

London Borough of Islington

Executive - 30 April 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held remotely by Zoom on 30 April 2020 at 7.00 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Watts, Burgess, Champion, Comer-Schwartz, Gill, O'Halloran, Shaikh and Ward

Councillor Richard Watts in the Chair

713 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Watts welcomed attendees to the meeting and held a minute's silence for the victims of the Covid 19 pandemic.

714 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

715 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

716 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting on 19 March 2020 be agreed as a correct record of the meeting and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

717 CONTRACT AWARD FOR COMMUNAL HEATING SERVICING AND REPAIRS

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That the procurement strategy for planned preventative maintenance for communal boilers, as outlined in the report, be agreed.
- 2.2 That authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Housing to award the contract, in consultation with the Executive Member for Housing and Development.

Reason for decision – to ensure service continuity for planned preventative

maintenance, ongoing repairs and emergency call outs to the Council's communal boiler plants and communal ventilation systems.
Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.
Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

**LONDON BUSINESS RATES STRATEGIC INVESTMENT POT (LBRSP) -
INCLUSIVE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY**

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That the council will act as the lead authority in delivering the four-borough Inclusive Knowledge Economy (IKE) project be agreed.
- 2.2 That the sum of £7.4024M will be available for delivery of the IKE project comprising £3.500M grant from the LBRSP, £3.538M private sector match funding and £0.3644M in total from the four participating authorities be noted.
- 2.3 That Islington's contribution is £26,100 from CIL/section 106 contributions and £30,000 from its Apprenticeship Levy Fund be noted.
- 2.4 That authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Environment and Regeneration, in consultation with the Executive Member for Inclusive Economy and Jobs and following advice from Director of Law and Governance and Chief Finance Officer to agree:
 1. The final implementation programme for submission to the funders,
 2. The terms of the grant agreement with the City of London Corporation;
 - and
 3. The terms of the partnership agreement with the other participating local authorities and delivery partner, be agreed.

Reason for decision – to provide affordable workspace and facilitate skills, employment and business startup opportunities for local residents in the Knowledge and Tech industries.

Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.
Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

719

**EARLY HELP REVIEW: PROPOSED CHANGES AND OUTCOME OF
CONSULTATION**

RESOLVED:

That the proposed new approach and service structure for targeted early help for families with children over 5, to create a more seamless targeted early help offer from pregnancy into adulthood be agreed.

Reason for decision – to provide a more seamless offer for families and their children.

Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.

Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

720

COMMUNITY FESTIVALS SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME 2020 - 2023

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That the award grants of £2,500 from the £10,000 Community Festival Small Grants programme for three consecutive years between 2020-2023 to each of the four applicants for the community festivals be agreed as follows:
 - All Change (on behalf of Word Festival) – WORD2020, WORD2021, WORD2022.
 - Two weeks from mid to end June; and
 - Two weeks from early to mid-October (each year; for three years)
 - Canal & River Trust (on behalf of Angel Canal Festival) - Angel Canal Festival.
 - 2020/21 event dates: Sunday 6 September 2020
 - 2021/22 event dates: Sunday 5 September 2021
 - 2022/23 event dates: Sunday 4 September 2022
 - City YMCA (on behalf of Whitecross Street Party) - Whitecross Street Party.
 - 2020/21 event dates: 11 & 12 July 2020
 - 2021/22 event dates: 10 & 11 July 2021
 - 2022/23 event dates: 15 & 16 July 2022
 - Islington Play Association (on behalf of Cally Fest) - The Cally Festival.
 - 2020/21 event dates: 28 June 2020
 - 2021/22 event dates: 27 June 2021
 - 2022/23 event dates: 26 June 2022
- 2.2 That the above dates are only indicative and may be subject to change depending on external circumstances be noted.
- 2.3 That on 16 March 2020, Central Government stated that social distancing is advised to stop the spread of coronavirus Covid-19 and to protect older and vulnerable residents and that this social distancing requirement will affect all of the festivals recommended for funding and festival organisers will need to temporarily suspend, change, postpone, or scale back their events, be noted.

- 2.4 That the Grant Agreement Letter (Appendix C) states that all funding should be spent annually from 2020-2021 for a period of three consecutive years be noted.
- 2.5 That it is agreed that the recommended that the timescale for spending festivals funding be extended beyond 12 months in the first year to allow for events to be postponed be agreed. That this is intended to be a short term temporary measure, and the extension will be determined on a case by case basis after the social distancing restrictions have been lifted be agreed.
- 2.6 That there is a dedicated webpage for the voluntary sector containing guidance on Covid-19 available, be noted:

Reason for decision – to provide support for local voluntary sector organisations.

Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.

Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

721

ISLINGTON COUNCIL VENUES FREE COMMUNITY USE SCHEME

ROUND 2: SUMMER 2020

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That one free hire of the Islington Assembly Hall (Round 2 of the scheme), be allocated to each of the following organisations be agreed:
 - Islington Faith Forum
 - Yaram Arts CIC
- 2.2 That the following applicant be held in reserve, in case of inability of the above applicants to negotiate appropriate dates and timing, be agreed:
 - Octopus Community Network
- 2.3 That the timescale for successful organisations for this round be changed to June to mid-September 2021, as detailed in section 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 of the report, be agreed.

Reason for decision – to provide support for local voluntary sector organisations.

Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.

Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

722

LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND AWARDS

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That the new proposals and changes to previous proposals submitted by Ward Councillors, as set out in Appendix 1 of this report, be agreed in principle, subject to the Corporate Director of Housing being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 2.2 That, in light of the COVID 19 pandemic, contact will be made with those organisations that are agreed for funding, as per the temporary revised procedure referred to in recommendation 2.5 to review potential project changes.
- 2.3 That the declarations of interest made by Councillors who have a connection with the organisations that they are recommending funding for, detailed at paragraph 3.12 of the report, be noted.
- 2.4 That the amendments to ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned and the amendments to the use of previous grant funding awarded, detailed at paragraph 3.13 of the report and are included in the budget summary on the last page of Appendix 1 of the report, be noted.
- 2.5 That any underspend on ward budgets will be carried forward into the next financial year (2021/22) due to the COVID 19 outbreak, be agreed.
- 2.6 That a temporary revised procedure for previously awarded applications (including those in Appendix 1 of the report) where the project or the use of funding has changed due to the Covid 19 outbreak, in line with the proposed framework (paragraph 4.6 to 4.7 of the report), be agreed.
- 2.7 That a temporary revised procedure for new applications, due to the Covid 19 outbreak, in line with the proposed framework (paragraph 4.8 of the report), be agreed.
- 2.8 Temporary cessation of monitoring organisations ahead of funding being awarded, where the organisation is known to the Council and has received funding previously, be agreed. Where an organisation is unknown, further information may be requested for any changes to a project, or ahead of funding being awarded (paragraph 4.10 of the report), be agreed.
- 2.9 That temporary changes the process for supporting documents, so that these do not have to be provided ahead of funding being awarded, be agreed. That organisations will need to confirm that they have appropriate, up to date governance documents and the VCS Development team will carry out routine spot checks during this period (paragraph 4.10 of the report), be agreed.

- 2.10 That the council does not fund mutual aid groups with LIF budgets, and that these groups are encouraged to align with existing VCS organisations working in the borough, be agreed.
- 2.11 That authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Housing, in consultation with the Executive Member for Community Development, for final awards be agreed, and that revised procedures will be brought to VCS Committee in July 2020 for review (paragraph 4.8 of the report) be agreed.

Reason for decision – to provide support for local voluntary sector organisations.

Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.

Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

723

DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF AWARDS

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That Discretionary Rate Relief be granted to Holloway Neighbourhood Group to 31 March 2023 be agreed.
- 2.2 That Discretionary Rate Relief be granted to Islington MIND for two premises to 31 March 2023 be agreed.

Reason for decision – to provide support for local voluntary sector organisations.

Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.

Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

724

EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT VCS GRANTS PROGRAMME

RESOLVED:

That an extension to the current VCS Partnerships Grant Programme in line with the timetable detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed. That letters will be sent to all current grant recipients notifying them of the extension be agreed.

Reason for decision – to allow an extended period for application to the VCS Partnership Grant Programme during the COVID 19 outbreak.

Other options considered – none other than as specified in the report.

Conflicts of interest/dispensations granted – none.

**LONDON BUSINESS RATES STRATEGIC INVESTMENT POT (LBR SIP) -
INCLUSIVE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY - EXEMPT APPENDICES**

RESOLVED:

Executive - 30 April 2020

That the information in the exempt appendix to agenda item C5 be noted (see Minute 718 for details).

MEETING CLOSED AT 7.35 pm

CHAIR