


<p style="text-align: center;">London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CABINET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 DECEMBER 2017</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">SUBSCRIPTIONS/AFFILIATIONS FOR EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS 2018/19</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance – Councillor Max Schmid</p>	
<p>Open Report</p>	
<p>Classification - For Decision / For Information Key Decision: Yes</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: ALL</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Accountable Director: Hitesh Jolapara – Strategic Finance Director</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>

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 subscriptions and grants contributions will be in the range of £300,000 - £350,000 based on 2017/18 figures.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. To delegate the authority to renew the subscription to London Councils for 2018/19 to the Strategic Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance.

- 2.2. To delegate authority to approve the 2018/19 contribution to the London Boroughs Grant Scheme to the Strategic Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance.
- 2.3. To delegate authority to renew the subscription to the Local Government Association in 2018/19 to the Strategic Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1. A decision is required in order to streamline the process for authorising the major corporate subscriptions/affiliations and grant contributions.

4. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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

5. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

- 5.1. Approval is being sought to delegate authority to the Strategic Director for Finance to decide on the renewal of the subscription to London Councils and the Local Government Association for 2018/19 and the London Boroughs Grant Scheme for 2018/19. The 2017/18 contributions are provided below for information.
- 5.2. The Local Government Association subscription for 2017/18 after discounts for prompt payment and a loyalty discount for not being on notice of withdrawal is £26,577. This subscription has been frozen at the 2013/14 level and has reduced by 45% since 2009/10 (appendix 1a).
- 5.3. The 2017/18 subscription for London Councils is £161,958. In 2017/18, there is a one-off reduction of £25,030 funded from London Council joint committee reserves reducing the payment due to £136,928 (appendix 1a).
- 5.4. The base budget for the London Boroughs Grant Scheme has reduced from £9.000m in 2016/17 to £7.668m in 2017/18 a reduction of £1.332m. The LBHF contribution is £188,006 (appendix 1b). After allowing for a one-off rebate from reserves the net cost to LBHF is £158,610.
- 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. Two of the three subscription and grant contributions outlined in this report involve decisions with expenditure of over £100,000.

9.2. Decisions involving expenditure of more than £100,000 can be categorised as key decisions and should be included on any key decision list. Where the delegation currently exists for Cabinet to take such a decision then a report from Cabinet authorising the delegation of these specific decisions to the Strategic Director for Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance should be completed and approved by Cabinet.

9.3. The Strategic Director for Finance would then rely on that report as authority to make the decisions outlined in this report.

9.4. Implications completed by: - Joyce Golder, Principal Solicitor, 020 7361 2181

10. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

10.1. The financial implications will be finalised when the level of the subscriptions/contributions are known. Currently there is sufficient budget to support these affiliations/contributions.

10.2. Implications completed by: Danielle Wragg, Finance Business Partner, 020 753 4287

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.

13.2. Implications completed by: - Alan Parry, Procurement Consultant.
Telephone 020 8753 2582

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
	None		

LIST OF APPENDICES:

APPENDIX 1a AND 1b
APPENDIX 2 - DETAILS OF SUBSCRIPTION/AFFILIATION ORGANISATIONS

APPENDIX 1a

<u>ORGANISATION</u>		<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u> <u>2017/2018</u>	<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u> <u>2016/2017</u>
1	London Councils Subscription	£161,958	£161,958
2	London Councils – 2015/16 one off credit (funded from uncommitted Joint Committee reserve.	£(25,030)	£(25,000)
	London Councils – Sub Total	£136,928	£136,958
3	Local Government Association <i>(including AMA rent credit - see appendix 2).</i>	£26,577	£26,577
	TOTAL	£163,505	£163,535

APPENDIX 1b

	2017//18 Contribution (£)	2016/17 Contribution (£)
LBHF Contribution to the London Boroughs Grant Scheme	£158,610	£188,006

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.

Explanation of the AMA rental/finance credit from the LGA - The annual LGA membership subscription of each former member of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities (AMA), which previously contributed to the purchase of the AMA's former offices at 35 Great Smith Street, is adjusted each year by a rental/finance credit. Before the LGA moved to Local Government House in Smith Square, it used the offices at 35 Great Smith Street and the rental credit represented an individual authority's share of the rent that was due to the AMA (Properties) Limited. The building was sold in 1999 and the proceeds of £6.2 million were invested in Local Government House in the form of a loan. Each (finance) credit (initially £6,000) now represents interest payable on the loan. The credit is reviewed every five years and adjusted with the Retail Price Index (RPI). The credit is currently £7,965.