

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Finance Committee	21 January 2020
<b>Subject:</b> Report of Action Taken – Public Decisions taken under Delegated Authority/Urgency procedures since the last meeting of the Committee	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Town Clerk	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> John Cater, Town Clerk's Department	

## Summary

This report advises Members of urgent and/or delegated public action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Committee, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Orders No. 41(a) and 41(b).

## Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

## Main report

### 1. Subject: Rohingya Appeal

#### Background

The City Corporation is committed to making funding available to assist with humanitarian disaster relief efforts. £100,000 is held within the City's Cash Contingency each year for donations to emergencies. Funds granted for humanitarian aid are usually provided within the first five working days of the disaster occurring, in order to ensure an immediate response.

£25,000 was granted as part of the Disaster Emergency Committee's (DEC) Campaign to relieve the plight of the Rohingya people in Bangladesh in 2017 via the Red Cross. However, the serious atrocities being experienced by the Rohingya people continues some two years on and, as a consequence, officers were asked to consider whether a further grant should be made.

The Central Grants Unit advised that the DEC's campaign was no longer open for donations, however, two of the DEC's delivery partners are still providing aid to the Rohingya people - the Red Cross and Action Aid, with the Red Cross outlining that it is supporting one of the largest ongoing aid programmes globally in that area.

Sufficient funds were available within City Corporation's International Disaster Fund to make a further contribution, as just one donation of £25,000 has been made from the fund so far this financial year (made in response to support the relief effort in the wake of Hurricane Dorian). The Central Grants Unit recommended that a further donation of £25,000 is made to the British Red Cross, one of the DEC's delivery partners.

It should be noted that whilst the funds will be donated to the Red Cross, it in turn works with operational partners in the country where action is being taken (in this case Red Crescent) with funds being transferred accordingly.

**RESOLVED – That approval was given to:**

Grant a further £25,000 donation to the Red Cross to support the Rohingya people. The £25,000 will be sourced from the Finance Committee's Disaster and Emergency Appeal Fund.

**Contact:**

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