

Committee: Finance Committee	Date: 13 January 2015
Subject: Decisions taken under Delegated Authority since the last meeting of the Committee	Public
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information
<p>Summary This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Committee, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a) and 41(b).</p> <p>Recommendation: Members are asked to note the report.</p>	

FINANCE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND DONATION:
Donations to the Stuart Low Trust and the Parent House

Background

At its meeting on 18 May 2004, the Finance Committee approved a recommendation of the Finance Grants Sub-Committee that the Chairman of the Finance Committee be provided with a discretionary grants fund of £10,000 per annum, to be used to award small grants of money to organisations in between meetings of the Grants Sub Committee. This was subject to expenditure from the fund being approved by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Finance Committee, and a report detailing the grants awarded being submitted to each meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Action taken

The fund currently has £10,000 available for the 2014/15 financial year and the following donations were approved:

1. £2,300 to the Stuart Low Trust in order for them to run 4 Christmas Friday evening events at a cost of £2,300 (i.e. £575 per evening).
2. £2,500 to the Parent House, in order for them to buy 50 x £50 vouchers for a local supermarket and provide a Christmas 'boost' to 50 families, 10 of whom are Outreach volunteer parents.
3. £2,500 to Solace Women's Aid in order to help women who arrive at their refuges (provided across 14 sites in London), with no belongings, personal items, or even ID – just the clothes they are wearing and a few they can carry. This can be particularly difficult at this time of year, especially if they have children who have high expectations of Christmas.

These grants were reported orally to the December 2014 meeting of the Finance Committee.

LATE APPLICATION TO THE FINANCE GRANTS SUB COMMITTEE ON 18TH NOVEMBER 2014: Quaker Homeless Action

Background

Quaker Homeless Action, which provides shelter for rough sleepers between 23rd and 30th December every year, was discussed at the 18th November 2014 Finance Grants Meeting. The application was accepted as a late item of business, as it was not received until 14th November. Members agreed in principle to a grant of £6,000, subject to the usual due diligence and delegated final approval to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Finance Grants Sub Committee.

Action taken:

A grant of £6,000 was awarded to Quaker Homeless Action, to be funded from the Relief of Poverty fund.

Members are asked to note this report

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