

Notice of NON KEY Executive Decision containing exempt information

This Executive Decision Report is part exempt and Appendix A is not available for public inspection as it relates to exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is exempt because it refers to the financial or business affairs of any particular person including the authority holding that information, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

Subject Heading:	Approval to award Community Chest grant funding
Decision Maker:	Luke Burton, Director of Partnerships, Impact & Delivery, Havering.
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Ford – Lead Member for Adults and Health
SLT Lead:	Barbara Nicholls, Strategic Director of People
Report Author and contact details:	Suzanne West, Commissioner, Tel: 01708 434670, Email: suzanne.west@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	The Health Inequalities Fund will support Havering’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy priority
Financial summary:	The project is funded by NHS North East London (NEL). A total sum of

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	<p>£73,113 has been assigned for the community chest programme.</p> <p>Total funding to be awarded to community chest projects is £72,528.93.</p> <p>It is proposed that the remaining £584.02 from the fund is dedicated to supporting the recommendations from the Healthwatch Report – Deafness is not a Barrier – December 2023, and the Deaf Club in Havering (pending review of their club documentation as a voluntary group and their constitution), to bring in interpreters on an ongoing basis to support local deaf people with key health and care questions.</p> <p>This approach was endorsed at the Havering Partnership Board at the meeting on Wednesday 13th March 2024.</p>
Relevant OSC:	Health
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	Yes

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

People - Things that matter for residents (X)

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - A well run Council that delivers for People and Place.

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Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

To approve the award of Community Chest total funding of £72,528.93 received from NHS North East London (NEL) to 13 Voluntary Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSFE's) Organisations listed below:

1. The Baby Bank HQ
2. Habit Factory
3. St Albans Baby & Toddler CIC
4. Romford Autistic Group Support
5. HASWA
6. True You Today
7. Havering BME Forum
8. HBBS Counselling
9. Rainham Foodbank
10. Attention Deficit Disorders Uniting Parents
11. The Proper Blokes Club
12. Shipmates Community Café
13. The Sibling Group

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Havering Constitution

3.3 Powers of Members of the Senior Leadership Team Members

General powers

- (a) To take any steps necessary for proper management and administration for their allocated portfolios.

Contract powers

- (b) To award all contracts with a total contract value of between £500,000 and £5,000,000 other than contracts covered by Contract Procedure Rule 16.3.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Background

A sum of £73,113 from NHS North East London has been assigned for the Community Chest. A decision to proceed with the Community Chest project was approved by the

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Senior Leadership Team on 14th December 2023 (see link below to the background paper).

The Community Chest is a pilot programme running to support small to medium-sized charities, organisations, community groups, and social enterprises (VCFSEs) to deliver activities for community members around specific needs that have been identified across the borough. These needs are directly linked to health inequalities that have been recognised in areas of the borough. The projects will commence from April 2024.

Evaluation

The criteria set was co-designed by key stakeholders to ensure the application process is accessible to small entities.

The community chest application opened on 15th December 2023. There were 30 organisations who applied for this funding by the closing date on 31st January 2024. The evaluation panel evaluated the bids over a one week period and a moderation meeting was held on 4th March 2024.

After eligibility checks, applications were reviewed by an evaluation panel of stakeholders from the Council, NHS North East London and Healthwatch Havering. The applications took into consideration key factors such as equalities, how the proposed work fits into the fund priorities, and spread around the borough. All applicants had to answer the applications questions and provide details and relevant evidence to support their bid to qualify for this funding.

Applicants who did not provide the relevant documentation in accordance with the grant requirements, did not have their application responses evaluated. This was explained as part of the application process.

Following a successful competitive evaluation process, the panel were able to recommend awards to 13 organisations listed in the table below. Attached to this document is Exempt Appendix A (exempt from publication) which provides a full list of the community chest applicants.

VCSFE Organisation	Project Priority
The Baby Bank HQ	Cost of Living
Habit Factory	Disabilities, Mental Health & Isolation
St Albans Baby & Toddler CIC	Disabilities, Mental Health & Isolation
Romford Autistic Group Support	Disabilities, Mental Health & Isolation
HASWA	Mental Health & Isolation
True You Today	Long Term Conditions & Isolation
Havering BME Forum	Mental Health & Isolation
HBBS Counselling	Mental Health & Isolation
Rainham Foodbank	Mental Health & Isolation

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Attention Deficit Disorders Uniting Parents	Disabilities, Mental Health & Isolation
The Proper Blokes Club	Disabilities, Mental Health & Isolation and Long Term Conditions
Shipmates Community Café	Cost of Living & Isolation
The Sibling Group	Disabilities, Mental Health & Isolation
Total award	£72,528.93

Following the approval of the awards, the successful applicants will be asked to complete an outcome monitoring form when they complete the activities. The evaluation of outcomes and learning of the pilots will take place within an agreed time period, working with NHS North East London and Havering Place Based Partnerships.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Option - Do Nothing

This option was rejected. The Community Chest aims to respond to community intelligence, provides specific support to residents to enhance their independence and wellbeing.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

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

Name: Suzanne West

Designation: Commissioner

Signature:



Date: 18th March 2024

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Under Section 2 of the Care Act 2014, the Council has a duty to provide and arrange for the provision of services, facilities or resources, or take steps it considers will: contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by adults in its area of needs for care and support;

Contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by carer in its area of needs for support;

Reduce the needs for care and support of adults in its area;

Reduce the needs for support of carers in its area.

The Council has power to receive, accept and provide the grants under s111 of the Local Government Act 1972 which permits the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions.

The Council also has a general power of competence under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything an individual can do, subject to any statutory constraints on the Council's powers. None of the constraints on the Council's s.1 power are engaged by this decision.

The value of the grants is below the applicable public procurement threshold for the Light Touch Regime stipulated in the Public Contract Regulations 2015 ("PCR") of £663,540. Therefore, these grants are not subject to the full PCR regime.

Whilst the award of these grant do not fall under the full PCR regime, when considering whether to approve the award of these contracts (grants), the Council must comply with the awarding and grant related requirements of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in particular, with CPR , 18, 25.1, 25.3 and 25.4.

For the reason set above, the Council may accept the grant and award the Community Chest funding.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This paper seeks approval to award the Community Chest funding received from NHS North East London (NEL) to 13 Voluntary Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSFE's) Organisations following an evaluation of applications after an open procedure procurement for the Community Chest grant programme in Havering.

The total amount to be allocated to the successful Voluntary Sector organisations is £72,528.93.

£53,775 has been allocated from the Section 256 – North East London Health Inequalities Funding Allocation 2023/24 for this project. All projects funded from this agreement have been agreed at the Havering Place Partnership Board.

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The total funding allocation covered by this agreement is £492,000 and the agreement is for the period 1st August 2023 until 31st March 2027 or until the funds have been depleted.

£100k was allocated to the Community Chest project from the 2022/2023 North East London Health Inequalities Funding allocation and successful bids amounted to £80,662 leaving an underspend of £19,338, all parties have agreed for this amount to be added to the 2023/2024 allocation, making the total funding available £73,113. There will be a small underspend of £584.07 once all of the allocations have been made.

It is proposed that the remaining £584.02 from the fund is dedicated to supporting the recommendations from the Healthwatch Report – Deafness is not a Barrier – December 2023, and the Deaf Club in Havering (pending review of their club documentation as a voluntary group and their constitution), to bring in interpreters on an ongoing basis to support local deaf people with key health and care questions. This approach was endorsed at the Havering Partnership Board at the meeting on Wednesday 13th March 2024.

The community chest project will be fully funded from the NEL Health Inequalities Funding and therefore approval of this project will not have an adverse impact on the council's financial position.

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

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

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, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

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.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

There are no environmental and climate change implications of, and risks relating to, the proposed decision.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Non Key Executive Decision Report: Community Chest for Social Prescribing
<https://democracy.havering.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=8037>

APPENDICES

Exempt Appendix A – full list of the community chest applicants.

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Part C – Record of decision

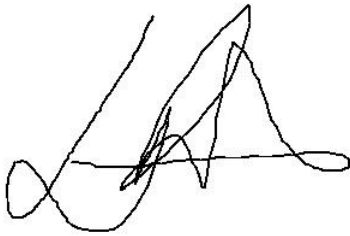
I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Details of decision maker

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Burton', written over a horizontal line.

Name: Luke Burton, Director of Partnership, Impact and Delivery, Havering

Date: Wednesday 20th March 2024

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____