

<p>London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p>LEADER'S URGENCY REPORT</p> <p>JANUARY 2019</p>	
<p>SUBSCRIPTIONS/AFFILIATIONS FOR EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS 2019/20</p>	
<p>Report of the Leader – Councillor Stephen Cowan</p>	
<p>Open Report</p>	
<p>Classification - For Decision</p> <p>Key Decision: Yes</p>	
<p>Other services consulted:</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: All</p>	
<p>Accountable Director: Hitesh Jolapara - Strategic Director, Finance and Governance</p>	
<p>Report Author: Danielle Wragg - Finance Business Partner</p>	<p>Contact Details: Tel: 020 8753 4287 E-mail: danielle.wragg@lbhf.gov.uk</p>
<p>Reasons for Urgency: The deadline for a formal response to London Borough grants scheme 2019/20 is required by 18 January 2019/20</p> <p><u>Date by which decision is required:</u> January 2019</p>	

AUTHORISED BY:

The Cabinet Member has signed the report.

DATE: 29 January 2019.....

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. Historically the decision to subscribe to London Councils, Local Government Association and the London Boroughs Grants Scheme has been taken by Cabinet preceding the financial year the subscriptions are due.
- 1.2. Because these subscription rates are not set until mid to late December there are timing difficulties in taking these reports to Members. It is therefore proposed that the final decision on these subscriptions is delegated to the Strategic Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance to fit in with the LBHF reporting timetable.
- 1.3. The financial value of these annual subscriptions and grants contributions will be in the range of £300,000 - £350,000 based on 2018/19 figures.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That the Leader delegates authority to renew the annual subscriptions to the London Councils, Local Government Association and the London Boroughs Grants Scheme to the Strategic Director, Finance and Governance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercial.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1. A decision is required to authorise the major corporate subscriptions/affiliations and grant contributions, as these subscriptions are renewed on an annual basis it is appropriate that the Strategic Director of Finance and Governance is delegated authority to confirm each renewal each year having consulted with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercial.

4. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 4.1. This report deals with the major corporate subscriptions/affiliations whose funding is included in the Finance and Governance estimates.

5. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

- 5.1. Approval is being sought to delegate the decision to the renew the subscriptions to the Strategic Director, Finance and Governance, in consultation with the Cabinet member for Finance and Commercial.
- 5.2. The 2019/20 subscription for London Councils is £161,958. This remains unchanged from 2018/20. (appendix 1a).
- 5.3. The Local Government Association subscription for 2018/19 after discounts for prompt payment and a loyalty discount for not being on notice of withdrawal is £25,446. The amount for 2019/20 has not been communicated at the time of writing this report and is assumed to be similar to the previous subscription amount (appendix 1a).

5.4. The base budget for the London Boroughs Grant Scheme is £6,909m in 2019/20. The LBHF contribution is £138,274, this is an increase of £1,958 or 1.4% when compared to the contribution made in 2018/19 (appendix 1b).

5.5. The benefits of continuing membership of these organisations is contained in appendix 2.

6. OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

6.1. The rationale for continuing the subscriptions to London Councils and the Local Government Association are based on the benefits of continuing membership of these organisations as expanded on in Appendix 2.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1. N/A

8. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1. N/A

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1. There are no particular legal implications arising from this report.

9.2. Implications completed by: Rhian Davies, Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services

10. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

10.1. There is sufficient budget to continue to support these affiliations/contributions.

10.2. Implications completed by: Danielle Wragg, Finance Business Partner, 020 8753 4287 and verified by Emily Hill, Assistant Director, Corporate Finance, 020 8753 3145.

11. IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS

11.1. There are no implications that affect local businesses.

12. RISK MANAGEMENT

12.1. N/A

13. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

13.1. There are no immediate procurement implications arising from this report. The delegation proposal is in compliance with the CSOs.

- 13.2. Each subscription should be approved by the Director, as per the recommendation in this report, via an Executive Director Decision.
- 13.3. Implications completed by: Andra Ulianov, Procurement Consultant, x2284

APPENDIX 1a

<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u> <u>2019/20</u>	<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u> <u>2018/19</u>
London Councils Subscription	£161,958	£161,958
Local Government Association <i>(to be confirmed)</i>	£25,446	£25,446
TOTAL	£187,404	£187,404

APPENDIX 1b

	2019/20 Contribution (£)	2018/19 Contribution (£)
LBHF Contribution to the London Boroughs Grant Scheme	£138,274	£136,316

APPENDIX 2

DETAILS OF SUBSCRIPTION/AFFILIATION ORGANISATIONS

1. LONDON COUNCILS

London Councils is the local government association for London, bringing together representatives of the 32 London Boroughs and the Corporation of London. It develops policy, lobbies government and others, and runs a range of services including the Freedom Pass, the Taxicard Scheme, the London Lorry Control Scheme and the Parking and Traffic Appeals Service.

2. LONDON COUNCILS - LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYERS ORGANISATION (CENTRAL BODIES)

The Local Government Employers was created by the Local Government Association and works with local authorities, regional employers, and other bodies to lead and create solutions on pay, pensions and the employment contract.

3. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

The Local Government Association (LGA) promotes the interests of English and Welsh local authorities.

The LGA exists to promote better local government and is a voluntary lobbying organisation.

In addition to representing various local government authorities it also represents fire authorities, police authorities, national park authorities and passenger transport authorities. The LGA also provides support to help councils and councillors develop and improve.