Grants Committee

Performance of Grants Programme 2017-21

April 2017-March 2018 (Year one, Quarters one to four)

Item: 12

Report by:	Katy Makepeace-Gray	**Job title:**	Principal Programme Manager

Date: 11 July 2018

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Summary At its meeting of 8 February 2017 Grants Committee agreed funding for 13 commissions under the following two priorities:

Priority 1 Combatting Homelessness

Priority 2 Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence

Commissions were agreed for the period 2017-21, subject to delivery, compliance to grant conditions and continued availability of resources. The commissions followed an extensive Grants Review process which concluded in March 2016 and a robust application process. Both the Grants Review and application and award processes were in line with the Commissioning Performance Management Framework, of which the revised version was agreed by members of Grants Committee at their February 2017 meeting.

At its meeting 6 July 2016 members of the Grants Committee agreed funding to six commissions under the following priority:

Priority 3 Tackling Poverty Through Employment.

This Priority is half funded by boroughs' contributions to the Grants Programme (£3 million), matched by £3 million from London Councils European Social Fund (ESF) Programme under an agreement with the Greater London Authority (GLA). These commissions were agreed in 2016 as the ESF timeframe is not aligned with that of the Grants Programme.

This report provides members with an update on the three priorities of the Grants Programme.

For Priority 1 and 2 this represents an update at the end of the first year of funding, April 2017 to March 2018. For Priority 3 this represents an update on delivery from October 2016 to March 2018.

Recommendations   The Grants Committee is asked to:

Note that:

a) At <u>priority</u> level, the outcomes for:

   i) Priority 1 (combatting homelessness) overall were 11 per cent above profile in 2017-18 (Year 1, Q1-4)

   ii) Priority 2 (tackling sexual and domestic violence) overall were -5 per cent below profile in 2017-18 (Year 1, Q1-4)

   iii) Priority 3 (tackling poverty through employment overall were -42 per cent below profile in 2017-18 (October 2016-March 2018).

b) The number of interventions delivered in the relevant quarters is as follows:

   i) Priority 1 (combatting homelessness) – 21,811

   ii) Priority 2 (tackling sexual and domestic violence) – 130,031

   iii) Priority 3 (ESF tackling poverty through employment) – 2,187

c) At <u>project</u> level:

   i) Priority 1&2: In the red, amber, green (RAG) system, 12 projects are green and one is amber.

   ii) Priority 1&2: The direction-of-travel arrows show that the performance of all projects is level or upwards. Further information is provided in Section 4.2 on the project rated amber and four other projects with particular issues. More detailed information on the performance of all commissions is provided in **Appendix Seven.**

   iii) Priority 1&2: Officers propose to concentrate performance management effort on the project that is rated amber, and those reported under the project issues Section 4.2.

   iv) Priority 3: Following a re-basing exercise to address performance issues, all projects remain rated red. Performance management actions, both taken and planned, to support improved delivery are outlined in Section 3.3 of this report.

d) **Note** the progress on the administration of £100,000 per year for two years on behalf of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) to enhance training to front-line professionals

on identifying harmful practices, as set out in Section Three.

e) **Endorse** the approach outlined in Section 4.2 in relation to the removing an outcome target for the Shelter STAR project regarding rough sleeper reconnections following consultation with key stakeholders and a review of recent data.

f) **Note** the update on issues raised in the 2015-16 Grants Review (Sections Two, Five, Six and Seven), in particular the focus on borough engagement through the borough officer survey report (**Appendix Two**).

g) **Note** the equalities audit report included at **Appendix Three** and **endorse** officers' approach to addressing issues identified as outlined in Section Six of this report.

h) **Note** the annual performance report provided by London Funders included at **Appendix Four**. **Agree** that London Councils officers share this report with relevant borough officers to ensure they are aware of the activities provided (boroughs pay a reduced subscription to London Funders via London Councils, which is considered in the November budget setting process).

i) Note the borough maps (**Appendix Five**), annual individual borough reports (**Appendix Six**), and updates on actions to address issues with borough level delivery outlined in Section Five.

j) **Agree** to share **Appendix Seven** with their local authority officers encourage greater awareness about referral pathways.

Appendix 1 RAG Rating Methodology

Appendix 2 Survey of Borough Officers Results

Appendix 3 Annual Equalities Audit

Appendix 4 London Funders Annual Report

Appendix 5 Priority Level Borough Maps

Appendix 6 Borough Reports

Appendix 7 Project Delivery Information and Contact Details

1   Background

1.1   Following recommendations from Grants Committee, Leaders' Committee considered a report on the future of the London Councils Grants Programme at its meeting on 22 March 2016 and agreed that there should be a Grants Programme from April 2017 to March 2021, operating in accordance with the current principles and focused on the following priorities:

Priority 1 - Combatting Homelessness
Priority 2 - Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Priority 3 - Tackling Poverty through Employment (ESF match funded).

1.2   Following this an application and award process was undertaken for Priority 1 and 2, with the involvement of borough officers and members of the Grants Committee at key stages, as well as other key stakeholders. At its meeting 8 February 2017 Grants Committee agreed funding to 13 commissions for the period 2017-21, subject to delivery, compliance to grant conditions and continued availability of resources. These awards are summarised in Table One below.

Table One: London Councils Grants Programme 2017-21 (Priority 1 and 2)

Service Area	ID	Organisation	Annual Grant Amount
1.1	8252	Shelter - London Advice Services	£1,003,495
	8254	St Mungo Community Housing Association	£251,378
1.2	8259	New Horizon Youth Centre	£1,008,338
1.3	8257	Homeless Link	£120,239
	8258	Standing Together Against Domestic Violence	£88,977
Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness			**£2,472,427**
2.1	8262	Tender Education and Arts	£265,000
2.2	8269	Solace Women's Aid	£1,425,238
	8266	Galop	£146,318
	8268	SignHealth	£148,444
2.3	8275	Women's Aid Federation of England (Women's Aid)	£314,922
2.4	8245	Ashiana Network	£840,000
2.5	8271	Women's Resource Centre	£240,783
2.6	8276	Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC)	£320,000
Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence			**£3,700,705**
Total			**£6,173,132**

1.3   Priority 3 commissions were agreed by Grants Committee on 6 July 2016. This Priority is half funded by boroughs' contributions to the Grants Programme (£3 million), matched by £3 million from London Councils European Social Fund (ESF) Programme under an agreement with the Greater London Authority (GLA). These commissions, summarised in Table Two below, were agreed in 2016 as the ESF timeframe is not aligned with that of the Grants Programme:

Table Two: London Councils Grants Programme 2017-2021 (Priority 3)

ID	Organisation and Cluster	Grant Amount
8224	Citizens Trust Brent, Ealing, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Richmond-upon-Thames	£448,114
8229	London Training and Employment Network Croydon, Kingston-upon-Thames, Lambeth, Merton, Sutton, Wandsworth	£483,211
8231	MI ComputSolutions Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lewisham, Southwark	£463,156
8233	Paddington Development Trust Barnet, Hammersmith & Fulham, Haringey, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea, Westminster	£464,409
8235	Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service Enfield, City of London, Hackney, Islington, Tower Hamlets, Camden	£469,423
8236	Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Waltham Forest	£491,985
Priority 3: Tackling Poverty through Employment Total Programme		**£5,640,601**
	London Councils Management and Administration (6 percent)	£359,399
Priority 3: Grant Funding		**£3,000,000**
Priority 3: European Social Funding		**£3,000,000**
Total		**£6,000,000**

1.4   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. This is the third report covering the performance of the 2017-21 Grants Programme.

1.5   **Appendix Seven**, which sets out each projects delivery information, key outcomes and contact details for lead partners, is designed to act as an ongoing resource for members.

2   Addressing issues raised in the Grants Review

2.1   London Councils undertook a review of the Grants Programme in 2015-16 seeking the views of borough officers, members, voluntary organisations and other stakeholders such as funders, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Greater London Authority (GLA). The review concluded with agreement at Grants and Leaders' Committee to have a programme going forward focused on tackling homelessness, poverty and sexual and domestic violence. A number of areas were highlighted in the review as areas that could be strengthened including, robust outcomes, linking of priorities, value for money, pan-London delivery (including issues relating to inner v outer London, complementing local delivery and borough engagement) and equalities.

2.2   These themes were addressed in the design, application and award stages through the service specifications (co-produced with boroughs), applications and specific conditions of grant. In November 2017, members endorsed the approach being taken by officers to embed these themes into the new programme during the delivery phase, and this approach has continued. Further information is provided regarding borough engagement (Section Five), equalities (Section Six) and value for money (Section Seven). Performance management has been undertaken in line with the revised Commissioning Performance Management Framework, agreed by members of the Grants Committee at their meeting, 8 February 2017.
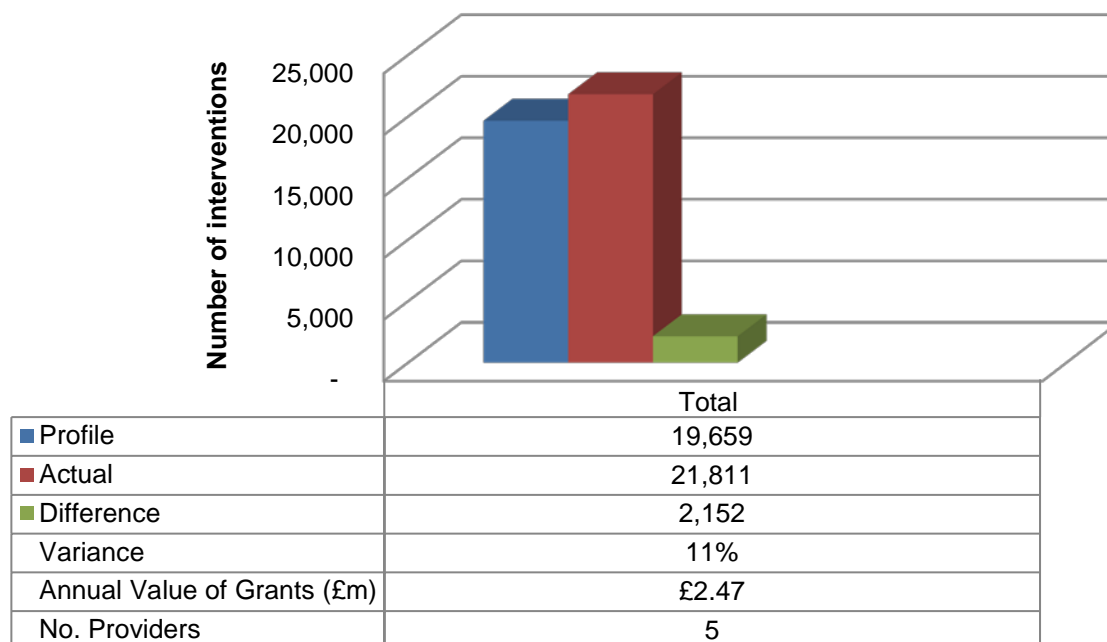
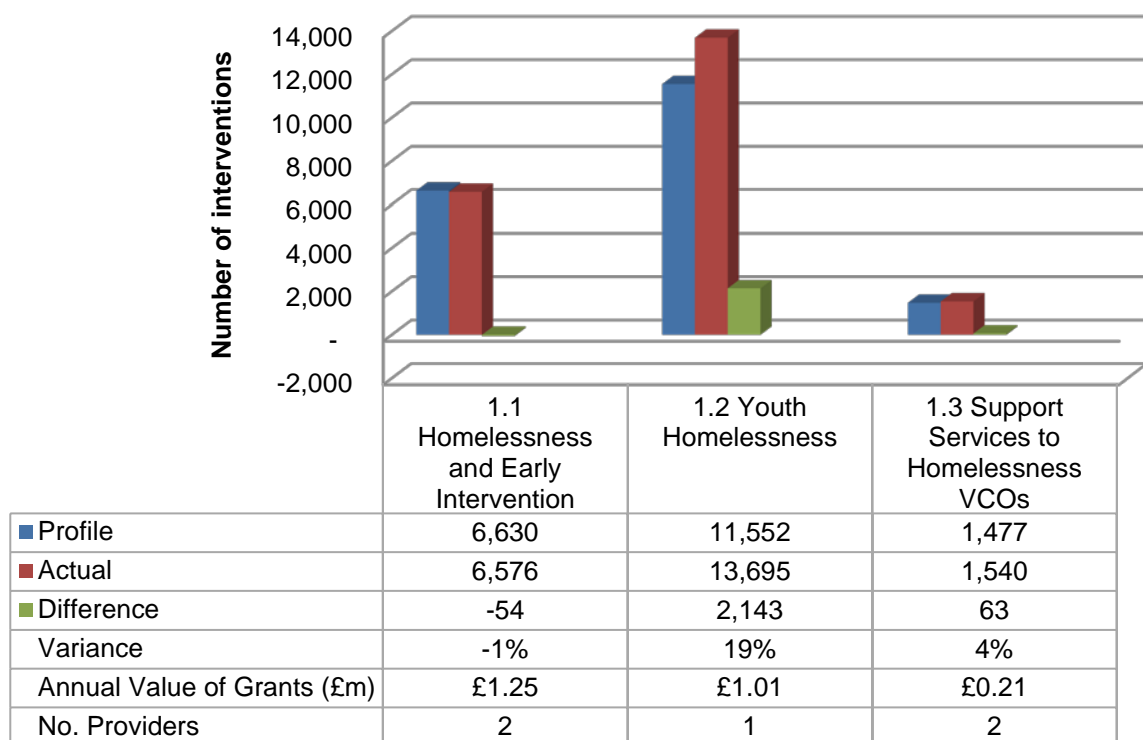**3   Priority level delivery**

3.1   **Priority 1: Homelessness**

3.1.1   The Committee has allocated £2.47 million per year to five projects to Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness for 2017-21. Of these five:

- Two (with a total value of £1.25 million per year) are delivering against specification 1.1: Prevention and Targeted Intervention
- One (value of £1 million per year) is delivering against specification 1.2: Youth Homelessness
- Two (value of £0.2 million per year) are delivering against specification 1.3: Supporting the Response to Homelessness in London through Support to Voluntary Sector Organisations.

3.1.2   Figure 1 shows the performance of the priority in 2017-18, quarters one to four. Over these four quarters, performance was 11 per cent above profile. Figure 2 provides further detail across the service specifications. Specific information on

achievement against outcomes at project level is available in **Appendix Seven.** Officers have highlighted issues relating to projects which have caused concern in Section 4.2.

Figure 1: Priority 1 Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes 2017-18 Q1 - Q4

	Total
■ Profile	19,659
■ Actual	21,811
■ Difference	2,152
Variance	11%
Annual Value of Grants (£m)	£2.47
No. Providers	5

Figure 2: Priority 1 Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes per service area 2017-18 Q1-Q4

	1.1 Homelessness and Early Intervention	1.2 Youth Homelessness	1.3 Support Services to Homelessness VCOs
■ Profile	6,630	11,552	1,477
■ Actual	6,576	13,695	1,540
■ Difference	-54	2,143	63
Variance	-1%	19%	4%
Annual Value of Grants (£m)	£1.25	£1.01	£0.21
No. Providers	2	1	2

3.1.3   As shown in Figures 1 and 2, performance is above profile or within the permitted variance levels (+/-15 per cent) across all service areas in the first four quarters combined.

Priority 1 – Wider Environment issues impacting on the Programme

3.1.4   Government statistics show 16,160 households in London were accepted as being owed a main homelessness duty in the 12 months to December 2017, 15 per cent lower than in 2016. London boroughs still see a disproportionate number of homelessness acceptances, compared to the rest of England. Over the last 12 months, 28 per cent of homelessness acceptances in England were made by London boroughs; almost double the proportion of households in London (16 per cent). The number of people sleeping rough in England has increased by 15 per cent compared to 2016, with 4,751 people sleeping rough on any given night in 2017.

3.1.5   The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) announced that it was reinstating the automatic housing support element for 18 to 21-year-olds under Universal Credit.

3.1.6   The Public Accounts Committee published its inquiry into homeless households in December. The report concluded that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) (formerly the Department for Communities and Local Government) has not shown enough urgency in tackling homelessness and recommended a cross-government strategy should be published by June 2018.

Service Area Issues

3.1.7   Commissions report a temporary reduction in direct work with boroughs officers in this quarter while they focus on the introduction and roll out of the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA).

3.1.8   *Service area 1.1* – Shelter has seen an increase in local authorities seeking support in delivering Personal Housing Plans in line with HRA obligations, particularly around debt issues. St Mungo reports that, as Universal Credit is rolled-out to more areas, clients in need of housing benefit face a lengthy application process and many landlords refuse to work with clients who are on this benefit.

3.1.9 *Service area 1.2* – New Horizon Youth Centre (NHYC) hosted a visit by the Home Secretary Amber Rudd. Young people took the opportunity to discuss their experiences of, and solutions for, serious youth violence. London Youth Gateway (LYG), the partnership led by NHYC, report a marked trend of young people with complex needs as well as presenting at high risk (e.g. of serious youth violence) requiring their services.

3.1.10 *Service area 1.3* – Service area 1.3 and service area 2.5 provide specialist second tier support to frontline charities that operate in the areas of homelessness and sexual and domestic violence. In the first year, the three second tier projects supported over 800 organisations, of which 18 per cent of them support residents in more than 20 boroughs. Homeless Link has completed a Young and Homeless survey and their Annual Review: Support for Single Homeless People in England 2017 which identifies trends in current homelessness provision. Survey findings and the report can be found on the Homeless Link website (https://www.homeless.org.uk/).

3.2 **Priority 2: Sexual and domestic violence**

3.2.1 The Committee has allocated £3.7 million per year to eight projects to Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence for 2017-21.

- One (value of £0.26 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.1: Prevention (working with children and young people).
- Three (total value of £1.72 million per year) are delivering against specification 2.2: Advice, counselling and support to access services (for medium risk post-IDVA[1] and target groups not accessing generalist provision).
- One (value of £0.31 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.3: Helpline, access to refuge provision, support and advice, data gathering on refuge provision and supporting regional coordination of refuge provision.
- One (value of £0.84 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.4: Emergency refuge accommodation and support and alternative housing options to meet the needs of specific groups.
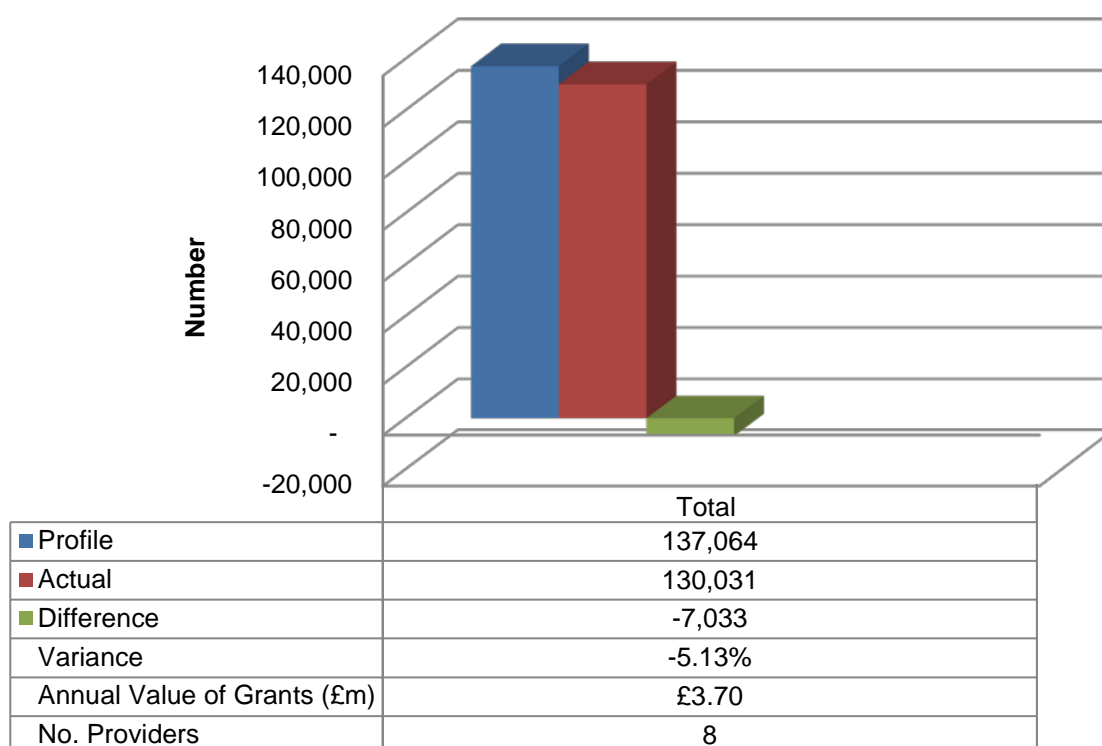

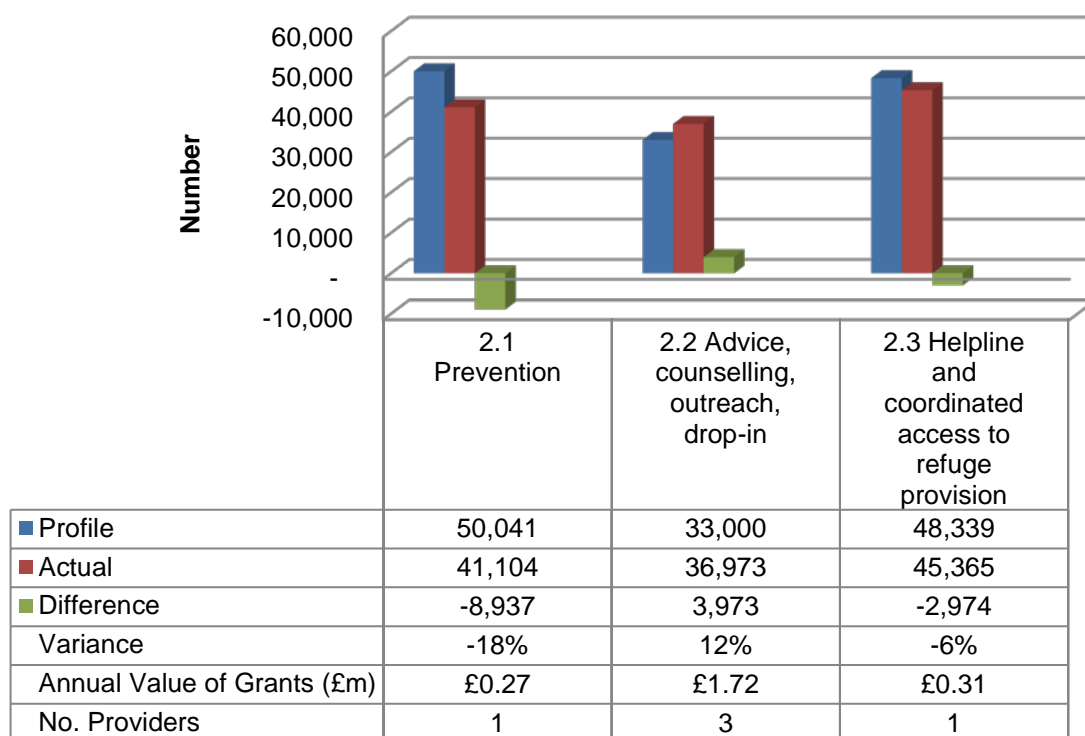[1] IDVA – independent domestic violence advocate

- One (value of £0.24 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.5: Strengthening support for frontline sexual and domestic violence (working with voluntary sector organisations, local authorities, and other agencies).
- One (value of £0.32 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.6: Specifically targeted services for those affected by harmful practices (female genital mutilation (FGM), Honour based violence (HBV), forced marriage and other harmful practices).

3.2.2 Figure 3 shows the performance of Priority 2 in 2017-18 quarters one to four. Over the year, the total performance was -5 per cent below profile. Figures 4 and 5 provide further information at a service area level. These show that outcomes targets have been met or achieved in three out of the six service areas. There are three service areas (2.1, 2.3 and 2.4) which have performed below target. However, two of these areas (2.3 and 2.4) are within the -/+15 per cent tolerance. Further information is provided in Section 4.2 on the commission that makes up the service area 2.1 (delivery has breached the tolerance).
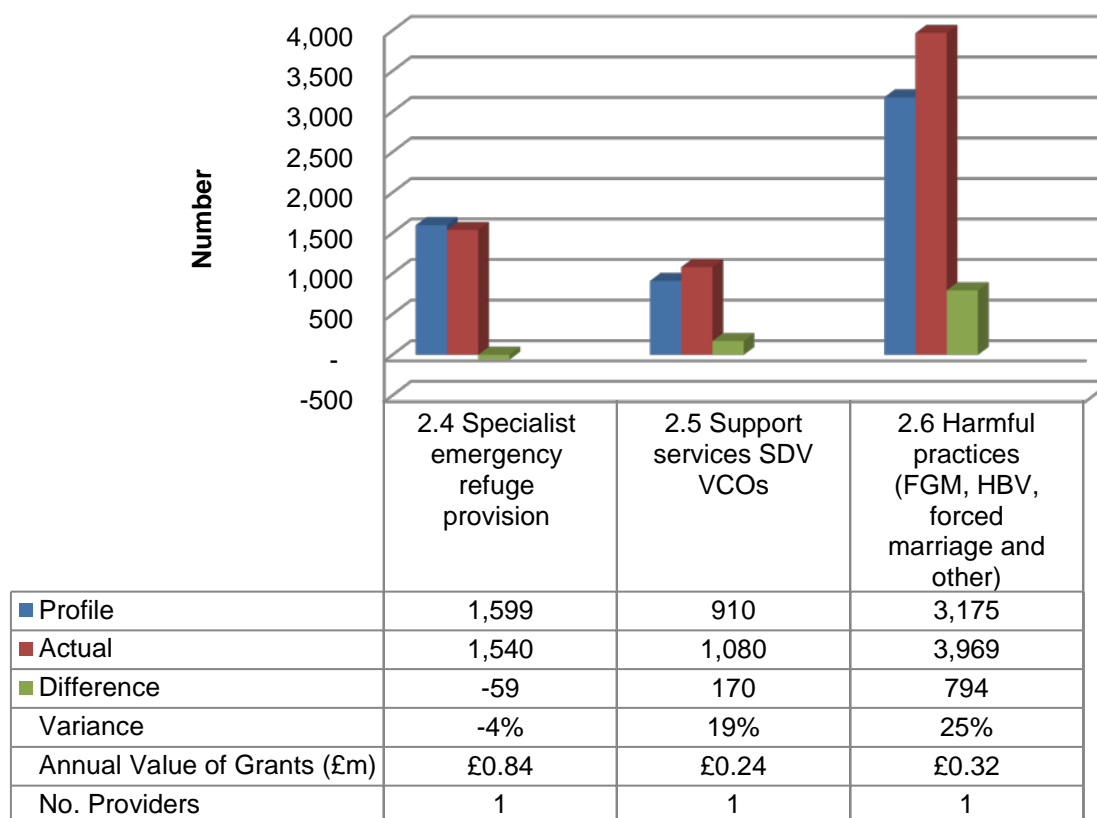
Figure 3: Priority 2: Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes 2017-18 Q1 - Q4

	Total
Profile	137,064
Actual	130,031
Difference	-7,033
Variance	-5.13%
Annual Value of Grants (£m)	£3.70
No. Providers	8

Figure 4: Priority 2 Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes per service area (2.1, 2.2, 2.3) 2017-18 Q1- Q4

	2.1 Prevention	2.2 Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in	2.3 Helpline and coordinated access to refuge provision
Profile	50,041	33,000	48,339
Actual	41,104	36,973	45,365
Difference	-8,937	3,973	-2,974
Variance	-18%	12%	-6%
Annual Value of Grants (£m)	£0.27	£1.72	£0.31
No. Providers	1	3	1

Figure 5: Priority 2 Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes per service area (2.4,2.5, 2.6) 2017-18 Q1-Q3

	2.4 Specialist emergency refuge provision	2.5 Support services SDV VCOs	2.6 Harmful practices (FGM, HBV, forced marriage and other)
Profile	1,599	910	3,175
Actual	1,540	1,080	3,969
Difference	-59	170	794
Variance	-4%	19%	25%
Annual Value of Grants (£m)	£0.84	£0.24	£0.32
No. Providers	1	1	1

Priority 2 – Wider Environment issues impacting on the Programme

3.2.3   The government's consultation on the Domestic Abuse Bill closed on 31 May 2018. London Councils submitted a response, accompanied by a letter from Cllr Peck, as Executive Member for Crime and Public Protection, to the Home Secretary and Justice Secretary. The letter raised concerns about refuges, funding for perpetrator interventions, and the issue of No Recourse to Public Funds and domestic abuse victims. A government response is expected in the autumn, along with draft legislation.

3.2.4   The MHCLG is undertaking a review of domestic abuse services commissioned by local authorities across England, including refuge provision. The audit will map service provision with the aim of informing the government's work on refuges and future funding streams. London Councils is in contact with MHCLG to ensure the work of the Grants Programme is included in the review.

3.2.5   The government is expected to publish a full response on its proposed reforms to supported housing funding in the coming months. Proposed reforms would see funding of short-term supported accommodation brought into a ring-fenced grant, including domestic abuse refuges. London Councils will be working with boroughs to understand the potential implications for local authorities and refuge provision in London.

Service Area Issues

3.2.6   *Service Area 2.5* – As noted at paragraph 3.1.10, service area 2.5 provides specialist second tier support to frontline charities that operate in the area of sexual and domestic violence. Women's Resource Centre (WRC) states that frontline organisations supported by the project have noted an increase in clients presenting with multiple disadvantages, high risk and an extensive history of gender based violence. Clients are also presenting with more acute and enduring mental health issues, but are unable to access traditional statutory services for support and there is not capacity within their communities. The increase in clients with multiple, high risk and/or complex needs has also been reported by New Horizon Youth Centre.

3.2.7   *Service Area 2.2* - SignHealth reported that the London Councils funding helped to leverage £200,000 over two years from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), to set up a similar service in Greater Manchester.

3.2.8   GALOP reported that, because of the lack of refuge accommodation for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) victims, an independent group of concerned activists formed the Outside Project in 2017 and managed to crowdsource an independent LGBT winter shelter over the winter months. This was an old coach based in Barking and Dagenham, with qualified housing support workers who gave their time voluntarily to manage the project. The project proved a success and attracted people from across London in need of emergency short term accommodation

Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) funding opportunity: tackling harmful practices

3.2.9   London Councils has worked closely with MOPAC on the development of Priority 2 in the design and award stages. Following the award of grants to Priority 2 commissions in February 2017, MOPAC approached London Councils to discuss additional funding to enhance London Councils service area 2.6 which focuses on harmful practices. This follows the MOPAC 2015-17 Harmful Practices Pilot that aimed to improve the way agencies identify and respond to a series of harmful practices against women and girls.

3.2.10 MOPAC is keen to avoid duplication of support and ensure complementarity with the London Councils Grants Programme. Consequently, MOPAC has asked that funds available to them are managed under a partnership arrangement with London Councils to complement the Grants Programme, and provide additional resources for training front-line staff in statutory and voluntary services to identify harmful practices and take appropriate action. Following the endorsement by the Chair and Vice Chairs of this committee, Leaders' Committee agreed to administer £100,000 per year for two years on behalf of MOPAC. A Tripartite Agreement was signed between London Councils, MOPAC and AWRC in May 2018. Officers have met with AWRC and MOPAC to plan the first three months of delivery. A further update on the progress of the project will provided to the November meeting of the Grants Committee.

3.3   **Priority 3: ESF tackling poverty through employment**

3.3.1   Grants Committee agreed funding for the Poverty Programme under Priority 3, Tackling Poverty through Employment, at its meeting on 13 July 2016. The Poverty Programme is half funded by boroughs' contributions to the Grants Programme (£3 million). This is 50 per cent matched through the European

Social Fund (ESF) Programme. London Councils receives European funding through the GLA which operates within a framework set by the DWP and the London Economic Action Partnership. London Councils has a funding agreement with the GLA to provide services.

3.3.2   The London Councils ESF Poverty Programme aims to support long-term unemployed and economically inactive people from specific disadvantaged target groups. All projects work in partnership with projects that London Councils funds under Priority 1 Homelessness.

3.3.3   Payments can only be made following rigorous quality assurance of all participant documentation to ensure a) eligibility against strict ESF criteria and b) evidence of activity and results is available.

3.3.4   From October 2016 to March 2018, the following activity has been undertaken and results achieved:

- Enrolments – 1,010
- Personalised support and advice – 869
- Volunteering/work experience - 61
- Progressed into education/training - 68
- Progressed into employment - 145
- Sustained in employment 26 weeks - 34

3.3.5   Providers continue to attract and support disadvantaged residents. Of the participants engaged and enrolled onto the programme:

- 57 per cent were long term unemployed
- 43 per cent were economically inactive
- 57 per cent were inactive or unemployed for more than three years
- 31 per cent were over 50
- 35 per cent did not have basic skills
- 66 per cent were ethnic minorities
- 53 per cent were from a jobless household
- 21 per cent were from a single adult household with dependent children
- 18 per cent declared a disability
- 20 percent declared they had a health condition that limits work
- 14 per cent declared a mental health condition.

Wider Service Area Issues

3.3.6   At the November 2017 and March 2018 Grants Committee meeting, the Director responsible for the borough grants programme reported significant under-performance across the whole of Priority 3 (the programme was -70 per cent below profile at that time); described the reasons for this underperformance, including initial poor administration of the programme; and outlined a series of corrective actions to support programme improvement.

3.3.7   A key service issue for providers is the strict ESF eligibility requirements, particularly for potential participants with multiple or complex barriers to employment, who are unemployed for less than 12 months. A request has been made to the GLA to provide some flexibility to the long-term unemployed target to enable delivery partners to enrol participants with multiple or complex needs, regardless of length of unemployment. This will significantly increase enrolments, and will better support the programmes aim to support the most vulnerable into, or closer to, employment.

3.3.8   Due to ESF compliance requirements, the administrative burden on both delivery partners and London Councils remains high. Three Quality Assurance Administrators now provide support directly to partners to help with compliance. Additionally, the Director is considering options to increase the funding of the first paid element of the programme - personalised support and advice - to acknowledge the additional work that partners need to undertake in the early stages of delivery (the overall funding for the programme will not increase).

3.3.9   London Councils continues to pay partners on a monthly rather than quarterly basis to address cash flow issues that have affected partner organisations whilst we continue to take corrective action to ensure the programme is compliant with ESF regulations (with the introduction of a robust quality assurance process, a monthly payment model is low risk).

3.3.10 Whilst performance has improved, clearly more needs to be done to ensure the programme fully recovers. Priority 3 partners are subject to a monthly 100 per cent check of activity and evidence to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with ESF and to closely monitor performance. This is the highest level of risk intervention. This level of monitoring is not a statement about the confidence (or otherwise) London Councils has in its partners. It is in response to the risks

associated with delivering a part-European funded programme and the need to closely monitor performance to support the programme's recovery.

4   Project-level performance

4.1   RAG rating

4.1.1   Project performance is measured using the programme-wide red-amber-green (RAG) rating system. The RAG rating system was introduced by the Committee in February 2013 as part of the new monitoring policy and was amended in the revised Commissioning Performance Management Framework agreed by members in February 2017[2]. The methodology behind the system is set out in **Appendix One** of this report. The rating system shows whether each project's performance is going up, going down or is steady in that quarter.

4.1.2   At the March 2018 Grants Committee, members agreed to revise the scoring ranges for the RAG ratings to increase the score needed to achieve a Green rating. Officers have also adjusted the weighting criteria behind the RAG score to place greater emphasis on delivery of outcomes against targets, to ensure that underperformance is effectively captured.

4.1.3   The RAG ratings for quarter three (October to December 2017) and quarter four (January to March 2018) are set out in the table below. For Priorities 1 and 2 the Committee will note that of the 13 projects, in quarter four, 12 are rated green and one is rated amber. The direction-of-travel arrows show that the performance of all projects is steady or improved. Further information is provided in Section 4.2 on the project rated amber and four other projects with particular issues. More detailed information on the performance of all commissions is provided in **Appendix Seven.**

4.1.4   Officers propose to concentrate performance management effort on the project that is rated amber, and those reported under Section 4.2, which focuses on project level issues.

4.1.5   As noted above (3.3.10) intervention, support and challenge are at the highest level (red) to ensure robust performance management actions continue to be taken across Priority 3.

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[2] Commissioning Performance Management Framework, Item 5, Grants Committee, meeting on 8 February 2017

Table Three: RAG Results October 2017 – March 2018

Service area	Organisation (lead)	Project	Partners	RAG Rating Oct - Dec 2017	RAG Rating Jan – Mar 2018
1.1	Shelter	STAR Partnership (Supporting Tenancies, Accommodation and Reconnections)	Thames Reach, Stonewall Housing, St Mungo's	Green ↘	Green ↗
1.1	St Mungo Community Housing Association	Housing Advice, Resettlement and Prevention Connect (HARP)	n/a	Green ↔	Green ↗
1.2	New Horizon Youth Centre	London Youth Gateway	Depaul UK, Stonewall Housing, Galop, Albert Kennedy Trust and Shelter	Green ↔	Green ↔
1.3	Homeless Link	PLUS Project	Shelter	Green ↓	Green ↑
1.3	Standing Together Against Domestic Violence	Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA)	n/a	Amber ↔	Amber ↑
2.1	Tender Education and Arts	London Councils pan-London VAWG Consortium Prevention Project	IMECE, Women and Girls' Network (WGN), The Nia Project, Solace Women's Aid, Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), FORWARD, Ashiana Network and Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO)	Green ↗	Green ↑
2.2	Solace Women's Aid	Ascent: Advice and Counselling	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, Jewish Women's Aid (JWA) Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), The Nia project, Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASAC), Rights of Women (ROW), Southall Black Sisters (SBS), Women and Girls Network (WGN)	Green ↔	Green ↔

Service area	Organisation (lead)	Project	Partners	RAG Rating Oct - Dec 2017	RAG Rating Jan – Mar 2018
2.2	Galop	The LGBT DAP (Domestic Abuse Partnership)	Stonewall Housing, London Friend and Switchboard	Green ↔	Green ↔
2.2	SignHealth	DeafHope London	n/a	Green ↗	Green ↔
2.3	Women's Aid	Pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines and Data Collection Project	Refuge, Women and Girls Network (WGN), Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC) and Respect	Green ↗	Green ↔
2.4	Ashiana Network	Specialist Refuge Network	Ashiana Network, Solace Women's Aid, Nia project, IKWRO and Iranian & Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation	Green ↔	Green ↔
2.5	Women's Resource Centre	The ASCENT project	RESPECT (perpetrators), Imkaan, Rights of Women, Against Violence and Abuse and Women and Girls Network	Green ↑	Green ↑
2.6	Asian Women's Resource Centre	Ascent Ending Harmful Practices project	Ashiana Network, Latin American Women's Rights Service, IKWRO, IMECE Women's Centre, Southall Black Sisters Trust, Women and Girls Network, FORWARD and Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP)	Green ↔	Green ↔
3	Disability Times Trust	Directions West London	ACDA, New Challenge & Action West London	RE-BASED	Red
3	London Training and Employment Network	Steps into Work	Breaking Barriers, Centrepoint Soho, HCT Group, Latin America Women Rights Service (LAWRS), Refugee Action Kingston (RAK), Skillsland Ltd & Storm Family Centre		Red
3	MI ComputSolutions	Community Life Change	Successful Mums, Royal Mencap, Resource Plus, Centre Point & Train 2 Work.		Red
3	Paddington Development Trust	Gold	Urban Partnership Group, Equi-vision, Get Set, Westminster and Wandsworth Mind, (St Mungo's & CITE).		Red/Amber
3	Redbridge CVS	Aim Higher	Bromley by Bow Centre, HCT, LTEN, Osmani Trust & Volunteer Centre Hackney		Red
3	Redbridge CVS	Outreach East	ATN, DABD, East Thames, Ellingham, Harmony House, Hope 4 Havering & MADAS		Red

4.2 **Project issues**

The following section provides further detail about specific projects.

Priority 1

4.2.1 **Standing Together Against Domestic Violence (STADV)**

RAG rated Amber: Delivery has fallen below the 85 per cent tolerance for three consecutive quarters; however, officers can report a significant improvement in performance against targets in this period. The groundwork undertaken to develop contacts and links from local authorities has enabled over-delivery on workshops which STADV anticipate continuing throughout 2018-19.

Following officer recommendations to improve data recording systems, satisfactory systems are now in place to monitor and verify information submitted to London Councils. STADV reports it will additionally be implementing a new system to link outcome monitoring with progress against four accreditation standards.

STADV is currently working to an action plan to address under-delivery and officers met with them to discuss implementation and reporting requirements. STADV has further developed its engagement and work plans, and planned four extra workshops per quarter to ensure continued over-delivery to catch up on under-performance. STADV has also adopted its own RAG rating system for providers signing up to accreditation. Two housing providers have been accredited to-date and seven more have signed up to be accredited through 2018/19. Sign-ups to the online accreditation toolkit have proved popular and a new method to upload documents will be trialled to improve document submission and progress monitoring.

Members endorsed officers' approach to replace some standard outcomes not adding value for boroughs, with more bespoke accreditation related outcomes at the March 2018 meeting. Two new outcomes will be introduced from quarter 5 and STADV is pro-actively reviewing and developing evaluation methods to ensure robust data is captured.

Officers are confident that if similar progress and over-delivery is seen in the next quarters to address the year one shortfall, the RAG rating should move into green. A further update will be provided at the next Committee meeting.

4.2.2 **Shelter**

London Councils reported significant under-delivery related to reconnections of rough sleepers outside the UK at the March 2018 meeting. A large underspend was also expected, now confirmed as £44,918, which arose partly due to the wider service level issues related to changes in the number of encampments, and the impact of a recent judicial review changing the position on rough sleeping related to EU free movement rights, leading to fewer referrals to the project.

Officers continued to monitor this changing situation and consulted with sub-regional leads, a borough representative and the GLA's housing section. These stakeholders also observed a reduction in large scale encampments and felt they would be unlikely to return to their former levels. In addition, they report a decrease in CEE[3] rough sleepers (supported by the latest CHAIN[4] data), but particularly among those usually affected by drug, alcohol or mental health issues who would wish to reconnect to services in their home country. Figures have started to rise slightly and Shelter report a small increase in encampments in this quarter, but not to the same levels previously seen.

Reconnections work is part of a wider range of activities that Thames Reach delivers to meet commissioned outcomes. In quarter four this included receiving hotspot referrals leading to multiple street outreach visits to meet and assess rough sleepers and help them find solutions, helping people into winter shelters, supporting people off the street into No Second Night Out (NSNO)[5] and hostel accommodation, securing long term accommodation with boroughs, facilitating access to local mental health teams as well as work around general health, financial hardship issues, tenancy sustainment, and access to employment, training and education services.

Officers conclude that a need for this work remains, but at a much lower level than envisaged at application stage. Officers therefore propose re-profiling to remove this outcome as part of the reporting requirement but to maintain the activity where relevant. Thames Reach should continue to promote this work

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[3] CEE is Central and Eastern European – represent high levels of rough sleepers in London (Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovinia and Slovakia)
[4] CHAIN reports present information about people rough sleeping reported by outreach teams in London. Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN) is a multi-agency database recording information about rough sleepers and the wider street population in London
[5] NSNO provides a rapid response to new rough sleeping in London

with CEE clients and other outreach teams and agencies working with this group, providing support where appropriate. Quarterly updates will be requested to ensure there is an ongoing review of the issue. The London Councils service specification contains a number of standard outcomes, of which commissions are required to deliver a minimum of ten. The Shelter Commission exceeds this number and with the removal of this outcome will continue to deliver against 13 of the standard outcomes.

4.2.3 **Homeless Link**

RAG rated Green: This commission was reported to the last Grants Committee meeting as cumulative outcomes and new users figure had breached the 15 per cent tolerance. This quarter's performance has significantly improved with delivery relating to the two under-performing outcomes now comfortably within the 15 per cent tolerance for quarter four (and cumulatively against the annual target). The new users profile has been adjusted to reflect the pattern of delivery undertaken by a second tier project.

Priority 2

4.2.4 **Tender Education and Arts**

RAG rated Green: This commission's RAG and delivery has risen from quarter three as the commission delivered additional Healthy Relationship projects to make up for those that were delayed in quarter three. However, the commission remains affected by circumstances within the schools which lead to school assemblies having to be rescheduled. At the end of quarter four, the commission had some Healthy Relationship assemblies that were scheduled to be delivered in quarter four, but were unable to due to unforeseen issues in two schools. The commission provided additional activities to address the issues that arose and have scheduled the outstanding sessions to be held at the beginning of quarter five.

5   Communications and borough engagement

5.1   At the March Grants Committee, members endorsed a Communications Plan for the Grants Programme. Officers have implemented the actions set out in the plan including, reports to the relevant borough officer networks (VAWG Coordinators Network and Housing Needs and Homelessness Group), creating an online directory

with information on referral pathways, and supported commissions to raise the profile of their activities using social media.

5.2 A key audience in the communications plan is relevant borough officers, as many of the referrals to the programme come from them (the 2015-16 Grants Review concluded that an enhanced role for boroughs in the programme was essential to ensure the programme complemented local provision). To increase referrals, the following providers have presented at key borough officers networks[6] since the start of the programme: Standing Together Against Domestic Violence, Homeless Link, Galop, Solace Women's Aid, New Horizon Youth Centre and Women's Aid.

5.3 Maps setting out the profiled levels of need against actual delivery are provided in **Appendix Five**. At the March meeting of the Grants Committee officers identified three boroughs - Barking and Dagenham, Barnet and Wandsworth - as boroughs with the greatest difference between the profiled levels of need and actual delivery. Officers have worked with the borough grants officers, and providers have focused their efforts on raising awareness and promoting referral mechanisms. Each of the boroughs has seen an improvement in delivery against profile, which is outlined in figure 6 below.

Figure 6

	Quarter 3 (Oct-Dec 2017)		Quarter 4 (Jan - Mar 2018)	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Priority 1				
Barking and Dagenham	3.02%	1.96%	3.00%	2.22%
Barnet	3.86%	2.58%	3.86%	2.62%
Wandsworth	3.11%	2.09%	3.10%	2.26%
Priority 2				
Barking and Dagenham	4.31%	2.09%	4.55%	3.82%
Barnet	4.71%	3.01%	4.57%	3.21%
Wandsworth	4.69%	3.04%	4.54%	3.85%

5.4 At quarter four, officers identified five boroughs that to-date have received a lower level of service than profiled, in comparison to other boroughs under both Priority 1 and Priority 2. These boroughs are Barnet, Bexley, Harrow, Kensington and Chelsea and Southwark. Officers will contact the borough grants officer in these five boroughs to coordinate a response and will provide an update to the next meeting of the Grants Committee in November.

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[6] Housing Directors, Housing Needs and Homelessness Network and Violence Against Women and Girls Coordinators

5.5   As part of maintaining accountability to the boroughs over the four year delivery cycle, officers sent out a survey to borough officers at the end of the first year of the programme to capture information on how successfully grants projects across Priority 1 and 2 are integrating with local services (the results of this survey are presented in **Appendix Two**). Both priorities scored highly for awareness among borough officers, however, a number of borough officers were unclear about some of the commissions and how their work compliments borough's service provision. A reminder will be sent to commissions regarding the grant conditions on making contact with borough officers. It is important to note that for some smaller organisations, borough engagement can present capacity issues, which diverts resources from delivery. Commissions have shown some creative ways of supporting each other, and the team will support this where possible.

5.6   Officers undertake a quarterly update of the borough officer contact lists. It is important that boroughs support this process by keeping the members of the team at London Councils informed of changes in personnel. The majority of officers found that the information from London Councils about the commissions has improved significantly from the 2013-17 grants programme. Officers will continue to implement the communications plan agreed by the Grants Committee to make further improvements to levels of awareness.

6   Equalities Audit Report

6.1   The London Councils Grants Programme enables boroughs to tackle high-priority social need where this is better done at pan-London level. The principles of the Grants Programme were agreed in 2012 and re-affirmed in 2016. Of the five programme principals, one is focused on contributing to the objectives of the 2010 Equality Act. Service specifications highlight particular equalities groups to target based on evidence of disproportionate impact, or because they are groups that do not typically go through the local authority route (or need support to do so). The equalities audit report contained at **Appendix Three** provides summary information relating to equalities monitoring information provided by commissions covering the period 2017/18.

6.2   The equalities audit demonstrates that the programme has a strong focus on equalities groups that are disproportionately affected by homelessness, sexual and domestic violence and poverty, in particular, equalities groups that present in small numbers at a borough level that can be supported by specialist pan-London services (for example SignHealth, which supports deaf and hearing impaired people affected by domestic

violence). Where gaps have been identified, commissions will be encouraged to make contact with relevant specialist organisations to increase take up from people with the particular equalities characteristics, or review service delivery to ensure that services are accessible and relevant.

7 Value for Money

7.1 London Councils Grants Programme administers public money on behalf of, and with, the London boroughs and therefore must ensure value for money. Value for money is deemed as the optimal use of resources to achieve the intended outcomes. The National Audit Office model focuses on three E's outlined below.

– *Economy:* minimising the cost of resources used or required (inputs);
– *Efficiency:* the relationship between the output from goods or services and the resources to produce them; and
– *Effectiveness:* the relationship between the intended and actual results of public spending (outcomes)

7.2 The Commissioning Performance Management Framework, agreed by members in February 2017 sets out the controls used to ensure value for money for the programme. This includes checks on audited accounts, which were undertaken by officers in the last quarter, designed to safeguard public money through early identification of financial viability issues. Officers have also reviewed the annual budgets of the commissions and where underspend has been identified this has been deducted from their 2018-19 payments. A 15 per cent cap is in place with regards to projects' overhead costs.

7.3 Commissions were also asked to identify how their project offered value for money in their annual returns. Commissions have reported that they were able to leverage in additional resources as a result of receiving London Councils funding. Six commissions reported being awarded a total of over £2 million additional funding as a result of receiving London Councils funding. Women's Aid has stated that the cost of phone calls to the Domestic Violence Helpline - £14 per call - when compared to the cost of domestic violence and homicide statutory services, represents a significant saving. The specialist nature of service delivery has associated savings, for example the DeafHope project avoids the use of British Sign Language interpreters, saving a reported £3,000 per beneficiary. Commissions have reported ways in which they have kept costs down by sharing management costs across partnerships, lower rental costs through co-

locations and community hosting, appropriate use of volunteers and use of pro bono legal support.

7.4 Value for money has also been demonstrated through the effectiveness of projects. The majority of commissions have performed well against targets. Where issues with delivery have arisen officers have worked closely with the providers to ensure these were addressed. The increase in partnership working, and cross priority working has led to better outcomes for service users. Where relevant, commissions are required to work towards certain quality standards and commissions report on service user involvement in the design and adaptation of the projects. Additionally, information and data provided by the programme has been used by the policy team at London Councils and by other stakeholders to inform the strategic response to these priority areas.

8   London Funders

8.1 London Funders activities are paid for by a subscription from the 33 London local authorities and London Councils. An annual progress report on the performance of London Funders is included at **Appendix Four**. Members are asked to note the report and agree that London Councils officers share this report with relevant borough officers to ensure they are aware of the activities provided. Boroughs pay a reduced subscription to London Funders via London Councils, which is considered in the November budget setting process.

Recommendations

The Grants Committee is asked to:

Note that:

a) At <u>priority</u> level, the outcomes for:

    i) Priority 1 (combatting homelessness) overall were 11 per cent above profile in 2017-18 (Year 1, Q1-4)

    ii) Priority 2 (tackling sexual and domestic violence) overall were -5 per cent below profile in 2017-18 (Year 1, Q1-4)

    iii) Priority 3 (tackling poverty through employment overall were -42 per cent below profile in 2017-18 (October 2016- March 2018).

b) The number of interventions delivered in the relevant quarters is as follows:

    i) Priority 1 (combatting homelessness) – 21,811

    ii) Priority 2 (tackling sexual and domestic violence) – 130,031

    iii) Priority 3 (ESF tackling poverty through employment) – 2,187

c) At <u>project</u> level:

    i) Priority 1&2: In the red, amber, green (RAG) system, 12 projects are green and one is amber.

    ii) Priority 1&2: The direction-of-travel arrows show that the performance of all projects is level or upwards. Further information is provided in Section 4.2 on the project rated amber and four other projects with particular issues. More detailed information on the performance of all commissions is provided in **Appendix Seven.**

    iii) Priority 1&2: Officers propose to concentrate performance management effort on the project that is rated amber, and those reported under the project issues Section 4.2.

    iv) Priority 3: Following a re-basing exercise to address performance issues, all projects remain rated red. Performance management actions, both taken and planned, to support improved delivery are outlined in Section 3.3 of this report.

d) **Note** the progress on the administration of £100,000 per year for two years on behalf of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) to enhance training to front-line professionals on identifying harmful practices, as set out in Section Three.

e) **Endorse** the approach outlined in Section 4.2 in relation to the removing an outcome target for the Shelter STAR project regarding rough sleeper reconnections following consultation with key stakeholders and a review of recent data.

f) **Note** the update on issues raised in the 2015-16 Grants Review (Sections Two, Five, Six and Seven), in particular the focus on borough engagement through the borough officer survey report (**Appendix Two**).

g) **Note** the equalities audit report included at **Appendix Three** and **endorse** officers' approach to addressing issues identified as outlined in Section Six of this report.

h) **Note** the annual performance report provided by London Funders included at **Appendix Four**. **Agree** that London Councils officers share this report with relevant borough officers to ensure they are aware of the activities provided (boroughs pay a reduced subscription to London Funders via London Councils, which is considered in the November budget setting process).

i) Note the borough maps (**Appendix Five**), annual individual borough reports (**Appendix Six**), and updates on actions to address issues with borough level delivery outlined in Section Five.

j) **Agree** to share **Appendix Seven** with their local authority officers encourage greater awareness about referral pathways.

Appendix 1 RAG Rating Methodology

Appendix 2 Survey of Borough Officers Results

Appendix 3 Annual Equalities Audit

Appendix 4 London Funders Annual Report

Appendix 5 Priority Level Borough Maps

Appendix 6 Borough Reports

Appendix 7 Project Delivery Information and Contact Details

Financial Implications for London Councils

Funding for commissions was agreed at the meeting of the Grants Committee in February 2017, within the budget envelope agreed at London Councils Leaders' Committee in November 2016. The London Councils Grants Committee considered proposals for expenditure in 2018/19 at its meeting on 22 November 2017. The Leaders' Committee agreed a budget at its meeting on 5 December 2017.

Legal Implications for London Councils

None

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

Performance of Grants Programme 2017-21, Item 5, 21 March 2018

Performance of Grants Programme 2017-21, Item 5, 22 November 2017

Grants Programme 2017-21 Update Report, Item 13, 12 July 2017

Commissioning Performance Management Framework: Grants Committee Reporting Plan 2017-18 – Grants Committee, Item 14 12 July 2017

London Councils Grants Programme 2017-21, Item 4, London Councils Grants Committee, 8 February 2017

Commissioning Performance Management Framework 2017-21, Item 5 London Councils Grants Committee, 8 February 2017

London Councils officers report quarterly to the Grants Committee on the performance of the grants programme, based on the Commissioning Performance Management Framework agreed by Grants Committee in February 2017.

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):

- 80 or more are rated green
- From 55 to 79.99 are rated amber
- Less than 55 are rated red.

The RAG rating is made up of:

- Performance - delivery of outcomes: 70 per cent
- Quality - provider self-assessment and beneficiary satisfaction: 10 per cent
- Compliance - timeliness and accuracy of reporting, responsiveness and risk management: 20 per cent.

The framework also sets out a risk based approach to monitoring in which levels of monitoring are varied dependent on the RAG score of the project.

The Grants Review 2015-16[7] highlighted a need to adjust the programme to place a greater emphasis on measurement of robust outcomes. In response to this officers adjusted the weighting of the performance category (delivery of outcomes) to increase the emphasis on delivery of robust outcomes (from 60 per cent to 70 per cent).[8] Following this change, officers presented members with proposal to adjust the scoring ranges to ensure they are accurately demonstrating performance and risk, following the changes to the weighting of these in the new programme. The proposal increased the score needed to achieve a green rating from 75 to 80. Members endorsed this approach in March 2018.

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[7] The Grants Review 2015- 16 was a fundamental review of the 2013-17 Grants Programme principles and priorities and included two large public consultations with responses from all 33 boroughs and other key stakeholders

[8] Outcomes and new users are measured at a cumulative level and there is a 15 per cent +/- tolerance on the targets to allow for wider environmental factors affecting delivery

London Councils Grants Programme 2017-21: Survey of Borough Officers
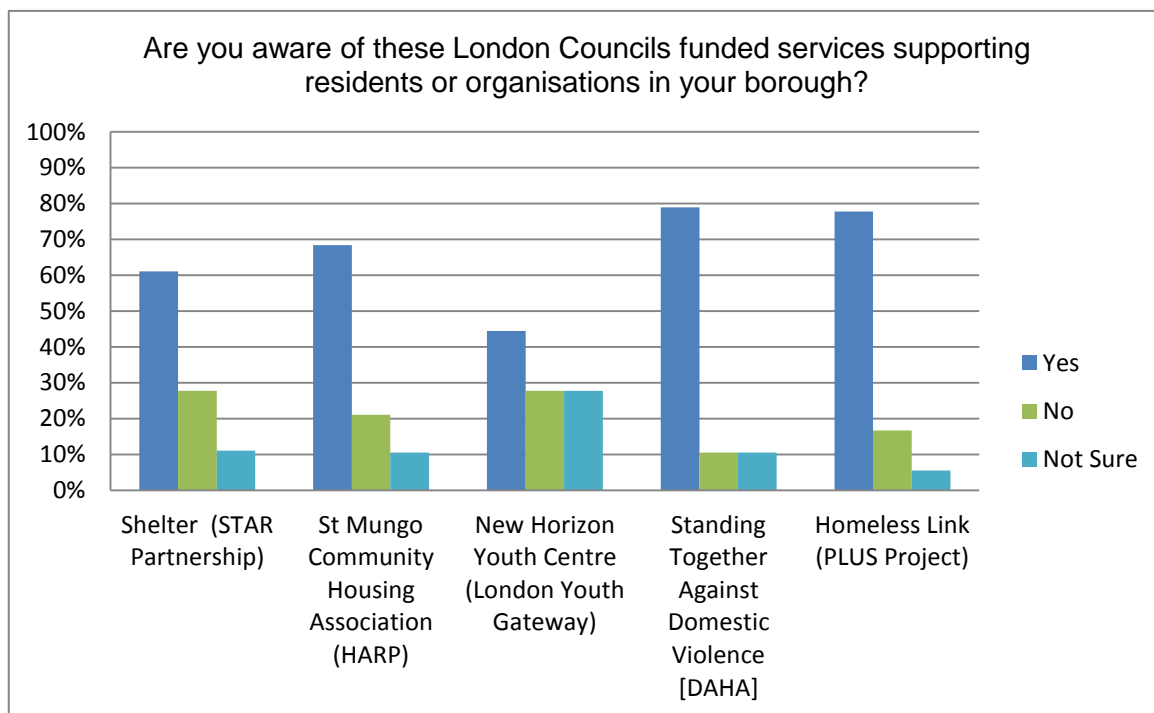
1   Background

1.1   London Councils, on behalf of London's local authorities, provides £6.1 million per annum to thirteen organisations tackling homelessness, sexual violence and domestic abuse across London. The Commissioning Performance Management Framework (CPMF), approved by the Grants Committee February 2017, sets out a revised model of how London Councils monitors and manages the performance of commissioned projects, Revisions to the framework were informed by the 2015-2016 Grants Review. Under the framework, London Councils officers agreed to undertake an annual survey of borough officers to ensure the services are working well with local provision.

1.2   At the end of the first year of the 2017-2021 programme, the Grants team sought the views of borough officers on their awareness and opinions of the Priority 1 and 2 funded commissions. Officers' views were also sought on the steps taken by the Grants team to increase borough engagement in the programme. This report provides a summary of the results of the two surveys.

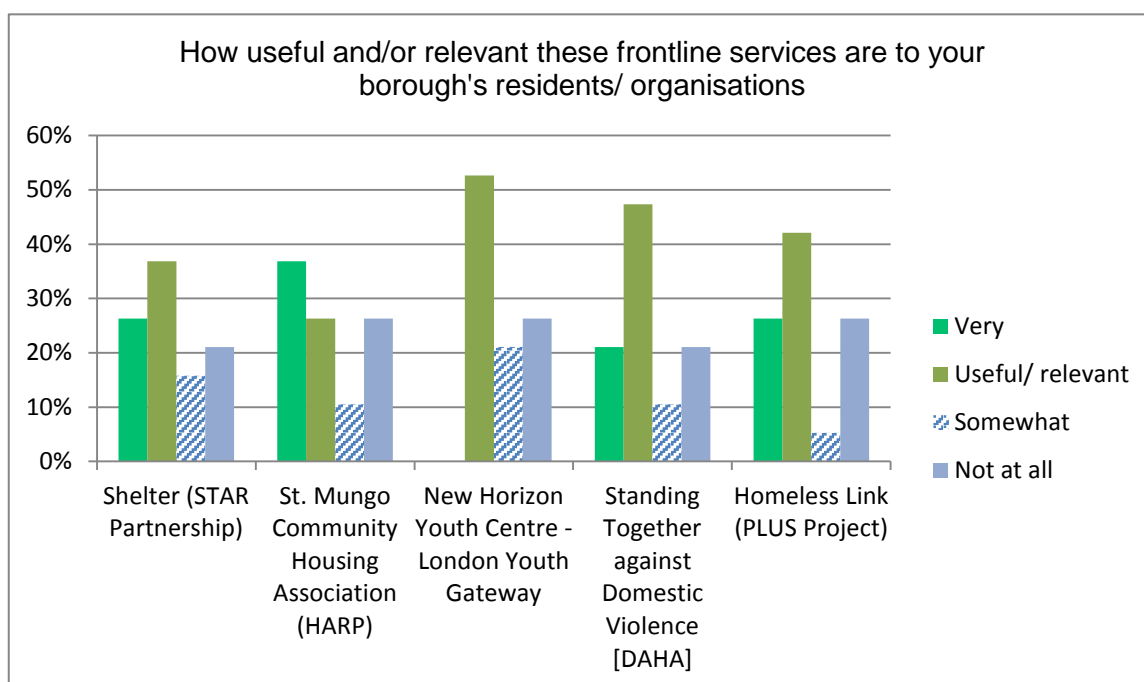**2   Survey preparation and launch**

2.1.   London Councils drafted a survey for each priority. For the Priority 2 survey, officers also consulted with Policy and Public Affairs colleagues at London Councils to ensure relevant questions about proposed changes to the funding of supported housing, which will affect refuges, were included in the survey.

2.2.   The Priority 1 survey was sent to members of the Housing Needs and Homelessness and Housing Network. The Priority 2 survey was sent to members of the VAWG Coordinators Network. In addition surveys were also sent to Borough Grants Officers and any other borough contacts named by the 13 commissions in their quarterly monitoring reports. The surveys were open from 26 April 2018 to 23 May 2018 with an email sent to at least one officer in each local authority. This report summarises the main responses.

3   Priority 1 (Combatting Homelessness)

3.1.   Nineteen replies were received, including more than two responses each from Southwark, Redbridge and Waltham Forest.

Figure one

Are you aware of these London Councils funded services supporting residents or organisations in your borough?

3.2. The majority of responding borough officers were aware of the five commissions. Standing Together Against Domestic Violence's DAHA project and Homeless Link's Plus Project had the highest awareness scores; New Horizon Centre's London Youth Gateway project had the lowest at 44 per cent.

Figure two

How useful and/or relevant these frontline services are to your borough's residents/ organisations

Boroughs were then asked how useful and/or relevant the services were to their residents. In contrast to the first question, New Horizon Youth Centre scored the highest of all the commissions. Borough officers felt all the commissions were relevant/useful, with 22 per cent of all the responses rating the commissions as "very useful".

3.3.   Comments were sought from officers on the usefulness of the commissions. Homeless Link, Shelter and STADV in particular, were mentioned by several boroughs as being proactive. Homeless Link's PLUS project has been helping boroughs prepare for the Homelessness Reduction Act.

3.4.   Homeless Link and St Mungo's scored highly on how well their services integrated with existing borough provision. Shelter received a mixed response and New Horizon Youth Centre received the highest number of "don't know" responses.

Figure three
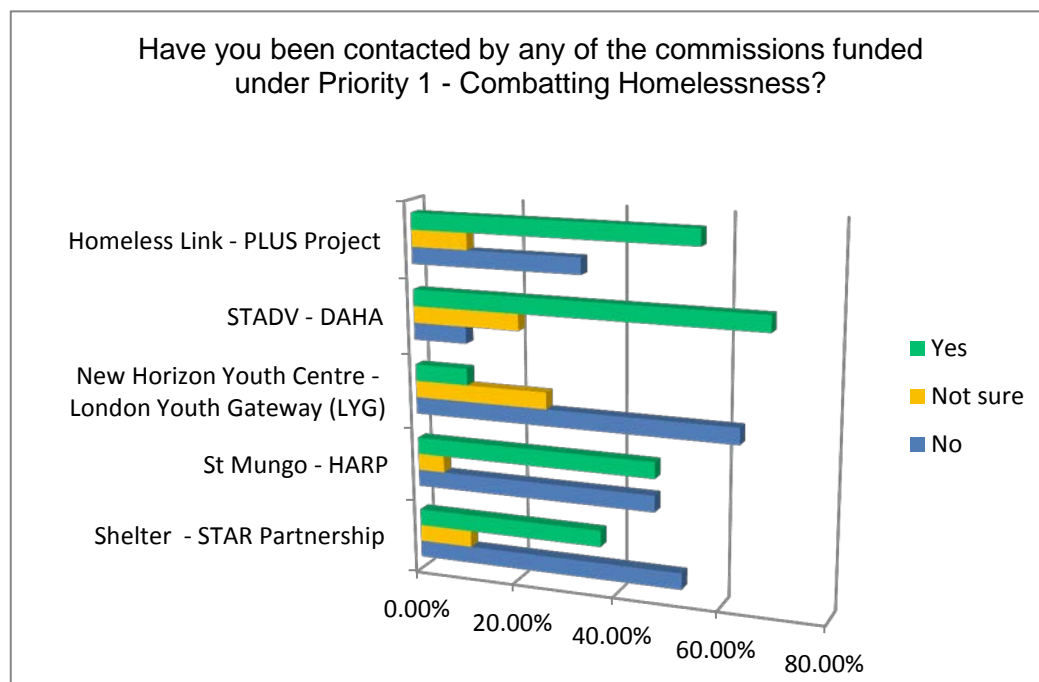
3.5.   44 per cent of respondents had been contacted by one of the commissions; 15 per cent were not sure if they had been contacted. STADV scored highest for contacting officers, New Horizon Youth Centre scored the lowest (commissions have reported challenges in contacting relevant staff in boroughs due to turnover and general movement of staff to other areas of work).

3.6.   Only 10 per cent of respondents did not take up the service after being contacted. However, a significant number reported that they were not contacted by a commission (36 per cent). This figure corresponds with the responses on awareness of the commissions and how well they are integrating with existing borough provision.

3.7. The survey asked a series of questions about the awareness and quality of communications from the Grants team. 14 out of the 19 respondents answered these questions. 49 per cent of officers had seen, or were aware of, at least one of the communications. The written reports (by officers) and presentations (by providers) to the Homelessness and Housing Needs Network where the most widely utilised and useful of the listed methods of communications (seen by 67 per cent of respondents). 43 per cent attended the Priority 1 launch event in October 2017. The Employment and Inclusion Update[9] was seen by 21 per cent.

3.8. Only one of the 14 boroughs that replied to the Priority 1 survey linked their website to the London Councils' grants pages, which have information on the commissions and referral pathways.

3.9. In total 35 per cent of respondents thought the information from London Councils about the commissioned services had improved "a lot" from the 2013-17 grants programme. No boroughs thought it had worsened. The majority of officers felt "somewhat informed", but only a third felt "very informed".

4   Priority 2 (Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence)

4.1. Thirteen replies were received, including one joint response from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham, and the City of Westminster, and two responses from London Borough of Greenwich (two different departments).

4.2. The majority of responding borough officers were aware of the eight commissions funded under Priority 2. The responses are shown in Figure four below. Most commissions received awareness scores of at least 75 per cent. SignHealth and Women's Aid received the highest; Ashiana had the lowest at 58 per cent.

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[9] An email briefing about the commissions was sent bi-monthly to the various borough officer network members until November 2017 and is currently being reviewed.

Figure four

Are you aware of these London Councils funded services supporting your borough's residents?
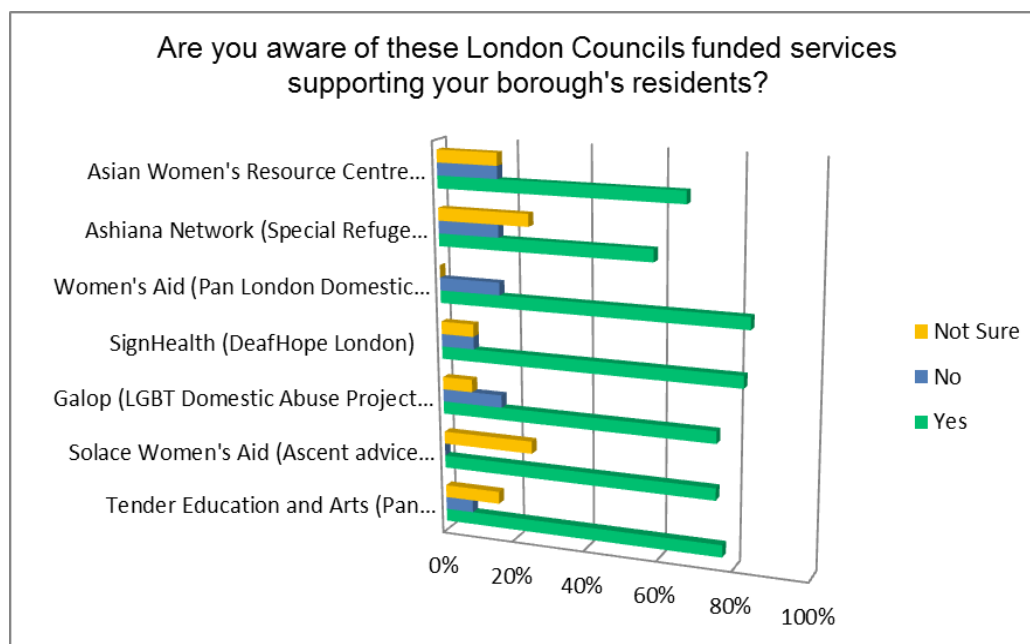
4.3. The survey revealed that 98 per cent of respondents thought the services were very useful and/or relevant. Ashiana, Women's Resource Centre (WRC) and Solace Women's Aid were perceived as not useful by a small number of borough officers. The results are shown in Figure five below.

Figure five

How useful and/or relevant are these services to your borough's residents/ organisations?
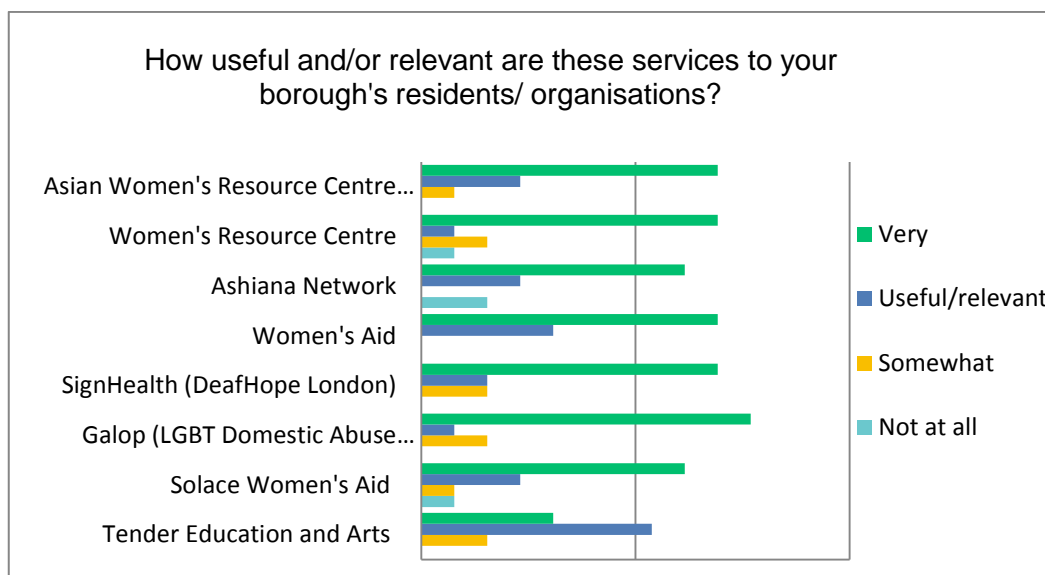
Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC), Solace and GALOP in particular were mentioned by officers for being most useful in their boroughs. In particular, officers highlighted the specialist nature of many of the commissions and their partners such as IMECE and IKWRO.

4.4. Comments were sought from officers on the usefulness of the commissions:

"Solace Women's Aid who have been working in partnership with our own commissioned services to support women. Outcomes are very good and partnership working is faultless"

"*GALOP - we do not have a specialist LGBT service in borough, so the support on offer to our residents is very useful"*

"We have had little/no contact from most of the services, and I don't know if they are actually operating in the borough or to what extent. Unfortunatlely[sic] we don't have the capacity to be proactive in building relationships with them all".

4.5.   There appears to be some lack of awareness or confusion around Tender and Ashiana's commissions. Tender has a phased cycle of delivery, where only a selection of boroughs receives service at any one time, which may not be understood. Ashiana's service is very specialist with a small number of bed spaces, but this commission also includes outreach support and training for professionals so boroughs may not be sure if, or how they can use the service.

4.6. Officers were asked how well the services enhanced or integrated with their existing borough provision. 58 per cent of respondents thought they integrated well or very well. GALOP, SignHealth, Women's Aid and AWRC scored very highly. A number said they did not know how well Tender integrated with their exiting provision.

4.7.   Most respondents reported that they had been contacted by a commission, with SignHealth and GALOP receiving the highest scores. 60 per cent of the respondents stated that they had not been contacted by Tender. This is likely due to the fact that Tender delivers a rolling programme of prevention work in schools in 16 boroughs per year.

4.8.   The survey then asked a series of questions about the awareness and quality of a number of communications from the Grants team. Nine out of the 13 respondents answered these questions. The reports (by officers) and presentations (by providers) to the VAWG Coordinators group were the most widely utilised and useful of the listed methods of communication. Half of the respondents attended the Priority 2 launch event in September 2017 and 22 per cent had seen or used the Employment and Inclusion update. The response to this question can be seen in Figure six below.

Figure six
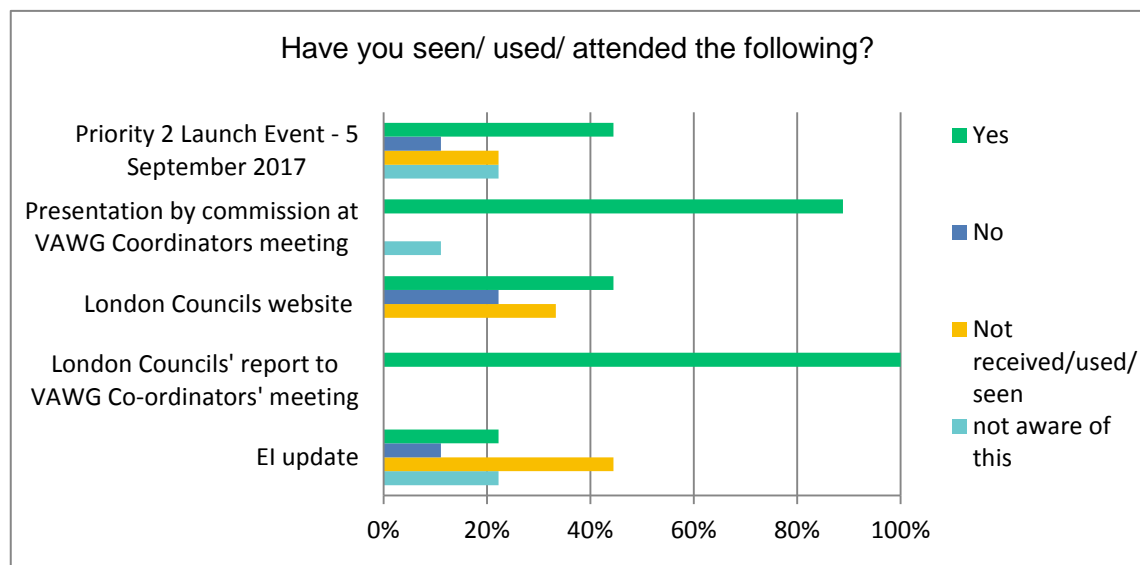
4.9. Nine boroughs out of thirteen have a link on their borough's website to London Councils' grant pages which have information about the commissions and referral routes. 56 per cent of respondents thought the information from London Councils about the commissioned services had improved "a lot" from the 2013-17 grants programme. No boroughs thought it had worsened. 66 per cent of officers felt "somewhat informed" and a third said they felt very informed. There was a 56/44 per cent split between those who felt they did not receive enough information and those who felt they had the right amount.

4.10. The survey also asked for suggestions on how the Grants team could improve the way information was provided to the boroughs. The following are a selection of the comments received.

"It would be very helpful to know the actual activity in individual boroughs as it is not clear what outcomes or services are being delivered or whether boroughs are getting an equal share in service provision."

"Regular email communications would help improve information provision."

"A newsletter/leaflet through VAWG coordinators -The WRC one is very good - Communication at local level VAWG forum and Delivery Board -It would be more useful if more delivery partners reach out local council VAWG coordinators".

5   Conclusions

5.1. Both surveys show that there is high awareness of most of the commissions, however, there is a small number of commissions that are less familiar to borough officers, with less understanding of what they are offering and how they can integrate into local

provision. The low scores for integration and relevance often correlated with awareness of the commission. It is clear that some commissions have been very successful in engaging boroughs and they will be encouraged to share their methods with the other commissions.

5.2. It is clear that a significant amount of correspondence is not being seen or used by the relevant borough officers. Over the past year, the Grants team has endeavoured to keep the contact lists up to date but more needs to be done to stay on top of staffing changes.

5.3. The surveys have shown the broad range of borough officers that the funded commissions have made links with. In addition to VAWG coordinators, borough grants officers and housing leads, the commissions have also named officers from community safety, public health, neighbourhoods and growth, strategic commissioning departments and stakeholder engagement teams.

6   Next Steps

6.1. The results of the two surveys will be shared with borough officers through the relevant borough officer networks i.e. Borough Grants Officers, Housing Needs and Homelessness, Housing Directors and VAWG Coordinators Networks. Where boroughs have raised specific issues, grants officers will contact them to discuss these further.

6.2. Borough Officers will be encouraged to keep the Grants team informed of staff changes so that communications can be sent to the relevant person(s); the grants team will also continue to cross-check borough officer lists with the officer network and send these out to the commissions to ensure they have the correct contacts. Borough officers will be encouraged to circulate information about the commissions within their teams and boroughs will be encouraged to link their website to the London Councils' Grants Programme pages, which contain information on the commissions and referral pathways.

6.3. The Grants team is reviewing the format and frequency of information sent to boroughs. The intelligence gathered through the surveys will inform this work.

6.4. Feedback from the findings of the surveys will be given to the lead partners as part of continuing performance management. Where commissions have received lower ratings for contact and awareness they will be reminded of their conditions of grant and encouraged to contact boroughs again.

London Councils Grants Programme 2017-21 Annual Equalities Audit

1 Background

1.1 The London Councils Grants Programme enables boroughs to tackle high-priority social need where this is better done at pan-London level. The principles of the Grants Programme (re-affirmed in 2016) include contributing to the objectives of the 2010 Equality Act. The priorities of the Grants Programme agreed by Leaders' Committee (combatting homelessness, sexual and domestic violence and poverty) have a strong equalities focus due to the fact they affect the most disadvantaged in society and they are areas that are over-represented by particular equalities groups. In addition, the priorities focus on issues that can be difficult for boroughs to address at a local level due to the need for specialist provision or they relate to people moving across London to flee violence associated with their equalities characteristic (e.g. LGBT hate crime, domestic violence). Equalities considerations are integrated within the design, delivery and review stages of the commissioning cycle, including the service specifications, co-produced with boroughs and key stakeholders, highlighting particular equalities groups in need of the service.

2 Protected Equalities Groups Quarters 1-4 (2017/18) (Year 1)

2.1 The following paragraphs compare the equalities monitoring information provided by the funded commissions for 2017/18 against London wide data sourced from the GLA London Datastore and Office of National Statistics census data. The categories cover the protected characteristics outlined in the Equality Act 2010.

3 Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness: (2017/18 Delivery period) Comparison with London wide protected equalities group percentage figures

3.1 **Age**

Figure one

Age categories	Priority 1 and 2	London data
16 – 24 years	46.23%	10.62%
55 – 64 years	4.94%	9.48%
65+ years	1.91%	11.74%

3.2   The percentage take-up of Priority 1 services for the age group 16 to 24 of 46.23 per cent far outstrips the London wide percentage average for this age group[10]. This demonstrates the growing need for youth homelessness services in London and reflects the Grants Committee decision to refocus the programme more on youth homelessness to respond to increasing need. There is a marked difference in the percentage take up of homelessness services for age group 55 to 64, where the service take-up is 4.94 per cent, which is below the London wide percentage figure. For the age group 65+ the difference in percentage take up, at 1.91 per cent, and the London wide percentage of 11.74 per cent is significant. Further targeted support to older age groups may be needed to address this difference.

3.3   **Disabled**

Figure two

Protected Characteristic	Priority 1	London data
Disabled	24%	14.15%

3.4   Twenty four per cent of beneficiaries of funded homelessness services have a disability compared to a London average of 14.15 per cent[11]. This largely reflects the high levels of mental health issues affecting homeless people receiving support. There is low take up of services by people who are deaf (31 people) or who are blind or visually impaired (28 people). Commissions may need to further explore links with specialised disabled organisations working with people with sensory impairments to ensure their homelessness support is fully accessible.

3.5   **Ethnic Background**: The over representation of ethnic groups Black, African, Black British, Caribbean and Black other is consistent with the prevalence of homelessness amongst Black communities as reflected in the service specifications. There is 'marginal underrepresentation' of people from ethnic groups Chinese, Latin American, White Irish and White European, against the London wide percentage. This is particularly noted for White Europeans as CEE nationals are a particular service user target for the homelessness prevention and intervention priority. Issues relating to the recent decrease in CEE nationals in rough sleeper statistics and the available options for CEE nationals, following a recent High Court Ruling are highlighted in the main report. Officers will work with providers to monitor this.

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[10] London Datastore Projections, 2018
[11] ONS Census 2011, long term health problem or disability

3.6 **Sexual Orientation/Sex/Identity**: The actual numbers for people with gender identity intersex, non-binary, transgender or unsure/questioning appears to be relatively low (146) from an average surveyed total of 15,300 service users (0.95 per cent of service users supported). Annual monitoring and increased work with specialist gender/identity organisations may be required to remedy any gaps in service take up. London data for these equalities characteristics were not available for comparison.

3.7 **Religion:** Support for people with Christian religion, at 28.41 per cent, is considerably lower than the London wide percentage figure of 48.42 per cent[12]. This may be reflective of the diversity of ethnic groups supported, with a diverse range of religion/belief.

4 **Priority 2: Sexual and Domestic Violence: (2017/18 Delivery period): Comparison with London wide protected equalities group percentage figures**

4.1 **Age**

Figure three

Age categories	Priority 2	London data
45-54 years	7.46%	12.85%
65+ years	0.96%	11.74%

4.2 There is marked lower percentage take up of services by persons in the older age groups when compared against London wide percentages. Annual monitoring and increased work with specialist organisations for older people may be required to reduce any underrepresentation in service take up.

4.3 **Disabled**

Figure four

Protected Characteristic	Priority 2	London data
Disabled	16.3%	14.15%

4.4 Service take-up as a cumulative percentage for disabled groups is 16.3 per cent, which is greater than the London figure of 14.15 per cent[13]. This reflects the specialist services provided by the sexual and domestic violence commissions, which includes a specialist service for deaf and hearing impaired service users.

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[12] ONS Census 2011
[13] ONS Census 2011, long term health problem or disability

4.5   **Ethnic Background**: The table highlights categories in which there was a significant difference between the Grants Programme and the London averages.

Figure five

Protected Characteristic	*Priority 2*	*London data*
Asian Indian	3.50%	7.04%
Black African	5.70%	7.22%
White British	17.21%	39.43%
White European	4.82%	8.98%
White Other	2.98%	15.40%

4.6   There is a marked difference in service take up for ethnic group Asian Indian, with take up of 3.50 per cent, against a London wide percentage 7.04 per cent. This is similar for the ethnic group Black African with take up being 5.70 per cent, against a London wide percentage of 7.22 per cent. There is a wider margin for take up of services for the ethnic groups White British, White European and White Other. However, commissions have been funded to target specialist needs, particularly within Black and minority ethnic communities. This reflects the nature of the pan-London Grants Programme which focuses on the needs faced by particularly vulnerable groups that are difficult to service at a local level due to small numbers. This includes supporting people affected by issues of FGM, 'honour' based violence and forced marriage and the need to receive services in community languages and by specialist providers.

4.7   **Sex/Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity**: The percentage take up of services by women is higher than the London percentage at 82.10 per cent. This is not surprising, as the incidence of sexual and domestic violence is higher for women and girls as well as the increased rate of serious violence and repeat victimisation. The commissions have also supported 14.44 per cent of male service users (5,471). The combined percentage for take up of services (5.7 per cent) by people with Sexual Orientation Bisexual, Gay Men, Lesbian and other, exceeds the percentage figure for London (2.7 per cent[14]). This reflects the nature of the pan-London programme which focuses on need that is difficult to address at a local level in a specialised way, given the small numbers. Again, there are no London wide figures for gender/identity, intersex, non-binary, trans, other and unsure/questioning. Support was provided to 1,312 people within these protected equalities groups; with a cumulative percentage of at 3.46 per cent.

[14] ONS, 2016

4.8   **Pregnancy or Maternity**: Although London wide figures for pregnancy and maternity could not be secured, the take up of services by 1,025 women with pregnancy or maternity protected equalities characteristic may appear low. There may be a need for annual monitoring or further information from commissions to address any potential barriers to service take up by women with pregnancy and maternity responsibilities.

4.9   **Religion**: There are relatively larger margins of underrepresentation in the take up of services (against the London wide percentage figures) for religions Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Sikh. Within the partnerships there are specialised partners focusing on particular groups such as Jewish Women's Aid. However, this may require further exploration with commissions to address any potential barriers to service take up for service users with the above religions.

5   Priority 3: Poverty: (2016/18) Comparison with London wide protected equalities group percentage figures

5.1   The commissions funded under Priority 3: Poverty have agreed targets for the support of protected equalities groups: *Ethnic Minorities; Age group: (those aged 50 and over); male and female; and for Disabled persons.*

5.2   **Age**

Figure Six

Age categories	Priority 3	London data
19-24 years	5.83%	6.94%
25-34	23.02%	9.48%
35-44	27.96%	15.97%
45-54	25.79%	12.85%
55-64	16.80%	15.97%

5.3   There is a slight under representation of age group 19 to 24 against the London wide percentage average for age. This is in line with the Poverty Programme target, where there is a central focus on age group 50 and over. There is a significant level of service take up for age group 25 to 34, 23.02 per cent, against the London wide percentage average of 9.48 per cent. There is similar over representation in take up of services for age group 35 to 44 and 45 to 54. The service take up for age group 55 to 64 is slightly above the London wide average percentage. Although there is over representation of service take up in the age groups 19 to 44, it does not appear to be impacting negatively on the average percentage take up of service for age group including 50 and above.

5.4   **Disabled**

Figure seven

Protected Characteristic	Priority 3	London data
Disabled	17.69%	14.15%

5.5   The percentage take up of services for participants with a declared disability is 17.69 per cent, and for participants with a mental health condition, 14.43 per cent. This exceeds or is in line with the London wide averages. This reflects the target group that the Poverty Programme seeks to support and seeks to address the discrimination faced by disabled people in regard to access to employment[15].

5.6   **Ethnic Background**

Figure eight

Protected Characteristic	Priority 3	London data
BAME	65.91%	47.02%

5.7   The Poverty Programme has been successful in achieving service take up percentage figure of 65.91 per cent for protected equalities group Black and minority ethnic (BAME). This far exceeds the London wide average percentage figure of 47.02 for presence of Black and minority ethnic (BAME) persons in London. This again is attributable to the focus and targeted support to BAME participants, who are impacted disproportionately by poverty and unemployment.

5.8   **Sex and Gender Identity**

Figure nine

Protected Characteristic	Priority 3	London data
Women	65.91%	50.04%

5.9   The Poverty Programme is particularly focussed on engaging women in employment support services. The Programme strives to reduce the gender gap in female participation in the English labour market. This is in recognition that of the gender gap in employment of 11.7 per cent. The percentage service user take up of 65.91 per cent for women on the Poverty Programme (2017/18) is above the London wide percentage average of 50.04 per cent. This again reflects the objective to increase parity between male and female participant levels in the work place.

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[15] Office for Disability Issues: Official Statistics: Disability facts and figures: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disability-facts-and-figures/disability-facts-and-figures

London Funders Annual Report to London Councils – April 2018

April 2017 to March 2018

The London Councils Grants Committee pays £60,000 in subscriptions on behalf of all London Boroughs. As well as providing a £14,800 saving to local government in London, the subscriptions pay for a range of services open to local authority members and staff.

Further, having all 33 London Local Authorities and London Councils within the membership of London Funders enables us to leverage additional funding to undertake pan-London initiatives. In 2017-18 this totalled just over £100,000 of additional investment.

Summary of Outputs

Activity	Total	Boroughs Covered	Boroughs - Individuals
Events – Networks, Funder Forums & Roundtables Secretariat to Borough Grants Officer Forum	• 13 Network Events • 49 Funder Forums & Roundtables • 4 Forum Meetings • 3 Meetings to support the Leadership in the Third Sector sub-group for The Way Ahead	32 & London Councils	196
Meetings – Bespoke support for London Councils and borough members*	• 2 Lambeth Funder Forums • Contributing feedback to a London Community Resilience meeting between several London boroughs, London Councils, the GLA and other stakeholders • Speaking and engaging with elected members at the 'Innovating Redbridge' conference • Supporting the developing funding partnership between Islington Council and Cripplegate Foundation • Providing expertise on social infrastructure to the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and its Participatory City Initiative • Briefing the Corporation of London's new Head of Philanthropy Strategy • Sharing expertise with London Councils and Ernst and Young on the London Ventures programme • One-off meetings and catch ups with London Councils staff	9 & London Councils	50

Activity	Total	Boroughs Covered	Boroughs - Individuals
E-bulletin	12	33 & London Councils	450
Publications	• 15 Meeting Reports • 12 Research papers/ Reports/blogs	33 & London Councils	450

*Excluding the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the ongoing support which London Funders has provided to the borough following the Grenfell Tower Fire.

London Funders has also engaged with borough members at various meetings and events outside of regular networks and forums. These include:

- Member visits to the London Boroughs of Ealing and Merton to discuss the London funders draft 2018-21 strategy.
- Speaking at the annual Richmond voluntary sector conference alongside the Cabinet Member from the London Borough of Richmond.
- Speaking and being on the judging panel of Voluntary Action Islington's annual volunteer awards, along with officers from the London Borough of Islington.
- Speaking at Greater London Volunteering's AGM to support the adoption of a new governing document to create the 'Hub for London' for civil society support.
- Speaking at the APPG for London on the value of the third sector in the capital and the role of funders, local authorities and others in enabling communities to thrive.
- Speaking at the Superhighways' Impact Aloud event.
- Sitting on Centre for London's 'Giving in London' Advisory Group.
- Sitting on the Thrive London steering group.
- Participating in the Corporation of London's event on the Role of Philanthropy in London's Civic Identity.
- Participating in the launch of 'Bite Size' – a report by Guys and St Thomas's Charity examining the causes of childhood obesity in Lambeth and Southwark.
- Participating in the New Local Government Association's annual conference - 'Changemakers Assemble'.
- Participating in the Corporation of London's annual Local Government Dinner.
- Participating in the City Bridge Trust's annual dinner, alongside London Councils and other local government stakeholders.
- Participating in the Islington Giving annual celebration.
- Participating in the launch of the Young Westminster Foundation.
- Participating in the NPC events including its annual conference, the State of the Sector Launch and a 'Should Charities Step in for Public Services' roundtable
- Participating in the launch of the 'Power of Place' – A conference hosted by Collaborate, Lankelly Chase Foundation, Local Trust, Locality and Power to Change bringing together individuals from across civil society to share their experiences, learning and think creatively to achieve better outcomes for our communities.
- Participating in youth provision roundtables at the GLA.

About London Funders

London Funders is the membership network for funders and investors in London's civil society. We provide a safe place to think, share, learn and act together to meet the needs of Londoners.

The formal objects of London Funders are for the benefit of the public and particularly to improve the conditions of life of people who live and work in Greater London.

This is through:

- The advancement of citizenship and community development, particularly by: promoting the voluntary and community sector; providing advice and information particularly on funding and social investment opportunities to facilitate co-operation and collaboration between the voluntary and community sector and funding organisations; providing resources and funding to the voluntary and community sector.
- The advancement of education, particularly by: providing training and information to the voluntary and community sector and funding organisations; facilitating the exchange of information, knowledge and experience between the voluntary and community sector and funding organisations; to enable funding organisations to provide support and funding to the voluntary and community sector more effectively.

With 125 members London Funders is unique in bringing together public sector funders and commissioners, with Independent Foundations, Social and Corporate Investors, Lottery Funders and others. Since April 2017 to the present day, we have had 13 members join London Funders. These range from trusts and foundations (e.g. Woodroffe Benton Foundation), corporate foundations (e.g. Blackbaud, Wellington Management) Livery Companies (The Leathersellers Company) and housing associations (The L&Q group).

Borough involvement in London Funders:

- 32 Boroughs participated in one or more London Funders Networks, Funder Forums or Roundtables during the year;
- 196 individuals participated in one or more London Funders Networks, Funder Forums or Roundtables during the year;
- 450 borough Members and Officers receive our monthly e-bulletin;
- A co-opted Officer from London Councils and Officers from three boroughs (Barking & Dagenham, Hounslow and Southwark) are members of the Board of London Funders.
- Representatives from London Boroughs have also been sitting on the Way Ahead Systems Change Group, including a borough officer from Camden, an elected member from Redbridge, and an officer rep from London Councils.

    NB A borough by borough list of engagement is attached as Annex 1

Purpose of the Subscription

The London Councils subscription provides Borough members and staff with access to the following activities and services:

Learning development networks for all local authority members and officers.

We have facilitated 13 learning development network events:

- Unlocking Assets Network (1): presenting findings on the Young People's Foundations venue bank portal
- Children's & Young People's Network (3), covering: the theme of domestic violence and young children; young people's development (specifically early years); looking at issues surrounding Gypsy, Traveller and Roma children.

- Research & Evaluation Network (5), covering: learning from TSIP's work on supporting grantee measurement for funders; learning from the Lloyds Bank Foundation about how evidence and research can be used not only to improve the foundation's work and better support small and medium-sized charities across their portfolio; learning from Citizens Advice and Big Lottery Fund about how to work with large and complex data sets; a meeting for attendees to discuss the findings of the Research and Evaluation Network survey; a presentation from the Local Trust looking at Big Local's evaluation plan.
- Healthy London Network (2), covering: place-based support collaboratively in south London between the Battersea Power Station Foundation and the Hyde Housing Group; the GLA consulting with the group on its draft Health Inequality Strategy; presentations from London Sport reflecting on their Social Prescription Survey for Grantees; an initial meeting scoping out the funding landscape of London and what more could be done collaboratively.
- London's Giving Masterclasses (2), including covering the basics about monitoring and evaluation for measuring impact and change and connecting with local businesses.

Annual programme of Funder Forums and Roundtables for all local authority members and officers

We have convened, hosted and run 49 Funder Forums, roundtables and project meetings. These provide a space for members to be briefed on significant issues facing London, and to contribute to long term thinking on the sustainability of civil society in London. Our meetings from 2017-18 have covered:

Future of support for civil society in London at a local and regional level

- 4 meetings of the Way Ahead systems Change Group.
- An away day of the Systems Change Group analyzing the first draft of The Way Ahead's change plan.
- A multi-stakeholder conference where the Way Ahead Change Plan was shared with stakeholders, setting out practical actions for the coming year and beyond.
- A meeting with business broker organisations about how to align the recommendations of The Way Ahead with businesses.
- A sub-group meeting on the communications strategy for The Way Ahead.
- A cross-sector consultation meeting discussing the social infrastructure element of the GLA's draft London Plan.
- Our annual AGM on the theme of 'A New Term'. Following the business part of the meeting, Matthew Ryder (Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement) reflected on his first year in the role and how the GLA can work with the independent funding community to create change.

Increasing cross-sector working to better resource the sector

- A leadership transition event, providing the opportunity for London Funders members from across its membership to engage (or re-engage) with the organisation.
- 2 London's Giving Reference Group Meetings.
- 3 London's Giving Project Group Meetings.
- 3 Development Leads sessions for key workers in London's Giving boroughs.
- The launch of 'A Place to Give' – a how to guide on setting up a borough-based giving scheme.

Specialist services to meet the needs of London's diverse communities

- 4 meetings facilitating aligned funding for London's Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations.

- A meeting co-hosted with the GLA's social policy team on generating and sharing data on migrants and refugees.
- A meeting between London Funders members and the Migration Exchange funder network on social integration, in partnership with the Greater London Authority.

<u>Ensuring London is a resilient city</u>

- A Universal Credit Breakfast Briefing, with a speaker from the London Borough of Southwark discussing how the implementation of Universal Credit has affected the borough.
- A Lunch and Learn Session on Trust for London's London Poverty Profile.
- Supporting 6 Board meetings of the London Emergencies Trust.

Meetings relating to the Grenfell Tower fire
- An Anchor Core Costs Fund meeting for funders to discuss funding allocation for local organisations that provide community spaces and key services for residents or support smaller community groups to work effectively and in a co-ordinated way.
- 8 decision making meetings of the Community Core Costs Fund, providing almost immediate financial relief to frontline and grassroots organisations in North Kensington in the summer of 2018.
- A wrap-up meeting of funders following the conclusion of funding programmes that ran in the immediate aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire.
- A meeting between funders and the Kensington and Chelsea Social Council, feeding back the needs of the community in north Kensington 6 months on from the Grenfell Tower fire.
- A 'What Next' meeting for funders seeking to provide longer-term support for communities in North Kensington, discussing various funding approaches.
- 4 Steering Groups for the 'Possible not the perfect' report.

Reports, research and publications

We have published:

- 15 meeting reports
- 12 monthly e-bulletins
- 12 research and other papers covering:
  - A Place to Give - London's Place-Based Giving Movement in the Spotlight
  - Building Bridges – Bringing Local Authorities and Independent Funders into Dialogue.
  - The Way Ahead Change Plan
  - A cross-sector consultation response to the social infrastructure element of the Draft London Plan
  - London Funders 2017 Annual Report
  - A review of London Funders' Governance structure with board commentary
  - A blog by John Griffiths (Director, Rocket Science) for The Way Ahead – "2017 Rich List . . . some challenges and opportunities for London"
  - A blog by Rachel Rank (Director, 360 Giving) for London's Giving –" Lifting the Lid on London"
  - A blog by David Warner – 'So if London Funders is one of the best jobs in London, why am I leaving it?'
  - A blog by David Warner in response to the Collaborate Report 'a Whole New World' – "It's a Whole New World?"
  - A blog by David Warner - Striving Towards Excellence – a few thoughts on progress (?) towards people-centred services

- A blog by David Warner - Inspired. Humbled. Angry. - Initial personal reflections from the Grenfell Tower Funding Response
- A blog by David Warner - Are we (collectively) brave enough? - Collaborative Funding Infrastructure

Secretariat to the Borough Grants Officers Forum

We provide the secretariat to the group that brings together the officers from all boroughs and London Councils which has met three times during the year. These meetings are open to all 33 of London's local authorities and regularly attract over half of London boroughs, with a spread of representatives from both inner and outer London. In addition to servicing the actual meetings, preparing the agenda and papers, London Funders also maintains the database of Borough Grants Officers, and works between meetings in supporting boroughs with information, sharing innovation, good practice and connecting borough officers with colleagues in different authorities who are working on similar issues and challenges.

Additionally in the last 12 months we have held a number of meetings for London Councils relating to The Way Ahead, and have provided bespoke support to the London Borough of Lambeth by facilitating a funder forum. More information can be found in the above tables.

Studies and projects looking at major, strategic issues facing civil society in London (with other funders)

We have taken the lead on a number of studies and projects looking at major, strategic issues facing civil society in London. These include:

London's Giving

London's Giving is a project of London Funders, inspired by the work of Islington Giving and funded by the Corporation of London's charity City Bridge Trust, established in 2014 to provide practical support to place based giving schemes. The London's Giving initiative has now moved from a 'support phase' towards embedding a 'giving movement'. The objectives of the project from 2017-2020 are to:

- Provide tailored support for local giving schemes
- Maintain and extend the Learning Network
- Developing a knowledge hub on place-based giving
- Establishing a sustainable future for place-based giving in London

The current status of place based giving is:

- 10 schemes are established
- 2 are operational but not yet launched
- 5 are in development with London's Giving staff time allocated
- 11 have expressed an interest and met with the London's Giving team
  =28 total

In July 2017, the London's Giving team published 'A Place to Give', a report examining the learning from the first phase of the London's Giving initiative, alongside a short film, demonstrating how

Islington Giving is mobilising and connecting, residents, businesses, third and public sector organisations in the London Borough of Islington.

During 2017, London Funders commissioned the development of a place based giving metrics framework which will help local schemes to articulate their outcomes, and enable London Funders to aggregate the impact of this approach across London. The framework seeks to measure the value of funds raised and distributed and the volunteer hours contributed, alongside the wider changes secured as a result of the collaborations. The first metrics report will be published in summer 2018.

We also commissioned a scoping study on a shared giving portal. Our conclusions are that the schemes are sufficiently different not to need this, and that there are a number of giving portals already on the market. However, as a result of this review, we have now commissioned a stand-alone London's Giving website which will promote the concept of local giving, link people to local schemes, and connect people to data about needs in their local area.

Looking ahead, London Funders will be embedding London's Giving as a member service and sharing learning though networks. We will also continue to contribute to wider debates about place based giving and the impact of funder collaboration.

The Way Ahead

In April 2016 we launched the final report of our collaboration with London Voluntary Services Council and Greater London Volunteering on the future of civil society in London. 'The Way Ahead – Civil Society at the Heart of London' mapped out a bold new vision for how civil society support can be reorganised to better support London's communities. The vision starts with co-producing an understanding of need and how to tackle it with communities, through to better sharing of intelligence and data across sectors, to making sure that community voices are heard in decision-making at a strategic level.

London Funders chairs and services the Systems Change Group, which oversees the implementation of the Way Ahead vision. The Systems Change Group was refreshed in December 2017. It includes members from the ten identified 'stakeholder groups' and will meet quarterly over the next two years to oversee the implementation of the Change Plan, ensuring progress is made on all fronts. In addition, a new set of Task and Finish Groups have been established which will report to the SCG. These will include an Equalities Review Group which advises on how to improve the equalities impact of the Way Ahead; the Cornerstone Fund Reference Group; the London Hub Advisory Group; and a 'data group' which includes data specialist organisations like 360 Giving and Tech for Good, as well as the GLA's Data Store and the borough data partnership group. An immediate action being taken forward by this cross sector partnership is to develop standardised data collection on equalities issues, and pilot it locally. Both Local Authority members and officers are involved in the groups identified above.

Since the publication of the Way Ahead Systems Change Plan, there have been lots of tangible changes, including:

- The new Hub for London has been established as an organisation, and is currently recruiting for a permanent staff team. The Hub will offer three key functions: information (data and intelligence on civil society across London), networking (supporting civil society engagement and

collaboration) and voice and influence (increasing the influence and representation of civil society in policy and regional planning). It will work in partnership with specialist and local support organisations to ensure that appropriate and high quality capacity building support is available to civil society.

- The City Bridge Trust has launched its new Bridging Divides strategy which includes a commitment to funding civil society support organisations, along with a new Cornerstone Fund, which will support collaborations that bring about systems change in line with the Way Ahead vision. Other funders including the Big Lottery, Trust for London and John Lyon's Charity will take part in a joint assessment of stage one expressions of interest, and identify ideas which fit with their interests.
- The GLA has appointed a new community engagement team which includes a data post who will lead on data from, for and of interest to civil society. This post will also link to the review of the London Data Store to include more intelligence about Londoners generated by civil society organisations, and more data on civil society itself. The team are reviewing their draft Civil Society Strategy following consultation with the sector.
- London Funders and other members of the Systems Change Group have worked closely with London Councils 'Leadership in the Third Sector' project, which has resulted in a map of current Local Authority funding of civil society support, examples of good practice at a local level and a set of 'principles for commissioning support'.

London Funders will continue over the next year to chair and service the Systems Change Group, and hold others to account for the delivery of the Change Plan. We will also convene activities and meetings to maintain member's engagement in the Way Ahead approach.

London Emergencies Trust

Following the terrorist attack in Westminster in March 2017, we mobilised the London Emergencies Trust (LET). The LET was established in December 2015 as a company with charitable purposes, ready to be deployed to coordinate and support the response of London's funders to a major incident in the London area in which people are killed or injured. London Funders holds the Secretariat for the London Emergencies Trust. The LET was modelled on the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund (LBRCF) that operated between 2005 and 2008. The Trust is an independent body with a board of trustees but works closely with many public, private and charitable sector bodies to receive funds and distribute them effectively to individuals.

LET has distributed funding to Grenfell and all terrorist attack sites in London, and that we've been using this experience to inform national developments with the Charity Commission on how emergencies can be responded to, based on our experiences in London.

Enabling cross-sector funder collaboration and conversations with local communities following the Grenfell Tower Fire

London Funders was well-positioned as a vehicle for coordination between funders after the Grenfell Tower fire. This was predominantly due to our cross-sector membership base, and our trusted and strong relationships with our members. In the three months following the fire, the London Funders team predominantly focused on facilitating collaborations both within the membership, but also with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

From June to Dec 2017, London Funders supported five collaborative funding programmes which made a combined total of 226 grants worth £4.5m:

- Community Core Costs: for frontline and grassroots organisations –a total of £1,148,789 was distributed during July 2017 to 100 groups
- Children & Young People #1(Summer Holidays): a total of £1,078,656 was awarded to 61 local organisations to provide summer holiday activities
- Advice & Information: A total of £292,257 was given to organisations providing legal and financial advice to survivors and local residents.
- The Infrastructure and Anchor Core Costs Fund: grants totalling £880,000 were agreed to 13 organisations.
- Children & Young People #2 (Well-being/families): grants totalling £1.128m were made to 52 organisations to deliver emotional wellbeing and mental health initiatives for children, young people and families.

In February 2018, we presented the results of a listening exercise to the funders who had been part of the collaborations, identifying the need for long term investment in the local sector to enable them to respond to changing local needs, to underpin organisation's stability and independence, and to maximise the opportunity to shift the dial on community engagement in North Kensington.

Whilst many funders continue to have strong relationships locally, there was little appetite for a further collaborative programme at this time focused on core costs. London Funders will not at this time pursue a further collaboration, but we will:

- ensure information about individual funder programmes is available locally (through the CVS)
- continue to monitor and share local needs through our engagement with the anchor and infrastructure organisations including Grenfell United
- provide support as required to other collaborations that emerge
- develop engagement between RBKC and funders (post local elections) which seeks to maintain and enhance their existing £2.3m community grants programme through sharing intelligence and aligning priorities

London Funders commissioned research to capture and share the learning from funder responses to emergencies including the Grenfell Tower fire, the Manchester Arena bomb and the London Bridge terror attack. This was carried out by IVAR and published in April 2018 as [The Possible not the Perfect](#). This report has recommendations for how funders respond to emergencies, but more importantly, for every day funding practice. This report has been shared with local authorities, and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the wider membership of London Funders. Attendees from Local Authorities were at the launch and a part of the conversation about how we can help implement this learning across "business as usual" grant-making.

New Local Government Network Research - Building Bridges

London Funders worked closely with New Local Government Network on what was to become [Building Bridges](#) which was launched in July 2017. To provide context, a healthy civil society has always been critical to resilient communities. However, as cuts to local government budgets have altered local landscapes of service delivery – with many places now characterised by growing need and shrinking provision – the importance of civil society to securing the wellbeing of communities has dramatically increased.

Building Bridges found that councils need to work more closely with other funders of civil society, and communities, to enable change. The report recommended that local authorities should ensure there is a senior officer responsible for developing funding; and elected members should see their role as key to building bridges between the council and independent funders.

Other Cross Sector Initiatives

- London Funders facilitated meetings between members from independent foundations, local authorities, London Councils and officers from the GLA to ensure that the newly announced Young Londoners Fund has a clear vision, and is accessible to applicants from both small and large voluntary organisations.
- London Funders co-facilitated a London Plan Consultation response (specifically to the social infrastructure element) with Greater London Volunteering. This provided an opportunity for stakeholders to inform both this section as well as the wider plan and what means for civil society and communities across London.
- London Funders has been enabling and facilitating funder collaboration and aligned funding to sustain and develop London's deaf and disabled people's organisations (DDPOs). The aim of this funding is to allow services for disabled people to be ran by disabled people, as well as to allow DDPOs to play a more active role in their wider sub region by creating new partnership working opportunities; build the next generation of Disabled leaders and pilot a range of innovative pan-London capacity building projects that will strengthen the sector as a whole.

Finance April 2017 to March 2018*

Incoming Resources

London Councils	60,000
Other Membership Subscriptions	59,950
City Bridge Trust	50,000
London's Giving	100,000
Gifts In Kind	15,000
Emergency response grants	282,160
Total Incoming Resources	**567,110**

Resources Expended

Networks, Forums, Projects & Development	148,186
Information & Communication	9,920
London's Giving	100,000
Emergency response work	282,160
Governance	1,773
Total Resources Expended	**542,039**

Surplus/(deficit)	**25,071**

* These figures are subject to an upcoming audit, and full accounts will be made available later in the year.

Plans for 2017/18

We will:

- Run 16 learning and development networks covering: Children & Young People; Research & Evaluation; Assets and Investments; Healthy London;
- Convene, host and run 12 other events, being a combination of Funder Forums and Roundtables in response to the needs and interests of borough representatives;
- Publish 12 editions of our e-bulletin and reports from all of our meetings;
- Publish at least three additional reports;
- Provide the Secretariat to the Borough Grants Officers Forum;
- Continue to deliver the London's Giving project working with boroughs;
- Continue to convene conversations and facilitate the recommendation of 'The Way Ahead'- Civil Society at the Heart of London;
- Work alongside London Councils and other stakeholders to begin to implement our 2018-21 strategy;
- Work closely with London Councils and the GLA to support the needs of Londoners.

Closing remarks: introducing our new Director, James Banks

Through the closing months of the 2017/18 year we conducted an extensive consultation exercise with members, including colleagues in London Councils and local authorities, about our recent work and our shared ambitions for the coming years. We were pleased to hear the value that members place on our work, bringing together funders across sectors to work together on the issues we face. From the hands-on work in response to emergencies, enabling funder collaborations in relation to the communities affected by the Grenfell Tower fire, to facilitating conversations at a borough level about cooperation based on the assets and interests of local communities across London, people were keen to see us build on these firm foundations in the years ahead.

We've used this feedback; together with survey responses from local authority grants officers and colleagues in funders across London, to shape our new strategy for 2018 to 2021. This has led to us articulating our ambitions for the period from now to 2021. We will enable the funding community in London to support communities to face the challenges, and seize the opportunities, of the changing environment in the coming years by focusing on:

- setting out practically how funders can work differently so that the issues facing Londoners are addressed more effectively;
- playing a key role in creating new frameworks for civil society which enable a more resilient and sustainable London where individuals and communities thrive; and
- working across the funding community to redefine the relationships between the public, private and charitable sectors to support a fairer and more cohesive London.

Whilst working towards our ambitions we will also maintain our agility – responding to events and developments as they arise in London, to ensure we are effective at addressing emerging needs.

Our plans are shaped by our agreed purpose and aims. We've defined are role as: "We're here to strengthen civil society and create a better London, through enabling funders from all sectors to be effective. We're focused on collaboration – convening funders to connect, contribute and cooperate together, to help people across London's communities to live better lives." Our aims are, that:

- We **convene**, creating the space for productive conversations and collaborations. Our aim is to use the space we create for cross-sector dialogue as a vehicle for: sharing information, approaches and ideas; developing a shared understanding of need; collaboration; and trust-building.
- We **connect**, bringing people and organisations together with the ideas and tools they need to be effective. Our aim is to develop and showcase practical ways for doing things differently and in such a way as to strengthen civil society and create a better London.
- We **contribute**, shaping policies that affect Londoners through our informed voice. Our aim is to play a constructive role in policy development and to ensure that the combined intelligence, experience and views of our members are represented to strengthen civil society in London.
- We **cooperate**, enabling funders to commit to working together to tackle the issues facing London. Our aim is to strengthen practice, increase the impact of assets and resources through aligning these effectively across funders, and create the mechanisms that enable collaboration to work.

We will do all this whilst aiming to be an exemplar organisation ourselves – with a focus on ensuring our own ways of working are effective and efficient, and that we celebrate the diversity of the funding community and of the city we love in all that we do.

We look forward to working with London Councils and colleagues across all local authorities in London as we implement our new strategy and strive to continue to add value to your work in the years ahead.

Borough engagement with London Funders April 2017 to March 2018 (Annex 1)

Authority	Number Events Attended	Number Attendees
LB Barking & Dagenham	11	13
LB Barnet	5	5
LB Bexley	2	2
LB Brent	7	10
LB Bromley	1	1
LB Camden	12	13
Corporation of London	1	1
LB Croydon	1	1
LB Ealing	4	4
LB Enfield	1	1
RB Greenwich	3	3
LB Hackney	7	7
LB Hammersmith & Fulham	2	2
LB Haringey	2	2
LB Harrow	2	2
LB Havering	9	9
LB Hillingdon	3	3
LB Hounslow	9	9
LB Islington	3	3
RB Kensington & Chelsea	8	8
RB Kingston upon Thames	1	1
LB Lambeth	5	9
LB Lewisham	9	10
LB Merton	3	3
LB Newham	5	5
LB Redbridge	10	12
LB Richmond upon Thames	1	1
LB Southwark	16	18
LB Sutton	6	6
LB Tower Hamlets	3	3
LB Waltham Forest	0	0
LB Wandsworth*	0	0
City of Westminster	7	8
London Councils	16	21
Total	**175**	**196**

*London Borough of Wandsworth shares grant making staff with the London Borough of Richmond

Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness indicative level of distribution based on need

Legend

Equal ranges	Low (>=)	(<) High	Occurrences	
1	0%	2%	(8)	
2	2%	3%	(7)	
3	3%	4%	(14)	
4	4%	5%	(3)	
5	5%	8%	(1)	

Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness actual distribution April 2017 – March 2018

Legend

	Low (>=)	(<) High	Occurrences	
1	0%	2%	(10)	
2	2%	3%	(7)	
3	3%	4%	(8)	
4	4%	5%	(2)	
5	5%	8%	(6)	

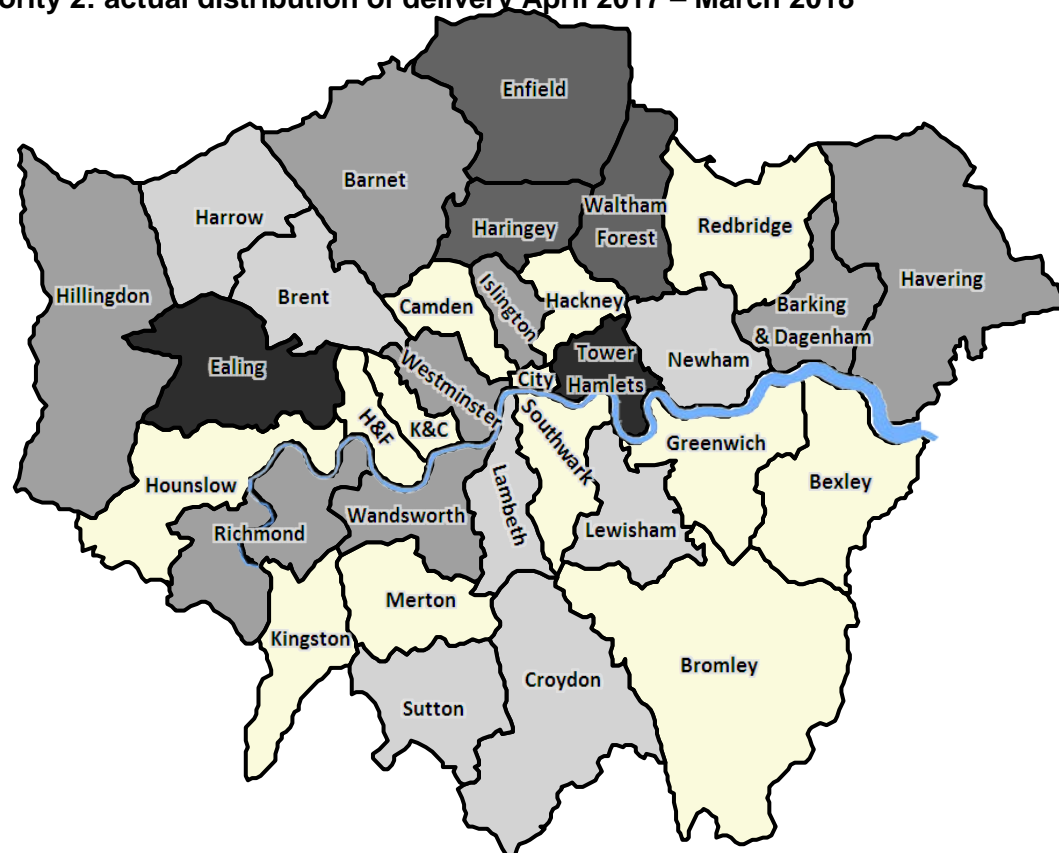| Boroughs	Indicative	Actual
Barking and Dagenham	3.00%	2.22%
Barnet	3.86%	2.62%
Bexley	2.12%	0.83%
Brent	3.96%	3.01%
Bromley	2.61%	2.09%
Camden	3.63%	4.23%
City of London	0.27%	0.27%
Croydon	3.78%	3.23%
Ealing	3.73%	3.45%
Enfield	3.53%	3.41%
Greenwich	2.60%	1.53%
Hackney	4.81%	6.73%
Hammersmith and Fulham	3.22%	3.90%
Haringey	3.88%	6.70%
Harrow	1.74%	1.17%
Havering	1.73%	1.16%
Hillingdon	2.72%	3.85%
Hounslow	2.64%	2.19%
Islington	3.35%	5.55%
Kensington and Chelsea	1.92%	2.34%
Kingston upon Thames	1.64%	1.02%
Lambeth	3.78%	4.40%
Lewisham	3.62%	3.26%
Merton	1.47%	0.99%
Newham	5.89%	6.55%
Redbridge	2.52%	1.66%
Richmond upon Thames	1.33%	0.58%
Southwark	4.38%	3.10%
Sutton	1.43%	0.51%
Tower Hamlets	3.92%	5.17%
Waltham Forest	4.06%	5.73%
Wandsworth	3.10%	2.26%
Westminster	3.74%	2.96%

Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence - indicative level of distribution based on need
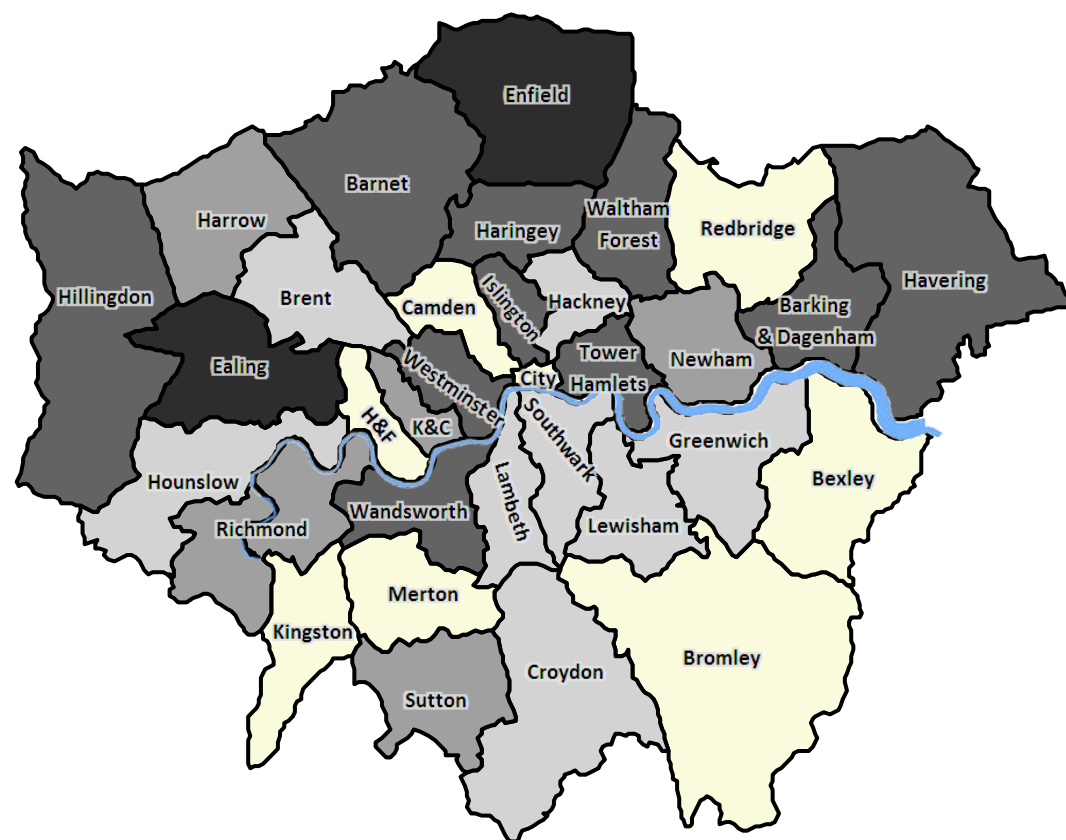
Legend

	Low (>=)	(<) High	Occurrences	
1	0%	2%	(8)	
2	2%	3%	(8)	
3	3%	4%	(5)	
4	4%	5%	(10)	
5	5%	8%	(2)	

Priority 2: actual distribution of delivery April 2017 – March 2018

Legend

	Low (>=)	(<)High	Occurrences	
1	0%	2%	(13)	
2	2%	3%	(7)	
3	3%	4%	(8)	
4	4%	5%	(3)	
5	5%	8%	(2)	

Boroughs	Indicative	Actual
Barking and Dagenham	4.55%	3.82%
Barnet	4.57%	3.21%
Bexley	1.29%	0.79%
Brent	2.10%	2.08%
Bromley	1.63%	1.50%
Camden	1.52%	1.47%
City of London	0.16%	0.15%
Croydon	2.71%	2.25%
Ealing	5.16%	7.05%
Enfield	5.02%	4.86%
Greenwich	2.04%	1.51%
Hackney	2.16%	1.76%
Hammersmith and Fulham	1.43%	1.42%
Haringey	4.66%	4.35%
Harrow	3.66%	2.20%
Havering	4.01%	3.35%
Hillingdon	4.52%	3.57%
Hounslow	2.01%	1.77%
Islington	4.19%	3.12%
Kensington and Chelsea	3.09%	1.71%
Kingston upon Thames	0.74%	0.69%
Lambeth	2.73%	2.74%
Lewisham	2.55%	2.58%
Merton	0.80%	0.93%
Newham	3.09%	2.44%
Redbridge	1.96%	1.42%
Richmond upon Thames	3.33%	3.68%
Southwark	2.62%	1.92%
Sutton	3.43%	2.58%
Tower Hamlets	4.87%	5.32%
Waltham Forest	4.61%	4.24%
Wandsworth	4.54%	3.85%
Westminster	4.23%	3.23%