

Committee:	Date:
The City Bridge Trust Committee	12 March 2015
Subject: Grant Applications Statistical Report	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer	For Decision
Summary	
<p>This paper summarises applications received and action taken under your grants programmes in 2014/15. 68 proposals will be dealt with at today's meeting, including 26 grant recommendations and 10 grants to be noted as approved by delegated authority.</p> <p>Following your actions at your January meeting and taking account of write-backs and revocations in the year totalling £418,983, a total of £2,812,616 is available at today's meeting. Recommendations today total £2,255,448. If these are all approved today, this will leave a balance of £557,168 and it is recommended that this is carried forward into the grants budget for 2015/16.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the report • Instruct officers to put formal arrangements in place to carry forward the sum of £557,168 from the 2014/15 grants budget into the grants budget for 2015/16. 	

Main Report

Background

- 1.1 This paper summarises action taken in 2014/15 on grant applications received under your Investing in Londoners grants programmes. It charts overall spend against your current year grants budget, grants made by programme outcomes, action taken on applications received and a summary of today's recommendations. At today's meeting you will also receive an annual statistical report which will provide more detail of the trends seen over the year.
- 1.2 City Bridge Trust grants are awarded in line with your policy guidance which includes the priorities and exclusions that were ratified for the Trust by the Court of Common Council, in July 2013.

Grants budget 2014/15

- 2.1 68 applications will be dealt with at today's meeting of which 26 are recommended for a grant and 10 are to be noted as approved by delegated authority, for a total recommended sum of £2,255,448. The implications of

today's recommendations are shown in Table 1 against the original grants budget for 2014/15.

- 2.2 You may recall that at your last meeting, there was concern that there not be sufficient funds in your grants budget for 2014/15 to meet current levels of demand. As a consequence, officers have put considerable effort into ensuring that all write-backs and revocations are up to date. As a consequence, if all today's recommendations are approved, there will remain a balance of £557,168 that it is recommended is carried forward from the grants budget for 2014/15 into 2015/16.

Table 1: Overall spend against 2014/15 budget

	Grants budget	Grants spend	% spend of annual budget
Original Grants Budget	£14,950,000		
Carry forward from 2013/14	£3,536,000		
Write-Backs & Revocations	£418,983		
Total Budget Available	£18,904,983		
Previous committee meetings			
April 2014		£1,372,410	7%
May 2014		£1,293,050	7%
June 2014		£984,330	5%
July 2014		£1,484,300	8%
September 2014		£4,652,700	25%
November 2014		£3,193,986	17%
January 2015		£3,111,591	16%
Sub-total approved spend		£16,092,367	85%
Remaining budget	£2,812,616		
Today's recommendations			
March 2015		£2,255,448	12%
Total annual spend		£18,347,815	97%
Remaining budget	£557,168		

Additional funding for employability initiative agreed Nov 12	£1,000,000		
		£1,000,000	
Additional funding for Prince's Trust funding agreed Oct 14	£1,000,000		
		£1,000,000	
Balance of additional funding		£0	

Grants made by outcome area this financial year

3.1 Table 2 shows the breakdown of grants awarded this financial year by outcome area under your Investing in Londoners grant programmes. Charts 1 and 2 show the proportion of grants awarded, including today's

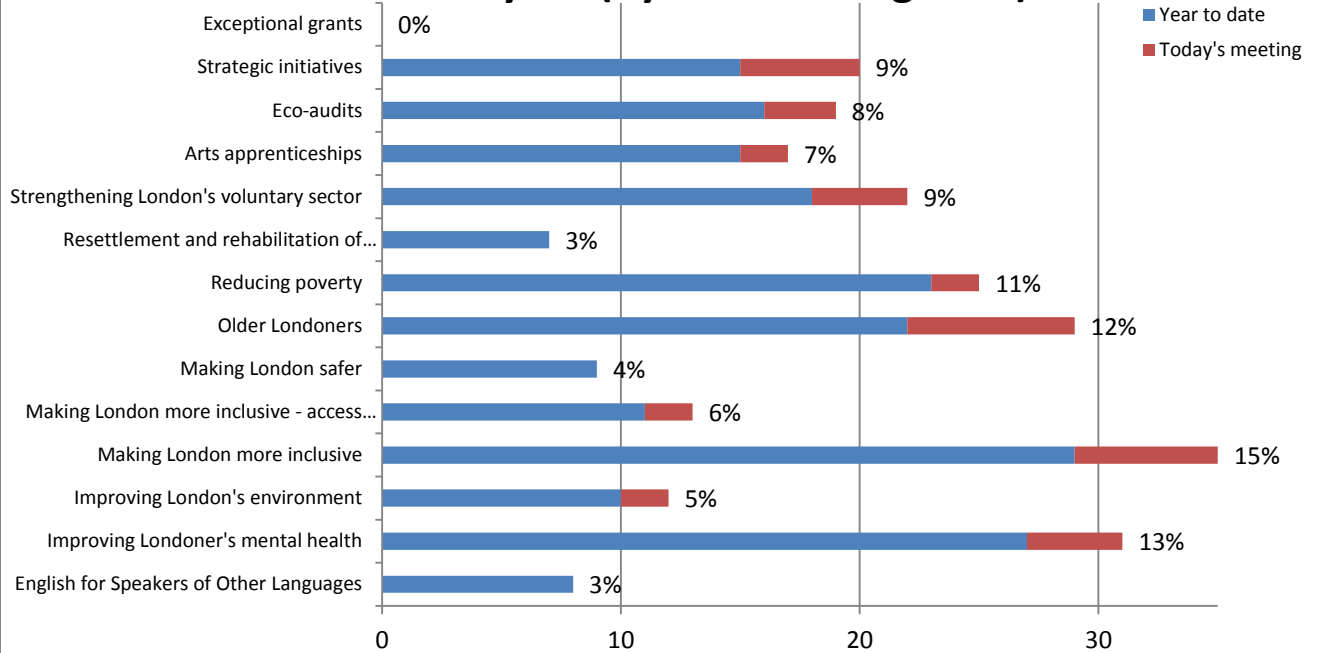
recommendations, by outcomes area. Chart 1 is based on the number of grants awarded and Chart 2 is based on the value of grants awarded.

Table 2: Grant approvals by outcome area (Investing in Londoners)

Fund/Program	Year to date	Today's meeting	Total	Year to date	Today's meeting	Total
English for Speakers of Other Languages	8	0	8	£434,510	£0	£434,510
Improving Londoner's mental health	27	4	31	£2,476,650	£306,600	£2,783,250
Improving London's environment	10	2	12	£714,250	£116,100	£830,350
Making London more inclusive	39	6	45	£2,242,857	£427,200	£2,670,057
Making London more inclusive - access audit	14	2	15	£48,657	£6,300	£46,806
Making London safer	9	0	9	£1,074,900	£0	£1,074,900
Older Londoners	22	7	29	£1,768,810	£414,420	£2,183,230
Reducing poverty	23	2	25	£2,395,000	£164,400	£2,559,400
Resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders	7	0	7	£818,200	£0	£818,200
Strengthening London's voluntary sector	18	4	22	£2,343,350	£406,400	£2,749,750
Arts apprenticeships	15	2	17	£36,000	£4,000	£40,000
Eco-audits	16	3	19	£44,000	£8,000	£52,000
Strategic initiatives	15	5	20	£1,743,840	£406,328	£2,150,168
Exceptional grants	0	0	0	£0	£0	£0
Grand total	210	36	246	£16,092,367	£2,255,448	£18,347,815

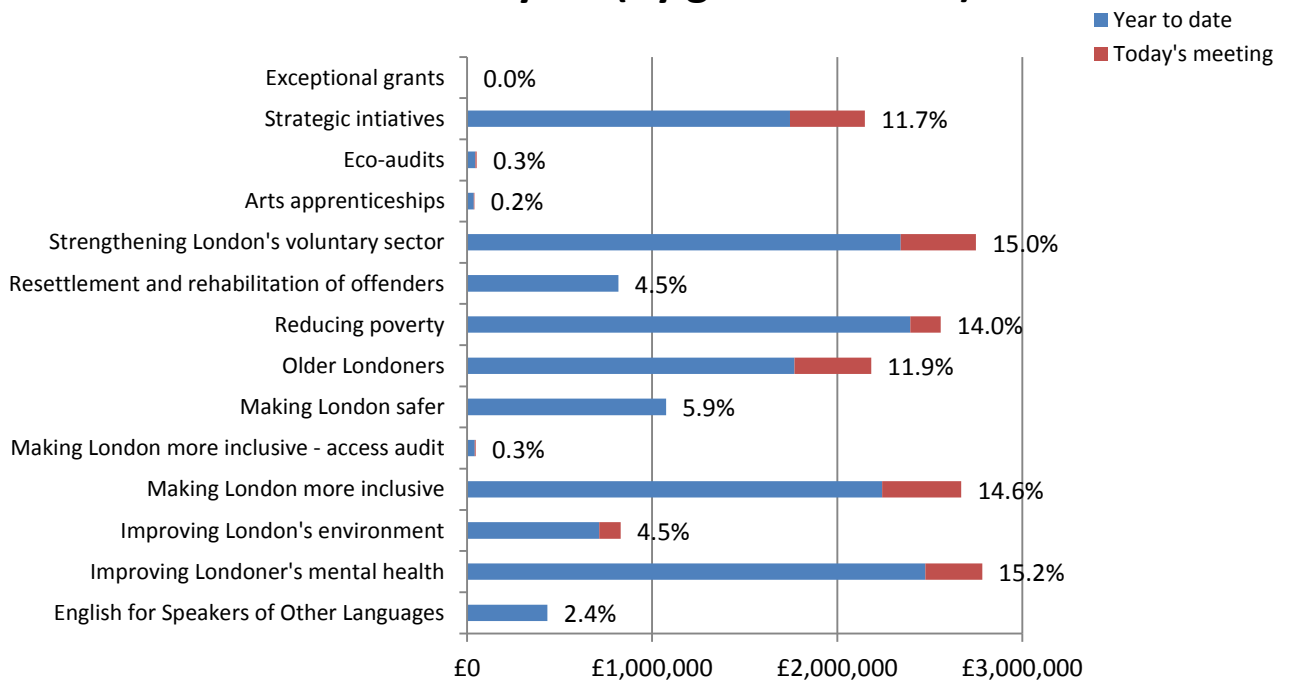
**Please note that £253,500 was also awarded this year for Working with Londoners programmes – these are not included in the above but are included in your overall 2014/15 year to date spend.

Chart 1: grants awarded by outcome area this financial year (by number of grants)



1 2

Chart 2: grants awarded by outcome area this financial year (by grant amount)



¹ Making London More Inclusive – Access Audits are included within the Making London More Inclusive programme total in chart 2 and chart 3.

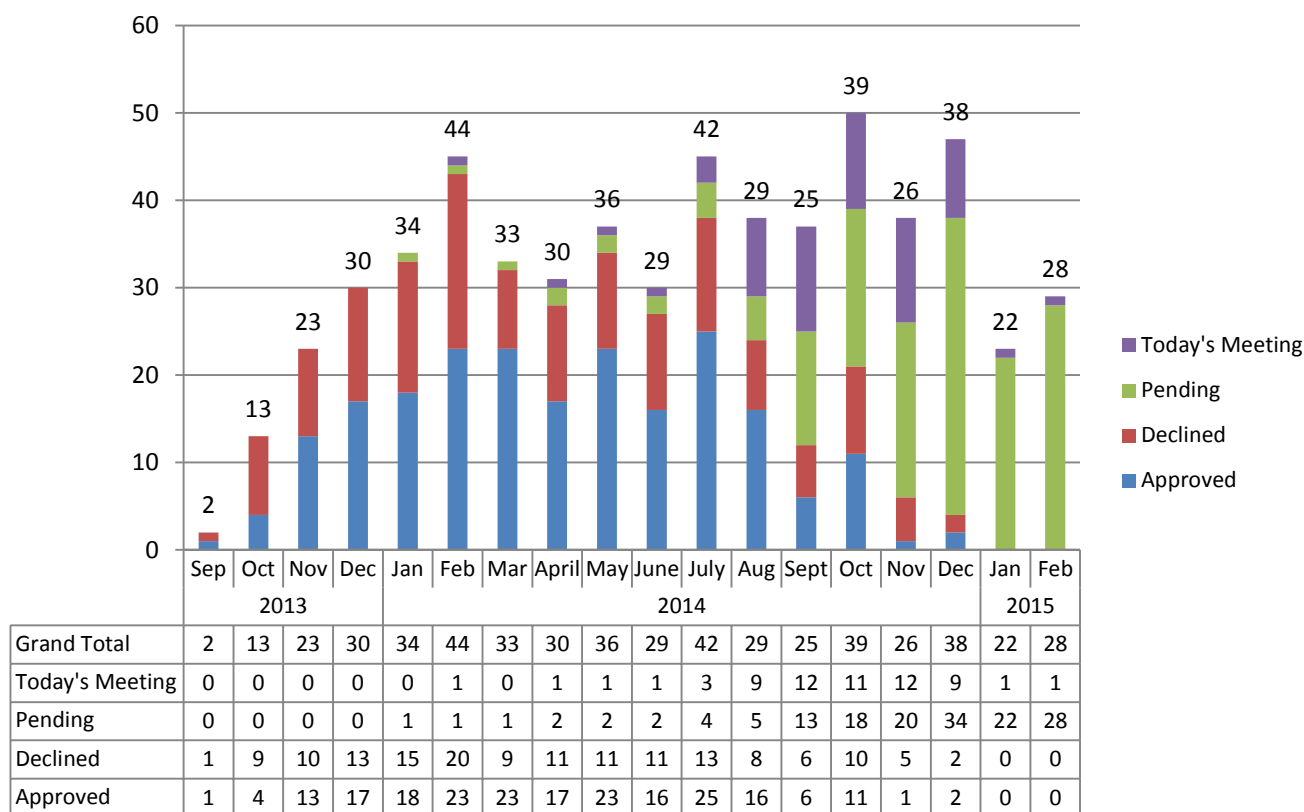
² The Horizontal axis represents the number of grant awards. Bar percentages represent the proportion of grant awards for each programme. For example – (including today's proposal) there have been 20 awards made under Strategic Initiatives (horizontal bar). These 20 awards represent 9% (as a proportion) of all awards made.

- 3.2 Your Making London More Inclusive programme has attracted the highest number of awarded grants, followed by Improving Londoners' Mental Health, Reducing Poverty and Older Londoners. These four programmes account for over half of all awarded grants to date. These broad programmes serving those with the highest level of needs are expected to attract large numbers of applications. It is not surprising that these programmes also have high numbers of awarded grants. For three of these programmes - Making London More Inclusive, Improving Londoner's Mental Health and Older Londoners - the number of awarded grants may also reflect the established nature of these programmes. You supported similar activity under your previous Working with Londoner's programmes and the Trust is well known in the sector as a potential funder of work carried out under these headings. Reducing Poverty is a new area for your Trust, not previously funded by Working with Londoners. High numbers of grant awards may reflect the multiple priorities under which organisations can apply and the withdrawal of alternative public sector/statutory funding despite a lack of corresponding decline in need.
- 3.3 Three programmes experienced particularly low numbers of grants awards - Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders, English for Speakers of Other languages and Making London Safer. None of these programmes have attracted large numbers of applications, indeed - Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders and English for Speakers of Other Languages - have the lowest numbers of grant applications across your Investing in Londoners portfolio. Given the complexity and sensitivity of the need of the client groups, these programmes have very tailored, narrow, priorities necessarily limiting applications to high quality specialist organisations. Small numbers of applications and lower numbers of awards – compared with your other programme areas - is expected. Your officers have previously noted the impact of your requirement for appropriately qualified teachers for the delivery of activity under your English for Speakers of Other languages. Although this may have reduced the number of potential applications, in the opinion of your officers, this is outweighed by the benefit to Londoners of better quality services. Similarly, given the specialist nature of 'through the gate' and on release work with ex-offenders (Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders) and the degree of expertise required to deliver projects to support survivors of domestic violence, trafficking or hate crime (Making London Safer), the number of organisations with the ability to apply to your Trust for funding is limited.
- 3.4 The value of grants (including pending proposals for decision today) under Improving Londoner's Mental Health, Strengthening London's Voluntary Sector and Making London More Inclusive and represents nearly half (45%) your programme spend for this financial year to date. The proportion of grants awarded as under Reducing Poverty and Older Londoners is comparatively high as a consequence of larger numbers of applications for relatively higher grants.

Applications received since the launch of Investing in Londoners in 2013

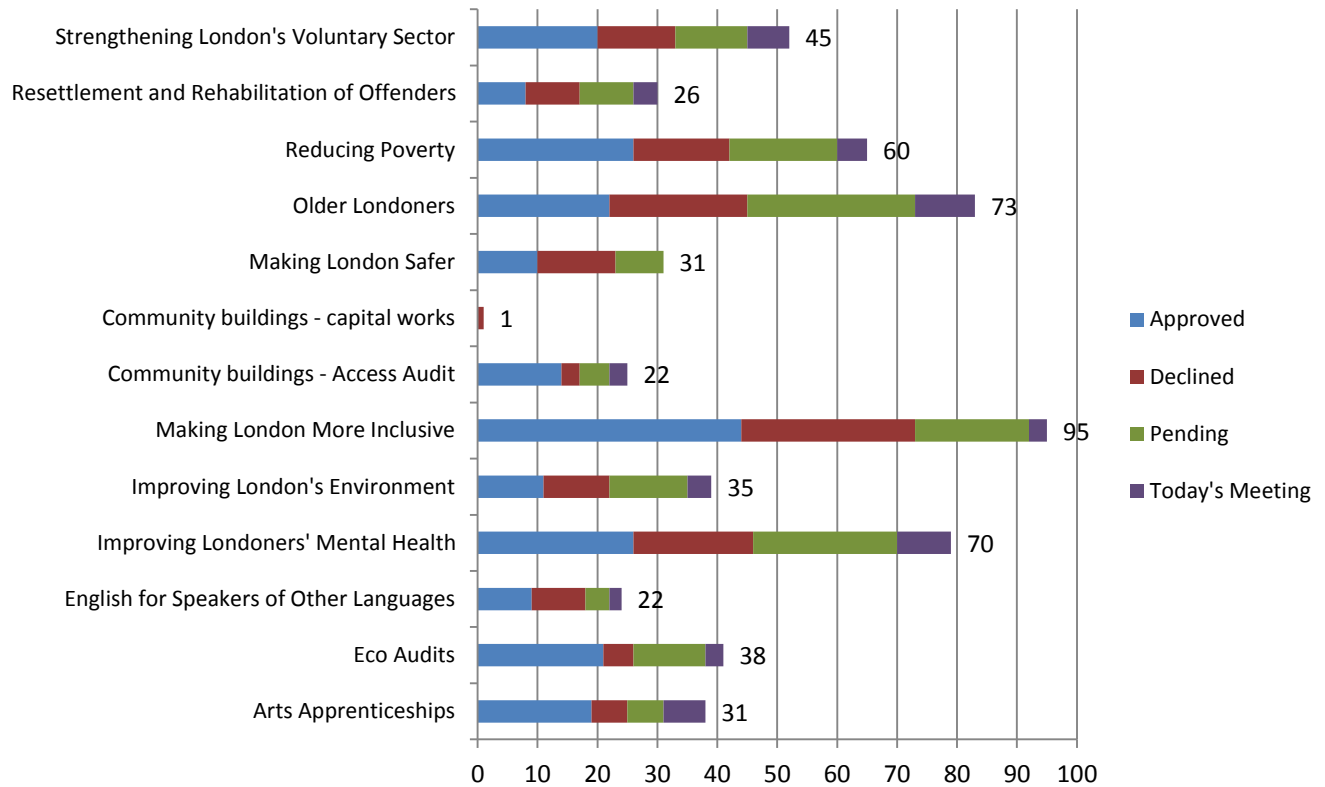
- 4.1 Chart 3 shows the number of applications received by month and the action taken (excluding strategic initiatives and partnership programmes) since the launch of Investing in Londoners in September 2013 and the number of applications, by month of receipt, for decision at today's meeting. Please note that applications for decision at today's meeting are included in the 'pending' category in chart 3. Application numbers grew in the first 6 months with a peak of 44 applications received in February 2014. This is similar to the previous year, possibly due to organisations aiming to submit applications before the start of their new financial year. Application numbers dipped in June but reached a high of 42 in July which may reflect greater awareness of your programmes over time and a keenness of organisations to submit applications before the summer break. Applications received fell during August and September, which is traditionally a quiet time for fundraising. Applications climbed again in October, dipped in November and rose again in December with applicants keen to submit before the Christmas break. Applications were low in January, reflecting the seasonal holiday period with numbers continuing to increase in February.
- 4.2 The majority of applications are assessed and presented to the Trust's board for decision within the four month period, as stated on the Trust's website. A total of 19 applications fall outside of the four month decision making period. Two applications have been pending for between 5 to 6 months with a further 8 pending for between seven to eleven months. Three applications have been pending for 12 months or more. All of the 19 applications are awaiting additional information from potential grantees before your officers can progress further assessment.
- 4.3 The overall proportion of approvals has risen from a low of 31% in October 2013 to over 70% in March 2014 with the average approval rate (to date) at nearly 60%. The rise in approvals is partly explained by receipt of fewer proposals for work outside of your programme priorities, and officers have noted a gradual increase in the quality of applications. This is a consequence of greater clarity and advice given to potential applicants.

Chart 3: applications received by month and action taken since Investing in Londoners launch in September 2013



4.4 Chart 4 summarises the number of applications received by outcome area since Investing in Londoners was launched in September 2013 (excluding strategic initiatives and partnership programmes). As mentioned in paragraph 4.1, applications for decision at today's meeting are still classified as 'pending'. In line with the analysis of grants awarded, this shows that there are high numbers of applications under Older Londoners, Improving Londoner's Mental Health and Making London More Inclusive. It is interesting to note the continuing strong number of applications coming through under your new grants programme Reducing Poverty. On average, across your Investing in Londoners programmes, approximately 40% of all applications are rejected. However, rejection rates vary between programmes. Rejection rates compare favourably with your previous Working with Londoners Programmes.

Chart 4: Investing in Londoners applications received by outcome area and action taken since launch in Sept 2013



Today's applications

5.1 68 applications will be dealt with at today's meeting. Table 3 notes the type of action recommended. Full details of each of these applications are shown in separate sections later on in your papers for today's meeting.

Table 3: Action to be taken on applications today

Action to be taken	Number
Applications recommended for grant	26
Funding approved by delegated authority up to 10k (to note)	9
Funding approved by delegated authority from 10 to £25k (to note)	1
Applications recommended for rejection	21
Withdrawn applications (to note)	9
Applications lapsed (to note)	2
Total applications	68

Joy Beishon

Grants Officer – Monitoring and Evaluation (joy.beishon@cityoflondon.gov.uk)