

Committee(s): Resource Allocation Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee – For decision	Dated: 30/11/2023
Subject: Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund – Applications for Approval	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Managing Director of City Bridge Foundation.	For Decision
Report author: Jack Joslin, Head of the Central Grants Unit	

Summary

The City Corporation adopted a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in 2014. National CIL Regulations require that 15% of CIL receipts be reserved for neighbourhood funding. Local authorities are required to engage with communities on how this neighbourhood funding should be used to support development of the area. Local authorities are required to report annually on the collection and use of CIL funds, identifying separately the amount of funds allocated to neighbourhood funding. The Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund (CILNF) application process is managed by the City Corporation’s Central Grants Unit (CGU), with officers assessing applications and providing support to Committee in the consideration of larger applications.

Members are asked to approve the grants recommended for their consideration at meetings of the CILNF Officer Panel in November 2023.

Recommendation

Members are recommended to:

1. To approve the grant recommended to **The Running Charity** for £42,652 at a meeting of the CILNF Officer Panel in November 2023 (**Appendix 1**).
2. To approve the grant recommended to **The Lord Mayor’s Appeal** for £90,000 at a meeting of the CILNF Officer Panel in November 2022 (**Appendix 1**).

Main Report

Background

1. Management of the City CILNF process is aligned with the City's existing grant allocation process, through the Central Grants Unit. The City CILNF Funding Policy is set out at **Appendix 2**.
2. The City CILNF has been in operation since September 2020, providing a wide range of funding to support City of London Communities. The Grant programme is open access and available to apply to throughout the year. In July 2022 the outcomes of a community consultation were outlined to the Policy and Resources Committee. The public consultation demonstrated strong support for the way the current programme operated.

Current Position

3. Applications to the CILNF are assessed by the CGU Team in conjunction with the BHE and Charity Finance Team. All eligible applications are then presented to the CILNF Officer Panel. This panel is made up of officers from across CoLC to ensure that all decisions and recommendations have a wide range of expert input. The Officer Panel has representatives from the department of Environment, Community and Children Services, Surveyors, HR, Chamberlain's, Destination City Team and the CGU. All applications over £50,000 are recommended to the Sub-Committee for decision after being assessed and analysed by the panel. This process has been effective to date in utilising all the assets of the officer team in the making of decisions.
4. At its meeting in November 2023, the CILNF Officer Panel considered one application, over £50,000 and one below. **Appendix 1** outlines two grants which Members of the Committee are now asked to approve, Members will note that one grant is for under £50,000, but officers are requesting the Sub-Committee approve to expediate the decision-making process.
5. The current neighbourhood portion of the City CIL funding available for distribution as at October 2023 is just over £5.3 million.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

6. Corporate Plan Implications: the CILNF can resource community-led infrastructure improvements across the City and contribute towards meeting the 3 aims of the Corporate Plan 2018-23, particularly Contributing to a Flourishing Society and Shaping an Outstanding Environment.
7. Security Implications: the CILNF fulfils a statutory requirement for the spending of CIL. There are no direct security implications, though future funded projects may bring security benefits.
8. Financial Implications: the CILNF makes use of that proportion of City CIL monies which are required by statute to be used to assist in the delivery of new

infrastructure to meet community needs (15% of CIL funds). The costs of management of the grant application process will be met through the 5% of CIL funds set aside by statute to cover CIL administration.

9. Equalities and resourcing implications: the CILNF has been subject to an Equality Analysis Test of Relevance. This has concluded that there are no impacts arising from these proposals for protected groups and that a full Equality Analysis is not required.
10. Delivery of the Fund will be through existing staff resources in Departments. Staff resource requirements will be met through allocation of some of the City CIL funds set aside by statute to cover administration costs.

Conclusion

11. Community Infrastructure Levy legislation requires local authorities to reserve between 15% and 25% of CIL receipts for neighbourhood funding. In line with the agreed legislation and City CIL Policy Members of the Sub-Committee are asked to review the two applications received and agree funding.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Assessment Pack
- Appendix 2 – CIL Neighbourhood Fund Policy

Background Papers

Report to Policy & Resources Committee 02/05/2019: City of London Community Infrastructure Levy – Approval of Neighbourhood Fund

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