

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 13 July 2009	MEETING NAME Tenant Council
Report title:		Tenants Fund Budget 2009/ 2010	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Tenant Fund Management Committee	

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 That Tenant Council receives the report.
- 2 That Tenant Council agrees the proposed budget.
- 3 That the report is forwarded to the Executive Member for Housing for approval.

BACKGROUND

- 4 Tenant Fund Management Committee (TFMC) met on 9 June 2009 and discussed the Tenant Fund budget. It noted that there is considerably more pressure on the Tenant Fund budget this year than for a number of years but that by reducing some areas of it to a level that reflects the actual spend last year, a balanced budget could still be achieved. Additionally, the contingency section has been dispensed with as there is no extra money available for a contingency this year. The suggested budget is therefore as laid out below.

THE BUDGET

5 Salaries/staffing

An amount of £120,000 has been set aside for salaries and staffing costs. This is to cover:

Salaries for one funding monitoring officer and two training officers	£97,440
Overtime	£2,100
National Insurance and Superannuation	£20,460
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Total staffing	£120,000
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6 Payments to Tenants and Residents Associations (T&RA's)

During the current year 2009/2010 it is estimated that about £179,374 will be paid to T&RAs, which is a similar amount to that actually paid during the previous year 2008/2009. It is

recommended that the amount per tenancy remains at £4.50 per property, with the exception of 'mixed tenure' T&RAs, where it is proposed to only pay £4.50 per council-managed property regardless of size of association or number of properties. The current minimum grant paid to small T&RAs is £1,100 and the current Start-up Grant for T&RA's £300. It is recommended that these remain at the same level.

7 It is therefore recommended that £179,374 is set aside for T&RA funding during 2009/2010

8 **Tenants Conference**

Last year £30,000 was set aside for the conference. It is recommended that £29,000 be set aside for the year 2009/ 2010, which reflects the actual amount spent.

Cost £29,000

9 **Training Expenses**

Last year £15,000 was set aside for training. It is recommended that the same sum is set aside this year for training expenses, which includes external trainer fees, premises costs, refreshments, materials and other training- related items.

Cost £15,000

10 **Equipment Repairs and Maintenance**

It is recommended that as last year, a sum of money should be set aside to cover the cost of repair and maintenance of the equipment and machinery available for tenants' use. A range of equipment is used in the delivery of Training, which includes computers, projectors, and photocopiers. Last year £35,000 was set aside. It is recommended that £23,000 be set aside for this purpose during 2009/ 2010, which reflects the actual amount spent.

Cost £23,000

11 **Equal Opportunities/Youth Involvement Grant**

It is recommended that a sum of money is this year once again set aside to enable T&RAs to carry out small projects aimed at increasing the numbers and diversity of their Associations and activities. This can include community initiatives, open days, fun days, transport or translation for AGMs, provision of careers information and similar activities that encourage involvement.

Cost £4,000

12 **Expenses for Tenant Representatives**

Tenants who incur expenses on behalf of their Area Forum or Tenant Council can claim from the Tenants Fund. It is recommended that £4,000 is set aside.

Cost £4,000

13 **Stationery and Materials**

A large amount of stationery and other consumables are used in the administration of the Tenants Fund and in advertising the Training Program. It is recommended that £5,000 be set aside for this.

Cost £5,000

14 **Southwark Group of Tenant Organisations (SGTO) Bid 2009/ 2010**

SGTO made an application for £256,870. In consideration of the pressure on all areas of the budget this year, it is recommended that £210,000 be set aside for SGTO.

15 **Contingency and reserve**

This is an amount of money set aside to cover any shortfalls in the operational cost of the Tenant Fund 2009/2010.

Contingency and reserve £4590*

* See item 9 in the main report

Description	Proposed Allocation 2009 / 10 £
Salaries and Staffing (FMO and 2* Training)	120,000
Payments to Tenant & Resident Associations	179,374
Tenant Conference 2009	29,000
Training Expenses	15,000
Equipment, Repairs and Maintenance	23,000
Equal opportunities/ Youth involvement grants	4,000
Expenses of Tenant Representatives (cabs/ meetings / refreshments)	4,000
Stationery & Material	5,000
SGTO 2008/2009	210,000

Contingency	4590 *
Total	593,964

	2009/2010
Base Budget 2009 - 2010	439,374
Accumulated Housing Carry Forward given 09.05.08	154,590
Budget Total	589,374

* See item 9 in the main report and item 15 above in this appendix.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
TFMC Funding Agendas	Resident Involvement, Rotherhithe Area Housing Office, 159 Abbeyfield Street, London SE16	Barry Assinder 020 7525 1716

Lead Officer	Hazel Flynn, Departmental Coordinator, Housing Management	
Report Author	Ross Lambert, Tenant Compact Manager	
Version	3	
Dated	5 June 2009	
Key Decision?	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	No	No
Chief Finance Officer	No	No
<i>List other Officers here</i>		
Executive Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Support Services		N/A