
REPORT FOR: CABINET

Date of Meeting:	15 November 2018
Subject:	West London Strategic Investment Pot
Key Decision:	No - <u>report for information only</u>
Responsible Officer:	Paul Walker, Corporate Director, Community
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Keith Ferry
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	No
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	Appendix - Update

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report updates Cabinet on £11.3m awarded to the West London Alliance for Digital Connectivity and Skills/Employment.

Recommendation:

Cabinet is requested to note this update report.

Section 2 – Report

The appendix to this report is an update on the outcome of the West London Alliance bid to the London-wide ‘collective strategic investment’ pot, and sets out the intended use in Harrow of the resulting funds for Digital Connectivity and Skills/Employment.

Financial Implications

Last year, the GLA and London Councils agreed with the Government for the city to pilot the retention of 100 per cent of business rates growth. This agreement will raise an additional £114 million for the Greater London Authority in 2018-19 with the GLA agreeing to add an additional £26million to make an overall fund totalling £140million.

From this income, a separate ‘collective strategic investment’ pot was also created. Applications from single boroughs were not eligible for funding. Therefore, Harrow Council was part of a 7 borough WLA application for funds. The WLA has been awarded a total of £11.3m for Digital Connectivity and Skills and Employment projects.

Digital Connectivity: Harrow’s share is circa £1.1m for investment to lay full fibre optic cable from TFL stations to public buildings, TFL will manage the procurement of the contractor to lay the cable for the Digital Connectivity programme and therefore £1m of funding will not flow directly to Harrow Council. In addition, there will be a £100k pot of money made directly the council to fund any costs of “making good” the highway that has been dug up for cable.

Skills and Employment: £480,000 will be allocated directly to Harrow Council to deliver its Skills and Employment programme in line with our submission to the WLA.

There are no ongoing revenue implications to the Council of these 2 projects.

Legal Implications

All necessary procurements arising from the spend of the grant monies will need to be conducted in accordance with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules and, where appropriate due to spend exceeding the relevant EU determined thresholds, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Council Priorities

The Council’s vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

Please identify how the report incorporates the administration’s priorities.

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for communities
- Making a difference for local businesses
- Making a difference for families

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Sharon Daniels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: ...5 November 2018....		
Name: Matthew Adams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: ...6 November 2018.....		

Ward Councillors notified:	NO, as it impacts on all Wards
EqIA carried out:	NO Report for information.

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: David Sklair, External Funding Manager, Economic Development Officer: david.sklair@harrow.gov.uk Tel. 020 8736 6846

Background Papers: None

Call-In Waived by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee	NOT APPLICABLE No substantive decision sought.
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