

NOTIFICATION OF KEY DECISION TO BE TAKEN

GENERAL EXCEPTION NOTICE

DETAILS OF DECISION	
Title of Report	Pathways to Employment Phase 2 – update and proposed award of grant
Description/Nature of matter requiring Key Decision	To provide an update on the Pathways to Employment Phase 2 contract and to recommend the award of a performance related grant of £225,000 to St Giles Trust to enable the commencement of the Better Placed Programme's Pathways to Employment (PtE2) from March 2016.
Decision taker	Better Placed Joint Committee
Date by which Key Decision must be taken	29 February 2016
Reason why it was impracticable for decision to be on the Forward Plan	<p>In December 2015 the Better Placed Joint Committee agreed to award St Giles a contract of £1.8m to deliver the PtE 2 contract. The Joint Committee agreed to fund PTE2 through a combination of funding, including match funding from European Social Fund (ESF).</p> <p>At a meeting on 27 January 2016, London Councils confirmed delays with the ESF process. However, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark Councils wish to commence delivery with St Giles Trust who have commenced project mobilisation, including recruiting project staff (in anticipation of an outcome on the ESF bid). A grant in advance of a full ESF contract is being recommended, so enabling delivery from March 2016. As the delay to securing ESF was unforeseen, a decision to award grant of £225,000 was not on the Forward Plan and is now necessary.</p>
Reason why the decision cannot wait for inclusion in the next Forward Plan	<p>Delivery of PtE2 was anticipated in January 2016 and needs to start as soon as possible to maximise benefits to residents of the three boroughs and minimise risks in project delivery. Waiting for the decision to be included in the next forward plan which relates to decisions to be taken from April 2016 is not practical as it would increase these risks, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential of St Giles Trust/and or their partners no longer participating in delivery. • St Giles Trust not being able to retain staff within their organisation and across the partnership (as they had already started project mobilisation in good faith). • Reputation risks with external and interested stakeholders
ORIGINATING AUTHOR'S DETAILS	
Name	Danny Edwards, Strategy and Partnerships Manager
Contact Number	020 7525 5105
email	Danny.edwards@southwark.gov.uk
Address	160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Everton Roberts
For Proper Constitutional Officer
Dated: 18 February 2016