



CITY BRIDGE
FOUNDATION

FUNDING COMMITTEE OF THE CITY BRIDGE FOUNDATION BOARD

Monday, 9 December 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Funding Committee of the City Bridge Foundation Board held at Committee Rooms, West Wing, Guildhall and via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 9 December 2024 at 9.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Nighat Qureishi (Chair)
Deputy Paul Martinelli (Deputy Chair)
John Griffiths
Deborah Oliver
Deputy James Thomson
Jannat Hossain (Co-opted Member)
Holly Piper (Co-opted Member)
Cliff Prior (Co-opted Member)

Officers:

Simon Latham	- Acting Managing Director of CBF
Sacha Rose-Smith	- CBF Chief Funding Director
Henrietta Martin-Fisher	- Interim CBF Finance Director
Milly Ehren	- CBF Head of Strategy & Governance
Caroline Reeve	- CBF Head of People
Samantha Grimmett-Batt	- CBF Funding Director
Tim Wilson	- CBF Funding Director & Social Investment Fund Manager
Rebecca Roberts	- CBF Funding Director
Nkechi Adeboye	- CBF Social Investment Analyst and Relationship Manager
Khadra Aden	- CBF Funding Manager
Lorna Chung	- CBF Funding Manager
Gerard Darby	- CBF Funding Manager
Clara Espinosa	- CBF Funding Manager
Matt Robinson	- CBF Funding Manager
Abi Sommers	- CBF Funding Manager
Anne Pietsch	- Comptroller & City Solicitor's Dept.
Joseph Anstee	- CBF Governance Manager

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Karin Woodley (Co-opted Member).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cliff Prior (Co-opted Member) declared an interest in Item 18 by virtue of historic involvement with Micro Rainbow, and advised that he would not speak or vote on this item.

John Griffiths declared a standing interest by virtue of directorship with Rocket Science, which had previously worked with City Bridge Trust (CBT).

Sacha Rose-Smith declared an interest in Item 12 by virtue of her trusteeship of the Access to Justice Foundation and Item 15 by virtue of previous employment at the School for Social Entrepreneurs.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 16 September 2024 be agreed as a correct record.

At this point, the live feed was curtailed and the Committee moved to exclude the public in accordance with item 10. The meeting then moved into non-public session in order to consider items 11 to 24, before returning to consider items 4 to 9.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS***

The Committee received a list of outstanding actions and noted the updates in respect of the items listed.

RESOLVED – That the outstanding actions list be noted.

5. **CHIEF FUNDING DIRECTOR'S UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director providing an update on key areas of activity and outlining upcoming activities. The Chief Funding Director introduced the report and highlighted the breadth of activity in support of the ancillary object. The Committee noted that further reporting arising from the Women & Girls consultation on the Trans Inclusion Policy would be brought to the February meeting.

A Member commended the work undertaken in support of EDI and suggested that officers contact the City of London Police in the interests of mutual learning on this.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

6. **CBF FUNDING GRANTS BUDGET 2025/26**

The Committee considered a report of the Interim CBF Finance Director and the Chief Funding Director presenting the proposed budget for CBF's funding activity.

RESOLVED – That the Funding Committee of the City Bridge Foundation Board, in discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of City Bridge Foundation and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Review and recommend the CBF proposed grants budget for 2025/26 for inclusion in the charity's overall Budget to be presented to the CBF Board in February 2025; and

- ii) Agree that minor amendments to the 2025/26 grants budget arising during the budget setting process be delegated to the CBF Chief Funding Director (CFD) and Interim Finance Director.

7. **ANCHOR PROGRAMME ROUND TWO ASSESSMENTS**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director presenting recommendations from Round Two of the Anchor Programme. The Chief Funding Director introduced the report, summarising the Anchor Programme to date, including background, the aims and objectives of the programme and learnings from Round One, and presenting the Round Two applications recommended for approval or rejection. The Committee noted that applications of over £1million would be referred to the CBF Board for approval if endorsed by the Committee.

In response to a question from the Deputy Chair regarding the application from Race On The Agenda, the Chief Funding Director advised that the organisation's recent appointment of a new CEO was not yet in the public domain, but that information could be provided offline. The Committee noted that whilst the organisation was in receipt of multiple grants, this was in line with the relevant CBF policies and would be distributed via quarterly instalments.

The Committee was advised that whilst there would be an underspend arising from the recommended decisions, this should be considered in the context of the Committee having previously agreed an uplift to the budget for the programme from £20million to £30million. The Chief Funding Director advised that there had been a high volume of applications which had undergone a detailed assessment process and been measured against the programme criteria. Arising from this process the applications recommended for rejection were considered not to have met the criteria, with the organisations involved having been offered detailed learning and feedback.

A Member commented that an underspend due to increased budget was preferable to having to recommend more rejections, before commending the applications from organisations focussing on disability for their vision and informative approaches.

The Chair then thanked Members for their comments before drawing the Committee's attention to the recommendations, which were agreed.

RESOLVED – That the Funding Committee of the CBF Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of CBF and solely in the charity's best interests:

- (i) Endorse to the CBF Board the recommendations for funding of the following five grants (totalling £6,968,788):
 - a. £1,165,488 over ten years to Agenda Alliance CIO (charity no. 1179417) towards core costs to coordinate a joined-up response to changing the systemic cycles of trauma faced by women with multiple disadvantage in London;

- b. £1,403,300 over ten years to Disability Rights UK (charity no. 1138585) towards core funding for London-specific second-tier and systems change work;
- c. £1,400,000 over ten years to Inclusion London (charity no. 1157376) towards core funding for IL's second tier and systems change work;
- d. £1,500,000 over ten years to Money4You, also known as the Avocado Trust, (charity no. 1157549) towards core costs to enable TAF to equip BAMER led non-profits in London with the resources, knowledge, and networks to dismantle economic inequality;
- e. £1,500,000 over ten years to Race on the Agenda (charity no. 1064975) towards core funding to enable ROTA to deliver vital second-tier services aimed at combatting racial injustice;

(ii) Approve the following three recommendations (totalling £2,920,240):

- a. £995,400 over nine years to Disability Law Service (charity no. 280805) in core funding for DLS' London-specific second tier and systems change work;
- b. £999,940 over seven years to Do It Now Now (charity no. 11937494) towards core funding to enable DINN to deliver capacity building support to Black-led organisations as part of its London strategy;
- c. £924,900 over ten years to Equally Ours (charity no. 1138585) of core funding towards furthering Equally Ours' strategic aims in supporting London-based members and its wider London networks to shape structural public policy changes;

(iii) Approve the rejection of the following recommendations:

- a. All Ways Network (charity no. 1180445)
- b. Octopus Community Network (charity no. 1128394)
- c. The Health Forum (charity no. 1151980)
- d. Women's Resource Centre (charity no. 1070606)

(iv) Note that the following Anchor recommendation will come to CBF Board and Funding Committee in 2025 to allow more time for the assessment of the organisation:

- a. £1,000,000 over ten years to Voice4Change England (charity no. 1140624)

8. **GRANT FUNDING ACTIVITY: PERIOD ENDED 20 NOVEMBER 2024**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director providing details of funds approved and rejected under delegated authority since the last meeting; the remaining 2024/25 grants budget; grants spend to date by London Borough compared with the Multiple Index of Deprivation, and any grant variations approved under delegated authority.

RESOLVED – That the Funding Committee of the City Bridge Foundation Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of City Bridge Foundation and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i. Receive this report and note its contents; and
- ii. Agree the 7 grant rejections outlined in the schedule attached to the report.

9. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

The Committee gave thanks to officers for the quality of the agenda pack, noting the substantial and complex nature of the items submitted to the meeting.

Members further thanked the Chair for her leading of the Committee during her first meeting in the Chair.

10. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION - That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business below which relate to functions of the Court of Common Council not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and which it is considered would not be in the best interests of the charity to disclose in a public meeting (engaging similar considerations as under paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act).

11. **NON-PUBLIC APPENDIX - CHIEF FUNDING DIRECTOR'S UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee received a non-public appendix to the Chief Funding Director's Update report.

12. **FUTURE FUNDING POLICY**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

13. **FUTURE FUNDING POLICY: TRANSITION AND LEGACY**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

14. **SUICIDE PREVENTION FUNDING PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

15. **ENTERPRISE SUPPORT**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

16. **PIPELINE OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES***

The Committee received a report of the Chief Funding Director.

17. **WEST HAM UNITED FOUNDATION**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

18. **MICRO RAINBOW**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

19. **SOCIAL INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK ADDENDUM**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

20. **SOCIAL INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO**
The Committee received a report of the Chief Funding Director.
21. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2024 be agreed as a correct record.
22. **OPERATIONAL RISK REGISTER - FUNDING**
The Committee considered a report of the CBF Head of Strategy & Governance.
23. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**
There was no other business.
24. **FUTURE FUNDING POLICY**
The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director.

The meeting ended at 11.18 am

Chair

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