

Capital Ambition Board

Director's Report

Item no: 4

Report by: Nick Lester-Davis **Job title:** Corporate Director
Date: 11 October 2016
Contact Officer: Lisa Henry
Telephone: 0207 934 9547 **Email:** lisa.henry@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary This report provides an update on the following:

- Financial position
- Work programme
- News items

Recommendations It is recommended that Board members note the contents of the report.

Appendices:
A: Current Financial Statement
B: Project Status

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Financial Position

1. The current financial position is set out in **Appendix A**.
2. The current balance (net of commitments and covering programme office costs to end of March 2019) is £0.3m at 31 August 2016.
3. This balance is net of London Ventures income. All future London Ventures income will be used to support the continuation of the London Ventures programme beyond the funded period, the funded period is due to be from 23 August 2016 to 22 August 2019.

Work Programme

4. The Capital Ambition work programme currently comprises of 8 projects, as shown in **Appendix B**, they are:
 - a. Visbuzz Pilot – Barking and Dagenham (CA532) – GREEN status.
 - b. Visbuzz Pilot – Havering (CA533) – GREEN status.
 - c. Visbuzz Pilot – Waltham Forest (CA534) – GREEN status.
 - d. Visbuzz Pilot – Barnet (CA535) – GREEN status.
 - e. Visbuzz Pilot – Croydon (CA536) – GREEN status.
 - f. Tap-it app London-wide implementation – Southwark (CA537) – GREEN status.
 - g. Behavioural Insights Work – Croydon (CA538) – GREEN status
 - h. Health and Social Care - London Councils (CA539) – GREEN status
5. More information on the financial commitments for each of these projects is given in Appendix B. A short update on each project is given below.

Visbuzz pilots:

6. There are 80 Visbuzz units set up for use.
7. Each Visbuzz user is asked to complete a survey every 12 weeks, this is to capture any changes to their service use, feelings of wellbeing, and social activity. An external, independent research agency has been commissioned to conduct the survey and analysis.
8. The initial report, based on the first 52 surveys returned provides us with this early insight into Visbuzz users:

- a. 25% of respondents were 85 years or older, almost three-quarters were over 65 years.
 - b. Over two-thirds have mobility impairment.
 - c. Over 50% has contact with neighbours weekly, and 50% felt they have enough people to ask for help, but 35% were not very satisfied with their life.
 - d. 33% reported that their health was either bad or very bad and 24% recorded that their routine hospital appointments had increased over the last 3 months.
9. Over time, the research agency will track changes, so we can evidence the impact of the Visbuzz Venture.
10. London Councils is maintaining an overview of the five pilots by facilitating regular project manager meetings, to which Visbuzz staff also attends. This provides a forum for the boroughs to raise issues, devise common solutions and support each other with the pilot delivery. The main areas of discussion have been: solving technical issues with the tablets; procuring wifi such that boroughs can cap the cost at a reasonable level; marketing and promotion; variations to the champion model; and, completing the research.

Tap-it app:

11. Following the Capital Ambition Board approval, in February 2016, to fund London-wide marketing of the app London Councils has engaged a creative agency to develop a campaign.
12. The agency, Things Unlimited, has provided constructive challenge to ensure the app is intuitive to use, functional and attractive. They have also proposed a name change for the app – to 'circle'.
13. We anticipate the marketing to begin in early December. London Councils is working with a small number of London boroughs, the agency and the developers to ensure broader communications are planned and aligned to this plan.

Behavioural Insights:

14. Croydon Council are the lead authority for this work, agreed by the Capital Ambition Board at their February 2016 meeting. The work involved two random controlled trials and four scoping studies. The two trials will take place within Croydon, whilst the scoping studies are being conducted in other boroughs.

15. We are expecting the reports to be presented to the Board at either the February or May meetings 2017. At which time the Board will be asked if they wish to conduct trials in any of the areas that have been scoped. A budget of £200k has been committed for this purpose – pending future Board decisions.

Health and social care:

16. The work on health and social care funded by Capital Ambition is designed to capture and disseminate learning from the five integration pilots taking place across London, under the governance of the London Health Board.

News items

17. London Ventures will, once again, have a stand at the London Councils' Summit on 26 November 2016. This will be a key point in launching phase two – and a great opportunity to showcase some of the successes of phase one.

Financial Implications for London Councils

18. The Director of Corporate Resources comments that Appendix A summarises the estimated Capital Ambition fund balance at the end of the 2018/19 financial year. It confirms the Capital Ambition fund balance brought forward following the audit of the 2015/16 accounts to be £2,887,385. The forecast costs over the next three successive financial years (2016/17 -2018/19) of £2,584,727, reduce the Capital Ambition fund balance to a closing balance of £305,035 by 31 March 2019. However, this is subject to the earmarked project commitments being formally approved and the London Ventures Support Services phase II contract. These will have a direct impact on the forecast fund balance and consequently the operation of the programme office beyond 31 March 2019.

Legal Implications for London Councils

19. There are no direct legal implications for London Councils as a result of this report.

Equalities implications for London Councils

20. There are no direct equalities implications for London Councils as a result of this report.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Board members note the contents of the report.