

Committee Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee	Dated: 15/11//2016
Subject Central Grants Programme – 360Giving	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer	For decision
Report author: Scott Nixon, Project Manager	

Summary

In July 2016, Members of this Sub-committee agreed a Grants performance management framework. One section of the framework specified that the Central Grants Programme (CGP) will be required to comply with the Governments Transparency code through publishing details of all grants made to voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations.

Members are provided information on the 360Giving initiative within this report and requested to agree whether CGP grants data can be shared in a public forum using the 360Giving Standard. 360Giving supports funders to publish their grants data in an open, comparable format that anyone can freely access and use. It aims to improve transparency amongst grant makers and importantly to make sure grants data shared can be easily used and compared to inform better grant-making.

Recommendations:

- To agree that the Central Grant Programme grants data can be published using the 360Giving Standard on a bi-annual basis.

Main Report

Background

Governments Transparency code compliance

1. To ensure that the CGP is compliant with the Government's Transparency code, it must publish details of all grants made to voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations. In the past, decisions made on grants have been made available in the Public section of the committee minutes and in due course uploaded to the City of London Corporation website. This will continue, however the presentation of the data on the CGP's website will make it clearer and more easily accessible.
2. For each grant, the following information should be published as a minimum, twice yearly:
 - Date the grant was awarded.
 - Time period for which the grant has been given.
 - Details of who awarded the grant.
 - Beneficiary.

- Beneficiary's charity registration number (if applicable).
 - Summary of the purpose of the grant.
 - Amount.
3. There is growing momentum in encouraging better sharing of grants information to inform funders and grantees to reduce duplication and increase impact.
 4. Publishing using the 360Giving Standard meets the minimum information requirements of the Transparency code. Local Government Association practitioner guidance for Local Authorities highlights that using the 360Giving Standard gives greater comparability of information. In May 2016 UK's Open Government Partnership National Action Plan committed all Central government departments to collect and publish data on grantmaking in-line with the 360Giving Standard by March 2018.
 5. In 2013, 360Giving was set up to support funders to publish their grants data in an open, comparable format that anyone can freely access and use. It aims to improve transparency amongst grant makers and make sure grants data shared can be easily used and compared to inform better grant-making and so potentially have more impact.
 6. In September 2016 City Bridge Trust published details of over 500 grants made between September 2013 and July 2016 in the project's open data format. Whilst their grant-making has always been in public, this takes their commitment to transparency to a new level, allowing their data to be easily compared alongside other funders including Big Lottery Fund, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and BBC Children in Need.
 7. This will help those interested in the sector to identify trends such as shared areas of giving, geographic 'cold-spots' in giving and the average value of grants. To make this easier, at the end of September 360Giving launched GrantNav – a new search platform which will allow users to easily search all the data published using the 360Giving Standard, and see which funder is funding what, where and for how much: <http://grantnav.threesixtygiving.org/>.
 8. It is proposed that the Central Grants Programme data is published using the 360Giving Standard on a bi annual basis by the Senior Grants officer. Once published, a link to the online data would be made available on the dedicated Central Grants Programme webpage.
 9. There are no direct costs associated with publishing data using the 360Giving Standard and it follows good practice.
 10. The City of London Corporation Data protection team will review and approve all data to be published using the 360Giving Standard.

Scott Nixon
Project Manager, Town Clerk's Department
T: 020 7332 3722
E: Scott.Nixon@cityoflondon.gov.uk