

<b>Committee(s):</b> City Bridge Trust Committee	<b>Dated:</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Report of Action Taken	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	As set out in the full report presented for delegated decision
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	
<b>If so, how much?</b>	
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	
<b>Report of:</b> Town Clerk	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Joseph Anstee	

### Summary

This report advises Members of an action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Committee, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chair, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a). These actions related to:

#### LCRF RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS – WAVE FIVE FUNDING

### Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

### Main report

#### 14 January 2021

1. The London Community Response (LCR) is coordinated by London Funders; the cross-sector membership network for body for grant-makers and investors in London's civil society. It has distributed more than £42m of funding since March 2020, through three waves of funding, with a total of 66 funders participating, including Bridge House Estates (BHE) (Registered Charity No. 1035628). BHE has participated through its grant-making arm City Bridge Trust (CBT), with funding being directed through BHE's emergency response fund, the London Community Response Fund (LCRF) established within the charity's ancillary object in response to the pandemic. A fourth wave of funding through the LCR has completed. The LCRF has awarded more than half of the grants as part of the LCR and has enabled funders to act together to distribute £27.7m in the first four Waves. Most of this funding relates to grants of three to six months in duration within the current financial year.
2. The Greater London Authority's London Community Response survey has identified concerns across civil society, echoed in officers' conversations with grantees and the needs analysis work undertaken by London Funders, about the sustainability of organisations beyond April 2021. Therefore, it is intended that

Wave Five will move towards meeting the longer-term needs of the sector through providing core grants (rather than project grants) for at least a year. These grants will improve the sustainability of organisations and allow them time to continue to operate whilst they review their strategies and business models in light of the very different operating context which they now all face. Wave Five will retain a focus on organisations led and informed by the communities they serve.

3. Following the agreement to delegate authority to consider any proposals for CBT contributions to Wave 5 LCRF arising from the CGO's Progress Report to the 26 November City Bridge Trust Committee meeting, a report of the CGO approval to allocate a further £5m from your agreed 2020-2021 base budget to fund a new round of grants as part of Wave Five of the LCRF. A number of previous funders are committed to supporting a fifth wave through the LCR, including London Community Foundation, London Legal Support Trust, John Lyon's charity, Trust for London and The National Lottery Community Fund. Based on discussions to date, London Funders anticipates total contributions in Wave Five could amount to c.£10m across the collaboration (including the £5m from BHE under consideration in this report). Prior to progressing the decision, the report was circulated to Members for comment, with responses received taken into account.

### **Action Taken**

The Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, agreed that £5m of your Committee's budget for the delivery of the charity's *Bridging Divides Strategy 2018-2023* shall be allocated to Wave Five of the London Community Response with:

- a. £4m allocated to the London Community Response Fund (a restricted fund within Bridge House Estates' ancillary object into which other funders may also donate); and
- b. £1m allocated to London Community Response 'aligned funding' which entails City Bridge Trust directly awarding grants to organisations identified from within City Bridge Trust's current grants portfolio and which have applied to the London Community Response following an invitation from your officers.

### **Contact:**

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