

# Grants Committee

## 1<sup>st</sup> Dispatch

9 March 2016: 11:00 am

### Agenda

At London Councils offices, Conference Suite,  
59½ Southwark St., London SE1 0AL

Refreshments will be provided

London Councils offices are wheelchair accessible

#### Labour Group:

(Political Adviser: 07977 401955) Room 1

10:00 am

#### Conservative Group:

(Political Adviser: 07903 492195) Room 5

10:00 am

#### Contact Officer:

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A sandwich lunch will be provided after the meeting in Room 4

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### **\*Declarations of Interests**

If you are present at a meeting of London Councils' or any of its associated joint committees or their sub-committees and you have a disclosable pecuniary interest\* relating to any business that is or will be considered at the meeting you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your disclosable pecuniary interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

It is a matter for each member to decide whether they should leave the room while an item that they have an interest in is being discussed. In arriving at a decision as to whether to leave the room they may wish to have regard to their home authority's code of conduct and/or the Seven (Nolan) Principles of Public Life.

\*as defined by the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

**LONDON COUNCILS GRANTS COMMITTEE -  
18 November 2015**

Minutes of the Grants Committee AGM held at London Councils, 59½ Southwark Street, London SE1 0AL on Wednesday 18 November 2015

London Borough & Royal Borough:

Representative:

Barking and Dagenham  
Bexley  
Bromley  
Camden  
City of London  
Croydon  
Ealing  
Enfield  
Greenwich  
Hammersmith and Fulham  
Harrow  
Havering  
Hillingdon  
Islington  
Kingston upon Thames  
Lambeth  
Lewisham  
Merton  
Newham  
Redbridge  
Richmond  
Southwark  
Sutton  
Wandsworth

Cllr Darren Rodwell  
Cllr Don Massey  
Cllr Stephen Carr  
Cllr Abdul Hai  
Alison Gowman  
Cllr Mark Watson  
Cllr Ranjit Dheer  
Cllr Yasmin Brett  
Cllr Jackie Smith (Dep)  
Cllr Sue Fennimore  
Cllr Sue Anderson  
Cllr Osman Dervish (Dep)  
Cllr Phillip Corthorne (Dep)  
Cllr Asima Shaikh  
Cllr Julie Pickering  
Cllr Paul McGlone (Chair)  
Cllr Joan Millbank  
Cllr Edith Macauley MBE  
Cllr Forhad Hussain  
Cllr Farah Hussain (Dep)  
Cllr Meena Bond  
Cllr Michael Situ  
Cllr Simon Wales  
Cllr James Maddan

London Councils officers were in attendance.

### **1. Apologies for Absence and Announcement of Deputies**

1. Apologies were received from Cllr Daniel Thomas (LB Barnet), Cllr Jonathan McShane (LB Hackney), Cllr Peter Morton (LB Haringey), Cllr Melvin Wallace (LB Havering), Cllr Douglas Mills (LB Hillingdon), Cllr Gerard Hargreaves (RB Kensington and Chelsea), Cllr Dev Sharma (LB Redbridge), Cllr Liaquat Ali (LB Waltham Forest) and Cllr Steve Summers (City of Westminster).

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Minutes of the Grants Committee AGM held on 15th July 2015**

- 3.1 The AGM minutes were agreed.

The Chair then varied the order of the agenda in the following way: Item 8 (included the tabled resolution), item 6, then all the other items in chronological order.

### **8. Review of London Councils Grants Programme**

- 8.1 The Head of Grants and Community Services introduced this item and said that:

- A public consultation had taken place from 24 July 2015 to 2 October 2015 concerning the future of the grants programme beyond the current four-year commissioning cycle, which ended in March 2017.
- Responses had been invited as to whether a Grants Programme should be delivered beyond March 2017, under the current principles, and as to the priorities, as well as views on the potential equalities impacts of any changes to them.
- Over 250 responses had been received. Of these, 248 respondents had said that the programme should continue, and nine had said that it should not. Among main borough respondents, 22 had said the programme should continue, and four had said it should not.
- The existing principles were strongly supported.
- The Homelessness priority (1) was considered important, and a significant number of respondents thought it should be linked to unemployment.
- The Sexual and Domestic Violence priority (2) had very strong support, and within this respondents thought that refuge provision was the most important service.
- Priority 3 - Tackling Poverty through Employment - (50% of which is funded through the ESF) also had strong support, but needed to be linked to Homelessness. Stakeholders thought that the main remit for this priority should be getting economically inactive people into sustained employment.
- Many respondents, especially from the voluntary sector, said that capacity building in the third sector, priority 4, was important. However, boroughs were less positive, with only 55% saying it was very important or important..
- Respondents said strongly that the focus should continue to be on outcomes.
- The programme tackled inequality and had a positive impact on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010.
- The Committee was asked to make recommendations to the Leaders' Committee, which would make the decision on the future of the Grants programme at their meeting in March 2016.

## 8.2 Members made the following points:

- It would have been helpful if the consultation had allowed respondents to make more nuanced comments, rather than just be asked to say 'yes' or 'no' in some parts of the consultation.
- Boroughs were supportive of the continuation of the Grants programme provided there was robust and continued monitoring of the commissions.
- Some of the provision needed to be more targeted (e.g. employment help needed to be directed at those with learning difficulties).
- Pan-London commissions were essential for the Homelessness priority because people did not necessarily present homeless in their own boroughs.
- Commissions should have a strong focus on prevention of domestic and sexual violence (for example working in schools) and tackling extremism (boroughs have the opportunity to work together on tackling extremism through the national initiative 'we stand together')
- Whilst the majority of cases of domestic or sexual violence were perpetrated against women, it was important to recognise that a significant number of men were victims of domestic violence as well and domestic and sexual violence commissions needed to reflect that.
- It was essential to avoid the duplication of the work local authorities already did in relation to providing refuge for victims of domestic violence, and housing homeless people, which were statutory responsibilities of the boroughs.
- Commissions funded by the Grants Committee were not always known to boroughs; better cooperation with the boroughs was needed.
- The City Bridge Trust was funding an important Review of Future Civil Society in London. This needed to be considered before the Capacity Building priority (4) was withdrawn from the future Grants programme. The Big Lottery fund was also interested in the area of capacity building.

8.3 Members noted the results of the consultation on the review of the Grants programme.

8.4 The Chair then moved the following resolution which was seconded by Cllr Carr:

*The Grants Committee would ask the Leaders Committee to note that:*

*There is majority support for a pan-London programme based on agreed principles and that the evidence mostly shows that the current four year programme (2013 to 2017) is delivering for all Londoners, within the limits of the £10m p.a. programme. It is important to note that for specialist services, including services for those for groups within equalities protected characteristics, that these can best be organised at a London level. For the two years 2013-2015, headline evidence of outcomes shows that 198,000 new interventions helped Londoners against our priorities.*

*Having considered the performance of the 2013/17 grants programme to date and the results of the recent consultation, Grants Committee recommends to Leaders Committee:*

1. *There is a strong case for continuing a grants programme focused on combatting sexual and domestic violence and on poverty through worklessness (accessing ESF match funding) for the 2017/21 period;*
2. *There may be a case for continuing a programme focused on homelessness provided that Grants and Leaders Committee can be given stronger evidence of where that homelessness currently comes from across London and also that going forward commissions can address the differing priorities between inner and outer London;*
3. *While not without merit, given current financial constraints, there is unlikely to be a strong enough case for continuing a programme on capacity building in the voluntary sector; and*
4. *Going forward, boroughs need to be assured that:*
  - i. *i: Robust, regular and transparent monitoring and reporting of the activities of the Grants Programme continues so that outcomes benefiting their residents can be evidenced;*
  - ii. *ii: That service providers are working in partnership with borough third sector organisations;*
  - iii. *iii: That commissioned outcomes can evidence clear and transparent value for money;*
  - iv. *iv: London Councils should facilitate a stronger network of officer relationships between itself, senior Borough officers and third sector providers and umbrella organisations in each borough to ensure continuing Pan-London ownership of the whole Grants Programme.*

8.5 Members agreed the resolution. All members voted in favour apart from the City of London representative, who abstained.

## **6. Performance of Grants Programme 2015/16**

The Head of Grants introduced this report and said that:

- The report covered the first half of 2015/16, which is year three of the current funding cycle, and set out data on the performance of the programme and other performance-related information.
- At priority level, the outcomes for:

- Priority 1 (homelessness - allocated £5.54 million to eight projects 2015-16) overall were 32% above profile in the first two quarters of 2015/16
- Priority 2 (sexual and domestic violence - allocated £6.81 million of funding over two years) overall were 9% above profile in the first two quarters of 2015/16
- Priority 3 (ESF tackling poverty through employment – allocated 3.76 million to 10 projects in over two years, including 50% ESF match funding) overall were 1% above profile at completion
- Priority 4 (capacity building - allocated £2.66 million over two years) overall were 15% above profile in the first two quarters of 2015/16
- At project level:
  - In the red, amber, green (RAG) system, 22 projects are green and two are amber. 11 have no rating this quarter. 10 of these are the ESF projects that have completed. One provider – Eaves – has gone into administration. There is a proposal for meeting the continuing needs of users of the former Eaves service below
  - The direction-of-travel arrows show that the performance of four of the projects is falling
  - Officers would propose to concentrate performance management effort on the five projects that are rated amber and/ or whose direction-of-travel arrows are pointing down. These are St Mungo's Community Housing Association (priority 1), Women in Prison (priorities 1 and 2), Tender Education and Arts (priority 2) and Asian Women's Resource Centre (priority 2)

6.5 London Councils' officers also provided further information about Eaves, which had gone into administration unexpectedly. It appeared that Eaves had lost a major source of government funding and had not reduced its core costs in line with this, leading to financial difficulties.. Grants Officers said that that the conditions of the Grants Programme stipulate that the Grants team should be informed of serious issues relating to financial stability of the organisation, but that in this instance Eaves was in breach of their contract. They added that a review of London Councils procedures to assess organisations' financial health will be covered in the internal audit to be carried out by City of London auditors.

ACTION: officers to provide an update to the Chair of the Grants Committee

6.6 Members agreed that:

- a) With regards to the two service users who currently supported by Solace Women's Aid - following Eaves' going into administration - the period of support is extended by a further three months by the provider. This would be done within the level of funds of £40,000 agreed by Members through urgency procedure
- b) Officers should investigate options to address the gap in services left by Eaves for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 and take proposals to Grants Executive on how this could be addressed (within the existing budget allocation of £162,950)

- c) There should be a variance to London Councils' performance management model for the period in which the administration of the current programme administration and the review of the programme are being undertaken concurrently.

#### **4. Eaves Housing Urgency Report**

4.1 Members noted the decision taken under the Urgency procedure, which involved re-allocation of £40,000 from the existing Grants budget for the purpose for housing up to seven women affected in a different refuge, as they would have become street homeless unless alternative provision was found for them.

4.2 Members commented that in light of this, closer analysis of organisations' financial mechanism was needed, and that organisations should ideally have three months in reserve

4.3 Members noted the report and thanked London Councils' officers and the Chair and Vice Chair for acting so quickly in order to resolve this issue.

#### **5. Audited financial results 2014/15**

5.1 Frank Smith, Director of Resources, introduced this report and said that

- The Grants Executive Committee requested that the financial results be presented to the full Grants Committee on conclusion of the external audit of the 2014/15 accounts.
- The external audit of London Councils' accounts for 2014/15 was undertaken by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) between July and September 2015, with the annual audit report being issued by PwC following the completion of the audit. The annual audit report was presented to and noted by London Councils' Audit Committee on 24 September 2015.
- The external audit of the provisional financial results for the Grants Committee for 2014/15 led to no changes being requested to the indicative figures by PwC. The pre-audited figures detailed in Appendix A, therefore, become the final audited figures for the year.
- Uncommitted general reserves were £1.324 million as at 31 March 2015. Recommendations were made on the return of a proportion of these uncommitted reserves to boroughs during 2016/17 as part of 2016/17 budget proposals. These proposals will be presented to the Leaders' Committee for final approval on 8 December.

5.2 Members noted the report.

#### **7. Month 6 revenue forecast 2015/16**

7.1 The Director of Resources introduced the report and said that:

- The London Councils' Grants Committee's income and expenditure revenue budget for 2015/16 was approved by the Leaders' Committee in December 2014, following recommendations by the Grants Committee.
- Projected total reserves of £1.57 million are forecast at the year-end, after considering the projected surplus of £737,000 for the year. A sum of £1.085 million relates to borough contributions towards the funding of ESF commissions, £707,000 of which is projected to arise in 2015/16 due to the anticipated slippage in the start of the new 2016+ ESF programme.
- Based on the above projected position, as part of the budget proposals for 2016/17, a sum of £486,000 is proposed for return to boroughs from Committee reserves.

7.2 Members said that it should be made clear to commissions that if they did not spend their funding within the specified time period, they would not necessarily have their funding taken away.

7.3 Members noted the report.

## **9. Budget proposals 2016/17**

9.1 The Director of Resources said that this report considers the proposed budget for the Grants Scheme for 2016/17.

9.2 Members said that the relationship between the London Councils' Grants programme and the boroughs needed to be strengthened, reflecting the issues raised in the Grants Committee recommendation to Leaders' Committee and asked how this could be achieved given constrained resources. London Councils' officers said this certainly was an issue, as London Councils has made an effort to make administration costs less than 5% of the overall budget.

Action: It was agreed that this issue be brought back to the committee in the next update on the Grants Review and in subsequent meetings leading up to a new programme starting in 2017.

9.2 Members agreed the following recommendations:

- An overall level of expenditure of £10 million for the Grants Scheme in 2016/17 (inclusive of £2 million gross ESF programme), a reduction of £500,000 on the current year;
- that taking into account the application of £1 million ESF grant, borough contributions for 2016/17 should be £9 million;
- that, in addition and for 2016/17 only, a proposed transfer from Grants Committee reserves of £486,000 be made and returned to boroughs in the form of a one-off repayment;
- that further to the recommendations above, constituent councils be informed of the Committee's recommendation and be reminded that further to the Order issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment under Section 48 (4A) of the Local Government Act 1985, if the constituent councils have not reached agreement by the two-thirds majority specified before 1 February 2016 they shall be deemed to have approved expenditure of an amount equal to the amount approved for the preceding financial year (i.e. £10.5 million);
- that constituent councils be advised that the apportionment of contributions for 2016/17 will be based on the ONS mid-year population estimates for June 2014 and that this methodology will also apply to the proposed one-off repayment of £486,000 for 2016/17; and
- that subject to the approval of an overall level of expenditure, the Committee agrees to set aside a provision of £555,000 for costs incurred by London Councils in providing staff and other support services to ensure delivery of the Committee's "making of grants" responsibilities, including ESF administration of £120,000.

**The meeting finished at 12:10**



# London Councils' Grants Committee

## Review of London Councils' Grants Programme

Item no: 4

**Report by:** Simon Courage  
Katy Makepeace-Gray

**Job title:** Head of Grants and Community Services  
Principal Programme Manager

**Date:** 9 March 2016

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### Summary

The current grants programme delivered jointly by the London local authorities under the London Grants Scheme is due to conclude in March 2017.

London Councils Grants Committee resolved at their Annual General Meeting in July 2015 to undertake a review to inform future decisions by Grants and Leaders' Committee as to the continued delivery of a pan-London grants programme under the Grants Scheme at the conclusion of the current programme.

That Review has been undertaken and has involved consideration, analysis and evaluation of a number of sources of information and factors relevant to the decision. In particular the Review sought and analysed the views of stakeholders provided through established sector arrangements and a formal consultation undertaken between July and October 2015. It evaluated evidence relating to the operation and impact of the current grants programme. Specific consideration was given to the equalities impacts arising from the operation of the current programme and those which may arise in delivering a future programme including one which may differ in scope. Regard was also had to the pressures on local authority budgets arising from significant cuts to local government funding in recent years and the additional adverse impact of HM Government's Comprehensive Spending Review announced on 25 November 2015 – subsequently confirmed by the final Local Government Financial Settlement announced on 8 February 2016 – which will reduce local authority funding further.

The evaluation and analysis of officers was considered by Grants Committee on 18 November 2015 and Leaders' Committee on 8 December 2015, which agreed a new grants programme should be delivered from April 2017 (retaining the Principles underpinning the current programme) and that it was minded, subject to further consultation, to endorse future priorities around combatting sexual and domestic violence and on poverty through worklessness, on tackling homelessness (subject to certain provisos); but not to support a priority around capacity building for the third sector. Further Leaders' Committee resolved officers should work to strengthen programme management and relationships with boroughs at a local level to support the management of each priority and delivery of outcomes.

A subsequent additional consultation took place from 17 December 2015 to 22 January 2016 to seek further views on the position the Committee was minded to take as outlined above. This report summarises the findings of this consultation in presenting relevant evidence and information to the Committee in taking their decision to make recommendations to Leaders' Committee on the future scope of the next grants programme. This includes evidence in the form of a report commissioned from Homeless Link into homelessness need in London and information gathered at a London Councils borough event focused on sexual and domestic violence which took place on 23 February 2016.

There is also other work currently underway by London Funders (and funded by the City Bridge Trust) to review infrastructure support in London and the outcome of that review is due to be delivered to London Councils at the end of March 2016.

**Recommendations**    The Grants Committee is asked:

1. To make recommendations to Leaders' Committee to agree to deliver a Grants Programme from April 2017 operating in accordance with the current principles and focused on the following priorities -
    - i. Priority 1 Combatting Homelessness
    - ii. Priority 2 Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
    - iii. Priority 3 Tackling Poverty through Employment (European Social Fund match funded)
  2. To agree that officers develop a proposal to work with City Bridge Trust on the implementation of the review into infrastructure support in London (being undertaken by London Funders) and that this be reported to the next meeting of the Grants Committee in July 2016.
-

# **Review of Grants Programme 2013/17**

## **1 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

The London local authorities have agreed to participate in a statutory Grants Scheme which enables them jointly, through London Councils, to tackle high-priority social need where this is better done at pan-London level. The existing grants programme, delivered under that Scheme, commissions third sector organisations to work with disadvantaged Londoners to make real improvements in their lives. The programme delivers a number of projects operating within a framework of overarching principles and identified priorities which are determined by the London Councils Leaders' Committee upon the recommendation of the London Councils Grants Committee. The Grants Committee is otherwise generally responsible for the operation of the Scheme and grant-making decisions. The current programme with an annual budget of £10 million was agreed by the Grants Committee and Leaders' Committee in February 2013 and each subsequent year for a four year commissioning cycle, which comes to and end in March 2017.

### **1.2 Proposals for a Grants Programme 2017-21**

1.2.1 A review has been undertaken to determine whether London Councils should undertake a new grants programme following the conclusion of the existing programme at 31 March 2017. The review has also considered the scope and focus of any new programme.

1.2.2 London Councils Leaders' Committee, at its meeting on 8 December 2015, considered a report on the review.

1.2.3 Leaders' Committee considered the outcome of the consultation that had taken place from July to October 2015, evidence relating to the operation and impact of the current grants programme, equalities information, and other relevant factors including pressures on local authority budgets and the impact of HM Government's Comprehensive Spending Review announced on 25 November 2015.

1.2.4 The consultation, which ran between July and October 2015, together with other evidence from the operation of the current programme and stakeholders, has indicated that acting collectively to address London-wide priorities with preventative commissions through a pan-

London grants programme has been effective, provided value for money and delivered positive outcomes for people with the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. An analysis of the equalities impacts of the existing grants programme was provided with the consultation that took place between July and October 2015. This analysis was then revised having regard to the consultation responses and was published as part of the Grants Committee report.

1.2.5 In this context, Leaders' Committee, at its meeting in December 2015, indicated that it was minded to continue to deliver a grants programme beyond April 2017. The Committee also indicated that it was minded that the new grants programme would continue to be underpinned by the same principles agreed by boroughs in a review of the Programme 2012 as they remained valid. The current grants programme operates on the basis that each of the priorities identified for funding must meet all the principles and it was proposed that this continue. This followed a resolution submitted to the Leaders' Committee from Grants Committee at their meeting in November 2015, included at **appendix seven.** On the whole the mid-year consultation responses were very supportive of the current principles being retained.

<b>Principles</b>
1. Commissioning services that deliver effectively and can meet the outcomes specified by London Councils, rather than funding organisations.
2. Commissioning services where there is clear evidence of need for services that complement borough and other services to support organisations that deliver services.
3. Commissioning services where it is economical and efficient to deliver services on a London wide basis or where mobility is key to delivery of a service to secure personal safety.
4. Commissioning services that cannot reasonably be delivered locally, at a borough or sub-regional level.
5. Commissioning services that work with statutory and non-statutory partners and contribute to meeting the objectives of the Equality Act 2010.

1.2.6 At that meeting in December, Leaders' Committee also indicated that it was minded to continue to deliver a grants programme focused on the following three priorities.

### **1.2.7 Priority one - Combatting Homelessness**

It was proposed that a new priority provide services to tackle homelessness through prevention and early intervention, focusing on specific target groups such as young people. Leaders' Committee was minded that to adopt a priority on combatting homelessness which was refocused with changes to the commissioning process to reflect the different homelessness needs presenting in inner and outer London, including those of rough sleepers. Also they were minded to support enhanced integration with activity delivered under a priority focused on combatting poverty through employment, reflecting the links between homelessness and unemployment. Elected members were keen to ensure that services should also focus on addressing increasing needs in the private rented sector and people at risk of exploitation by rogue landlords.

### **1.2.8 Priority two - Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence**

It was proposed that a priority be adopted under which services would be commissioned to tackle sexual and domestic violence, including harmful practices. Leaders' Committee was minded to focus the priority further on co-ordination of specialist emergency refuge provision across London, advice, counselling, prevention, support for children and young people (as victims and perpetrators), and holistic care following on from and complementing borough led Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) care.

### **1.2.9 Priority three - Tackling Poverty through Employment (European Social Fund)**

Leaders' Committee was minded to adopt a third priority which was more integrated with activity delivered under the priority focused on homelessness to meet the needs of a growing number of people who are both out of work and homeless, and also to support disabled people that are out of work.

## **1.3 Wider context**

1.3.1 In the context of real challenges in the resourcing picture facing councils in the next few years, as evidenced in the Comprehensive Spending Review announced in November, Leaders felt it was unlikely that a priority focused on capacity building in the Third Sector, could be considered for the next grants programme under the pan-London Scheme, having regard to the financial constraints facing authorities in determining how the needs of Londoners could be best addressed under a London-wide Scheme.

1.3.2 The Comprehensive Spending Review, announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 25 November 2015, outlined reductions in core funding to councils of some 30% over the course of the forthcoming Spending Review period.<sup>1</sup> This will be in addition to average core funding reductions of 40% over the last five-year period. This will require some very hard decisions by councils about relative priorities in terms of the use of increasingly scarce resources when serving local communities. It was against that backdrop that the Leaders' Committee was minded at its meeting on 8 December to indicate that it was unlikely that a new priority focused solely on capacity building of the Third Sector, could be considered as a priority for the grants programme going forward.

## **2. Additional Consultation**

London Councils undertook a subsequent consultation from 17 December 2015 to 22 January 2016 to seek further views on the position Leaders' Committee was minded to take in determining the scope of the new grants programme, as outlined above.

A consultation paper, including questions on the potential equalities effects of changes to the existing priorities, was published on 17 December 2015 on [www.londoncouncils.gov.uk](http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk) as an online questionnaire and was available as a printable survey. Borough leaders, Grants Committee members and chief executives were advised by email of the online consultation. Boroughs were encouraged to submit single borough responses and relevant borough officer networks were encouraged to contribute to them. Other organisations were advised by email of the online consultation. A number of voluntary organisations submitted responses on behalf of their organisation. Submissions were also received from stakeholders and related volunteers, trustees and individuals. The consultation closed on 22 January 2016. Further details on the breakdown of responses to the consultation can be found at **appendix one**.

### **2.1 Support for the Leaders' Committee in-principle position**

2.1.1 The consultation outlined the in-principle position that Leaders' Committee reached at its meeting on 8 December 2015, as above, and asked if respondents supported it. Table 1.1 provides a breakdown of the answers to this question against the different categories of respondents.

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<sup>1</sup> Core Funding is defined as Revenue Support Grant and retained business rates.

**Table 1.1 Breakdown of responses as to the Leaders' Committee in-principle position**

	Yes	No	Question not answered/ unclear
London borough	25 (76%)	6 (18%)	2 (6%)
Voluntary and community	8 (13%)	55 (87%)	
Individuals and service users	9 (43%)	12 (57%)	
Other funders/ stakeholders	1 (25%)	1(25%)	2 (50%)

For a full break down of borough responses to this question please see **appendix two.** These are also summarised in table 1.2 below.

**Table 1.2 Summary of borough responses**

Response	Boroughs	%
<b>Yes</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>76%</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Unclear</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6%</b>
	<b>33</b>	<b>100%</b>

2.1.2 The majority of boroughs (25) stated that they agreed with the Leaders' Committee in principle position.

2.1.3 A number of boroughs stated that they did not agree (6). These six boroughs can be further broken down into boroughs that agreed with the Leaders' position but did not feel that it was appropriate not to include a priority which focussed on capacity building in the Third Sector at this stage (4 boroughs). Counting those four boroughs, together with the 25 that stated 'yes' a total of 29 (88%) are supportive of a London Councils Grants scheme going forward.

2.1.4 The remaining two boroughs stated that they felt that there should be further reductions to the scope of delivery under the Scheme beyond those proposed by Leaders' Committee, a view subsequently supported by a response from the London Councils Conservative group.

2.1.5 The majority of boroughs have indicated their support for the in-principle position taken by Leaders' Committee at their meeting on 18 December 2015. This reflects a continued majority perspective from boroughs that supports the continuation of a pan-London grants programme

focused on services to tackle homelessness, sexual and domestic violence and poverty. The responses from the most recent consultation indicate that the majority of boroughs continue to be of the view that due to increased pressures on local authority budgets they do not see a continued role for London Councils in funding capacity building of the voluntary sector.

2.1.6 Boroughs have highlighted a continued support for the current elements that make up the existing priorities 1-3 (which are focused on combatting homelessness, domestic and sexual violence and poverty) and welcomed the proposal to adopt a number of new emphases such as a link between the proposed Priority one (combatting homelessness) and three (tackling poverty through employment) and to focus on different needs in inner and outer London. This is echoed by the East London Housing Partnership.<sup>2</sup> The importance of avoiding duplication of services and robust monitoring were outlined and are further addressed below.

2.1.7 VCS organisations were largely not in support of the Leaders' Committee in-principle position and have outlined a range of reasons for this as detailed in **appendix one**, focused on a desire for continued support to capacity building of the voluntary sector. MOPAC<sup>2</sup> welcomed the continued support for a priority focused on tackling sexual and domestic violence. The MOPAC response (included as **appendix six**) emphasised the links this has with a priority focussed on combatting homelessness; as well as the importance of both working together and continuing to fund a support element under the proposed Priority two to ensure the future effectiveness and sustainability of this priority area. More detail with regard to the comments can be found in **appendix one**.

## **2.2 Equalities Considerations**

2.2.1 London Councils identified the protected groups under the Equality Act 2010 who currently benefit from each Priority within the existing grants programme to assess the potential equality implications of any changes to that offered under the existing provision. The analysis of evidence, including that from the operation of the existing grants programme and the outcome of the consultation undertaken between July and October 2015, was published in the Grants Committee papers, November 2015 and alongside the consultation questionnaire (December 2015 – January 2016).

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<sup>2</sup> MOPAC – Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime



2.2.2 The consultation asked if respondents agreed that the analysis correctly identified the groups currently benefiting from each Priority within the existing grants programme. Table two provides a breakdown of the answers to this question against the different categories of respondents.

**Table two**

	Yes	No
London borough	27(93%)	2(7%)
Voluntary and community	11(19%)	48(81%)
Individuals and service users	12(67%)	6(33%)
Other funders/ stakeholders		

2.2.3 Whilst the majority of boroughs were in agreement with the equalities information published with the consultation a number of issues were raised. These include a desire going forward for future programmes to provide information on equalities information broken down by borough, information on individuals with more than one equalities characteristic and more information on refugees and migrants. It was also felt that it was unclear whether the equalities data which had been analysed and reported was incidental to or related to the types of services accessed.

2.2.4 VCS responses largely did not agree with the equalities information presented based on the fact that responses did not feel that the information addressed the impact of London Councils no longer funding a priority focussed on capacity building of the voluntary sector. Both boroughs and VCS organisations also called for equalities information relating to frontline organisations benefitting from funding under the current Priority four commissions (rather than that relating to their staff) to enable a proper assessment of the impacts. Information was presented to Grants Committee at their November 2015 meeting with regard to frontline organisations supported (by equalities protected characteristic). In addition, officers have provided additional information in response to these concerns which is presented in **appendix four**. A more detailed response to each of the concerns raised can be found in **appendix one, section 2.2.**

## **2.3 Potential negative equalities impacts**

2.3.1 The consultation asked if there are negative equalities impacts that would potentially arise from the approach Leaders' Committee has indicated they are minded to pursue from April 2017 onwards and which should be considered in taking their decision?

Table three provides a breakdown of the answers to this question against the different categories of respondents.

**Table three**

	Yes	No
London borough	19(68%)	9(32%)
Voluntary and community	54(91%)	5(8%)
Individuals and service users	12(63%)	7(37%)

2.3.2 The majority of consultation responses were of the view that there would be a negative equalities impact if London Councils did not adopt a priority focused on capacity building of the Third Sector. Details related to this are outlined in **appendix one, section 2.3**. Some boroughs, however, did not feel that this would be the case, given that limited resources would be concentrated on direct services serving those with complex and acute needs that would benefit from a response that took into account their equalities related needs (for example emergency refuge provision for people with mental health issues or other disabilities). In relation to borough responses that stated that insufficient detail had been provided to make a judgement, please refer to **appendix one, section 2.2.4** and **appendix four**.

2.3.3 Borough responses have also stated that negative equalities implications need to be considered within a wider context. Local authorities are facing unprecedented levels of pressure on their budgets which means that decisions to fund priorities at a pan-London level are at the expense of funding services locally, which also have equalities implications. It is also relevant to consider in the context of the equalities impact of the other three proposed priority areas. Priorities one to three of the current programme have wide ranging equalities impacts that were outlined in the previous Grants Committee report (18 November 2015). It is worth noting that whilst these priorities provide specialist services that reflect the equalities related needs of beneficiaries it is also fair to say that the impact of these services is significant and are not delivered elsewhere. For example, in the 2011-12 Grants Review a need was highlighted around the lack of refuge provision for disabled women fleeing domestic violence. London Councils commissioned a service to address this need, amongst other specialised needs, under the current Priority two. This fitted with the Grants Programme principles of commissioning services that would be difficult to delivery locally given the relatively low numbers requiring this service at a borough level. Without this service, potential service users would face a choice between support that does not address their needs, returning to a violent partner or destitution. In this

example it is possible to see that the direct positive equalities impacts relating to the current Priorities one to three are high.

The next section of the survey and this report is important in outlining ways in which the negative implications can be mitigated.

## **2.4 Mitigation**

2.4.1 The consultation then asked respondents to consider what mitigation could be taken to address any potential negative impacts that they had highlighted. A range of actions were outlined that could be used to mitigate potential negative impacts related to the Leaders' Committee in principle position. These include the role of local authorities and the fact that there is a year between this meeting and funding ending which gives providers time to formulate plans to address any gaps in funding of their organisation's activities which might arise under a new pan-London programme which directs funding to different services and outcomes.

2.4.2 City Bridge Trust has commissioned London Funders to undertake a review into infrastructure in London in order to understand how the third sector can best be supported in order to optimise its positive impact on Londoners in challenging economic times. The results of this review will be published in March. Members may wish to consider a continued role for London Councils in leadership and capacity building in the third sector through supporting the implementation of recommendations from this report and helping to shape any additional funding allocated to capacity building/ infrastructure by City Bridge Trust. City Bridge Trust currently funds infrastructure as one of its nine funding priorities, 'Strengthening London's Voluntary Sector' and has recently provided £2.7m in total in grants ranging from one to three years.<sup>3</sup>

2.4.3 Providing an allocation of officer time would be an effective and cost-effective way for the boroughs, through London Councils, to collectively facilitate the boroughs' role in the implementation of the findings to provide the opportunity to evaluate new models of collaborative working between boroughs and the voluntary sector, and to provide information to boroughs about their successes and failures. This reflects consultation responses from boroughs and their views as to the need to strengthen links between the London Councils grants programme and borough activities. If members agree that officers should explore this as an option,

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<sup>3</sup> City Bridge Trust, Annual Review 2015

recommendations could be brought to the next meeting of the Grants Committee in July 2016 for consideration.

2.4.4 Some boroughs suggested that more information could be provided in relation to each borough to assist boroughs in assessing the impact locally. Officers can provide a list of frontline organisations supported per borough on request (this has been provided to some boroughs on request already).

2.4.5 Comments were made regarding support elements of the proposed priorities one, two and three. Should members remain in agreement with the Leaders' Committee position in December 2015, the detail of the new priority areas will be considered in the next few months with specifications being drawn up and reviewed by Grants Committee in their meeting in July 2016. Comments outlined above regarding the support element currently funded under priority one and priority two will be considered as part of this process. Priority three is co-funded by ESF and arrangements for support to priority three fall within those for the new (2014-20) London ESF programme (of which the London Councils ESF programme is a part). The GLA manages the London ESF programme and makes this support available through a three-year 'technical assistance' project.

Further detail on responses related to the question on mitigation is provided in **appendix one, section 2.4.**

## **2.5 Additional evidence/ submissions**

In reaching a decision on the future priorities members will consider a range of different information. This includes information on performance of commissions to date, the results of the first consultation (July-October 2015), subsequent consultation (December 2015- January 2016), equalities information (presented previously and with this report). Other sources of information are detailed below.

### **2.5.1 London Councils member event on sexual and domestic violence**

On 23 February 2016 London Councils delivered an event for 70 borough officers and members focused on tackling sexual and domestic violence. The event focused on issues faced by the boroughs and how these can be addressed through shared responses, in particular with VCS partners. The event had speakers from boroughs, voluntary and community organisations and MOPAC's Violence Against Women and Girls Board. The event represents the ongoing action to

ensure services are properly linked to local services and in coordination with regional initiatives in this area, as outlined in section four. Key issues from this event are outlined in **appendix one, section 2.5.**

### **2.5.2 Evidencing the need for homelessness in London**

When considering a position on the future grants priorities Grants Committee at their meeting of 18 November 2015 outlined a need for further evidence on homelessness need in London to enable them to make a decision on the priorities for the period beyond 2017. London Councils commissioned Homeless Link to undertake a short piece of research to address this.

Key findings from the report are as follows,

- There is clear evidence for a growing level of homelessness and a need for resources to be allocated in outer London, in particular around private rented sector (PRS) tenancy brokerage and sustainment
- Further work needs to be undertaken in terms of prevention of homelessness and rough sleeping, in particular in outer London. Given the different cost implications of delivering outreach in inner and outer London different models might be considered and work undertaken in coordination with related work undertaken by the Mayor.
- There is evidence that some equalities groups are disproportionately affected by homelessness in London.
- The link between unemployment and homelessness is clearly a complex issue and suggests a coordinated pan-London approach is appropriate.

The report is included at **appendix five.**

The research echoes the recent results of the Grants Programme (Priority one homelessness) which has seen

- The proportion of service users from outer London up from 49% in 2013/14 to 55% in 2015-16
- Shelter: proportion of users from outer London up from 29% in 2014/15 to 46% in 2015-16
- In 2013/15, London Councils projects supported:
  - 2,746 people with mobility related disabilities
  - 16,009 BAME service users
  - 2,479 LGB service users (and 200 Trans service users)
  - 11,000 young people supported by New Horizon Youth Centre

### **2.5.3 Additional submissions**

London Councils officers were copied into 24 letters/ emails to members from locally based Age UK organisations (such as Age UK Redbridge, Barking and Havering). The letters raised issues that are echoed in **appendix one, section 2.3** and addressed in section 2.3 above.

In addition a letter was sent to Mayor Pipe from London Voluntary Sector Forum and copied to borough Leaders. The issues raised within this letter are addressed within the body of this report and appendices.

## **3 Equalities impact**

3.1 The Committee is asked to refer to the sections above and Equalities Impact Assessment report at **appendix four** for a full description of the opportunities and issues that arise from the current review of the grants schemes principles and priorities. This builds on previous equalities information considered by the Grants Committee at their meeting of 18 November 2015.

3.2 The Grants Committee and the Leaders' Committee in March 2016 will, in reaching decisions for implementation of the future grants programme and any extension arrangements, be required to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations as required by the general public equality duty in the Equality Act 2010. In taking a decision, therefore, due regard must be given to the anticipated impact (positive and/or negative) of any proposed changes on protected groups under the Act and the steps which may be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts. The weight given to the equality implications of the relevant decision is for the decision-maker who must be clear as to what the equality implications are when they put them in the balance, recognising the desirability of achieving them. In certain situations a body subject to the duty may conclude that other countervailing considerations outweigh the equality ones e.g. local priorities or available resources.

3.3 The pan-London Grants Scheme, and the programmes delivered through it, are designed to address the needs of some of the most disadvantaged Londoners. These include a high proportion of people with characteristics protected under the Act. The analysis of both of the consultation responses, and other evidence which is summarised in this report, indicates that the current programme operating under the existing principles and priorities has successfully addressed inequality and the needs of the protected groups intended to benefit from the funded activities. All the current priorities were considered to have strong positive impacts across a range of protected groups. Small or minimal numbers of respondents to the consultation

identified some negative impacts. The evidence is that without the current programme, many services in London that have a positive impact on inequality would not exist. It is clear that the current principles, and all the priorities operating within those principles, have a positive impact on equality and that any reductions in services under any funded priority would reduce this positive impact. Evidence also suggests that an increase in funding would increase the equalities impact of those funded activities.

3.4 Analysis of consultation responses and other evidence and factors had indicated that the best way of continuing to achieve maximum and most effective impact with increasingly limited resources is to focus on three priority areas with a strong focus on direct services targeted at very disadvantaged Londoners. Should members agree to go ahead with a programme focused on three priorities; specifications will be drawn up in the following months covering proposed services, activities and outcomes. It is possible that proposed priorities one and two could potentially include an element of support services dependent on availability of resources and other factors.

3.5 An initial equalities impact assessment was prepared and published alongside the consultation survey in July 2015. This covered the information provided alongside the report on the Grants Review submitted to Grants Committee on 18 November 2015.

3.6 Further information on the initial equalities assessment is provided in Grants Committee, Item 13- Proposal for Review of Grants Programme - post 2017, 15 July 2015, [www.londoncouncils.gov.uk](http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk)

Further information on the additional equalities information is provided in Grants Committee, Item 8 - Review of London Councils Grants Programme, 18 November 2015, [www.londoncouncils.gov.uk](http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk)

## **4 Next steps**

### **4.1 Key milestones**

It is planned to invite applications for the delivery of new projects in the summer of 2016. Following assessment of these applications, recommendations will be made to Grants Committee on projects which would commence on 1 April 2017, or as soon as soon as practicable after that.

The timetable for this process (subject to Committee approval) for commissioning services is:

- In **March-April 2016**, advise Grants Committee on potential activities within any new priorities
- Between March 2016 and July 2016, develop detailed specifications to be agreed by the Grants Committee
- In July 2016 bring proposals to Grants Committee on future working with City Bridge Trust on the future of infrastructure in London.
- Invite proposals in **summer 2016** from organisations to deliver services set out in the specifications
- In **winter 2016**, proposals assessed against the service specifications and recommendations made to members which will be subject to resourcing levels
- By **31 January 2017** the annual grants budget for 2017/18 will have been agreed, and an indicative budget for the remainder of the programme will have been agreed
- New services to start on **1 April 2017**, or as soon as soon as practicable after that.

## 4.2 Borough engagement

4.2.1 During the consultation a number of views were expressed regarding the commissioning process. In particular London local authorities expressed a desire to be more involved in the commissioning process for the 2017-21 programme. At times this view was fuelled by concerns that current commissions do not sufficiently reflect the needs of all boroughs, in particular outer London boroughs. It is also worth noting that not all boroughs expressed this and many responded positively about the current commissions, the ways these have worked with local services and the reporting to date.

4.2.2 In delivering the 2013-17 programme relevant borough officer networks were involved at key stages (borough grants officers, housing needs and homelessness network, violence against women and girls (VAWG) coordinators). Borough officers contributed to the shaping of the priorities and specifications via a number of public consultations. They were then involved in the award of commissions through a number of borough officers scoring applications and groups of borough officers meeting as moderation panels reviewing the high scoring applications. During the life of the grant, London Councils officers have attended borough officers network meetings (such as VAWG Coordinators) to discuss the progress of the commissions and have provided update reports. With priority two there were a number of issues expressed by borough officers in the first year of grant. Officers attended a meeting in a town hall with borough officers and staff from one of the providers to troubleshoot issues. Officers in addition conducted a survey of VAWG Coordinators and presented the results of this at their City Hall meeting with funded providers in attendance to answer questions. Borough officers and members have attended



monitoring visits such as to New Horizon Youth Centre and GALOP. Officers acknowledge that this involvement has been varied in practice, that engagement was more active in the earlier stages of grant and is not consistent across all the relevant borough officer groups.

4.2.3 Officers propose strengthening this model going forwards, in response to the issues raised by some boroughs in the consultation. Following the consideration of the future priorities at this meeting and Leaders' Committee on 22 March 2016 officers will approach borough officers to ask for their involvement in drawing up the specifications. Grants Committee members are asked to nominate any particular officers that would be interested in being involved in this process. Processes to actively engage borough officers across a range of boroughs and the various relevant service areas will need to take into account available resources which equate to approx. four full time officers at London Councils (working on both the old and new programmes). Officers will also explore reporting models to ensure boroughs are satisfied with the reporting provided going forward.

4.2.4 Issues were raised during the consultation regarding the monitoring of outcomes. Commissions currently deliver against London Councils standard outcomes outlined in the service specifications agreed at Grants Committee in September 2012. Each commission has a robust grant agreement which sets out agreed primary and secondary outcome indicators that demonstrate achievement of the London Councils standard outcomes. For example, under Specification 1.1 Homelessness Early Intervention and Prevention there is a standard outcome 'Number of tenancies sustained for one year'. These outcomes are measured and numbers reported at each quarter, including numbers achieved across the 33 boroughs. These are reported to Grants Committee each quarter. The performance against target in relation to these outcomes also contributes to each commission's red/amber/green 'RAG' score each quarter, which are also reported to Grants Committee. As part of the process of drawing up new specifications officers will work with borough officers, VCS, and other stakeholders including MOPAC and other funders to ensure the standard outcomes that are included in the new specifications are robust and up to date.

## **5 Conclusion**

5.1 In November 2014 Grants Committee considered a review of commissions which reviewed how effective, economical and efficient current commissions were. Following this Grants Committee agreed the scope of a review of the Grants Programme in July 2015 to inform

decisions on the future delivery of a grants programme at the conclusion of the existing grants programme. Results of a public consultation, performance information relating to the current programme, equalities information and wider factors and considerations, including reduced funding available to local authorities, were considered by Grants and Leaders' Committees at their meetings in November and December 2015. At this point a position was reached in principle to continue a programme based on the current principles and focused on future priorities which were similar to the current programme in focus to the current programme's Priorities one, two and three. This reflected the fact that there was less support for continuing to fund a priority focussed on capacity building in the consultation results from boroughs, given the pressures on resources and a desire to concentrate limited resources on services with greater levels of direct positive and measurable impact on beneficiaries. It was outlined that this approach was likely to have a negative impact upon those protected groups which benefited indirectly from London Councils' funding of capacity building of the voluntary sector. However, in taking difficult decisions as to how best to use scarce local authority resources to address the needs of Londoners in a pan-London grants programme, it was preferred that the next grants programme have three priorities focused on services to tackle homelessness, sexual and domestic violence and poverty (subject to budget making decisions in autumn 2016).

5.2 A public consultation which ran from December 2015 to January 2016 was undertaken to gather further evidence having regard to the Leaders' position of December 2015. The consultation received responses from a range of VCS organisations, boroughs and relevant stakeholders. These organisations are in a key position to highlight issues that have not been taken into consideration to date. The consultation responses reiterated the majority position of boroughs in favour of the Leaders' in principle position. Responses also outlined concerns from VCS organisations, service users and individuals as well as a small number of boroughs regarding the proposal not to have a priority in the new programme focused on capacity building in the third sector. In terms of equalities issues, further information has been provided, both as to (positive and negative) impact and potential means of mitigation which are outlined in this report. This includes the wide-ranging positive impacts on the people with the protected characteristics related to the current programme in terms of the current priorities one, two and three. Where gaps in information have been highlighted within consultation responses these have also been addressed in the report and appendices.

5.3 Members will be considering the information against a wider context that includes unprecedented reductions in available resources against increases in demand for service. The

final 2016-17 Local Government Finance Settlement was announced 8 February 2016 by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. The Settlement outlines final funding allocations for local authorities for the financial year 2016/17, and provisional figures for the following three years 2017/18 to 2019/20. In response to this London Councils issued a member briefing which stated that 'London local government will face the largest reductions in core spending power of any region once the wider resources available are taken into account. Cuts to core funding of 34 per cent in real terms will be extremely difficult to absorb, coming on top of a 44 per cent reduction since 2010/11 and it is likely that the current levels of non-statutory services will not be sustainable.'<sup>4</sup>

5.4 In this context boroughs are having to make increasingly difficult choices. Decisions to provide funding for one area is at the expense of funding other areas. The anticipated positive equalities effects (related to disadvantaged Londoners experiencing acute and complex issues) of the proposed three priority areas need to be taken into consideration when making decisions about using limited resources.

5.5 The evaluation of the additional evidence collated after Leaders' Committee in December continues to support the in principle position and therefore to support the Committee approving it now. Therefore it is recommended to members that they agree to adopt, as its recommendation to Leaders' Committee, the in-principle position reached at the Leaders' Committee meeting 18 December 2015 as the best way for London Councils to address need in London through the pan-London Grants Scheme.

## **Recommendations**

The Grants Committee is asked:

1. To make recommendations to Leaders' Committee to agree to deliver a Grants Programme from April 2017 operating in accordance with the current principles and focused on the following priorities -
  - i. Priority 1 Combatting Homelessness
  - ii. Priority 2 Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
  - iii. Priority 3 Tackling Poverty through Employment (European Social Fund match funded)
2. To agree that officers develop a proposal to work with City Bridge Trust on the implementation of the review into infrastructure support in London (being undertaken by

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<sup>4</sup> London Councils member briefing , Local Government Finance Settlement 2016/17, February 2016

London Funders) and that this be reported to the next meeting of the Grants Committee in July 2016.

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### **Financial Implications for London Councils**

Decisions on the budget for a future programme will be considered at Leaders' Committee November/ December 2016.

### **Legal Implications for London Councils**

1. In reaching its decision the Committee must comply with general public law requirements and in particular it must take into account all relevant matters, ignore irrelevant matters and act reasonably and for the public good.
2. In addition, the Committee is required to consult those likely to be affected by the decision. In order to be lawful a consultation exercise must take place when the proposals are still at a formative stage, sufficient time and information must be given to permit intelligent consideration and response and the product of the consultation must be conscientiously taken into account by the decision maker in reaching a decision. The consultation process and the results of the consultation are set out above.
3. A public authority must also in, the exercise of its functions, comply with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and in particular section 149 (the Public Sector Equality Duty).
4. The protected characteristics to which the Public Sector Equality Duty ("PSED") applies now include age as well as the characteristics covered by the previous equalities legislation applicable to public authorities (i.e. disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, sexual orientation, religion or belief and sex).
5. The PSED is set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ("the Act") provides (so far as relevant) as follows:

(1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (3) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:
- (a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
  - (b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
  - (c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- (4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.
- (5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to (a) tackle prejudice, and (b) promote understanding.
- (6) Compliance with the duties . . . may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

Case law has established the following principles relevant to compliance with the PSED which the Committee will need to consider:

- (i) Compliance with the general equality duties is a matter of substance not form.
- (ii) The duty to have "due regard" to the various identified "needs" in the relevant sections does not impose a duty to achieve results. It is a duty to have "due regard" to the "need" to achieve the identified goals.
- (iii) Due regard is regard that is appropriate in all the circumstances, including the

importance of the area of life of people affected by the decision and such countervailing factors as are relevant to the function that the decision-maker is performing.

(iv) The weight to be given to the countervailing factors is in principle a matter for the Committee. However in the event of a legal challenge it is for the court to determine whether an authority has given “due regard” to the “needs” listed in s.149. This will include the court assessing for itself whether in the circumstances appropriate weight has been given by the authority to those “needs” and not simply deciding whether the authority’s decision is a rational or reasonable one.

(v) The duty to have “due regard” to disability equality is particularly important where the decision will have a direct impact on disabled people. The same goes for other protected groups where they will be particularly and directly affected by a decision.

(vi) The PSED does not impose a duty on public authorities to carry out a formal equalities impact assessment in all cases when carrying out their functions, but where a significant part of the lives of any protected group will be directly affected by a decision, a formal equalities impact assessment ("EIA") is likely to be required by the courts as part of the duty to have 'due regard'.

(vii) The duty to have ‘due regard’ involves considering whether taking the particular decision would itself be compatible with the equality duty, i.e. whether it will eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations. Consideration must also be given to whether, if the decision is made to go ahead, it will be possible to mitigate any adverse impact on any particular protected group, or to take steps to promote equality of opportunity by, for example treating a particular affected group more favourably.

6. To assist the Committee in fulfilling its PSED, the EIA has been provided to Grants Committee and Leaders’ Committee at their meetings in November and December 2015 and additional equalities information is provided in this report, within the body and in **appendix four**. This will need to be read and taken into account by Committee, together with the requirements of the PSED itself set out above, in reaching a decision on the recommendations in the report. In addition, the equality implications are summarised in the body of this report (section 2.1 to 2.4, and section three) and related sections of **appendix one and four**. As the PSED is an on-going duty, due regard will need to be given to it in the further development and operation of the grants process.

7. The Committee should therefore carefully consider the outcome of the consultation and the PSED, together with the other relevant considerations set out in the report in reaching its decision.

### **Equalities Implications for London Councils**

As above. Information was considered by the Grants Committee and Leaders' Committee as to equalities implications at their meetings in November and December 2015. Further equalities information is contained within the body of this report and in **appendix one and four.**

### **Appendices**

Appendix One Analysis – Future grants programme priorities

Appendix Two Borough responses to Q1 “Q.1 The statement above sets out the in principle position of Leaders' Committee reached at its meeting on 8 December 2015. Do you support it?”

Appendix Three Organisations that responded to the consultation

Appendix Four Additional Equalities information

Appendix Five Evidencing Changes in Homelessness Need in London

Appendix Six Letter from Stephen Greenhalgh, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

### **Background Papers**

London Councils Grants Additional Consultation 2017/21 (including equalities impact assessment) December 2015 – January 2016

Leaders' Committee, Item 9 - Review of Delivery of a London Grants Programme – 8 December 2015

Grants Committee, Review of London Councils Grants Programme, Item 8, 18 November 2015

Grants Committee, Item 6. Performance of Grants Programme, 18 November 2015

London Councils Grants Consultation 2017/21 (including equalities impact assessment) July – October 2015

Grants Committee Item 12 - Grants Programme Performance Report - Year 2, 15 July 2015,

Grants Committee, Item 13- Proposal for Review of Grants Programme - post 2017, 15 July 2015

Grants Committee Item 6 - Grants Programme - Review of Projects, 26 November 2014

## **Appendix one**

### **Additional Consultation December 2015- January 2016**

#### **1. Summary of consultation responses**

A total of 89 completed surveys were received online; a further 34 written responses were received by email. The responses came from 94 organisations including, 32 boroughs, a funder, a housing partnership, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and 59 voluntary and community sector organisations. Responses were also received from individuals and service users. London Councils was also copied into a number of letters sent to members of the Grants Committee from voluntary sector organisations highlighting their concerns with the Leaders' Committee position.

The replies broadly reflect the diversity of London's overall population and the nine protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. Further information on the equalities breakdown of responses can be found in [appendix four](#) of this report.

#### **2. Analysis – Future grants programme priorities**

##### **2.1 Support for the Leaders' Committee position**

The consultation asked respondents for further information with regard to their view on the Leaders' Committee position. A summary of the responses is provided below.

###### **2.1.1 Borough responses**

Twenty five boroughs stated that they agreed with the Leaders' Committee position to continue with a grants programme focused on three priorities (sexual and domestic violence, homelessness and poverty) but that it was unlikely that a new priority focused solely on capacity building of the Third Sector, could be considered as a priority for the grants programme going forward. This reflects the constraints on local authority budgets as outlined above. One borough stated that refocussing a future programme in this way would enable it to fund capacity building at a local level.

Despite the majority view outlined above, four boroughs stated that they did not agree with the Leaders' Committee statement because they felt there should be a role for London Councils in funding a priority focused on capacity building. These boroughs highlighted the important role that the VCS are playing in delivering local authority activities and the need to ensure the organisations were sufficiently supported to be able to deliver quality services



and maintain organisational sustainability. These responses highlight the increase in demand on VCS services and the role they play in supporting communities' and individuals' resilience. Capacity building includes support to form partnerships in order to compete for larger significant contracts against private competitors whilst reflecting the needs of vulnerable people. Pan-London funding for capacity building was felt to be a low cost means of investing in the VCS in London.

The City of London states this case most strongly and calls on the boroughs through London Councils to reiterate their commitment to capacity building the third sector. The City highlights the need for a pan-London capacity building service and that London Councils is well placed to show leadership in this area given its democratic mandate and experience in this area. City Bridge Trust has funded London Funders to commission a review of infrastructure support to the third sector, which is due to conclude this month. The response requests that London Councils allocates some resources to ensure sufficient officer time to work with City Bridge Trust and other London Funders to shape the implementation on the report's findings.

Alongside these four boroughs, a further five boroughs highlighted a role for continued pan-London delivered capacity building, if not necessarily through London Councils, nor at the same level. In particular this was around equalities led organisations, specialist support, building new models, supporting HR issues, representation for specific parts of the community and disseminating information on policy changes. These boroughs highlighted the risks in not delivering a programme that contained a priority focused on capacity building the third sector, stating that the current Priority four projects might not survive and local authorities might struggle to address the gap at a local level.

In support of their statement boroughs also made some general comments about the grants programme as follows.

Six boroughs reiterated the fact that there are huge pressures on local authority budgets and that boroughs are having to make very difficult choices in the light of limited resources. The need to ensure that the programme delivered value for money, robust outcomes and tackled issues that could only be addressed at a pan-London level was felt to be even more relevant in this context. Two boroughs stated that given this context a pan-London programme was vital in delivering a coordinated response using limited resources. It was felt that the programme was able to respond to key specific target groups and needs that in any one borough would be difficult to address due to comparatively small numbers of people

experiencing the issues in question or from specific communities with cultural or language needs that can best be met on a Pan-London basis. The role of consortium funding was seen as key to this in providing an opportunity to access specialised or culturally specific support through a wider partnership of providers. The role of the programme in leveraging in more resources from other funding streams was also highlighted.

Echoing views raised in the initial consultation five boroughs emphasised the importance of commissions and priority areas working closely with local provision to complement existing provision, embedding services locally and avoiding duplication. Generally boroughs welcomed the fact that the position taken by Leaders' Committee at this stage reflected a need to address changing issues relating to inner and outer London. One borough stated that outer London issues needed to be reflected further.

Some boroughs emphasised the need for more robust performance management of the programme and clearer reporting on the services available, referral routes and benefits for their borough residents. Echoing issues raised above about the pressures on local authority budgets one borough stated that boroughs' contribution to the scheme is often at the expense of investing in local grants pots and local community and voluntary sector groups making the need to demonstrate to residents a direct positive impact on the borough all the more important. In contrast, other boroughs stated that their satisfaction with the levels of benefit and reporting had improved and were now satisfactory.

It was felt that borough involvement in the process of commissioning was key and boroughs welcomed the chance to be involved in the next stage of the process. Further details on this are covered in Section Four of the main report. It was felt that future priorities should be flexible and able to adapt to changing needs.

Boroughs then wrote specifically about the proposed priority areas, reiterating issues raised in the earlier consultation.

### **Priority one – Homelessness**

Seventeen boroughs made specific reference to their continued support for this priority area. It was felt that current services have helped manage demand presented to London local authorities. Two boroughs stated that funding to tackle homelessness should be reduced/ removed and undertaken locally. During the previous consultation a number of responses stated that there should be a stronger link between services to tackle unemployment and homelessness. This was reiterated by 14 boroughs in the recent consultation. Some

boroughs (3) urged caution given that both are complex and multi-faceted issues and that services should not be restricted to service users that are experiencing both issues. Five boroughs welcomed the refocusing of the service to reflect evolving homelessness issues presenting in inner and outer London. For example the growing numbers of street homeless (rough sleepers) in outer London.

Responses reiterated the importance of the grants programme focusing on areas that do not fall under local authority duties or target groups that would be challenging to support at a borough level due to the comparatively small numbers or transient nature. Examples provided include EEA nationals and non-UK nationals with no recourse, young people, and those with mental health needs, TB and other complex needs. Some boroughs highlighted issues related to street homelessness such as hotspots or encampments, whereas other boroughs emphasised other target groups such as the 'hidden homeless' and those in unsuitable accommodation. It was felt that the service should continue to support beneficiaries to access and maintain private rental sector tenancies, through advice and tenancy brokerage and tackle issues of rogue landlords. The focus on prevention and early intervention was felt to be key. It was felt that given the complex nature of the issues, services should provide holistic support covering, health, education, training and job skills. It was felt that frontline providers required support through training to ensure high quality and relevant services.

### **Priority two – Sexual and domestic violence**

Reflecting the previous consultation twenty boroughs made specific reference to their continued support for this priority area citing the increase in demand and the positive role that current commissions have made in delivering services across London, supporting boroughs to manage demand. It was felt that services should link to the proposed Priority one homelessness provision reflecting the link between these areas. Service provision should also link to health services. Five boroughs stated the importance of making sure funded services are carefully aligned with existing models of service delivery (local, regional (MOPAC) and national (DCLG/Home Office)) to ensure there is no duplication. The way that services have integrated and complemented local provision was largely praised and boroughs highlighted the benefits that service users have gained from consortiums covering a range of specialist partners and types of service delivery.

Boroughs highlighted a number of key target groups that services should cover including women with no recourse to public funds, complex needs including mental health needs, children and young people (as victims and perpetrators), and victims of trafficking/sexual

exploitation. Borough responses reiterated their support for the current six strands covering prevention, counselling, advice, helpline, coordinated refuge provision (including data collection), emergency refuge provision, support to sexual and domestic violence voluntary and community organisations (VCO) and specialist support around female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, honour based violence and other harmful practices. Borough responses expressed a desire to remain involved in the next stages of the commissioning process.

### **Priority three - Poverty**

Reflecting the previous consultation 15 boroughs specifically reiterated their support for this priority and how previous activities had helped manage demand on local services. As above boroughs re-stated the importance of linking this priority to the proposed Priority One homelessness, in particular EEA non-UK nationals. The importance of holistic support, linked to local services was also highlighted. It was also felt to be important not to duplicate local or sub-regional commissioning on this area. Borough responses reflected on the target groups and confirmed support for services targeted at people with disabilities, including learning disabled, long term health needs and mental health. Other target groups were highlighted including, women facing barriers to employment, lone parents, drug and alcohol misuse, ESOL and people with very low skills.

Six boroughs commented on the interrelationship between employment and poverty. This included issues around welfare reforms, in-work poverty and the need for funded services to also cover budgeting skills to assist service users manage the high cost of living in London (especially for young people). As above the importance of value for money and robust outcomes, including sustainable job outcomes was emphasised. Boroughs commented on models of commissioning and two boroughs specifically emphasised the benefits of sub-regional projects with a strong encouragement towards partnership working to embed the various elements highlighted above.

Not all boroughs supported this area of funding and one borough stated that it did not feel it should be delivered through the grants programme.

There is a separate report on this agenda regarding Priority three Poverty (ESF) given the different timescales that it operates under. As outlined further in that report, the above issues have been taken into account in drawing up the prospectus for the new Poverty/ ESF round to ensure it reflects these issues. For example the link between unemployment and homelessness has been incorporated into the prospectus.

### **2.1.2 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)**

The majority of VCS responses (87%) did not support the Leaders' Committee position. This was in the main due to respondents supporting the continuation of a priority focused on capacity building in the third sector (45 responses). Support is outlined in responses from organisations currently funded under Priority four, but, in greater number, from frontline organisations that currently receive support from Priority four projects. In addition, organisations from other sections of the voluntary sector have commented on their disagreement with London Councils position.

Reasons cited for this position include the following. Priority four has played a role in furthering equalities objectives (disability, race (including refugee) and age are the most regularly cited characteristics) (27 responses). Current Priority four commissions provide specialist advice to equalities led frontline organisations in a way that reflects their needs and accessibility issues (not available through mainstream provision), raise the profile of issues affecting that equalities group and support the representation of those communities. In addition the current Priority four commissions have worked to improve the accessibility of other frontline projects, for example through the delivery of disability access training. Responses highlight the fact that equalities groups (women, disabled) have been disproportionately affected by the welfare reforms and cuts to public services creating increased demand for services in these areas.

Responses also stated that existing services have a significant and positive impact and that monitoring information has demonstrated robust outcomes and value for money. The context of the VCS increasingly stepping into areas previously delivered by local authorities, facing increased demands and more competition for resources, are all highlighted as reasons for supporting a strong VCS through capacity building to ensure quality services and manage risk. Responses have highlighted the fact that the increase in demand on their services has meant that management staff have been diverted away from strategic, organisational and networking/ partnership building activities to frontline delivery. The cross-sectoral working needed to address these challenges was felt to be best supported via capacity building support. Capacity building was seen as a key way that boroughs could shape the voluntary sector and support the leveraging in of extra resources. Responses also highlighted the review being undertaken by London Funders for City Bridge Trust.

### **Priority one - homelessness**

Support for the other three priority areas was also outlined and some further issues relating to these. With regards to Priority one, respondents highlighted the importance of services focusing on the following target groups, BAMER, LGBT, migrants, those with no recourse, women, people with learning disabilities, physical health problems, history of offending, drug and alcohol misuse, mental health issues and in general non-priority single homeless. Particular issues were raised with regard to young people such as the affect of welfare reforms and the proposed housing support changes. A pan-London service was highlighted as essential for this target group given the transient nature of this group, lack of local-authority connection and the need to flee violence, harassment and destructive family homes.

Responses welcomed the links being made in the proposal between homelessness and employment services, the emphasis on early intervention and prevention and the changes in homelessness presenting in inner and outer London. Eleven responses highlighted the need for continued support for frontline organisations. These responses highlighted the unprecedented levels of change in homelessness and the need for frontline homelessness organisations to keep up to date with these changes (such as private rent sector and rogue landlords). The ability to effectively work across sectors, building partnerships and working with local authorities (such as the link between homelessness and employment and homelessness and sexual and domestic violence) was felt to be best supported through specialist homelessness organisational support. The role of this support was also felt to be key in supporting voluntary and community organisations to manage risk when filling in gaps/ delivering statutory services. The current service was felt to have a strong equalities focus, supporting small equalities led organisations and raising awareness about equalities issues such as mental health.

### **Priority two – sexual and domestic violence**

A large number of organisations welcome the continued support for Priority two. It was felt that the services should be carefully designed to best complement and not duplicate local and other regional services (delivered via the Mayor's office for policing and crime). For this reason it was felt that services should focus on post-IDVA care and work to support multi-agency working around harmful practices (and not perpetrator work which is being explored by MOPAC). Target groups highlighted include LGBT, children and young people, and women with no recourse to public funds. Holistic refuge provision was felt to be important including access to job search, counselling, finding PRS property and legal advice. One response called for the inclusion of second stage refuge accommodation in response to the difficulty in moving women on from first stage refuge accommodation.

Thirteen responses highlighted the vital role played by organisations that support the sexual and domestic violence voluntary sector. These responses highlighted the very precarious state of the sector and the need for support to improve organisation's financial sustainability and resilience. Women's organisations are often small and dispersed across London and require cross borough support. Organisations need to deliver accessible, inclusive and responsive services based on an understanding of their users and the legislative environment they work in, which was felt to be best delivered by specialist support. Support was needed to gather data to demonstrate need and impact, network and form partnerships, income generation, organisational health, develop policies and in providing representation to this area of work in sub-regional and regional decision making.

### **Priority three - poverty**

There were not many comments on priority three in addition to those raised during the previous consultation. Responses welcomed the links to priority one.

#### **2.1.3 Service Users/ individuals**

Responses to the Leaders' Committee position from services users and individuals were divided (nine in favour and twelve against). Reasons for not agreeing with the position echoed those of the VCS responses in terms of a desire to have a priority focused solely on capacity building the third sector. Responses stated that priorities one to three depend primarily on the third sector to deliver them and that this was wasted investment without investing in capacity building the VCS. Also that this was most efficiently done at a pan-London level. The negative impact related to the Leaders' position was highlighted in particular to the Deaf/ disabled VCS and BAMER VCS.

Other responses were in support of the Leaders' Committee position in terms of the retention of priorities one to three. One survivor of domestic violence commented on how vital LGBT specific domestic violence services had been to them. It is worth noting that, in terms of the current Priority four, the service users are frontline organisations and these responses are outlined in section 2.1.2 above.

#### **2.1.4 Other stakeholders (GLA, other funders)**

A letter from Stephen Greenhalgh, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime was received regarding the Grants Review. The letter outlines support for the continued funding of services to tackle sexual and domestic violence and states that priority two links closely with services funded by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). The letter highlights

the benefits to the sexual and domestic violence sector involved in this joint working approach. Elements that were mentioned include the funding of specialist refuge provision and coordination and data sourced by UKROL which has identified gaps in types of specialist provision feeding into the work of the London VAWG Board (created to deliver the Mayor's VAWG strategy).

The links between domestic violence and homelessness are reiterated and the letter states that this reflects further work that the VAWG Board is taking forward with the boroughs (through London Councils). The letter calls for the continued funding of the support element of Priority two given the very precarious position the sexual and domestic violence sector is currently in. This would ensure organisations have diverse income streams, good fundraising strategies, strong governance and financial controls. The letter is included as **appendix six**.

A funder, Lloyds Foundation submitted a response which outlined their support for the three proposed priority areas, however, stated the importance of capacity building, especially in an environment where support for infrastructure organisations is declining and it is harder for charities to access the capacity building support which could help them to become more sustainable in the long term.

East London Housing Partnership<sup>1</sup> submitted a response which welcomed the proposed priority focused on tackling homelessness. The submission focused on the importance of early intervention and prevention and the links between unemployment and homelessness. Research suggests that an approach is needed that encourages people to seek help before they lose their accommodation. The response also suggested that the proposed Priority one should be linked to the proposed Priority two. Safe settled accommodation provides the base from which survivors can rebuild their lives free from the threat and fear of abuse and be empowered to return to work, education or training, taking back control of their lives. At present move-on accommodation for survivors in refuges or in temporary accommodation or staying with family or friends is limited. Wider policy context was highlighted such as the reduction in the benefit cap to £23,000 per year in London from April 2016, proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, which could lead to the redefinition of affordable homes, might reduce the future provision of genuinely-affordable homes and the sale of housing association stock through the voluntary extension of right to buy by housing associations, could result in the loss of move-on accommodation for homeless households, with the potential loss of 14,000 homes in East London alone.

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<sup>1</sup> East London Housing Partnership is an alliance between the eight East London local authorities and East London registered social landlords



## **2.2 Equalities Considerations**

The consultation asked respondents for further information on whether respondents agreed with the equalities analysis. A summary of the responses is provided below.

### **2.2.1 Borough responses**

The majority of boroughs (93%) agreed that the analysis correctly identified the equalities groups currently benefitting from each priority within the current grants programme. One borough stated that equalities information largely mirrored the equalities information they had gathered at a local level.

Whilst there was widespread agreement with the current analysis, four boroughs stated that although in agreement, would like to see improvements in the monitoring information presented to ensure that the data is robust and monitoring information is re-focused to relate to each borough (including equalities information broken down by borough). Two boroughs highlighted the fact that the analysis does not highlight the impact of implementing the Leaders' Committee in principle position. Another borough highlighted the limitations of equalities information in relation to Priority four, given that information relates to frontline organisations and not individuals. Two boroughs highlighted the fact that the analysis would benefit from more information on migrants and refugees given the emerging need in this area. One borough highlighted the issue that equalities data does not provide a breakdown of where an equalities characteristic is incidental to or related to the choice to access a particular service. Another borough also stated that equalities data does not show when an individual represents a number of equalities characteristics. Two boroughs did not agree with the analysis based on their concern about the robustness of the data.

### **2.2.2 Voluntary and Community Sector**

The majority of responses from voluntary and community organisations (81%) did not agree that the analysis correctly identified the groups currently benefitting from each priority within the existing grants programme.

This position largely related to the fact that the previous equalities information published with the Grants Committee report (18 November 2015) and additional consultation (December 2015 – January 2016) focused on the groups that had benefitted from each priority rather than a more explicit outline of what the impact would be should London Councils deliver a programme that did not include a priority focused on capacity building. Respondents felt that more information could be included such as the outcomes that have been achieved by current commissions under Priority four. There was also felt to be an issue with the data

provided in the equalities assessment as it largely reflected the monitoring data collected from the individuals from frontline organisations (that attended training and events) and did not reflect the end beneficiaries of the frontline services provided by these organisations. A large number of responses were from Deaf/disabled people's frontline organisations. These stated that insufficient attention had been paid to the impact the Leaders' Committee position would have on Deaf/disabled people's organisations and the knock on effect for the thousands of disabled people these organisations serve.

It was also felt that the equalities assessment did not fully explain that equalities led organisations (in particular disabled people's organisations) were often small, limited infrastructure and had limited networking opportunities. It also did not explain that current capacity building support enables frontline organisations to support their service users with intersectional issues (e.g. disabled women's access to domestic violence services). Additionally that more could have been provided on the range of support that is available including, opportunities for the development of stronger organisations, better skilled staff, partnership working, collaboration and delivery of better services. It was therefore felt that, the in-principle position of the Leaders' Committee would disproportionately affect these groups in general (in that they have a greater need for capacity building), compounded by the fact that current commissions under Priority four provide specialist support to equalities led frontline organisations and provide advice and training that support frontline organisations to deliver services in a way that is mindful of equalities considerations.

One point of clarity was raised. With regard to the previous equalities assessment there was a reference to 'increased preference for mainstream providers'. Officers would like to confirm as correct the assertion in one response that this relates to the move of funders towards more mainstream providers, not service users.

Whilst most responses focused on the current Priority four, issues regarding the other priorities were raised. In relation to the current Priority two, the current support services within this priority were discussed. These were felt to be vital in supporting frontline sexual and domestic violence organisations to deliver best quality services, through specialist training and sharing of good practice. In addition, currently the Ascent partnership which delivers against all six of the direct delivery domestic violence strands is coordinated by Women's Resource Centre (currently funded under the support element of Priority two). Similar views were shared about the current support element of the current Priority one. Other views about Priority one and two were shared such as the importance of gathering

monitoring information about LGBT service users accessing homelessness and sexual and domestic violence services.

### **2.2.3 Service Users/ individuals**

Two thirds of service users/ individuals agreed with the equalities information provided by London Councils. Those that did not agree focused on similar issues to the VCS organisation responses, in terms of there being insufficient information on the impact of delivering a programme that did not have a priority focused on capacity building, in particular in terms of Deaf/disabled and BAMER organisations. It is worth noting that in terms of the current Priority four the service users of this service are frontline organisations and these responses are outlined in section 2.2.2 above.

### **2.2.4 Response to issues raised with regard to equalities information**

In response to the issues above officers would like to draw members' attention to the following.

- a) In response to issues raised above more information is provided in **appendix four** with regard to the impact of funding a programme focused on sexual and domestic violence, homelessness and poverty and not funding a priority focused solely on capacity building in the third sector. This includes the level of reliance on London Councils funding of existing commissions and further details on services currently provided and outcomes achieved.
- b) In response to the issue that it is not clear whether equalities characteristics are incidental to or relevant to the accessing of specialist services, this is addressed through the further detail on commissions in **appendix four** (previously only short examples were provided) and through the fact that in section 2.2.2 and 2.3.2 current frontline VCS organisations have confirmed that they access specialist equalities services in a way that would not be possible/ relevant from mainstream provision.
- c) Information was provided in the previous consultation about the equalities categories represented by frontline organisations that received support from Priority four commissions. Further information has been provided on frontline organisations supported by current commissions.
- d) Equalities information is currently gathered on the nine protected characteristics as outlined in the Equality Act 2010. Further information could be gathered in the new programme if it was desirable. Only data that has been gathered to date can be presented.
- e) On a quarterly basis the current 24 funded commissions submit 297 separate figures in their reporting database as well as a progress report and case study. This includes

67 equalities fields and up to nine pieces of data for each of the 33 boroughs. To provide equalities information per borough this would increase data collected by an additional 2,211 figures each quarter. The same issue is relevant to why information is not presented related to the multiple equalities characteristics of an individual.

- f) It is important to keep in balance the level of monitoring data provided by projects ensuring this is proportional to the grant level and that data collection does not come at the expense of service delivery. It is also worth noting the resources available to review the data which is currently the full time equivalent of four staff.
- g) Whilst equalities information is not gathered on a borough basis (as detailed above), officers can provide boroughs with a list of frontline organisations currently supported in their borough on request which provides an indication on the types of equalities groups supported.
- h) Beneficiary information is not held in relation to Priority one and two. In many cases this would not be practical (for example callers to helplines). In particular with Priority two there are safety concerns in holding this data. The grant agreement with organisations outlines the expectations on data kept and this is checked and verified on monitoring visits.

## **2.3 Potential negative equalities impacts**

The consultation asked respondents for further information on potential negative equalities impacts related to the position that Leaders' Committee was minded to take at its meeting 8 December 2015. A summary of the responses is provided below.

### **2.3.1 Borough responses**

The majority of borough responses (68%) stated that they believed there would be negative equalities implications related to agreeing to fund a grants programme that did not contain a priority focused solely on capacity building in the third sector. These responses stated that there could be a negative/ disproportionate impact on organisations supporting people with the protected characteristics of age, race, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, and gender reassignment. Six responses outlined that equalities led organisations are often smaller and less well-resourced and therefore in greater need of capacity building and support with fundraising and adapting services. These groups are also disproportionately impacted further by welfare reform and reductions in available funding and a favouring of mainstream provision by funders. It was felt that the impact could be an increase in closures of voluntary organisations and reductions in quality of service and representation of views as a result of the end to networking opportunities. It was feared that this could influence other funders to withdraw from this area and the result would be an increased pressure on local authority resources.

Boroughs that did not feel that there was a disproportionately high impact on equalities groups highlighted the wider context of this decision which is being considered at a time of huge pressures on local authority budgets. That funding allocated to the grants scheme is at the expense of other services being delivered locally which also have equalities considerations. These responses (three responses) highlighted the positive equalities impact of the proposed three priorities and that using limited funds on the services that directly impact on people with the protected equalities characteristics was the best use of resources. Other responses stated that their capacity to make a judgement was impaired by insufficient data.

### **2.3.2 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)**

The majority of VCS responses (91%) stated that they believed there would be negative equalities implications related a grants programme that did not contain a priority focused solely on capacity building in the third sector.

In relation to the currently funded commission delivered by Inclusion London responses outlined the following negative impact on Deaf/ disabled people. That 280 disability organisations representing 300,000 plus Deaf/disabled people will cease to receive capacity building support, reducing the organisations' ability to deliver essential services to disabled people or secure funding/ diversify funding streams for long term survival. Responses highlighted an increase in demand for these services in the context of reduced statutory services.

Responses also focused on the negative impact on black, Asian, minority ethnic, refugee (BAMER) VCS organisations. Responses stated that this sector had experienced significant losses in resources and financial support. Refugee communities were highlighted as an area associated with growing levels of need and disproportionately affected by other equalities issues such as mental health. Without Priority four it was felt that refugee community organisations would not have the capacity to participate in a range of government strategies including the Mayor of London refugee and migrant integration strategy.

The potential negative impact on older people was also highlighted. In 2014 there were 983,000 people in London are over the age of 65 years. Responses highlighted the increase in older people predicted over the coming years and the increase in social care needs putting pressure on local authority budgets. Without a priority focused on capacity building, it was felt that boroughs would have less effective support from the voluntary sector to meet this challenge. Many local older people's organisations are small and volunteer-led, often without paid staff and largely unfunded. In relation to children and young people responses highlighted the risks associated with VCS organisations moving into areas of delivery traditionally undertaken by local authorities and the role that capacity building support can provide such as through safeguarding training.

Responses also highlighted the role that Priority four currently plays in raising awareness of the needs of particular equalities groups and supporting the participation of various equalities groups in society and local decision making processes. This activity supports local authorities in their duty to undertake the key elements of the Equality Act 2010 in terms of challenging discrimination and advancing equality of opportunity. Responses highlighted the lack of funding opportunities for capacity building services, in particular with an equalities focus and the fact that this would be difficult and more costly to commission at a local level.

The majority of responses focused on the current Priority four. However, responses also highlighted issues related to the current Priority one and Priority two. For example, the vital

role that the support to sexual and domestic violence frontline organisations plays and that withdrawing from this would have a great impact on small BAME women's organisations. Frontline organisations were surveyed by Imkaan (funded under a partnership led by Women's Resource Centre) and all stated that they would not have been able to obtain the same kind and level of support elsewhere.

Other responses stated that there was not a fundamental negative impact given the equalities reach of the proposed three priorities. Nevertheless these responses stated the importance of building into the commissioning process strong safeguards relating to effective outreach and provision of accessibility support, for example interpretation support.

### **2.3.3 Service Users/ individuals**

In response to this question twelve service users/ individuals did think that there would be negative equalities implications and seven did not. Responses included service users with hearing impairments and disabilities who outlined the importance of a strong disability led voluntary sector. Also highlighted was the potential impact on small BAME led organisations and it was felt that these would be further disadvantaged and compromised in their ability to compete for funding with larger mainstream providers. It is worth noting that in terms of the current Priority four, the service users that use these services are frontline organisations and these responses are outlined in section 2.3.2 above.

### **2.3.4 Other stakeholders (GLA, other funders)**

Lloyds Foundation highlighted potential issues that could be caused by Leaders' Committee position including of a lack of support for organisations to grow and develop, as opposed to receiving money only for delivering services. The long term funding challenges means that charities are in more need than ever to be supported to make themselves more sustainable. The importance also of commissioning processes that support smaller equalities led organisations (such as encouragement of partnerships) was also emphasised. East London Housing Partnership emphasized the importance of linking the proposed Priority one and two to ensure that people with protected characteristics are not disadvantaged.

## **2.4 Mitigation**

The consultation then asked respondents to consider what mitigation could be taken to address any potential negative impacts that they had highlighted. A summary of the responses is provided below.

### **2.4.1 Borough responses**

Borough responses outlined a range of measures that could be used to mitigate potential negative impacts of the Leaders' Committee position. There were a range of suggestions that focused on the role that local authorities can play in supporting the mitigation of any potential negative impacts associated with the Leaders' Committee in principle position. Four boroughs emphasised the importance of boroughs assessing what the local impact would be and two stated that they could share their local impact assessments to support mitigation. Four boroughs also requested that London Councils share more information on the frontline organisations supported so that local authorities can play a part in assessing impact and addresses this locally.

Other responses focused on the transition for funded commissions. There were mixed views about whether funding should be allocated for a transition period. It was felt that given a decision would be made in March 2016 this would provide commissions with a year to develop their exit strategies and alternative funding. It was felt that London Councils and local authority officers could play a role in supporting this process.

Four boroughs highlighted the review into the future of infrastructure that London Funders are undertaking on behalf of City Bridge Trust. It was felt that the recommendations from this review could provide mitigation. Responses highlighted an expectation that the London Funders approach will seek out more cost effective and innovative ways of achieving key infrastructure outcomes. Responses highlighted the key strategic role that London Councils could play on behalf of the boroughs in the implementation of the review's recommendations. Responses stated that this role could potentially involve a limited funding contribution from the boroughs.

Other suggestions included improvements to the proposed three priorities, including involving service users in shaping these services, improving awareness of commissions funded and through ensuring the proposed priorities are focused on the equalities groups no longer being served through Priority four (such as older people). Another response



suggested reallocating funding from the current Priority four to provide capacity building support to the proposed three priorities.

#### **2.4.2 Voluntary and Community Sector**

The majority of responses from VCS organisations (70) stated that London Councils should mitigate the negative impact through continued funding to a priority focused solely on capacity building in the third sector. If resources were such that this priority had to be reduced then responses felt it should be focused on equalities related activity. It was felt that these services were best commissioned on a pan-London basis and were important in strategically addressing the specific and increased risks of discrimination, exclusion, poverty and isolation felt by equalities communities in particular Deaf and disabled people, as a result of welfare reform and reductions in funding to Local Authorities most notable social care. Responses also reiterated the desire to maintain the support elements of the current priorities one and two.

CVS support was felt to be an inadequate mitigation given that not all boroughs have CVSs now, support would have to be free/ heavily subsidised and would be generic not addressing the specific needs of equalities led organisations.

One response suggested that one way to maintain this area would be to fund support under priorities one, two and three and that direct consultation with local community, BAME and refugee organisations is essential if a cost-effective, sustainable solution is to be found.

#### **2.4.3 Service Users/ individuals**

Responses from service users and individuals largely echoed the responses of the VCS organisations in terms of supporting a future priority focused on capacity building.

Alternatively to re-allocate capacity building for defined/specific purposes and evidence based needs. One alternative suggestion was through creating a stream of funding that enables BAME infrastructure organisations to be sustainable over the medium term. It is worth noting that in terms of the current Priority four, the service users that access these services are frontline organisations and these responses are outlined in section 2.4.2 above.

#### **2.4.4 Other stakeholders (GLA, other funders)**

Lloyds Foundation reiterated the importance of commissioning processes that are flexible and accommodating of smaller organisations to support equalities objectives. East London Housing Partnership reiterated the importance of linking the proposed Priority one and two

and the importance of specialist provision with regard to funding of emergency refuge accommodation.

## **2.5 Additional sources of evidence**

2.5.1 On 23 February 2016 London Councils delivered an event for borough officers and members focused on tackling sexual and domestic violence. The event focused on issues faced by the boroughs and how these can be addressed through shared responses, in particular with VCS partners. The following key issues were raised at the event which can also inform this paper in terms of the challenges around tackling domestic violence in London.

- There are currently significant gaps between available resources and levels of incidence. For example, there are now 156 IDVAs in London, able to see approx. 12,400 cases per year. However, in 2015 there were 146,695 reports of DV to the police in London. Gaps were also highlighted around ISVAs, specialist support for trafficked women and specialist emergency refuge.
- The sexual and domestic violence voluntary and community sector was seen to be under threat from reduced resources, increased demand and moves from funders towards more mainstream provision. Support to the sector was seen to be vital, as well as collaboration, and longer term funding.
- A link with housing was made and in particular the impact of the benefit cap and local housing allowance, which have also created a shift in DV cases being presented in outer London boroughs as victims move away from inner London. Move-on accommodation was felt to be a large issue with perpetrators sitting in tenancies. Women affected by domestic violence and exiting prison were a key group in need of support with housing to enable them to reconnect with children and prevent re-offending.
- It was felt services should be victim focused with strong levels of service user involvement, and that victims were not as interested in borough boundaries as policy makers.
- Early intervention and prevention both key

**Appendix Two Borough response to Q1** - *“The statement above sets out the in principle position of Leaders’ Committee reached at its meeting on 8 December 2015. Do you support it?”*

<b>Borough</b>	<b>Support for Leaders’ Committee position</b>
Barking and Dagenham	Yes
Barnet	Unclear
Bexley	Yes
Brent	No
Bromley	Yes
Camden	No (supports a programme that includes a capacity building priority)
City of London	No (supports a programme that includes a capacity building priority)
Croydon	Yes
Ealing	Yes
Enfield	Yes
Greenwich	Yes
Hackney	Yes
Hammersmith and Fulham	Yes
Haringey	Yes
Harrow	Yes
Havering	Yes
Hillingdon	No (supports a programme that includes a capacity building priority)
Hounslow	Yes
Islington	Yes
Kensington and Chelsea	Yes
Kingston upon Thames	No (supports a programme that includes a capacity building priority)
Lambeth	Yes
Lewisham	Yes
Merton	Yes
Newham	No
Redbridge	Yes
Richmond upon Thames	Yes
Southwark	Yes
Sutton	Yes
Tower Hamlets	Yes
Waltham Forest	
Wandsworth	Yes
Westminster	Yes

**Summary of borough responses**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Boroughs</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>76%</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18%</b>

<b>Unclear</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6%</b>
	<b>33</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Appendix Three

### List of organisations that responded to the consultation

Please note this list does not include survey forms that did not complete the field 'organisation name'. Please note that more than one response was received from some organisations.

Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea (Taking Control Project)
AdviceUK
Age UK London
Age UK Redbridge, Barking and Havering
Ashiana Network
Asian Women's Resource Centre
AVA
Barnardo's
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan
Brent Mencap
Bromley Experts by Experience CIC (X by X)
Children England
Chinese Information and Advice Centre
City of London Corporation
Crisis
DeafLondon
Disability Advice Service Lambeth (DASL)
EACH Counselling and Support
East European Advice Centre
East London Housing Partnership
Enfield Saheli
Galop
Greater London Volunteering
Hammersmith and Fulham Volunteer Centre
HEAR
Homeless Link
Imkaan
Inclusion Barnet
Inclusion London
Independent
Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation
Kings College London Students' Union
Lasa
Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS)
Lloyds Bank Foundation
London Borough of Barking and Dagenham
London Borough of Barnet
London Borough of Bexley
London Borough of Brent
London Borough of Bromley
London Borough of Bromley
London Borough of Camden

London Borough of Croydon
London Borough of Ealing
London Borough of Enfield
London Borough of Hackney
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
London Borough of Haringey
London Borough of Harrow
London Borough of Havering
London Borough of Hillingdon
London Borough of Hounslow
London Borough of Islington
London Borough of Islington
London Borough of Lambeth
London Borough of Lewisham
London Borough of Merton
London Borough of Newham
London Borough of Newham
London Borough of Redbridge
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
London Borough of Southwark
London Borough of Sutton
London Borough of Tower Hamlets
London Borough of Wandsworth
London Councils Conservative Group
London Voluntary Service Councils
London Youth Gateway partnership
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
Merton centre for Independent Living
New Horizon Youth Centre
Race Equality Foundation
Race on the Agenda
Redbridge Concern for Mental Health
Refugee Council
Renaissi
Richmond AID
Rights of Women
Royal Borough of Greenwich
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
Rushey Green Time Bank
Shelter
Southall Black Sisters
St George's, University of London
Stonewall Housing
Tender Education & Arts
Transport for All
Unemployment Relief
Westminster City Council

Wish
Woman's Trust
Women and Girls Network
Women's Resource Centre (WRC)
Working Chance

## **Appendix Four**

### **Additional Equalities information**

This report builds on the initial Grants Review consultation (July – October 2015), the previous report related to that consultation, considered by Grants Committee at their meeting, 18 November 2015, and provides a summary and response to the additional consultation (December 2015- January 2016). At each of these stages equalities information has been presented. The following is provided in addition to previously published information and provides supplementary information to address any gaps that were highlighted through the additional consultation. Also provided below is equalities monitoring information with regard to respondents to the consultation.

#### **1. Further information on the impact of funding a grants programme that does not have a priority focused on capacity building**

A number of consultation responses expressed a view that previous equalities information presented with the Grants Committee report in November 2015 and with the additional consultation (December 2015 – January 2015) did not sufficiently outline the impact of the new programme not having as a priority capacity building of the Third Sector. The following information addresses this issue by providing information on current commissions'

- reliance on London Councils funding
- delivery and outcomes to date
- frontline organisations supported

This information aims to provide more information on the potential equalities impacts of a new programme not having as a priority capacity building of the Third Sector, given the indirect impact on people with the protected characteristic that Priority Four commissions have provided. It is also worth noting that consultation responses provided information on the impact of the Leaders' Committee in principle position which is outlined in the body of this report in section two.

#### **1.1 Reliance on London Councils funding**

1.1.1 Table one provides information on commissions currently funded under Priority Four, including directly funded organisations and partners. The table outlines how much the current annual grant payments from London Councils represent as a percentage of the organisation's overall income. To calculate this officers have used the most recently supplied accounts (March 2015) or income information received from providers to source the total income level of the organisation. This was then compared to the amount of funding due to be paid to each partner according to the budget agreed with the lead partner. Officers have used this approach because the alternative method (comparing the total organisational



income to the total grant amount) does not present a clear representation of how much the organisation relies on London Councils funding as part of the total grant amount includes payments to partners.

**Table one**

	<b>Commission</b>	<b>Grant amount as a percentage of income</b>
lead partner	Advice UK	8%
Partner	Law Centres Federation	8%
Partner	LASA <sub>3</sub>	13%
lead partner	Age UK London	9%
Partner	Opening Doors London	Less than 1%
lead partner	Children England	21%
Partner	Race Equality Foundation	5%
Partner	Partnership for Young London	36%
lead partner	Inclusion London	31%
Partner	Transport for All	59%
lead partner	London Voluntary Service Council	20%
Partner	Race on the Agenda	18%
Partner	Women's Resource Centre <sup>1</sup>	18%
Partner	Refugees in Effective and Active Partnerships	33%
Partner	Lasa <sup>2</sup>	13%
lead partner	Refugee Council	1%

1.1.2 Table one shows that a number of organisations are heavily reliant on funding from London Councils. London Councils uses a threshold of 25% as a due diligence test on lead organisations to ensure organisations are not overly reliant on London Councils funding. This test was undertaken at the start of the grant and annually. Officers have sought additional information from projects where the grant to income ratio exceeds 25% (such as a quarterly submission from the organisation's director of finance confirming the organisation's financial viability). The financial viability of the partners has been the responsibility of the lead partner to check. Whilst officers have encouraged organisations to put measures in

<sup>1</sup> Women's Resource Centre delivers under two projects therefore officers have used the combined sum of payments from both services to calculate the grant to income ratio.

<sup>2</sup> Lasa delivers in two partnership projects and therefore officers have used the combined sum of payments from both services to calculate the grant to income ratio.

place to ensure they are not overly reliant on London Councils funding it is also true that as alternative funding opportunities have reduced over this period, some organisations have become more reliant on London Councils funding.

1.1.3 London Councils, through its grants principles is a funder of outcomes and not organisations. Each funding cycle includes a competitive application process and current funding does not imply future funding. Notwithstanding this, in order to outline the impact of the new programme not having as a priority capacity building of the Third Sector, this table provides an indication of the potential impact to the current commissions should the opportunity to apply again for funding under such a priority not exist after March 2017. The table only provides an indication of reliance on London Councils funding and needs to be seen in the context of a number of factors including (1) the income levels relate to the year ending March 2015 and changes to funding may have happened since then (2) the table does not provide any indication on how sustainable the rest of the organisation's income streams are. A range of means to mitigate any negative impacts are detailed in this report, including the potential for London Councils to work with City Bridge Trust in relation to their future grant giving around infrastructure in London.

## **1.2 Current commissions' delivery and outcomes**

1.2.1 Consultation responses stated that insufficient information had been provided to date on the impact of the new programme not having as a priority capacity building of the Third Sector and that this would benefit from further information on the services currently being provided and the impact these have had. Information is provided to Grants Committee on a quarterly basis and is provided in the report on performance on this agenda. This information includes delivery partners, activities delivered, a case study and outcomes achieved. In addition a review of commissions was undertaken in 2014 and considered by Grants Committee at their meeting 26 November 2014.

1.2.2 In addition to this some highlights from the quarter eleven (October – December 2015) reports from commissions are included below to provide more examples of delivery. Full quarterly reports are available to boroughs on request.

### **Advice UK**

- Increase in organisational stability of agencies – Support to three organisations including Richmond Aid regarding submission of materials for quality standards.
- Organisations more successful in attracting resources - through one to one support to 18 organisations to develop funding applications.

- Increase in organisation's capacity leading to improved quality of advice services -
- Increased organisations' capacity leading to improved quality of advice services – assisting four organisations including The Black Women's Health & Family Support with one to one support to increase quality of advice services.
- Number of organisations reporting that they can better engage with statutory agencies and stakeholders - specific support to four organisations
- Organisations better able to network and engage, including with stakeholder networks/ partnerships and with statutory agencies
- Influence and improve the commissioning of advice services
- Increase in the awareness of voluntary advice agencies, to meet the advice and support needs of protected equalities groups including workshop facilitation at a consultation meeting of the Mayor's Refugee Advisory Panel (MRAP), Workshop on Equality Act; The Care Act 2014
- New partnerships created with equalities organisations

#### Age UK London

- Organisations gain skills in financial and organisational viability including skills to diversify funding streams and investigate becoming funding free - Practical fund bidding workshop, Free resources online workshop, Sustainability workshop, Getting your organisation online workshop
- Organisations with increased knowledge of best practice including legal and policy issues - Skill sharing workshop, Action learning workshop, Digital democracy workshop
- Services aware of the principles and practice of equality and inclusion - Equality learning and dissemination workshop
- The following briefings were circulated: London funding news, London Age periodical, Health and Social Care briefing, London Age Express, Councils briefing, Best practice briefings (Revolve), Good practice age equality sector update
- Individual support was provided to complete 6 grant applications, 9 corporate support opportunities were brokered, 5 organisations were paired with a social media volunteer
- 22 organisations took part in consultations
- 6 organisations contributed to the Age Equality Sector update

#### Children England

- Organisations with enhanced business plans and skills in place demonstrating that their services are more able to be effective and sustainable – two business planning workshops, one leadership workshop, social investment conference, one coaching skills for leaders workshop, one schools policy session, leadership in youth services session, business plans re. health agenda session, Mapping of Commissioning and Evidence Frameworks around Youth Services
- Organisations effectively engaged in regional representation structures and increased opportunities for engagement for equalities organisations – including a regional roundtable on the VCs role in CAMHS commissioning with Healthy London Partnership
- Organisations demonstrating that their services are better able to meet the needs of equalities groups – two safeguarding equalities events and one equalities and road safety event.

#### London Voluntary Service Council

- LVSC: LVSF Steering Group meeting, training events on building relationships with business plus masterclass, managing poor performance, dealing with change and engaging the private sector, redundancy and restructuring, Gender Recognition Act, trans awareness, monthly LVSC and London for All bulletins;
- Women's Resource Centre: fast track to successful fundraising, financial planning, Train the Trainer in Human Rights and Equalities Act. Financial and organisational management,
- LASA: Webinar - 'Using Digital Technologies in Community Health and Social Care Settings'; Delivery of ICT email/helpline throughout the quarter; Examples of sign-posting included – referring beneficiaries to technology Trust for access to low-cost software;
- HEAR: 3 bulletins sent to members covering consultation opportunities, training and support activities and member news. Training on designing and implementing equalities practice, managing change and effective involvement of service users, trans awareness, gender recognition and care act, working with LGBT communities and human rights
- ROTA: Two days Train the Trainer training on using the Equality Act 2010

#### Inclusion London

- One day strategic planning for business success training course

- Two day Effective project management training course for Deaf and disabled project workers wanting to develop their project management skills.
- Disability Equality Training : making your events accessible to Disabled people training course
- One day Building Your Brand training course and provided “1-2-1” social media support
- DDPO legal network meeting looking at Disabled people’s rights to accessible goods and services
- CEO meeting looking at issues DDPOs experience recruiting Deaf and Disabled people to senior roles within their organisations
- Pan-London Mobility forum meeting
- Policy and Campaigns forum meeting
- Three newsletters / bulletins and three capacity building support resources as well as IL and TFA web resource updates

#### The Refugee Council

- One-to-one advice and support sessions to eight migrant and refugee community organisations (MRCOs), in-depth capacity-building support to three MRCOs
- Issue of RCO Connect Newsletter – including refugee crisis and homelessness issue
- Three training sessions - income generation, fundraising, Equalities and Safeguarding Children and Young People from refugee and migrant background
- Networking opportunities
- Advocacy work through meetings and attendance to events.

### **1.3 Equalities focus of frontline organisations supported by current commissions under Priority four**

1.3.1 A number of consultation responses expressed a view that information in the previous equalities assessment was not sufficient because it presented information on individuals accessing current Priority Four services rather than the equalities focus of frontline organisations supported. Information was presented on frontline organisations previously, however, the following table provides additional information to supplement information previously provided. Table two provides information on the numbers of frontline organisation supported with a particular equalities focus. Figures represent frontline organisations supported in the period April 2015 – December 2015. This provides members with information on the frontline organisations supported by current commissions and the indirect support this has on people with the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. It can be used as an indication to the potential impact related to the Leaders’

Committee in principle position. This information is indicative given that each funding cycle operates with a competitive application process and commissions currently funded are due to end in March 2017.

**Table two: Number of frontline organisations supported (by equalities characteristic) <sup>3</sup>**

Year/Commission	Organisations worked with	Race	Disability	Sex	Sexual Orientation
<b>2015-17</b>					
Advice UK	877	687	620	569	538
Age Concern London	537	93	69	20	7
Children England	2120	1304	719	462	345
London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC)	2231	758	709	598	531
The Refugee Council	678	642	65	91	4
Inclusion London	249	15	240	6	2

**Table two continued**

Year/Commission	Pregnancy/ Maternity	Marriage/ Civil Partnership	Age	Religion/ faith	Gender reassign ment
<b>2015-17</b>					
Advice UK	541	533	607	539	533
Age Concern London	6	5	230	41	6
Children England	387	302	1528	564	263
London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC)	514	511	686	660	510
The Refugee Council	1	3	133	43	
Inclusion London			18		

## 2. Equalities representation in the consultation

Finally it is important to ensure that a sufficiently diverse range of voices have been heard during the consultation process.

<sup>3</sup> (The dataset used was found to contain errors (duplicates). Therefore a random sampling of the dataset was analysed and used to estimate the error rate. A comfortable margin was added to the error rate and this was then used to adjust(reduce) the final results accordingly))

The following list provides information on the number of consultation responses against each of the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

1. Age – of the 66 respondents on this question, 3% were under 24 years and 17 % were over 55 years old. In addition a number of organisations that reflect the issues of older people and children and young people submitted responses including, Children England, Age UK London, New Horizon Youth Centre and Tender Education & Arts amongst others.
2. Disability - 19 respondents identified themselves as having a disability. In addition a number of disability and Deaf related organisations submitted responses including Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea (Taking Control Project), Inclusion London and DeafLondon amongst others.
3. Race – of the 74 respondents on this question 49% of responses were from White British people, 47% of responses were from BAME categories. In addition responses were received from organisations with a BAME/ race focus including Southall Black Sisters, Imkaan, Race on the Agenda, Refugee Council and Race Equality Foundation amongst others.
4. Sex – of the 74 respondents that answered the question on sex 69% of respondents were women. In addition a number of organisations focusing on violence against women and girls submitted responses such as Southall Black Sisters, Imkaan, Women's Resource Centre and Women and Girls Network amongst others.
5. Sexuality – of the 67 respondents that answered 61% heterosexual, 6% from bisexual people, 9 % from gay men, 12 % from lesbians; 12 % of respondents other/ preferred not to say. In addition organisations representing LGBT issues submitted responses such as Stonewall Housing.
6. Religion and belief – of the 58 respondents that answered 64% stated that they had a religion or belief.
7. Gender reassignment – a number of responses highlighted issues related to gender reassignment, such as the fact that this group is more at risk of sexual and domestic violence.
8. Pregnancy/ maternity – of the 62 respondents 3% stated that they had pregnancy/ maternity issues
9. Marriage/ Civil partnership – of the 63 respondents, 18 stated that they were single, 18 were married/ civil partners and 22 living with a partner, 5 other.



# Evidencing Changes in Homelessness Need in London

Between 2013 and 2015



# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background to the work and overall aims

In December 2015 London Councils Leaders' Committee made an in principle position to continue funding a priority area focused on tackling homelessness. As part of this review London Councils Leaders' Committee and Grants Committee have outlined a need for further evidence on homelessness need in London to enable them to make a decision on the priorities for the period beyond 2017.

The overall aim of the work is to increase understanding of homelessness across London. It seeks to do this by establishing what evidence exists on the changing incidence and nature of homelessness in London between 2013-2015. The work highlights differences in the impact of these changes in relation to inner and outer London areas and protected equalities groups. It also explores possible links between homelessness and unemployment.

The work will be submitted to London Councils Grants Committee and Leaders' Committee in March 2016 and will be considered alongside other information including previous consultation findings (July-October 2015), and additional consultation results (December 2015-January 2016). The review will inform London Councils' decisions on any future budget and allocation of resources to projects that deliver the agreed priorities.

## 1.2 Elements of the work

The work has involved the following:

- Analysis of data in relation to rough sleeping and statutory homelessness between 2013-2015
- Desk-based research in relation to recent policy and funding changes
- Qualitative research in the form of semi-structured interviews with stakeholders representing London Councils, Homeless Link, one inner and two outer London boroughs.

### 1.2.1 Methodology and clarification of definitions

**Rough sleeping:** numbers of people rough sleeping are monitored via the Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN) database. Quarterly CHAIN data for 2013 is available for most inner London boroughs, but not for outer London boroughs. Bi-monthly data relating to the period July-December 2013 is available for all inner and outer London boroughs. In 2014 reporting changed to a quarterly basis and full data is available for all London boroughs for 2014 and 2015. As the report seeks to compare the incidence of rough sleeping between 2013-2015 data has been utilised relating to two six-month periods: July-December 2013 and July-December 2015.

**Rough sleeping hotspots:** for the purposes of this report these are defined as boroughs experiencing an increase in rough sleeping numbers of at least 50% between 2013 and 2015. This should be distinguished from an Area of High Rough Sleeping, which is an area with a rough sleeping count of above 20 such as Westminster.

**Statutory homelessness:** figures for the final quarter of 2015 were not available at the time of writing this report. To enable a full year comparison to be made between 2013-2015 a figure for the final quarter of 2015 has been extrapolated from the previous three quarters of 2015.

## 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Data indicates that overall levels of statutory homelessness and rough sleeping increased across London between 2013-2015. Anecdotal evidence from stakeholders suggests that other forms of single homelessness are also rising. However, lack of relevant data means it is currently not possible to quantify increases in these areas.

Stakeholder feedback and secondary research indicate that increases in homelessness are likely to be the outcome of a number of funding and policy changes. The most important change identified by stakeholders is restrictions placed on Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates since 2011. These mean that LHA is not keeping pace with actual market rents and this is significantly decreasing accessibility and affordability of private rented sector (PRS) accommodation for homeless and low-income households. However, broader London housing market conditions - rapidly rising rents and high demand for the PRS - are also considered to be a significant driver of increasing homelessness. The extension of the Shared Accommodation Rate (SAR) from 25 to 35 years old has led to an increasing number of vulnerable single homeless people living in shared accommodation, but there is insufficient tenancy support available for this group, which can lead to them losing their accommodation.

In relation to rough sleeping recent changes to welfare benefits entitlements may be increasing the incidence of rough sleeping amongst Central and Eastern European nationals.

Data relating to statutory homelessness and rough sleeping indicates that homelessness is increasing more rapidly in outer than inner London areas. Stakeholder feedback and secondary research suggests a displacement of statutory homeless households into less expensive outer London areas. However, this movement may be inflating rents in outer London areas, taking them further above LHA levels. There is a risk of tenancy failure and subsequent homelessness for vulnerable households in outer London where relevant information is not shared between the referring and receiving boroughs.

The comparatively large geographical area of outer London boroughs and less intensive outreach coverage mean that CHAIN figures may be under-reporting the full extent of rough sleeping in these areas. In addition, it is difficult for outer London boroughs to respond effectively to higher levels of rough sleeping as central Government grant settlements are often based on historically lower levels of need.

Lack of available data means it can be difficult to fully assess changes in homelessness within particular equalities groups. The proposed reduction in the Benefit Cap is likely to disproportionately impact on larger BAME and refugee families. The extension of SAR disproportionately impacts on younger people. It is understood there are increasing numbers of young people in the non-statutory and rough sleeping population. The number of homeless women has also increased and this may be related to cuts in women-specific services.

Stakeholder feedback indicates it is likely there is a strong link between individuals' homelessness and unemployment, but this relationship is less easy to evidence in terms of geographical areas. There is a trend towards higher levels of employment within the statutory homeless population, which may be linked to the functioning of the Benefit Cap and/or individual boroughs' prioritisation of people in work within their Housing Allocations Policies. However, stakeholders also noted a strong trend in homelessness applications being made by low-waged households. This is likely to be also a result of London housing market conditions.

## 3.0 DETAILED FINDINGS

### 3.1 Findings from data on rough sleeping and statutory homelessness provided by London Councils

This section utilises data supplied by London Councils relating to rough sleeping and statutory homelessness. Additional CHAIN data has been sourced via desk-top research.

#### 3.1.1 Rough sleeping figures

Findings in this section utilise data from CHAIN reports relating to the period 2013 – 2015<sup>1</sup> and street counts carried out in 2013 and 2014.

The table below sets out changes in rough sleeping across inner and outer London boroughs between 2013 and 2015 as indicated by CHAIN. Hotspots are indicated in red.

**Table 1: CHAIN rough sleeping figures, 2013 and 2015**

Borough <sup>2</sup>	2013 (Jul – Dec)	2015 (Jul – Dec)	Change (%)
Camden	345	465	120 (35%)
City of London	275	329	54 (20%)
Greenwich	32	64	32 (100%)
Hackney	92	84	-8 (-9%)
Hammersmith & Fulham	105	137	32 (30%)
Islington	100	107	7 (7%)
Kensington & Chelsea	119	168	49 (41%)
Lambeth	313	276	-37 (-12%)
Lewisham	85	73	-12 (-14%)
Southwark	294	261	-33 (-11%)
Tower Hamlets	193	262	69 (36%)
Wandsworth	31	66	35 (113%)
Westminster	1866	2058	192 (10%)
Inner London total	3850	4350	500 (13%)
Barking & Dagenham	8	12	4 (50%)
Barnet	26	42	16 (62%)
Bexley	7	14	7 (100%)
Brent	179	133	-46 (-26%)
Bromley	31	34	3 (10%)
Croydon	97	117	20 (21%)
Ealing	205	208	3 (1%)
Enfield	58	70	12 (21%)

<sup>1</sup> These are available at: <http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/chain-reports> and <http://www.mungos.org/chain>.

<sup>2</sup> Boroughs are categorised using the London Councils designation.

<b>Haringey</b>	49	86	<b>37 (76%)</b>
<b>Harrow</b>	36	38	<b>2 (6%)</b>
<b>Havering</b>	5	6	<b>1 (20%)</b>
<b>Hillingdon<sup>3</sup></b>	121	170	<b>49 (40%)</b>
<b>Hounslow</b>	93	144	<b>51 (55%)</b>
<b>Kingston</b>	8	16	<b>8 (100%)</b>
<b>Merton</b>	17	26	<b>9 (53%)</b>
<b>Newham</b>	113	168	<b>55 (49%)</b>
<b>Redbridge</b>	51	193	<b>142 (278%)</b>
<b>Richmond</b>	70	92	<b>22 (31%)</b>
<b>Sutton</b>	10	18	<b>8 (80%)</b>
<b>Waltham Forest</b>	49	67	<b>18 (37%)</b>
<b>Outer London total</b>	<b>1233</b>	<b>1654</b>	<b>421 (34%)</b>

Table 2: Street count hotspots

<b>Borough</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change (%)</b>
<b>Greenwich</b>	1	16	15 (1500%)
<b>Westminster</b>	140	265	125 (89%)
<b>Barking</b>	0	4	4 (400%)
<b>Bexley</b>	3	7	3 (75%)
<b>Brent</b>	6	11	5 (83%)
<b>Enfield</b>	5	8	3 (60%)
<b>Havering</b>	2	8	300%
<b>Hounslow</b>	17	32	15 (88%)
<b>Sutton</b>	0	8	8 (700%)
<b>Waltham Forest</b>	3	10	7 (233%)

CHAIN and street count data indicate an increase in the level of overall numbers of rough sleepers in inner and outer London during the period. CHAIN indicates a pan-London increase of 18%. Street count figures show a pan-London increase of 37%.

CHAIN data indicates the increase in overall rough sleeping has been higher in outer London (34%) than inner London areas (13%). Street count data suggests that rough sleeping has risen more quickly in inner London boroughs (51% inner, 17% outer). This difference may reflect the street count methodology.<sup>4</sup>

Aside from Westminster the picture in inner London is of relatively moderate growth in rough sleeping. Outer London saw large increases across many boroughs. It is also notable that four inner London boroughs (Hackney, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark) experienced decreases between 2013 and 2015.

Street count data indicates hotspots in inner London as being Greenwich and Westminster and a number of hotspots in outer London.

In terms of distribution of rough sleeping CHAIN indicates that the share for outer London has increased between 2013 and 2015 - from 24% - 28% of the total. This is based on 2013 figures of 3850 and 1233 for inner/outer London and 2015 figures of 4350 and 1654 for inner/outer London.

<sup>3</sup> This is a combined figure for Hillingdon and Heathrow

<sup>4</sup> Street counts are a snapshot of rough sleepers identified on a given night. It is acknowledged that street counts in inner London are better resourced than in outer London boroughs and are therefore likely to find higher numbers of rough sleepers.

### 3.1.2 Ethnicity of rough sleepers

CHAIN ethnicity data indicates that between 2013-2015 there has been a slight decrease in the proportion of UK nationals within the rough sleeper population (48% - 42%) and increase in the proportion of CEE nationals (29% - 36%). The proportions of other ethnic groups: Africans, Asians, Australasians, Irish and other Europeans remained fairly stable over the period.

CHAIN annual report data for 2013/14 and 2014/15 indicates that during this period the vast majority of rough sleepers (87%) were men. The majority of rough sleepers (79%) were between 26 and 55.

CHAIN annual report data indicates that in 2013/14 and 2014/15 the most common last settled base before rough sleeping was in the private rented sector (42% of total). The most frequently stated reason for leaving in 2014/15 was 'being asked to leave' (15.7%), followed by eviction – most commonly for arrears (7.4% of the total). In total, evictions and being asked to leave accounted for 30% of rough sleepers – this figure was unchanged from the previous year.

### 3.1.3 Statutory homelessness

Findings in this section utilise data supplied by London Councils for 2013 - 2015. Hotspots are indicated in red.

**Table 3: Statutory homelessness applications, 2013 and 2015**

Borough	2013 total	2015 total	Change (%)
Camden	127	83	-44 (-35%)
City of London	21	57	36 (173%)
Greenwich	333	585	252 (76%)
Hackney	1391	1572	181 (13%)
Hammersmith & Fulham	488	604	116 (24%)
Islington	980	841	-139 (-14%)
Kensington & Chelsea	1404	1225	-179 (-13%)
Lambeth	946	636	-310 (-33%)
Lewisham	883	1161	278 (32%)
Southwark	946	1808	862 (91%)
Tower Hamlets	811	747	-64 (-8%)
Wandsworth	1237	1261	24 (2%)
Westminster	1218	1000	-218 (-18%)
<b>Inner London total</b>	<b>10785</b>	<b>11581</b>	<b>7%</b>
Barking & Dagenham	1675	1707	32 (2%)
Barnet	1090	777	-313 (-29%)
Bexley	565	648	83 (15%)
Brent	1089	1497	408 (37%)
Bromley	1143	857	-286 (-25%)
Croydon	2394	1405	-989 (-41%)
Ealing	1254	1599	345 (27%)
Enfield	797	1271	474 (59%)
Haringey	1109	947	-162 (-15%)
Harrow	385	555	170 (44%)
Havering	780	924	144 (18%)

Hillingdon	489	547	58 (12%)
Hounslow	882	408	-474 (-54%)
Kingston	382	317	-65 (-17%)
<b>Merton</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>151 (66%)</b>
Newham	3253	1516	-1737 (-53%)
Redbridge	1109	1109	0 (0%)
Richmond	544	396	-148 (-27%)
Sutton	316	459	143 (45%)
Waltham Forest	1915	2005	90 (5%)
<b>Outer London total</b>	<b>21399</b>	<b>19323</b>	<b>-2076</b>

Data relating to homelessness applications between 2013-15 indicates a decrease across London of 4%. Applications in inner London increased by approximately 7%, but decreased in outer London boroughs by approximately 10%.

In terms of distribution, in 2013 the majority of homelessness applications (66.5%) were made in outer London boroughs. In 2015 the division of applications was inner London 37.5% and outer London 62.5%.

Inner London hotspots included: City of London (+173%), Greenwich (+76%) and Southwark (+91%). Hotspots in outer London included: Merton (+66%) and Enfield (+59%).

**Table 4: Statutory homelessness acceptances, 2013 and 2015**

Borough	2013 total	2015 total	Change (%)
Camden	92	49	-43 (-46%)
<b>City of London</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>29 (244%)</b>
<b>Greenwich</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>211 (103%)</b>
Hackney	790	1104	314 (40%)
Hammersmith & Fulham	369	441	72 (20%)
Islington	418	365	-53 (13%)
Kensington & Chelsea	548	519	-29 (-5%)
Lambeth	697	429	-268 (-38%)
Lewisham	709	635	-74 (-10%)
Southwark	574	829	255 (44%)
Tower Hamlets	524	576	52 (10%)
Wandsworth	735	908	173 (24%)
Westminster	773	639	-134 (-17%)
<b>Inner London total</b>	<b>6445</b>	<b>6951</b>	<b>506</b>
Barking & Dagenham	880	936	56 (6%)
Barnet	692	469	-223 (-32%)
Bexley	390	437	47 (12%)
Brent	638	700	62 (10%)
Bromley	527	563	36 (7%)
Croydon	765	825	60 (8%)
Ealing	567	752	185 (33%)
<b>Enfield</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>424 (73%)</b>
Haringey	760	663	-97 (-13%)
<b>Harrow</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>223 (142%)</b>
<b>Havering</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>192 (120%)</b>
Hillingdon	217	293	76 (35%)

Hounslow	645	331	-314 (-49%)
Kingston	178	193	15 (9%)
<b>Merton</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>68 (74%)</b>
Newham	1629	860	-769 (-47%)
Redbridge	472	513	41 (9%)
Richmond	331	232	-99 (-30%)
<b>Sutton</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>146 (80%)</b>
Waltham Forest	845	1052	207 (24%)
<b>Outer London total</b>	<b>10706</b>	<b>11043</b>	<b>337</b>

Data relating to homelessness acceptances indicates an overall increase of approximately 5%. This increase was higher in inner London (8%) than outer London (3%). Inner London hotspots included: City of London (+244%) and Greenwich (+103%). Hotspots in outer London included: Harrow (+142%), Havering (+120%), Sutton (+80%), Merton (74%) and Ealing (73%).

In terms of distribution the majority of acceptances were in outer London. In 2013 this represented a share of 62.5%. In 2015 this decreased slightly to 61.5%.

Data relating to temporary accommodation indicates an increase in placements across London of 19% between 2013-2015. Increases were higher in outer London (20%) than inner London (16%). Hotspots in inner London included: City of London (+77%), Greenwich (+78%) and Wandsworth (+68%). Outer London hotspots included: Bexley (+59%), Ealing (+68%) and Waltham Forest (+55%).

The distribution of TA placements remained fairly constant during the period at around inner London 35%/outer London 65%. Overall, London has 50,490 households in TA; this represents 74% of the national figure which stands at 68,850.

Data relating to homelessness prevention<sup>5</sup> for 2013 and 2014 indicates an increase across London of 11%. The average inner London increase during this period was 9%, whilst in outer London it was approximately 12%. Inner London areas experiencing significant increases in prevention included: Hackney (+54%) and Lewisham (+269%). In outer London this included Redbridge (+127%).

Homelessness prevention decreased significantly in a number of boroughs, including: City (-41%), Wandsworth (-38%), Enfield (-67%) and Hounslow (-62%).

The majority of homelessness prevention (62%) took place in outer London boroughs in both 2013 and 2014.

Data relating to homelessness relief<sup>6</sup> for 2013-2014 indicates a significant increase across London of 43%. This includes a 28% decrease in inner London, but increase of just under 60% in outer London boroughs. Decreases in homelessness relief occurred in the majority of inner London boroughs. Homelessness relief increased significantly in some outer London hotspots, including: Barking & Dagenham (+231%), Bexley (+400%) and Waltham Forest (+236%).

<sup>5</sup> 'Homelessness prevention' means providing people with the ways and means to address their housing and other needs to avoid homelessness.

<sup>6</sup> 'Homelessness relief' is where an authority has been unable to prevent homelessness but helps someone to secure accommodation, even though the authority is under no statutory obligation to do so. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homelessness-data-notes-and-definitions>



Homeless relief was much more prevalent in outer London boroughs and the share of this increased between 2013-14 from 81% to 90.5% of the total.

### 3.1.4 Data relating to unemployment

Unemployment data for 2012-2014 indicates an overall reduction in unemployment across London of 21% (83,900 people). During this period unemployment in inner London fell by 19% (29,000 people) and in outer London by almost 22% (54,900 people). The share of unemployment between inner and outer London remained fairly stable at approximately 38%/62%. The highest percentage decreases in inner London were in: Lambeth (-25%), Lewisham (-31%) and Hammersmith & Fulham (-24%). The highest decreases in outer London were in: Brent (-28%), Croydon (-29%), Ealing (-28%), Harrow (-28%), Havering (-27%) and Newham (-27%).

## 3.2 The policy context

A number of recent and proposed legislative and funding changes are likely to reduce the overall amount of affordable housing available to homeless people and impact on homelessness in London. These changes are outlined below, along with additional relevant data sourced via desk-top research.

### 3.2.1 Changes to Local Housing Allowance (LHA)

LHA is a means of calculating Housing Benefit (HB) for tenants in the deregulated private rented sector (PRS). In April 2011 the basis for setting LHA rates changed from the median (50th) to the 30th percentile of local market rents. Since April 2013 increases in LHA rates have been restricted to increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation.<sup>7</sup> In 2014/15 and 2015/16 LHA rates have been uplifted by 1%. In Budget 2015 Government announced that LHA rates would be frozen for four years from April 2016.

The Shared Accommodation Rate (SAR) limits the amount of Housing Benefit which can be claimed to that for renting a single room in a shared house. This previously applied to people under 25, but since April 2012 has been extended to people under 35.

A 2014 report for DWP on the impact of recent reforms to LHA<sup>8</sup> notes a pattern of change in overall Housing Benefit (HB) claims in London, with a decrease in the London Centre area and increase in London Cosmopolitan areas and London Suburbs between the quarter before the [2011] reforms began and June/August 2013.<sup>9</sup> Existing LHA claimants (i.e.: at January 2011) had a greater average reduction in entitlement in given property types than in the UK as a whole, with the majority of this reduction (74%) being incident on tenants. Analysis of moves made by LHA claimants at local authority level indicated a 'distinct ripple effect' from central London and London Cosmopolitan areas to neighbouring districts. The report also notes a significantly greater proportion of landlords with property in London seeking to reduce lets to LHA tenants and planning to exit the LHA sub-market, with over a quarter of stakeholders surveyed stating they had taken actions (non-renewal or cessation of a tenancy or eviction) against tenants specifically because of the effects of LHA reforms.

<sup>7</sup> Savage, M (2013), *Equality Analysis for Housing Benefit: Up-rating Local Housing Allowance by 1 per cent and the Targeted Affordability Funding*. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/262034/lha-uprating-equality-analysis.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/262034/lha-uprating-equality-analysis.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> DWP (July 2014), *The impact of recent reforms to Local Housing Allowances: Summary of key findings*. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/329902/rr874-lha-impact-of-recent-reforms-summary.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/329902/rr874-lha-impact-of-recent-reforms-summary.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> London Centre includes: Camden, City of London, Hammersmith and Fulham, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Tower Hamlets, Wandsworth and Westminster. London Cosmopolitan includes: Brent, Hackney, Haringey, Lambeth, Lewisham, Newham and Southwark.



The report also notes the number of households giving the end of an Assured Shorthold Tenancy<sup>10</sup> (AST) as the main reason for homelessness almost doubled between 2011 and 2013, with 59% of this increase being attributed to London.

A 2013 report for DWP notes a range of issues related to LHA which are affecting affordability in the PRS. These include: lack of rent regulation, especially at the lower end of the market, insufficient supply of social and affordable housing increasing demand in the PRS, lack of one-bed supply in the PRS and the increasing unwillingness of landlords to rent to benefit claimants. LHA claimants in work have difficulty in moving to more affordable areas, especially where shift patterns and unsociable hours mean they need to be near their workplaces.<sup>11</sup>

The report also notes respondents' view that it is difficult to accurately calculate SAR, meaning that local rates are not representative of market rents and that in practice a third of the market is not available. Young people on low incomes are particularly affected by LHA changes as they have to compete with students and young professionals for accommodation and because of their comparatively low priority for housing from local authorities.

Data collated by London's Poverty Profile indicates a geographical shift in HB claimants within London: in 2010 just under half of claimants lived in Outer London (48%), whilst in 2015 this had risen to just over half (51%). There have also been changes within sub-regional areas: since 2013 HB claims have dropped by 4.4% in inner London, in Outer East, Northeast and Outer South by 3%, but only by 0.6% in Outer West and Northwest London.<sup>12</sup> This may suggest a displacement of population in response to the 2011 LHA changes and the Benefit Cap.

A report for DWP in 2013 in relation to the limitation of annual LHA uprating to 1% in 2014/15 and 2015/16 finds no direct impact on gender, but a disproportionate impact on single women because of their representation levels in the HB caseloads. The policy may also disproportionately impact on some disabled people, because of the difficulties they face in finding an alternative PRS tenancy and on some larger BAME families.

### 3.2.2 Reduction in the Benefit Cap

This measure is contained within the Welfare Reform and Work Bill 2015. It sets a limit on the total amount in benefits that most working-age people can claim. At present this is set at: £500 pw (£26,000 pa) for households with children and £350 pw (£18,200 pa) for single people. The reduction is due to take effect in April 2016 and will reduce the total amount a household can claim to £442 per week (£23,000 pa) in London for couples and lone parents and £296 (£15,410 pa) for single households.<sup>13</sup>

Evidence from London's Poverty Profile indicates that the Benefit Cap has disproportionately impacted on London as a whole. In 2015, the number of cap-affected families in London (10,500) was almost as many as in the rest of England put together. In London, about a third of families were up to £25 a week worse off, whilst 2,400 families lost more than £100 per week. Around 1,000 single adult households in London were affected.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>10</sup> The assured shorthold tenancy is the default legal category of residential tenancy in England and Wales. It is a form of assured tenancy with limited security of tenure, which was introduced by the Housing Act 1988

<sup>11</sup> DWP (December 2013), *Local Housing Allowance Targeted Affordability Funding. Outcome of the call for evidence.* [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/262080/lha-call-for-evidence-response.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/262080/lha-call-for-evidence-response.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> London's Poverty Profile (2015). 'Housing benefit claimants in London.' <http://www.londonpovertyprofile.org.uk/indicators/topics/receiving-non-work-benefits/housing-benefit-caseload>. This utilises P1E data.

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.cpag.org.uk/content/welfare-reform-and-work-bill-2015>

<sup>14</sup> London's Poverty Profile (2015). 'Families affected by the overall benefit cap'.

Government briefing information from 2015 indicates that most cap-affected households in London were larger families and/or lived in a high-rent area.<sup>15</sup>

### 3.2.3 Application of LHA rates to social and supported housing

This measure was announced in the Comprehensive Spending Review 2015. It proposes to include social housing, including supported housing, within the LHA framework. The new rules would apply to new tenancies from April 2016, although the LHA rate of Housing Benefit entitlement would not apply until 2018.<sup>16</sup> Because of staffing costs, supported housing, including schemes directed at previously homeless households, is particularly vulnerable to such cuts in income. If support services are withdrawn, more people will inevitably end up on the streets.

Homeless Link is currently gathering evidence about the likely impacts of this change. Latest information (based on responses from 21 organisations) indicates that annual shortfalls are likely across supported accommodation types, ranging from £300 to £13,000 per bed space per annum on current evidence.<sup>17</sup>

### 3.2.4 Reduction in social housing rents

This measure is contained in the Welfare Reform and Work Bill 2015. From April 2016 social housing providers are required to put in place a 1% year on year reduction in their rents for the next four years.

This measure was originally intended to include supported housing. However, in January 2016 Government announced that supported housing will be exempted for one year.<sup>18</sup>

### 3.2.5 Extension of Right to Buy in social housing

This measure is contained in the Housing and Planning Bill 2015. Part 4 of the Bill sets out provisions to extend Right to Buy to housing association tenants and the forced sale of vacant high value social housing owned by councils. There is a risk that this may further reduce the supply of affordable housing in London, especially in expensive areas.

## 3.3 Data relating to protected equalities groups

This section highlights evidence of homelessness need in relation to protected equalities groups in recently published research (2012 onwards).

### 3.3.1 Young People

Crisis's 2015 briefing on homelessness notes that young people are at particular risk of becoming homeless and that rough sleeping among young people doubled between 2009–2014.<sup>19</sup> Referencing *The Homelessness Monitor* the briefing highlights that 8% of 16–24 year olds report having recently been homeless.<sup>20</sup>

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<http://www.londonspovertyprofile.org.uk/indicators/topics/receiving-non-work-benefits/families-affected-by-the-overall-benefit-cap/>

<sup>15</sup> House of Commons Library (2015), *The Benefit Cap*. Briefing paper number 06294.  
<http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/SN06294#fullreport>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2015/dec/17/proposed-extension-of-lha-to-registered-providers>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2016/jan/26/capping-of-social-housing-rents-what-impact-will-it-have-on-your-service>.

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2016/jan/28/government-confirms-1-rent-reduction-will-not-apply-to-supported-housing>

Homeless Link's 2015 report into youth homelessness notes that nearly half of temporary accommodation residents are young people aged 16–24. There is a contrast between voluntary sector homelessness providers, who are accommodating more young homeless people and local authorities, who are seeing fewer. This suggests that statutory homelessness has been off-set by other forms of homelessness. The leading cause of homelessness continues to be parents or carers no longer willing to accommodate. The report also notes a rising proportion of young women in homelessness services compared to the 2014 survey (46%, up 6%).<sup>21</sup>

### 3.3.2 Women

Homeless Link's 2015 research briefing notes that around 30% of people using homeless accommodation services are women. This increases to 46% in youth homelessness services, of which 5% are pregnant or young parents. These figures are likely to be an under-representation as women are more likely to be hidden homeless than men.<sup>22</sup> Referencing St Mungo's *Rebuilding Shattered Lives* report the briefing notes that homeless women are more likely to have complex needs, which make recovery from homelessness more challenging.<sup>23</sup> Referencing a 2014 report by Crisis the briefing notes that a higher proportion of homeless women have a diagnosed mental health problem and/or self-harm than men.<sup>24</sup> In Homeless Link's youth homelessness report experience of sexual abuse and/or assault was heavily concentrated among female respondents.

Commonweal's report notes that women make up a growing proportion of the homeless population.<sup>25</sup> Homeless women have differing needs to homeless men, e.g.: many have experienced domestic violence and have had their children adopted or taken into care. Referencing Homeless Link's 2013 SNAP report it notes that women recover more quickly in women-only services, but that the proportion of these services has decreased from 12% - 8% between 2012-13.<sup>26</sup> This is likely to further increase homelessness.

A 2012 report on women rough sleepers who are victims of domestic abuse noted that over half of participants in the research had problems relating to mental health, drug and/or alcohol misuse and that around a third had

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<sup>19</sup> Crisis (2015), *About homelessness*.

[www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/Homelessness%20briefing%202015%20EXTERNAL.pdf](http://www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/Homelessness%20briefing%202015%20EXTERNAL.pdf)

<sup>20</sup> Heriot Watt University and the University of York (2013), *The Homelessness Monitor*.

<http://www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/HomelessnessMonitorEngland2013.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> Homeless Link (2015), *Young & Homeless 2015*. [www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/201512%20-%20Young%20and%20Homeless%20-%20Full%20Report.pdf](http://www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/201512%20-%20Young%20and%20Homeless%20-%20Full%20Report.pdf). This is the fifth annual report. Findings are based on two surveys with voluntary sector homeless providers and local authorities. This report is based on 257 responses.

<sup>22</sup> Homeless Link (2015), *Women and homelessness*. <http://www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/Homeless%20Link%20-%20women%20and%20homelessness%20briefing.pdf>

<sup>23</sup> St Mungo's (2013), *Re-building shattered lives: the final report*. <http://www.mungos.org/documents/4752/4752.pdf>. Findings are based on contributions from 221 individuals, services and organisations and 60 in-depth interviews with women using St Mungo's services.

<sup>24</sup> Mackie, P and Thomas, (2014), *Nations Apart? Experiences of single homeless people across Great Britain*. <http://www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/NationsApart.pdf> This is based on a survey of 480 homeless people.

<sup>25</sup> Commonweal (undated), *Rough Justice: uncovering social policies that cause homelessness*. <http://www.commonwealhousing.org.uk/read-the-newly-launched-rough-justice-report-here>. This report consists of views of sector experts. The chapter on women's homelessness is authored by Howard Sinclair, Chief Executive of St Mungo's.

<sup>26</sup> Homeless Link (2013) *Survey of needs and provision 2013* [http://homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/SNAP%202013%20Final%20180413\\_2.pdf](http://homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/SNAP%202013%20Final%20180413_2.pdf)

been in trouble with the police. It recommends additional women-only services and better access to employment, training and education for this group.<sup>27</sup>

### 3.3.3 Lesbian, Gay Bi-Sexual and Transgender (LGBT)

Albert Kennedy Trust's 2015 report notes that LGBT young people are more likely to find themselves homeless than their non-LGBT peers and comprise up to 24% of the youth homeless population. There is a lack of specialised accommodation options for LGBT people and they are also at significantly increased risk of experiences linked to homelessness, including: parental rejection, physical, sexual and emotional abuse and familial violence.<sup>28</sup>

### 3.3.4 Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee (BAMER)

A 2014 report for Centre for Social Justice and Change notes the impact of recent Welfare Reform changes on refugee families in London. Tougher sanctions and conditionality make access to welfare benefits, especially for refugees with limited knowledge of English, more difficult. The introduction of the Benefit Cap in particular has decreased disposable income and makes accommodation in London less affordable. This in turn may impact on refugees' employment/employability and physical/mental health.<sup>29</sup>

A report by the East European Advice Centre in 2013, based on a survey and focus groups with 512 people, indicates that Eastern Europeans are disproportionately represented in the rental market (83% against the London average of 49%), with the vast majority of these being in the PRS. 80% of the participants were in employment, with a low level of benefits dependency. Older Eastern Europeans may be disadvantaged in the job market because of their lack of knowledge of English.<sup>30</sup>

## 3.4 Feedback from stakeholders on homelessness/emerging needs and policy areas which are of concern

This section sets out the main themes and areas of consensus from qualitative interviews held with six stakeholders: London Councils Executive member for housing, Chair of London Housing Directors Group and Homeless Link's Policy Manager – who gave a pan-London perspective; representatives from one inner and two outer London boroughs.

Stakeholders were asked to comment on: recent trends in homelessness and emerging homelessness needs in London, the impact of Welfare Reform and other recent/forthcoming funding and policy changes and possible links between homelessness and unemployment.

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<sup>27</sup> Moss, K and Singh, P (2012), *Women rough sleepers who are the victims of domestic abuse*. Available from: [http://womenroughsleepers2.eu/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=featured&Itemid=101](http://womenroughsleepers2.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=101). Findings are based on interviews with a sample of 20 rough sleepers.

<sup>28</sup> Albert Kennedy Trust (2014), *LGBT Homelessness: A UK Scoping of Cause, Prevalence, Response and Outcome*. [www.akt.org.uk/webtop/modules/repository/documents/AlbertKennedy\\_ResearchReport\\_FINALInteractive.pdf](http://www.akt.org.uk/webtop/modules/repository/documents/AlbertKennedy_ResearchReport_FINALInteractive.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> Centre for Social Justice and Change (2014), *21<sup>st</sup> Century London Outcasts: Welfare Reforms and Their Impacts on Refugee Families Living in London*. Working Paper Series No. 1. <http://www.uel.ac.uk/csajc/documents/21stCenturyOutcastWP1.pdf>. Findings are based on interviews with 5 refugee families and 7 welfare experts.

<sup>30</sup> East European Advice Centre (2013), *A Peer-led Study of the Issues Faced by East Europeans in London*. <http://eeac.org.uk/files/East-Europeans-in-London-December-2013.pdf>

### 3.4.1 Overall trends in homelessness in London

Stakeholders noted a number of trends in the incidence and nature of homelessness in London. In relation to statutory homelessness applications/acceptances the most significant trend has been the increase in evictions due to ASTs ends in the PRS. One outer London borough stakeholder noted that PRS tenancy ends have become the overwhelming reason for statutory homelessness applications in their local area.

Stakeholders noted that, aside from individuals who have particular vulnerabilities which might create a statutory duty, they are unlikely to regularly meet with non-statutory homeless people. They therefore did not feel qualified to provide detailed comments on this group as a whole. Several stakeholders noted an increase in rough sleeping, e.g.: as evidenced via street count numbers. Stakeholders consider that local authorities are committed to maintaining current resource levels for rough sleeper services. However, outer London borough stakeholders noted it can be difficult to provide an effective local response as funding of local rough sleeper services is based on historical, i.e.: lower numbers of rough sleepers. This lack of funding may place additional pressure on other local services, e.g.: health and youth offending.

Several stakeholders considered it likely that hidden homelessness is also increasing. Whilst rises in this type of homelessness cannot be easily quantified it is sometimes possible to assume them by proxies, e.g.: the number of homelessness presentations by young people who have been asked to leave the family home due to overcrowding. One stakeholder linked increasing hidden homelessness and decreasing affordability at lower end of housing market.

### 3.4.2 Underlying causes/drivers of homelessness

#### London housing market conditions

Stakeholders consider a major factor in increasing homelessness is the functioning of the London housing market – particularly the combination of rapidly increasing rents in many areas and high demand in all sections of the PRS. The increasing use of the PRS by more affluent sections of the population, such as young professionals, is considered to be driving some landlords to exit the Housing Benefit section of the market in favour of perceived higher rental returns elsewhere. This is reducing the availability of affordable housing for low-income and homeless families. Some stakeholders also linked housing market conditions to statutory homelessness, i.e.: evictions in the PRS arising from landlords' decisions to sell property/re-let for higher returns, rather than rent arrears or other 'fault' on the part of the tenant.

#### The impact of Welfare Reform and other recent policy/funding changes on homelessness

Stakeholders were not always able to identify how individual policy changes had impacted directly on homelessness. Some considered changes in homelessness were the result of a series of welfare benefits and other changes over time.

The biggest single policy/funding change identified by stakeholders is restrictions in LHA levels, i.e.: limiting LHA to the 30% percentile (of market rent) and the upcoming freeze in LHA rates. Borough representatives related this primarily to accommodating statutory homeless households – though one stakeholder also mentioned the negative impact of LHA changes on homelessness prevention work. Stakeholders also consider the impacts of LHA changes need to be viewed in the context of London housing market conditions outlined above. Stakeholders consider that setting LHA at the 30% percentile means that LHA rates are not keeping pace with actual London market rents and this is leading to 'severe mismatch' in most areas. The measure has significantly decreased the - already fairly limited - supply of affordable PRS accommodation in London over recent years for statutory and probably also non-statutory homeless people. This differential can



also be a driver for PRS landlords to exit the Housing Benefit market. There may be a disproportionate impact for boroughs with a high level of PRS stock.

Discussions highlighted that LHA changes may produce some distributional impacts in relation to homelessness. Several borough representatives noted the (sometimes extreme) difficulty of sourcing PRS accommodation locally for statutory homeless households which meets affordability and suitability requirements and the consequent increase in out of borough placements for this group. Two stakeholders noted a trend towards out of borough placements in outer London areas. One of these commented that displacement from inner London is contributing to rent inflation, taking local rents further above LHA rates and thus increasing unaffordability. Another outer London stakeholder noted the likelihood of the receiving borough incurring a statutory housing duty in the case of subsequent tenancy failure. They also highlighted that information in relation to vulnerable households placed out of borough is not often shared. This makes it difficult to carry out effective homeless prevention work and increases the risk of homelessness.

Stakeholders also associate the extension of SAR with increased homelessness. Some noted the difficulty of accurately calculating SAR, either because rental agreements may be more informal in this section of the PRS market or because there is variation between which utilities and other costs are included in the rental charge. This issue is considered likely to increase the gap between LHA rates and actual rents, thus further reducing affordability.

Stakeholders noted that the extension of SAR increases demand for shared accommodation and the potential for higher rental returns for landlords than in smaller self-contained properties. One outer London stakeholder has observed a trend towards creation of HMOs in their local area in response to this change. However, other noted that current stock profile may make it difficult to meet demand in some boroughs in the near future. Other local factors, such as licensing schemes, whilst improving the physical quality of accommodation, may also be limiting the availability of shared housing. This increases demand for existing stock and may affect rent levels.

Two stakeholders noted the increasing proportion of vulnerable people being accommodated in shared accommodation as a result of the extension of SAR. One of these highlighted the potential this creates for exploitation of tenants by rogue landlords. Another noted that landlords may be reluctant to provide accommodation for this group as they perceive this will incur additional housing management costs. Whilst PRS access schemes can incentivise landlords to accept vulnerable tenants, at present funding for such schemes is not available to meet the scale of anticipated need.

Discussions did not highlight any potential distributional impacts on homelessness as a result of SAR.

## Impacts of other policy and funding changes

Discussions/stakeholders consider a number of other changes are impacting on homelessness:

- *Benefit Cap reduction* – this is perceived as likely to further decrease the affordability of self-contained accommodation. As the Benefit Cap does not have an inner/outer London variation it is less sensitive than LHA to local housing costs. This may further incentivise local authorities to accommodate homeless households in outer London boroughs. One outer London stakeholder considers that larger homeless households (those requiring larger 4+ bed properties) will be unlikely to be accommodated anywhere in London due to the Benefit Cap.
- *Application of LHA rates to supported housing* – stakeholders perceive this as posing a serious threat to the viability of voluntary sector housing provision for single homeless people.
- *Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP)*: One stakeholder considers there is an over-reliance on the part of Government on DHP as a mechanism to assist local authorities with housing costs. The use of DHP to meet housing costs will become especially difficult due to budget cuts in 2015 (from £165M to

£125M). These cuts may disproportionately impact on single homeless people as priority for spending is likely to be on statutory homeless households.

*Roll-out of Universal Credit* – one outer London stakeholder considered that this may also increase landlords' uncertainty about renting to low-income households and lead some to leave the HB section of the market.

## The cost of providing temporary accommodation (TA)

One stakeholder highlighted that failure to increase the TA management fee – currently set at £40 per week in London - means that many boroughs are currently having to subsidise TA costs, e.g.: via their own Council Tax budgets. This reflects the finding of a recent report for London Councils that many London boroughs are reporting substantial shortfalls between the subsidy provided and the actual cost of meeting TA need.<sup>31</sup>

One stakeholder noted a trend in landlords who previously leased accommodation to local authorities moving towards letting rooms/properties at a nightly charge at slightly below typical B&B rates. This change in behaviour increases local authorities' costs. This also reflects findings in the recent London Councils report mentioned above.

### 3.4.3 Perceived impacts of policy/funding changes on equalities groups

Stakeholders commented it may be difficult to identify trends in homelessness in relation to individual groups. However, some impacts were noted:

- The Benefit Cap affects larger families and these are disproportionately likely to be BAME.
- The extension of SAR impacts on younger people. One stakeholder noted a recent increase in homeless in the 25 – 34 age group. As noted above, the extension of SAR has increased the number of vulnerable people in shared accommodation, who unless they are given additional support are at risk of tenancy failure and subsequent homelessness. One stakeholder noted the particular impact of LHA changes on smaller properties, which are more likely to contain younger people.
- One stakeholder noted it is very difficult to procure adapted property of any size, especially larger property, for disabled people.
- The rising proportion of non-UK nationals in the rough sleeper population may be linked to recent welfare benefits changes, which make it more difficult for some EEA nationals to claim Housing Benefit.<sup>32</sup>

### 3.4.4 Links between homelessness and unemployment

Most stakeholders consider there is a clear link between homelessness and unemployment at an individual level, but are uncertain about a possible geographical relationship. One stakeholder noted that where single homeless people have additional support needs it is difficult for them to find and keep work. Other stakeholders noted a recent trend towards increased employment within statutory homeless households and a

<sup>31</sup> Rugg, J (2016), *Temporary Accommodation in London: Local Authorities under Pressure*. <https://www.york.ac.uk/media/chp/documents/2016/Temporary%20Accommodation%20in%20London%20report%20%20FINAL%20VERSION%20FOR%20PUBLICATION.pdf>

<sup>32</sup> See Homeless Link (2014), *Working with EEA Migrants*. <http://www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/Working%20with%20EEA%20Migrants%20Dec%202014.pdf>

link between homelessness and low income, as a result of low wages and high rents/lack of affordable housing. One outer London stakeholder noted the preference given in their borough's Housing Allocations Policy to those in employment. Similarly, one stakeholder noted the incentive being created by the Benefit Cap for homeless people to work 16 hours per week as a means of creating an exemption. However, low wage levels means that many of these are not seeking full-time work.

### 3.5 Conclusions and recommendations

The work demonstrates there is a clear need for additional resources to be allocated in outer London areas. The PRS is now extensively used to accommodate both statutory and non-statutory homeless households and it is evident that there is also a significant number of tenancy ends in this sector. However, there is often a lack of tenancy support for people living in this tenure. It would therefore be worthwhile exploring where current gaps in provision are and the possibility of commissioning services offering either tenancy sustainment and/or brief interventions, either on a borough or sub-regional basis.

More needs to be understood about the upward trend in outer London rough sleeping figures, the causes and the current capacity of boroughs to provide an effective response to the increasing need. It is clear that more needs to be done on prevention, and further intelligence on the reasons for the increases needs to be gathered in order to inform future commissioning priorities. The results of the No First Night Out <sup>33</sup> (NFNO) pilots may also be of interest in terms of how successful the prevention strategies used have been and lessons learned for future interventions.

The comparatively large geographical area of outer London boroughs and wider geographical spread of rough sleepers means that delivering outreach services in these areas is likely to be proportionately more expensive than in inner London. To inform the commissioning process and subsequent resource allocation it would be useful for London Councils to analyse current spend in inner and outer London on a per rough sleeper basis. Based on the findings of this analysis there may be scope for GLA and London Councils funding to be applied differently to meet changing needs. One option might be to increase the capacity of the current London Street Rescue Service.

The work indicates that comprehensive information about vulnerable homeless households is not always shared between referring and receiving boroughs. The 'Notify' system enables local authority housing departments to share relevant information with London's 32 local authorities and the City of London. Notify enables referring boroughs to share comprehensive information about their statutory homeless households with receiving boroughs. It should be noted that, while boroughs do not always provide all the data requested, this is partly because some data fields are non-mandatory. A Review of Notify that focused on use of the system concluded late 2015. Recommendations are being implemented which include modifying the current Notify system. London Councils strategic policy group are leading further discussions regarding how boroughs effectively share information about the movement of vulnerable people.

Whilst robust data relating to statutory homelessness and rough sleeping is available there is little data or research evidence relating to other forms of non-statutory homelessness. There also is a need for further research into the impact of recent and potential forthcoming policy changes on homelessness in relation to individual protected equalities groups. In particular the 1% rent reduction in social housing and the proposed cap to LHA rates.

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<sup>33</sup> No First Night Out – Help for Single Homeless People is a tri-borough 18 month project, working across Tower Hamlets, Hackney and The City of London, piloting new approaches to prevent individuals from rough sleeping for the first time (No First Night Out Service) and ensuring those already rough sleeping are able to access housing in the area where they have a local connection.



## 4.0 APPENDIX – list of research reports used in this report

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[http://homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/SNAP%202013%20Final%20180413\\_2.pdf](http://homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/SNAP%202013%20Final%20180413_2.pdf)

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## What we do

Homeless Link is the national membership charity for organisations working directly with people who become homeless in England. We work to make services better and campaign for policy change that will help end homelessness.

## Let's end homelessness together

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# MOPAC

**MAYOR OF LONDON**  
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

**Mayor Jules Pipe**  
Chair of London Councils

MOPAC15012016-22245

27 January 2016

Dear Jules

## **London Councils Grants Consultation**

I am writing to you following the publication of the latest results of London Councils Grants Consultation earlier this month and the commencement of your further consultation. I feel that we have made significant progress for London over recent years due to the successful aligning of the Mayor's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2013-17 and commissioning programme with London Councils grant programme and I hope that MOPAC and London Councils will continue to build on this strong foundation in the next funding period.

I particularly wanted to express my support for the proposals to continue to fund Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) services that are closely linked with services funded by MOPAC. For example, our pilot on Harmful Practices is delivered by agencies that are also supported through the London Councils Grants Programme. This joint approach has been beneficial to the sector and I strongly support your continued funding of these specialist VAWG services, so that MOPAC and London Councils can continue to work together to support victims/survivors in London.

I am particularly pleased to see that you are minded to fund specialist refuge provision. At a recent meeting of the London Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Board, which includes representatives of London Councils and which I co-chair, we discussed the gaps that the London Councils funded UK Refugees Online data has identified in specialist refuge provision for some of the most vulnerable victims of VAWG. The gaps included those with no recourse to public funds, those with complex needs and those aged 16-18. I would urge you to continue to fund this data collection as well as specialist refuge provision, as it will further support the endeavours of the Board in developing a strategic approach to specialist provision and so ensure these gaps are filled.

I am also pleased that you have acknowledged the links between domestic violence and homelessness and would like to inform you of some further work that the VAWG Board has recently agreed to take forward. The Board has agreed to work together to ensure that the links between homelessness and domestic violence are examined in detail, that local housing options for those who have experienced VAWG are understood, and to work through how we could support local areas in the way they handle these cases. As a member of the Board, we will work with London Councils to take this work forward.

Finally, while I do understand the pressures of forthcoming funding reductions and the resulting indication that you have given that capacity building of the third sector is unlikely to be considered as a priority in general for the Grants Programme going forward, I would

encourage you to reconsider this in the specific context of sexual and domestic violence. The sector is in a very precarious position and in serious need of support to ensure that organisations have diverse income streams, good fundraising strategies, strong governance and financial controls. It was immensely sad to hear that Eaves had to close and I fear that without this kind of support, further agencies will end up in the same position.

I hope you will agree that its important for our two agencies to continue to work together to fund specialist services for victims/survivors of crime in London and hope that you will take these views into account when making further decisions about the grants funding programme.

Yours sincerely



**Stephen Greenhalgh**

Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

P.S. A pleasure to work with both you and Lib on these important matters.

Cc: Cllr McGlone, Chair of London Councils Grants Committee

*The Grants Committee would ask the Leaders Committee to note that:*

*There is majority support for a pan-London programme based on agreed principles and that the evidence mostly shows that the current four year programme (2013 to 2017) is delivering for all Londoners, within the limits of the £10m p.a. programme. It is important to note that for specialist services, including services for those for groups within equalities protected characteristics, that these can best be organised at a London level. For the two years 2013-2015, headline evidence of outcomes shows that 198,000 new interventions helped Londoners against our priorities.*

*Having considered the performance of the 2013/17 grants programme to date and the results of the recent consultation, Grants Committee recommends to Leaders Committee:*

- 1. There is a strong case for continuing a grants programme focused on combatting sexual and domestic violence and on poverty through worklessness (accessing ESF match funding) for the 2017/21 period;*
- 2. There may be a case for continuing a programme focused on homelessness provided that Grants and Leaders Committee can be given stronger evidence of where that homelessness currently comes from across London and also that going forward commissions can address the differing priorities between inner and outer London;*
- 3. While not without merit, given current financial constraints, there is unlikely to be a strong enough case for continuing a programme on capacity building in the voluntary sector; and*
- 4. Going forward, boroughs need to be assured that:*
  - i. i: Robust, regular and transparent monitoring and reporting of the activities of the Grants Programme continues so that outcomes benefiting their residents can be evidenced;*
  - ii. ii: That service providers are working in partnership with borough third sector organisations;*
  - iii. iii: That commissioned outcomes can evidence clear and transparent value for money;*
  - iv. and*
  - v. iv: London Councils should facilitate a stronger network of officer relationships between itself, senior Borough officers and third sector providers and umbrella organisations in each borough to ensure continuing Pan-London ownership of the whole Grants Programme.*
  - vi.*
  - vii.*
  - viii.*
  - ix.*
  - x.*

# Grants Committee

## Priority 3 Poverty (Co-funded by ESF):      Item      5 Implementation of Committee's Decisions

**Report by:** Simon Courage      **Job title:** Head of Grants and Community Services

**Date:** 9 March 2016

**Contact Officer:** Karen Ferguson

**Telephone:** 020 7934 9901      **Email:** [simon.courage@londoncouncils.gov.uk](mailto:simon.courage@londoncouncils.gov.uk)

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### Summary

#### **The Tackling Poverty through Employment Priority**

The last cycle of the national ESF programme closed in December 2015. This included the London Councils ESF programme. That programme half funded the Committee's Priority 3 Tackling Poverty through Employment.

#### **The London Councils ESF Programme**

London Councils is currently establishing its new ESF programme. Delivery will run to the end of 2018 and have a value of £22 million. London Councils is close to signing the agreement for this new programme with the GLA, which manages the overall ESF programme in London.

#### **Previous Committee Decisions**

As in the last programme, each element will be half funded by ESF and half funded by the boroughs. This includes £3 million allocated in principle by the Committee for this purpose at its meeting in December 2014. This allocation was made for three years but subject to the outcome of the Review of Grants. The agreements with the providers of the services will

therefore enable London Councils to terminate them at the end of 2016/17 if members decide not to proceed with the Grants Programme beyond then.

The Priority will be delivered by third sector organisations through an open and competitive application process. The basis for this process is service specifications. At its meeting in December 2014, the Committee decided to retain in the service specifications for the new round the existing tight focus on tackling poverty through employment, except for any minor changes in target groups needed to accommodate changes required for ESF funding.

### **Implementing Committee Decisions**

London Councils officers are translating these Committee decisions into the specifications. In doing so, officers are taking care to ensure outcomes will be delivered fairly across all boroughs.

The attached note gives more detail on the practical arrangements.

### **Integrating Homelessness and Employment Support**

Through the Review of Grants, the Grants and Leaders' Committees have made clear that there must be more effective joint working between Priority 1 Homelessness and Priority 3 Poverty and the projects under these on the ground in boroughs.

Officers propose to make it a condition of funding that Priority 3 providers have an agreement to partner with a Priority 1 project in every borough. They will take referrals through this and provide integrated support for participants who require both types of support. This will be enforced through London Councils' performance management.

At London Councils, we have brought the staff who work on the two Priorities under single management in a new, integrated team.

We aim to make similar changes at both London Councils and borough levels in respect of Priority 3 and Priority 2 Sexual and Domestic Violence.



## **Member Control of Funding Decisions**

In order to have the new Priority up and running within ESF timescales, it would be necessary for officers to commission the services, based on the proposals in this paper before the next meeting of the Committee. This is regrettable but London Councils is working to an external timetable.

## **Recommendations**

In order to take this work forward with the required level of oversight, officers request Committee to:

1. Note the progress on implementing its previous decisions and the findings on the Review of Grants in respect of bringing homelessness and employment support closer together in boroughs
2. Agree that officers may:
  - a. Seek applications in a competitive process as soon as London Councils has a signed ESF agreement with the GLA (expected within one month)
  - b. Report on those applications, against the specification, to the Grants Executive subject to timing before any awards are made
  - c. Award the relevant grants to the successful organisations following this process of member approvals
  - d. Report on progress to the Committee at its next meeting in July, which will also be an opportunity for a report on the wider London Councils ESF programme.

**Financial Implications for London Councils**

The budget for this has previously been allocated by the Committee.

**Legal Implications for London Councils**

None.

**Equalities Implications for London Councils**

The proposals are designed to ensure that the Poverty Priority continues to meet the needs to the needs to groups protected by the Equality Act 2010

## **LONDON COUNCILS GRANTS PROGRAMME 2013-17**

### **TACKLING POVERTY THROUGH EMPLOYMENT**

#### **Implementation of Previous Grants Committee Decisions**

##### **Background Note**

##### **Target Groups**

The proposed target groups match those in the previous cycle of this priority.

##### **Delivery Mechanisms**

There are minor proposed amendments to the mechanism of delivery, set out below. These are intended to improve manageability and reduce costs and ensure an equitable spread of outcomes across boroughs.

##### **Manageability**

There were 10 projects in the outgoing cycle of Priority 3 Tackling Poverty through Employment. Officers propose to reduce this to six in the new cycle. This will be more manageable – reducing London Councils' administration time and providing economies of scale and, therefore, better value for money.

##### **Working across Boroughs**

Each project will work within an area comprising a smaller number of boroughs than in the outgoing cycle so they are not spread too thinly to be operationally feasible. At application stage, potential providers will be expected to nominate first and second choice boroughs. In scoring the applications, providers will be allocated their boroughs of choice borough where possible and then second choice to ensure pan-London coverage. If there were boroughs with no coverage arising from this process, (neither first or second choice) that would be dealt with in clearing negotiations with applicants.

##### **Outcomes in Boroughs**

At the application and funding agreement stages, the projects will be set clear and non-negotiable numbers of starting participants per borough.

Officers will be able to enforce this through performance management. This will ensure that, while this is a priority within pan-London programme, every borough will receive benefit from the programme.

This will require providers to partner with specialist organisations in those areas to deliver the specialist outcomes.

type	Previous Profile	New Round
enrolment	4010	4500
6+ hours of one-to-one support	3382	3600
12+ IAG for Hardest to reach only	0	210
Completing work or volunteering placement	901	900
Gaining Employment within 4 weeks of leaving the project	1491	1728
Sustaining employment for 26 weeks	737	858
progression into education or training	963	900

	Previous Profiled	New Round	new round numbers
3.1 a – Parents with long-term work limiting health conditions	264	7%	315
3.1 b - People with mental health needs	347	9%	405
3.2 - People from ethnic groups with low labour market participation rates <sup>2</sup>	1470	40%	1800
3.3 – Women facing barriers to employment	1343	37%	1665
3.4 - People recovering from drug and/or alcohol addiction or misuse <sup>2</sup>	255	7%	315

The above target groups are in addition to the standard ESF targets.

**Specification Table – this will be the same for the six projects.**

Specification – Required outputs, results and unit costs				
Priority and Borough	London Council Poverty Programme  1 of 6 projects (six projects the same)			
Project Name				
Project Timescale	Contract period	Start 01/07/2016	End 30/09/2018	
	Final Evaluation		21/12/2018	
Outputs for payment		Number	Unit cost	Total
STARTS		750	£0	£0
Number of participants receiving 6+ hours of support (IAG, job search, mentoring, training)	80%	600	£450	£270,000
Number of participants receiving 12+ hours of support (IAG, job search, mentoring, training)	5%	35	£480	£16,800
Number of participants completing work placement/volunteering	20%	150	£410	£61,500
Submission of final evaluation report		1	£4,400.00	£4,400.00
Results for payment		Number	Unit cost	Total
Number of participants into further education and training	20%	150	£700	£105,000
Number of participants in employment within 4 weeks of leaving the project	35%	260	£820	£213,200
Number of participants in sustained employment for 26 weeks	18%	132	£1,500	£198,000
Number of participants in employment within 4 weeks of leaving the project (those with mental health issues, recovering from drug and/or alcohol addiction, homeless)	4%	28	£1,600	£44,800
Number of participants in sustained employment for 26 weeks (6M) (those with mental health issues, recovering from drug and/or alcohol addiction, homeless)	1%	11	£2,400	£26,400
Maximum funding available				£940,100

## Questions Previously Raised in Grants Committee

Need to be value for money and sustainable job outcomes. There is a focus on sustainable jobs with the largest payment being for this result. Additionally, although any job greater than 8 hours + per week is eligible for payment (ESF rules) during the monitoring process job starts are randomly reviewed to ensure the job is appropriate to the needs and circumstances of the individual participant.

Link to priority 1 homelessness. The work on unemployment associated with homelessness will be available across London because all projects will have a percentage target for homeless people.

There will be a new requirement for the Priority 3 projects to work with the projects in Priority 1 Homelessness.

The proposal is to offer a new 12 hour + Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) payment for the hardest to help participants – this is primarily aimed at homeless people as they usually require far more support. The payment would only be available for 5% of starters. Additionally there is an increased payment for job starts and sustained job starts for this target group.

Need for a particular focus on health. Health as a cross-cutting theme is an element of IAG for all ESF projects. This means not only help in accessing care but also explaining the benefit to health of being in employment.

Referral and partnerships are important. Because all projects will have to deal with all priority target groups, partnerships with other providers will become more important. To reflect this the application and scoring system will be updated to ask additional questions and award additional points for partnership coverage and strength.

Disability (including learning disabled and mental health) and complex needs and long-term health needs. This is dealt with within the mental health target group, and additional payments have been set up for this target group. In addition, the complex and challenging nature of some participants will often better served by referral to a specialist in this area. ESF is primarily a jobs programme and can provide support up to a certain level.

Helps manage demand on local services. Through helping long term-unemployed people into work, they will require less local support and resources.

Needs holistic approach covering employment needs as well as housing, health and education. Also budgeting skills given the high cost of living in London especially young people. These important issues will be addressed through IAG. Applicants will be scored according as to what they offer in this area. If they fail to offer any of the above, they may not receive funding.

Women facing barriers to employment, drug and alcohol misuse, lone parents. These are covered by the proposed target groups. Applicants will be scored according to how well they will recruit and support these participants.

Those with very low skills. A basic skills payment was not in previous cycle of this Priority round so is not included in this proposal. But as part of IAG referrals to help with basic skills and the proposal does offer a further education result payment.

Consideration should be given to sub-regional commissioning and emphasis on partnership working. The proposal does focus a small number of providers on groups of boroughs.

The new cycle needs to take into account the shift in ESF funding towards more complex groups. The new changes to delivery mechanism are designed to ensure that the needs of complex groups are dealt with more fully and consistently.

The Importance of service for BAME groups. There is a 60% BAME target.

Success Rate. The Grants Committee's Poverty Priority has an enviable success rate compared to any national and London employment support project (it achieved a 38% into work rate last round compared to 10.7% for the Work Programme). The above changes are designed to improve this.

# Grants Committee

## Performance of Grants Programme      Item      6

<b>Report by:</b>	Simon Courage Katy Makepeace-Gray	<b>Job title:</b>	Head of Grants and Community Services Principal Priority Manager
<b>Date:</b>	9 March 2016		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Simon Courage		
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### Summary

This is London Councils' officers' quarterly report on the performance of the Grants Programme. It covers the first three quarters of 2015/16, which is year three of the current funding cycle. It sets out data on the performance of the programme and other performance-related information.

This report should be read in conjunction with the parallel report on the review of the Programme, which sets out boroughs' and other stakeholders' views on it.

### Recommendations

- 1) The Committee is asked to note that:
  - a) At priority level, the outcomes for:
    - i) Priority 1 (homelessness) overall were 28% above profile in the first three quarters of 2015/16
    - ii) Priority 2 (sexual and domestic violence) overall were 9 % above profile in the first three quarters of 2015/16
    - iii) Priority 3 (ESF tackling poverty through employment) overall were 1% above profile at completion
    - iv) Priority 4 (capacity building) overall were 3% above profile in the first three quarters of



2015/16

- b) This performance in the last three quarters means that the number of interventions delivered in the 11 quarters combined since the start of the programme is as follows:
  - i) Priority 1 (homelessness) – 54,950
  - ii) Priority 2 (sexual and domestic violence) – 196,162
  - iii) Priority 3 (ESF tackling poverty through employment) – 7,474 (Q1-10)
  - iv) Priority 4 (capacity building) – 13,710
- c) At project level
  - i) In the red, amber, green (RAG) system, 23 projects are green and one is amber. 11 have no rating this quarter. 10 of these are the ESF projects that have completed. One provider – Eaves – went into administration. There is a proposal for meeting the continuing needs of users of the former Eaves service at item seven of this meeting.
  - ii) The direction-of-travel arrows show that the performance of five of the projects is falling (green).
  - iii) Officers would propose to concentrate performance management effort on the six projects that are rated amber and/ or whose direction-of-travel arrows are pointing down. These are Stonewall Housing (1.1), Women in Prison (1.1 and 2.2), Women's Resource Centre (2.5), Advice UK (4), Age Concern London (4).
- d) The attached tables showing the outcomes of each priority in each borough in the first nine months of this financial year. As part of the review of the programme, London Councils officers have provided more detailed tables – which show performance of each project in each borough to borough grants officers and specialist contacts for each of the four priorities of the programme

# **1 Introduction**

The London Councils grants programme enables boroughs to tackle high-priority social need where this is better done at pan-London level. The programme commissions third sector organisations to work with disadvantaged Londoners to make real improvements in their lives.

The programme is made up of a set of projects that deliver priorities determined by the London Councils Leaders' Committee. The current priorities are:

1. Homelessness
2. Sexual and domestic violence
3. Tackling poverty through employment
4. Capacity-building in the third sector.

Priority 3 is half-funded by ESF.

The Leaders chose these priorities because need in these areas is not always confined by borough boundaries. For example, a victim of domestic violence may need to move far across London to put distance between themselves and the perpetrator.

Individual commissions are awarded on the basis of competitive bids and payment is conditional on delivering results. London Councils works with members and officers in the boroughs to make sure projects commissioned through the programme add value and compliment borough services and do not duplicate them.

Awards of individual commissions, and oversight of delivery, is done by members sitting on the Grants Committee. To help the Committee to fulfil this responsibility, London Councils officers give it a report on the performance of the Programme at each of its quarterly meetings.

This is the report to the Committee for its meeting in March 2016. It covers the first three quarters of 2015/16.

## **2 Priority-level performance**

Table 1 shows all the four Programme priorities broken down into specifications and these broken down into primary outcome indicators.

Priority	Specification	Table 1. Primary Outcome Indicators
1. Homelessness	1.1: Early intervention and prevention	People/ families at risk of homelessness, who are homeless or living in insecure accommodation assisted to obtain suitable temporary or permanent accommodation
		People/ families successfully sustaining their tenancies for one year or more
		People have improved physical and mental health
		People have increased learning and improvements in life skills and employment and training opportunities
		People have increased levels of social interaction and reduced levels of isolation
		People within the protected equalities groups have increased access to housing advice
	1.2: Youth homelessness	Young people who are homeless or living in insecure accommodation obtain suitable temporary or permanent accommodation
		Young people successfully sustaining their tenancies for one year or more
		Young people who have improved health and mental health
		Young people have increased learning and improvements in life skills and employment and training opportunities
		Young people within the protected equalities groups with enhanced knowledge of tackling homelessness
	1.3: Support services to homelessness voluntary sector organisations	Frontline organisations better able to deliver high quality housing provision support to the protected equalities groups and better able to deliver well informed specialist services, advice and specialist housing and social welfare advocacy and representation for and to the following: - Black, Asian, minority ethnic, refugee and migrant groups. - Women - Young and older people - Lesbian, gay, transgender and bisexual groups. - Deaf and disabled groups.
		Frontline organisations better able to raise issues of housing discrimination and trends in housing provision for the above equalities groups strategically together and with boroughs through sharing good practice, knowledge and expertise. This will include frontline organisations facilitated to contribute to information and data sharing on homelessness.
		Frontline organisations that support the protected equalities groups identified within this specification better able to secure funding and resources and to develop the capacity of their organisation.
		Frontline homelessness organisations better equipped to respond to the diversity of equalities needs

Priority	Specification	Primary outcome indicators
<b>2. Sexual and Domestic Violence</b>	2.1: Prevention	Children and young people view sexual and domestic violence as unacceptable and can identify the warning signs and myths.
		Children and young people can identify what positive respectful relationships based on equal power are and have increased confidence and empowerment enabling positive choices to be made.
		Children and young people can identify where to seek support/ their rights/ how to disclose
		Children and young people have respectful relationships with their peers.
		Professionals understand the facts, myths and risk factors relating to sexual and domestic violence (in particular issues that affect children and young people such as sexual exploitation, trafficking, FGM and sexual violence in gang settings) and feel able to address issues with children and young people
		Children and young people are more aware of sexual and domestic violence in relation to the eight protected characteristics (for example violence in same sex relationships, FGM, forced marriage)
	2.2: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services	Users better able to access appropriate services
		Reduced levels/ repeat victimisation of sexual and domestic violence
		Service providers are better informed of beneficiaries' needs and service users are enabled to communicate their needs and views to service providers/decision makers
		Service users have improved self-esteem, motivation, confidence, emotional health and wellbeing and physical health and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence.
		Beneficiaries more able to make safe choices leading to a reduction in occurrence and/or effects of violence, sexual abuse and repeat victimisation.
		More informed life choices to enable users to rebuild their lives and move to independence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- health (including sexual health, mental health, drug and alcohol support)</li> <li>- employment</li> <li>- legal/ criminal justice system</li> <li>- education</li> <li>- training</li> <li>- immigration</li> <li>- housing</li> <li>- children's services</li> </ul>
		People from the protected characteristics have access to advice in a way that meets their needs.

Priority	Specification	Primary outcome indicators
<b>2. Sexual and Domestic Violence (continued)</b>	2.3: Helpline and coordinated access to refuge provision	Increased access to emergency refuge accommodation for people escaping domestic violence.
		Improved data collection of service users and service provision resulting in increased information on sexual and domestic violence services in London and beneficiaries needs.
		Service users are supported to move to a position of safety.
		London boroughs receive dedicated support in accessing refuge provision for service users affected by domestic violence. Statutory providers, friends, family and voluntary agencies are better able to support those experiencing domestic violence.
		People with the protected characteristics (2010 Equalities Act) are able to access support that meets their needs.
	2.4: Emergency refuge accommodation that offers services to meet the needs of specific groups	Safety from immediate danger from perpetrators through specialist emergency accommodation.
		Increased access to specialist support and culturally specific provision (such as drug and alcohol support, support with mental health, support to exit prostitution. Culturally specific provision to include so called ‘honour’ based violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, early marriage, language and culture, immigration and no recourse to public funds).
		Increased confidence, self-esteem, mental health and increased ability to deal with the effects of domestic violence
		Independent lives rebuilt, through improved independent living skills, knowledge and access to benefits, entitlements, supported/ permanent housing
		Relationship rebuilt with children where damaged, make safe choices and access support for their children.
		Removal of barriers in accessing services for people with the protected characteristics of the 2010 Equalities Act
	2.5: Support services to the sexual and domestic violence voluntary sector organisations	Frontline providers are effective and sustainable organisations (financial management, governance, recruitment/ workforce, ICT, premises, fundraising/ tenders/contracts, recruitment or board members)
		Frontline providers able to deliver improved services to meet their clients’ needs (deliver, monitor, evaluate and adapt)
		Frontline organisations are able to develop effective partnerships and work with other voluntary and community organisations or statutory providers, linking to local services and networks.
		Frontline organisations able to better represent their service users and ensure they are up to date with policy changes. (Including supporting the sector to collate and analyse data on need)
		Frontline organisations better able to achieve the three aims of the 2010 Equalities Act

Priority	Specification	Primary outcome indicators
<b>2. Sexual and Domestic Violence (continued)</b>	2.6: Specifically targeted services FGM, Honour based violence (HBV), forced marriage and other harmful practices	Service users have improved self-esteem, confidence and emotional health and well being
		Service users have a better understanding of the support options available to them and are more aware of their rights and entitlements
		Service users have an increased ability to communicate their needs and views to service providers
		Service users are able to make safe choices and exit violent situations/ service users have enhanced coping strategies through risk assessment and safeguarding
		Service users have improved life skills to help them rebuild their lives and move to independence
<b>3. ESF tackling poverty through employment</b>	All specifications use the same indicators	Participants receiving 6+ hours of one-to-one support
		Participants completing work or volunteering placement
		Participants gaining employment within 13 weeks of leaving
		Participants sustaining employment for 26 weeks
		Participants progressing into education or training
<b>4. Providing support to London's voluntary and community organisations</b>	Single specification	Increased ability of voluntary and community organisations (VCOs) in London to deliver efficient and effective services.
		The voluntary sector's role and capacity is understood and new opportunities for engagement of voluntary and community organisations are increased
		Frontline organisations or organisations supporting a particular equalities protected group are better able to deliver well informed services that reflect the needs of equalities groups.

## **2.1 Priority 1: Homelessness**

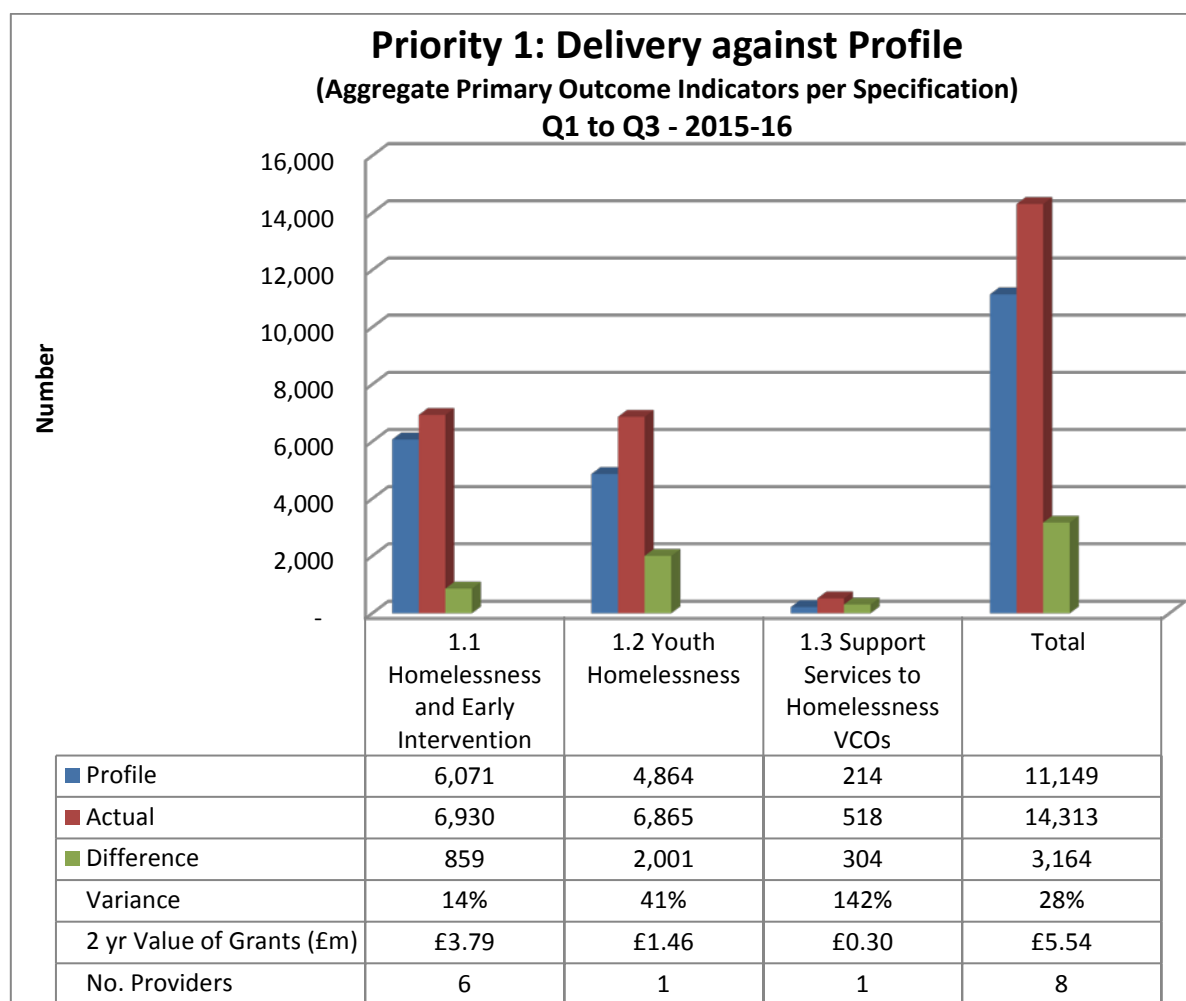
The Committee has allocated £5.54 million to eight projects to tackle Priority 1: Homelessness for 2015-16. Of these eight:

- Six (with a total value of £3.79 million) are delivering against specification 1.1: Early intervention and prevention
- One (with £1.46 million) is delivering against specification 1.2: Youth homelessness
- One (with £0.3 million) is delivering against specification 1.3: Support services to homelessness voluntary sector organisations.

Figure 1 shows the performance of the priority in the first three quarters of 2015/16 (quarters 9 -11 of the programme). Over these three quarters, performance was 28% above profile. This reflects the fact that these figures relate to the third year of a programme and projects are largely performing well, having addressed issues of underperformance in early quarters.

Officers have highlighted issues relating to projects which have issues that have caused concern in section three.

Figure 1



### 2.1.1 Priority-level issues

#### Transforming Rehabilitation (TR) update

The Government's Transforming Rehabilitation (TR) programme was launched on 1 May 2015. This changed the way offenders are managed in England and Wales. The introduction of the TR programme continues to have some impact on the three London Councils commissions working within the criminal justice system.

Delays in referrals remain as referral pathways are re-established and CRC (Community Rehabilitation Company) and NPS (National Probation Trust), formerly the Probation Service, recruit new staff and move to new locations. This has resulted in additional work for commissions to promote and re-introduce their services to changing staff teams. However, the extent of these issues appears to be easing.



Officers have noted monitoring information shows that although under-delivery has continued in some areas, further significant reductions related to TR have not been seen in this quarter. London Councils will continue to keep this situation under review and inform Members of any significant changes to delivery of services.

#### Holloway Prison

Holloway Prison has been earmarked for closure and the site will be sold off for housing. The proposed closure date is December 2016 but commissions' report courts are already starting to send women to other prisons and some women have been transferred out. Women in Prison manage two commissions in the prison (one also under priority 2) and St Mungo's manage a second under this priority. Commissions are contracted to deliver distinct services within the prison to ensure there is no duplication. This means these changes may result in varying levels of impact on each commission's current service. Further information on project level impact is included under section 3 of the report.

The Communities and Local Government (CLG) Committee announced an inquiry in December 2015 into the causes of homelessness as well as the approaches taken by national and local government. It will look at steps taken or needed to tackle homelessness, the relationship between homelessness and the availability of social housing. Written submissions of evidence were received in February.

### Priority 1. Case study

Project: London Youth Gateway

Lead partner: New Horizon Youth Centre

After many years experiencing an unstable family life, K (20) found himself homeless when his father was no longer willing to accommodate him. He ended up on the streets, sleeping rough, as so many London Youth Gateway beneficiaries do after a family breakdown.

After a few months a homeless support agency signposted K, who is from Enfield, to New Horizon Youth Centre. As it was unsafe for him to either return home or stay on the streets, the New Horizon Advice Team referred him to Depaul UK Nightstop accommodation. The team also helped him to access long-term accommodation, which gave him enough stability to focus on other issues he needed support with.

During his unsettled childhood K never really learned how to develop healthy relationships with others. At New Horizon Youth Centre, he started to attend anger management sessions, received support from a Communication Worker and benefited from engaging in safe group dynamics such as at the weekly men's group. Within months K had markedly improved his communication and relationships skills, which has put him in good stead to avoid repeat homelessness and for his future in general. For instance, he now finds it much easier to live in shared accommodation and make phone calls with official agencies.

The London Youth Gateway has also helped him to get ready for work. Having attended the employability support, interview coaching, training, and CV workshops provided by New Horizon Youth Centre, K has recently secured himself a really promising work placement. It won't be long before he will be in fulltime employment.

## **2.2                    Priority 2: Sexual and domestic violence**

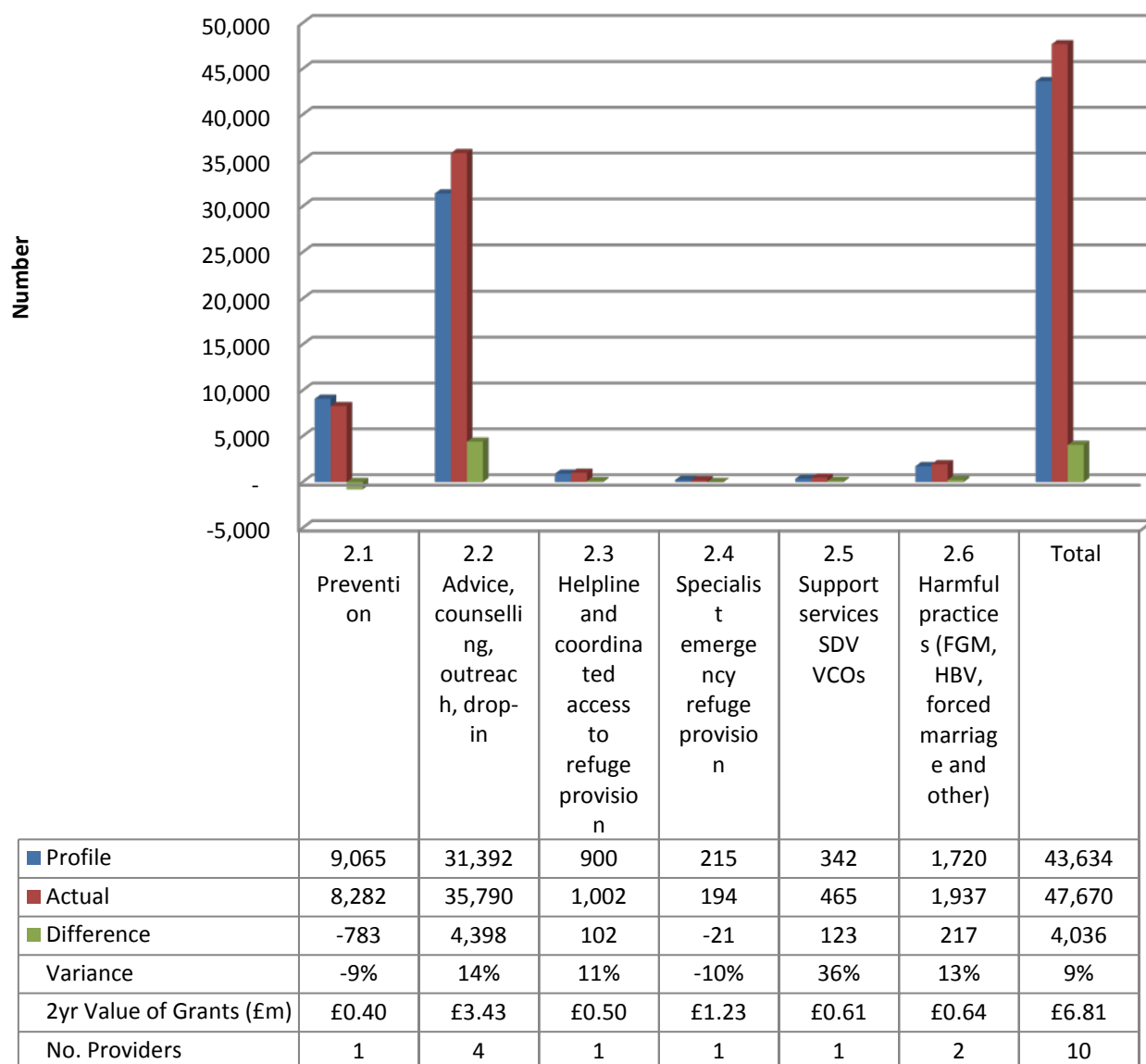
The Committee has allocated £6.81 million of funding to 11 organisations to tackle sexual and domestic violence over two years:

- One (with £0.4 million) is delivering against specification 2.1: Prevention
- Four (with £3.43 million) are delivering against specification 2.2: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services
- One (with £0.5 million) is delivering against specification 2.3: Helpline and co-ordinated access to refuge provision
- Two (with £1.23 million) are delivering against specification 2.4: Emergency refuge accommodation that offers services to meet the needs of specific groups
- One (with £0.61 million) is delivering against specification 2.5: Support services to sexual and domestic violence voluntary organisations
- Two (with £0.64 million) are delivering against specification 2.6: Services targeted at combatting female genital mutilation, honour-based violence, forced marriage and harmful practices.

Figure 2 shows the performance of the priority in the first three quarters of 2015/16 (quarters 9, 10 and 11 of the programme). Over the first three quarters, performance is 9% above profile.

Figure 2

**Priority 2: Delivery against Profile  
(Aggregate Primary Outcome Indicators per  
Specification)  
Q1 to Q3 - 2015-16**



## **2.2.1 Priority-level issues**

As shown in the above tables, performance is above profile for four of the six specifications for the first three quarters of the year. Performance in specification 2.1 (Prevention) and 2.4 (Specialist emergency refuge provision) is below profile. Specification 2.1 is delivered by a consortium of organisations led by Tender. The project is below target because it delivered in settings different to its profile (it delivered in one less secondary, one more primary and two more out of school settings than profiled). As the number of beneficiaries in secondary schools is higher than other settings it had fewer beneficiaries than profiled. Tender has advised that it will address the variance in the remaining quarters. Officers will continue to monitor Tender's performance. Given that it does not breach the 15% buffer applied to all targets, Officers are not recommending any action for Members at this stage.

Specification 2.4 is delivered by a consortium led by Ashiana and delivers emergency refuge accommodation to women fleeing violence with complex needs. The project is below target because of difficulty moving the residents on which prevents them taking on new clients. The consortium reports that the speed of move on has been delayed by:

- Service users that are seeking private housing needing sufficient time to raise a deposit for accommodation.
- The lack of available housing (scarcity of social housing).
- Residents with multiple need requiring, sufficient time to be supported practically before they can move on to independent accommodation.
- Residents housed with no recourse to public funds who are still awaiting the outcome of asylum applications.

The consortium notes however, that it is working continuously to provide support to help assist residents with move-on. Officers will continue to monitor performance. Given that it does not breach the 15% buffer applied to all targets, Officers are not recommending any action for Members at this stage. However, Officers plan to raise the issues related to housing with colleagues at London Councils and MOPAC.

See section 2.1.1 on closure of Holloway Prison..

Some challenges reported by providers this quarter include:

- Difficulty sourcing solicitors following cuts in legal aid (fed back indicates solicitors are not being paid enough for the work)
- Difficulties in sourcing move on accommodation.
- Difficulties supporting women, from the EU that have experienced violence, who may not be entitled to housing benefit.

Wider Environmental updates reported by the sector include the following:

On 23 February 2016 London Councils delivered an event for 70 borough officers and member focused on sexual and domestic violence. The event focused on new and emerging issues and how joint responses can best tackle these. Presentations were delivered by two London Councils funded organisations (Tender and Forward). The event

was received well and represents an increased emphasis on links between borough and funded commissions. Further details are outlined in Item 4 of this agenda.

From 31st October 2015 onwards, Section 5B of the 2003 Act<sup>1</sup> has introduced a mandatory reporting duty which requires teachers (and regulated health and social care professionals) in England and Wales to report 'known' cases of FGM in under 18s which they identify in the course of their professional work to the police. As a result, the issue of FGM has been brought to the forefront of teachers' attention in schools, and Tender funded under 2.1 has noticed an uptake of schools requesting INSET training on this subject, alongside the project delivery for their students.

Ofsted has launched far-reaching changes to the way it inspects early years provision, schools and further education and skills. These changes came in to effect from September 2015. The new common inspection framework means that schools will now be assessed on their provision for young people to achieve key judgements including: "understanding of how to keep themselves safe from relevant risks such as abuse, sexual exploitation and extremism, including when using the internet and social media", "knowledge of how to keep themselves healthy, both emotionally and physically" and "management of their own feelings and behaviour, and how they relate to others". These key judgements link directly to London Councils delivery under priority 2.1 and funded provision supports schools in delivering against this criteria.

- In January 2016, the Chairs of four Commons select committees – education, health, home affairs and business, innovation and skills – wrote to the Education Secretary, citing committee reports and statements from the Children's Commissioner and the Chief Medical Officer, in support of statutory PSHE and SRE. The letter stated that it was "clear to the four of us that there is a need to work towards PSHE and SRE becoming statutory in all schools." The implementation of SRE as a statutory requirement within schools would tie in with the work boroughs are already undertaking with the support of London Councils funding under priority area 2.1.

## Priority 2. Case study

**Project:** Pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines and coordinated access to refuge provision

**Lead partner:** Women's Aid

**Delivery partners:** Women's Aid, Refuge, Women & Girl's Network.  
Borough: Croydon

Caller A called the helpline as her partner is threatening her and has been controlling throughout their 5 year relationship. She has tried to end the relationship but he has refused to move out, and has put pressure on her by saying that he loves her, cannot live without her and will try to change. She then feels sorry for him and says they can try again. After a few days the abusive and controlling behaviour starts again.

Caller A has rung the helpline to get advice about what she can do. Her partner has never hit her, although he throws things around and has threatened to hurt her if she ever tells anyone about the problems in their relationship. She is frightened of him and what he is capable of. She has not told anyone and the call to the helpline is the first time she has talked about the abuse to anyone. He only behaves in this way when they are alone, and everyone else, including her family, thinks he's a great guy.

She is particularly concerned as she has a daughter, who is 6, from a previous relationship. She is concerned about the effects of his behaviour on her daughter, although it does tend to happen after her daughter has gone to bed or when she is away staying with her father.

She feels trapped, as her partner has said that he will tell social services that she is a bad mother and neglecting her daughter. She believes that he is capable of doing this and will carry out this threat. She also thinks that a lot of the abuse is her fault, as he constantly puts her down, blames her when things go wrong, and points out what a bad mother she is. She does not think she can do anything about the situation, and just has to put up with it, trying to keep her partner happy and do everything he says.

The helpline worker was able to support the caller to recognise that her partner is being very manipulative and controlling, and that the abuse is not her fault, that he is choosing to behave this way in order to control her and dominate her. The helpline worker then went on to explore the options that the caller had and to help her consider her and her daughter's safety.

The helpline worker talked to the woman about what would happen if she contacted the police and what she could expect. She also helped her to consider talking to other agencies about the abuse, to consider her rights and getting some support in place. This included details of the local domestic violence support group so that she could meet with a support worker face to face.

The helpline worker was able to give the caller an ID number and explain that the helpline is a 24/7 service so at any time she needed to contact the helpline again, the helpline worker would understand the situation and she would not need to go through her story again. She assured her that the abuse was not her fault and about the support that would be available.

## **2.3 Priority 3: ESF tackling poverty through employment**

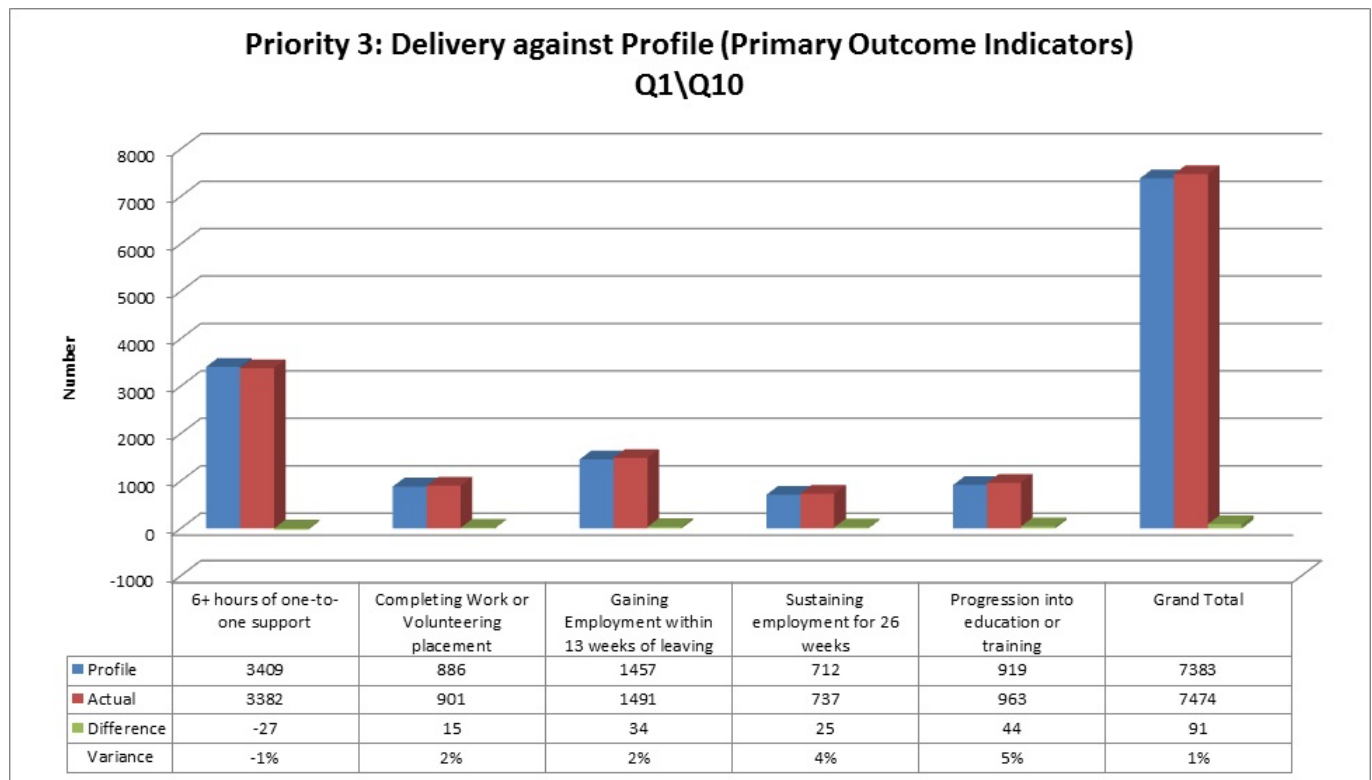
The Committee allocated £3.76 million to 10 projects in priority 3: ESF tackling poverty through employment over two years. This included 50% ESF match funding. This included:

- One project (with £0.32 million) delivered specification 3.1a: Disabled parents
- One project (with £0.38 million) delivered specification 3.1b: People with mental health needs
- Three projects (with £1.14 million) delivered specification 3.2: People from ethnic groups with low labour market participation rates
- Four projects (with £1.49 million) delivered against specification 3.3: Women facing barriers to employment
- One project (with £0.25 million) delivered against specification 3.4: People recovering from drug and alcohol misuse.

This cycle of this priority has now completed, including the one quarter's extension agreed by the Committee. Figure 3 shows the performance of the priority across all quarters. Overall performance was 1% above profile.



**Figure 3**



### 2.3.1 Priority-level issues

All projects finished in green on the RAG rating. There has been no change in this since the last report.

Projects have performed well, in part, due to good quality performance management and robust monitoring and audit process. Underperformance is quickly identified and measures are put in place to support the project back to achievement of targets. If a project is unable to improve, there is the option to withdraw funding and offer this to projects that are performing better.

Less work experience and further job search were delivered than originally profiled as funding was removed to use to pay for additional jobs and sustained outcomes as requested by our projects.

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Original Profile</b>	<b>Actual Delivered</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Value Profile</b>	<b>Value Actual</b>	<b>Value Difference</b>
<b>Enrolled</b>	3,153	4,145	992	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>6+ hours one-to-one support</b>	3,070	3,433	363	£ 1,074,500.00	£ 1,201,550.00	£ 127,050.00
<b>Completing work experience</b>	1,531	886	-645	£ 535,850.00	£ 310,100.00	-£225,750.00
<b>Gaining employment</b>	1,000	1,457	457	£ 800,000.00	£ 1,165,600.00	£ 365,600.00
<b>Sustaining employment for min 26 weeks</b>	500	710	210	£ 800,000.00	£ 1,136,000.00	£ 336,000.00
<b>Progression into education or training</b>	1,220	927	-293	£ 488,000.00	£ 370,800.00	-£117,200.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,474</b>	<b>11,558</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>£ 3,698,350.00</b>	<b>£ 4,184,050.00</b>	<b>£ 485,700.00</b>

The total value difference in the table represents the £500,000 extension that the Grants Committee gave to the ESF priority to help manage the transition between national ESF programmes. The total value actual, with management and administration at 5.99% added, is £4,434,674. The balance of £66,000 represents 1.5% underspend.

35% of participants in priority 3 of the Grants Programme gained employment. This is a strong result compared to other ESF programmes. This can be seen because priority 3 of the Grants Programme is also part of London Councils wider ESF programme, and this in turn is part of the London ESF programme, which is co-ordinated by the GLA.

The table below shows how the London Councils programme, of which priority 3 is a key part, works with the highest proportion of economically-inactive people – the hardest client group - of the ESF programmes in London: 65% compared to the London average of 46%. Nevertheless, the London Councils programme also has the highest proportion of job outcomes: 33% compared to the London average of 16%. Moreover, London Councils' unit cost for job outcomes is the lowest: £4,450 compared to the £6,056 London average.

## Comparison of ESF programmes in London

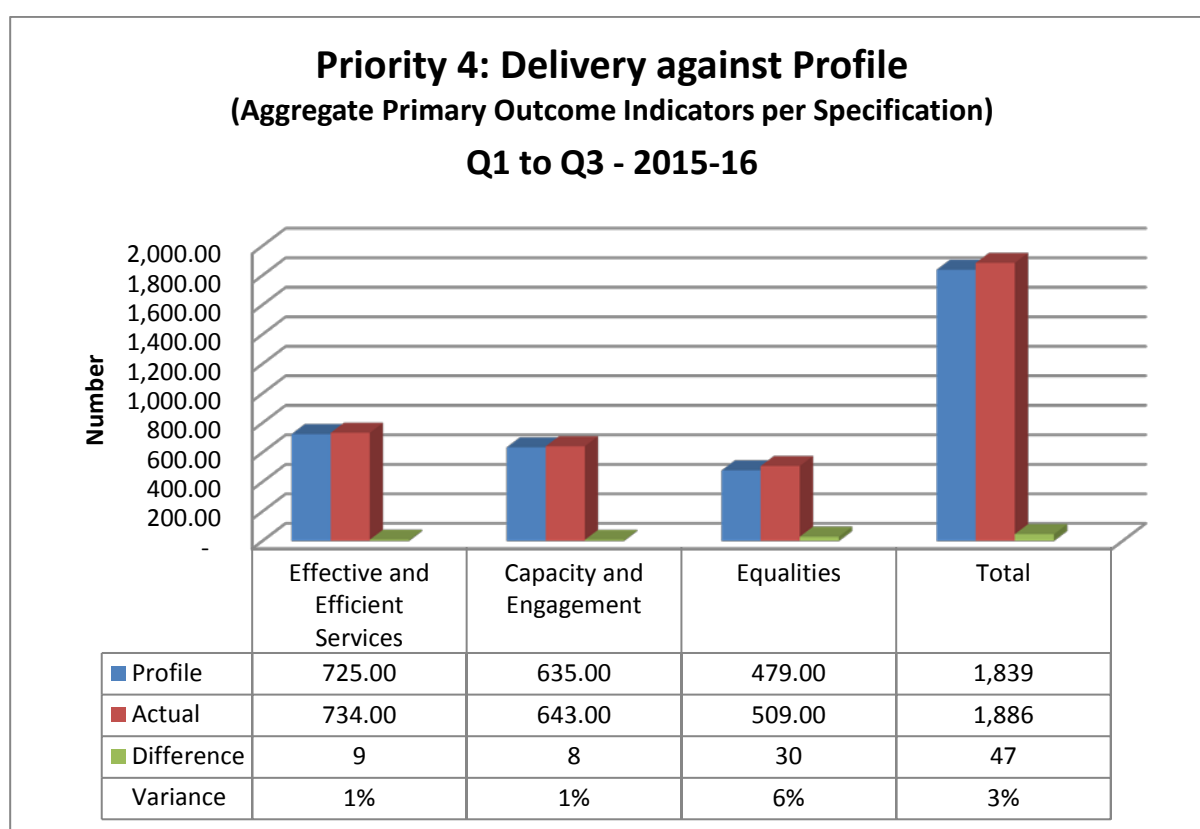
CFO	Economically Inactive (%)	Unemployed (%)	14-19 NEET (%)	Job outcomes (% of leavers)	Unit cost per job outcome	Six month sustained job outcomes (% of leavers)	Unit cost per six month sustained job outcome
LC	65%	35%	N/A	33%	£4,450	Not available	N/A
GLA	21%	44%	31%	24%	£5,072	Not available	N/A
SFA	7%	59%	22%	9%	£5,783	Not applicable	
NOMS	40%	49%	11%	13%	Not available		
DWP	46%	47%	6%	16%	£6,056	Not available	
London Average	36%	47%	18%	18%	£5,340	Not applicable	

## 2.4 Priority 4: Capacity building

The Grants Committee has allocated £2.66 million over two years to six projects under priority 4, to build capacity in London's voluntary and community organisations and thereby to help them provide effective services.

There is only one specification in this priority. Figure 4 shows the performance of the priority in the first three quarters of 2015/16 (quarters 9, 10 and 11 of the programme). Over the first three quarters, performance is 3% above profile.

**Figure 4**



### 2.4.1 Priority-level issues

London Funders, working with London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC) and Greater London Volunteering (GLV) has commissioned research into the future of civil society infrastructure in London. Funded by the City Bridge Trust, the work is being carried out by Srabani Sen OBE & Associates.

The research seeks to understand how civil society in the capital can best be supported in order to make the biggest difference for Londoners. Building on existing research, this new project will result in a practical plan for the future of infrastructure in London.

Initial findings were published in late 2015 <sup>1</sup> which highlight the need for strong leadership in the sector and collaboration between funders and also between voluntary sector organisations. A final report including recommendations will be published in Spring 2016. This research is referred to further in the Grants Review paper (Item 4)

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<sup>1</sup> Link to initial findings

<http://londonfunders.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/Emerging%20Findings%20Rept%20FINAL%2015%20Dec%2015.pdf>

#### Priority 4. Case study

**Project:** Engage London

**Lead partner:** Children England

The key beneficiaries for this network was REAP (Refugees in Effective and Active Partnership), firstly place supporting them with their in-house knowledge and practice, then cascaded out to REAPs networks of refugee organisations to support them in understanding, the policy context for safeguarding, how to review their practice and policies and mechanisms to engage with safeguarding on a local basis.

REAP attended the Safe Network training sessions and got updates on Working Together guidance, Safe Network Resources and the Standards. There was then a joint session in West London with the facilitation of safeguarding training for the network for the refugee and asylum groups. This session gave an overview of the current challenges in terms of safeguarding children, the policy and legislation context and the use of Safe Network materials to support effective safeguarding practice across the voluntary sector.

The safeguarding training enabled REAP to understand safeguarding policy legislation and best practice and then review how this could be cascaded out to their networks. From this there was then a development, whereby specialist training was facilitated out to REAPs local VCS networks. 30 organisations attended the facilitated session supporting them around best practice around safeguarding children and young people and the access to Safe Network resources.

#### Feedback

*'The training has brought in specialist expertise to our organisation, from what we learnt through the safeguarding training, we have developed our confidence and knowledge and are now more linked into some strategic groups on FGM and feel more of an equal on this because the credibility came from our properly being briefed on safeguarding'.. 'We are now seen as a more of a key partner and have been able to input into the conversations and strategic plans. We have taken part in discussions around trafficking on a strategic level due to our level of knowledge and our links with the communities.'... 'We have also revised our safeguarding policy and used this to also support our work with vulnerable adults'*

*'We now have increased awareness and confidence about safeguarding, it's harder to access that knowledge locally and working across several boroughs we need to have specialist support that helps us in meeting the needs of the communities.'*

REAP and Engage London are now looking at ways they can support some specialist equalities networks across the region looking at safeguarding refugee, asylum and migrant children. This will be developed over the next quarter aiming to increase regional network for organisations working with these communities support them to work in partnership and collaborate.

### **3 Project-level performance**

#### **3.1 RAG rating**

The main measure of projects' performance is the programme-wide red-amber-green (RAG) rating. The RAG rating system was introduced by the Committee in February 2013 as part of the new monitoring policy<sup>2</sup>. The methodology behind the system is set out in Appendix 1 of this report. In addition, as the Grants Executive proposed at its meeting in September 2014, officers now include arrows that show whether each project's performance is going up, going down or is steady in that quarter. The RAG system has now proven to be a robust tool for measuring all-round performance of all projects.

The RAG ratings for quarter 10 (July to September 2015) and quarter 11 (October – December 2015) are set out in the table below. The Committee will note that of the 35 projects, in quarter 10, 23 are rated green and one is rated amber. 10 ESF projects are not rated because they have completed as planned. Eaves is not rated because it has closed as covered in Item 7. The direction-of-travel markers show that the performance of five projects has declined since the last quarter.

Officers would propose to concentrate performance management effort on the six projects that are rated amber and/ or whose direction-of-travel arrows are down. These are Stonewall Housing (1.1), Women in Prison (1.1 and 2.2), Women's Resource Centre (2.5), Advice UK (4), Age Concern London (4). Further information on these projects can be found in section 3.2 of this report.

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<sup>2</sup> Commissioning Monitoring Arrangements, Item 5, Grants Committee, meeting on 20 February 2013

**Table 2. RAG scores**

Funding 2013-15 Strands	Organisation	Partners	RAG Rating July – Sept 2015	RAG Rating Oct-Dec 2015
1.1	Stonewall Housing	Referral partners: Shelter, AdviceUK, Royal Association for Deaf People.	Green ↔	Green ↘
1.1	Women in Prison Ltd		Green ↘	Green ↘
1.1	Shelter - London Advice Services	Broadway Housing Association, (plus the project will be supported by a range of referral partners Family Mosaic, Genesis Housing Association, Peabody, P3, Royal Association for the Deaf (RAD), Southern Housing Group, Stonewall Housing Association)	Green ↔	Green ↔
1.1	St Mungo Community Housing Association	St Giles	Amber	Green ↗
1.1	Thames Reach	Eaves Housing for Women, Addaction Drug and Alcohol Services	Green ↔	Green ↔
1.1	The Connection at St Martin's		Green ↗	Green ↔
1.2	New Horizon Youth Centre	New Horizon Youth Centre, Alone in London, Depaul UK, Stonewall Housing.	Green ↔	Green ↔
1.3	Homeless Link	Shelter, DrugScope.	Green ↗	Green ↔
2.1	Tender Education and Arts	The Nia Project, Solace Women's Aid, Women and Girls Network (WGN), Southall Black Sisters Trust (SBS), Ashiana Network, Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), Foundation For Women's Health Research & Development (FORWARD), Iranian and Kurdish Women Rights Organisation (IKWRO), Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC), IMECE Women's Centre,	Green ↘	Green ↔
2.2	Galop	Stonewall Housing, Pace, Broken Rainbow, Galop, London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard.	Green ↔	Green ↔



Funding 2013-15 Strands	Organisation	Partners	RAG Rating July – Sept 2015	RAG Rating Oct-Dec 2015
2.2	Women in Prison Ltd		Amber ↘	Amber ↑
2.2	SignHealth		Green ↗	Green ↔
2.2	Solace Women's Aid	ASHIANA Network, Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC), Chinese Information & Advice Centre (CIAC), Ethnic Alcohol Counselling in Hounslow (EACH), Iranian and Kurdish Women Rights Organisation (IKWRO), IMECE Turkish Speaking Women's Group, Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), The Nia project, Rights of Women (ROW), Southall Black Sisters (SBS), Jewish Women's Aid (JWA), Women and Girls Network (WGN), Solace Women's Aid (SWA).	Green ↔	Green ↔
2.3	Women's Aid Federation of England (Women's Aid)	Women's Aid, Refuge, Women & Girl's Network.	Green ↔	Green ↔
2.4	Eaves Housing for Women			
2.4	Ashiana Network	Ashiana Network, Solace Women's Aid, Nia.	Green ↔	Green ↔
2.5	Women's Resource Centre	Women's Resource Centre, AVA (Against Violence & Abuse), Imkaan, Respect, Rights of Women, Women and Girls Network.	Green ↔	Green ↘
2.6	Asian Women's Resource Centre	Southall Black Sisters Trust, FORWARD, IMECE Women's Centre, Women and Girls Network, IKWRO Women's Rights Organisation.	Green ↘	Green ↔
2.6	Domestic Violence Intervention Project		Green ↔	Green ↔
3.1a	The Citizens Trust	London Skills Academy, The Camden Society		
3.1b	Peter Bedford Housing Association	East Potential, Hillside Clubhouse,		

Funding 2013-15 Strands	Organisation	Partners	RAG Rating July – Sept 2015	RAG Rating Oct-Dec 2015
3.2	MI ComputSolutions Incorporated	AFRICA ADVOCACY FOUNDATION, AMICUSHORIZON, RIPE ENTERPRISES		
3.2	Paddington Development Trust (PDT)	Renaissance Skills Centre (RSC), Hammersmith & Fulham Volunteer Centre, Urban Partnership Group , Skills & Development Agency		
3.2	Urban Futures London Limited	The Selby Trust, Newlon Fusion, (Prevista)		
3.3	Hopscotch Asian Women's Centre	Refugee Women's Association, The Citizen's Trust		
3.3	London Training and Employment Network (LTEN)	Crisis UK, East London Skills for Life (ELS), Havering Association of Voluntary and Community Organisations (HAVCO), Midaye Somali Women's Development Network		
3.3	Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service	Widows & Orphans International, DABD		
3.3	Catalyst Gateway	East Potential (part of East Thames Group)		
3.4	St Mungo Community Housing Association	Foundation 66, AJ Associates		
4	Children England	Partnership for Young London, Race Equality Foundation.	Green ↔	Green ↔
4	London Deaf & Disability Organisations CIC (Inclusion London)	Transport for All.	Green ↔	Green ↔
4	Advice UK	Law Centres Federation, Lasa.	Green ↗	Green ↘

Funding 2013-15 Strands	Organisation	Partners	RAG Rating July – Sept 2015	RAG Rating Oct-Dec 2015
4	London Voluntary Service Council	Race on the Agenda, Women's Resource Centre, Refugees in Effective and Active Partnerships, Lasa.	Green ↔	Green ↔
4	Age Concern London	Opening Doors Age UK, London Older People Advisory Group (LOPAG).	Green ↔	Green ↘
4	The Refugee Council		Green ↔	Green ↔

## **3.2 Project issues**

### **3.2.1 Priority 1**

#### **Thames Reach**

Thames Reach receives £376,709 in grant per annum, under *Priority 1: Homeless Early Intervention and Prevention*. Thames Reach's partnership with Addaction (drug and alcohol support services) came to an end on 12 December 2015, through mutual arrangement between the two organisations. As a result, Thames Reach has developed a partnership with organisation Blenheim, which delivers drug and alcohol support services. The partnership agreement with Blenheim was signed on 17 September 2015. The annual payment to Blenheim will total £12,000.

Thames Reach also had a formal partnership with organisation Eaves. Eaves went into administration on 31 October 2015. Thames Reach has employed a Link Worker to work with vulnerable women to deliver the outcomes, under homelessness (previously delivered by Eaves). Staff costs will therefore increase from £265,472.50, to £296,267. This increase of £30,794.50 per annum will be met within the current grant amount. Thames Reach has provided an amended budget for the 2016/17 period.

Formal partnerships have also been established with organisation Maya (who will be delivering counselling services). Maya will receive £11,725 per annum, to be met through the current grant amount. A partnership has also been established with Enabling Assessment Services London (EASL) to deliver mental health support services. EASL will receive £15,000 per annum, to be met through the current grant amount. Partnership agreements for EASL and Maya are due to be submitted to officers.

#### **New Horizon Youth Centre**

New Horizon Youth Centre with partner organisations (Alone in London, Depaul UK, Stonewall, Galop, Albert Kennedy Trust and Pace) are funded under *Priority 1: Homelessness: Specification 1.2: Youth Homelessness*. £730,672 per annum is provided. Due to the announcement of closure of partner organisation Pace, in January 2016, New Horizon Youth Centre has 'remodelled' some of their delivery. This is to ensure that delivery to Pace's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) service users, in homelessness need, remains supported.

In the immediate term, partner organisation Stonewall will ensure service user caseloads are transferred to their organisation, with appropriate permission. In period, up to April 2016, Stonewall will hold discussions with Pace staff to work towards transferring relevant staff from Pace to Stonewall, under

Transfer of Undertakings Protected Employment (TUPE). Post April 2016 delivery partners will continue to review cases and outcome performance to ensure best outcomes for clients and referrals to appropriate agencies.

### **Stonewall Housing**

Stonewall Housing's RAG rating is only 0.37 down from quarter 10, mainly due to a slight decrease in the number of new users in the third quarter of 2015/16; this pattern of delivery is similar to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of years 1 and 2 of the commission and the organisation attributes this to the Christmas period, demand usually picks up in the next quarter. The commission still achieved a high green rating.

### **Transforming Rehabilitation (TR) and closure of Holloway Prison**

#### **Women in Prison (WiP) – Through the Gate and Advice Housing Support**

All CRC women (those with sentences of less than 12 weeks) now fall within the remit of the new Through the Gate (TTG) resettlement teams in prisons following the introduction of the TR programme. This has resulted in this commission focusing on a different cohort of women and a fall in referrals which has been previously reported. The London Councils Housing team are working with the TTG team to ensure that any NPS women (those with longer sentences) or CRC women with specific housing needs identified are referred on to them.

Women in Prison report that remand prisoners are not being sent to Holloway ahead of the closure which has reduced the number of women they can see and some women have already moved to other prisons. The continued movement of women from the prison is expected to affect the delivery of advice sessions. Delivery has dipped slightly in this quarter but was also affected by staff illness. However, WiP have maintained a low green RAG rating, so officers will review this situation if performance falls below the -15% variance ceiling in the next two quarters and report back to Members.

#### **St Mungo's – HARP project**

St Mungo's have worked to minimise the impact of TR changes as previously reported and anticipate an improvement in referral levels affected by TR. However, issues with integration of systems and continued disruption have meant delivery may have been unavoidably underreported in this quarter. St Mungo's have observed that these systems are now running more efficiently and this should be reflected in future delivery figures.

Continuity of service is expected to be maintained for St Mungo's commission once closure arrangements for Holloway are put in place. The commission currently operates over a number of prisons and have existing services established in the prison women where are expected to move on to. St Mungo's anticipate minimal impact on delivery as staff working on this commission already have security clearance in these prisons.

Information on the impact of TR on Women in Prison's commission under priority 2.2 is included below.

### **3.2.2 Priority 2**

#### **Women in prison (WiP) – Thyme Project**

At the Grants Committee meeting in November 2015, officers reported that delivery on the Thyme Project had been below the 15% cumulative ceiling for two consecutive quarters. This was due primarily to the absence of the Through the Gate (TTG) worker in quarter 2 as well as a drop in their performance leading up to this in the previous quarter. Officers proposed to recover underspend from the organisation and re-profile targets, adjusting them by the current shortfall. This was to be done on the assumption that future delivery would return to previous levels. Officers proposed to present a further report to this Committee, setting out options for additional changes to targets and if applicable grant reduction, if this situation changed.

Officers can now report that a re-profile to lower targets was undertaken and officers recovered underspend of £9,251. However, delivery has not returned to previous levels as envisaged and continues to be below the 15% cumulative ceiling for a third consecutive quarter. There are a variety of reasons for this.

The Thyme project maintained a high green RAG rating for the majority of the first 2 years of funding. The recent period of long term staff sickness coincided with a challenging time of transition and uncertainty for the organisation, affecting their internal performance management of this commission. Key members of senior management left the organisation at the same time, Eaves, who ran the Beth Centre in Lambeth in partnership with WiP went into administration and WiP started managing a number of new larger contracts.

Although performance against primary outcomes and the number of new users recorded improved slightly in quarter 11 this still remains considerably under target. This was partly due to further short term staff illness occurring. However, making adjustments to model removing this as a factor in under-delivery of targets shows a continuing deficit in targets that would be difficult to make up over the lifetime of the grant and this has been confirmed by WiP. Officers have concluded that although there appears to be an ongoing staffing issue which will need to be resolved, the primary driver in the change of delivery relates to the Transforming Rehabilitation agenda outlined above.

The Thyme Project provides TTG support, counselling and group work services to women in prison, returning to London and in the community who have experience of sexual or domestic violence. Due to the intensive nature of this work, the complex needs of users and the project primarily receiving referrals for women in Holloway prison, the project has been more affected by the TR changes than other London Councils commissions.

Under the recent TR changes new services have been established in Holloway. A Resettlement/TTG service now oversees and supports the needs of women due for release within 12 weeks or less. This has a specialist DSV post offering 1:2:1 and groupwork to support women affected by these issues. This service works with another recently introduced project, the Power to Change 12 week group programme facilitated by Women's Aid. This has meant project referrals now come through TTG rather than DSV routes which have had an impact on delivery.

The Thyme project has been working to develop new referral pathways into the project ensuring there is no duplication of services. To manage this, officers previously agreed they would be able to work with women on longer sentences due for release after the 12 week period, (those managed by National Probation or those on remand not fully covered by the new services). A number of difficulties have arisen in achieving referral targets for this group of women. WiP report that the planned closure of Holloway means women on remand will not be sent to the prison from February reducing referrals. In addition they have found women coming on to the project though TTG referrals rather than DSV may not be as receptive to receiving long term support. They may also be reluctant to commit to a long term support due to uncertainty about their stay in Holloway prison.

In the short term WiP are currently working to integrate their services in Send HMP and set up referral pathways but this will take time. Following requests from officers, initial proposals on re-modelling services have been received to look at service provision for the last year of funding. Some temporary measures have been proposed to adapt the current working model for the service during the transfer of women from Holloway to Downview, where some women are expected to be re-rolled. WiP have also highlighted longer term changes that need to be considered. New services are currently being developed by MOPAC with the London Women's Consortium (of which WiP is a member), to establish 'end-to-end' services in London for women involved in the CJS. Development work is ongoing and any future delivery should complement this, so officers believe it would be sensible to redefine services within this framework with key partners.

The Thyme project provides a valuable service for a particularly vulnerable group of women. The project has been affected by unforeseen external changes unknown at the time of commissioning. London Councils has already recovered money linked to under-performance related to staff illness.

Officers recommend the project continue delivering against the current re-profiled targets for the next quarter maintaining an amber RAG rating, while we meet with MOPAC and WiP to discuss the changing landscape. New targets can then be negotiated for the final year in conjunction with MOPAC and officers will report the outcome of this to the Chair and at the next Grants Committee. Members should note that this may result in lower targets being set. Committee should also note that this action may also need to be taken for the other two commissions if there are further significant downward changes to their delivery as a result of TR.

#### **GALOP – Domestic Abuse Project (DAP)**

PACE, the partner that delivered one to one and group counselling unexpectedly went into administration on 22 January 2016, closing on 29 January. GALOP submitted a proposal to officers to take over the employment of the Counsellor and to continue the provision of service. This proposal was accepted and officers will continue to monitor delivery and the attainment of standard Outcome 4 . The commission on the whole, consistently achieves a high green RAG rating.

#### **Women’s Resource Centre: WRC**

There has been a slight variation on the RAG score for WRC. This has only resulted in a 2.4 reduction in the RAG score for Quarter 11. In Quarter 11 the commission exceeded cumulative profile targets (figures for Quarters 9-11) for new users, and for primary outcomes 3 and 4 (see table below for primary outcome indicators to be met by WRC). The commission consistently achieves very good green RAG ratings.

### **3.2.3 Priority 4**

#### **Age UK**

There has been a slight variation on the RAG score for Age UK. This has only resulted in a 3.7 reduction in the RAG score for Quarter 11. The commission consistently achieves very good green RAG ratings. The commission remains in the forefront of ensuring that older people’s organisations are fully able to meet the requirements of digital and social media communications.

## **3.3 Project briefs**

Below is a short brief on each project in the programme.



## Shelter - London Advice Services

**Project name:** Connect London  
**Priority:** 1, Homelessness  
**Specification:** 1.1: Early intervention and prevention  
**Amount (2 years):** £1,300,000

Project aiming to prevent homelessness.

Services include: needs assessment, tailored self-help resources, telephone information and signposting service, specialist housing, benefit and debt advice with casework, practical solutions to access the private rented sector, employment support to achieve financial independence, outreach targeting vulnerable people with protected characteristics and empowering support work to develop confidence and help people link in with local services to sustain tenancies.

**Delivery partners:** Broadway Housing Association, (plus referral partners Family Mosaic, Genesis Housing Association, Peabody, P3, Royal Association for the Deaf, Southern Housing Group, Stonewall Housing Association)

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	3341	4187
People/ families who gain/secure temporary/permanent accommodation	102	186
People/ families successfully sustaining their tenancies for one year or more	300	314
People who gained employment, volunteering opportunities and work placements	120	128
Protected equalities groups assisted to secure or sustain suitable accommodation	180	374

### Case study

Having been referred to Connect London after being declared bankrupt a key worker provided me with support. I attended workshops on homelessness which were informative but discouraging given I'd already been through pretty much everything they suggested. Then I attended a couple of corporate training days on Interview technique and another on CV writing, the former of which was usefully buttressed by guidance from my key worker.

Having sofa-surfed for 2 months Shelter referred me to Real Lettings who then referred me to Bethany House. I am enormously thankful that I was accepted by Bethany House 24 hours before the streets became my home. Further, my key worker supported an application for funding to replace my broken computer.

St Mungo's Broadway linked me with a Mentor around three months after the initial connection was established. With their guidance, I formulated a coherent plan to begin a business which will be launched any moment. I was invited to make a pitch to 'Dragons' and was successful. The transformation in my circumstances is great but had I not encountered St Mungo's Broadway and Shelter, it might all have been so different."

# St Mungo Community Housing Association

**Project name:** Housing Advice Resettlement and Prevention (HARP)  
**Priority:** 1, Homelessness  
**Specification:** 1.1: Early intervention and prevention  
**Amount (2 years):** £782,774

Project includes pan-London Housing Advice and Resettlement and Prevention Service for offenders at risk of homelessness on release from prison; Community Recovery Network to help offenders sustain their accommodation and prevent relapse into offending; handbook and helpline for Outside of London Prison establishments discharging clients back to London on release.

**Delivery partners:** St Giles

## Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	3375	2206
Number of clients gaining suitable temporary or permanent accommodation	681	840
Number of clients living independently after one year	76	48
Number of people achieving employment/ volunteering/ training outcomes	45	40
Number of clients demonstrating improved social networks/ relationships	60	58
Number of people with protected characteristics resettled into all forms of tenure	600	1172

See section 3 for further information on performance.

## Case study

Throughout my life I feel that I have definitely learned some hard lessons, as I've had to rely on myself for almost everything. I spent a lot of my childhood in care as my mum abandoned my 2 brothers and I when we were little, she had her own issues with drugs and my dad didn't stick around. I'd say the whole experience growing up taught me a lot about surviving in life from an early age. I did have some issues with managing my anger, spending time with the wrong crowd and I made some mistakes, which led me to prison. I wasn't sure if I would lose my accommodation in a shared house once I received a 4 month sentence, and having a lot of experience with homelessness I really wasn't looking forward to the prospect of spending winter on the streets. I first met with my support worker whilst I was in custody, we talked about the issues that I was facing and it felt pretty reassuring to know that she'd be able to meet me at the gates on the day of my release and help me with things like sorting out my benefits and addressing my housing issues.

We keep in contact and meet up regularly. I've positively refocused my life. I'm now registered with a GP, and attending a training programme with a job skills coach in St Mungo's Broadway's Employment Team, and my support worker has also helped me apply for courses and given me loads of information to help me back into work. I'm a really keen songwriter and performer too, I love the opportunity it gives me to express myself and channel my creativity in such a positive way. My support worker gave me an opportunity with St Mungo's Recovery College to have dedicated studio time, and I've just about completed my first album. The music tutor has been great and is going to help me promote the album too!

## Stonewall Housing

**Project name:** Stonewall Housing's LGBT Advice and Support Project  
**Priority:** 1, Homelessness  
**Specification:** 1.1: Early intervention and prevention  
**Amount (2 years):** £347,518

Homelessness advice service for LGBT people in London. This partnership project aims to ensure more LGBT people have improved access to the best advice and information to prevent homelessness and to find them suitable accommodation earlier.

The project includes development of a pan-London tenancy sustainment service and group support programme designed specifically for LGBT people. Many LGBT people are fleeing domestic abuse and harassment and have no traditional family support networks to rely on so targeted housing support service reduces their social isolation.

**Delivery partners:** Shelter, AdviceUK, Royal Association for Deaf People.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	523	476
LGBT people/families gaining suitable temporary or permanent accommodation	150	150
Tenancies sustained for one year plus	21	23
LGBT people reporting reduced social isolation	172	156
People from protected equalities groups with increased access to suitable temporary or permanent accommodation	523	476

### Case study

I submitted a web site enquiry to Stonewall Housing for housing support after my relationship breakdown and I was forced to leave the property. I had no legal rights to remain in the property and no tenancy agreement with my name on. I was extremely frightened at the prospect of sleeping rough on the streets and did not know what I should do. I was diagnosed with HIV in 2000 however, my body has not responded well to treatment and subsequently I have problems with my bones, and Orthopedic specialist regularly. I work full time but do not earn enough to raise a deposit or to sustain a property within the private rented sector. I am currently sofa surfing.

I am now receiving support from a Stonewall Housing advisor. I have been supplied advice on obtaining private rented accommodation, good contacts to LGBT friendly lettings agents and information on credit unions for raising a deposit. My advisor also took me through my options for securing housing and also presenting for a part VII assessment at my local authority in order to determine if I was a priority need to be housed or alternatively options of rent deposit. My Stonewall Housing advisor linked me in with Age UK Enfield, Anchor Housing and completed an Adult Social Services referral.

I presented for a Part VII at my local borough and am awaiting a decision, my advisor coordinated the gathering of information from my HIV consultant, GP and Orthopedic specialist for supporting evidence. I feel more confident about my situation and not so alone having an advisor who knows how to navigate this process and give advice that is useful and meaningful.

## Thames Reach

**Project name:** Targeted Rapid Intervention and Outreach (TRIO)  
**Priority:** 1, Homelessness  
**Specification:** 1.1: Early intervention and prevention  
**Amount (2 years):** £753,418

Partnership project delivering specialist pan-London early intervention and prevention for rough sleepers and 'hidden' homeless (both men and women). Funded services include development /coordination of borough strategies targeting rough sleeping hotspots for closure; engaging with rough sleepers, securing accommodation and facilitating access to specialist services; telephone support to those at risk of homelessness and specialist help to the hidden homeless.

**Delivery partners:** Eaves Housing for Women, Addaction Drug and Alcohol Services

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	4724	2029
Number of rough sleepers gaining accommodation	85	45
Tenancies sustained	0	0
Improved physical and mental health.	190	160
Number of beneficiaries undertaking further education, volunteering and internships	21	23
More confident to participate in activities	16	53
Risk of homelessness reduced for women	240	211

### Case study

The Client was an EEA migrant repeatedly returning to the country without attempting to exercise treaty rights but rather rough sleeping and begging to fund his life style. He has been reconnected on a couple of occasions by LRT team in the past, however, he has always made his way back to the country. He was known to locally operating policing teams for his involvement in numerous petty crimes.

In joint cooperation with local SNT, HOIC and reconnection team (LRT), the client has been assessed to establish whether he has made any attempt to exercise his treaty rights and as a result of that has been served with a removal direction by Home Office with a 1 year ban on entry to the country. In cooperation with LRT team TRIO he has been helped to re new his passport and helped to facilitate reconnection to his country of origin, as well as linking him to relevant services local to his place of arrival.

## The Connection at St Martin's

**Project name:** London Connections  
**Priority:** 1, Homelessness  
**Specification:** 1.1: Early intervention and prevention  
**Amount (2 years):** £423,410

Homelessness prevention service giving access to advice and other services to reconnect them to their home area and provide them with support and alternative housing options.

Services include assessment, referral, reconnection and advocacy for homeless people from all London boroughs, engagement and skills training activities and structured progression to training and employment.

**Delivery partners:** None

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	489	467
People at risk of homelessness assisted to obtain temporary or permanent accommodation.	450	505
People with improved physical and mental health	262	275
People have increased learning and improvements in life skills and employment and training opportunities.	262	351
People with increased levels of social interaction and reduced levels of isolation.	262	255
People within the protected equalities groups have increased access to housing advice.	390	371

### Case study

MT is a 30 year old man with enduring mental health problems, born and raised in Harrow, with a long history of sleeping rough in central London. He has an on/ off relationship with his family. But he is close to them and meets his uncle every week. His engagement with mental health services was erratic, and his movement across London boroughs made him elusive. The Project met MT at its day centre and MT was very suspicious. He later admitted that he was keen to access support with daily living (showers, food, and laundry) but did not want to find accommodation. MT has spiritual beliefs that encompass different religions and has tried joining groups in the past. When I met him he said that he would not go back to Harrow because of the "large Asian population," and would not see his psychiatrist, who is of Pakistani origin (someone he had previously had a good relationship with). As MT could function in general life, he would not be considered for Mental Health Act 'section'. He could also be quite plausible in his reasons for sleeping rough, and it would be interpreted as a 'life style choice.'

After many (failed) attempts to reconnect him, MT gave my contact details to his uncle. We arranged a meeting and he met with his uncle and father at a local café. After this meeting MT went back to the family. He now sells the Big Issue and sometimes attends our Workspace training unit. His uncle emailed a few weeks ago to say that MT has decided to sleep out again. If he returns here the process will begin again. This type of unresolved case is all too common. Once someone has experienced rough sleeping it often remains an option for them when life becomes challenging.

## Women in Prison Ltd

**Project name:** Women's Through the Gate and Advice Housing Support  
**Priority:** 1, Homelessness  
**Specification:** 1.1: Early intervention and prevention  
**Amount (2 years):** £172,752

The service aims to prevent homelessness amongst London women serving short sentences, women leaving prison, or to women with experience of the criminal justice system at risk of homelessness, or who make up part of the 'hidden homeless' in the Greater London area.

Support includes specialist advice to women on short sentences to enable them to maintain their tenancies, 'through the gate' in depth support to women with multiple vulnerabilities (substance use, domestic violence, mental health) ensuring they are appropriately housed upon leaving prison and engaged with community support services, and drop in specialist advice surgeries around housing, benefits and debt in both prison and the community.

**Delivery partners:** none

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	375	272
Number of women accessing or maintaining accommodation	375	263
Number of tenancies sustained for more than one year	188	137
Number of women with appropriate medication, and referral routes to appropriate secondary care	112	166
Number of women within the protected equalities group (80% BAMER etc.) have individual support plans in place	188	150

See section 3 for further information on performance.

### Case study

My drug worker referred me to Women in Prison in the community. I meet with a Housing worker who went through the issues I needed help with. I explained that I had been living rent free with a friend connected to my old landlord. I told her that he was touching her and wanted to have sex with me. My WiP worker explained that getting out of that accommodation was a priority as I needed to feel safe. It would also help my anxiety caused by a fear of becoming street homeless. She gave me information about renting in the private rental sector. She also helped me apply for supported housing, Employment & Support Allowance (ESA), retrieving property held by the police, and provided details of organisations that would help if I did become homeless. I was also provided with emotional support and had a 3-way meeting between WiP and my drug worker.

Thanks to WiP's London Councils Housing Project I will now be housed, have the correct benefits in order, and feel less stressed and anxious and finally have some stability in my life.

## New Horizon Youth Centre

<b>Project name:</b>	London Youth Gateway (LYG)
<b>Priority:</b>	1, Homelessness
<b>Specification:</b>	1.2: Youth homelessness
<b>Amount (2 years):</b>	£1,461,344

Collaborative single pathway approach for young people (aged 16-24) to prevent youth homelessness. Services include direct access to emergency accommodation; supported accommodation and move on including specifically BAME and LGBT groups; specialist interventions working on mental health, gang violence, harassment, domestic abuse, family breakdown, debt and eviction; advice services; outreach into YOIs working to ensure young offenders are linked into housing, support and Family Mediation Services on release; workshops in schools, youth centres and clubs; accredited training.

**Delivery partners:** Alone in London, Depaul UK, Stonewall Housing, Albert Kennedy Trust, GALOP, PACE

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	3315	4052
Young people securing suitable accommodation	327	460
Young people sustaining tenancies for one year or more	55	74
Young people reporting improved health or mental wellbeing following support	765	801
Young people securing employment, apprenticeships, placements, training and/or volunteering opportunities	396	389
Young people within protected groups benefiting	3321	5141

### Case study

K (19) suffered psychological abuse from her mother, and regularly ran away from home. Eventually she moved in with her partner, but when the relationship broke down she had nowhere to live. K's college signposted her to the London Youth Gateway. When she attended New Horizon Youth Centre, she was on the verge of sleeping rough. K was supported to stay at Depaul UK Nightstop emergency accommodation until she accessed night shelter accommodation. K was encouraged to attend services available via the London Youth Gateway. She regularly went to the Women's Group at New Horizon Youth Centre helped boost her self-confidence. Also, in order to make sure she would be well prepared when moving on she took part in the Independent Living Skills workshops, which teach the realities of moving into and sustaining accommodation. K applied for jobs she could combine with college. K is now in work and continues to study. She lives in her own room in a shared privately rented house and can continue to access support if she needs to K says: "The people at London Youth Gateway were so helpful. It isn't just about the housing, it's also about starting to feel good about yourself, about having people around who believe in you and they helped me a great deal with that. It's also good to know they are around if I still need some help later on. The London Youth Gateway has made such a big difference"



## Homeless Link

**Project name:** London Councils Homelessness Pan-London Umbrella Support (PLUS) Project  
**Priority:** 1, Homelessness  
**Specification:** 1.3 Support services to homelessness voluntary sector organisations.  
**Amount (2 years):** £299,070

Second tier project providing infrastructure support including advice, training, and capacity building opportunities to front-line agencies providing support to equalities groups around homelessness.

Activities include good practice training and events, including webinars, on homelessness, equalities and fundraising; one-to-one support; monthly email bulletins; specialist substance misuse newsletters; coordinated responses to London-wide consultations.

**Delivery partners:** Shelter

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	248	343
Agencies reporting increased awareness of the needs of homeless clients from protected groups	82	144
Front-line homelessness agencies and equalities agencies working closer together	82	133
Front-line agencies confirming they have a wider understanding of funding opportunities	50	124
Agencies reporting increased awareness of equalities needs and how they impact on homelessness	0	117

### Case study

Stonewall Housing attended Plus Project Equalities and Diversity training to improve their ability to challenge discriminatory practice and to increase awareness of the needs of equalities groups. J is a 40 year old, gay, unemployed IT consultant, with a history of physical and emotional abuse from his parents. He lost contact with his siblings 10 years ago when he disclosed his sexuality and became homeless when he could no longer afford an increase in rent. John had a range of mental health issues including bipolar, depression and suicidal ideation. When he came to our service, he was rough sleeping in central London parks during the day and walking about or riding night buses in the evening. On occasion he would sofa surf, and visit day centres to keep clean but found that this service was intimidating and homophobic. John was in receipt of ESA and presented at Housing Options but was told he was not in priority need. He found a "landlord" that would accept tenants in receipt of housing benefit, moved into the flat and asked the landlord for a tenancy. The landlord attempted to force him to withdraw money from a cash machine. When John refused, he was pushed out of his flat, illegally evicted, the locks were changed and his belongings put out on the street in bin bags.

Stonewall Housing advocated on his behalf with the local authority who eventually provided emergency accommodation pending inquiries. We also supported John to report the landlord to the police who are investigating the case. We referred him to a private rental agency and advocated with them to waive the requirement for a rent deposit. John has now moved into his own flat, is receiving counselling from an LGBT mental health support service, and support from our tenancy sustainment officer.



## Tender Education and Arts

**Project name:** London Councils pan-London VAWG Consortium Prevention Project  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.1: Prevention  
**Amount (2 years):** £399,730

Strategic partnership of 11 violence prevention agencies in London. Services include workshop programmes in schools and pupil referral units, youth centres and other targeted out-of-school settings; distributing resources exploring harmful practices, addressing gender stereotypes and holding training sessions for professionals that work with young people.

**Delivery partners:** The Nia Project, Solace Women's Aid, Women and Girls Network, Southall Black Sisters Trust, Ashiana Network, Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), Foundation For Women's Health Research & Development (FORWARD), Iranian and Kurdish Women Rights Organisation (IKWRO), Asian Women's Resource Centre, IMECE Women's Centre.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	23920	22204
Participants who can identify at least one early warning sign of an abusive relationship	901	1046
Participants understanding what a healthy relationship is and able to make positive relationship choices	5676	4535
Participants know where to disclose	1060	1124
Participants report an improvement in their peer relationships	441	402
Participants more knowledgeable about the nature of sexual & domestic violence	351	353
Participants with a greater awareness of different forms of violence affecting protected groups	636	822

### Case study

This project was delivered over 10 hours with a group of 26 year 6 students. (14 girls and 12 boys). The school chose the topic of FGM. The group looked at good and bad relationships and explored conflict and emotional violence including how to keep safe and where to report an argument. The group tackled the issues of boundaries. Drama exercises led the group safely into an exercise addressing safe and unsafe touch. Students then explored 'red flags' and 'early warning signs' through a short scene that addressed peer pressure. They received information on support both in school and out. FGM was also addressed by discussing extracts from a diary and drama activities were employed to consider pressure, consent and emotional and physical violence.

On completion of the project:

- **100%** of students were able to identify attributes of both a good and a bad friend
- **96%** of could name at least one early warning sign/red flag to signal unhealthy behaviour in a situation.
- **100%** of students who took part in the 10 hour delivery recorded that they had learnt something
- **96%** felt they would know what to do if a friend asked them for help
- **92%** knew who they could talk to if they felt unsafe

# GALOP

**Project name:** London LGBT Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP)  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.2, Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services  
**Amount (2 years):** £285,468

Domestic and sexual abuse response for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) people via integrated services responding to the specific and unmet needs of this client group. Activities include risk assessment and management; needs assessment and referrals to support services; helpline for LGBT victims of abuse; housing advice; safety planning; support throughout criminal justice system including reporting; counselling; advocacy, advice, support and casework service.

**Delivery partners:** Stonewall Housing, Pace, Broken Rainbow, Galop, London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard.

## Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	395	390
People reporting an increased level of knowledge about housing options and support available	78	70
People who have received 1:1 support reporting improved self-esteem and self-confidence	36	35
People who have accessed specialist telephone and email support reporting increased knowledge about how to make safe decisions	74	74
LGBT people reporting an increase in their knowledge of rights, entitlements and options	117	117

## Case study

I had been with my ex-partner for years; we had gotten married and moved in together. She struggles with mental health issues and I felt that it was my job to take care of her. She was abusive. I hoped she would get better but the abuse only got worse and I became scared for my life.

I tried to report to the police but they didn't appear to respond to my report.

I found the LGBT DAP website and got in touch with Galop via the online self-report form. I am gender non-conforming, which means I don't consider myself to be either male or female, and it was really helpful not to have to hide this part of who I am from a service. The Galop DV caseworker accompanied me to the police station to report the abuse, something I could not have done on my own. My caseworker also wrote a supporting letter that will help me to remain in the UK once my ex-partner and I officially divorce. The caseworker has also encouraged me not to blame myself and I'm starting to re-gain my confidence.

The Galop DV caseworker also referred me to Stonewall Housing DAP housing caseworker who gave me advice on dealing with my tenancy and looking at housing options. I have been referred to DV counselling at Pace and I'm finding the counselling to be vital for my recovery. I have recently attended the DAP Domestic Abuse Workshop and it was helpful for me to learn about the warning signs of domestic abuse and to meet other LGBT people who had been in similar situations.

# SignHealth

**Project name:** DeafHope London  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.2: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services  
**Amount (2 years):** £273,600

Specialist service for Deaf female survivors of domestic abuse (and their children). Services include: intensive support for high-risk Deaf women with severe and immediate safety issues; less intensive support for medium-to-low risk Deaf clients; Young DeafHope for people aged 16-30; Deaf awareness-raising/training amongst mainstream services, and DV awareness-raising amongst the Deaf community; Survivors Support Group; Website BSL information

**Delivery partners:** None

## Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	154	176
Users better able to access appropriate services.	60	90
Clients have reduced levels / repeat victimisation of sexual and domestic violence.	37	48
Service users more able to make safe choices leading to a reduction in occurrence and/or effects of violence, sexual abuse and repeat victimisation	60	176
Service users make more informed life choices to rebuild their lives and move to independence.	37	94
People from the protected characteristics have access to advice in a way that meets their needs.	98	176

## Case study

Client B is a mother of three children. She has been the victim of abuse and still lives with the perpetrator who presents a charming persona to agencies involved with the case. However he has put the family at risk and Client B has tried several times to unsuccessfully to get help. Prior to contacting DeafHope client B had made several attempts to leave the family home. She disclosed abuse to her GP and asked for a letter of referral for Housing to support her case. Her GP wrote a referral letter but failed to make a CAF (Common Assessment Framework) referral. Unfortunately, Housing refused to take up the matters raised in the GP referral and did not provide an interpreter so communication with Client B, in order to explain her full circumstances, was severely compromised. Client B has involved the police in the past but her husband is trying to force her to drop charges as if there is a criminal record on his (DBS) Disclosure and Barring Service check, this will affect his ability to work. Client B was originally referred to us by a midwife and we set up a joint meeting at the children's centre while her husband was at work. During this meeting we identified that the husband had been locking the client and all three children in a small bathroom. This information was missed by the midwife and health visitors who have been to the family home.

Through meetings with Client B we are uncovering the very challenging circumstances under which the client has been living. We need more time with the client to understand the full picture and we are moving towards safeguarding the family and removing them to safety. The family do not wish to remain in the family home. They are also fearful that the husband will not follow a court order and will therefore return to the house if they are not moved, putting the family at risk again.

## Solace Women's Aid

**Project name:** Ascent - Advice and Counselling  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.2: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services  
**Amount (2 years):** £2,695,642

Project targeting women affected by sexual and domestic violence. The project provides: immediate advice, drop in, outreach, casework and support groups including; legal expertise, and financial support and a dedicated and accredited individual and group work counselling service.

**Delivery partners:** ASHIANA Network, Asian Women's Resource Centre, Chinese Information & Advice Centre, Ethnic Alcohol Counselling in Hounslow, Iranian and Kurdish Women Rights Organisation (IKWRO), IMECE Turkish Speaking Women's Group, Latin American Women's Rights Service, The Nia project, Rights of Women, Southall Black Sisters, Jewish Women's Aid, Women and Girls Network, Solace Women's Aid.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	7300	8311
Service users remaining in the service until needs met	6460	7393
Users that have an increased level of safety/reduced level of risk	5475	6145
Service users report increased understanding of their needs by providers	4146	4975
Users reporting increased levels of independence and ability to make decisions	4234	4781
Users with a changed living situation (including leaving a violent relationship, exiting prostitution)	1752	1997
Service users better able to access services appropriately	3938	4569
People from each protected characteristic who report an increase in their knowledge of rights, entitlements and options	3779	4404

### Case study

*"I was born and raised in the Indian Sub-continent and experienced physical and verbal abuse from my parents and siblings throughout my childhood. I was particularly afraid of my father who was an alcoholic. In 2013, we moved to the UK and resided in Ealing. I was forced to work long hours at a restaurant. All of my wages went directly to my father.*

*In 2013, I started a relationship with a boyfriend but in early 2015, my parents started speaking to me about getting an arranged marriage. I told my parents I wanted to marry my boyfriend. My family disapproved of this, stating that they had already agreed to the marriage and it would be dishonorable for them to refuse the proposal. My father was physically abusive and forced me to speak to my future husband on the phone.*

*I told someone in my bank about the violence and the likelihood of a forced marriage. The bank clerk helped and I privately disclosed to the police. In February 2015, the police referred me to Southall Black Sisters Trust who found me emergency accommodation. SBS also helped me to obtain a Forced Marriage Protection Order, and provided counselling and support group activities for me."*

## Women in Prison Ltd

**Project name:** Thyme - Counselling and Through the Gate Project  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.2, Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services  
**Amount (2 years):** £176,298

The project provides 'through the gate' support as women are released from prison and counselling services to women prisoners returning to London who have experience of sexual or domestic violence.

Services include counselling and group work and practical support such as housing, finance and debt. This support is designed to offer women in the criminal justice system assistance to live safely, make better life choices, and address the root causes of their offending behaviour.

**Delivery partners:** None

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	293	190
Number of one off contacts, assessments and support plans in place	298	186
Number of women actively engaged with 1:1 support, counselling and attending group support	260	138
Number of women reporting increased knowledge to be able to make safe choices	248	187
Number of women reporting improved knowledge to make improved life choices	228	198
Number of individual support plans in place for women from protected characteristics	37	27

The project was re-profiled in Q3 following under-delivery. Please refer to Section 3 for further information on performance.

### Case study

Ms. AM undertook the 6 week therapeutic group work programme run in partnership between Thyme Counselling Service and Phoenix Futures. It enables women to learn from their experiences of violence and unhealthy relationships. Ms. AM was awarded a certificate of participation for her valuable contributions to the group and furthering her own development in the process.

- Hopes, Fears, Expectations and What is Domestic and Sexual Violence: Ms. AM showed insight into the way domestic violence has affected her and how she needs forgiveness to move on.
- What is Domestic & Sexual Violence and Cycle of Abuse: Ms. AM demonstrated the importance of understanding negative patterns in relationships and difficulties in getting out of the cycle.
- Building Strong Foundations – Cycle of Change & Future Planning: Ms. AM demonstrated how difficult it is to be challenged and to challenge. She identified her strengths as hope and faith which helps her grow in confidence.
- Preparing for Change and Applying Your Learning: Ms. AM reflected on past experiences and the impact. She demonstrated resilience and the capacity to reflect learn and move on.
- Building Personal Resilience and Positive Coping Strategies: Ms. AM was unable to attend due to a legal visit.
- Review of Learning/Celebrating Achievements: Ms. AM said she would like to attend more groups like this. She thanked staff and the organisation for providing an important group experience.

# Women's Aid Federation of England

<b>Project name:</b>	Pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines and coordinated access to refuge provision
<b>Priority:</b>	2, Sexual and Domestic Violence
<b>Specification:</b>	2.3: Helpline and co-ordinated access to refuge provision
<b>Amount (2 years):</b>	£500,076

Domestic and sexual violence helpline support and coordinated access to refuge provision, via a freephone number. Project provides: confidential support and information to inform decision making; risk assessment and safety planning; referral to specialist services; a dedicated email referral mechanism to London refuge places for London borough officers; online support and information.

**Delivery partners:** Women's Aid, Refuge, Women & Girls Network.

## Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	15932	14250
London callers reporting they have a better understanding of the options available to them	300	335
Key stakeholders report improved data collection/ tracking of service users;	0	0
Service users reporting that the helpline helped them plan for their safety and understand risks	300	332
London boroughs report the Helplines and related services enabled them to support service users affected by domestic violence;	0	0
Service users reporting their needs were adequately addressed when utilising the Helpline	300	335

## Case study

It had never dawned on me that I might be experiencing domestic abuse until a friend told me she thought I was being abused. My friend encouraged me to call the National Domestic Violence Helpline, and I am hugely grateful that I made the call. I was scared to call, but I was put at ease by the helpline worker.

My partner had been physically abusive towards me a few times, but it wasn't until I spoke with the helpline that I realised that he had also been abusive towards me in other ways, the helpline worker helped me to understand that my partner was very controlling.

I was very confused when I called the helpline, and I explained that I wasn't ready to make any decisions, I was reassured that this was ok, and that calling the helpline was a big step and that they could put me in touch with other services so that I could get the support that I need.

I was advised how to keep myself and my children safe, given information about my local outreach service. I was advised that they could offer me some practical and emotional support to help me to decide what to do next.

I am so glad that I made the first call to The National Domestic Violence Helpline, I now have a clearer idea about my options and I am engaging with my local domestic abuse service, I really feel that me and my children will be safer and we do not have to live in fear.



## Ashiana Network

**Project name:** London Specialist Refuge Network  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.4: Emergency refuge accommodation to meet the needs of specific groups  
**Amount (2 years):** £900,000

Specialist emergency accommodation and support service for vulnerable women and children affected by domestic/sexual violence who present with complex needs. The Network provides dedicated, safe, temporary accommodation across three schemes and works intensively with women to improve safety and enable them to exit violent or abusive relationships or situations.

**Delivery partners:** Solace Women's Aid, Nia.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	380	517
Clients supported in the refuge who don't return to violence	34	25
Clients engaged with in-house and external support services around problematic substance use and mental health and NRPF.	53	53
Clients demonstrating increased feeling of well-being	53	46
Clients have planned move-on	15	19
Clients report increased understanding regarding the effects of DV/problematic substance misuse on children	15	11
BAMER, older, pregnant, disabled and LGBT clients report that support meets their needs	45	40

### Case study

I was referred to the Emma Project after fleeing from my violent partner. Prior to coming to the refuge I had been staying with friends and sleeping on the streets. I was struggling to find a refuge space that accepted women with substance misuse issues.

My alcoholism caused the breakdown of relationships with family & friends. My experiences of violence and involvement with the criminal Justice system resulted in the courts giving me a 1 year Probation Order in June 2014. During my first weeks at the refuge I was withdrawn. I struggled with moving to a new area and accessing services. My key worker at Emma Project worked with other support agencies and provided emotional and practical support to access services by accompanying me to appointments and advocating on my behalf. She also encouraged me to speak about my use of alcohol.

I have been at Emma for 5 months and have registered with the local G.P, dentist and optician. I attend weekly meetings at haga which enabled me to recognise my patterns of drinking. I now attend and arrange most appointments without support, have more confidence and I am exploring educational opportunities. I plan to move on from the refuge and will access resettlement support from my current key worker.

## Women's Resource Centre

**Project name:** The ASCENT project  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.5: Support services to sexual and domestic violence voluntary organisations  
**Amount (2 years):** £608,000

Project providing sustainability training and accredited training for front-line staff to improve service provision and ensure it meets the needs of service users. The service includes a combination of core accredited training, expert-led training and seminars (on sustainability, front-line delivery of sexual and domestic violence services, and equalities issues), themed networking events, borough surgeries and one-to-one support on a Pan-London basis.

**Delivery partners:** AVA (Against Violence & Abuse), Imkaan, Respect, Rights of Women, Women and Girls Network.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	327	442
Increased knowledge about income diversification and effectiveness.	132	119
Frontline organisations gaining/ maintaining accreditation/ quality/ sector-wide standards-	88	80
Organisations reporting increased ability to work effectively together and develop partnerships	39	133
Statutory and non-statutory bodies reporting increased access to data on sexual and domestic violence.	0	78
Organisations reporting an increased knowledge of the requirements of the Equality Act.	83	55

### Case study

**Training course attended: From the Margins to the Centre of Women's Healing: *Promoting Recovery to support Women with Complex Needs*.** I work for an organisation working with women trying to exit prostitution. The women come from a varied background but all have dual diagnosis and complex needs with substance misuse, mental health depression, self-harming, eating disorders and anxiety. I find the work very challenging and struggle with some of the risky decisions that clients make, hearing the trauma of their lives and feeling quite powerless in how to help them get out of their difficult situations. I attended WGN's Complex Needs course. The course was really informative. I really understood where all the symptoms that women display come from and how important it is to work with the impact of trauma and deal with this rather than just manage symptoms. We got some great information on different clinical conceptualisations.

I have put into practice all of the practical interventions that I learnt on the course. I have introduced psycho-educational work with my clients who have been able to benefit from greater understanding of what's happening to them and how to calm and sooth themselves. The whole way that I do assessments has changed being more focused on strengths based approach and listing their protective factors. The complex needs programme has had such a positive impact on the way I work and has generated a really good buzz in the team. It's made me feel more hopeful. I realise that there is a range of theories and interventions that I can use.



## Asian Women's Resource Centre

<b>Project name:</b>	Ending Harmful Practices
<b>Priority:</b>	2, Sexual and Domestic Violence
<b>Specification:</b>	2.6: Services targeted at combatting female genital mutilation (FGM), honour based violence (HBV), forced marriage and harmful practices.
<b>Amount (2 years):</b>	£600,000

Project providing intense support to women and girls from BMER communities across London affected by Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), 'Honour' Based Violence (HBV), Forced Marriages (FM), and other harmful practices within the spectrum of domestic and sexual violence.

**Delivery partners:** Southall Black Sisters Trust, FORWARD, IMECE Women's Centre, Women and Girls Network, IKWRO Women's Rights Organisation, LAWRS, Ashiana Network.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	424	660
Number of beneficiaries having improved levels of self-esteem /confidence	424	563
Number of beneficiaries having improved understanding of options and rights	424	627
Number of beneficiaries having improved ability to communicate needs to service providers	424	445
Number of beneficiaries who made changes to their living situations improving their safety	399	247

The project has recently focussed on promotional work to increase pan-London referrals.

### Case study

My parents are originally from Bangladesh. I have always enjoyed school and was happy when I and my best friend were invited to a party by popular girls in our year. From then on we started hanging with this group and sometimes hung out in the park with boys from the local gang. They used to get us to do sexual stuff. I wasn't happy with it but that's what you have to do to keep your place. Someone told my brothers I was having sex with loads of guys and they confronted me with offensive language, spat at me and beat me. I was devastated. I was terrified and felt ashamed that my brothers would tell my parents. I came home from school one day and my eldest brother told me that they were going to send me to Bangladesh to get married. They were laughing that the man had learning difficulties so it wouldn't matter that I was dirty as he wouldn't know the difference. They insisted this was the only way that I could stay part of the family, as the alternative would be to kill me. I was so scared my parents were there but said nothing. I knew not to protest as I was terrified that they would kill me. I told them that I had to get some stuff from upstairs but went out of the back door and ran to my best friend's house.

The police were called and I was taken into temporary fostering. I live on the other side of London now and will be going back to college in September. Everyone around me is really nice but I miss my family despite everything. I started self-harming and was feeling really depressed and my social worker referred me to WGN for counselling. I received support with my self-harming, talked about sexual consent, grooming and coercion as part of peer on peer abuse. I realised I did not consent to what happened sexually and much of it was degrading and painful. My counsellor tells me I can do anything that I want to. I really want to go to art school and eventually do comic illustrations. I'm getting stronger every day and I can see a positive future. I will always be sad about what happened with my family but I'm determined to make them proud of me but first I have to be proud of myself.

# Domestic Violence Intervention Project

**Project name:** Al-aman Project: Women's Support Services  
**Priority:** 2, Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**Specification:** 2.6: Services targeted at combatting female genital mutilation (FGM), honour based violence (HBV), forced marriage and harmful practices.  
**Amount (2 years):** £41,266

Project providing support predominantly to Arabic-speaking women affected by harmful practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), 'Honour' Based Violence (HBV) and Forced Marriages (FM). Services include safety planning; emotional, advocacy and practical support; outreach to change behaviours and perceptions; a weekly support group programme including workshops, and information to help beneficiaries access further education, volunteering or employment.

**Delivery partners:** None

## Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	23	23
Beneficiaries reporting greater confidence and self esteem	18	20
Beneficiaries taking up additional services	18	20
Beneficiaries accessing education/training, volunteering or employment	13	15

## Case study

When I was 21 I was introduced to a male friend of my uncle and I got married to him a few months later. He is a British national with his own business.

Less than a year into our marriage he started to abuse me. Sometimes he would tell me to get out of the house late at night, knowing that it was not safe for a young woman to be out at night on her own.

When I moved to the UK, I wanted to learn English and work. My husband prevented me from studying English, getting a job, speaking to my family and going out with my friends. I felt alone and isolated. When I went to my home country to visit my family, I told them about the abuse and my husband returned to London without me. My family didn't want me to bring shame on them so they spoke to him and he took me back. The abuse escalated and one day he violently sexually assaulted me. I called the police, but withdrew my statement because my husband threatened my family.

I left but ended up sleeping on the floor of relatives and friends. I was referred to Al-aman. They helped me access a refuge, apply for the Destitute Domestic Violence Concession (DDVC), and get support from a solicitor to get given Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR). I also attended one-to-one and the Al-aman group sessions where I met other women with similar stories. Eventually, I was given Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR). I'm so grateful to Al-aman for their help. Today I have a place to stay, friends that I trust, I'm studying at college and now that my English is stronger I have a part-time job too. I feel more positive and hopeful about my future.

## Catalyst Gateway

**Project name:** WISH  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.3 Women facing barriers to employment  
**Amount:** £374,990

The project works with women aged 20 or over who face barriers to employment and who are living in social housing. The participants engage onto a rolling programme of 3-day gender and culturally sensitive employability courses comprising workshops and training sessions from a menu including workplace etiquette, CV and application form writing, interview skills, basic IT and employer workshops and screenings.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	296	299	299
6+ hours of support	296	296	296
work / voluntary placement	148	121	121
evaluation	1	1	1
employment start	96	117	117
sustained employment (26 weeks)	48	67	67
progression into education or training	118	55	55
Budget (£)	£362,440	£374,990	£374,550

In the final quarters of the project, Catalyst reported additional outcomes and was therefore awarded additional funds of £12,550. The variance between the recent profile funding and actual is due to the Catalyst's commissioning of the Final Evaluation, £240 less than profiled.

### Case study

In Jane's words:

I have just completed my placement with the Employment and Inclusion Team, part of East Thames Group. Following my training with the WISH Project, I was delighted when I got invited along to do a 2 week placement.

My experience has been extremely enjoyable, educating and rewarding. I have worked with some highly skilled individuals, all of whom have been very supportive. I have also taken part in some fun activities, which is a bonus. I am pleased to say that I have now found a permanent job because of it, and I intend to use the knowledge and skills I've gained.

I would definitely recommend the WISH Project to any women out there currently looking to get back into work. This is a fantastic opportunity that will help you develop your skills and knowledge, and help you secure a suitable job.

Many thanks to the entire team!

## Citizens Trust

**Project name:** Disabled Parents Employment Service  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.1 Parents with long-term work limiting health conditions  
**Amount:** £340,490

Citizen's Trust provides employment support to disabled people and those with work limiting health conditions. This project has a particular focus on supporting disabled parents.

Project provides 1:2:1 support, sector specific qualifications, soft skill development and work placements.

All participants are offered practical skills - diligence and assertiveness; personal skills - timekeeping, attendance, social skills, hygiene, personal presentation, relevant conversation; attitude skills - motivation, confidence, self-esteem, aspirations, positive regard of others, taking responsibility for own lives, self-awareness, reduced depression/anxiety; transferable skills - working in groups/teams, problem solving, questioning, evaluating, initiative, communication.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	307	292	292
6+ hours of support	307	279	279
work / voluntary placement	153	20	20
evaluation	1	1	0
employment start	100	120	120
sustained employment (26 weeks)	50	60	80
progression into education or training	122	94	94
Budget (£)	£376,040	£340,490	£372,490

In 13-14 this project underperformed and £52,800 was withdrawn from its profile.

With greater support and monitoring this project has turned around. As the results show, against the recent profile, the project over delivered job outcomes, assisting an additional 20 participants sustain their employment.

### Case study

DG is a 44 year old mother of two children, from Indonesia with no family in the UK. In the past she has worked as a beauty therapist and has an NVQ level 2 as well as a BA in languages. However lacked confidence and had poor IT skills. We arranged for her to attend Action Acton to improve her IT skills, and with our help she has now completed a number of online application forms. She has been very enthusiastic in attending job search and group work on interview preparation and interview questions, as well sessions on body language and assertiveness in the work place –her confidence has improved and she is much more positive in her general outlook she now is. We also arranged for her to attend a Food Safety and Hygiene course which will add further weight to her CV and help with her job search for school work.

We continue to support her with help in completing online application forms and practice interviews for her to ensure that, when she is successful in achieving an interview that she will perform to the best of her abilities.

## Hopscotch Asian Women's Centre

**Project name:** Women into Work  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.3 Women facing barriers to employment  
**Amount:** £471,040

Helping for women from Black, Asian, minority ethnic and refugee communities with employment advice and training. Designed to increase employability, providing benefit advice and self-esteem through workshops. Offers one to one support, work placements and vocational training.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	307	362	424
6+ hours of support	307	352	442
work / voluntary placement	153	121	131
evaluation	1	1	1
employment start	100	140	140
sustained employment (26 weeks)	50	80	80
progression into education or training	122	148	149
Budget (£)	£376,040	£471,040	£506,440

This project was re-profiled in 13-14 due to underperformance. The project has been delivering well over the last period. By the project close it had more than achieved its results.

### Case study

Priya had wanted to find work but was struggling as she did not have qualifications and didn't know where or how to apply. Hopscotch helped her to access ESOL classes and a college course which led to a voluntary work placement:

'I learned a lot and realised that I didn't have to be frightened about getting work. I got confidence. At home you can't find the words but I talked to colleagues: 'Am I using the right word?' I realised I can ask.

Hopscotch continued to help Priya to apply for jobs, she gained a positive reference from her voluntary work and she succeeded in getting work as a project assistant at a community project.

'Working has changed my life. I think more positively and I'm learning. I know how to communicate with professionals and other organisations. It can be hard at home; my son has learning disabilities but I'm finding out there's lots he can do in the community. Mentally it is helping me to look after myself. I can share problems at work.'

Priya emphasised the significance of Hopscotch's positive, welcoming approach. She described it as: 'A simple thing, but an important thing. Communication is good for all Bengali women – you feel free to discuss things openly'. She had gained practical help – with drafting her CV, applying for jobs and taking-up voluntary work - yet for her, the less tangible support was as important.

I have more respect for myself. I felt insulted when I was unemployed but now I am proud.

Before I could not make an appointment for a doctor and would take my sister but this was not good for personal things. I didn't know anything; what's available; the opportunities. I am learning everywhere now and I have plans for the future.'

## London Training and Employment Network

**Project name:** Leap into Work  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.3 Women facing barriers to employment  
**Amount:** £440,490

The project works with hard to reach women to support into work. The project has a particular focus on women from members of London's Somali, Bangladeshi, Pakistani and North African communities, as these four communities all suffer disproportionately high rates of worklessness. The project offers vocational training in Health & Social Care, Childcare, Teaching Assistantship, and Enterprise. Participants are supported to engage in work experience, formal education and employment.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	307	349	343
6+ hours of support	307	349	349
work / voluntary placement	153	110	110
evaluation	1	1	0
employment start	100	139	139
sustained employment (26 weeks)	50	78 (+)	78
progression into education or training	122	94	94
Budget (£)	£376,040	£440,490	£440,490

LTEN have continued to performed well and not only achieved all their targets but also had additional finance allotted to them to pay for a further 9 sustained jobs they had achieved beyond their already increased targets. LTEN have delivered fully on their specification and then have gone on to deliver even more with the hope but not guarantee of extra finance. They should be congratulated on their excellent delivery.

### Case study

Ita\* joined LEAP into Work in Sept 2014, while recovering from a long term abusive marriage and being subjected to long term emotional, physical and financial abuse. She was referred to the project so as to gain employment.

*'When I came to the Leap into Work project I didn't know what to expect and how they would be able to help me about finding a job. I was unemployed for more than 3 years and struggling to cope with my family situation as well. I wasn't even aware of the basic job hunting skills.*

*Then I met the business consultant who gave me not just hope, but much more, she was able to teach me how to write a suitable CV, targeted cover letters, what websites to use to apply for jobs and how to apply for jobs. Finally I found a job in the area I was interested in and she continued to help me to keep the job. In the first 3 months I was having panic attacks and used to call and speak with my consultant and the counsellor to be able to calm down. Leap into Work has helped me to regain the confidence and rebuild my work ethic skills as well. I am very happy with my job and the support received through LEAP'.*

\* Name has been changed to protect anonymity. Ita is Lebanese Woman, age 30 and mother of a young child.

## MI ComputSolutions

**Project name:** Jobs Plus  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.2 People from ethnic groups with low labour market participation rates  
**Amount:** £471,940

Qualifications and taster sessions, soft skill development and information, advice and guidance.  
 Participants are primarily people with parentage of black Caribbean, Sub-Saharan African, and Middle Eastern with additional participants from South Asia, many of whom are recent refugees and migrants, living in the most deprived neighbourhoods primarily South, East, and West London.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	401	410	445
6+ hours of support	318	348	348
work / voluntary placement	158	98	98
evaluation	1	1	1
employment start	104	150	155
sustained employment (26 weeks)	52	69	86
progression into education or training	126	130	122
Budget (£)	£389,640	£471,940	£471,940

35% Participants went into work. Of those 55% remain in work. This is an outstanding result, significantly exceeding national trends.

### Case study

Iffat Shaheen was very demotivated and uncertain about employment opportunities. She was referred to us by a partner agency where she had been volunteering. She had been unemployed for more than 3 years. Iffat Shaheen is approaching her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday was originally from Asia. She did not find it easy to settle in the UK but after many years, she finally got her stay. She is also married into a Muslim family where she disclosed that she has been mandated not to seek education or employment but rather to sit at home and look after children. During these years, her self-esteem was shattered. Iffat Shaheen completed her secondary school in Pakistan and since then, she did not have the opportunity of further studies until she got her stay. Being out of work and not college educated, she felt there was no use trying especially because of her age.

But volunteering has been positive and she was motivated to further herself. Through the Job Plus Programme we confirmed that she enjoyed working with vulnerable people and people with disabilities. We encouraged Iffat Shaheen to enrol onto the Health and Social Care course. At first she was sceptical. But we assured her that we would provide her with the extra support to ensure that she completed her course. Iffat Shaheen's confidence was uplifted upon gaining a qualification and she has started getting support to improve her numeracy and literacy skills.

Iffat Shaheen has further committed herself to find employment.

## Peter Bedford Housing Association

**Project name:** Working Futures  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.1 People with mental health needs  
**Amount:** £430,340

Peter Bedford and Hillside Clubhouse (a specialist mental health charity) work with unemployed and economically inactive people. They include those with a history of unemployment and mental health conditions. Many also have alcohol and drug misuse issues or learning disabilities.

The project offers employability training delivered by employers such as Barclays and Lloyds. This includes help with CVs and preparing for interviews, together with personal development and coaching courses, IT and customer care training.

In addition, the project has its own workshop, gardening and retail enterprises where participants can train and gain work experience.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	307	473	459
6+ hours of support	307	340	345
work / voluntary placement	153	162	163
evaluation	1	1	1
employment start	100	120	120
sustained employment (26 weeks)	50	61	49
progression into education or training	122	130	130
Budget (£)	£376,040	£430,340	£361,400

Peter Bedford are performing quite well against their delivery profile and we are expecting them to deliver on target.

### Case study

This client has a masters degree in Fine Art. She joined WF to develop her teaching and group leading skills. We arranged a work placement opportunity where she helped lead the Creative Crafts Drop-In which included students with Learning Disabilities & Mental Health conditions.

Students worked together to develop their technical and interpersonal skills. Students were encouraged to bring photos and special objects, to trace the object, see patterns and to work in different colours and media. Students were also encouraged to draw from imagination and real life. As a result students began to share and express themselves in writing, starting with their names.

The client successfully supported a drop in group by: enthusing an informally structured drop-in group, and maintaining attendances; encouraged clients telling & sharing stories about their lives, as well as develop new perspectives on their life experiences. In addition, she also helped to design and develop a structured, creative project, a quilt, which was exhibited in a public space.

This client had regularly applied for arts education jobs, for Tate and Individual Artist Bursaries as well as Arts Council Funding to support herself as a freelance artist. With our support, the client applied for and now has paid employment. She feels the work placement experience provided a supportive structure at a time of difficulty in getting paid employment.



# St Mungo Community Housing Association

**Project name:** TARGET  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.4 People recovering from drug and/or alcohol addiction or misuse  
**Amount:** £376,040

Supports people recovering from drug or alcohol misuse to get and sustain work. Each participant has at least 6 hours' one to one support and training, help developing employability skills; input from peers on mentoring schemes or the St Mungo's Recovery College, via which they develop vocational skills.

## Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
Enrolment	307	255	241
6+ hours of support	307	210	190
work / voluntary placement	153	60	40
evaluation	1	1	1
employment start	100	80	73
sustained employment (26 weeks)	50	33	19
progression into education or training	122	80	54
Budget (£)	£376,040	£249,540	£163,500

This project has underperformed over the last four quarters. The cause is that participants have multiple barriers to work. The project needs more time for each participant. Participants may struggle to remain engaged. Delivery was also affected when the lead worker was on long term sickness. The project has delivered well compared to previous projects of this kind. The constraints of ESF funding – focused mainly on jobs - do not reflect the realities of this client group. There is a greater cost saving to society when someone is helped off substance abuse, off the streets and into work.

## Case study

I was married to a violent man with a cocaine addiction. I fled with my son and a few possessions. My little boy was taken into care. This was a really dark time – my mum died 16 days after the placement order, I became homeless. I had health problems which resulted in seizures. I was an emotional wreck – I had lost everything. Within a week I had broken down and had an overdose of sleeping tablets.

Gradually with the help of a friend, therapy and a referral to St Mungo's I got into stable accommodation. From there I continued my adoption counselling until funding ran out and have had to find ways to continue this. I found it so hard to access services when I didn't have a stable. Getting a place to stay made a huge difference. SMB helped me to get a grant as I was starting from scratch. This has helped me to look after my health, control my food and environment.

I felt ready to take the next baby step towards a normal life. I was referred to the Employment team. It was good to be somewhere that wasn't like the job centre. I wanted to find work but I didn't feel confident. I had lost everything I was – I was no longer a mother, wife or daughter. I needed to build my identity. I talked to my job coach about my goals and she suggested that I apply for the receptionist role with the team. I did an application, had an interview and was successful. This has really helped with my routine, my confidence. I am beginning to trust myself and my abilities. I have discovered how much I enjoy helping others. This is my first experience of working and it feels good. I will be able to get a reference and another job. I don't feel judged - It was good to be given a chance.

## Paddington Development Trust

**Project name:** West London Ethnic Employment Support  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.2 People from ethnic groups with low labour market participation rates  
**Amount:** £511,504

Employability support for workless members of the Somali, Bangladeshi, Pakistani and North African communities, in eight West London boroughs. Members of these four communities experience multiple barriers to work. Provides participants with an intensive, flexible, and individually tailored programme of one-to-one IAG support, work placements and job coaching/mentoring.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	307	495	495
6+ hours of support	307	387	387
work / voluntary placement	153	75	75
evaluation	1	1	1
employment start	100	196	196
sustained employment (26 weeks)	50	86	86
progression into education or training	122	123	123
Budget (£)	£376,040	£511,504	£511,504

This project had delivered all its targets. The project tried a new approach. Participants who were close to job ready were fast tracked and mostly given support in CV writing and job search. This allowed the project to focus its IAG on those further from the market. This resulted in them achieving 96% more jobs than their original specification with only a 20% increase in IAG funding.

### Case study

ND is a 29 year old, whose parents come from Trinidad. She has a degree and a Masters in Criminology. She has always wanted to help young people, especially those at a disadvantage. Following university, she applied for trainee jobs. She is independent minded and was keen to avoid going on benefits. She therefore started a job at McDonalds. While this covered her expenses, she did not find it rewarding. At this stage N became pregnant and a single parent. She started taking her child to Kensington and Chelsea Children's Centre: "I didn't go to the children's centre expecting to get job advice but I was really pleased it was there. I had seriously begun to doubt myself".

PDT had part time, six month office jobs for those who need experience on their CV. N became an admin assistant. With training, she began outreach in her local community. However she was losing money and could not really afford this to continue. PDT agreed to double N's hours. This meant she could earn more money. But more significantly it allowed her to receive assistance with her childcare. At the same time she became a trainee job adviser, with a caseload of young people.

N is now full time (and researching NVQ qualifications for her adviser role). Her story shows that, even where the person has good education and skills, and is a hard worker, determined to avoid benefits dependency, lack of relevant professional experience and childcare responsibilities act as serious barriers,

## Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service

**Project name:** Women Works  
**Priority:** 3 ESF Tackling Poverty Through Employment  
**Specification:** 3.3 Women facing barriers to employment  
**Amount:** £461,540

The project works with hard to reach women providing outreach, widening participation and delivering support and training services.

The project offers access to workshops that address barriers to work and employer needs.

As part of the delivery the project offers 1-2-1 IAG, job brokerage; life coaching to develop soft skills and address personal barriers to work in participants' homes.

### Delivery information

Deliverable group	Original profile 13-15	Most recent profile 13-15	Actual delivered cumulative 13-15
enrolment	307	450	450
6+ hours of support	307	350	350
work / voluntary placement	153	99	99
evaluation	1	1	1
employment start	100	166	166
sustained employment (26 weeks)	50	87	87
progression into education or training	122	88	88
Budget (£)	£376,040	£470,340	£470,340

This project received additional funding twice in the last year, delivering its final profile. Redbridge CVS developed an effective delivery model. They have built strong working relationships with their delivery partners, which was evidence in the consistent delivery and quality of results.

### Case study

Lurdes, a single mother of three with English as a second language, registered onto one of Redbridge's Jobshop Community Outreach projects. She struggled with personal debts, coping with depression and low self-esteem due to having no support network in place.

She participated in 'GOALS' training to focus on improving her motivation and self-esteem. She was also supported by her Advisor with CV writing, jobsearch and interview techniques.

Her confidence grew and she was successful in securing a part-time job in the Care industry. The project paid for her DBS check and initial travel expenses. She also received vouchers to help her buy suitable work clothes. She has stayed in contact with her Advisor and reports the in-work support helped her keep positive, motivated and encouraged during her employment.

## Advice UK

**Project name:** Stronger Organisations-Benefiting London(ers)  
**Priority:** 4, Capacity building in the voluntary and community sector  
**Specification:** n/a  
**Amount (2 years):** £507,632

Capacity building for the advice sector, designed to increase its effectiveness in supporting people affected by welfare changes, high levels of unemployment and low wage employment and others on fixed incomes, such as pensioners.

**Delivery partners:** Law Centres Federation, Lasa.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	468	624
Increase in organisational stability of agencies.	11	14
Number of organisations reporting that they can better engage with statutory agencies and stakeholders.	26	29
Increase in the awareness of voluntary advice agencies, to meet the advice and support needs of protected equalities groups.	31	28

### Case study

Welwitschia Welfare Centre is a charitable organisation set up in 1998 to facilitate the integration of African Portuguese speaking migrants, refugees and other people of African origin in Greater London. Welwitschia offers Quality Assured information advice and support in community languages. The service includes advice on social welfare matters such as housing, welfare benefits, money, debt and immigration.

WWC's CEO approached AdviceUK's SOBEL project for help with their advice service and to explore strategies to develop sustainable income streams and long term delivery of services. Welwitschia were in dire danger of having to close down unless they could obtain further funding. They had also run into difficulty with the renewal of their accreditation with the Advice Quality Standard following recent changes to the standard. They needed the AQS before they could submit the funding applications they had planned. Our organisational development service provided one-to-one support including reviewing funding applications before submission and also the development of a fundraising strategy. We also helped to develop the new policies were required before they could pass their AQS audit and contacted the auditors to sort out any outstanding issues.

We are happy to report that, WWC managed to obtain re-accreditation with the AQS and secure funding. This funding has helped the centre continue to delivering its vital services while it explores more funding opportunities over the foreseeable future. WWC is now offering an advice service dealing more effectively with the problems faced by Londoners, particularly those resulting from welfare changes, in and out of work poverty and deprivation.

*"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your help and assistance in the last application for Trust For London. I am pleased to inform you that the application has been successful. The Trust has agreed to fund Welwitschia Welfare Centre £35,000 for the next three years for rent and towards the Co-ordinators post. I hope to get the Coordinators post now...The fight goes on!..."*

## Age UK London

**Project name:** Fit 4 Purpose  
**Priority:** 4, Capacity building in the voluntary and community sector  
**Specification:** n/a  
**Amount (2 years):** £310,154

Age-sector project to support, inform, up-skill and network voluntary and community organisations working with older people, across all London boroughs. Activities include: helping organisations reduce costs; social media training workshops; outreach; practical support workshops to help organisations identify and pitch for funding.

**Delivery partners:** Opening Doors Age UK, London Older People Advisory Group (LOPAG).

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	357	551
Organisations gain skills in financial and organisational viability.	121	137
Organisations with increased knowledge of best practice including legal and policy issues.	156	129
Number of organisations able to demonstrate an increased knowledge of principles and practice of equality and inclusion'.	49	50

### Case study

Jan Marriot, of Richmond upon Thames Forum for Older People, attended the '*How to save and be Energy Wise*', Skill Sharing workshop that was run by Age UK London as part of the Fit 4 Purpose project on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

The aim of this workshop was to increase attendees' understanding of:

- Resources available to older people's organisations to support energy savings policies and implement good practice
- How to save organisational costs and be energy wise.

Funders are increasingly keen that charities and community groups are environmentally responsible with policies and procedures in place. It is now often a requirement for funding.

This workshop helped older people's organisations to develop their organisations policies and activities in this area.

Workshop participants shared their organisations approach and policies in this area. They were supported by the Workshop Facilitator and undertook short exercises to ground content in real-life examples.

In total, 11 people represented their organisation through attendance at this workshop.

Following the workshop, Jan Marriot commented:

*'I have gained knowledge on eco energy saving, information to share with other forum members... very informative on smaller individual matters; great at addressing questions and issues raised.'*

## Children England

**Project name:** *Engage London - Supporting the Children and Young People's Voluntary and Community Sector*

**Priority:** 4, Capacity building in the voluntary and community sector

**Specification:** n/a

**Amount (2 years):** £425,898

Project to build capacity with local CVSs and other infrastructure groups/networks; to focus on supporting equalities groups to build sustainable services and meet the needs of the most vulnerable groups. Approaches to address needs and build capacity include: direct delivery; networks; policy briefings; resources; targeted support for local authorities; cascade training; webinars/ e-learning; coaching and mentoring support.

**Delivery partners:** Partnership for Young London, Race Equality Foundation.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	2424	2300
Organisations with enhanced business plans and demonstrating that their services are more able to be effective and sustainable	123	123
Organisations effectively engaged in regional representation structures and increased opportunities for engagement	30	41
Organisations demonstrating that services are better able to meet the needs of equalities groups	40	56

### Case study

Safeguarding Children and Young People and Equality training was provided for Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation (KMEWO)

The aim of the training is to increase awareness of effective safeguarding practices that meet the needs of children and young people from all communities.

All participants were positive about the content of the session and how they could apply the learning. Often women service users are accompanied by their children which would allow staff and volunteers to use any learning from the safeguarding if there is a concern.

The Development Manager noted 'Our Volunteers got a good understanding of the importance of its own responsibility around safeguarding and how to act if need be.

Kmewo advised that it will make good use of the training in their work with vulnerable clients and their families. It will use the NPCCC / Children in England 'Safe Network' website to update its policy regarding safeguarding.

As we provide several educational courses to BME community we will add for e.g. in our parenting workshops awareness around children safeguarding.

# London Deaf & Disability Organisations CIC (Inclusion London)

**Project name:** The Power Up Project  
**Priority:** 4, Capacity building in the voluntary and community sector  
**Specification:** n/a  
**Amount (2 years):** £560,000

Project designed to build the effectiveness and sustainability of disability sector organisations. Services include: practical support to enable organisations to maximise funding opportunities and establish new income streams.; business development to increase sustainability; creation of opportunities to increase ability of organisations representing disabled people to influence policy.

**Delivery partners:** Transport for All

## Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	228	259
Organisations business acumen and ability to deliver effective services and respond to changing legal/policy external environment increased	0	0
Member organisations have increased skills, knowledge and understanding of how to represent disability issues more effectively	36	39
Organisations with increased understanding equalities related legal and policy frameworks	21	35

## Case study

124 disability sector organisations were asked about their capacity building needs in 2015. Some of the key findings include:

- Funding issues: 72% of respondents said securing funding for core work was their top priority – followed by 69% securing funding for information, advice and advocacy work and 46% for dealing with competition for contracts
- Improving organisational effectiveness: 56% of respondents said support to develop new services was their top priority followed by 52% for support with trying to deliver more with less and 42% support with improving data collection
- Campaigns and policy: 58% of respondents said support with keeping up to date about policy changes which affect Deaf and Disabled people was their top priority followed by 52% making and maintaining effective relationships with key decision makers and policymakers and 48% responding to local and national policy consultations
- Capacity building support: When asked what themes and issues organisations would like support from Power Up in 2015 63% said support to access new funding streams; 50% said support to evidence the value and impact of their services; 49% said Building their brand and profile and 48% said improving fundraising skills.

**Outcomes:** A report detailing findings is being produced and will be sent to relevant stakeholders in Q9 as well as being available on the Inclusion London website. The report is also being used to shape the work of Inclusion London and Transport ForAll.

## London Voluntary Service Council

**Project name:** London for All  
**Priority:** 4, Capacity building in the voluntary and community sector  
**Specification:** n/a  
**Amount (2 years):** £735,328

Project aiming to address identified gaps developing in VCS support services, while providing economies of scale through specialist pan-London support. Services include: tailored training, effective signposting, support for partnership working, linked to other support services around developing consortia and merger, and delivery of specialist ICT and HR support for VCS organisations, peer networking.

**Delivery partners:** Race on the Agenda, Women's Resource Centre, Refugees in Effective and Active Partnerships, Lasa.

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	2204	2381
Number of organisations using learning across services to improve the efficiency and /or effectiveness of their organisation	450	434
Number of organisations reporting learning and improvements through peer networking	375	382
Number of organisations reporting improved access to services across the equality strands	300	302

### Case study

The organisation supported is called Working Merton Centre for Independent Living which is a local grass roots disabled people's organisation run and controlled by disabled people for disabled people.

The HEAR Coordinator made contact with the organisation as part of an initiative to contact equalities organisations in outer London boroughs. The previous disabled people's organisation in Merton had closed. Following contact Merton CIL started receiving regular updates from HEAR about London for All activities.

The CEO of Merton CIL, attended the HEAR London for All launch event for the 'Intersectionality' research project in June 2014 and stated "I really enjoyed the conference yesterday. Lots of interesting discussions and contacts made"

Following continued engagement in HEAR, Merton CIL has presented a case study of their work on tackling health inequalities in London and responded to research examining the impact of funders' practices on London VCS organisations' ability to do equalities related work. HEAR also publicised details of a Merton CIL event in its bulletin and provide relevant contacts enabling them to get suitable speakers.

The organisation stated, "At Merton CIL we think it is really important to deliver our work within an equalities framework, and our involvement with HEAR has helped support that aim."



## The Refugee Council

**Project name:** Supporting and Strengthening the Impact of London's Refugee Community Organisations ('Supporting RCOs')

**Priority:** 4, Capacity building in the voluntary and community sector

**Specification:** n/a

**Amount (2 years):** £124,684

Capacity building project for frontline refugee/ migrant community organisations (RCOs/MRCOs). The project aims to develop organisations' capacity to fundraise and diversify income streams; help organisations to better understand and articulate clients' needs and equalities issues and help organisations to develop and implement equalities-based approaches and policies and procedures to impact on service delivery and improve client access locally

**Delivery partners:** None

### Delivery information

Primary outcome indicator	Profile Q1-3 2015-16	Delivered Q1-3 2015-16
Number of new users	487	498
Refugee Community Organisations reporting business plan development and implementation	20	26
Organisations reporting improved understanding of the voluntary sector's role and capacity	12	23
Front-line organisations better able to deliver well informed services that reflect the needs of refugees and asylum seekers	38	38

### Case study

The Refugee Council worked with the WHEAT Mentor Support Trust which enables BAMER and other vulnerable groups to achieve their goals and aspirations through one-to-one mentoring support and volunteering opportunities.

WHEAT Mentor Support Trust has benefited from the Refugee Council's Supporting RCOs project in different ways including through a series of one-to-one support sessions particularly through funding surgeries organised in conjunction with Aston Mansfield Community Involvement Unit at Durning Hall Community Centre, Forest Gate, in Newham.

The organisation notes that it attended a training session on developing strategies for income generation and sustainability. We also attended a funding seminar. Using the information and the advice we received from the one-to-one sessions, we developed proposals, submitted them to funders one of which was successful.

## **4 Programme management**

Officers continue to monitor projects against the performance management model agreed by Grants Committee at their meeting in February 2013, with adjustments made following consideration of this model by Grants Committee at their meeting 18 November 2015.

## **5 Outcomes in boroughs**

Councils wish to know what provision funded by the Programme is taking place in their borough. The 'borough spread' tables at Appendix 2 show the performance of the programme broken down by specification and primary outcome indicator in all London boroughs.

This data should be used with caution. Under the principles of the programme (set out in the review report), the projects are pan-London, so not simply attributable to individual boroughs. In addition, a beneficiary may live in one borough, or declare that they do, but receive services from a project in one or more other boroughs. Moreover, victims of violence often need to be moved from one borough to another, to escape from violence. Many homeless people move to central London. Some of the figures are the best-known figures at this time but may change as officers work their way through monitoring information from providers.

Further information with regard to involving and reporting to boroughs during the next steps of the Grants Review is outlined in Item 4.

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## **Recommendations**

- 2) The Committee is asked to note that:
  - a) At priority level, the outcomes for:
    - i) Priority 1 (homelessness) overall were 28% above profile in the first three quarters of 2015/16
    - ii) Priority 2 (sexual and domestic violence) overall were 9 % above profile in the first three quarters of 2015/16
    - iii) Priority 3 (ESF tackling poverty through employment) overall were 1% above profile at completion
    - iv) Priority 4 (capacity building) overall were 3% above profile in the first three quarters of 2015/16
  - b) This performance in the last three quarters means that the number of interventions delivered in the 11 quarters combined since the start of the programme is as follows:

- i) Priority 1 (homelessness) – 54,950
- ii) Priority 2 (sexual and domestic violence) – 196,162
- iii) Priority 3 (ESF tackling poverty through employment) – 7,474 (Q1-10)
- iv) Priority 4 (capacity building) – 13,710

c) At project level

- i) In the red, amber, green (RAG) system, 23 projects are green and one is amber. 11 have no rating this quarter. 10 of these are the ESF projects that have completed. One provider – Eaves – went into administration. There is a proposal for meeting the continuing needs of users of the former Eaves service at item seven of this meeting.
- ii) The direction-of-travel arrows show that the performance of five of the projects is falling. Please note that some of these are still very much a 'high' green score.
- iii) Officers would propose to concentrate performance management effort on the six projects that are rated amber and/ or whose direction-of-travel arrows are pointing down. These are Stonewall Housing (1.1), Women in Prison (1.1 and 2.2), Women's Resource Centre (2.5), Advice UK (4), Age Concern London (4).

The attached tables showing the outcomes of each priority in each borough in the first nine months of this financial year. As part of the review of the programme, London Councils officers have provided more detailed tables – which show performance of each project in each borough to borough grants officers and specialist contacts for each of the four priorities of the programme

Appendix 1 RAG Rating Methodology

Appendix 2 Borough outcomes

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### **Financial Implications for London Councils**

None at this stage. Information regarding payments made is outlined in Item 8 of this agenda.

### **Legal Implications for London Councils**

None at this stage

### **Equalities Implications for London Councils**

London Councils' funded services provide support to people within all the protected characteristics (Equality Act 2010), and in particular targets groups highlighted as particularly hard to reach or more affected by the issues being tackled. Funded organisations are also required to submit equalities monitoring data, which can be collated across the grants scheme to provide data on the take up of services and gaps in provision to be addressed. The grants team reviews this annually.

### **Background Documents**

Grants Programme Performance Report - Year 2 – Grants Committee, 15 July 2015

<http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/node/26716>

Item 5 - Commissioning Monitoring Arrangements – Grants Committee, 20 February 2013

<http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/node/21980>

## **Appendix 1                      RAG rating**

London Councils officers report quarterly to the Grants Committee on the performance of the grants programme. The cornerstone of this at project level is a red, amber or green (RAG) rating of all projects. Projects that score (out of 100 points):

- 75 or more are rated green
- From 50 to 74 are rated amber
- Less than 50 are rated red.

The RAG rating is made up of:

- Performance - delivery of targets: 60%
- Quality - provider self-assessment and beneficiary satisfaction: 20%
- Compliance - timeliness and accuracy of reporting, responsiveness and risk management: 20%.

We use the RAG rating to guide the amount of support and challenge that we give projects. For example, a red rating for a project would tell us that we had to do urgent and substantive work with this project and potentially to seek the Committee's approval for changes in the funding agreement.

PRIORITY 1. HOMELESSNESS									
1.1 Homelessness: Early intervention and prevention									
Boroughs	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	People/families at risk of homelessness, who are homeless or living in insecure accommodation assisted to obtain suitable temporary or permanent accommodation	People/families successfully sustaining their tenancies for one year or more	People have increased learning and improvements in life skills and employment and training opportunities	People within the protected equalities groups have increased access to housing advice	People have increased levels of social interaction and reduced levels of isolation	People have improved physical and mental health
Barking and Dagenham	224	318	70%	42	27	6	65	12	5
Barnet	366	492	74%	43	14	10	79	6	7
Bexley	128	158	81%	8	5	6	22	4	2
Brent	310	410	76%	104	11	5	125	8	5
Bromley	214	266	80%	30	21	3	41	7	7
Camden	406	558	73%	104	33	20	153	16	19
City Of London	18	96	19%	6	0	5	6	6	5
Croydon	261	351	74%	61	36	11	56	9	19
Ealing	305	473	64%	78	17	11	97	7	10
Enfield	298	315	95%	68	10	4	82	6	12
Greenwich	177	329	54%	31	12	11	53	7	10
Hackney	584	614	95%	106	39	24	173	27	38
Hammersmith	442	554	80%	86	32	32	124	15	8
Haringey	363	389	93%	78	16	22	121	15	19
Harrow	140	349	40%	53	5	2	59	0	2
Havering	123	332	37%	16	1	1	26	3	6
Hillingdon	395	591	67%	68	4	8	83	6	22
Hounslow	223	377	59%	45	6	6	59	5	3
Islington	328	431	76%	86	28	17	122	22	29
Kensington And Chelsea	194	239	81%	56	4	10	88	13	9
Kingston Upon Thames	118	174	68%	15	2	0	27	0	0
Lambeth	519	601	86%	90	27	32	189	48	56
Lewisham	463	526	88%	71	47	9	129	26	23
Merton	249	233	107%	11	8	2	23	1	4
Newham	582	733	79%	86	38	27	129	35	20
Redbridge	203	244	83%	32	9	1	63	1	7
Richmond Upon Thames	160	320	50%	6	0	5	14	8	3
Southwark	307	369	83%	79	26	31	93	24	20
Sutton	65	200	33%	12	2	3	25	4	4
Tower Hamlets	287	361	80%	63	12	20	89	19	25
Unknown	155	387	40%	26	2	1	39	1	21
Waltham Forest	384	378	102%	66	16	17	71	12	36
Wandsworth	239	231	103%	42	4	17	63	10	13
Westminster	407	428	95%	221	8	163	166	139	132
Grand Total	9637	12827	75%	1989	522	542	2754	522	601

	PRIORITY 1. HOMELESSNESS								PRIORITY 1. HOMELESSNESS							
	1.2 Youth homelessness								1.3 Support services to homelessness voluntary sector organisations							
Boroughs	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Young people who are homeless or living in insecure accommodation obtain suitable temporary or permanent accommodation	Young people successfully sustaining their tenancies for one year or more	Young people have improved health and mental health	Young people have increased learning and improvements in life skills and employment and training opportunities	Young people within the protected equalities groups with enhanced knowledge of tackling homelessness	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Frontline organisations that support the protected equalities groups identified within this specification better able to secure funding and resources and to develop the capacity of their organisation.	Frontline homelessness organisations better equipped to respond to the diversity of equalities needs	Frontline organisations better able to raise issues of housing discrimination and trends in housing provision for the above equalities groups strategically together and with boroughs through sharing good practice, knowledge and expertise. This will include frontline organisations facilitated to contribute to information and data sharing on homelessness.	Frontline organisations better able to deliver high quality housing provision support to the protected equalities groups and better able to deliver well informed specialist services, advice and specialist housing and social welfare advocacy and representation for and to the following: - Black, Asian, minority ethnic, refugee and migrant groups. - Women - Young and older people - Lesbian, gay, transgender and bisexual groups.	
Barking and Dagenham	68	75	91%	2	0	5	3	88	7	5	140%	1	1	1	1	
Barnet	65	150	43%	7	2	11	4	91	5	6	83%	1	1	1	1	
Bexley	22	22	100%	5	0	3	2	27	2	2	100%	0	0	0	0	
Brent	126	75	168%	15	1	18	11	156	5	5	100%	3	4	3	3	
Bromley	44	187	24%	2	0	5	2	45	6	4	150%	2	2	3	3	
Camden	234	225	104%	36	10	101	66	341	24	13	185%	9	8	8	11	
City Of London	4	12	33%	1	2	0	0	7	3	2	150%	2	3	2	2	
Croydon	428	246	174%	12	0	46	4	454	4	3	133%	1	1	0	2	
Ealing	206	52	396%	8	1	14	1	223	9	7	129%	6	6	6	6	
Enfield	233	135	173%	20	2	29	12	263	4	4	100%	2	3	3	4	
Greenwich	55	48	115%	11	0	7	1	77	6	6	100%	3	2	4	3	
Hackney	188	220	85%	44	8	49	20	251	17	14	121%	7	8	10	8	
Hammersmith	157	72	218%	17	2	14	2	189	9	9	100%	4	2	3	3	
Haringey	286	285	100%	28	7	36	10	334	20	5	400%	6	5	5	5	
Harrow	19	18	106%	2	0	1	1	24	6	3	200%	3	1	1	1	
Havering	94	27	348%	0	0	42	0	104	5	5	100%	1	0	0	0	
Hillingdon	34	21	162%	1	1	0	0	40	4	4	100%	0	0	0	0	
Hounslow	44	22	200%	1	0	3	2	52	2	2	100%	0	0	0	0	
Islington	228	247	92%	39	8	74	62	364	44	32	138%	15	12	14	13	
Kensington And Chelsea	47	33	142%	3	1	5	3	56	10	5	200%	2	1	2	2	
Kingston Upon Thames	9	18	50%	2	0	1	0	8	4	5	80%	2	2	2	2	
Lambeth	172	120	143%	21	3	33	14	228	23	17	135%	7	4	7	7	
Lewisham	144	177	81%	26	8	34	12	211	10	5	200%	4	4	5	8	
Merton	97	22	441%	8	1	26	1	111	5	4	125%	5	5	6	5	
Newham	179	135	133%	16	1	40	3	209	10	4	250%	4	4	4	4	
Redbridge	40	60	67%	5	0	2	3	52	7	5	140%	4	4	4	5	
Richmond Upon Thames	10	16	63%	1	1	1	0	11	2	3	67%	0	0	0	0	
Southwark	168	108	156%	36	8	22	15	226	31	16	194%	8	11	14	17	
Sutton	31	22	141%	4	0	2	0	37	2	3	67%	1	0	1	1	
Tower Hamlets	64	97	66%	11	1	9	7	80	25	16	156%	11	11	10	12	
Unknown	248	90	276%	39	5	104	100	364	0	8	0%	0	0	0	0	
Waltham Forest	111	187	59%	6	0	12	6	132	5	4	125%	0	1	1	3	
Wandsworth	90	52	173%	18	1	26	10	129	5	4	125%	2	2	2	2	
Westminster	107	39	274%	13	0	26	12	157	22	18	122%	8	9	11	10	
Grand Total	4052	3315	122%	460	74	801	389	5141	343	248	138%	124	117	133	144	

PRIORITY 2. SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE									
2.1 Sexual and Domestic Violence: Prevention									
Boroughs	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Children and young people view sexual and domestic violence as unacceptable and can identify the warning signs and myths.	Children and young people can identify what positive respectful relationships based on equal power are and have increased confidence and empowerment enabling positive choices to be made.	Children and young people can identify where to seek support/ their rights/ how to disclose	Children and young people have respectful relationships with their peers.	Children and young people are more aware of sexual and domestic violence in relation to the eight protected characteristics (for example violence in same sex relationships, FGM, forced marriage)	Professionals understand the facts, myths and risk factors relating to sexual and domestic violence (in particular issues that affect children and young people such as sexual exploitation, trafficking, FGM and sexual violence in gang settings) and feel able to address issues with children and young people
Barking and Dagenham	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barnet	826	470	176%	36	162	40	31	29	27
Bexley	0	85	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brent	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bromley	1022	2155	47%	44	260	48	13	30	0
Camden	790	2240	35%	34	144	36	12	28	0
City Of London	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croydon	1923	705	273%	81	266	90	55	68	16
Ealing	673	2155	31%	28	103	28	18	23	25
Enfield	827	2155	38%	42	203	47	31	37	0
Greenwich	1059	395	268%	52	254	52	9	45	17
Hackney	984	475	207%	66	136	75	19	53	15
Hammersmith	0	385	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haringey	983	385	255%	36	208	43	5	29	0
Harrow	1632	2155	76%	50	361	53	22	36	57
Havering	1458	85	1715%	40	226	41	26	35	49
Hillingdon	340	480	71%	26	78	30	0	22	0
Hounslow	280	395	71%	21	78	21	0	17	0
Islington	388	85	456%	40	110	44	8	39	0
Kensington And Chelsea	0	2155	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kingston Upon Thames	1512	2155	70%	59	337	60	22	47	22
Lambeth	106	80	133%	8	37	11	6	8	5
Lewisham	1828	385	475%	81	341	87	30	63	67
Merton	0	80	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newham	0	80	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Redbridge	2097	2155	97%	86	336	87	47	65	12
Richmond Upon Thames	1737	395	440%	75	358	75	36	67	16
Southwark	264	385	69%	25	46	27	0	10	11
Sutton	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tower Hamlets	461	465	99%	29	182	30	5	28	14
Unknown	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waltham Forest	282	0	0%	25	74	27	0	24	0
Wandsworth	411	395	104%	41	138	41	7	19	0
Westminster	321	385	83%	21	108	31	0	0	0
Grand Total	22204	23920	93%	1046	4546	1124	402	822	353



PRIORITY 2. SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE											
2.2 Sexual and Domestic Violence: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services											
Boroughs	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Users better able to access appropriate services	Service users have improved self-esteem, motivation, confidence, emotional health and well-being and physical health and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence.	Beneficiaries more able to make safe choices leading to a reduction in occurrence and/or effects of violence, sexual abuse and repeat victimisation.	People from the protected characteristics have access to advice in a way that meets their needs.	Reduced levels/ repeat victimisation of sexual and domestic violence	Service providers are better informed of beneficiaries' needs and service users are enabled to communicate their needs and views to service providers/decision makers	More informed life choices to enable users to rebuild their lives and move to independence: - health (including sexual health, mental health, drug and alcohol support) - employment - legal/ criminal justice system - education - training - immigration - housing - children's services	
Barking and Dagenham	203	267	76%	204	164	101	164	163	163	156	
Barnet	359	263	137%	290	156	48	159	213	155	136	
Bexley	112	192	58%	103	62	32	66	53	67	60	
Brent	382	326	117%	327	223	110	213	278	254	197	
Bromley	186	225	83%	189	84	39	70	125	102	96	
Camden	306	272	113%	224	119	62	125	161	118	109	
City Of London	40	113	36%	50	43	18	38	52	45	31	
Croydon	253	278	91%	209	131	57	133	186	148	140	
Ealing	484	370	131%	391	273	109	238	375	285	293	
Enfield	799	338	237%	697	368	194	417	545	391	372	
Greenwich	170	225	76%	142	77	39	81	75	64	79	
Hackney	378	263	144%	314	197	79	215	231	170	185	
Hammersmith	277	253	110%	232	175	50	149	202	176	173	
Haringey	481	305	158%	345	189	82	190	266	189	197	
Harrow	172	214	80%	166	119	74	103	141	113	106	
Havering	180	213	84%	152	102	60	86	98	102	103	
Hillingdon	310	240	129%	291	190	129	144	264	204	186	
Hounslow	309	327	94%	293	195	77	175	244	214	173	
Islington	680	341	199%	529	312	150	299	399	291	305	
Kensington And Chelsea	142	186	76%	137	79	39	74	111	85	73	
Kingston Upon Thames	109	132	82%	106	79	39	57	94	86	87	
Lambeth	277	290	95%	299	187	117	200	258	189	178	
Lewisham	236	247	95%	226	143	78	153	175	147	145	
Merton	88	155	57%	87	58	26	57	68	60	60	
Newham	238	297	80%	212	143	73	125	139	116	131	
Redbridge	195	219	89%	177	142	71	126	147	123	142	
Richmond Upon Thames	106	121	88%	93	76	36	53	99	74	70	
Southwark	473	329	144%	332	198	102	184	284	208	167	
Sutton	89	174	51%	80	57	21	51	64	61	64	
Tower Hamlets	264	252	105%	213	153	58	137	183	152	150	
Unknown	156	57	274%	103	63	72	59	38	40	101	
Waltham Forest	232	231	100%	184	141	74	140	144	119	153	
Wandsworth	166	198	84%	145	103	43	99	126	111	107	
Westminster	215	227	95%	197	153	75	144	192	153	136	
Grand Total	9067	8142	111%	7739	4954	2434	4724	6193	4975	4861	

PRIORITY 2. SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE										PRIORITY 2. SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE									
2.3 Helpline and coordinated access to refuge provision										2.4 Emergency refuge accommodation that offers services to meet the needs of specific groups									
Boroughs	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Increased access to emergency refuge accommodation for people escaping domestic violence.	Improved data collection of service users and service provision resulting in increased information on sexual and domestic violence services in London and beneficiary needs.	Service users are supported to move to a position of safety.	London boroughs receive dedicated support in accessing refuge provision for service users affected by domestic violence. Statutory providers, friends, family and voluntary agencies are better able to support those experiencing domestic violence.	People with the protected characteristics (2010 Equalities Act) are able to access support that meets their needs.		Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Safety from immediate danger from perpetrators through specialist emergency accommodation.	Increased confidence, self esteem, mental health and increased ability to deal with the affects of domestic violence	Independent lives rebuilt, through improved independent living skills, knowledge and access to benefits, entitlements, supported/permanent housing	Relationship rebuilt with children where damaged, make safe choices and access support for their children.	Removal of barriers in accessing services for people with the protected characteristics of the 2010 Equalities Act	Increased access to specialist support and culturally specific provision (such as drug and alcohol support, support with mental health, support to exit prostitution. Culturally specific provision to include so called 'honour' based violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, early marriage, language and culture, immigration and no recourse to public funds).	
Barking and Dagenham	153	391	39%	10	0	12	0	9		15	15	100%	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Barnet	174	390	45%	8	0	8	0	10		15	12	125%	1	2	2	0	1	3	
Bexley	112	129	87%	6	0	6	0	6		1	12	8%	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Brent	313	583	54%	24	0	22	0	24		0	12	0%	0	1	0	0	1	0	
Bromley	219	300	73%	15	0	15	0	14		9	12	75%	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Camden	143	414	35%	8	0	7	0	8		27	12	225%	2	1	2	0	2	2	
City Of London	5	3	167%	2	0	2	0	2		17	12	142%	1	2	1	0	1	3	
Croydon	493	796	62%	28	0	29	0	28		13	9	144%	0	0	0	0	1	1	
Ealing	401	600	67%	14	0	14	0	14		17	9	189%	1	0	2	1	1	1	
Enfield	201	540	37%	12	0	12	0	12		8	9	89%	1	2	1	0	2	2	
Greenwich	164	540	30%	11	0	11	0	12		11	12	92%	1	2	1	0	3	3	
Hackney	346	667	52%	10	0	10	0	10		16	16	100%	0	2	0	2	1	0	
Hammersmith	259	420	62%	9	0	9	0	9		19	12	158%	1	1	0	4	1	2	
Haringey	148	412	36%	6	0	6	0	6		73	15	487%	1	1	1	0	0	3	
Harrow	197	360	55%	7	0	7	0	7		7	9	78%	1	1	1	1	3	3	
Havering	80	255	31%	4	0	4	0	4		19	12	158%	2	2	1	1	0	2	
Hillingdon	281	450	62%	15	0	15	0	15		17	9	189%	1	2	1	0	1	2	
Hounslow	307	600	51%	7	0	7	0	7		9	9	100%	1	1	1	0	1	1	
Islington	123	397	31%	9	0	9	0	9		27	12	225%	0	1	0	0	0	2	
Kensington And Chelsea	131	252	52%	6	0	6	0	6		4	9	44%	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Kingston Upon Thames	108	75	144%	8	0	8	0	8		12	12	100%	0	1	0	0	1	2	
Lambeth	456	817	56%	16	0	16	0	16		13	15	87%	1	1	0	0	2	2	
Lewisham	360	855	42%	16	0	16	0	16		4	9	44%	1	2	0	0	0	2	
Merton	137	202	68%	4	0	4	0	4		10	9	111%	0	1	0	0	0	2	
Newham	298	525	57%	13	0	13	0	13		30	12	250%	2	3	2	1	3	5	
Redbridge	154	442	35%	13	0	12	0	12		17	12	142%	0	2	0	0	2	0	
Richmond Upon Thames	113	180	63%	7	0	6	0	6		4	9	44%	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Southwark	165	543	30%	6	0	6	0	7		11	16	69%	2	2	0	0	2	2	
Sutton	94	165	57%	4	0	4	0	4		9	9	100%	0	0	0	1	1	1	
Tower Hamlets	184	487	38%	7	0	7	0	7		38	15	253%	4	10	1	0	7	4	
Unknown	7352	1845	398%	3	0	3	0	3		0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Waltham Forest	154	472	33%	7	0	7	0	7		20	15	133%	1	3	2	0	2	2	
Wandsworth	209	450	46%	10	0	9	0	10		6	9	67%	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Westminster	216	375	58%	10	0	10	0	10		19	9	211%	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Grand Total	14250	15932	89%	335	0	332	0	335		517	380	136%	25	46	19	11	40	53	

	PRIORITY 2. SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE								PRIORITY 2. SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE							
	2.5 Support services to the sexual and domestic violence voluntary sector organisations								2.6 Specifically targeted services FGM, Honour based violence (HBV), forced marriage and other harmful practices							
Boroughs	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Frontline providers are effective and sustainable organisations (financial management, governance, recruitment/workforce, ICT, premises, fundraising/tenders/contracts, recruitment or board members)	Frontline providers able to deliver improved services to meet their clients' needs (deliver, monitor, evaluate and adapt)	Frontline organisations are able to develop effective partnerships and work with other voluntary and community organisations or statutory providers, linking to local services and networks.	Frontline organisations able to better represent their service users and ensure they are up to date with policy changes. (Including supporting the sector to collate and analyse data on need)	Frontline organisations better able to achieve the three aims of the 2010 Equalities Act	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Service users have improved self esteem, confidence and emotional health and well being	Service users have a better understanding of the support options available to them and are more aware of their rights and entitlements	Service users have an increased ability to communicate their needs and views to service providers	Service users are able to make safe choices and exit violent situations/ service users have enhanced coping strategies through risk assessment and safeguarding	Service users have improved life skills to help them rebuild their lives and move to independence
Barking and Dagenham	6	6	100%	2	2	3	1	1	31	18	172%	31	31	19	6	0
Barnet	11	15	73%	4	2	6	2	4	18	15	120%	14	15	16	13	0
Bexley	5	3	167%	0	0	0	0	1	0	15	0%	0	0	0	0	0
Brent	12	16	75%	2	1	0	0	0	37	8	463%	36	38	32	14	2
Bromley	4	9	44%	0	0	0	0	0	5	16	31%	5	5	4	3	0
Camden	35	25	140%	3	7	5	4	4	14	9	156%	11	11	11	3	0
City Of London	3	0	0%	1	1	3	0	1	15	16	94%	12	11	9	5	0
Croydon	14	16	88%	4	3	5	2	3	21	15	140%	20	20	9	0	0
Ealing	16	15	107%	1	1	2	3	4	16	14	114%	14	14	13	8	1
Enfield	7	5	140%	0	0	0	0	0	25	12	208%	15	25	12	10	0
Greenwich	9	13	69%	3	0	2	0	2	39	12	325%	39	39	29	0	0
Hackney	27	9	300%	2	1	3	2	0	37	16	231%	22	32	18	12	1
Hammersmith	12	16	75%	6	5	8	6	2	32	9	356%	23	33	10	0	2
Haringey	16	12	133%	3	1	5	1	2	20	10	200%	20	21	13	7	0
Harrow	8	13	62%	0	0	0	0	0	25	12	208%	15	25	15	15	0
Havering	3	2	150%	1	0	1	0	0	21	18	117%	20	21	14	16	0
Hillingdon	17	6	283%	0	0	0	0	0	19	15	127%	15	16	16	11	0
Hounslow	13	7	186%	2	1	2	1	2	14	11	127%	9	11	9	4	2
Islington	48	20	240%	11	7	16	7	5	12	8	150%	11	11	10	7	0
Kensington And Chelsea	9	7	129%	1	1	1	1	0	15	14	107%	14	14	11	11	1
Kingston Upon Thames	2	1	200%	0	0	0	0	0	9	12	75%	2	9	9	0	0
Lambeth	23	8	288%	16	11	13	12	6	20	11	182%	19	18	16	6	1
Lewisham	12	20	60%	2	0	2	2	0	15	14	107%	13	12	9	4	0
Merton	3	5	60%	0	0	0	0	0	10	15	67%	10	10	9	0	0
Newham	23	15	153%	8	4	6	3	1	9	9	100%	9	9	9	9	0
Redbridge	11	12	92%	2	0	4	0	1	43	18	239%	32	32	38	32	0
Richmond Upon Thames	5	3	167%	0	0	0	0	0	2	15	13%	2	2	2	2	0
Southwark	24	5	480%	13	15	16	15	2	21	13	162%	14	21	11	5	0
Sutton	1	3	33%	1	0	1	0	0	11	16	69%	6	11	7	0	0
Tower Hamlets	22	9	244%	11	8	10	6	4	15	14	107%	14	14	14	13	0
Unknown	2	7	29%	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0%	4	4	0	0	3
Waltham Forest	7	7	100%	3	0	4	0	2	47	14	336%	48	48	27	24	1
Wandsworth	11	8	138%	5	2	4	2	2	21	16	131%	20	20	4	0	0
Westminster	21	9	233%	10	7	10	8	6	44	17	259%	44	44	20	7	1
Grand Total	442	327	135%	119	80	133	78	55	683	447	153%	583	647	445	247	15

PRIORITY 4. CAPACITY BUILDING						
4. Providing support to London's voluntary and community organisations						
Boroughs	Number of new users (cumulative actual)	Number of new users (indicative activity level)	% Reached	Frontline organisations or organisations supporting a particular equalities protected group are better able to deliver well informed services that reflect the needs of equalities groups.	Increased ability of voluntary and community organisations (VCOs) in London to deliver efficient and effective services.	The voluntary sector's role and capacity is understood and new opportunities for engagement of voluntary and community organisations are increased
Barking and Dagenham	142	118	120%	10	20	16
Barnet	167	187	89%	15	22	20
Bexley	78	110	71%	5	6	6
Brent	215	190	113%	15	37	29
Bromley	110	131	84%	9	8	13
Camden	406	351	116%	36	52	44
City Of London	83	65	128%	10	16	8
Croydon	216	179	121%	11	13	14
Ealing	212	186	114%	16	26	23
Enfield	139	158	88%	14	10	6
Greenwich	218	165	132%	12	24	15
Hackney	363	309	117%	24	37	28
Hammersmith	180	193	93%	8	29	19
Haringey	210	229	92%	16	22	22
Harrow	117	139	84%	6	12	8
Havering	88	129	68%	1	4	3
Hillingdon	117	115	102%	9	13	10
Hounslow	87	117	74%	5	8	7
Islington	589	438	134%	50	57	56
Kensington And Chelsea	165	173	95%	23	28	28
Kingston Upon Thames	92	119	77%	6	4	6
Lambeth	369	300	123%	36	37	39
Lewisham	231	184	126%	17	21	25
Merton	109	136	80%	3	4	4
Newham	250	208	120%	28	35	29
Redbridge	101	115	88%	12	17	12
Richmond Upon Thames	99	122	81%	12	10	8
Southwark	360	305	118%	31	42	48
Sutton	76	129	59%	1	10	6
Tower Hamlets	349	290	120%	26	38	33
Unknown	27	45	60%	8	4	8
Waltham Forest	194	154	126%	9	33	11
Wandsworth	139	146	95%	3	7	8
Westminster	315	233	135%	22	28	31
Grand Total	6613	6168	107%	509	734	643

# London Councils' Grants Committee

## Emergency Refuge Accommodation: Eaves

7

**Report by:** Katy Makepeace Gray      **Job title:** Principal Programme Manager

**Date:** 9 March 2016

**Contact Officer:** Katy Makepeace-Gray

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**Summary**      At its meeting of 18 November 2015 Grants Committee agreed that officers investigate options to address the gap in services caused by Eaves going into administration in October 2015. Eaves were awarded funding in 2013 to deliver emergency refuge accommodation to women who had been a victim of trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Members agreed that proposals be taken to the next meeting of the Grants Committee on how to address this gap within the existing budget allocation of £162,950 for the period 1 April 2016-31 March 2017.

**Recommendations**      The Grants Committee is recommended to agree that, subject to continued availability of resources and delivery of the outcomes and meeting the London Councils conditions as set out in a grant agreement between London Councils and the applicant, an award to Ashiana of a grant of £162,950 should be made for the period 1 April 2016- 31 March 2017.

A second option, a grant of £184,950 on the same terms, would deliver additional outcomes outlined in the body of the report but would exceed the allocated amount by £22,000. Further details are outlined in the body of the report. It is anticipated that the additional amount could be absorbed within typical levels of underspend in a given year as outlined in the financial implications at the end of this report, should members decided to proceed with this option.



## **1. Background**

- 1.1 At its meeting on 20 February 2013, the Grants Committee agreed funding of £162,950 per year to Eaves Housing for Women to deliver refuge accommodation in 2013-15, under specification 2.4 Emergency Refuge Accommodation. At its meeting on 26 November 2014, the Grants Committee agreed funding for 2015-17 at the same level. Eaves focused on delivering emergency refuge accommodation and associated support to women who were victims of human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation.
- 1.2 Eaves Housing for Women went into administration on 31 October 2015. Financial information that Eaves had previously supplied, from their auditors, to London Councils, did not indicate a serious financial concern. We understand this happened following the loss of a large government contract and that Eaves did not reduce its core organisational costs in line with this change. London Councils stopped payment to Eaves as a result of learning of the financial difficulties that Eaves was experiencing.
- 1.3 Grants Committee agreed through urgency procedures in October 2015 a re-allocation of up to £40,000 to Solace Women's Aid to (from the funding originally allocated to Eaves) to accommodate and support up to nine of the women who were previously accommodated by the London Councils funded Eaves refuge. Two of the women who were previously accommodated by Eaves were prevented from becoming street homeless or returning to a trafficker through this allocation of funding (the remaining women were re-housed through other means). Solace Women's Aid is one of the partners, in a partnership led by Ashiana (under the pan-London Ascent partnership) and funded to deliver against London Councils specification 2.4 Emergency Refuge Accommodation.
- 1.4 At its meeting of 18 November 2015 Grants Committee members were provided with an update on the position with Eaves and agreed that officers investigate options to address the gap in services caused by Eaves going into administration for the 2016-17 period. The period was limited to one year given that the Grants Programme is currently under review and members are considering the future of the Grants Programme beyond 2017 on Item 4 of this agenda. Members agreed that proposals be submitted to Grants Committee on how to address this gap within the existing budget allocation of £162,950 for the period 1 April 2016-31 March 2017.

## **2. Progress**

- 2.1 Officers approached the London Councils funded organisation Ashiana to submit a proposal. Ashiana were approached because they are the only other commission, delivering emergency refuge services, under *Specification 2.4: Emergency Refuge Accommodation*. Ashiana have delivered successfully to date and are consistency rated 'green' in the RAG risk rating framework. In addition, Solace Women's Aid, the organisation that stepped in to successfully support women in danger at the point of Eaves' closure, is one of the partners under the Ashiana commission

and are in the partnership proposal put forward by Ashiana. Ashiana were asked to submit proposal on 5 January 2016, and have returned a proposal by the deadline date, 31 January 2016.

2.2 Ashiana has submitted two proposals; one is within the £162,950 agreed allocation (at £162,950). The second proposal is £22,000 over the allocated annual grant amount (at £184,950) and offers an enhanced level of support. Officers are aware that it would be difficult to replicate the Eaves project for one year at the same costs, given that it would be difficult to attract additional funding to supplement the London Councils grant for this period of time. Details of proposals are below with summary of proposed budget at Appendix One.

### 3. Service Delivery Partnership Proposal from Ashiana

Ashiana propose to extend their current commissioned services, in partnership with women's organisations Nia and Solace Women's Aid:

#### Option One:

3.1 The partnership proposes to deliver the following services under Option one, if **£162,950** funding is agreed for the period 1 April 2016-31 March 2017:

- **Nia project:** will operate a specialist 5-6 bedroom refuge for single women over the age of 18 in London fleeing violent and abusive situations involving sexual exploitation, prostitution and trafficking. The service will provide direct accommodation based support for approximately 9 women a year, assuming that each service users' length of stay will be approximately 8-12 months. Service users will be single women without children with recourse to public funds (in almost all cases but there could be exceptions on a case by case basis under certain circumstances). Service users may have additional needs including problematic substance use and mental health issues as well as potentially being ex-offenders and having a history of other forms of abuse such as domestic violence and childhood sexual abuse.
- **Solace Women's Aid:** will deliver floating support to 10 women, via a part-time Senior Floating Support Worker, to sexually exploited women in 2nd stage accommodation<sup>1</sup> and will support the women towards independent living. The floating support worker will support women who have successfully moved from 1st stage accommodation<sup>2</sup>. The support will focus on the next stage of women's recovery towards independence and these women will ultimately be resettled into longer term independent accommodation. By providing 2<sup>nd</sup> stage accommodation, this can provide women with both motivation and a way to view their progress and achievements. The staged approach can also be considered an effective way of 'permitting' women to be at different stages of a process and encouraging them to progress at their own pace and in their own way. The second stage

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<sup>1</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> stage accommodation offers accommodation which supports independence, once a woman suffering trauma has moved on from refuge accommodation. Solace has secured/ are in the process of securing the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage accommodation.

<sup>2</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> stage accommodation is refuge accommodation, for those fleeing sexual and domestic violence.



accommodation is currently being negotiated with Commonweal Housing. Solace are of the view that the accommodation will be secured by March 2016.

Referrals will come from 1st stage specialist accommodation providers, including the Ascent specialist refuge strand.

- **Ashiana:** will allocate an additional two bed spaces for women with no recourse to public funds, with the aim of housing two women during the year. The funding will cover rent and subsistence costs. Given the lack of move-on accommodation; and the time taken for the Home Office to make decisions on Asylum applications, the figure of two women a year is realistic. In addition, a Legal/Outreach Worker registered with the Office of Immigration Services Commission will provide intensive advice/advocacy to 30 women with no recourse to public funds. This will include basic immigration advice, application for DDVC and advice on SET (DV), preparation of relevant documents, advocacy in relation to enrolling biometrics, access to an appropriate immigration/asylum solicitor, and access to in-house services such as counselling. Ashiana will be the single point of contact which will minimise costs for the women, particularly important for women with children and/or destitute clients.
- Ashiana will also deliver awareness raising sessions specifically around sexual exploitation to approximately 60 professionals a year.

## Option two

3.2 The partnership proposes to deliver the following, if **£184,950** funding (under option two) is agreed. The second proposal is largely similar to the first one with additional levels of activities funded leading to a higher numbers of service users. A summary of project activities and service users to be supported are included in **Table Three**:

**Table Three:** Summary activities and service user numbers (2016-17):

	Option one <b>£162,950</b>	Option two <b>£184,950</b>
	Total number of service users	
Accommodated in refuge	11	15
Accommodated in 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage accommodation (supporting independent living)	10	16
Supported outreach	80	80
Sexual exploitation awareness raising sessions to professionals	60	60
Service users supported through activities	92	113
Number of activities (includes resettlement plans; workshops; key work sessions)	97	105

#### **4. Partnership Proposal Activities:**

Activities and support services to be delivered include:

- Specialist refuge accommodation
- In-house mental health support
- In-house specialist drug/alcohol services
- Independent living, budgeting and life skills
- Specialist exiting prostitution work
- Welfare benefits advocacy and support
- Development of resettlement plans
- Workshops on domestic violence/ substance use and impact of children
- Family support work
- Specialist support to disabled women
- Interpreters and British Sign Language interpreters

#### **5. Primary and Secondary Outcome Targets:**

Officers are mindful that the partnership proposal targets, for service users in refuge accommodation, may be impacted by issues of move-on. Since commissions started in 2013, officers have been increasingly aware, through feedback from funded commissions and from borough officers, that the growing issue of the unavailability of housing, which can be used to move service users on from refuge accommodation is impacting the number of women supported through refuge accommodation. In other words, because it is difficult to move women on, this impacts on the numbers of new women accepted into the refuge, affecting overall delivery targets. This is also reflected in consultation responses highlighted in the Item 4 of this meeting. Officers are working with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (Mopac) and policy colleagues to look at the link between housing and domestic violence.

#### **6. Specific Requirements of Strand**

Officers have also reviewed information submitted within the partnership proposals about the partnership organisations delivery of specialist refuge provision. The partnership organisations have been delivering specialist Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) services for over 40 years. Partnership organisations are also very experienced in working with local authorities and other refuge providers/ women's organisations. The partnership organisations are also highly experienced in safeguarding issues; and will add value to provision, enhancing local delivery without duplicating existing services. The partnership also have many years' experience of working with women who have no recourse to public funds; with Black and minority women; marginalised women and women with complex needs.

#### **7. Delivery Plans, Partnership Letters**

Ashiana has submitted delivery plans, and partnership letters for Proposal One and Two. If funding is agreed, full partnership agreements will also need to be submitted to officers.

## **8. Summary of Budgets: option one and two**

A summary of the proposed budget and allocation to partner organisations is at Appendix One.

Officers can provide any further information on the two options on request.

### **Recommendations:**

The Grants Committee is recommended to agree that, subject to continued availability of resources and delivery of the outcomes and meeting the London Councils conditions as set out in a grant agreement between London Councils and the applicant the award of grant of to Ashiana of £162,950 for the period 1 April 2016- 31 March 2017.

### **Background papers**

2013-15 Grants Programme, Grants Committee, 20 February 2013

Minutes, Grants Committee, 20 February 2013

Eaves Urgency Report, 22 October 2015

Ashiana Proposal One and Two, 31 January 2016

Performance of Grants Programme 2015-16, Grants Committee, 18 November 2015

### **Equalities implications**

London Councils has, in exercising its functions under the Grants Scheme, in setting the policy for grant-making and funding services through the commissioning process which has been adopted (as noted above), complied with the general equalities duty under the Equality Act 2010 to have regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity between different groups and foster good relations between different groups. Transferring funding to another provider to maintain currently funded services to vulnerable beneficiaries is, in the circumstances, a proportionate means by which London Councils can continue to meet its equalities duties in the exercise of its grants functions.

### **Financial implications**

The Director of Corporate Resources reports that option one can be accommodated within the budget for 2016-17 as it represents the same value of grant originally awarded to Eaves on 26 November 2014 for the period 2015-17 and within the budget agreed at Leaders' Committee 8 December 2015. Option two represents an additional £22,000 which had not been previously allocated. The Director of Corporate Resources advises members that based on typical levels of underspend returned to London Councils in a year, that it would be reasonable to assume that £22,000 would become available through underspend during 2016-17. It is forecast that at least £81,475 will be returned to reserves during 2015/16 with regard to payments originally allocated to Eaves.

### **Legal implications**

London Councils must, in taking its decisions in the exercise of its functions, act within its powers and exercise those powers lawfully and rationally, taking into account all relevant matters (and ignoring those which are irrelevant). Reasons must be given for the decision which is taken.



## Appendix One: Summary of Budgets

Partner	Proposal One	Cost Areas	Proposal Two	Cost Areas
<b>Solace</b>	<b>£19,894</b>	Direct Costs: £18,085 (inc: 0.5FTE floating support; volunteer costs)  Indirect Costs: £1,809 (inc: management/admin charge 10%)	<b>£29,976</b>	Direct Costs: £27,251 (inc: 0.8FTE floating support; volunteer costs)  Indirect Costs: £2,725 (inc: management/admin charge 10%)
<b>Nia</b>	<b>£70,000</b>	Direct Costs: £63,636 (inc: 1x senior worker; direct line management; sessional hours)  Indirect Costs: £6,364 (inc: management/admin charge 10%)	<b>£80,000</b>	Direct Costs: £72,638 (inc: 1x senior worker; direct line management; sessional hours)  Indirect Costs: £7,362 (inc: management/admin charge 10%)
<b>Ashiana</b>	<b>£61,200</b>	Direct Costs: £55,637 inc: 3 days (pw) immigration adviser; 1day (pw) outreach/advocacy worker; shift work; bed spaces)  Indirect Costs: £5,563 (inc: partnership central core costs 10%)	<b>£61,200</b>	Direct Costs: £55,637 inc: 3 days (pw) immigration adviser; 1day (pw) outreach/advocacy worker; shift work; bed spaces)  Indirect Costs: £5,563 (inc: partnership central core costs 10%)
<b>Ashiana</b>	<b>£11,856</b>	Lead partnership costs: 7.27% contribution for management, monitoring, evaluation.	<b>£13,774</b>	Lead partnership costs: 7.44% contribution for management, monitoring, evaluation
<b>Total</b>	<b>£162,950</b>		<b>£184,950</b>	

# Grants Committee

## Month 9 Revenue Forecast 2015/16      Item no: 8

**Report by:** Frank Smith                      **Job title:** Director of Corporate Resources  
Katy Makepeace-Gray                      Principal Grants Manager

**Date:** 9 March 2016

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**Summary**                      This report outlines actual income and expenditure against the approved budget as at 31 December 2015 (Month 9) for the Grants Committee and provides a forecast of the outturn position for 2015/16 for both actual and committed expenditure on commissions, including matched funded ESF commissions, and the administration of all commissions. At this stage, a surplus of £1.141 million is forecast over the approved budget.

**Recommendations**      The Grants Committee is asked to :

- Note the projected surplus of £1.141 million for the year; and
- Note the projected level of Committee reserves and the commentary on the financial position of the Committee included in paragraphs 14-15.

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## Month 9 Revenue Forecast 2015/16

### Introduction

1. This is the third and final budget monitoring report to be presented to the Committee during the current financial year. The next report will be the pre-audited outturn figures for 2015/16, which will be reported to this Committee in June/July 2016.
2. The London Councils Grants Committee's income and expenditure revenue budget for 2015/16 was approved by the Leaders' Committee in December 2014, following recommendations by the Grants Committee.

### Variance from Budget

3. Table 1 below summarises the forecast outturn position for the Grants Committee:

**Table 1 –Summary Forecast**

	<b>M9 Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Employee Costs	269	378	372	(6)
Running Costs	9	46	46	-
Central Recharges	-	131	131	-
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>(6)</b>
Commissioned grants services	5,286	7,505	7,381	(124)
London Funders Group	60	60	60	-
ESF commissions – 2013-15	952	500	952	452
ESF commissions – 2016+	-	1,880	-	(1,880)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>6,576</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>8,942</b>	<b>(1,558)</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Borough contributions towards commissioned services	(6,394)	(8,505)	(8,520)	(15)
Borough contributions towards the administration of commissions	(371)	(495)	(495)	-
ESF Grant – 2013-15	(255)	(250)	(497)	(247)
ESF Grant – 2016+	-	(1,000)	(60)	940
Interest on Investments	(12)	-	(12)	(12)
Other Income	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Reserves	-	(250)	(499)	(249)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(7,032)</b>	<b>(10,500)</b>	<b>(10,083)</b>	<b>417</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(456)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,141)</b>	<b>(1,141)</b>

4. The projected surplus of £1.141 million, which is explored in more detail in the narrative below, is broadly split between the following:



- A projected underspend of £124,060 in respect of S.48 borough funded commissioned services relating to 2015/16;
- A projected breakeven position relating to payments in respect of the expiring 2013-15 borough/DWP ESF programme, where projected total residual payments to providers of £952,000 and administration costs of £59,000 are funded by ESF grant of £497,000, a transfer from accumulated ESF reserves of £499,000 and borough contributions received in advance in 2014/15 of £15,000;
- A projected net underspend of £940,000 in respect of the new 2016+ ESF programme, based on the assumption that the new programme co-ordinated by the GLA/LEP will not become operational during the current financial year, although some administrative costs will be incurred of preparatory work and may attract ESG grant of up to £60,000; and
- A projected marginal underspend of £18,000 in respect of the overall administration of all commissions.

#### **Payments to Commissions – London Councils Borough S.48 Programme**

5. Table 2 below outlines the actual spend for the period 1 April to 31 December 2015 for the borough funded commissions, covering priorities 1, 2 and 4.

**Table 2 – Actual Spend 1 April to 31 December 2015 – Priorities 1, 2, and 4**

<b>2015/16 budget (£)</b>	<b>Forecast payments 1 April to 31 December 2015 (£)</b>	<b>Actual Payments (£)</b>	<b>Projected Underspend (£)</b>	<b>Balance (£)</b>
7,504,981	5,587,998	5,285,851	124,060	259,563

6. Currently there is £124,060 in projected underspend for the period. This relates to funding not utilised by projects largely due to gaps in staffing and also to funding originally awarded to Eaves Housing which went into administration in October 2015. The balance of payments on hold at 31 December was £259,563. This relates to six payments to providers with outstanding queries/ requirements. Since 31 December 2015, three of these payments totalling £65,225 have been released, leaving the balance on hold of £194,338, covering the remaining three commissions.

7. During the course of closing the 2014/15 accounts, liabilities of £170,177 relating to two outstanding payment due to commissions was set up. These payments have been released during the first quarter of 2015/16.
8. As part of the approved monitoring arrangement, officers will continue to review financial information relating to each project for the remainder of the financial year and review year end audited accounts. It is possible that further underspend relating to 2015/16 will be identified during the final quarter, which will be reflected in the provisional outturn figures scheduled to come before the Committee at the AGM in July 2016.

### **Payments to Commissions – ESF Programme**

9. There is an additional complexity in forecasting the potential outturn position for this budget head for 2015/16 due to the cessation of the 2013-15 programme and the likely slip of the start of the new 2016+ ESF programme into the 2016/17 financial year.
10. For the 2013-15 programme, residual payments to providers of £952,000 have been made, which includes a sum of £401,000 in respect of an additional quarters payment for the existing 10 commissions, as approved by the Grants Committee in November 2014 and endorsed by the Leaders' Committee in December 2014. Administration costs of £59,000 are projected to have been incurred in relation to the expiring commissions. The projected outturn figure of £1.011 million will be funded by three sources:
  - Estimated ESF grant of £497,000;
  - Borough contributions of £15,000 paid in advance in 2014/15; and
  - A transfer of £499,000 from the accumulated provision held in the Committee's reserves in respect of slippage in previous years ESF transactions.
11. For the new £2 million 2016+ joint funded ESF programme, this is now expected to commence during the 2016/17 financial year, meaning that no payments to commissions are envisaged in 2015/16. However, administration costs have been incurred in preparing the bids submitted to the GLA/LEP and in the review and drawing up of funding agreements with providers. The underspend of £1.88 million for payments to providers will be offset by a reduction in ESF grant of £940,000, leaving a net underspend of £940,000. Boroughs will have already contributed their total £940,000 toward this expenditure by the end of the

financial year and this sum will be taken into reserves and applied in subsequent financial years as the slipped programme proceeds.

12. In overall terms, therefore, there is a forecast net surplus on all provider payments of £1.064 million for the year.

### Administration of Commissions

13. It is projected that salaries expenditure will underspend marginally by £6,000 and projected investment income on Committee reserves of £12,000 will be accrued, giving a projected £18,000 benefit.

### Committee Reserves

14. Table 3 below updates the Committee on the revised estimated level of balances as at 31 March 2016, if all current known liabilities and commitments are considered:

**Table 3– Analysis of Estimated Uncommitted Reserves as at 31 March 2016**

	<b>Borough</b>	<b>ESF</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Audited reserves as at 1 April 2015	455	869	1,324
Projected surplus/(deficit) for the year	141	1,000	1,141
Transfer from reserves in respect of 2015/16	-	(499)	(499)
<b>Projected reserves as at 31 March 2016</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>1,966</b>
Approved repayment to boroughs in 2016/17	(185)	(301)	(486)
<b>Projected reserves as at 31 March 2017</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>1,480</b>
<b>Indicative total expenditure 2015/16</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>Forecast reserves as a % of indicative expenditure</b>	<b>5.14</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>14.8</b>

### Conclusions

15. Projected total reserves of £1.48 million are forecast at the year-end, after considering the projected surplus of £1.141 million for the year. A projected sum of £1.069 million relates to borough contributions towards the funding of ESF commissions, £1 million of which is projected to arise due to the anticipated slippage in the start of the new 2016+ ESF programme into 2016/17. The residual sum of £411,000 held in reserves relates to the S.48 borough funded commissions, which equates to 5.14% of the £8 million commissions budget. This figure currently exceeds the benchmark of £300,000 or 3.75% established by this Committee in September 2013.

## **Recommendations**

16. Members are asked to :

- note the projected surplus of £1.141 million for the year; and
- note the projected level of Committee reserves and the commentary on the financial position of the Committee included in paragraphs 14-15.

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## **Financial Implications for London Councils**

As detailed in report

## **Legal Implications for London Councils**

None

## **Equalities Implications for London Councils**

None

## **Background Papers**

London Councils Budget working papers 2015/16

London Councils Income and Expenditure Forecast File 2015/16