

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Community and Children's Services Education Board	8 July 2016 21 July 2016
<b>Subject</b> Implementation of Grants Review – Education and Employment	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Deputy Town Clerk	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Scott Nixon, Project Manager	

### Summary

This report recommends that members note the overarching Education and Employment Central Grants Programme funding theme as agreed at the March 2016 Policy and Resources Committee, and the corresponding level of funding available for 2016-2018.

Members are requested to agree that the existing eligibility criteria for the Combined Education Charity and City Educational Trust Fund remain in place until March 2017, and that the Education Charity Committee be charged with reviewing and implementing any required amendments to the eligibility criterion for the 2017-2018 funding cycle (prior to the quinquennial review to be undertaken by City Bridge Trust).

As the Policy and Resources Committee did not approve the level the staffing required to run the Central Grants Unit, consultation is being undertaken with each individual grant-giving committee to better understand the resource implications of managing their specific theme. The outcomes of all consultation undertaken will form the basis of a report to be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee requesting approval for the required levels of staffing and resource.

### Recommendations

#### For the Community and Children's Services Committee

Members are asked to:

- Note the agreed Education and Employment overarching funding theme and the level of funding available for the 2016-2018 Central Grants Programme.
- Make a recommendation to the Education Board as to whether the existing eligibility criterion for the Combined Education Charity and City Educational Trust Fund should remain in place until March 2017.
- Make a recommendation to the Education Board as to whether the Education Charity Committee should review and implement any required amendments to

the eligibility criterion for the 2017/2018 funding cycle (prior to the quinquennial review).

- Note that the Policy and Resources Committee will approve the proportionate management fee for the Central Grants Programme resourcing.

### **For the Education Board**

Members are asked to:

- Note the agreed Education and Employment overarching funding theme and the level of funding available for the 2016-2018 Central Grants Programme (£267,876).
- Agree that the existing eligibility criteria for the Combined Education Charity and City Educational Trust Fund remain in place until March 2017.
- Comment on the current eligibility criteria, agree the Education Charity Committee review and implement any required amendments to the eligibility criteria for the 2017/2018 funding cycle (prior to the quinquennial review).
- Note that the Policy and Resources Committee will approve the proportionate management fee for the Central Grants Programme resourcing.

## **Main Report**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 In March 2016, the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and Policy and Resources Committee received a report outlining the work that had been undertaken to date to implement the recommendations of the Effectiveness of Grants Service Based Review (SBR).
- 1.2 The aim of the review was to increase the strategic impact of grant-making; ensure that the grants are managed more efficiently and effectively; improve the consistency and quality of the customer experience; and so bring consequential reputational benefits.
- 1.3 As a result of the proposals made to Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and Policy and Resources Committee it was agreed that:
  - a) Four grant programmes were in scope for immediate centralised administration: Finance Grants Sub-Committee, City of London Corporation Combined Relief of Poverty Charity, City Educational Trust Fund and the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity.
  - b) Four overarching funding themes for the grant programme (for 2016-2018) would be established: Stronger communities; Education and employment support; Enjoying open spaces and the natural environment; and Inspiring London through culture.
  - c) The geographical area for the consolidated grants programme or individual themes would be left to the discretion of the decision-making committees as part of their agreement of grant eligibility criteria (subject to any restrictions on the geographical area of benefit in respect of any charities being managed).

- d) The proposed allocation of funding across the four funding themes would be approved.
- e) Grant programme arrangements would be reviewed in line with City Bridge Trust's next quinquennial review.

1.4 In order to effectively manage the Central Grants Programme a new Central Grants Unit was proposed. Members questioned the ratio of the resources required to run the Central Grants Unit in comparison to the amount of funds it would dispense and referred the matter back to officers for further consideration.

1.5 Accordingly, until all grant giving committees have been consulted on their individual eligibility criteria, it will not be possible to calculate the wider level of resourcing required to manage the Central Grants Programme and the associated costs. In the intervening period the majority of the costs of administering the various funds will continue to be met by the Corporation through its corresponding service departments.

1.6 On 19 May 2016, the Policy and Resources Committee agreed that the Education Board be appointed as the Grand Committee responsible for the Combined Education Charity and City Educational Trust Fund, and that it appoint an Education Charity Committee to oversee the application of funds from those charities. The Community and Children's Services Committee will be responsible for making recommendations to the Education Board on any policy adopted for the application of those funds, and appointing some of its membership to serve on the Education Charity Committee. This was noted at the Court of Common Council on 23 June 2016.

## 2. Funding themes and allocation of funding

2.1 Following consultation with chief officers, four overarching themes were proposed for the 2016-2018 City of London Central Grants Programme and were subsequently agreed at the March 2016 Policy and Resources Committee.

2.2 The agreed overarching funding theme and level of funding for the Education and Employment theme, for which the Education Charity Committee will be responsible, is as follows:

Funding theme	Funding source	2016/17	2017/18	Total
Education and Employment	City Educational Trust Fund	£150,748	£50,987	£201,735
	Combined Education Charity	£28,240	£37,901	£66,141
<b>Total</b>		<b>£178,988</b>	<b>£88,888</b>	<b>£267,876</b>

2.3 It should be noted that the total funding amounts expressed in the above table do NOT include deductions for the proposed management fee and therefore

differ from the figures presented to the Policy and Resources Committee in March 2016.

- 2.4 When the management proposals have been reviewed by the Policy and Resources Committee, the total amount of funding available for this theme will be reported back to this committee.
- 2.5 A financial overview of the City Educational Trust Fund and the Combined Educational Trust, including details on existing financial commitments and grants issued between 2014 and 2016, are shown in Appendix 1.

### **3. Grant eligibility criteria**

- 3.1 Through the Education and Employment theme, the Education Charity Committee will distribute the funds from the City Educational Trust Fund and the Combined Education Charity. The objects of both charities are attached as Appendix 2.
- 3.2 The existing eligibility criteria for the Combined Education Charity is attached as Appendix 4 for member information.
- 3.3 As agreed at the Policy and Resources Committee in March 2016, the Central Grant Programme arrangements will be reviewed in 2018 to align with the City Bridge Trust's next quinquennial review. Therefore it should be noted that the overarching theme may change post-2018 should the Policy and Resources Committee agree that the Central Grants Programme continue.
- 3.4 A copy of the standard grant application procedures that will operate across all four agreed funding themes is attached as Appendix 3.
- 3.5 It is requested that members agree that the existing eligibility criteria for the Combined Education Charity and City Educational Trust Fund remain in place until March 2017, and that the Education Charity Committee review and implement any required amendments to the eligibility criteria for the 2017/2018 funding cycle (prior to the quinquennial review).

### **4. Central Grants Unit staffing/management fee**

- 4.1 In order to manage the Central Grants Programme effectively a new Central Grants Unit was proposed to the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and Policy and Resources Committee in March 2016.
- 4.2 Members questioned the ratio of the resources required to run the Central Grants Unit in comparison with the amount of funds it would dispense. The Chief Grants Officer undertook to look at the resourcing of the unit.
- 4.3 Accordingly, until all grant-giving committees have been consulted on their individual eligibility criteria, it will not be possible to calculate the wider level of resourcing required to manage the Central Grants Programme. In the

intervening period, the costs of administering the relevant funds will continue to be absorbed by the City Corporation.

- 4.4 It is therefore proposed that this Committee notes that the Policy and Resources Committee will agree the levels of staffing and corresponding proportionate management fee to be deducted from all grant programmes – specifically the City Educational Trust and Combined Education Charity, to be administered by the Central Grants Unit.
- 4.5 The Central Grants Programme will be unable to go live until the appropriate levels of staffing have been agreed and are in place.

#### **Appendices:**

- Appendix 1: Financial Overview of the City Educational Trust Fund and Combined Education Charity.
- Appendix 2: Charitable Objects, Combined Education Charity and City Educational Trust Fund.
- Appendix 3: Standard Grant Application Procedures, Education and Employment.
- Appendix 4: Combined Education Charity Eligibility Criteria.

#### **Background Papers:**

- Policy and Resources Committee, March 2016, Implementation of Grants Review.
- Policy and Resources Committee, May 2016, Management of the City Educational Trust Fund and Combined Education Charity.

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