



Community & Children's Services Committee

Date: FRIDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2020

Time: 11.00 am

Venue: VIRTUAL MEETING STREAMED LIVE TO YOU TUBE

Members:

Randall Anderson (Chairman)	Alderman Alastair King
Ruby Sayed (Deputy Chairman)	Natasha Maria Cabrera Lloyd-Owen
George Abrahams	Alderman Bronek Masojada
Munsur Ali	Deputy Catherine McGuinness
Matthew Bell	Benjamin Murphy
Peter Bennett	Deputy Joyce Nash
Mark Bostock	Dhruv Patel
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Susan Pearson
Tijs Broeke	William Pimlott
Mary Durcan	Henrika Priest
Helen Fentimen	Jason Pritchard
John Fletcher	Deputy Elizabeth Rogula
Marianne Fredericks	James de Sausmarez
Alderman David Graves	Sir Michael Snyder
Caroline Haines	Deputy Philip Woodhouse
The Revd Stephen Haines	Dawn Wright
Graeme Harrower	
Sheriff Christopher Hayward	
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark	

Co-optees: Laura Jørgensen and Matt Piper

Enquiries: Julie.Mayer@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Accessing the virtual public meeting

Members of the public can observe this virtual public meeting at the below link:

<https://youtu.be/ltPkRBgc7p8>

This meeting will be a virtual meeting and therefore will not take place in a physical location following regulations made under Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020. A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one municipal year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Reports

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**
To approve the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 6th November 2020.
For Decision
(Pages 1 - 10)
4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**
The Committee is asked to note its Outstanding Actions list.
For Information
5. **UPDATE FROM THE COVID-19 RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION WORKING PARTY**
Chairman to be heard.
For Information
6. **SUPPORTING EUROPEAN UNION (EU) NATIONALS WITH NO RECOURSE TO PUBLIC FUNDS**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 11 - 20)
7. **SUPPORTING DIGITAL INCLUSION**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 21 - 26)
8. **GEORGE ELLISTON AND ERIK WILKINS HOUSES REFURBISHMENT - GATEWAY 2 - PROJECT PROPOSAL**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 27 - 40)
9. **HOLIDAY MEAL SUPPORT TO CITY OF LONDON SPONSORED ACADEMIES**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Information
(Pages 41 - 46)
10. **CITY OF LONDON JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY REFRESH - UPDATE AND ENGAGEMENT**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Information
(Pages 47 - 66)

11. **BARBICAN AND COMMUNITY LIBRARIES - EXEMPTIONS FOR SERVICE DURING THE SECOND LOCKDOWN**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
The appendices to this report contain very large files and will be circulated separately.
There are also available to view on the website:
<http://democracy.cityoflondon.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeed=120>

For Information
(Pages 67 - 72)

12. **RESOLUTION FROM THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

For Information
(Pages 73 - 74)

13. **COVID WINTER GRANT SCHEME - SCHOOL HOLIDAY SUPPORT**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information
(Pages 75 - 80)

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

15. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

16. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**
MOTION - That under Section 100A(4) 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 Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Reports

17. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
To agree the non-public minutes of the previous Committee meeting.

For Decision
(Pages 81 - 84)

18. **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) COMMERCIAL RENTS - TO FOLLOW**

19. **GOLDEN LANE PLAYGROUND REFURBISHMENT - GATEWAY 6 - OUTCOME REPORT - TO FOLLOW**

20. **SYDENHAM HILL - REQUEST FOR A DELEGATED AUTHORITY**
Report of the City Surveyor.

For Decision
(Pages 85 - 86)

21. **ALDGATE (PORTSOKEN) PAVILLION - GATEWAY 6 - OUTCOME REPORT**
Report of the City Surveyor / Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 87 - 98)
22. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
23. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

Friday, 6 November 2020

Minutes of the meeting streamed to
<https://youtu.be/unoqlkzxT2w> at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Randall Anderson (Chairman)
Ruby Sayed (Deputy Chairman)
George Abrahams
Munsur Ali
Matthew Bell
Peter Bennett
Mary Durcan
Helen Fentimen
John Fletcher
Marianne Fredericks

Alderman David Graves
The Revd Stephen Haines
Graeme Harrower
Benjamin Murphy
Dhruv Patel
Susan Pearson
Henrika Priest
Jason Pritchard
James de Sausmarez

For item 5 - City Advice Centre

Elizabeth Archer
Helen Evans

Officers:

Andrew Carter	-	Director of Community and Children's Services
Chris Lovitt	-	Deputy Director of Public Health, City and Hackney
Gerald Mehrtens	-	Community and Children's Services
Paul Murtagh	-	Community and Children's Services
Jason Hayes	-	Community and Children's Services
Theresa Shortland	-	Community and Children's Services
Chris Pelham	-	Community and Children's Services
Sophie Courtwright	-	Community and Children's Services
Simon Cribbens	-	Community and Children's Services
Ellie Ward	-	Community and Children's Services
James Illsley	-	Community and Children's Services
Ian Jarman	-	Community and Children's Services
Greg knight	-	Community and Children's Services
Wil Norman	-	Community and Children's Services
Nicholas Welland	-	City Surveyors
Paul Friend	-	City Surveyors
Ola Obadara	-	City Surveyors
Mark Jarvis	-	Chamberlains
Chandni Tanna	-	Communications
Julie Mayer	-	Town Clerks

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Catherine McGuinness, Caroline Haines and Natasha Lloyd Owen.

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 28th September 2020 be approved.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS TRACKER (TO FOLLOW)**

The Committee received its actions tracker and noted the following:

- A request to avoid jargon wherever possible.
- A report on Internet Access would be presented to the December Committee and include sign posting to charities.
- A survey in respect of the forthcoming Sports Strategy would be sent to businesses shortly. A Member had asked if this could include residents.
- Members asked for the position on the Ralph Perring Centre to be reviewed, so that it could come back into use as soon as possible. Officers advised that this was dependent on which tier we might be in after Lockdown 2.
- All households would shortly receive a leaflet in respect of accessing on-line services and signposting to age UK, which had been amended following the closure of the Barbican Library. Members were asked to advise officers of anything that should be included

5. **PRESENTATION FROM CITY ADVICE**

The Committee received a presentation from the City Advice Centre and during the discussion and questions, the following points were noted:

- The use of 'community champions', who shared their experiences with friends and neighbours, thereby promoting the Centre as a safe and trusted space. Members were encouraged to advise residents in need to come forward.
- A lack of access to devices was more significant than ever and there would be a big campaign over Christmas and the New Year.
- Tower Hamlets has administrators in place for a number of mutual aid groups. The City of the London Corporation's digital support communication was soon to be released and the Chairman asked if this could align with Tower Hamlets' communications. Officers agreed to liaise and there was a further request for the marketing tool kit to be shared.

In concluding, the Chairman and officers thanked the Advice Centre for their insightful presentation and their excellent work in the community.

6. **COMMUNITY CENTRE GOVERNANCE**

The Committee considered a report of the Director, Community and Children's Services in respect of the creation of an Advisory Board for the new Portsoken Community Centre and the governance frameworks across City of London Community Centres. Members were reminded that this report had been deferred from the previous meeting.

RESOLVED, That - the terms or reference and membership of Advisory Boards (or other related structure) be agreed on a case by case basis. *NB. Elected Members could be members, if agreed as appropriate to that centre, thereby allowing for local variation. Should Member positions be included, the Committee will make the Member appointment.*

7. **CREDIBLE OFFER POLICY**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services which introduced the City of London's draft Credible Offer Policy for rough sleepers.

In respect of those with 'No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)', officers advised that the City of London Corporation did not have the authority to ask anyone to leave the United Kingdom. Members noted that Outreach Teams would be tasked with fully assessing eligibility and offering pathways out of homelessness. The officer explained that, in some cases, this might include a safe reconnection within or outside of the United Kingdom, provided that it presented a workable solution for the homeless client. The Chairman of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub Committee asked if the minutes of the last Sub Committee Meeting could be circulated to all Members of the Grand Committee, when this matters was discussed, and the Grand Committee would receive a further report at the December Committee.

RESOLVED, that – the Policy be implemented.

8. **COMMISSIONING UPDATE**

The Committee received a report which provided a summary of current activity, successes, issues and priorities for the Department's Commissioning Team. It was noted that the information from consultation findings had been particularly helpful in shaping services for young people.

RESOLVED, That – the report be noted.

9. **INTEGRATED CARE IN THE CITY OF LONDON - UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's services which updated Members on some of the recent developments in integrated care (health and social care) locally and some of the wider changes in governance and planning structures for these services.

Members noted that a vote on the merger and formation of the North East London CCG had taken place last month. This had been thoroughly scrutinised in terms of the risk of any potential loss of City focus and been discussed at the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee earlier this week. Members also

noted that there would also be a new Integrated Commissioning Partnership Board, but the current ICB would be a legal entity until the law changed. The Chairman advised that the new Board would control the bulk of the CCG budget and, for the first time, elected Members for both the City and Hackney would have an input.

RESOLVED, That – the report be noted.

10. CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT (CSA)

The Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of the CSA. Members noted that officers had engaged with providers and parents about their concerns in the event of a second lockdown and, therefore, the report was particularly relevant. Members were also pleased to note that the Department of Education had continued to provide the Early Education Grant.

RESOLVED, That – the report be noted.

11. CONCRETE REPAIRS TO CULLUM WELCH HOUSE - GATEWAY 6 - OUTCOME REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services which sought to close the project to repair the reinforced concrete elements of Cullum Welch House.

RESOLVED, that:

1. The content of this report and lessons learnt be noted.
2. The project be closed.

12. RESETTling OF DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS - 2020/21

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain in respect of the recommended budget adjustments which, subject to the agreement of the Court of Common Council in December, would be reflected in their detailed Revised Estimates for 2020/21 and Proposed Budget Estimates for 2021/22.

RESOLVED, that – an increase of £184,000 for the Director of Community & Children's Services budget be noted.

13. LESSONS LEARNT FROM THE DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Director of Community and Children's Services which reflected the experience and lessons learnt by the Department in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the discussion and questions the following points were noted:

- Further to the Committee agreeing to the transition arrangements for the Food Bank last month, the Director had visited the food bank and been very impressed.

- An imaginative and pragmatic approach to mental health, with the Dragon Café providing a virtual resource through the library service. The City Well-being Centre had also gone on-line during the pandemic.
- Improved support for carers.
- ‘business healthy’ had included the hidden workforce; i.e. - delivery drivers and cleaners, who might not have the same access to services.
- A lead officer within the Public Health Team allocated to bereavement counselling.
- Adult skills and learning offers focussed on building skills to help those facing possible redundancy, as well as connecting those residents who might be feeling isolated.
- Staff were commended for their support to vulnerable children in respect of the provision of free school meals.
- Support has been provided for those working from home and those providing front line services, who had been required to come into the office.
- Members were thanked for supporting officers and officers (Keyworkers), NHS staff and volunteers for their hard work in extremely challenging circumstances.

14. RESOLUTION IN RESPECT OF CONSULTATION ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Committee received a series of appendices in response to a Resolution passed at the last Committee, which had asked for the City’s elected representatives, residents’ associations, Square Mile food bank and volunteer Covid support hubs be asked, by the Department of Community and Children’s Services, for their views on the Department’s response to the Covid crisis, and that their input be published in a report brought to this meeting of the Committee.

Members noted the table in the appendix, which reflected the views of Members, and the Director agreed to circulate an amended version, providing names against the various comments. It was suggested by a Member that this additional information was relevant as the views of those Members, who had not been physically present in the City during the lockdown, might have less weight than those who had.

The Director advised that a submission on behalf of unpaid carers would be addressed as part of a response planned for January. The Director stressed that the report on this agenda had been a response to a Members’ motion and, as such, Members had defined the groups that were to be consulted and the Director had not felt it appropriate to expand or contract this.

There was some discussion about sectors of the BAME community, whereby some cultures were resistant to police involvement in domestic abuse matters. The Director confirmed that his officers were very sensitive to the needs of this group and that the work of the Community Safety Team now fell within his area of responsibility. The Police were similarly aware and worked closely with the Adult and Children Safeguarding Boards (Partnership).

Following the Food Bank Transition agreed by the Committee last month, the Department would continue to work with volunteers, ensuring they were not being over-burdened. NHS volunteers were also being included and due diligence being taken in respect of Safeguarding matters. It was noted that there had been a couple of issues in respect of access to premises but they had since been addressed.

There had been 20 positive cases in the first wave but this now stood at 75. Members noted that a lot of work was underway at a London level about the higher proportion of cases in the BAME community. The Director of Public Health for the City and Hackney was personally involved in this work. There was some discussion about taking a holistic approach to BAME communities; i.e. – in terms of living conditions and low incomes make these groups more vulnerable to Covid. Whilst agreeing with this viewpoint, the Chairman emphasised that such matters were 'usual business' for officers and the Members of this Committee.

Whilst it was possible to drill down into particular community groups, the small numbers in the City would make it easy to identify individuals, and the data would need to be redacted before it could enter the public domain. However, the Deputy Director of Public Health could confidentially share this information with Ward Members, on request. Members noted that Portsoken had a test centre across its border with Tower Hamlets, in addition to the test Centre at Guildhall Yard. Additionally, all statutory sectors were undertaking risk assessments in terms of BAME staff.

A view was expressed about a perception of the City of London Corporation focussing more on businesses than residents. There was some discussion about a perceived disconnect between the services we are providing and how they were being received. The work of the Rough Sleeping Sub Committee was quoted as an example of forward planning, to ensure that mechanisms were in place for a quick response once funding became available.

Members then discussed a proposal for a Working Party, focussed on the response to the Covid Crisis, which would continue to engage with communities and service users. The Director asked Members to be mindful that the outcome of the consultation, as set out in this report, was a snapshot at this stage and had not been intended to frame a larger piece of work. Furthermore, the Terms of Reference of such a Working Party would need to be very precise so as to avoid duplication and cutting across work streams already in place.

The Chairman suggested that, whilst there was clearly an appetite amongst Members for a Working Party, it might be premature to specify membership at this stage. It was therefore suggested that it be agreed in principle, given that Working Parties are less formal and the detail could be worked in later. It was suggested that an outline structure be proposed, followed up with an enquiry as to availability and willingness to serve.

It was moved by Graeme Harrower, seconded by Marianne Fredericks and RESOLVED, that :

A working party be set up to assist the Department of Community and Children's Services to respond with positive actions to the ongoing Covid crisis; to meet by virtual means every two weeks, from the week beginning 9th November 2020, until this Committee decides otherwise, to produce a note of actions and outcomes of its meetings for consideration by this Committee at each of its meetings, and to consist of:

- the Chair of Community and Children's Services Committee
- the Chair of the Housing Sub-Committee
- the Director of Community and Children's Services,
- another officer appointed by the Director,
- a representative of the Golden Lane Estate Residents' Association,
- a representative of the Middlesex Street Estate Residents' Association,
- a representative of the Mansell Street Estate Residents' Association,
- a representative of the Square Mile Food Bank,
- Councillor Sue Pearson,
- Councillor Munsur Ali; and
- any other person(s) whom the working party invites to join it.

15. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

Members received a report of the Town Clerk which reported on the following action taken, under urgency, since the last meeting of the Committee:

Pan-London Commissioning Support – action taken:

The Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of the Policy and Resources Committee, Health and Wellbeing Board and the Community and Children's Services Committee, agreed that the City of London Corporation be named as the lead commissioner for pan-London drug and alcohol services set out in bids to Public Health England and, if bids are successful, to undertake that role.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

16. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

In response to a question about rent rebates for HRA Commercial tenants, the Chairman had agreed to admit an item of urgent business which appeared next on the agenda. The Member reserved the right to ask their question, which had sought clarity in respect of the criteria for which a business could receive a

full or partial rent rebate, and the reporting and decision-making processes supporting it. The Member also enquired as to whether businesses with a strong cash balance should be expected to pay, regardless of how badly their turnover had suffered, and what would happen to those business that might not survive? In respect of the final point, Members noted that this would be revisited at the December Committee, once there was more clarity.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

The Chairman agreed to admit the following item of urgent business:

Department of Community and Children's Services Commercial Tenants and Covid 19 – Proposal for revision to Additional Support in the September Quarter.

The Committee considered a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and the City Surveyor, which sought approval to proposed amendments to the process and package of rental assistance to HRA commercial tenants, which had been approved at the last committee, given the worsening pandemic and its impact on tenant's trading conditions, including the recently imposed Government National Lockdown until 2nd December 2020.

RESOLVED, that:

- a) The deferment of the full quarter's rent be approved (due from 29th September 2020 to 24th December 2020) for all HRA commercial tenants until 24th March 2021, payable thereafter in 12 equal monthly payments, excepting only those tenants that have already paid or wish to pay the September rent.
- b) Deferment also of the 12 month repayment plan, which all HRA commercial tenants were due to pay from September 2020, be approved for the full quarter's rent deferral from 25th March 2020 to 24th June 2020, until 24th March 2021, payable thereafter in 12 equal monthly payments, excepting only those tenants that have already paid or wish to pay this rent.
- c) It be noted that the above offer be 'automatic' and take effect immediately for all HRA commercial tenants, excepting only those tenants that have already paid or wish to pay the September rent.
- d) It be noted that the 'case by case analysis', whilst substantially in progress, be suspended for this quarter's rental assistance

18. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED - That under Section 100A(4) 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 Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Para no
20-28

Item no
3

At 12.55 and 13.25 Members agreed to waive Standing Order 40 in order to complete the business on the agenda.

19. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2020 be approved.

20. **WAIVER REPORT FOR YOUTH SERVICES AT GOLDEN LANE**

The Committee considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

21. **GOLDEN LANE SPORT AND FITNESS CENTRE MANAGEMENT- LEISURE SERVICES 2022**

The Committee considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

22. **SEMI-INDEPENDENT / SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION PLACEMENTS (16-25YRS) PROCUREMENT STRATEGY REPORT**

The Committee considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

23. **GREAT ARTHUR HOUSE NEW FLATS PROJECTS- GATEWAY 5 - AUTHORITY TO START WORK**

The Committee considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

24. **HOLLOWAY ESTATE, ISLINGTON ARTS FACTORY (IAF)**

The Committee considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

25. **YORK WAY ESTATE PROVISION OF SOCIAL HOUSING**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

26. **PROGRESS REPORT OF THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES AND SOCIAL HOUSING ON THE FORMER RICHARD CLODESLEY SCHOOL SITE**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

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

There was one question whilst the Public were excluded.

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

The Chairman agreed to admit an item of urgent business whilst the public were excluded.

The meeting ended at 14.00 hrs.

Chairman

Contact Officer: Julie Mayer
julie.mayer@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Agenda Item 6

Committees:	Dated:
Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee Department of Community and Children's Services Committee	01/12/2020 11/12/2020
Subject: Supporting European Union (EU) nationals with No Recourse to Public Funds	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1,2,3
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Will Norman – Head of Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping, Department of Community and Children's Services	

Summary

This report identifies the impact of EU Exit on rough sleeping in the City of London from 31 January 2020. It considers the implications for individuals affected by the EU Exit, particularly European Economic Area (EEA) nationals, while also considering any financial impact for the Corporation and individuals.

The report highlights the possibility of seeing increasing rough sleeping among EEA nationals in the City of London as a result of the EU Exit, and describes the support provided so far to prevent this.

A recommended course of action is provided which focuses on extending our current approach to supported reconnection. We also consider how to assist the small number of individuals with acute and life-threatening conditions who are also without recourse to public funds.

This report was seen by the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee on 1 December 2020.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to approve the recommended course of action.

Main Report

Background

Key dates

1 December 2020	Changes to the Immigration Act come into effect
31 December 2020	UK formally leaves the EU – end of implementation period
31 December 2020	New arrivals after this date will no longer have access to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).
1 January 2021	New arrivals from the EU will have no recourse to public funds.
30 June 2021	Deadline to apply for EUSS for those who arrived prior to 31 December 2020.
1 July 2021	EU nationals who have failed to register for the EUSS or who arrived in the UK after 31 January 2021 will have no recourse to public funds.

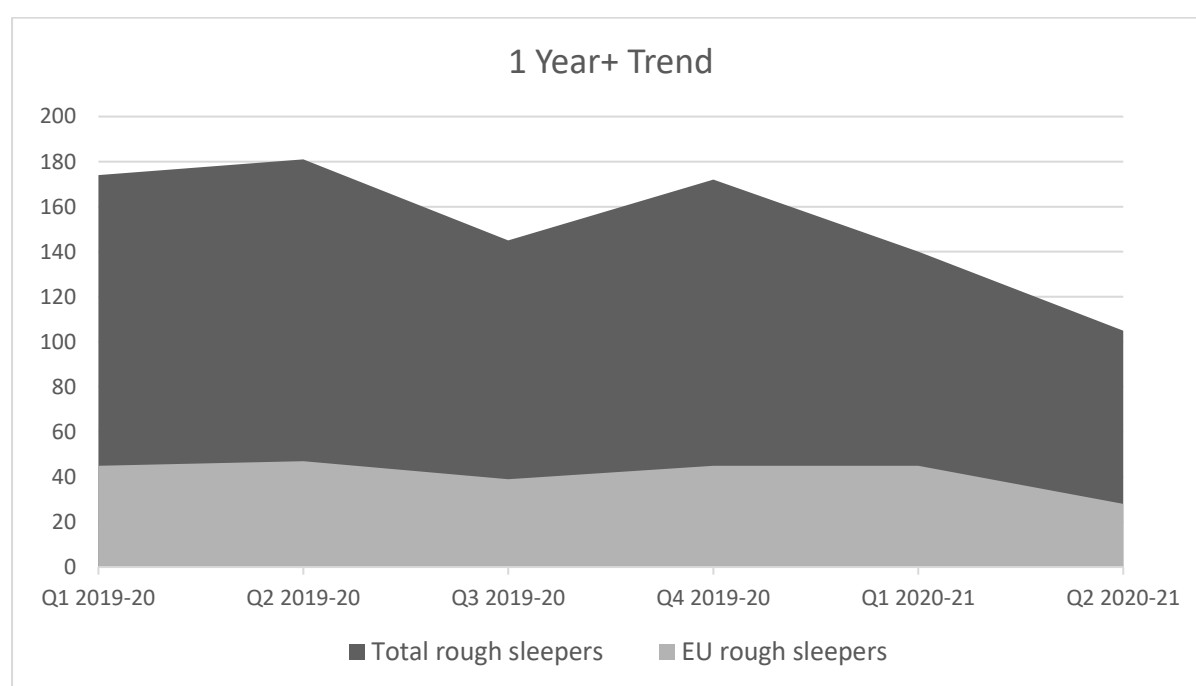
1. On 29 March 2019, the Government introduced the EUSS as a tool to maintain EEA nationals' rights to reside in the UK post the EU Exit.
2. The deadline to apply to the EUSS is 30 June 2021 for anyone who arrived in the UK before 31 December 2020. Anyone who has not applied to the EUSS by this date risks being considered 'unlawfully present in the UK' and therefore ineligible for housing assistance, welfare benefits, employment and free healthcare.
3. Arrivals to the UK from the EEA after 31 December 2020 will not be eligible for the EUSS and will therefore have no recourse to public funds.
4. On 31 January 2020, the UK formally left the EU. From 1 February 2020, the UK entered into an implementation period due to end on 31 December 2020. During this time, British citizens and EEA nationals in the UK will continue to enjoy free movement and will retain a right to reside in all member states.
5. Throughout the implementation period, the eligibility criteria for EEA nationals seeking housing assistance and welfare benefits is unlikely to change for anyone who has successfully applied to the EUSS for Pre-Settled or Settled status. The eligibility criteria is also unlikely to change for those who have not successfully applied to the Scheme; however, they must be encouraged to apply as soon as possible to avoid losing their right to welfare benefits and housing assistance from 1 January 2021 onwards. The Scheme remains open until 30 June 2021 for EEA nationals resident in the UK before 31 December 2020.
6. Any EEA nationals arriving in the UK from 1 January 2021 are likely to be subject to the new immigration rules stating that all EEA nationals (excluding Irish nationals) will require a visa to live and work in the UK.

Current Position

7. The table and graph below show the number of EEA rough sleepers as a proportion of total rough sleepers across the previous six quarters.

8. Quarter on quarter, total rough sleeping numbers have been in overall decline in the period. Numbers of EEA rough sleepers have remained relatively stable, with a noticeable reduction in the most recent period.
9. It should be noted that an individual can be counted in consecutive or more than one quarter, so the data below should be viewed as trend information only.

	Total rough sleepers	EU rough sleepers	EU as %
Q1 2019/20	174	45	26%
Q2 2019/20	181	47	26%
Q3 2019/20	145	39	27%
Q4 2019/20	172	45	26%
Q1 2020/21	140	45	32%
Q2 2020/21	105	28	27%



10. Annual data provides an indication of the number of unique individuals contacted by the Outreach team in a year. In 2019/20, 434 rough sleepers were met by outreach: 134 (31%) were recorded as EEA nationals.
11. In Quarter 2 2020/21, 27 EEA rough sleepers were encountered. This is 26% of our total population.
12. For a nightly snapshot – 23 rough sleepers were counted on 22 October 2020, six (also 26%) were EEA nationals.
13. We are currently accommodating 20 EEA rough sleepers in COVID-19 emergency accommodation, 5 of whom have completed the EUSS and have been awarded Settled Status.

14. The situation varies, but at any one time we usually have 5-10 EEA rough sleepers who are failing to engage with the outreach team. This equates to 20-40% of the current EEA rough sleeper cohort.

Rough sleeping – work to date

15. In preparation for the EU Exit, there has been an increase in work carried out with EEA nationals who are rough sleeping.
16. In September 2019, City of London officers delivered bespoke training to the City Outreach team regarding EEA nationals' rights post-EU Exit, retaining of eligibility for support if engaging in genuine and effective work, and the EUSS application process.
17. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) initiated a 'suspension of the derogation' for EEA nationals in October 2019. This enabled authorities in London, and other major UK cities, to fund three-month placements in accommodation for EEA national jobseekers. Under this initiative, the City of London commissioned a project in supported accommodation for EEA national rough sleepers and provided focused support to ensure that individuals were able to access employment.
18. In addition to this, we have used temporary accommodation placements and our commissioned Winter Assessment Service to further ensure that individuals have access to a safe space away from the streets, and that they are in the best position to engage with support services and the employment market.
19. We have asked all commissioned providers of support for rough sleepers to ensure that all EEA nationals found rough sleeping are given the opportunity to make an application to the EUSS, either by themselves or through referrals to free immigration advice agencies such as Praxis.
20. We are aware of two particularly long-term, street-attached, rough sleepers who have received full settled status through the EUSS with support from our commissioned services. In both instances this was secured by our commissioned Navigator service working in collaboration with Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) registered legal services. There are a further two individuals who received full settled status while working with our emergency COVID-19 Assessment Centre.
21. We are currently aware of seven applications that have been made via our Carter Lane service, though we are yet to receive determinations on these cases. There are a further six individuals based in Carter Lane who are being supported to apply to EUSS.
22. From the beginning of September 2019 until the end of August 2020 a total of 132 accommodation outcomes for EU nationals are recorded; 67 of these are EEA rough sleepers. Of the 132 accommodation outcomes, 93 occurred from 1 March

2020. This is in line with our 'everyone in' response to COVID-19 and most placements were into emergency accommodation, either provided by ourselves or the Greater London Authority (GLA).

23. A significant barrier to the EUSS for those rough sleeping has been obtaining the correct and required documentation to complete applications successfully. We have seen several delays and refusals of status as a result of this.
24. Due to these challenges, there is a risk that a number of EEA nationals rough sleeping in the Square Mile will not have completed an EUSS application by 30 June 2021 when the EUSS closes. This means several individuals may have uncertain status in the UK, with a likely inability to obtain welfare benefits, employment, housing or free healthcare.
25. A change to the Immigration Act 1971 comes into effect on 1 December 2020 which expects local authorities to consider current rough sleeping status when establishing eligibility under the Housing Act 1996 (as amended). Thereafter the Home Office will have the right to withdraw that individual's status in the UK.
26. Legal advice has been sought to establish the legal implications of following any given approach, particularly with regard to the most recent changes to the Immigration Act.
27. Consideration should be given to the approaches undertaken by other authorities. A service offer which differs significantly to that of neighbouring authorities could incentivise rough sleeping in the Square Mile or prove to be an outlier among regional peer authorities.
28. Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) provision would remain available to all, as it is now.

Recommended approach to rough sleepers

29. Government funding, such as grants distributed by the MHCLG Rough Sleepers Initiative (RSI), will not be available for projects or schemes that contradict Government policy. This means that the funding of bed spaces, like those we currently provide under the suspension of the derogation, will no longer be available.
30. Support would be focused on funding and providing safe reconnections to home countries. The terms under which this would be undertaken would reference the guidance as set out in the Credible Offer policy. All reconnections would be voluntary.
31. Any short-term accommodation offers would be linked to a supported reconnection, and therefore a reasonable expectation that the individuals' rough sleeping would be resolved.

32. Any other accommodation offer would be limited to emergency interventions where there is a risk to life, or any other acute unmet need.
33. The rate at which EEA rough sleepers are currently reconnected remains relatively low, however, the changing legislative landscape could discourage rough sleeping for this group.
34. The cost of a supported reconnection is relatively low (air fares etc.) and the success rate can be improved by commissioning specialist delivery partners. An indicative cost for a locally provided supported reconnection could be between £500 and £1,500 depending on complexity and destination.
35. We are currently undertaking market engagement with potential specialist non-UK reconnection organisations. Any provider would come from the rough sleeping sector and have the required expertise.
36. The cost of providing supported reconnections will depend on several variables. The indicative annual costs provided below are based on the following assumptions:
- All supported reconnection undertaken by the City of London and its partners using existing capacity
 - An accommodation stay of around one week to prepare for travel
 - Known costs at Caritas Anchor House which include support and rent
 - A unit cost of £887 per bed per week
 - Approximately 25% of applicable clients taking up the offer
 - A typical reconnection cost of £1,000
 - 2019/20 data (134 EEA rough sleepers) used as a baseline
 - The retention of a given number of rooms would be required through a commissioning arrangement.

Number of supported reconnections required	Annual accommodation costs	Reconnection costs	Cost per annum
30	£26,610	£30,000	£56,610

37. Challenges include:

- Unpredictable demand for supported reconnection services
- Capacity within existing services to deliver an increased number of supported reconnections.

38. This approach is currently deliverable within the existing department budget.

Other considerations

39. A small number of EEA NRPF clients who remain rough sleeping will develop significant care and support needs. As with any rough sleeper, it may be

established that action is required to safeguard an individual. This could include where there is a risk to life.

40. The City would seek to support and, where necessary, accommodate EEA rough sleepers with NRPF who present with acute or chronic physical and mental health needs. The Care Act and/or Human Rights Act could be used as a framework for establishing eligibility.
41. The most effective approach for this group would be a reactive position. Robust decision making achieved through recorded multi-agency discussion will result in a clear course of action on a case by case basis.
42. Accommodation stays for this group would need to be supported, be time limited, and linked to recovery, access to care and support or respite. This time could also be used to establish a credible offer of supported reconnection.
43. The costs of accommodation stays will vary considerably depending on the setting and duration. Weekly costs might be similar to those described in point 33.
44. The number of clients this could apply to is hard to predict, but numbers qualifying for assistance under Care Act or Human Rights Act will be small. In the past year we have sought to assess five EEA nationals under the Care Act and a single case was assessed under the Human Rights Act.
45. Challenges include:
 - Knowing how and when to end a placement. A 12-week period is arbitrary to how long it may take to effect meaningful change in someone's circumstances
 - Sourcing and procuring suitable bed spaces required. There is huge demand within the sector presently
 - Suspicion and scepticism are likely to be high among this cohort after EU withdrawal, leading to unpredictable levels of uptake
46. It is likely this approach could be covered by the existing department budget.

The fullest picture

47. The working assumptions, challenges and indicative costs set out in paragraphs 44 to 48 are provided to help establish the most comprehensive estimate available, based on seeking to assist all EEA NRPF rough sleepers. This is for illustrative purposes only and is not considered a viable option.
48. In order to continue supporting all EEA rough sleepers all the measures described in the recommended approach set out above would be required, but the principle would be extended to any EEA rough sleeper regardless of their circumstances.
49. A framework would still be required to determine the duration and objectives of accommodation stays.

50. The same challenges found in ending accommodations stays would exist, but to a greater extent.

51. The cost of delivering this approach would be dependent on the assumptions found in the recommendation, but for a much larger cohort.

- An accommodation stay of 12 weeks per placement
- Known costs at Caritas Anchor House, which include support and rent
- A unit cost of £887 per bed per week
- 70% of applicable rough sleepers taking up the offer of accommodation
- 2019/20 data (134 EEA rough sleepers) used as a baseline
- The retention of a given number of rooms would be required through a commissioning arrangement.

Number of individuals assisted	Number of rooms required	Annual unit cost	Cost per annum
94	24	£46,124	£1,106,976

Corporate & Strategic Implications

52. There are no corporate and strategic implications directly related to this report.

Conclusion

53. The level of rough sleeping in the Square Mile is currently in decline, mainly related to the external context created by COVID-19 and the City of London's response in applying the Government's 'everyone in' approach.

54. The level of EEA rough sleeping is quite stable, but, as a proportion of our total rough sleeping, is currently increasing due to an overall decrease in rough sleeping numbers.

55. Changes to legislation and Government policy during and post the EU exit will affect EEA rough sleepers and economic migrants – fewer existing rough sleepers will have access to support for housing costs and welfare benefits.

56. EEA rough sleepers who are unable to work after 1 February will be very difficult for a local authority to support. Any housing option must be discretionary.

57. Based on current legislation, no new arrivals from the EU after 31 December 2020 will have access to housing costs or welfare benefits.

58. The recommendation represents an extension of our existing approach - supported reconnection can be a means of solving a person's rough sleeping. Where the client wishes to return home, but lacks the means to do so, we can assist through our existing services or consider commissioning additional expertise.

59. In the small number of cases where there is a risk to life or an immediate safeguarding risk, we can deploy the Care Act and Human Rights Act as reference points and decision-making frameworks.

Appendices

- None

Will Norman

Head of Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping
Department of Community and Children's Services

E: will.norman@cityoflondon.gov.uk

T: 07701372884

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Committee:	Dated:
Community and Children's Services	11/12/2020
Subject: Supporting Digital Inclusion	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	9,8,3
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Simon Cribbens, Assistant Director – Commissioning and Partnerships	

Summary

This report sets out the need and ambition to tackle digital exclusion among some who live in the Square Mile. It proposes that officers use the policy agreed by Members to apply the funds from the Combined Relief of Poverty Charity to more strategic projects, as an opportunity to work with a specialist partner (or partners) to develop and fund a digital inclusion project for City residents.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- note the current activity in place to support digital inclusion for City residents
- approve the approach proposed to deliver a targeted digital inclusion project.

Main Report

Background

1. The ability to get online is increasingly important to accessing employment, services, finding timely information, shopping and social interaction. This importance has been amplified by the restrictions of COVID-19 and the consequent transfer of many services and functions online. The experience of the COVID-19 response has demonstrated the impact of digital exclusion on households that may lack the skills, devices, motivation or data to get online. As highlighted by the Corporation's strategies on Digital Skills and Social Mobility, such exclusion can inhibit social mobility and social inclusion in our community.

2. The period ahead is likely to see a continued focus of digital delivery for many services. Some may face continued restrictions that will sustain social isolation. The economic consequences of COVID-19 are also likely to result in increased unemployment and/or reduced incomes among some in our community. For this group, digital access is critical to obtaining benefits, employment opportunities and financial inclusion.
3. There are various service and stakeholder perspectives on the scale of digital deficit within the City, but limited quantitative data is available to accurately access the scale and nature of the challenge.
4. National research (2019 Consumer Digital Index) suggests that 22 per cent of the population is digitally excluded because they lack internet access and/or have low levels of digital literacy. The Office for National Statistics reports that there is an increasing likelihood of digital exclusion among individuals who live alone, those who have mobility issues, and households on lower incomes. Digital exclusion increases to 36 per cent among those over 65 years of age.
5. The main determinant of digital exclusion is age, but other significant factors – often combined with low income – include disability, learning difficulties, ethnic origin, location, culture and language.
6. The impact of digital exclusion differs, but includes financial exclusion (those offline pay more for many services), service exclusion, social isolation and educational impacts.

Current Position

7. The importance of digital inclusion has been recognised by the Corporation and the Department of Community and Children's Services (the Department).
8. The *Shaping Tomorrows City Today* Digital Skills Strategy launched by the Lord Mayor in 2018 (2018–2023) has an ongoing action plan associated with increasing digital capital within the City. This includes support for residents.
9. The Department has been supporting a number of initiatives, including delivering digital skills training for the over 60s, a universal essential skills qualification for all ages, and Code Clubs for young people. Public access terminals are available in the libraries and staff are trained to provide assistance for those struggling to get online.
10. The onset of COVID-19 has seen a raft of additional initiatives and support. The Department has supported families and young people with direct provision or funding for digital and hotspot devices. This has ensured access to education. The beneficiaries were those identified by services from among:
 - families with children who have disabilities
 - families with children subject to a child protection plan
 - children in care and care leavers

- targeted families supported by social care or Early Help services
 - children with an Education, Health and Care Plan.
11. At the suggestion, and with the support of Members, a scheme was implemented to provide free Wi-Fi access to low-income, shielding households; and 23 individuals received a dongle device through the scheme.
 12. Departmental services have adapted their assessment and delivery model to evaluate and provide digital support – for example, assessing digital capacity through Care Act Assessments. The library service continued to deliver digitally, and offered telephone support to assist some users to access that offer.
 13. Corporately, the Gigabit City programme, led by the City Property Advisory Team (CPAT) has sought to improve wired and wireless coverage in the Square Mile for small businesses and residents. In February 2017, Members gave approval for the City's outlying housing estates to be included in the Gigabit City programme.
 14. New providers are now in place across all our estates, apart from Middlesex and Avondale, which are on track to have the additional broadband services connected by April 2021. All buildings on each estate now receive faster broadband so that universal coverage and can be offered to all residents.
 15. This delivery provides the opportunity to provide low-cost access to those on low incomes. The agreement to provide this coverage compelled the operators to meet key service obligations including:
 - a. That services are provided over fibre-optic cables at various speeds up to 1 gigabit per second at affordable price points, with a low-priced (under £10 per month) no-contract option for tenants on benefits or low incomes.
 - b. One communal area on each estate (community halls/estate office, and so on) will be provided with a 1 gigabit per second Wi-Fi hotspot, which will be free to use for all residents.
 16. A network of 156 access points across the Square Mile is available for all residents to access Wi-Fi at street level. The City of London Wi-Fi network offers speeds of up to 200 megabits per second across the Square Mile, and is free to all users on an unlimited basis – something never seen before in London.

Opportunities

17. Tackling digital exclusion provides an opportunity to deliver a range of departmental and corporate objectives. These include tackling inequality, securing better financial inclusion, mitigating COVID-19 impacts, supporting social mobility, reducing social isolation, increasing employment and using digital technology to improve health.
18. In addition to the benefits to individuals and families, a digitally-included community will secure benefits and efficiencies for the Department, enabling better use of resources and protecting frontline delivery.

19. The Department has initiated discussions with organisations that are specialists in this area. They offer a range of targeted and innovative approaches. Examples can be seen in the work of organisations such as WeAreDigital, Good Things Foundation, Clean Slate Training & Employment, and SocialBox.Biz.
20. In the short term, we are seeking a partner to deliver recycled equipment for those unable to afford devices. Beyond that, we wish to build on the current opportunities – including the potential to offer low-cost Wi-Fi access – to build a community-focused digital and financial inclusion programme.
21. In September, this Committee considered the administration and management of the Combined Relief of Poverty Fund. Members decided that the funds provided by the accumulated income of the Fund should be applied more strategically under the Stronger Community Programme. Such an approach would enable the Department to co-produce the project with a specialist partner.

Proposals

22. The Department wishes to promote and support digital inclusion across its communities. To do so requires a programme of work to tackle the features of exclusion: skills, access, motivation and confidence.
23. The Department will work with the City Surveyors Department to mobilise and promote the low-cost internet access offer for low-income households, secured through the Gigabit City programme.
24. The Department will further digital inclusion by building on the interventions deployed prior to, and in response to, COVID-19. Future approaches must be tailored to meet the needs of different groups and target those most impacted by exclusion. The approaches will align to our wider work to mitigate the lasting economic and social impacts of COVID-19.
25. To achieve this, it is proposed that the Department selects a partner to develop a project that meets its objectives to increase digital inclusion. It will utilise existing assets (training offers, community facilities, commissioned services) and opportunities to design an offer. The partner – with the Department's endorsement – will seek funding from the Combined Relief of Poverty element of the Stronger Communities Grant programme to deliver the project. Any bid for such funds would be subject to assessment by the Central Grants Unit, and approval in line with current procedures.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

26. **Strategic implications:** This approach is well aligned to the Corporation's Digital Skills Strategy and Social Mobility Strategy and supports our broader Corporate Plan objectives:
 - We are digitally and physically well-connected and responsive (9).
 - We have access to the skills and talent we need (8).

- People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential (3).

27. **Financial and Resource implications:** With Members' agreement, it is anticipated that delivery would be supported by grant funding. Other funding and resource required will come from within departmental budgets.

28. **Legal Implications:** none.

29. **Risk implications:** none identified at this stage.

30. **Equalities implications:** Digital exclusion disproportionately impacts some target equality groups, including those in the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic community, and those with disabilities. A project to tackle such inclusion will have a positive impact on these groups.

31. **Climate implications:** none.

32. **Security implications:** none.

Conclusion

33. Supporting digital inclusion provides an opportunity to improve the lives of many in our community, and to deliver the Department's and Corporation's strategic objectives.

Simon Cribbens

Assistant Director – Commissioning and Partnerships
Department of Community and Children's Services

T: Microsoft Teams/Skype

E: simon.cribbens@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Committees: Corporate Projects Board - for decision Community and Children's Services - for decision Projects Sub - for decision	Dates: 25 November 2020 11 December 2020 17 December 2020
Subject: George Elliston and Eric Wilkins Houses - Refurbishment Unique Project Identifier: 12241	Gateway 2: Project Proposal Regular
Report of: Director of Community & Children's Services Report Author: Lochlan MacDonald, Asset Programme Manager	For Decision
<h2>PUBLIC</h2>	

Recommendations

1. Next steps and requested decisions	<p>Project Description: The whole building refurbishment of George Elliston and Eric Wilkins Houses including windows, roofs, insulation, lifts, internal communal areas, brickwork repairs, water tanks, etc.</p> <p>Funding Source: Housing Revenue Account, long leaseholder contributions, possible external central government funding, subject to eligibility.</p> <p>Next Gateway: Gateway 3/4 - Options Appraisal (Regular)</p> <p>Next Steps: Commission surveys of the buildings to identify the current situation, life expectancies, costed options for refurbishment, calculations of how works affect thermal performance and seek access to external funding for energy improvement works.</p> <p>Requested Decisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a budget of £200,000 is approved to cover fees and staff costs to reach the next gateway (£150,000 for consultant fees and £50,000 for staff costs). 2. Note the total estimated cost of the project at £3,706,200 (excluding risk);
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	3. That no Costed Risk Provision is required and to note the risk register in appendix 2.																
2. Resource requirements to reach next Gateway	<table><tr><th>Item</th><th>Reason</th><th>Funds/ Source of Funding</th><th>Cost (£)</th></tr><tr><td>Consultants Fees</td><td>To establish current benchmark and provided costed options:</td><td>Housing Revenue Account</td><td>£150,000</td></tr><tr><td>Staff Costs</td><td>To cover staff costs across the whole life of the project</td><td>Housing Revenue Account</td><td>£50,000</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td></td><td></td><td>£200,000</td></tr></table> <p>Costed Risk Provision requested for this Gateway: £0 (as detailed in the Risk Register – Appendix 2)</p>	Item	Reason	Funds/ Source of Funding	Cost (£)	Consultants Fees	To establish current benchmark and provided costed options:	Housing Revenue Account	£150,000	Staff Costs	To cover staff costs across the whole life of the project	Housing Revenue Account	£50,000	Total			£200,000
Item	Reason	Funds/ Source of Funding	Cost (£)														
Consultants Fees	To establish current benchmark and provided costed options:	Housing Revenue Account	£150,000														
Staff Costs	To cover staff costs across the whole life of the project	Housing Revenue Account	£50,000														
Total			£200,000														
3. Governance arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community and Children’s ServicesPaul Murtagh, Assistant Director, Barbican Estate and Housing Services is the senior reporting officerThe Housing Programme Board will monitor the project on a monthly basis.																

Project Summary

4. Context	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The blocks were due to have window renewals and a new roof installed as part of a wider project to provide more dwellings at the estate. That project was aborted in 2019 as the costs of the new properties were deemed too high by committee The windows and roofs date from the original building date (early 1950s), both have reached the end of their expected lives and require replacement. A holistic approach to full block refurbishment is being looked at to try and realise economies of scale and get the buildings to above the compliancy standard. The works may include energy efficiency works for which the City could receive significant partial funding through central government initiatives.
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5. Brief description of project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake a full condition survey of both buildings to establish current situation with regards to life expectancies; 2. Employ energy analysts, either as part of 1) above or separately, to assess the current position regarding the thermal efficiency of the blocks. 3. From the above, obtain a full listed of costed options for carrying out all necessary and desired refurbishment and energy improvement works: 4. Liaise with energy funding experts to access funding for all eligible elements. 5. Draw up works specifications, carry out procurement exercises and have the works undertaken. 6. The list of possible works will be prioritised in terms of essential, advisable and desirable.
6. Consequences if project not approved	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The buildings need roof and window repairs as matters of urgency and need to be undertaken as soon as possible, following the failure of the redevelopment scheme. 2. The block is thermally inefficient and residents would benefit from having better insulated homes. 3. If the repairs are undertaken in isolation, there would be no chance of external funding and the HRA would have to be used to get these undertaken. 4. If the thermal efficiency of the block is not addressed fully, this may have a negative effect on the City's carbon descent strategy. 5. The City's assets would continue to degrade over time and would require more extensive and expensive works to address this.
7. SMART project objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete refurbishment of 65 dwelling across the two blocks to be compliant with or exceed compliance of decent homes and energy efficiency targets. • Reduce response repairs across the two blocks. • Increase thermal performance of the two blocks by improving the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP), The actual increase will depend on the scope of works undertaken. • Ensure opportunity of funding is achieved by meeting necessary criteria.
8. Key benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve and go beyond the decent homes standard • Improved thermal performance of the buildings • Improve affordability of heating to dwellings • Reduction in the number of response repairs • Extend the life expectancy of our assets • Contribute towards the city's Carbon Descent strategy

9. Project category	7a. Asset enhancement/improvement (capital)
10. Project priority	A. Essential
11. Notable exclusions	None

Options Appraisal

12. Overview of options	<p><u>Numbered list format</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total refurbishment of the buildings including energy efficiency improvements. 2. Essential repairs and limited energy improvements 3. Essential Repairs only (as identified at survey stage)
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Project Planning

13. Delivery period and key dates	<p>Overall project: November 2020 – September 2022</p> <p>Depending on external funding deadlines, the time period for works may have to be condensed to accrue funding.</p> <p>Key dates: /</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint Consultants: December 2020/January 2021 • Options Appraisal: April 2021 • Tender: May 2021 • Appoint Contactor: August 2021 • Start works: September 2021 <p>Officers will pursue access to the Green Homes Grants (GHG) LAD Phase1b money is accessed for some of the works This is likely to be a maximum of £5,000 per property, a total of £325,000 and depends on the eligibility individual households. At present the criteria states that to be eligible for this funding, works must be completed by September 2021 so this may not be feasible. However, it is possible that the next phase of the GHG and/or of other funding (such as the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund) may be more realistic options in terms of timescale.</p> <p>Other works dates to coordinate: None known of at present.</p>
14. Risk implications	<p>Overall project risk: Medium</p> <p>Surveys may establish more works are required than are identified in this report.</p> <p>Works to improve the energy efficiency of the properties may not prove feasible and/or accrue the anticipated benefits.</p>

	<p>External funding may not be forthcoming due to eligibility criteria and/or changes to funding arrangements.</p> <p>Works may be more expensive than anticipated.</p> <p>Leaseholders may have concerns regarding costs of works.</p> <p>Access to properties may be problematic.</p> <p>The ongoing COVID 19 pandemic may affect consultants and contractors ability to undertake the necessary inspections and works.</p>
15. Stakeholders and consultees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members (via committee) 2. Estate staff and DCCS officers 3. Residents 4. Other City Staff (Corporate Energy Team, Chamberlains, Town Clerks, City Surveyors, Building Control, City Procurement) 5. Central Government (BEIS) 6. Southwark Planning 7. External agencies (funding)

Resource Implications

16. Total estimated cost	Likely cost range (excluding risk): £2.5m - £5M Likely cost range (including risk): £2.5m - £5M																			
17. Funding strategy	Choose 1: No funding confirmed	Choose 1: Mixture - some internal and some external funding																		
	<table><tr><th>Funds/Sources of Funding</th><th>Cost (£)</th></tr><tr><td>Housing Revenue Account</td><td>£2,537,218</td></tr><tr><td>Long leaseholder contributions</td><td>£843,982</td></tr><tr><td>Green Homes Grant (GHG)</td><td>£325,000</td></tr><tr><td>Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF)</td><td>Presently unquantifiable</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>£3,706,200</td></tr></table>		Funds/Sources of Funding	Cost (£)	Housing Revenue Account	£2,537,218	Long leaseholder contributions	£843,982	Green Homes Grant (GHG)	£325,000	Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF)	Presently unquantifiable							Total	£3,706,200
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	Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF)	Presently unquantifiable																		
Total	£3,706,200																			
Chamberlains have advised that capital HRA funding has been prioritised for this project within the overall funding envelope of the HRA major works programme.																				

	<p>The amount of external funding from the GHG and other central government initiatives will depend on the individual eligibility of affected households.</p> <p>SHDF funding arrangements and criteria have not been established, but this will be monitored and reported to committee. If external funding is not forthcoming, committee will be advised and asked with regard to revised options.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Gateway 2: Overall Estimated Project Costs</th></tr> <tr> <th>Item</th><th>Cost</th></tr> <tr> <td>Works</td><td>£3,140,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Consultant Fees</td><td>£315,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Staff Costs</td><td>£251,200.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>£3,706,200.00</td></tr> </table>	Gateway 2: Overall Estimated Project Costs		Item	Cost	Works	£3,140,000.00	Consultant Fees	£315,000.00	Staff Costs	£251,200.00	Total	£3,706,200.00
Gateway 2: Overall Estimated Project Costs													
Item	Cost												
Works	£3,140,000.00												
Consultant Fees	£315,000.00												
Staff Costs	£251,200.00												
Total	£3,706,200.00												
18. Investment appraisal	<p>The condition of the blocks will continue to worsen if essential repairs are not done as a project, necessitating increased response repairs.</p> <p>Whilst undertaking repairs it makes good business sense to assess what other works can be done at the same time and try to access external funding for these.</p>												
19. Procurement strategy/route to market	City Procurement have been consulted on the procurement strategy for these works and have advised (CP To comment).												
20. Legal implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Long leaseholders will need to be consulted about the costs of the works, as it is the City's intention to recharge long leaseholders for the works through service charges. 												
21. Corporate property implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No direct implications 												
22. Traffic implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When works are on site, the contractor will liaise with estate staff at a local level to ensure proper traffic management. 												
23. Sustainability and energy implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The new windows and roof, which are essential, will be to a far higher thermal performance level than the current installations. 2. It is hoped that further insulation to the fabric of the buildings will also be possible, which will improve resident comfort, reduce fuel poverty levels and reduce CO2 emissions. 												

	3. All works will help to raise the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) levels of the building and accord with the Carbon Descent Plan.
24. IS implications	1. None
25. Equality Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A test of relevance will be carried out to assess if an equality impact assessment is necessary.
26. Data Protection Impact Assessment	The risk to personal data is less than high or non-applicable and a data protection impact assessment will not be undertaken.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Project Briefing
Appendix 2	Risk Register

Contact

Report Author	Lochlan MacDonald, Asset Programme Manager
Email Address	Lochlan.macdonald@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Telephone Number	07785 723501

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Project Briefing

Project identifier			
[1a] Unique Project Identifier	12441	[1b] Departmental Reference Number	TBC
[2] Core Project Name	George Elliston and Eric Wilkins Houses – Refurbishment Project		
[3] Programme Affiliation (if applicable)	No		

Ownership	
[4] Chief Officer has signed off on this document	<Confirmation of having read and agreed with the content of this document>
[5] Senior Responsible Officer	Paul Murtagh, Assistant Director, Barbican Estate and Housing Services
[6] Project Manager	Lochlan MacDonald, Asset Programme Manager.

Description and purpose					
[7] Project Description					
To refurbish all aspects of the above blocks including window and roof replacement/repairs, new and improved insulation and energy efficiency works, necessary internal repairs including lifts, redecoration of communal areas and brickwork/concrete repairs, etc.					
[8] Definition of Need: What is the problem we are trying to solve or opportunity we are trying to realise (i.e. the reasons why we should make a change)?					
The works will help the properties achieve the decent homes standard, will improve the energy efficiency of the block and help the City's sustainability strategies.					
[9] What is the link to the City of London Corporate plan outcomes?					
[1] People are safe and feel safe. [2] People enjoy good health and wellbeing. [4] Communities are cohesive and have suitable housing and facilities. [[8] We attract and nurture relevant skills and talent. [9] Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained. [10] Our physical spaces have clean air, land and water and support a thriving and sustainable natural environment.					
[10] What is the link to the departmental business plan objectives?					
Safety -People of all ages live in safe communities, our homes are safe and well maintained and our estates are protected from harm. These works will improve the living standards of our residentsby making them more secure and more comfortable. Health and wellbeing -People of all ages enjoy good health and wellbeing. The improvements in living conditions will help our residents enjoy better health, improve energy efficiency by reducing fuel consumption and costs and improve the environment.					
[11] Note all which apply:					
Officer: Project developed from Officer initiation	Y	Member: Project developed from Member initiation	N	Corporate: Project developed as a large scale Corporate initiative	N
Mandatory: Compliance with legislation, policy and audit	Y	Sustainability: Essential for business continuity	N	Improvement: New opportunity/ idea that leads to improvement	Y

Project Benchmarking:
[12] What are the top 3 measures of success which will indicate that the project has achieved its aims? <These should be impacts of the activity to complete the aim/objective, rather than 'finishes on time and on budget'>>
1) Modernisation of 65 properties
2) Improvements in the energy efficiency of the blocks, including reducing fuel costs and carbon emissions
3) Extended the life of our assets
[13] Will this project have any measurable legacy benefits/outcome that we will need to track after the end of the 'delivery' phase? If so, what are they and how will you track them? (E.g. cost savings, quality etc.)
The works will improve the thermal performance of our buildings, and will reduce the amount of response repairs that are required. This will be verifiable by comparing repairs before and after the works The amount of carbon emissions from the buildings will be reduced, and can be measured by undertaking energy performance inspections once works are completed and comparing with those done prior to the works. External funding for energy improvements will be sought to help offset the costs of works. This will be measured by calculating the savings made in the Housing Revenue Account against any external funding that is received.
[14] What is the expected delivery cost of this project (range values)[£]?
Lower Range estimate: £2,000,000 Upper Range estimate: £5,000,000
[15] Total anticipated on-going revenue commitment post-delivery (lifecycle costs)[£]:
This is unquantifiable but the amount of response repairs will be reduced. Future maintenance will be through cyclical works and service contracts, that achieve economies of scale.
[16] What are the expected sources of funding for this project?
Housing Revenue Account, Green Homes Grants, Social Housing Decarbonisation fund, other possible future central government funding.
[17] What is the expected delivery timeframe for this project (range values)? Are there any deadlines which must be met (e.g. statutory obligations)?
Lower Range estimate: January 2021 – September 2021 Upper Range estimate: March 2021 – June 2022 The current phase of Green Homes Grants funding mentioned in [16] above is time limited and works will have to be completed by September 2021. A further phase may be introduced later depending on central government funding and the success of earlier phases. Full details of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Funding are yet to be released but are likely to be time limited as well.
Project Impact:
[18] Will this project generate public or media impact and response which the City of London will need to manage? Will this be a high-profile activity with public and media momentum?
This should only generate good publicity for the City given the positive effects of the works in terms of sustainability and improvement.
[19] Who has been actively consulted to develop this project to this stage?

<(Add additional internal or external stakeholders where required) >	
Chamberlains: Finance	Officer Name:
Chamberlains: Procurement	Officer Name:
IT	Officer Name:
HR	Officer Name:
Communications	Officer Name:
Corporate Property	Officer Name:
Corporate Energy	Officer Name: Graeme Low, Energy and Carbon Manager
External	
[20] Is this project being delivered internally on behalf of another department? If not ignore this question. If so: Please note the Client supplier departments. Who will be the Officer responsible for the designing of the project? If the supplier department will take over the day-to-day responsibility for the project, when will this occur in its design and delivery?	
Client	Department:
Supplier	Department:
Supplier	Department:
Project Design Manager	Department:
Design/Delivery handover to Supplier	Gateway stage: <Before Project Proposal>, <Post Project Proposal>, <Post Options Appraisal>, <Post Detailed design>, <Post Authority to start work>

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City of London: Projects Procedure Corporate Risks Register

 Project name: *George Elliston and Eric Wilkins Refurbishment*

 Unique project identifier: *12441*

 Total est cost (exc risk) *£3706200*

Corporate Risk Matrix score table

PM's overall risk rating	Medium
Avg risk pre-mitigation	8.7
Avg risk post-mitigation	4.7
Red risks (open)	1
Amber risks (open)	4
Green risks (open)	2

	Minor impact	Serious impact	Major impact	Extreme impact
Likely	4	8	16	32
Possible	3	6	12	24
Unlikely	2	4	8	16
Rare	1	2	4	8

Costed risks identified (All)

£0.00	0%
£0.00	0%
£0.00	0%
£0.00	0%

Costed risk as % of total estimated cost of project

" "

" "

Costed risk pre-mitigation (open)

Costed risk post-mitigation (open)

Costed Risk Provision requested

CRP as % of total estimated cost of project

- (1) Compliance/Regulatory
- (2) Financial
- (3) Reputation
- (4) Contractual/Partnership
- (5) H&S/Wellbeing
- (6) Safeguarding
- (7) Innovation
- (8) Technology
- (9) Environmental
- (10) Physical

Number of Open Risks	Avg Score	Costed impact	Red	Amber	Green
2	4.5	£0.00	0	1	1
3	7.3	£0.00	0	2	1
0	0.0	£0.00	0	0	0
0	0.0	£0.00	0	0	0
2	15.0	£0.00	1	1	0
0	0.0	£0.00	0	0	0
0	0.0	£0.00	0	0	0
0	0.0	£0.00	0	0	0
0	0.0	£0.00	0	0	0
0	0.0	£0.00	0	0	0

Issues (open)	0
All Issues	0

Open Issues

All Issues

Extreme	Major	Serious	Minor
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

 Cost to resolve all issues
(on completion)

£0.00

Total CRP used to date

£0.00

City of London: Projects Procedure Corporate Risks Register

Project Name: George Elliston and Eric Wilkins Refurbishment			PM's overall risk rating: Medium			CRP requested this gateway		£ -		Average unmitigated risk		8.7		Open Risks		7							
Unique project identifier: 12441			Total estimated cost (exc risk): £ 3,706,200			Total CRP used to date		£ -		Average mitigated risk score		4.7		Closed Risks		0							
General risk classification											Ownership & Action												
Risk ID	Gateway	Category	Description of the Risk	Risk Impact Description	Likelihood Classification pre-mitigation	Impact Classification pre-mitigation	Risk score	Costed Impact pre-mitigation (£)	Costed Risk Provision requested Y/N	Confidence in the estimation	Mitigating actions	Mitigation cost (£)	Likelihood Classification post-mitigation	Impact Classification post-mitigation	Costed Impact post-mitigation (£)	Post-Mitigation risk score	CRP used to date	Use of CRP	Date raised	Named Departmental Risk Manager/Coordinator	Risk owner (Named Officer or External Party)	Date Closed OR/Realised & moved to issues	Comment(s)
R1	2	(1) Compliance/Regulatory	Surveys may establish more works are required than are identified in this report.	Extra works may require further funding and delay the completion of the project	Possible	Serious	6	£0.00	N	B – Fairly Confident	If further works are identified, committee will be advised accordingly and necessary permissions sought	£0.00	Possible	Minor	£0.00	3	£0.00	N/A	13/11/2020	Lochlan MacDonald	Lochlan MacDonald		
R2	2	(5) H&S/Wellbeing	Works to improve the energy efficiency of the properties may not prove feasible and/or accrue the anticipated benefits.	By not undertaking energy efficiency works, the thermal comfort of the buildings will be reduced, residents will not be as comfortable, CO2 emissions will not be reduced as much and it will cost our residents more to heat their homes	Possible	Serious	6	£0.00	N	B – Fairly Confident	Further advice to be sought on how to then proceed	£0.00	Unlikely	Serious	£0.00	4	£0.00	N/A	13/11/2020	Lochlan MacDonald	Lochlan MacDonald		
R3	2	(2) Financial	External funding may not be forthcoming due to eligibility criteria and/or changes to funding arrangements.	If external funding is not received, it is possible that the energy improvements will not be possible	Possible	Major	12	£0.00	N	B – Fairly Confident	Further advice to be sought on how to then proceed	£0.00	Possible	Serious	£0.00	6	£0.00	N/A	13/11/2020	Lochlan MacDonald	Lochlan MacDonald		
R4	2	(2) Financial	works may be more expensive than anticipated.	Works may be suspended if funding is insufficient	Possible	Serious	6	£0.00	N	B – Fairly Confident	Further funding will be sought if required	£0.00	Unlikely	Minor	£0.00	2	£0.00	N/A	13/11/2020	Lochlan MacDonald	Lochlan MacDonald		
R5	2	(2) Financial	Leaseholders may have concerns regarding the costs of works	Leaseholders may legally challenge the City with regard to the works	Unlikely	Serious	4	£0.00	N	B – Fairly Confident	All legal necessities will be carried out prior to appointing firms to ensure compliance with the law	£0.00	Unlikely	Serious	£0.00	4	£0.00	N/A	13/11/2020	Lochlan MacDonald	Lochlan MacDonald		
R6	2	(1) Compliance/Regulatory	Access to dwellings may be problematic	this could delay works	Possible	Minor	3	£0.00	N	B – Fairly Confident	A robust but flexible access procedure will be in place and legal powers of access invoked if necessary	£0.00	Unlikely	Minor	£0.00	2	£0.00	N/A	13/11/2020	Lochlan MacDonald	Lochlan MacDonald		
R7	2	(5) H&S/Wellbeing	the ongoing COVID 19 crisis may affect consultants' and contractors' ability to carry out inspections and works	this may delay works and affect how quickly the works can be done, and pose potential threats to residents and workers	Possible	Extreme	24	£0.00	N	B – Fairly Confident	All government instructions on working around COVID 19 will be rigorously enforced and adhered to.	£0.00	Possible	Major	£0.00	12	£0.00	N/A	13/11/2020	Lochlan MacDonald	Lochlan MacDonald		
R8								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R9								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R10								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R11								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R12								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R13								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R14								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R15								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R16								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R17								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R18								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R19								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R20								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R21								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R22								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R23								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R24								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R25								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R26								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R27								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R28								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R29								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R30								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R31								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R32								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R33								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R34								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R35								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R36								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R37								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R38								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R39								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R40								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R41								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R42								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R43								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R44								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R45								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R46								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R47								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R48								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R49								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R50								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R51								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R52								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R53								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R54								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R55								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R56								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R57								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R58								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R59								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						
R60								£0.00				£0.00			£0.00		£0.00						

Committee(s)	Dated:
Education Board [For Information] Policy & Resources Committee [For Decision] Community & Children's Services Committee [For Information]	19/11/2020 19/11/2020 11/12/2020
Subject: Holiday Meal Support to City of London Sponsored Academies	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	2, 3 & 4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Y
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author(s): Anne Bamford, Strategic Director of Education and Skills Daniel McGrady, Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills)	

Summary

This report asks Members to consider the provision of food vouchers to the families of pupils attending City of London sponsored academies, pupils attending The Aldgate School and City resident children attending other schools who are eligible for free school meals (FSM) over school holiday periods.

On 8 November 2020, the Department for Work and Pensions released a Press Statement which included a commitment to a "COVID Winter Grant Scheme" up until March 2021 and a "Holiday Activities and Food Programme" covering Easter, Summer and Christmas in 2021. Under the COVID Winter Grant Scheme, Local Authorities will receive funding directly to help the hardest-hit families and individuals, as well as provide food for children who need it over the holidays up until the end of March 2021. From April 2021, the Holiday Activities and Food Programme will continue with the same provision. Whilst it is currently unclear how and what will be distributed to families, the announcement is clear that Local Authorities will receive the funding which would include the City of London Corporation (for City resident children) as well the Local Authorities in which City Sponsored academies reside: Islington, Hackney and Southwark. As a Local Authority, the City Corporation will review the allocation and distribution requirements to implement this new programme which is likely to require additional administrative resource to support the approximately 60 children who will benefit.

Members are asked to endorse the recommendation that the City Corporation should await further Government announcements on the COVID Winter Grant and Holiday Activities and Food Programme before clarifying its position and long-term role in supporting the families of pupils in its community school, residents in the City, and in

its sponsored academies over holiday periods. Members are asked to note that officers conducted financial modelling for the scenario that the City Corporation provides support to pupils in its sponsored academies as an indication of what a package of support from the City Corporation would cost. This modelling is provided for information and to frame future discussions on the role of the City Corporation in regard to its academies following further details on the Government announcements.

Recommendation(s)

Members of the Education Board and Policy & Resources Committee are asked to:

- Approve the decision to await further Government announcements on the COVID Winter Grant and Holiday Activities and Food Programme before clarifying the City Corporation's role in providing food vouchers to pupils in City sponsored academies over holiday periods;
- Note that the City Corporation will review the allocation and distribution requirements to implement the Government Schemes as a Local Authority which is likely to require additional administrative resource to support the children who will benefit;
- Note that financial modelling has been conducted on support to families of pupils in City sponsored academies for information.

Main Report

Background

1. Over the 2020 summer holidays and in response to the unprecedented circumstances brought about by COVID-19, the Government provided the COVID Summer Food Fund which gave food vouchers for families with children eligible for FSM over the summer holidays. The Government then announced that it would not continue this provision into school holidays during the 2020/21 Academic Year. Some Local Authorities subsequently ran schemes for resident children in their local catchment areas to fill this gap. Of the boroughs where the City of London schools reside, the following delivered food voucher schemes over the October half term:

- London Borough of Islington: Established a voucher scheme to help parents whose children are eligible for statutory free school meals during the October half-term holiday¹. The vouchers were for the value of £15 and distributed to parents and carers by the school when they return in November as reimbursement for the additional food costs incurred during the half term.
- London Borough of Southwark: Provided FSM vouchers for eligible pupils over the October half term.²
- London Borough of Hackney: Provided a service for families whose children are eligible for FSM and need emergency support to be able to contact the Council helpline to access vouchers³.

¹ <https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support/free-school-meals-and-uniform-grant>

² <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/schools-and-education/information-for-parents/financial-support/free-school-meals-during-covid-19>

³ <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/content/apply-free-school-meals>

- City of London Corporation: In total, 59 vouchers were given out to City resident children over the week beginning 26th October 2020, which was Autumn half term. Feedback from families was very positive, as from the school/social workers/early help workers who worked with them. Children's services are due review the list and eligibility for vouchers during school holidays before schools break up for the Christmas holiday.
2. On 8 November 2020, the Department for Work and Pensions released a Press Statement which included a commitment to a "COVID Winter Grant Scheme" up until March 2021 and a "Holiday Activities and Food Programme" covering Easter, Summer and Christmas in 2021⁴. The statement includes the following details:
- £170m will be distributed to Local Authorities in December 2020, with 80% earmarked to support with food and bills to cover the period to the end of March 2021.
 - It will allow Local Authorities to directly help the hardest-hit families and individuals, as well as provide food for children who need it over the holidays.
 - Schools will not be provided the funding as their role will continue to be to provide meals during term-time.
 - A £220m Holiday Activities and Food programme will also be expanded to cover Easter, Summer and Christmas in 2021 which will be available to children in every Local Authority in England, building on previous programmes.

At this stage, it is unknown in what form the COVID Winter Grant will be distributed through Local Authorities to families (e.g. through food vouchers or another means) and also what the value of food support will be per child. However, it seems likely that it will follow the same format as the COVID Summer Food Fund and take the form of £3 per day food vouchers distributed through Local Authorities to resident children eligible for FSM.

3. The role of the City Corporation in relation to its academies is not that of the Local Education Authority. The City Corporation is an academy sponsor which is a role defined by the Department for Education (DfE). The City Corporation supports its sponsored academies in several ways, including through the provision of grants. Over 2020/21 Financial Year, the City Corporation has provided the following in grant payments to its sponsored academies:
- £1,644,123 provided as City Premium Grant funding from the Education Board's budget for 2020/21 Academic Year, plus £85,000 to be distributed in January 2021.
 - £330,000 provided as one-off supplementary City Premium Grant funding from the Policy Initiative Fund distributed to academies to address educational gaps exacerbated by school closures during COVID-19.
 - £50,000 from the Education Board's budget provided to City of London Academies Trust (CoLAT) to support central services costs.
 - £70,000 from the COVID-19 Contingency Fund to City of London Academies Trust to deliver a Summer School over August 2020 to address educational gaps as a result of school closures during COVID-19.

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-winter-package-to-provide-further-support-for-children-and-families>

Current Position

4. The City Corporation is awaiting further details on the COVID Winter Grant Scheme (Dec 2020 to Mar 2021) and Holiday Activities and Food Programme (Apr 2021 to Aug 2021). It is expected that the details will include the means by which Local Authorities will support vulnerable families with food over holiday periods as well as the financial value per family and eligibility criteria.
5. There are 18 pupils in The Aldgate School eligible for FSM and 32 City-resident children attending other schools (excluding The Aldgate School and City sponsored academies).
6. Officers have conducted financial modelling on what a City Corporation package of support to low-income families of pupils attending its sponsored academies would look like. This will provide contextual information for the City's long-term view of food support over the holiday periods once the Government's programme has been clarified.
7. Based on the latest available census data for schools, there are 1,847⁵ pupils in City of London sponsored academies (excluding post-16) eligible for FSM. There is a total of 27 weekdays in the 2020/21 Academic Year school holidays:
 - a. Christmas holidays (Monday 21 December 2020 – Friday 1 January 2021) – 10 days
 - b. Spring half term (Monday 15 February 2021 – Friday 19 February 2021) – 5 days
 - c. Easter holidays (Thursday 1 April 2021 – Friday 16 April 2021) – 12 daysThe benchmark for food voucher provision is £3 per day, set by the Government's COVID Summer Food Fund which provided food vouchers over the summer holidays.

Proposals

8. It would cost an estimated £149,607 to provide food vouchers for all eligible pupils in City sponsored academies for each day of the remaining school holidays until the end of the Easter holidays at a rate of £3 per pupil per day. This has been rounded to £150,000 to allow for variances in the 2021/22 Academic Year data on pupils eligible for FSM and actual pupils in schools.
9. It will cost an estimated £20K to implement the scheme to City-resident children as a Local Authority which will include children eligible for FSM and wider vulnerability criteria such as whether the child is in social care and if the family are using the childcare affordability scheme.
10. It is proposed that Members await further Government announcements on the COVID Winter Grant and Holiday Activities and Food Programme before clarifying the City Corporation's role in providing food vouchers to pupils in City sponsored academies over holiday periods and approving the implementation of funding as a Local Authority.
11. Should Members endorse a role for the City Corporation in providing food vouchers for pupils in City sponsored academies, Members should consider the funding options outlined in Paragraph 12.

Options

12. Members should consider the following options for the role of the City Corporation in providing food vouchers for pupils in City sponsored academies:

⁵ Based on latest available school census data (2019).

- i. To leave the provision of food support to the discretion of the Local Authorities where the academies are based (Southwark, Hackney and Islington) in light of funding due to be distributed to Local Authorities from the Department for Work and Pensions' COVID Winter Grant and Holiday Activities and Food Programme;
 - ii. To provide financial support to low-income families of pupils in City sponsored academies at a value of £150,000 for food vouchers. This could be funded in one of the following two ways:
 - a) Allow academies to use their City Premium Grant funding to provide food vouchers for eligible pupils over the holiday periods at their discretion.
 - b) Recommend to Policy & Resources Committee to approve the release of £150,000 from the Policy Initiative Fund to resource the initiative
13. The recommended course of action is to await further Government announcements on the COVID Winter Grant and Holiday Activities and Food Programme before clarifying the City Corporation's role in providing food vouchers to pupils in City sponsored academies over holiday periods.

Key Data

14. The calculations in this report for pupils in City sponsored academies are based on the latest school census data provided by the Department for Education (DfE) correct in 2019. *Table 1* below provides a summary of the number of pupils eligible for FSM in each sponsored academy, as well as the number of pupils Ever6 for reference.

Table 1

School	Number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)	Number of pupils eligible for FSM any time in last 6 years (Ever 6)
City of London Primary Academy Islington	7	8
Galleywall Primary School	69	77
Redriff Primary School	72	140
City of London Academy Islington	348	514
The City Academy, Hackney	412	547
City of London Academy Southwark	389	751
City of London Academy Highbury Grove	315	633
City of London Academy Highgate Hill	127	266
City of London Academy Shoreditch Park	108	204
Total	1,847	3,140

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications

15. The City Corporation has a different relationship with pupils in its sponsored academies than with resident children in the City of London. The City Corporation is an academy Sponsor in its Corporate capacity and not as a Local Authority. In

this case, Members should consider the proposals in the strategic capacity as an academy Sponsor.

Financial implications

16. There are no provisions in the 2020/21 Education Board budget to fund a City package of support and therefore the initiative would require the approval of Policy & Resources Committee to release £150,000 from the Policy Initiatives Fund.

Resource implications

17. The purchase and distribution of food vouchers to families of pupils in City sponsored academies would require resource to administrate the activities. This could be quite significant if CoLAT or the academies decide to run a 'helpline' model such as that provided by the London Borough of Hackney where vouchers are distributed as they are requested.

Risk implications

18. The following risks should be considered:

- Risk of double funding if the Local Authorities in which the academies reside (Islington, Hackney and Southwark) deliver holiday meal schemes with the COVID Winter Grant and Holiday Activities and Food Programme.
- Risk that there will not be demand from families which will cause CoLAT and/or the academies to underspend on the grant from the City Corporation.
- Risk that the administration of the food voucher scheme will be costly to CoLAT and/or the academies.
- Risk that it creates a precedent and funding will be sought for holidays beyond the Easter holiday break requiring an ongoing commitment of funds.

Conclusion

This report asks Members of the Education Board and Policy & Resources Committee to consider the provision of food vouchers to families of pupils attending City of London sponsored academies who are eligible for free school meals (FSM) over school holiday periods.

Report author(s)

Professor Dr Anne Bamford

Strategic Director of Education and Skills

Department of Community and Children's Services

E: Anne.Bamford@cityoflondon.gov.uk

T: 07864948686

Daniel McGrady

Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills)

Department of Community and Children's Services

E: Daniel.McGrady@cityoflondon.gov.uk

T: 07935208179

Committee:	Dated:
Community and Children's Services Grand Committee	11/12/2020
City of London Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh – update and engagement	Public
Contribute to a flourishing society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are safe and feel safe • People enjoy good health and wellbeing • People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential • Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need 	1, 2, 3, and 4
Support a thriving economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible • We have access to the skills and talent we need 	5 and 8
Shape outstanding environments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are digitally and physically well-connected and responsive • We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment • Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained 	9, 11 and 12
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Zoe Dhami, Strategy Officer Alex Vastano, Public Health Support Apprentice	

Summary

The City of London Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWBS) must be refreshed for 2021–24. The JHWBS reviews the needs of our population and reflects the priorities set by the Health and Wellbeing Board for that strategic period. The JHWBS is of particular importance as its priorities span all City of London Corporation departments, the voluntary and community sector (VCS), and the Integrated Care Partnership.

This report will update Members on the work undertaken to date on developing this strategy, and invites recommendations on engagement.

Recommendations

Members are:

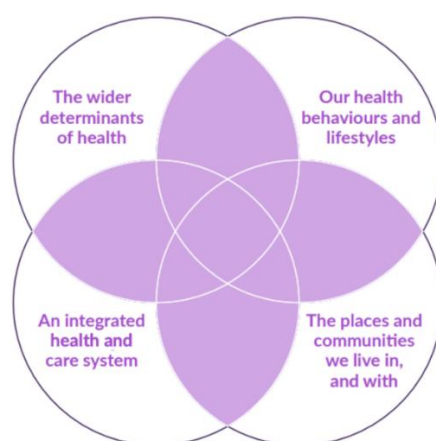
- asked to note the progress made on developing the 2021–24 JHWBS
- invited to provide any recommendations on how best to engage our workers and population groups in establishing the JHWBS priorities.

Main Report

Background

1. The unequal distribution of population health outcomes is driven by a complex interaction of individual, community and structural factors. Tackling health inequalities and improving population health requires action at multiple levels and across all sections of society. This means addressing all four ‘pillars’ of a population health system, as described by the King’s Fund (see Figure 1 below).

Figure 1: King’s Fund Population Health Framework¹



2. An effective, integrated health and care system is key to meeting population health needs and tackling inequalities, but is insufficient on its own. The biggest drivers of population health outcomes are linked to social, economic and environmental conditions (income, employment, education, housing, transport, and so on). Structural inequalities linked to these ‘wider

¹ Buck et al (2018), [A vision for population health: towards a healthier future](#), King’s Fund

determinants' make the most significant contribution to health inequalities – as has been illustrated by the current pandemic.

3. As well as health behaviours (including smoking, physical activity, diet and alcohol), which themselves are socially patterned, this framework also emphasises the importance of 'place' – our neighbourhoods and communities – as key drivers of health and wellbeing at an individual and population level. Therefore, working with and drawing on the assets within our local communities must be central to our response to tackling health inequalities.
4. In September 2020, the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) endorsed the recommendation to use the King's Fund population health framework to support co-ordinated local action to tackle health inequalities, and to guide the development of the JHWBS. Further, it was endorsed that a 'health in all policies' approach should be adopted to help inform the priorities for the 2021–24 JHWBS. Please see Appendix 1 for the full report.
5. An engagement session was held with the Health and Wellbeing Board on 10 November 2020. The outcomes from the session were:
 - agreement to extend and align the sign-off date with Hackney's JHWBS development (November 2021)
 - agreement to co-ordinate and work with Hackney on engagement and key areas of crossover between the two JHWB strategies
 - consensus that engagement for the strategy must be far-reaching, ensuring that methods are used to engage with hard-to-reach groups.

Current Position

6. Development of the JHWBS is currently in the research and engagement phase.

Research

7. A data synthesis has been compiled using local and national data to highlight the gaps in our current knowledge of stakeholders. There are several hard-to-reach groups, including:
 - East City of London residents (which inevitably includes residents registered at Tower Hamlets GP practices)
 - hidden workforce
 - unpaid carers (both adult and child)
 - children living in poverty.
8. Further work will be undertaken to map all existing strategies and formalise how these will contribute to the JHWBS priorities.

9. Existing strategies, services and information gathered through the data synthesis and engagement will be mapped against the four pillars of the population health framework. It is anticipated that priority actions will evolve from areas of overlap in the Venn diagram (see Figure 1).

Engagement

10. A coherent and comprehensive engagement plan is being developed. The intention is to approach the VCS (groups that the City Corporation currently works with as well as new groups) to engage with hard-to-reach groups on behalf of the City Corporation. The advantage of this approach is the existing relationship between the VCS and the target group. A review has been completed on charities registered within the City of London to understand if their work is conducted within the Square Mile and with whom. It is hoped that this review can open further avenues of engagement.
11. A series of engagement sessions are being planned with the City of London VCS. This will provide an opportunity to identify VCS to undertake engagement on our behalf. Those identified will then attend an engagement preparation workshop. Engagement packs will be put together for each target group to assist third parties undertaking engagement on behalf of the City Corporation and ensure continuity. This method will also be used with any Service team frontline staff.
12. A City of London Engagement Framework has been developed to set out clear guidance on the approach and principles to be undertaken when engaging with residents, workers and service users. Please see Appendix 2.
13. Discussions on next steps for City and Hackney engagement are planned for the week commencing Monday 30 November. One aspect of these discussions will be arranging a meeting between the City and Hackney Health and Wellbeing Boards.

Engagement during COVID-19

14. It is acknowledged that consultation during the pandemic may limit the amount of face-to-face engagement that is undertaken. Surveys will be sent out through traditional City Corporation communication channels, and internal engagement can be conducted through Microsoft Teams, Zoom, or Google Meet.
15. Throughout COVID-19, our frontline staff and VCS have maintained contact with their clients. We will rely on these existing methods, in line with national guidance on safe interaction, to proceed with our engagement plan.
16. For example, discussions with the company 'Clean for Good' on how to engage with their workforce has already provided new engagement methods for the City Corporation. This includes utilising the widely used WhatsApp communication app.

17. The main issues highlighted at present are to ensure that:

- we do not create a digital divide, but present many methods to speak with our public
- our public do not get 'consultation fatigue'.

To mitigate these issues, we will be working with a wide range of organisations, such as Healthwatch, and working across Service teams to co-ordinate any other planned engagement.

Oversight Structure

18. The development of the JHWBS will have strategic oversight from the City and Hackney Health Inequalities Steering Group. The Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group will act as Task and Finish Group.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

19. The JHWBS aligns with and will support the following outcomes of the Corporate Plan:

Contribute to a flourishing society

1. People are safe and feel safe
2. People enjoy good health and wellbeing
3. People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential
4. Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need

Support a thriving economy

5. Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible
8. We have access to the skills and talent we need

Shape outstanding environments

9. We are digitally and physically well-connected and responsive
11. We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment
12. Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained.

Equalities implications

20. The JHWBS will be developed through an explicit inequalities lens – to ensure that sufficient focus is placed on inequalities that have deepened as a result of COVID-19 (for example, linked to ethnicity and deprivation), and that our plans are broadened to directly address the needs of vulnerable groups that have not been prioritised previously (such as people living in insecure, overcrowded accommodation who are at increased risk of infection and may have limited access to services).

21. The JHWBS will have strategic support from the City and Hackney Health Inequalities Steering Group and an Equalities Impact Assessment will be undertaken.

Conclusion

22. The JHWBS is an important piece of work for the City Corporation. As part of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the City Corporation is responsible for promoting the wellbeing of all the people who live or work in the City of London. As the determinants of people's health lie largely outside the healthcare system, it is the social, physical and economic policies that can have a substantial impact on health. Developing the strategy within a 'health in all policies' approach requires system-wide action, with a specific focus on actions in the areas of overlap and intersection of the four 'pillars' – where the greatest opportunities to reduce underlying health inequalities are expected.
23. Engagement must be undertaken across all City Corporation departments to understand the impact of our work on our population health. Such engagement will aid the Health and Wellbeing Board in setting the right strategic priorities for 2021–24.
24. Members are asked to note the progress made in developing the JHWBS and are invited to provide any recommendations on ensuring our engagement is comprehensive.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Health and Wellbeing Board Report – population health framework
- Appendix 2 – City of London Engagement Framework

Alex Vastano

Public Health Support Apprentice, Department of Community and Children's Services

E: Alexandra.Vastano@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Zoe Dhami

Strategy Officer, Department of Community and Children's Services

E: Zoe.Dhami@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee:	Dated:
Health and Wellbeing Board	18 th September 2020
Population Health Framework and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Jayne Taylor, Consultant in Public Health Dr Sandra Husbands, Director of Public Health Zoe Dhami, Strategy Officer	

Summary

This report proposes a population health framework to support coordinated local action to tackle health inequalities and to guide the development of a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the City of London (JHWB Strategy).

The impacts of COVID-19 on population health are clearly reinforcing long-standing inequalities, both locally and nationally. The breadth and depth of these impacts requires collective and sustained partnership action. The Health and Wellbeing Board has a central role to play in setting the strategic direction for this work.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- endorse the use of a population health framework to refocus the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board and develop a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the City of London
- endorse the next step recommended actions to progress this work:
 - The Board to provide strategic oversight of actions to tackle health inequalities in the City of London, ensuring coordinated activity across all four 'pillars' of the local population health system (i.e. the wider/socio-economic determinants of health, health behaviours, places and communities, and an integrated health and care system).
 - Re-engagement with and reinforcement of the 'health in all policies' approach, to refocus the Board's agenda on addressing the wider

determinants of health and underlying causes of health inequalities, so that it complements (rather than duplicates) the work of the Integrated Commissioning Board.

- Use a population health framework to co-produce a new Health and Wellbeing Strategy, building on existing assets and resident engagement/involvement mechanisms.
- The Board to support the 'health in all policies' approach, by requiring all strategies and policies to contribute toward the JHWB Strategy outcomes, as the 'lead' strategy

Main Report

Background

1. The unprecedented impacts, direct and indirect, of COVID-19 on population health are clearly reinforcing and exacerbating long-standing health inequalities, both nationally and locally.^{1,2,3,4}
2. The *direct* health impacts of COVID-19 disease are disproportionately affecting certain minority ethnic groups, older people, men, people with underlying health conditions, care home residents and staff, those working in public facing occupations, as well as individuals and families living in socially deprived circumstances. Untangling the contribution of these various overlapping risk factors is complex, but it is clear that underlying structural inequalities are playing a role.
3. The *indirect* health impacts of lockdown and social distancing, and the longer-term economic consequences of the pandemic, will continue to affect some of our most vulnerable residents and communities for a long time to come - including many of those described above, as well as carers, certain faith communities, people with disabilities and those with no recourse to public funds. While men are at greater risk of the direct health impacts of COVID-19, there is evidence to suggest that women are over-represented in some occupations considered most at risk of being infected with coronavirus; women are also more likely have been furloughed or made redundant during the lockdown, and to be suffering emotional impact from the pandemic.

¹ [Disparities in the risk and outcomes of COVID-19](#), PHE (June 2020)

² [Beyond the data: understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups](#), PHE (June 2020)

³ [Are some ethnic groups more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others?](#), IFS (May 2020)

⁴ [Suspected COVID-19 in primary care: how GP records contribute to understanding differences in prevalence by ethnicity](#), QMU/King's College London (May 2020)

4. The breadth and depth of these impacts emphasises the need for collective, system-wide action to address health inequalities that have been starkly exposed by the current pandemic. COVID-19 could be the catalyst for real change, and refreshing the JHWP Strategy at this moment gives the Board a unique opportunity to set a clear future strategic direction to achieve this.

Current Position

Responding to the challenge

5. The current pandemic has added an urgency to our local response to health inequalities. Because of the scale, breadth and uncertainty of the impact of COVID-19, we need to plan our response over three time horizons.

Immediate priorities

6. An absolute priority in our ongoing response to the pandemic and in getting services back up and running must be to ensure that:
 - a. we are not exacerbating existing inequalities
 - i. one example is the work being led by the Corporation on digital inclusion
 - ii. another is the work being done to improve the health of the “hidden workforce”
 - iii. or the equalities ‘checklist’ that is being developed to support the local NHS phase 2 assurance process
 - b. we are proactively targeting those who have been most disadvantaged by the pandemic and developing plans to reduce the unequal impact of any second peak, examples include:
 - i. targeted work, with voluntary sector partners, to prevent the spread of infection in vulnerable communities as part of local outbreak control plans, and
 - ii. action being taken to protect staff working in high risk roles.

Refreshing our current plans

7. Work is also needed to review, refresh and re-prioritise our pre-existing strategic plans through an explicit inequalities lens - both to ensure sufficient focus is placed on inequalities that have deepened as a result of COVID-19 (e.g. linked to ethnicity and deprivation) and that our plans are broadened to directly address the needs of vulnerable groups which have not been prioritised previously (e.g. people living in insecure, overcrowded accommodation, who are at increased risk of infection and may have limited access to services).

8. Much of this work is already underway, including the work being undertaken by the City Corporation to review existing priorities as part of its recovery plans, as well as the development of an inequalities framework to inform the ongoing development of City and Hackney's integrated care plans.

Next Steps

Longer-term strategic priorities

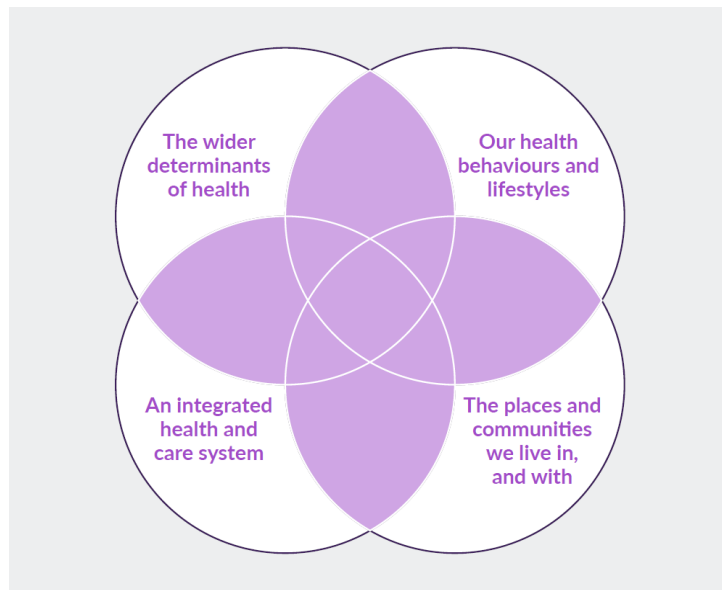
9. Ultimately, what is needed is a coordinated and comprehensive strategy to meet the challenges posed by COVID-19. The wide-ranging impacts of the pandemic emphasise more than ever the need for sustained system-wide action to tackle the underlying causes of long-standing health inequalities in the City of London, going far beyond the health and care sector and working in partnership with our local communities.

The role of the Health and Wellbeing Board

10. There is a clear role for the Health and Wellbeing Board to lead the development of a shared strategic framework and coordinate the local response to tackling health inequalities. This requires a broad view of the multiple drivers of population health, but what does this mean in practice?
11. The unequal distribution of population health outcomes is driven by a complex interaction of individual, community and structural factors. Tackling health inequalities and improving population health require action at multiple levels and across all sections of society. This means addressing all four 'pillars' of a population health system, as described by the King's Fund (see figure 1 below).

Figure 1: King's Fund Population Health Framework⁵

⁵ Buck et al (2018), [A vision for population health: towards a healthier future](#), King's Fund



12. An effective, integrated health and care system is key to meeting population health needs and tackling inequalities, but is insufficient on its own. The biggest drivers of population health outcomes are linked to social, economic and environmental conditions (income, employment, education, housing, transport, etc), and it is structural inequalities linked to these 'wider determinants' that make the most significant contribution to health inequalities - as has been laid bare by the current pandemic.
13. As well as health behaviours (including smoking, physical activity, diet and alcohol), which themselves are socially patterned, this framework also emphasises the importance of 'place' - the neighbourhoods and communities in which we live - as being key drivers of health and wellbeing at an individual and population level. Working with and drawing on the assets within our local communities must therefore be central to our response to tackling health inequalities.
14. Adopting a 'health in all policies' approach implies a clear strategic role for the Board in coordinating system-wide action, with a specific focus on actions in the areas of overlap and intersection of the four 'pillars' - where the greatest opportunities to reduce underlying health inequalities are expected. For example, this may include housing developments which promote social inclusion and encourage physical activity for all, as well as local authorities and NHS trusts using their anchor institution status to contribute to improvements in the economic and environmental determinants of health (through common employment and sustainable procurement policies, amongst other things).
15. The whole-system, asset-based approach suggested by this population health framework is consistent with the strong emphasis on tackling inequalities at

the heart of the City Corporation's recovery plans. It is also in line with the approach being taken by the City and Hackney Integrated Commissioning Board, which endorsed a proposal to adopt a population health framework to guide future strategy and delivery plans in July 2020. Aligning the City of London JHWP Strategy with these wider strategic aims will maximise the opportunities for tackling the underlying drivers of health inequalities across and beyond the Square Mile.

16. By tasking strategies and policy proposals to evidence how they directly support the JHWP Strategy outcomes it can foster a health in all policies approach across the City Corporation.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

17. A population health approach that embeds health in all policies will directly support the achievement of the following outcomes set out the City Corporation's Corporate Plan 2018-23:
 - 1 People are safe and feel safe.
 - 2 People enjoy good health and wellbeing.
 - 3 People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
 - 4 Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.
 - 5 Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible.
 - 8 We have access to the skills and talent we need.
 9. We are digitally and physically well-connected and responsive
 - 11 We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment.
 - 12 Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained.

Conclusion

18. As part of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, The City Corporation is responsible for promoting the wellbeing of all the people who live or work in the City of London. As the determinants of people's health lie largely outside the healthcare system, social, physical and economic policies can have a substantial impact upon health. Adopting a 'health in all policies' approach implies a clear strategic role for the Board in coordinating system-wide action, with a specific focus on actions in the areas of overlap and intersection of the four 'pillars' - where the greatest opportunities to reduce underlying health inequalities are expected.

19. This report asks Members to endorse the use of a population health framework and the recommended next steps.

Appendices

- None

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City of London Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Engagement Framework 2020

Introduction

The City of London Corporation seeks to make co-production common place in strategy and service development. However, co-production has many definitions. Use of the term without clarity on what it 'means' for public engagement can cause confusion at best, and resentment at worst.

The aim of the City of London Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Engagement Framework ('Framework') is to provide guidance on how the City of London Corporation can engage its local community to shape the strategy in a meaningful way. The Framework sets out:

- The approach the City Corporation will adopt
- Principles that will guide all engagement
- How the approach will be put into practice
- Next steps

Our approach

There are many definitions of co-production, as the approach is still developing and changing. However, all definitions agree that co-production includes service users, citizens and professionals coming together to influence decisions.


The definition the City Corporation will follow is from the Care Act 2014:

*"when groups of people get together to influence the way that services are designed, commissioned and delivered"*¹.

There are several stages of co-production, or public participation. To ensure both clarity and transparency in how the public will be engaged with the strategy, the City Corporation will use the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum². The IAP2 is an international model that provides a framework on how government can effectively engage the community in decision-making processes. In developing this strategy, the City Corporation will 'consult' and 'involve' the public. It is acknowledged that due to time restrictions and Covid-19 it is not possible for the City Corporation to engage at either the 'collaborate' or 'empower' end of the spectrum.

¹ <https://www.thinklocalactpersonal.org.uk/co-production-in-commissioning-tool/co-production/In-more-detail/what-is-co-production/>

However, the public's advice and recommendations will be required for shaping and developing services. Therefore, the intention is to 'collaborate' and 'empower' the public in how the strategy is put into *action*. This distinction will be made clear throughout the engagement process. See Table 1 below for definitions.



	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

TABLE 1: INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (IAP2) SPECTRUM

Our principles

A set of principles have been established to guide the engagement approach.

1. We will always be clear on the **purpose** of any engagement.
2. We will always be **transparent** about what can, and what cannot, be achieved.
3. We will take all available measures to **include and engage** all representative communities.
4. It is our **responsibility** to engage diverse and hard to reach groups.
5. We will work in **partnership** with other stakeholders and organisations to coordinate activity and avoid over-engagement.

Putting the approach into practice

Data – what do we already know?

Using the updated City of London JSNA, Public Health Profile, any recent surveys undertaken and national research a synthesis will be provided of:

- Cohorts/groups/communities
- Inequalities across demographics
- Health and wellbeing issues across demographics
- Gaps in the data

This piece of work will both help us develop questions for the public and set out the emerging priorities of the strategy.

Communication Channels

The Department for Community and Children's Services Communication team has provided a list of channels across all services that are used to communicate with the public. Work has been undertaken to map what groups are covered within these existing channels and what the gaps are.

Engagement methods

The first step will be to send a survey out to our existing communication channels. The survey will test the emerging priority areas with the public, seeking to fill in the gaps in our knowledge and understand how the Square Mile can be improved for our communities.

There are known limitations with this method of engagement. It is unlikely that the survey alone will provide a representative sample of the City of London population. It will be one method of engagement used.

Increase participation

Related stakeholders will be key to our engagement work in not only providing their experience of working with target groups but also in sharing their networks of people. Mapping work has already been undertaken of the City of London voluntary sector. We will work with chosen VCS organisation's that will help us target the hard to reach. Groups that are particularly underrepresented include older males, carers, LBG members, BAME members and those with a disability or illness.

An engagement tool kit will be developed for stakeholders to use with their service users. Throughout the engagement period we will be reviewing how successfully underrepresented groups are being reached and make changes to the engagement approach as needed.

By addressing the reasons why people do not participate we can increase our reach with the public. Reasons for not participating include:

- Lack of interest in the issues.
- Lack of information and understanding of the issues.
- Perception that their input is not valued or will not make a difference.
- Lack of follow up or feedback previously provided for other or same issues.
- Not understanding how their contribution may have been used in the past on other or same issues.
- Engagement methods that are intimidating or inappropriate.
- Language or cultural barriers.
- Accessibility barriers – digital, venue (type of access/geographical location), time, holiday.

For some of the Square Mile's marginalised groups, for example rough sleepers, it may be necessary to finance an experienced third party to undertake engagement.

Other engagement methods

Below are examples of IAP2 engagement methods for 'consult' and 'involve'. Whilst not all these methods will be practical, they can form a basis for discussion with stakeholders on what different community groups may respond best to. For example, existing public meetings can be utilised where people are in surroundings they find comfortable. Interviews could take place with people the service users are already familiar with.

Examples of IAP2 consultation methods:

- Workshops
- Forums
- Focus groups
- Public meetings
- Online or paper surveys
- Public comment/displays
- Discussion groups
- Interviews
- Invitation for submissions
- Listening posts
- Road shows
- Ideas boards
- Citizen's panels
- Open day
- Market research

Examples of IAP2 involvement methods:

- Reference groups
- Advisory group
- Peer to peer research
- Workshop series

Next Steps

The main milestones from the engagement plan are:

- ★ Data synthesis – highlight gaps and priority areas emerging
- ★ Health and Wellbeing Board informal session – discussion of evidence, emerging priority areas and engagement methods
- ★ Develop survey
- ★ Survey shared with existing communication channels
- ★ Develop VCS short list to target underrepresented groups

- ★ Work with stakeholders on a consultation tool kit to aid engagement with their service users
- ★ Develop engagement pack for committees
- ★ October 2020 - Begin internal and external engagement

Appendix:

- A. VCS City of London engagement - long list
- B. Internal engagement list

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Culture, Heritage and Libraries Community and Children's Services	23 November 2020 11 December 2020
Subject: Barbican and Community Libraries – exemptions for service during the second lockdown	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	2, 3 and 4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	Revenue funding
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Y
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Carol Boswarthack, Head of Barbican and Community Libraries	

Summary

The regulations governing the current second national lockdown list several exemptions for English Public Libraries. These are: 'Click and Collect' services, essential computer use, schools' library services, home delivery services and digital and virtual services. All these services will be delivered by Barbican and Community Libraries (B&CL) staff at least until the lockdown is lifted.

These exemptions were made because of the proven positive impact that public libraries have on people's mental health, and on social and digital inclusion. There was also positive feedback about the support that library staff gave to local authority pandemic plans during the first lockdown and beyond. This impact is detailed in two recently published reports from the Carnegie UK Trust (*Making a Difference: Libraries, Lockdown and Looking Ahead*), and Libraries Connected (*Libraries in Lockdown*) (see Appendices). The key findings in the Carnegie UK Trust report are:

- Public library services had a positive impact on those who engaged with them during lockdown: more than 60% of those who engaged with public library services pointed to a range of benefits they derived from this engagement.
- Public library staff made a valuable contribution to the COVID-19 response: some of the specialist outreach services implemented by local authorities in lockdown required or mirrored the core skill set that library staff deployed day-to-day pre-COVID-19.
- Public library services and their staff could have delivered much more

but faced barriers in doing so. Some UK library services experienced the following challenges:

1. The limitations of a digital mode of delivering services
2. Factors external to the sector, such as the extent of understanding within a local authority of what the library service does and how it can contribute
3. Factors internal to the sector, including consistency and visibility of the library offer during lockdown
4. Organisational culture; effective communication and engagement with the public; preparedness and contingency planning; partnerships; and digital skills.

B&CL staff were not unduly affected by any of these limitations.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the content of this report.

Main Report

Background

1. The City of London has three lending libraries: Barbican Library; Shoe Lane Library; and Artizan Street Library and Community Centre. Together these comprise B&CL.
2. Public libraries are a statutory service and the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 provides for the free lending of books. In recent years, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport's Libraries Taskforce has redefined libraries as community hubs with trusted staff that offer safe, neutral community spaces to all customers. As such, our lending libraries are perfectly positioned to carry out a range of services and activities that have a positive impact on many aspects of our customers' lives, including their health and wellbeing. In addition to the provision of comprehensive lending stock, modern library priorities include social inclusion and social mobility, alongside the more traditional activities of promoting reading for pleasure, supporting literacy and learning, and providing access to culture. Public computers with internet access and a range of Microsoft products are standard in all UK public libraries.
3. Our libraries are well used, with around 28,000 members who borrowed 421,962 physical items of stock in 2019/20. Most of our members are City workers, many of whom are currently working from home or furloughed.
4. The City's libraries lend digital and physical stock: eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eComics are available to download, alongside other digital services such as language learning, streaming music and video and online reference tools. The majority of these services are accessible from home.

5. During the first lockdown, B&CL staff quickly established a full and varied range of virtual activities – our ‘Library without walls’ – for customers of all ages. This includes the Dragon Café in the City, virtual Rhymetimes, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) Club and craft activities for children and families, and online talks and clubs. Staff have made heavy use of social media (including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube) and clubs, talks and events are held via Zoom. Our eLibrary has been heavily advertised, and use of services has soared. Staff also responded to online or emailed enquiries on any topic and provided remote IT training to assist digitally isolated customers to get online.
6. Our libraries also offered an extended, contactless home delivery service to all housebound City resident customers, including those aged 70 and older who had been advised to shield. Library staff made befriending calls to many elderly and lonely library members. Additionally, a group of trained and DBS-checked library staff phoned all shielding City residents to help assist with their food, medical and social needs.
7. Feedback from people engaging with our library services has been universally positive with a large number describing them as “a lifeline”.
8. All our libraries reopened on 20 July 2020 with extensive COVID-19 safety measures and detailed risk assessments of spaces and processes in place. All have offered a limited range of space-based services which include a full enquiries service and time-limited browsing and computer use. Our virtual services continue to be provided and are constantly refreshed.
9. Across the country, public libraries responded to lockdown in similar ways. Two recently published reports from Carnegie UK Trust and Libraries Connected detail the positive impact libraries had on both, the lives of their customers and local authority pandemic responses. These reports are attached as appendices.

Current Position

10. The regulations governing the current second lockdown were passed by parliament on 4 November 2020 and, until 2 December 2020, library buildings must close to the public. However, due to the positive impact made by public libraries during the first lockdown, there are a number of exempted services that our staff can continue to offer, including:
 - **Home delivery:** B&CL offered its home delivery service to housebound City residents throughout lockdown and will continue to do so. The service was subject to a COVID-19 risk assessment to ensure that it is carried out safely.
 - **Schools Library Service:** The Schools Library Service is operated by Barbican Children’s Library staff and provides local schools with termly project loans to support the National Curriculum. The loans are delivered and collected by the library service’s own drivers using the

section's electric van. The service has been risk assessed to ensure that it is COVID-19 safe.

- **Digital and virtual services:** As detailed in paragraphs 4 and 5 (above), our digital and virtual services have been a source of comfort, education and pleasure to many thousands of library customers. Staff will continue to expand our eLibrary and provision of virtual events, clubs and activities will continue for the foreseeable future.
- **Click and Collect:** Click and Collect services are brand new and aimed at those people who can visit the libraries on foot or by bike. The City's service is called 'Select and Collect', and is available at all three libraries from Monday 9 November 2020. Customers can consult the library catalogue online and phone or email their chosen library with the titles of the books they wish to collect. Staff will find the books, issue them to the customer's membership card and advise when they can be collected. Collection will take place from the rear of Barbican Library, opposite Shakespeare Tower, and from the main entrance at Shoe Lane and Artizan Street Libraries.
- **Essential computer use:** This service targets local people who have no IT access at home and who need to get online. Barbican Centre is closed to the public and with no separate external library entrance, it is not possible to offer this service from Barbican Library but it will operate from the socially distanced public computers at Shoe Lane and Artizan Street libraries. Customers have been advised to phone ahead and reserve a timeslot. They will not be allowed to wait inside the library for a computer to become free, and staff will clean the equipment between uses.

11. Our new services have been publicised in a number of ways:

- Information has been emailed to all library customers who have supplied an email address.
- Corporate Communications will issue a news release.
- Colleagues in Housing and Early Years will publicise via their networks and publications.
- Notification is on the library website and the catalogue. Staff are publicising via social media channels and local networks.

12. Feedback from library customers has been universally complimentary and positive. Responses to the all-customer email include:

"Many thanks for your email about the service you're offering during lockdown. Your books are helping keep me sane in these strange times, so I'm most grateful for all that you and your staff are providing."

"Thank you. This is really helpful. Thank you for finding ways to be operative despite the obstacles."

"Just to say thanks so much. What a super efficient service this morning!"

"I was so pleased to read that you are beginning a 'Select and Collect' service. I would love to take advantage."

“Thank you very much for offering this new service – really great!”

“Thank you for offering your services during this challenging time.”

“Thank you very much for offering this service!”

“I received your email about the Select and Collect services, and I would like to request some books! I'm super happy you are offering this service, it's incredibly appreciated right now to be able to borrow books to keep me company during lockdown :)”

“Many thanks for offering a ‘Click and Collect’ service; it is a tremendous idea.”

13. Library staff have once again assisted in contacting the new list of shielding residents by telephone to check their needs. It has been noted that their skill set and customer-facing experience makes them a perfect choice for this work.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications –

14. B&CL recovery plans are relevant to the following City key priorities (Corporate Plan 2018–23):
- To provide modern, efficient and high-quality local services, including policing, within the Square Mile for workers, residents and visitors
 - To provide valued services, such as education, employment, culture and leisure, to London and the nation.
15. It is also relevant to the following Department of Community and Children’s Services strategic aims:
- Priority Potential: People of all ages can achieve their ambitions through education, training and lifelong learning
 - Priority Independence, Involvement and Choice: People of all ages can live independently, play a role in their communities and exercise choice over their services
 - Priority Community: People of all ages feel part of, engaged with and able to shape their community
 - The vision of B&CL is to help individuals and communities live their best lives by supporting:
 - reading and literacy
 - health and wellbeing
 - social mobility
 - social interaction
 - culture and creativity.

Financial implications

16. There are no additional financial implications arising from these exempted services.

Resource implications

17. There are no additional resource implications. The services will be delivered using existing, stock, equipment and staff.

Risk implications

18. All our services have been carefully assessed for COVID-19 safety.

Equalities implications

19. These library services comply with our public Sector Equality Duty 2010 and will have a positive impact on local customers of all ages, including children and the elderly. Home delivery services especially have a positive impact on City residents who are elderly and/or disabled.

Climate implications

20. None

Security implications

21. None

Conclusion

22. The City's lending libraries have quickly responded to the second lockdown, and the permitted exemptions for public libraries have been swiftly implemented and well-received by customers. Nationally, UK public libraries have been recognised and praised for responding to both national lockdowns with innovation and expertise.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – *Making a Difference: Libraries, Lockdown and Looking Ahead*, Carnegie UK Trust
- Appendix 2 – *Libraries in Lockdown*, Libraries Connected

Carol Boswarthack

Head of Barbican and Community Libraries
Department of Community and Children's Services

E: carol.boswarthack@cityoflondon.gov.uk

T: 020 7332 1123

TO: **COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE**
11 December 2020

FROM: **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**
3 November 2020

11. PUBLIC MINUTES

The Committee received the oral update from the Head of Podiatric Medicine, Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and the Clinical Commissioning Group representative.

Members discussed foot care and noted the difficulties for some who are housebound or unable to travel far. The Deputy Chairman commented that the City of London is in a far better position to assist its local residents in comparison to other local authorities. The matters raised are more social care rather than a health care matter, and as such, suggested the Grand Committee (C&CS) explore what opportunities and additional funds could be made available to fill the gap in the service. The Committee agreed that a resolution would be presented to the Grand Committee (C&CS) in its future meeting.

RESOLVED – that, the oral update be received.

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Committee:	Dated:
Community and Children's Services Committee	11/12/2020
Subject: COVID Winter Grant Scheme	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing to a flourishing society • Support a thriving economy • Shape understanding environments.
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
What is the source of Funding?	DWP COVID Winter grant allocation.
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Y Chamberlain's are aware of the Winter Grant Scheme and have been involved in setting this scheme up.
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Theresa Shortland, Head of Service – Education and Early Years	

Summary

- The purpose of the COVID Winter Grant Scheme is to provide support to vulnerable households and families with children who have been particularly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the winter period. The allocation from the COVID Winter Grand Scheme for the City of London is £20,166.
- The proposal for administering the COVID Winter Grant Scheme in the City of London is to target those children and families that we know will benefit, and to support those young people aged over 18 that are in full-time education or living independently. The scheme in the City has been developed using a wide range of data and sources of information at our disposal to identify and provide support to vulnerable households in the City of London local area.
- We propose to make a payment for each child and young person that meet the criteria, to cover the costs of food and fuel during the school holidays. The school holiday periods that are relevant to this grant are Christmas holidays 2020 and Spring half term 2021. We will allocate the funding for seven days a week during these periods.
- The scheme also allows for allocations of funding to support other essentials items including sanitary products, warm clothing, soap, and blankets,

recognising that a range of costs may arise that directly affect a household's ability to afford or access food, energy and water.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note this report for providing the COVID Winter Grant Scheme in the City of London.

Main Report

Background

1. Since 23 March 2020, when the first COVID-19 lockdown began, all children entitled to a free school meal (FSM) have had access to a meal in school, a food parcel, or food voucher. During the 2020 summer holidays, and in response to the unprecedented circumstances brought about by COVID-19, the Government provided the COVID Summer Food Fund, which gave food vouchers to families with children eligible for FSMs over the summer holidays. The Government then announced that it would not continue this provision into school holidays for the winter term, 2020. The City of London, however, did provide food vouchers for local children entitled to FSMs during the October half term, and extended the vouchers to those children on the vulnerable children's list who are experiencing food poverty.
2. On 8 November 2020, the Government announced that they were funding a COVID Winter Grant Scheme for local authorities to provide a package of extra targeted financial support for those in need over the winter period. The COVID Winter Grant Scheme should provide vulnerable families with peace of mind in the run up to Christmas and over the winter months during the pandemic by helping those who need it to have food on the table and other essentials, so every child will be warm and well-fed this winter.

Current Position

3. The purpose of the COVID Winter Grant Scheme is to provide support to vulnerable households and families with children who have been particularly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the winter period. The allocation from the COVID Winter Grant Scheme for the City of London is £20,166.
4. All children eligible for FSMs receive the meal in school, so only receive this during term time. The City of London has funded FSMs for all children at the Aldgate School, the one maintained school in the City of London, since 2018. The majority of City resident children attend schools out of the area, and those entitled to FSMs receive this at the school they attend during term time.
5. In the early years, the Healthy Start programme supports lower-income pregnant women and families with children aged under four to buy fruit, vegetables, pulses,

milk and infant formula, providing an important nutritional safety net. This is part of the Children's Centre Services provision in the City of London.

6. Since March 2020, the City of London Education and Early Years' Service and Children's Social Care Service have developed a 'vulnerable children' list. The children and young people on this list are known to one or more services in the City and have been supported in various ways since March 2020.
7. The proposed approach will complement other support available to households in need. These include support from City Advice (who are able to issue food vouchers), support via social services and crisis support through the First Love Foundation Foodbank.

Proposals

Grant conditions/eligibility

8. The proposal for administering the COVID Winter Grant Scheme in the City of London is to target the scheme at those children, families and individuals that we know are in need, providing additional support to have food on the table and other essentials, so that every child will be warm and well-fed this winter. The scheme in the City has been developed using a wide range of data and other sources of information at our disposal to identify and provide support to vulnerable households in the City of London local area.
9. We propose to make a payment for each child and young person that meets the criteria to cover the costs for food and fuel during the school holidays. The school holiday periods that are relevant to this grant are Christmas holidays 2020 and Spring half term 2021. We will allocate the funding for seven days a week during these periods.
10. For the purpose of this grant, the definition of a child is any person:
 - who will be under the age of 19 as at 31 March 2021
 - a person aged 19 or over for whom a child-related benefit (for example, Child Benefit) is paid, or free school meals are provided

Where an eligible child is living on his or her own, they should be treated as a 'household'.

Key Data

11. The COVID Winter Grant Scheme is being classified as Local Welfare Provision (LWP). Local authorities have legal permission to access the Department for Work and Pension's (DWP's) Searchlight portal. This portal provides information on an individual citizen's entitlement to (and confirms receipt of) DWP welfare benefits. Therefore, this data can be used to help identify those families and individuals to target support to.
12. The vulnerable children's list will be the primary list that is used for identifying those families most in need of support from this grant. Children's Services have

worked with Children's Social Care, the Benefits team, Housing Services, The Aldgate School, and children's centre services in the City to ensure that we are aware of all children, families and individuals likely to need support. Data will be used to target families to ensure that every child living in the City of London will be warm and well-fed this winter.

Target Groups in the City of London

13. The criteria for Children and Families includes children and young people:

- entitled to FSMs
- entitled to a free early education place for two-year olds/early years pupil premium
- qualify for the Healthy Start Programme.

14. The criteria for vulnerable households include a person aged 19 to 25 who:

- have special educational needs and disability (SEND)
- are care leavers.

15. We propose to make a payment for each child and young person who meet the criteria to cover the costs for food and fuel during the school holidays. The school holiday periods that are relevant to this grant are Christmas holidays 2020 and Spring half term 2021. We will allocate the funding for seven days a week during these periods. On the current school holidays this means we will make payments for each child for a total of 25 days which is a total of £125 per child until the Easter holidays in April 2021.

16. The scheme also allows for allocations of funding to support other essentials, including sanitary products, warm clothing, soap, and blankets, recognising that a range of costs may arise that directly affect a household's ability to afford or access food, energy and water. The City does provide clothing grants, however, we will extend the provision of other essential items to City children, families and individuals in need. This element of the scheme will be assessed by Children's Social Care and the Early Help Service.

Financial implications

17. This scheme is grant funded by the DWP. The allocation from the COVID Winter Grant Scheme for the City of London is £20,166. The COVID Winter Grant Scheme is ring-fenced and any unspent funding will need to be repaid to the DWP.

18. Payment of the grant from DWP to local authorities will be made in three instalments:

- First payment – 50 per cent of your allocation at the start of the scheme (in early December 2020)
- Second payment – 25 per cent at the end of February 2021
- Final payment – 25 per cent following the end of the scheme in April/May 2021.

Resource implications

19. Staff resources are required to manage and administer the scheme. Reasonable costs can be used from the allocation to cover these costs. The City is proposing to do this from existing resources, so that the maximum grant is allocated to our children and families.

Equalities implications

20. In the context of this grant we know that a high proportion of the children and families in the dataset are at risk of food and fuel poverty due to family income. A high percentage are families from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups. The data set also includes those children with SEND.

Conclusion

21. The COVID Winter Grant Scheme in the City of London will be a targeted scheme to ensure that those most at risk of needing support to cover costs for food and utilities over the winter period receive the right funding, to ensure that every child will be warm and well-fed this winter.

Theresa Shortland

Head of Service – Education and Early Years

E: theresa.shortland@cityoflondon.gov.uk

T: 020 7332 3047

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