

Committee(s): Finance Committee – For decision	Date(s): 18 February 2020
Subject: Updates to the Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee	Public
Report of: Town Clerk & Chief Executive	For Decision
Report author: Chloe Rew, Committee and Members Services Officer	

Summary

This report proposes amendments to the Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee Terms of Reference.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to agree the proposed changes to the Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee Terms of Reference to include the following:

- strategic oversight of the wider work of the Central Grants Unit;
- oversight and scrutiny of the allocations and disbursements of the City of London Corporation's Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund; and,
- oversight and scrutiny of the City of London Corporation's use of its facilities as Benefits in Kind to external organisations.

Main Report

1. The Terms of Reference of the Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee currently state that the Sub-Committee provides strategic oversight of the City of London Corporation Central Grants Programme (CGP), including reviewing progress, performance, impact against outcomes and risks for all grants.
2. The Central Grants Unit (CGU) was established in October 2016 to manage the effectiveness of the CGP based on recommendations of the Effectiveness of Grants Service Based Review (SBR).
3. The CGU is co-located with the City Bridge Trust (CBT) team in order to facilitate consistency of approach and harmonise service standards across grant-making activities by the City Corporation (in its various capacities, including as trustee of a number of charities which form part of the CGP). The Chief Grants Officer, responsible for the grant-making activities of CBT is also responsible for maintaining an overview of the CGU (and broader charity matters), with relevant input from the Charities Finance Team (Chamberlain's Department), with the work being delivered by the Head of Central Grants Programme (HCGP).
4. Due to the success of the CGU, in May 2019 the Policy & Resources Committee agreed that the City Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Neighbourhood Fund be

managed by the City CGU. The management of the CIL Neighbourhood Fund by the CGU will widen the scope of activities overseen by the Sub-Committee.

5. The CGU is now also being approached to administer other grants (including charitable grants) which are the responsibility of the City Corporation in its various capacities, and also to provide grant-making support in respect of grants that do not form part of the CGP.
6. These additional matters and activities will be reported to the Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee to the extent that they fall within its remit and will be relevant to the setting of the Sub-Committee's Terms of Reference.
7. The proposed changes to the Terms of Reference include reference to the scrutiny of the administration of the CIL Neighbourhood Fund by the CGU, and also to more clearly reflect other oversight activities of the Sub-Committee such as the scrutiny of Benefits in Kind offered across the City Corporation.
8. The proposed changes to the Terms of Reference would extend the Sub-Committee's oversight to include strategic oversight of the wider work of the CGU; oversight and scrutiny of the allocations and disbursements of the City of London Corporation's CIL Neighbourhood Fund; and, oversight and scrutiny of the City of London Corporation's use of its facilities as Benefits in Kind to external organisations.
9. The Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee was informed of these proposed changes at its meeting on 21 January 2020 and the Sub-Committee agreed that the updated Terms of Reference be brought to your Committee at the next meeting.

Conclusion

10. Members are asked to agree the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference extending the Sub-Committee's oversight to include strategic oversight of the wider work of the CGU; oversight and scrutiny of the allocations and disbursements of the City of London Corporation's Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund; and, oversight and scrutiny of the City of London Corporation's use of its facilities as Benefits in Kind to external organisations.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference: Current Position
- Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference: Proposed Amendments

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Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference: Current Position

Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee Terms of Reference

The Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub Committee provides strategic oversight of the City of London Corporation's Central Grants Programme, including reviewing progress, performance, impact against outcomes, and risks for all grants.

Composition

Between 9-13 Members in total

- Chairman of the Finance Committee
- Deputy Chairman of the Finance Committee
- Members of the Finance Committee, appointed by the Finance Committee (this minimum includes the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Grand Committee)
- Co-opted Members of the wider Court of Common Council, appointed on a case-by-case basis by the Finance Committee.

Chairmanship

- Chairman – To be nominated by the Chairman of the Finance Committee for approval by the Finance Committee.
- Deputy Chairman – To be appointed by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee for approval by the Finance Committee.

Terms of Reference

- To provide strategic oversight of the City of London Corporation Central Grants Programme ('the Programme'), including reviewing progress, performance, impact against outcomes and risks for all grants
- To ensure the Programme is compliant with any obligations under the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 and the Equality Act 2010
- To approve and deploy a performance management framework in respect of the Programme
- To assess performance of the Programme against Charity Commission best practice guidelines, as relevant
- To make recommendations to the relevant grant-giving Committees on any performance issues or issues with specific grants
- To provide the Resource Allocation Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee with an annual report regarding performance of the Programme and recommendations in setting the City's Cash and City Fund allocations to the Programme themes

Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference: Proposed Changes

Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee Terms of Reference

The Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub Committee provides strategic oversight of the City of London Corporation's Central Grants Programme ***and the wider work of the Central Grants Unit***, including reviewing progress, performance, impact against outcomes, and risks for all grants.

Composition

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- To ensure the Programme is compliant with any obligations under the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 and the Equality Act 2010
- To approve and deploy a performance management framework in respect of the Programme
- To assess performance of the Programme against Charity Commission best practice guidelines, as relevant
- To make recommendations to the relevant grant-giving Committees on any performance issues or issues with specific grants
- To provide the Resource Allocation Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee with an annual report regarding performance of the Programme and recommendations in setting the City's Cash and City Fund allocations to the Programme themes
- ***To have oversight and scrutiny of the allocations and disbursements of the City of London Corporation's Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund***
- ***To have oversight and scrutiny of the City of London Corporation's use of its facilities as Benefits in Kind to external organisations***
- ***To be kept up to date with the wider work of the Central Grants Unit***