations – City Educational Trust Fund (290840) & City of London

Corporation Combined Education Charity (312836). The following points were made.

- In response to comments from the Chairman, the Chief Grants Officer agreed to review and refresh the templates used for assessing grant applications. The refreshed 2-page template would include a section covering a review of each grant 12 months after it had been made, to review its level of impact. The Chief Grants Officer noted that the Central Grants Team were undertaking a wider review with a view to adopting a new grants management system. Members requested that this review ensure that applicants' financial information should be presented in a consistent, standardised format going forward.
- In response to comments from Members regarding the 12% recharge fee of Grant Officer time for two charities, the Chief Grants Officer noted that this percentage was the maximum fee which had been set by the City of London Corporation's Finance Committee and therefore this sum was set aside in the budget. However, the use of timesheets for 2017/18 had demonstrated that the recharge for Central Grant Unit officer time to the two charities was less than 12% and closer to 7% on average, Only the actual costs would be charged to the charities at the end of the financial year.

5.1 Appendix 1 - Eligibility Criteria - The City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity and the City Educational Trust Fund

Members considered the Eligibility Criteria of the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity and the City Educational Trust Fund.

RESOLVED, that the eligibility criteria be received.

5.2 Appendix 2 - The City Educational Trust Fund - Grant Recommendations

Members considered the grant recommendations for the City Educational Trust Fund.

Ark

- The Chief Grants Officer introduced the application received from Ark and noted that the grant monies would be used for activities in 7-8 of Ark's London schools. If the scheme proved successful it was likely the scheme would have national benefit. Up to 350 students would benefit from the grant application if it was approved.
- In response to a question from a Member over the fall in income referenced within the financial information submitted by Ark, the Chief Grants Officer advised that this was likely due to the timing of different sets of accounts.

- Members agreed the grant subject to conditions that (a) it be used to benefit London schools (b) comparative accounts be provided for 2017/18, 2018/19 and (c) a forecast for 2019 be provided.

RESOLVED, that subject to receipt of satisfactory financial information, and the condition that the grant be used to benefit London schools and students, Members approve a grant of £25,000 to Ark from the City Educational Trust.

Career Ready

RESOLVED, that Members approve a grant of £7,800 to Career Ready from the City Educational Trust.

City of London Academy Islington

- The Town Clerk noted that this application had been withdrawn from consideration at the meeting due to the interests declared by Henry Colthurst and Ann Holmes and the resulting loss of a quorum.

Dr Johnson's House Trust Ltd

- The Chief Grants Officer noted that the Dr Johnson's House Trust Ltd was a previous applicant to the City Educational Trust. He confirmed that the application matched the objects of the charity.
- In response to a comment from a Member regarding a £1m decrease in free unrestricted reserves, the Chief Grants Officer noted that any judgement had been unaffected by those implications as only the unrestricted reserves had been assessed. The Chief Grant Officer agreed to be more consistent in assessing and presenting the accounts for each grant application.

RESOLVED, that Members approve a grant of £8,800 to Dr Johnson's House Trust Ltd from the City Educational Trust towards the delivery of the Education programme at Doctor Johnson's House.

In2scienceUK

- The Chief Grants Officer noted that there was a deficit shown in the applicant's financial information, but that the applicant had advised they were on track to achieving a fundraising aim to deal with the deficit.
- In response to a comment from the Chairman regarding the applicant's increasing expenditure, the Chief Grants Officer noted that the applicant was a relatively new organisation that was expanding with the assistance of NESTA funding.
- Members queried the nature of the applicant's increase in income and requested that it be clarified prior to the grant being awarded.

RESOLVED, that subject to receipt of satisfactory financial information, Members approve a grant of £25,000 to in2scienceUK from the City Educational Trust, to fund 200 Bursary placements for students in London and a contribution to the salary costs of the Regional Programme Manager.

Roundhouse Trust

- A Member noted that, given the impact of the Roundhouse Trust's work to date, they would be sympathetic to considering increasing the amount awarded to the Trust if it was unsuccessful in securing funding from the Leathersellers' Company.

RESOLVED, that Members approve a grant of £25,000 over two years (£12,500 and £12,500) to the Roundhouse Trust from the City Educational Trust, to contribute to the Roundhouse Education Programme in London.

Sadler's Wells

- In response to a question from a Member, the Chief Grants Officer confirmed that the financial information included with the application was all that had been provided. Members requested that further financial information – consistent with other applications that had been approved - be provided prior to any award being made.

RESOLVED, that subject to receipt of satisfactory financial information, Members approve a grant of £25,000 to Sadler's Wells from the City Educational Trust over two years (£12,500 and £12,500) towards the cost of workshops, curriculum support, showcase and professional development for teachers, all within London.

Stratford Circus Arts Centre

- The Chief Grants Officer advised that this application differed from the direct delivery applications considered elsewhere on the agenda, and that he recommended the award of the grant be conditional to quarterly release of monies and monthly monitoring reports being submitted to the City of London Corporation.

RESOLVED, that Members approve a grant of £25,000 to the Stratford Circus Arts Centre from the City Educational Trust over two years (£12,500 and £12,500) towards the overall project costs of the Creative Schools brokerage programme in East London. The grant funding to be conditional on the balance being raised for the total cost of the project; funding being released quarterly; and monthly monitoring reports being submitted to the City of London Corporation.

5.3 Appendix 3a - The City Educational Trust - Recommendation for Rejection - for Discussion

Members considered the recommendations for rejection/discussion of applications to the City Educational Trust.

Achievement for All (3As) Ltd

- The Chairman and Deputy Chairman noted that they were minded to provide the applicant with some support, particularly given the project potentially benefited such a wide range of beneficiaries.
- Recognising that the application did not directly deliver educational activities to beneficiaries, Members carefully considered whether the impact of the proposal would be to advance the objects of the charity. Members also noted that the objects of the City Educational Trust fund relate to specific subject areas and that the charity's funds could therefore only be applied to those aspects of the research relating to those subjects.
- Members discussed and were satisfied that the project would deliver the necessary impact to further education in a manner consistent with the charity's objects for the public benefit.

RESOLVED, that subject to the receipt of satisfactory financial information, Members approve a grant of £25,000 to Achievement for All (3As) Ltd from the City Educational Charity towards of the costs of the Counterpoint research project that relate to the cultural arts and Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects.

5.4 Appendix 3b - The City Educational Trust - Recommendations for Rejection and Withdrawals

Members considered the recommendations for rejection and withdrawal of applications to the City Educational Trust.

RESOLVED, that the following recommendations for rejection of applications to the City Educational Trust be approved:

- Redriff Primary School, City of London Academy
- Vivify Hub
- City Year UK
- Empower Learning Academy Trust T/A Bower Park Academy

And that the withdrawal of the following applications be noted:

- MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology)
- City of London Academy Islington.

5.5 Appendix 4 - The City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity - Grant Recommendations

Members considered grants recommendations for the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity.

A New Direction London Limited

- In response to a question from a Member, the Chief Grants Officer confirmed that the proposed grant funding was not limited to three teachers.

RESOLVED, that Members approve a grant of £9,600 to A New Direction London Limited from the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity towards the cost of workshops, coaching and roundtable events as part of the Cultural Leadership Programme, conditional on the grant only being applied to benefit London school teachers from maintained schools and academies.

Applicant 1

- In response to a question from a Member, the Chief Grants Officer confirmed that the applicant, if granted funding, would meet the balance of their study costs from a student loan.

RESOLVED, that Members approve a £5,000 grant from the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity for Applicant 1 towards the course fees for a MA/PG Dip in Performance (Acting) at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts.

Applicant 2

RESOLVED, that Members approve a £5,000 bursary from the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity for Applicant 2 towards the purchase of a computer, film equipment and travel costs for the final year of study of a BA in Journalism and Communication at Middlesex University, the funding being conditional on the University distributing the funding to, and purchasing equipment on behalf of, the applicant.

Applicant 3

- Members requested further information about the applicant's course costs including how much the applicant had raised so far from other sources and how they proposed to fund any remaining course and associated maintenance costs.
- In response to a comment from a Member, the Chief Grants Officer agreed to review the eligibility criteria of individual applicants to cater for any applicants who had demonstrable links to London but did not qualify under the existing criteria at the time of making an application.

RESOLVED, that Members grant delegated authority to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to reconsider the application once this information had been received.

Applicant 4

- Members noted that the applicant had not provided, when requested, any additional information or proof of situation and therefore the application was not recommended for funding.

RESOLVED, that the Chief Grants Officer's recommendation that Applicant 4 not be granted any funding from the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity be approved.

6. GRANT MONITORING REPORTS - REPORTING BACK ON PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE EDUCATION CHARITY SUB-COMMITTEE

Members considered a Grants Monitoring Report of the Chief Grants Officer regarding projects supported by the Education Charity Sub (Education Board) Committee.

6.1 Appendix 1 - Conservator Internship Funding Report

Members considered a funding report regarding a Conservator Internship.

RESOLVED, that the funding report be received.

6.2 Appendix 2 - Queen Mary University Funding Report

Members considered a funding report regarding Queen Mary University.

RESOLVED, that the funding report be received.

7. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 2.20 pm

Chairman

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