

OFFICER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: TCG / Rachael Musgrave-
Consultant in Public Health

KEY DECISION NO

DIRECTORATE: Neighbourhood Services / Public Health

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

SUBJECT:

**Allocation of the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government
Community Champion Funding**

1.0 DECISION:

That the proposed spend figures below be approved (indicative amounts).

	Item	Proposed spend
a.	Employment nine BAME link workers	£275,000
b.	In-depth data analysis to understand 'health literacy' levels across the borough and the impact COVID-19 has had on the local BAME population.	£15,000
c.	Development of health literacy material and training materials to support BAME communities and easy read versions communications.	£15,000
d.	Support of translation services for the local track and trace system	£20,000
e.	Health literacy training for health professionals working with local BAME communities.	£30,000
f.	Technology to help people connect and access information.	£20,000
	Total	£375,000

Any relevant PRADs will be completed in compliance with procurement rules.

2.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION

On 22 October 2020, the Minister for Equalities Kemi Badenoch called for bids against a funding pot of £25m as part of the wider government response to support communities that have been disproportionately impacted by Covid 19.

Proposals were requested to respond to the following themes which had been identified following engagement with a range of councils:

- *That local authorities have been working incredibly hard to front up engagement with communities – the help them follow safe behaviour and link in local and national support.*
- *That this work is often done on top of day jobs, with volunteers and that there are challenges of capacity.*
- *That areas with high prevalence of different groups with their own needs have a particular challenge in engagement, outreach and support.*
- *There are issues of trust, mis/disinformation and ‘message fatigue’*
- *That there’s an appetite to do more but funds are needed to achieve this.*

3.0 STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer, and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed, that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council’s Code of Corporate Governance.

This proposal will help the authority to fulfil various statutory duties and comply with the grant conditions.

Decision supported by COVID 19 TACTICAL CO-ORDINATING GROUP 4th February 2021.

4.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

Signed:



Officer: Nicola Butterworth

Title: Director of Neighbourhood Services & Chair COVID 19 Tactical Co-Ordinating Group

Date: 4 February 2021

Date of Publication: 4 February 2021

Date of Expiry of Call-In Period: not applicable