

Committee Finance Grants Oversight and Performance Sub-Committee	Dated: 25/07/2017
Subject Central Grants Programme (CGP) - Update	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer	For information
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Summary

This report provides an update on the CGP. The report includes the outcomes of the first CGP grant round delivered in 2016/2017; an update on the Senior Grants Officer's (SGO) workshops for grantees; an overview of current grant deadlines and an update on the implementation of the monitoring and evaluation systems for the CGP.

Recommendations:

- a) To note the CGP progress update.

Main Report

Background

1. In March 2016, the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee received a report outlining the work that had been undertaken to date to implement the recommendations of the Effectiveness of Grants Service Based Review (SBR). The aim of the review was to increase the strategic impact of grant-making, ensure that the grants are managed more efficiently and effectively, improve the consistency and quality of the customer experience and so bring consequential reputational benefits. The report recommended a consolidated CGP be implemented.
2. In order to manage the CGP effectively a new CGU was proposed. The CGU would be responsible for the management of all grant applications, monitoring and evaluation processes and committee reporting procedures.
3. It was agreed that the CGU would be co-located with City Bridge Trust (CBT) in order to facilitate consistency of approach and harmonise service standards. The Chief Grants Officer, responsible for the grant-making activities of CBT will maintain an overview of the CGU, with relevant input from the Head of Charity and Social Investment Finance.

4. The four CGP funding themes were agreed in March 2016 by the Policy and Resources Committee, and the eligibility criteria subsequently agreed by each respective grant-giving committee.
5. The CGP started accepting grant applications from 15 August 2016 and was managed by an interim resource until the SGO secondment from CBT started in October 2016.

CGP Update

6. An update on the progress of the first CGP grant round is provided in the below table:

Funding Theme	Committee/Officer Panel date	Total number of applications received	Total number of applications approved	Total funding awarded through CGP (£)
Education and Employment	Education Charity Sub-Committee - December 2016, The City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity (290129).	14 applications. (1 from a school and 13 applications from individuals)	8	25,000
	Education Charity Sub-Committee - December 2016, (The City Educational Trust Fund (290840).	5 applications	2	14,500
Inspiring London through Culture	Culture, Heritage and Libraries - February 2017. (No Charitable funds to manage)	16 applications	9	54,832
Stronger Communities	Officer Panel - March 2017 The City of London Corporation Combined Relief of Poverty Charity (1073660)	7 applications	4	38,670
Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment	Officer Panel - March 2017, (No Charitable funds to manage).	8 applications	6	74,020

Inspiring London through Culture	Officer Panel – 28 July 2017	8 applications	TBD	TBD
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7. Detail of all applications approved, declined and withdrawn to date under the CGP is shown at Appendix 1.

Workshops for prospective grantees

8. In order to ensure that prospective grantees are given the opportunity to discuss potential applications with the Senior Grants Officer (SGO), a series of one to one advice sessions have been delivered at the Guildhall. Two have been delivered to date with an average of six organisations attending each session. Feedback from those attending has been positive. Additional sessions will be held, at appropriate times before established grant deadlines.
9. Four additional one to one meetings have been delivered in the build up to the last Inspiring London through Culture deadline either face to face or over the phone.

Overview of current deadlines

10. The Inspiring London through Culture programme of the CGU had a recent deadline on 29th June 2017. 8 applications have been received with an Officer Panel arranged for 28th July 2017. Decisions for this round of funding will be agreed at Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee in September.
11. The eligibility criteria for the Education and Employment theme of the CGU is being revised. The Education Charity Sub-Committee met on 14 February 2017. Members received and approved the revised eligibility criteria for the City Educational Trust Fund (Charity Number 290840) and the City of London Corporation Combined Education Charity (Charity Number 312836).
12. At the time of writing a joint report with the revised eligibility criteria is being considered by the Community and Children's Services Committee and then for approval by the Education Board. A verbal update will be provided at this meeting. Once the new criteria has been approved application for the Education and Employment programme will re-open with decisions to be made at the Education Charity Sub-Committee in October.
13. Stronger Communities and Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment are currently closed and your Officer is consulting with departments on new deadlines.

Monitoring

14. Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee the SGO has set up and implemented an online monitoring and evaluation system in line with best

practice from the City Bridge Trust. Analysis of the first grant awards will be provided the next time this Sub-Committee meets.

Appendix 1 – Overview of all applications approved, declined and withdrawn.

Background Papers:

- Policy and Resources Committee, January 2017, 'Review and Reclassification of Former Finance Grants Sub-Committee Grants'.

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