

ITEM: 13

REPORT TO: WEST OF ENGLAND COMBINED AUTHORITY

DATE: 2 February 2018

REPORT TITLE: HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT CAPITAL GRANTS – SUPPLEMENTARY ALLOCATIONS 2017/18

AUTHOR: Tim Richens – Director of Investments & Corporate Services

Purpose of Report

1. To consider and approve a supplementary grant funding allocation for 2017/18 in respect of Mayoral Functions.

Issues for Consideration

2. This report deals with the allocation of additional grant funding to the constituent councils in respect of the Pothole Action Fund following the recent announcement of this further funding from the Department for Transport.

The Proposal

3. The initial allocation of £891K of Pothole Action Funding for 2017/18 for WECA was confirmed on 31 March 2017 by the Department for Transport (DfT) and formed part of the overall roads funding announcement to provide resources to local authorities to “improve local roads and deliver better journeys”.
 - 3.1 On 28th June, the WECA Committee distributed this grant funding to the constituent councils in line with the formula allocations which they would have received from the DfT.
 - 3.2 A further allocation of Pothole Action Funding for 2017/18 was announced as part of the Budget Statement on 22 November 2017. The allocation to the WECA is anticipated to be £648K and it is proposed to again allocate this directly to the constituent councils in line with the DfT formula.

- 3.3 Subject to formal confirmation of the funding (expected later in February 2018) the proposed allocation of the further Pothole Action Fund for 2017/18 to the constituent councils is set out in the table below:

Constituent Council	Grant Allocation £'s
Bath & NE Somerset Council	198,000
Bristol City Council	187,000
South Gloucestershire Council	263,000
TOTAL	648,000

Financial Implications

4. There are no additional financial implications beyond those set out in section 3 above – all grant expenditure proposed is fully covered by the income received from DfT. It is also expected that due to the timing of this announcement in the financial year, DfT will allow any unspent funding to be carried forward to 2018/19. This will be reflected in the grant offer letters to the constituent councils as appropriate.

Legal Implications

5. The proposal is in line with appropriate Local Government Regulations, including the specific funding and related governance requirements set out in The West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 and The Combined Authorities (Finance) Order 2017.

Human Resources Implications

6. None arising directly from this report.

Environmental Implications

7. None arising directly from this report.

Social Implications

8. None arising directly from this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

9. The key service functions associated with the application of these grants will continue to be delivered by the relevant constituent councils. Impact assessments for service delivery will therefore have been included as appropriate within their individual Budget reports.

Risks, Mitigations and Opportunities

10. There are no ongoing financial risks to the WECA arising from the allocation of this funding and each constituent council will provide an annual certification as to the use and application of these funds. Each of the constituent councils will be responsible for their own risk management arrangements in delivering the services associated with this funding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The WECA is recommended to:-

1. Approve the Mayoral allocations of Pothole Action Fund grants totalling £648K to the constituent councils as set out in the table at paragraph 3.3 above.
2. Request the S151 Officer to make corresponding adjustment to the Mayoral Budget for 2017/18 together with the associated capital grants.

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Any person seeking background information relating to this item should seek the assistance of the Contact Officer for the meeting who Joanna Greenwood on 0117 426210; writing to West of England Combined Authority, 3 Rivergate, Temple Way, Bristol BS1 6ER; email: democratic.services@westofengland-ca.gov.uk