

APPENDIX 7: LDC – Appeal Outcome Letter

Main Grants 2017-18 recommendation report – Annex A



Roz Hardie
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Service
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2nd December 2016

Dear Roz,

Re: MAIN GRANTS – outcome of formal appeal

I am writing to inform you of the outcome of your formal appeal for the Main Grants 2017/18 allocation which was heard by the Mayor and Cabinet on 30 November 2016.

Thank you for coming to the meeting and presenting your case. The Mayor and Cabinet considered this and your written submission carefully but have decided not to uphold your appeal. As such the original recommendation, as outlined in the letter to you on 1 November 2016, to apply a pro rata reduction to your main grant funding from 2017/18 will still stand.

This recommendation will be presented to Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 7 December 2016 for decision.

It was agreed that, although your organisation had performed to a high standard, there were no specific grounds for amending your pro rata reduction. This is due to the fact that the process for pro rata reductions had been correctly followed and there were no specific criteria applying to LDC to justify a deviation from the agreed approach to delivering the overall saving.

With regard to your concerns regarding premises, officers have reviewed the situation with your business rates. It is our understanding that you now have in place 100% exemption on the grounds that the building is used for the training or welfare of disabled people; however you paid 20% of your rates bill in 2015/16 totalling £887. The other 80% was covered by mandatory relief. We have investigated and found that the 20% discretionary award in 2015/16 was applied to your Catford Broadway address and was not transferred across to your new address at Randlesdown Road at the point you moved. As the 20% discretionary relief award made for Catford Broadway was greater than the £887 we can reimburse the total cost of the money you paid in error (£887). I have asked colleagues in business rates to action this refund.

Finally, Mayor and Cabinet were keen that officers work closely with you to explore the wider premises issues that you raised in order to arrive at an agreed solution that best supports the valuable work you deliver. I will be in touch shortly to arrange a meeting regarding this.

I acknowledge that this isn't the outcome you had hoped for. However the Mayor and Cabinet were confident that as an organisation you will be able to continue your excellent work with residents accessing your services.

I will write to you following the Mayor and Cabinet meeting on 7 December to let you know the outcome.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Lee', is centered below the text 'Yours sincerely,'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

James Lee
Head of Cultural and Community Development