

18/05

Notice of Non-key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	London Borough's Grants Scheme 2018/19
Cabinet Member:	Cabinet Member for Financial Management, ICT (Client) & Transformation
SLT Lead:	Debbie Middleton (Chief Finance Officer)
Report Author and contact details:	Alison Umoh Extn: 2523
Policy context:	To approve the level of contribution to the London Councils Grants Committee for 2018/19 of £191,807
Financial summary:	The Council's contribution to the London Councils Grants Committee is proposed at £191,807 in 2018/19 (compared to £220,212 in 2017/18)
Relevant OSC:	Overview & Scrutiny Board
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	No

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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	[x]
Places making Havering	[]
Opportunities making Havering	[x]
Connections making Havering	[x]

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Cabinet Member for Financial Management, ICT (Client) & Transformation is asked to approve the proposed overall level of expenditure by the London Councils Grants Committee and agrees the London Borough of Havering's contribution of £191,807 in 2018/19.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Part 3, Section 2.5, Sub-section (q) To agree minor matters and urgent or routine policy matters.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

This report sets out the proposed budget of the London Boroughs Grants Committee and the impact on individual borough contributions for 2018/19.

The London Councils Grants Scheme is the London-wide body created to make grant-aid available to voluntary organisations operating across more than one borough.

Each year the London Councils Grants Committee proposes an overall level of expenditure for the scheme which is recommended to the London Boroughs and the Cities of London and Westminster for agreement.

The contribution requested from the London Borough of Havering is £191,807 for 2018/19 which is a reduction of £28,405 in the contribution since 2017/18.

Further to an Order issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government under sections 48(4A) of the Local Government Act 1985, agreement by a two-thirds majority of the constituent Councils specified is required by 1 February 2018.

If at least two-thirds of the constituent Councils pass the resolution in their own Councils to ratify and give effect to that overall level of expenditure, the overall level of expenditure and contributions become binding on all the constituent Councils.

In the event that constituent Councils are unable to reach agreement by the two-thirds majority required the constituent Councils will be deemed, subject to any order made under section 48(5) of the Local Government Act 1985, all to have given their approval to total expenditure of an amount equal to that which was approved in 2017-18.

The overall level of base borough contributions to the Scheme 2018/19 is £6.7m (compared to £7.7m in 2017/18). The context in which this recommendation is made is

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set out in reports to the London Councils Grants Committee on 22 November 2017 and to the Leaders' Committee on 5 December 2017.

The reports ask the Committee to agree:

- an overall level of expenditure of £8.7m for the Grants Scheme in 2018/19;
- that takes into account the application of a £1.0m European Social Fund grant and a matched £1.0m contribution from accumulated reserves, and borough contributions for 2018/19 of £6.7m;

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The only other option is to refuse to agree the new budget and under an order made by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, if the required two-thirds of the constituent Councils do not agree the budget, they shall be deemed to have approved the 2018/19 budget at the same level as the 2017/18 budget. For Havering that would be £220,212 rather than the reduced amount of £191,807. That course of action may or may not have any effect on the final result as it is dependent on the votes of all the London Boroughs.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

n/a.

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Alison Umoh

Designation: Corporate Management Accountant

Signature:



Date:

3/1/18

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Under an order made by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, if the required number of constituent Councils does not agree the budget, they shall be deemed to have approved the 2018/19 budget at the same level as the 2017/18 budget. If two-thirds of the constituent Councils do agree the new budget it is then compulsory on the other one-third. The Council has the choice of agreeing or rejecting the proposed budget and contribution.

Stephen Doye

Legal Manager (Litigation) *Principal Lawyer (Community Services)*

Signature



Date 8th January 2018

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council's contribution to the London Councils Grants Committee are as follows:

2017/18 Budget	£220,212
2018/19 Proposed Budget	£191,807


It is proposed that the overall level of 2018/19 contributions would be reduced as compared to the current year (£220,212). A reduction of just over £28,000.

The current general fund budget available is sufficient to meet the level of contributions.

Alison Umoh

Corporate Management Accountant

Signature



Date 3rd January 2018

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

There are no HR implications arising directly as a result of this report.

Geraldine Minchin

Strategic HR Business Partner

Signature



Date 9th January 2018

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

There are no direct equalities implications arising from this decision.

Full Equality Impact Assessments were undertaken by London Councils on the principles and projects funded by the London Borough Grants Programme. The projects commissioned focus on four priority areas for London, agreed by the London Borough Grants Committee, which are: homelessness, sexual and domestic violence, poverty and capacity building.

Vernal Scott

Corporate Diversity Advisor

Signature



Date 8th January 2018

BACKGROUND PAPERS

London Council's circular dated 05/12/17 – Proposed Revenue Budget and Borough Subscriptions and Charges 2018/19

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Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Proposal NOT agreed because

Details of decision maker

Signed 

Name: Councillor Clarence Barrett

Cabinet Portfolio held: Financial Management, ICT (Client) & Transformation

Date: 17/1/18

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Debra Marlow, Principal Committee Officer in Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on 19/1/18

Signed 

