

## Decision Making Report

**Report for:** Liz Skelland, Head of Programme Management, Regeneration and Economic Development

**Item number:** N/A

**Title:** **Estate Regeneration Fund Phase 3, Strand 3 Youth Led Media Project:** Request to waive the requirement to tender under CSO 10.01.1 in order to award contract to The Lost Block Collective.

### Report

**authorised by :** Angharad Chapman, Socio Economic Regeneration Manager

**Lead Officer:** Chanelle Farrell, Socio-Economic Regeneration Officer  
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**Ward(s) affected:** West Green ward

### Report for Key/

**Non Key Decision:** Non key decision

## 1. Describe the issue under consideration.

1.1 The report is seeking authority for:

1.2 A waiver of Contract Standing Order (CSO) (requirement to tender) under CSO 10.01.1 and award the contract to The Lost Block Collective to provide a Youth Lead Media Project as part of delivery programme for the Estate Regeneration Fund Phase 3 (ERF).

## 2. Recommendations

For the Head of Programme Management, Regeneration and Economic Development to:

2.1 waive the requirement to tender under CSO 10.01.1 and to

2.2 award the contract to The Lost Blocks Collective for the amount of £20,000. This is to provide a youth led media project as part of the delivery of the DCLG/MHCLG Estate Regeneration Fund (ERF), 2017-23.

## 3. Reasons for decision

3.1 The Socio-Economic Regeneration Offer responsible for the delivery of the Estate Regeneration Phase 3 is requesting approval to contract The Lost Blocks Collective to deliver a youth led media project in Broadwater Farm Estate as part of the Estate Regeneration Fund delivery for the amount of £20,000 between September 2021 to September 2022.

- 3.2 The Socio-Economic team has had to refocus its approach to commissioning services for the benefit of the community of Broadwater Farm to incorporate local grassroots organisations who have great local connections and developed trust and relationships with the local community. This approach seeks to meet targets set out in the Borough Plan, Youth and Risk Strategy and other strategic plans that seek to reduce inequality, increase youth engagement, social capital, and community capacity.

By subcontracting with The Lost Blocks Collective, who are a grassroots organisation working directly on the Broadwater Farm Estate, the Socio-Economic team will be able to hit its target for building social capital, community capacity and youth engagement for which has been severely impacted by Covid.

As per delivery breakdown below The Lost Blocks Collective will be delivering both quantitative and qualitative outcomes that will work towards building a legacy for the community of Broadwater Farm.

### 3.3 Delivery outputs by The Lost Block Collective

#### **Key Outcomes**

##### **Minimum Quantitative**

- A total of 400+ residents (unique participants) from Broadwater Farm estate have contact with the Project.
- Interviews conducted with a minimum of 10 young people, 6 Older people (50+), 2 schools/ Childrens Centres, 1 Faith Group.
- Up to 2 residents from the estate in contact with the Project with a disability are engaged.
- A minimum of 8 women will be in contact with the Project.
- Number of residents engaged specially with the oral history element of the project (capturing the voices of all 12 residents).
- Up to 3 participants during the course of the project engage in a media programme and develop their knowledge of podcast/documentary making.
- Up to 400+ people who will access exhibition online.
- A total of 20 resident's feeling less isolated, building community cohesion.
- A minimum of 20 young people engaged from Willow School on Broadwater Farm.
- A minimum 15% of participants from a BAME background.
- A minimum 2 of young person during the course of the project is identified to take a hands-on role with social media and their skills developed in this area.
- A minimum of 2 people will develop and led an element of the media program with guidance.
- A minimum of 3 partnerships built with cultural institutions.

## Minimum Qualitative

- Theory of Change Tool developed at the start of the program and review halfway through.
- Each cohort feeds into the development of outcomes in line with the Theory of Change. With a specific focus on developing environmental knowledge and learning.
- Participants support with the name of the exhibition.
- Participants are provided the opportunity to develop community led subgroups that lead on the development of personal media activities.
- Peer to Peer Learning is developed and examples recorded.
- Social media platforms (e.g. Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter) are used throughout the project and best endeavours are utilised to ensure positive content.

## Exceptional circumstances

3.4 The Socio-Economic team have delivered a series of programmes across Broadwater Farm over the past four years to address inequality, deprivation and to increase skills and capacity amongst the community of Broadwater Farm as identified in our strategic plans. It has been clear through the delivery of these programmes that there is a gap in youth-led initiatives that raise the aspirations and social capital of young people on Broadwater Farm. While we have sought to provide services that engage young people we have not identified a youth-led service that delivers initiatives by young people for young people. The Lost Blocks Collective are a grass root youth led organisation from within Broadwater Farm that seek to develop their community through the use of media interventions that are used to shape the narrative and opportunities for the community. They have pre-existing long standing relationships with the community and engage some of our most hard to reach young people with the area, which we have historically struggled to engage with.

3.5 It would be in the benefit of the socio-economic team to commissioning this service to deliver the programme outlined, due to their local connections and unique offer of a peer-to-peer service.

3.6 The following risks were taken into consideration:

1. Inability to engage with some of our hard-to-reach young people.
2. Lack of trust reducing participation in the programme.
3. Unwillingness of potential learners to engage in person with the programme.

3.7 The risks were mitigated by:

1. The Lost Block Collective have work specifically with hard-to-reach young people in Broadwater Farm and have built trust and developed relationships.
2. The Lost Block Collective have a pre-existing relationship with the community of Broadwater Farm and have built up trust through prior engagement.

3. As the project focus is media led to organisation have the capacity to use a number of online mechanisms to engage those who are not as confident with engaging in person or due to additional lock-down measures.

## **Urgency**

- 3.8 The GLA/MHCLG are due to confirm an extension to the Estate Regeneration Fund which was due to be spent by financial year end 2020/2021. As there will be no further opportunity to delay the expenditure of the Fund it is fundamental that a swift decision is made to commission programmes that will meet targets and address the needs set out in our strategic plans, while having enough time to deliver against outputs. The recommendation is to commission the Lost Block Collective who have expertise, experience, and capacity to deliver youth provision.

## **4. Alternative options considered.**

### **Option 1: Do nothing**

- 4.1 The Socio-Economic Regeneration team could do nothing, the community will not be engaged and other mechanisms to increase social capital, community ownership and youth interventions will need to be considered. Doing nothing could also result in the loss of funding.

### **Option 2: Go out to competitive tender.**

- 4.2 The Lost Block Collective are offering a specialist service as a group of young people from Broadwater Farm with a specialism in media development offering a peer-to-peer programme that seeks to build community capacity and social capital, while offering training and development opportunity for local people. Building trust amongst the community of Broadwater Farm specifically in a time where Covid-19 has had a huge impact on mental health and wellbeing alongside the additional impact of ongoing engagement surround the improvement plans for Broadwater Farm, it is imperative that we commission providers that can build trust and capacity amongst the community of Broadwater Farm. As an extension is awaiting confirmation from the GLA on behalf of MHCLG for the Estate Regeneration Fund with less than 24 months to commission and deliver outcomes, it is felt that going to competitive tender would unnecessarily lengthen the process at a time when the council should act quickly to promote and deliver projects that enhance community capacity, social capital and wellbeing.

## **5. Background information**

- 5.1 In March 2017 the Department for Communities & Local Government (DLCG) awarded £2.371m of Estate Regeneration Funding (ERF) to Haringey Council. The award of £1.5m was allocated for socio economic projects on Broadwater Farm and Northumberland Park Estates. This fund was available across 3 financial years from 2017/18 – 2019/20. The allocation of socio-economic funding was £1,000,000 for Broadwater Farm and £500,000 for Northumberland

Park Estate to facilitate close working relationship with residents, putting them at the heart of shaping programmes and identifying priorities.

- 5.2 To date a spend of £1.3m has been used to delivery socio-economic projects across both BWF & NP with a remaining budget of £200,000 earmarked for the delivery of phase 3 initiatives across Broadwater Farm.
- 5.3 An extension for this budget is due to be granted by the GLA to the end of the 2022/23 financial year for the delivery of Phase 3 over the next 24 months.
- 5.4 The key aims for Phase 3 is to work with the local community to develop community led initiatives, create a lasting legacy and build on community capacity that can respond to current issues.
- 5.5 Feedback from The Youth Advisory Board reviewed the designs for phase 3 and agreed that they fit with the needs of the community. Two further key areas of development were identified by the board, which we have been built into the recommendations, these are:
  - A focus on youth education needs to be considered and how the programme can develop young people education pathways.
  - A communication strategy needs to be thought through early on to ensure we can maximize awareness and participation.
- 5.6 Engagement also identified that there was a huge disconnect between the community of Broadwater Farm and the narrative presented. This disconnect has been impacted by historical events that have created a stigma for the community of Broadwater Farm and the opportunities within the estate. Young people left a lack of control over the narrative being presented and alongside the wider community wanted an opportunity to shape the messaged being shared about the place they live and work.

## **6. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

6.1 The Estate Regeneration Fund Phase 3 contributes to objectives in the Borough Plan (2019 – 2023) and the Young People at Risk Strategy (2019 – 2023).

6.2 For this ERF Strand 3 youth led project, the primary focus of contribution to the Borough Plan is priority 2 :

- Where strong families, strong networks and strong communities nurture all residents to live well and achieve their potential.

6.3 The service is already closely aligned with council strategies (in particular employment and skills, health, and young people) and focuses all of its existing Adult Education Budget in the east of the borough in wards with higher levels of disadvantage. Our track record of identify provision that addresses or borough objects, increasing community capacity, social capital, skill, employment,

education, and safety outcomes in the east of the borough is good. We have a strong local connect through the service we commission alongside our reputation and great links with stakeholders and the local community and the voluntary sector. The Lost Block Collective are a part of that local connection and are committed to local delivery and have successful delivery projects in partnership with local architects and the regeneration teams in Broadwater Farm .

**7. Procurement**

N/A

**8. Legal [Name and title of Officer completing these comments]**

N/A

**9. Equality**

N/A

**10. Use of Appendices**

N/A