

# THE CITY BRIDGE TRUST COMMITTEE

**Monday, 6 February 2017**

Minutes of the meeting of The City Bridge Trust Committee held at Guildhall, EC2 on Monday, 6 February 2017 at 1.45 pm

## **Present**

### **Members:**

Alderman Alison Gowman (Chairman)  
Ian Seaton (Deputy Chairman)  
Marianne Fredericks  
Deputy Stanley Ginsburg  
Vivienne Littlechild  
Edward Lord  
Jeremy Mayhew  
Wendy Mead

### **Officers:**

Simon Latham	-	Town Clerk's Department
Philippa Sewell	-	Town Clerk's Department
Karen Atkinson	-	Head of Charity & Social Investment Finance
Anne Pietsch	-	Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
David Farnsworth	-	Chief Grants Officer
Sufina Ahmad	-	The City Bridge Trust
Sandra Davidson	-	The City Bridge Trust
Olivia Dix	-	The City Bridge Trust
Martin Hall	-	The City Bridge Trust
Jack Joslin	-	The City Bridge Trust
Geraldine Page	-	The City Bridge Trust
Ciaran Rafferty	-	The City Bridge Trust
Shegufta Rahman	-	The City Bridge Trust
Tim Wilson	-	The City Bridge Trust
Stephanie Basten	-	Communications Team

## **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor Alderman Andrew Parmley, Karina Dostalova, Simon Duckworth, Stuart Fraser, Alderman Vincent Keaveny and Dhruv Patel.

## **2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

## **3. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 10 January 2017 be agreed as an accurate record.

## **Matters Arising**

### Eco Audit

The Chairman advised that the Energy Board, of which she was a Member and the Head of Town Clerk and Chief Executive's Office was the Chairman, was well informed of the Trust's eco audit and saw it as a model for the rest of Guildhall.

### National Council of Voluntary Organisations

The Chairman advised that any Member who wanted to attend the NCVO conference on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017 should contact the Chief Grants Officer.

#### **4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Members discussed and noted the Outstanding Actions table.

#### **5. PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received the regular progress report of the Chief Grants Officer and discussed the updates provided.

### City Bridge Trust Website

Officers advised that the grant search tool on the website had been improved and could now search by borough. The improvements being made to the website sought to make the process as transparent as possible. It was hoped that the improvement would enable current grantees to see what being done in their area and make connections, potential applicants to see what similar things were funded, and Members to see if certain organisations were currently being funded. Members noted that feedback was welcomed.

### Draft High-Level CBT Plan

The Chief Grants Officer advised that a new framework for corporate and business planning was being developed to ensure consistency of presentation across the organisation and a succinct statement of key ambitions and objectives for every department. In the initial phase, departments and CBT had been asked to produce a draft high-level departmental plan the template for which had been developed through consultation. It was noted that the format had not been finally determined and Members were invited to comment on the format of the high-level plan as well as the content.

Revised budget figures were also circulated as follows:

#### **Our 2017/18 budget is:**

	Total £000
Employees	1,180
Supplies & Services	399
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	1,579
Total Income WNST	(108)
<b>Total Local Risk</b>	1,471
Grants issued	21,000
<b>Total Central Risk</b>	22,471

### Stepping Stones Fund

In response to a query from the Chairman, officers advised that the proposal was for £5,000 of the existing budget (agreed at the previous meeting) to be used to fund a social investment intermediary organisation for purposes of pilot testing the invitation-only strand.

**RESOLVED** – That the new pilot element of the next Stepping Stones grants round be agreed and that £5,000 of the agreed £500,000 be used to fund a social investment intermediary organisation to work with CBT and the selected grantees on delivering the pilot.

#### 6. **CITY BRIDGE TRUST DRAFT STRATEGIC REVIEW, 2018-2023**

The Chairman introduced the report, highlighting the importance of how this review would enable the Trust to perform its role at the centre of London. Extensive consultation had taken place and all eyes were on the Trust to see the result.

The Chief Grants Officer outlined the legal imperative to consult with stakeholders, but beyond that advised that it was good practice and beneficial to the Trust's operation. He advised that, thanks to appropriate resourcing agreed by the Committee, a thorough and comprehensive review had taken place and he thanked Sufina Ahmad, Head of the Strategic Review, for her work. He emphasised that the strategy was still in draft form and officers were available for any further comments or feedback.

The Head of the Strategic Review outlined the draft strategy and Members discussed each section in turn:

#### **Vision and Values**

- There was a need for all 3 sectors to work together.
- There was a need to bridge the divide between the 'have's and 'have not's.
- The Trust should use all its assets (e.g. networks; profile; experience) not just monetary ones.
- The Vision and values were at the heart of the strategy and underpinned each part.
- Early action was key – flexibility was needed to address this in whatever form required.
- There was a mission to use all of the Trust's knowledge – this should be mapped in some way.
- The Trust should work with others that share its values and be vocal about advocating these.

#### **How we Fund**

- Funder Plus in this strategy was much wider than currently in order to be more flexible with smaller or longer term grants.
- The 'Ideas fund' allowed more flexibility for innovative approaches to new ideas or emerging needs which aligned with the vision and values but were not in an existing stream.

- Longer term grants would include encouragement for the organisation to be sustainable/not reliant on funding from the Trust. This could be addressed through Funder Plus via officers working more closely with grantees to offer suggestions and connections the organisation might make.
- Exit strategies were important and would be addressed through officer discussions with grantees about possible next steps and future funding.
- These approaches began with an idea of where the project/organisation might end up, offering more security.

### **What we Fund**

- Members noted consultation around funding priorities was on-going and would be clearly defined over the coming months.
- Whatever approach was taken, the Trust must remain alive to the diversity of how charities work.
- Priorities could be broader in first two years then be narrowed down as a result of analysis of the portfolio and grants given.
- Place based funding would offer a chance for a 'deep-dive' into a geographical area, to work with the whole community.

### **Learning**

- Learning would inform and influence our work and that of partners.
- Measureable outcomes and learning was key to how this strategy would change over the coming years.
- What was currently done in terms of monitoring and reporting could be adapted to fit this purpose and analysed further to be fed back into the programme.
- Summaries of end-of-grant reports, where there were particular learning points, should come to Committee meetings.
- Often the best way for an organisation to report and for a funder to learn was from face-to-face conversations.

### **Next Steps**

- Officers would continue to be available for comments/feedback from Members.
- Engagement and updates would be maintained.
- The final strategy would be prepared for approval at the Court of Common Council meeting in July 2017.

The Chairman advised Members of a breakfast briefing on 7 March and that a note would be sent to all Members and officers advised that two research papers were expected later in the month, summaries of which would be circulated to Members when available.

**RESOLVED** – That the Draft Strategic Review and proposed next steps be noted.

7. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

There was no other business.

9. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Exempt Paragraphs</b>
10	3
11 – 22	-

10. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2017 be agreed as an accurate record.

11. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

A Member gave a report on a recent monitoring visit she had undertaken with the Chief Grants Officer.

**The meeting ended at 3.00 pm**

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Chairman

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