



## Notice of Non-key Executive Decision

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|--|---|
| <b>Subject Heading:</b>                              | <b>London Boroughs Grants Scheme 2019/20</b>  |
| <b>Cabinet Member:</b>                               | <b>Cabinet Member for Finance and Property</b>  |
| <b>SLT Lead:</b>                                     | <b>Jane West (Chief Finance Officer)</b>  |
| <b>Report Author and contact details:</b>            | <b>Alison Umoh Extn: 2523</b>   |
| <b>Policy context:</b>                               | To approve the level of contribution to the London Councils Grants Committee for 2019/20 of £193,463                                    |
| <b>Financial summary:</b>                            | The Council's contribution to the London Councils Grants Committee is proposed at £193,463 in 2019/20 (compared to £191,807 in 2018/19) |
| <b>Relevant OSC:</b>                                 | <b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Board</b>  |
| <b>Is this decision exempt from being called-in?</b> | <b>No</b>   |

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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 Finance and Property 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 £193,463 in 2019/20.

### 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 2019/20.

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. Please see **Appendix A** that shows the organisations that benefit from the grant-aid and the organisations operating in London Borough of Havering that benefit.

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 £193,463 for 2019/20 which is an increase of £1,656 in the contribution since 2018/19.

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 25 January 2019.

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 the total amount approved in 2018-19.

The overall level of base borough contributions to the Scheme 2019/20 is £6.7m,

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which is the same as the current year. The context in which this recommendation is made is set out in reports to the London Councils Grants Committee on 21 November 2018 and to the Leaders' Committee on 4 December 2018.

The reports ask the Committee to agree:

- an overall level of expenditure of £6.9m for the Grants Scheme in 2019/20;
- that takes into account the contribution from accumulated reserves of £183k, and borough contributions for 2019/20 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 2019/20 budget at the full level of the 2018/19 of £8.7m. 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: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2018

## 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 2019/20 budget at the same level as the 2018/19 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

Principal Lawyer (Community Services)

Signature      by email

Date 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

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

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 2018/19 Budget          | £191,807 |
| 2019/20 Proposed Budget | £193,463 |

It is proposed that the overall level of 2019/20 contributions would be increased as compared to the current year (£191,807). An increase of just under £2,000.

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

Alison Umoh

Corporate Management Accountant

Signature

Date 17<sup>th</sup> December 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      by email

Date 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

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                      by email

Date 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

*London Council's circular dated 04/12/18 – Proposed Revenue Budget and Borough Subscriptions and Charges 2019/20*

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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

*Ron Ramsey*

Name: Councillor Roger Ramsey

Cabinet Portfolio held: Finance and Property

Date: 16.1.19.

**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 12/1/19

Signed A. N. C. M.

