

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2008
Subject:	London Councils – London Borough Grants Scheme 2008-09
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Javed Khan Director of Community and Cultural Services
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Anjana Patel Portfolio Holder for Community and Cultural Services
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	None

## Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the proposals received from the London Councils Grants committee for expenditure in 2008-09.

### **Recommendations:**

To consider the proposals for expenditure and give a formal response to the recommendation.

### **Reason: (For recommendation)**

The London Borough Grants Scheme informed the Borough through a circular dated 15<sup>th</sup> November 2007 of the recommended budget for 2008-09.

## Section 2 – Report

### Background

London Councils are required to contribute to any London Boroughs Grants Scheme expenditure, which has been incurred with the approval of at least two-thirds of the constituent Councils. Contributions are, under Regulation 6 (8) of the Levying Bodies (General) Regulations 1992, to be proportionate to constituent Councils' populations. For 2008-09 the apportionment is based on the ONS (Office for National Statistics) mid-year estimates for 2006 in accordance with Section 48 (4) Local Government Act 1985, which states that "the population of any areas shall be taken to be the number estimated by the Registrar General and certified by him to the Secretary of State by reference to such date as the Secretary of State may from time to time determine".

The London Councils Grants Committee considered proposals for expenditure in 2008-09 at its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2007. The Leaders' Committee concurred with the Grants Committee's recommendations on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007 recommending to constituent Councils that the overall expenditure in 2008-09 should be £28,120,394 comprising:

Grants:	£26,400,000
Administrative expenditure	£1,720,394

Income would comprise:

Interest and balances:	£1,770,000
Borough contributions:	£26,350,394

### Options considered

None

### Current situation

The expenditure for 2007-08 was set at £26,564,066. Harrow Council's contribution last year was £756,177.

### Why a change is needed

The London Councils Grants Committee consider their proposals for expenditure annually. Local authorities are invited to provide a formal response to these recommendations by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

### Recommendation:

Cabinet is asked to consider the proposals for expenditure and give a formal response to the recommendation.

### Resources, costs and risks

The proposal for expenditure results in a reduction in the borough's contribution of 0.8% next year compared to this year. Harrow's contribution for 2008-09 will be £752,708.

The budget must be agreed by two-thirds of constituent Councils before 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008. If it is not, the overall level of expenditure will be deemed to be the same as that approved for 2007-08.

**Staffing/workforce**

There are no staffing or workforce implications.

**Equalities impact**

Not applicable.

**Legal comments**

There are no legal implications.

**Community safety**

Not applicable.

**Financial Implications**

There are no significant financial implications. The Councils annual contribution to the LBGS is built into the base budget.

**Performance Issues**

There are no direct performance issues.

**Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

Name: ...Sheela Thakrar.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: ...28 <sup>th</sup> December 2007		
Name: Jill Travers.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 27 <sup>th</sup> December 2007...		

**Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance**

Name: .....David Harrington.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Divisional Director (Strategy and Improvement)
Date: ...20 <sup>th</sup> December 2007...		

\*Delete the words "on behalf of the" if the report is cleared directly by Tom Whiting.

**Section 5 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

Contact: Kashmir Takhar, (Interim) Deputy Head of Service

Background Papers: London Councils Chief Executives' Circular