

Committee: City Bridge Trust (CBT)	Dated: 6 th July 2018
Subject: Progress Report	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer and Director of City Bridge Trust (CGO)	For Information

Summary

This is a regular report by the CGO. You are asked within this report to note updates on the following:

- Philanthropy Strategy
- CGO Visit to New York accompanying the Lord Mayor
- Investing in Londoners/Bridging Divides applications
- Cornerstone Fund
- Stepping Stones Fund
- Compliance Visits
- Support for Mayor's Young Londoners Fund
- Partnership funding with other grant-makers
- Appointments to BBC Children in Need London & SE Grants Committee

Recommendation

- a) That the report be noted.

Main Report

Introduction

1. You will recall that you have agreed that each of the CBT Committee Meetings will begin with a presentation on a particular aspect of the work you support. Ben Banks, Senior Trust's manager at Barnardo's has been invited to this committee. Barnardo's were awarded funds to cover the salary of one Full time post as part of a wider initiative to address child sexual exploitation in London.

Philanthropy Strategy

2. Following your approval, last month, to the Philanthropy Strategy, your Head of Philanthropy Strategy secured approval to the Strategy from the Policy and Resources Committee on 7th June. The Strategy will be included for information for the Court of Common Council's meeting this month. Fiona will

now embark on implementation planning and return to this Committee for approval of the implementation plan at your meeting on 24th October.

CGO Visit to New York accompanying the Lord Mayor

3. On Friday 1st June, your CGO accompanied the Lord Mayor (LM) on a visit to New York. The primary aims of the visit were for the LM to learn about NY best practice in philanthropy and deepen connections and partnerships with relevant London areas of activity (focusing on cross-sectoral initiatives between the private, governmental and community Voluntary sectors).
4. Visits were undertaken to three organisations: [Open Society Foundations](#), [Unbound Philanthropy](#) and the [Robin Hood Foundation](#).

Investing in Londoners/Bridging Divides applications

5. You will recall that Bridging Divides officially opened for applications on 23rd April. As at 19th June there have been 24 applications received, 2 of which are for Small Grants. Prior to the opening a 2-week window was made available for organisations wishing to complete an Investing in Londoners (IIL) application prior to its full closure. Approximately 80 IIL applications were received in those last few days – many more than anticipated. Your officers have focused on IIL applications for this Committee, but it is intended to bring some Bridging Divides proposals as well as IIL ones to the September meeting. At the time of writing your officers had delivered, or have scheduled, presentations of your Bridging Divides programmes in 10 boroughs.

Cornerstone Fund

6. The closing date for the Cornerstone Fund (the additional funding of £3m that was approved to establish a strategic fund for civil society infrastructure support of which £2.8m remains) applications was on Friday 1st June 2018. A total of 21 applications were received, only one of which had failed to address the programme's priorities and outcomes.
7. You may re-call this has a two-stage application process. The Funders' Panel¹ is due to meet on 11th July 2018 to decide which applications should be recommended to receive grants of up to £20,000 in order to develop their bid to Stage 2. The applicant will then follow the application process of whichever funder considers a particular proposal best aligns with their interests.

Stepping Stones Fund

8. The fifth round of the Stepping Stones Fund (the social investment readiness scheme for London's charities and social enterprises) is well underway. This is a grants' programme run in collaboration with UBS. Applicants will pitch to selection panels in July, and final awards will be approved in September.

¹ comprising representatives from Big Lottery Fund, Trust for London, Mercers Company, John Lyons Charity, Cripplegate Foundation, Greater London Authority, London Councils and London Funders

£550,000 is available in the current round. Your papers include a note of those organisations who were unsuccessful in the first stage of the application process, many of whom will have sought and received feedback by the date of your meeting. We continue to develop a follow-on finance facility for Stepping Stones alumni, offering low-cost loans to those who are at the start of their enterprise journey. We aim to launch this in September 2018.

Compliance Visits

9. Your November 2017 meeting approved a risk-based approach to managing situations where Trust staff had concerns about the quality and accuracy of grantee reporting. The compliance review method was developed in consultation with the Corporation's Internal Audit team as well as the Head of Charity and Social Investment Finance from the Chamberlain's Department. Compliance visits are triggered following evidence of concern including: delayed returns to the Charity Commission; significant change in turnover; the change of City Bridge Trust-funded post-holder without prior notification. They can also be triggered at the request of a Grant Officer should s/he have concerns about the information they receive from their grantee. Since the new approach was introduced, five compliance reviews have taken place and they have all highlighted capacity issues on the part of the grantees for which the Trust has been able to provide support. No evidence of fraud or mismanagement has been found.

Support for Mayor's Young Londoners Fund

10. At its meeting on 17th May the Court of Common Council agreed your recommendation to support the Mayor's Young Londoners Fund (YLF) with £1m towards the costs of providing a range of wrap-around support to those organisations which receive funding from the YLF. Your officers have been engaging with the GLA and potential delivery partners on the allocation of these funds and specific information on this will be available at your October meeting. Some officer time from within the staff team will also be available to the GLA – at their request – to assist with the assessment of applications to the Fund. Your officer has met with London Funders and other key voluntary sector partners (eg Prince's Trust; Partnership for Young London) to assist with establishing the most effective frameworks for supporting those organisations involved with the Young Londoners Fund and to ensure as far as possible a joined up approach to harnessing the assets of all involved.

Partnership funding with other grant-makers

11. You will notice in the report in your papers today, which recommends funding for a Strategic Initiative with Trust for London (TFL), that the financial summary table for TFL is an abbreviated version of those that appear in your standard grant reports. Given that you have a proactive approach to working collaboratively with other funders the Chamberlain has advised that the abbreviated table is suitable when considering funding to another grant-maker.

Appointments to BBC Children in Need London & SE Grants Committee

12. Following a national, open, recruitment process two of your officers – Jemma Grieve Combes and Fiona Rawes have recently been appointed to the Children in Need Grants Committee for London & the South East. James Lee, your Bridge to Work Project Manager, already serves on that Committee and will take up the role of Chairman at its next meeting in July.

13. The appointments demonstrate the broad range of skills and expertise within your team such that they are welcomed by other funders. Your staff's engagement with other funders in this way is also beneficial to the Trust as it broadens our knowledge of the sector and of good practice in grant-making.

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