

FINANCE GRANTS OVERSIGHT AND PERFORMANCE SUB COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 22 September 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub Committee held virtually on Tuesday, 22 September 2020 at 2.30 pm

Present

Members:

Nicholas Bensted-Smith (Chairman)
Deputy Philip Woodhouse (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Paul Martinelli
Jeremy Mayhew
Ian Seaton

In Attendance

Officers:

Chloe Rew	- Town Clerk's Department
Christopher Rumbles	- Town Clerk's Department
David Farnsworth	- Chief Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust
Karen Atkinson	- Chamberlain's Department
James Gibson	- Chamberlain's Department
Anne Pietsch	- Comptroller & City Solicitor's Department
Tim Fletcher	- Town Clerk's Department
Jack Joslin	- Town Clerk's Department
Marek Habrda	- Town Clerk's Department
James Lee	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy Roger Chadwick.

The Chairman welcomed Deputy Roger Chadwick to the Sub-Committee, and thanked Simon Duckworth, John Fletcher and Deputy Wendy Hyde for their service.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were none.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes and non-public summary of the previous meeting held on 21 January 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Members received the outstanding actions list.

The following items were marked as completed:

- 21 January 2020 Item 4: CGP and CGU Updates and Next Steps
- 21 January 2020 Item 4: Community Infrastructure Levy and Neighbourhood Fund Report
- 12 November 2019 Item 5: Annual Report for Resource Allocation Sub-Committee be brought to Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee prior to submission to RASC.

It was further noted that the matter relating to Open Spaces (21 January 2020 Item 12) was being considered by responsible officers in the Open Spaces Department, although it was important to note that there were some legal limitations relating to the proposal including that some of the Open Spaces in the City of London were not owned by the City Corporation, and there were restrictions on advertising and display of sponsorship in the City of London. The Sub-Committee would receive a further update at a later date.

5. **WORK PROGRAMME**

Members received the Sub-Committee's work programme.

6. **CENTRAL GRANTS PROGRAMME (CGP) AND CENTRAL GRANTS UNIT (CGU) - UPDATE REPORT**

Members considered a report of the Chief Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust relative to the Central Grants Programme (CGP) and Central Grants Unit (CGU) Update. The report was an overview of CGU work since the last meeting in January 2020, noting that COVID-19 restrictions came into effect at the beginning of the new financial year which had an impact on the work.

RESOLVED, that – Members:

1. agree the wording of the Central Grants Programme Annual Report at Appendix 1 for onward submission to committees;
2. note the Central Grants Programme Annual Report; and,
3. note the CGP and CGU progress update report.

7. **PRESENTATION: MONITORING & EVALUATION - 2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT**

Members received a presentation of the Head of the Central Grants Unit relative to the Monitoring & Evaluation for the 2019-20 Annual Report. The presentation provided a breakdown of the amounts that have been awarded across the programmes, with a total of 50 grants awarded across programmes; the success rate of applications; and, an overview of what types of applications are received.

RESOLVED, that the presentation be received and its contents noted.

8. CITY OF LONDON COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - LAUNCH OF NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND

Members received a report of the Chief Grants Officer and Director of City Bridge Trust relative to the City of London Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Launch of the Neighbourhood Fund. The programme launched three weeks prior on 1 September 2020. Although the launch had been delayed by six months as a consequence of the COVID-19 health pandemic, the time was used to expand reach and awareness. At the time of reporting, one application had been completed, and 10-12 more were anticipated. It was reported that the financial value of the Neighbourhood Fund was £5.6M, and as this money was derived from developments in the City, it was confirmed that this money is required to be spent within the boundaries of the City of London, for the benefit of City Communities. It was also noted that the arrangements would be reviewed in one year.

RESOLVED, that – the report be received and its contents noted.

9. BENEFITS IN KIND REPORTING - INTERIM UPDATE

Members received a report of the Chief Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust relative to the Benefits In Kind Reporting – Interim Update. The reporting period reflected changes in reporting deadlines agreed at the previous meeting, which looked at the financial year end in line with the City Corporation's Philanthropy Strategy. COVID-19 restrictions had also impacted upon Benefits in Kind (BiK) offered in respect of premises and other facilities. However, significant other BiK support had been provided in response to COVID-19 and these will be considered in more detail and a report presented in the 2020/21 BIK Annual Report. It was noted that the BiK policy had been reviewed and was considered to be satisfactory but that further work was required to support implementation and reporting by Departments.

RESOLVED, that – the report be received and its contents noted.

10. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

There were none.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no other business.

12. 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 Part 1 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

13. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED, that – the non-public minutes of the previous meeting held 21 January 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

14. **UPDATE REPORT ON THE CORPORATE CHARITIES REVIEW**

Members received a report of the Chief Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust relative to an update on the Corporate Charities Review.

RESOLVED, that – the report be received and its contents noted.

15. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

There were none.

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

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 3.35 pm

Chairman

**Contact Officer: Chloe Rew
tel. no.: 020 7332 1427
chloe.rew@cityoflondon.gov.uk**