

Committee: Bridge House Estates Board	Dated: 16 February 2022
Subject: Delegated authority request: Funding Applications over £500,000	Public
Which outcomes in the BHE Bridging London 2020-2045 Strategy does this proposal aim to support?	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?	CBT Grants Budget
Report of: Managing Director of BHE	For Decision
Report author: Tim Wilson, Funding Director and Social Investment Fund Manager, BHE	

Summary

In March 2022 the Grants Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board will receive three funding proposals for awards of £500,000 and above. Under the BHE Board's terms of reference, any recommendations for grants of this level must be approved by this Board. Since the subsequent BHE Board does not take place until the new financial year, this paper requests that authority be delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to approve the three awards described in this paper (paragraphs 4 – 7) before the end of financial year 2021-22, if recommended by the BHE Grants Committee at its meeting on 9 March 2022

Recommendation

The Bridge House Estates Board are asked to:

- Delegate authority to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to approve awards recommended by the March Grants Committee of £500,000 and above, within the current financial year.

Main Report

Background

1. The Grants Committee of the BHE Board is responsible for implementing the policy settled by the Trustee for the application of funds allocated to further Bridge House Estates' ancillary object. This includes determining the application of funds for all decisions less than £500,000. Decisions of funding grants, projects, or activities above this amount and relevant to the ancillary object are reserved to this Board.
2. The next scheduled meeting of the Grants Committee is 9th March, whilst this Board meets next on 27th April. Given these dates fall in two different financial years, officers request that the Board delegate authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair, in consultation with the Managing Director, to approve any funding recommendations of £500,000 and above which are recommended by the Grants Committee in March. This will benefit those organisations with timely

communication of funding decisions and support BHE's forecast annual grant spend for 2021-22.

3. Officers expect to put three recommendations to March Grants' Committee with a total value of, or slightly above, £5.5m. One supports the work of London Youth, and four relate to cross-funder collaborations led by Trust for London, the John Lyon's Charity, and the United St Saviour's Charity.

Proposals

4. Trust for London recommendations will be around £3.5m and fall in scope of BHE's Alliance Partnerships. These collaborations, relevant to the ancillary object, are grants awarded to established funders for further distribution. This is usually as a series of smaller grants (onward grant making), but potentially also involving non-grant support (such as technical assistance or advice). The organisation receiving BHE's funds must be able to ring-fence these monies adequately for use as onward grant making only and solely for work which benefits Londoners. Trust for London is an endowed charity which funds only in London, with which your grant-making arm, City Bridge Trust, has a long collaborative history.
5. Alliance Partnership funding was subject of a paper to December 2021 Grants Committee to expend some of BHE's identified uplift in funds in a way that maximises collaboration and learning. Funding is awarded towards grant programmes which are in development, or recently begun, and which have a finite end point. Any programme supported through an Alliance award must be based on significant scoping / evidence review work, and where the recipient funder has specialist knowledge of or access to the funding theme that is additional to City Bridge Trust's own reach.
6. The two recommendations for Trust for London relate to Disability Justice (£1.5m) and Racial Justice (£2m). £3.5m matches the investment that Trust for London has itself committed. TFL is also seeking co-funding from other, non-City Bridge Trust sources. The Disability Justice Fund will work to strengthen the disability movement in London by supporting organisations led by Deaf and/or disabled people to grow in effectiveness, power, and influence. The Racial Justice Fund aims to address racial injustice with a specific focus on increasing economic empowerment amongst London's Black and minoritized communities. Both programmes will launch between March and May 2022, and both have been developed by an advisory panel made up of appropriately qualified people with lived experience of the issues the funds seek to address (people of colour and disabled people respectively), having been informed by learning from previous programmes (which City Bridge Trust also co-funded) and wider movements.
7. The John Lyon's Charity is a long-established funder supporting children and young people's projects in eight west and north-west London boroughs (as well as the City of London). City Bridge Trust and JLC have worked in partnership several times to date, and this proposal will also fall in scope of the Alliance awards. It will address the disproportionate impact of the pandemic period on the children and young people's sector via a Recovery Fund for organisations who are now in a financially precarious position but critical to their local areas. The Grants

Committee will be recommended to provide £1m to boost JLC's £5m pot. This will allow the Recovery Fund to reach a wider number of organisations, target support where there has been increased demand for services alongside falling incomes (e.g., organisations working with disabled people) and provide technical support for business planning and restructuring.

8. The United St. Saviour's Charity recommendation (also an Alliance award) will be for £500,000 towards meeting support needs in the London Borough of Southwark. The Grants Committee will be asked to support increased demand from USSC's beneficiary organisations on the basis that all funds awarded will be distributed to those groups, with USSC covering grant administration costs.
9. The London Youth recommendation will be for £500,000 and concerned with post-pandemic support for young Londoners. London Youth represents and supports 640 members working with over 100,000 young people. More than half of these young Londoners live in areas characterised by poverty. Member organisations give young people somewhere safe to go, space to form long-term relationships with trusted adults, and opportunities to develop skills that enhance their personal and social development. Covid has had a disproportionate health and economic impact on London's poorer communities, and many of the young people served by London Youth's network have experienced lost education which is expected to result in an even greater attainment gap with their peers. March Grants Committee will receive a core funding proposal to help London Youth underpin current levels of delivery and sustain it as an anchor organisation for the capital's youth sector.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

10. Strategic implications: The funding recommendations will support all three Bridging London strategic aims. They will be for work in line with City Bridge Trust's Bridging Divides Funding Strategy. Additionally, the recommendations support the City Corporation's first four outcomes under its Corporate Plan where it is deemed in the best interest of the charity to support.
11. Financial implications: Funding will come from City Bridge Trust's grants' budget for 2021-22.
12. Resource implications: Grant assessment and management will be delivered by CBT Officers, with financial due diligence supported by the BHE & Charities Finance Team.
13. Legal implications: None
14. Risk implications: None
15. Equalities implications: Funding recommendations seek to address the ways in which Covid has amplified pre-existing inequalities through supporting positive action with communities protected by current equality legislation.
16. Climate implications: All grant funding recommendations are made in line with City Bridge Trust's value of being environmentally responsible.
17. Security implications: None

Conclusion

18. This report summarises proposed awards to Trust for London, John Lyon's Charity, United St. Saviour's Charity, and London Youth which are in line with City Bridge Trust's Bridging Divides funding strategy. Grant recommendations are currently underway with full proposals due to the March Grants Committee. To avoid a situation where funding decisions are made in the next financial year, officers seek permission to delegate authority on these awards to the Managing Director in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the BHE Board.

Appendices

None

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