

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date</b>
Bridge House Estates Board	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Trust for London Collaborative Projects Extension Funding: Moving on Up & Strengthening Voices, Realising Rights. Grant Reference 18894.	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the <i>BHE Bridging London 2020 – 2045 Strategy</i> does this proposal aim to support?</b>	1, 2 and 3
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact (<i>insofar as they are considered to be in the best interest of BHE to support</i>)?</b>	N/A
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>No - approved funding held within designated fund noted below</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>BHE Unrestricted Income Funds – designated fund for grant-making</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Report of: Managing Director, BHE</b>	<b>For decision</b>
<b>Report Author: Ciaran Rafferty</b>	

### Summary

This report requests funding to continue two Strategic Initiative projects through a funding partnership with Trust for London (TFL) who will manage the projects in question.

### Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- **Agree a grant of £840,000 to Trust for London (TFL) to extend the current *Moving on Up* and the *Strengthening Voices Realising Rights* projects for an additional two years, subject to confirmation of the TFL match contribution at an equivalent level.**

### Main Report

1. Members will be aware of Trust for London – an independent, endowed, charitable foundation tackling poverty and disadvantage in London. Previously known as City Parochial Foundation and founded in 1891 its assets derive from the philanthropy of the people of London over many years. Over the centuries the 112 parishes within the City of London received around 1,400 separate charitable gifts and bequests. Their income was to be used for the benefit of the church communities or, more often, the poor of those parishes. In 1986 the Government provided an endowment of £10 million when it abolished the Greater London Council and asked City Parochial Foundation to manage this new organisation, Trust for London. In 2010, the Foundation and the Trust were amalgamated into one organisation to form the new Trust for London. There has always been a very close relationship between TFL, City Bridge Trust, and the wider Corporation with the latter able to nominate 3 trustees from its Members.
2. CBT and TFL have worked in partnership on specific projects over many years – harnessing the financial and intellectual resources of both organisations to achieve greater reach and/or impact. Two such joint initiatives – currently in progress – are the focus of this report as they are recommended for continuation funding as below. Following an agreement in principle the TFL Board is due to decide formally in October on their match contribution to the projects.

### Moving on Up (MoU)

3. CBT has jointly funded this initiative with TFL since 2015, along with Black Training and Enterprise Group (a strategic partner). MoU is aimed at increasing the employment rates of young black men in London. Phase 2 – currently in progress - has four main strands of work – a) Piloting a collective impact approach in Brent and Newham; b) A programme of employer engagement work focused on Construction, Finance and Digital sectors; c) Peer Ambassadors – 12 young black men aged between 16-24 who provide an input to the various aspects of the programme; d) Strategic Communications – including message testing with employers. The programme launched in early 2020, with two years' funding, and has been making good progress – not least through gaining significant commitment from the respective local authorities, the GLA and the Department for Work & Pensions. The recent interim report of the external evaluator concluded:

*“As a result of Moving On Up, young black men have a better journey into employment than they would have had otherwise. A driver of this is the collaboration that happens between partners. By sharing training opportunities and job opportunities with each other, partners are unlocking a series of benefits that improve the experience of young black men on their route into employment. The first benefit is experienced by the other partners; advisors can focus more of their attention on the work they do reaching out to and communicating with individual job seekers rather than having to devote that time to finding job opportunities in the first place. It also means that advisors have more job opportunities to discuss with the young black men they're working with. Young black men feel that they are receiving a higher number of relevant job opportunities through Moving On Up than they would have otherwise; and on account of that flow of relevant job opportunities combined*

*with the level of attention they receive from advisors, young black men feel more motivated to persevere in their job search.”*

4. There is still more to do, not least to improve the pathway for young black men into good jobs, ie those with good pay and progression routes. There is also more work to be done in helping employers recognise and recruit the talent and potential that is still being untapped; whilst additional funding would also enable a greater emphasis on communications – helping spread the word of the need for and advantage of bringing more young black men into meaningful employment.
5. Although the current work is not scheduled to end until early 2022 a decision on continuation funding needs to be made at this stage so that, if agreed, the participating organisations can be given sufficient notice to re-bid and to plan the expected developments to their work. At this stage all parties are keen to continue. The overall cost of extending MoU for an additional two years is £915,000 with CBT asked to contribute half – c.£457,000.

#### Strengthening Voices, Realising rights (SVRR)

6. The principal aim of the SVRR initiative was to create a fund to support organisations led by Deaf and Disabled People (DDPOs) to provide advice services to enable disabled people to access social protection support and benefits and to exercise their individual rights. The initiative is based on the principle that no policy should be decided nor service delivered by any representative without the direct participation of those affected by that policy or service – “*nothing about us without us*”. SVRR incorporates two strands – Phase 1 which commenced in late 2018 and funded 7 organisations initially (now 6) for their advice work and with capacity-building incorporated; and Phase 2, funded in early 2020 and with a focus on supporting DDPOs in their work to tackle some of the root causes of poverty and disadvantage for disabled people. The proposal is to extend the funding for a further two years, offering continuation funding to 6 organisations (with further capacity building support and evaluation) so that they can continue to provide much needed services to a community which has been one of the greatest adversely affected by the pandemic.
7. In both strands the awarding of funding to the organisations was through the “participatory” model with funds also made available to support a Grants Advisory Panel, with paid consultants from the disability movement. These panels have been very effective and included officers from both CBT and TFL. Panels have continued to meet throughout the course of the projects to act in a monitoring and advisory capacity. The total cost of this extension would be £770,000 with CBT asked to contribute half - c.£385,000.

#### **Financial information**

8. As an endowed grant-maker the financial review of Trust for London, as the grant holder, considers their broader ability to meet their grant-making aims. Audited accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 show a strong balance sheet with total group funds of £368m. After expenditure, the charity incurred a net operating loss of £15m which, after net gains and losses on

investments and revaluation of the Trust's fixed assets, generated a surplus of £21m as shown below.

9. It is Trust for London's policy not to maintain any unrestricted reserves as ongoing working capital is available from the endowment under the total return policy adopted. A small proportion of the grant budget is permitted to be carried over the year end, if unspent.
10. Planned expenditure this year has increased greatly as the Trust has added £18.8m to its agreed drawdown from reserves for the year. This will allow it to carry out two special initiatives in response to the pandemic and has been enabled by the very good performance of the endowment. The 2021 budget does not show gains or losses on investments as these are not predicted in advance. However, Trustees are confident enough in the investment income to allow for the level of expenditure on grants as forecast. Plans for 2022 do not include additional draw-down on the same scale as in the current year – expenditure will probably return to the levels as seen in 2020.

Year end as at 31 December	2020	2021
	Audited Accounts	Budget - Trust only
	£	£
Income	10,283,404	8,276,000
Expenditure	(25,400,891)	(40,307,000)
Net surplus/(deficit)	<b>(15,117,487)</b>	<b>(32,031,000)</b>
Net gain/losses on investments	36,444,691	-
Other gains/losses	(150,000)	-
<b>Total surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>21,177,204</b>	<b>(32,031,000)</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>368,468,272</b>	<b>336,437,272</b>

## Conclusion

11. Funding partnerships such as those between CBT and Trust for London regularly achieve more than the sum of their parts as, amongst other things, they provide opportunities for greater expertise to be harnessed; for learning to be shared; and for the sector to see funders support their work and raise their issues through unity of voice. Continuation funding for the two initiatives outlined here will have a significant impact on two communities of people who are regularly at the sharp end of institutional injustice and disadvantage.