



	<b>Cabinet Member Report</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3 August 2021</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Harrow Road and Maida Vale</b>
<b>1. Summary</b>	
1.1 This report seeks approval for the expenditure of £14,000.00 from the Harrow Road and Maida Vale Ward Budgets in order to commission:	
(a) One Westminster to support residents of Harrow Road and Maida Vale affected by recent flooding. The organisation has launched a fundraising appeal as many residents in these wards are not insured due to living in poverty or on very low incomes. The funding will be used to contribute to running an emergency response grant scheme to which residents can apply for support.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	
That the Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration approves the release of funds in the amount of £14,000.00 in respect of the above proposal, from the ward members of Harrow Road and Maida Vale wards, as detailed in the report.	



City of Westminster

# Cabinet Member Report

Cabinet Member:	<b>Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration</b>
Date:	<b>3 August 2021</b>
Classification:	<b>For General Release</b>
Title of Report:	<b>Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Harrow Road and Maida Vale</b>
Report of:	<b>Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison</b>
Wards involved:	<b>Harrow Road and Maida Vale</b>
Policy context:	<b>Ward Budget Programme</b>
Financial summary:	<b>The proposed expenditure of £4,900.00 from the Harrow Road Ward Budget leaves £22,550.00 remaining for allocation in the current financial year.</b> <b>The proposed expenditure of £9,100.00 from the Maida Vale Ward Budget leaves £28,600.03 remaining for allocation in the current financial year.</b>
Report Author:	<b>Naomi Ariama, Councillor and Governance Support Officer</b>
Contact details	<b>This matter is being handled by:</b> <b>Naomi Ariama, Councillor and Governance Support Officer</b> <a href="mailto:nariama@westminster.gov.uk">nariama@westminster.gov.uk</a>

## 1. Background Information

- 1.1 Ward budgets were established under the City Council's Neighbourhood Programme agreed by the Cabinet in November 2007.
- 1.2 The programme enables ward members to fund projects in the local area which benefit residents of that area and/or meet local priorities.
- 1.3 £46,000 is provided to each ward in each financial year of a 4-year electoral cycle. Monies not spent in year roll-over to the next until the end of the cycle.
- 1.4 Budget provision for the financial years 2018 to 2022 equates to £184,000 per ward
- 1.5 All decisions on projects to be funded are made by the ward members from the wards concerned, to support their local priorities.

## 2. Proposed Projects

- 2.1 £14,000.00 will enable One Westminster to support residents of Harrow Road and Maida Vale affected by recent flooding. The organisation has launched a fundraising appeal as many residents in these wards are not insured due to living in poverty or on very low incomes. The funding will be used to contribute to running an emergency response grant scheme to which residents can apply for support. Approximately 130 Maida Vale and 70 Harrow Road households will benefit from this support.

Grants will be capped at £200 per home and anyone seeking funding will have to prove they are a Westminster resident in an affected area, and evidence that they have lost items and suffered damage not covered by insurance. One Westminster hope to help up to 200 Westminster residents affected by the floods:

130 Households Maida Vale  
70 Households Harrow Road

## 3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 Expenditure and approvals in process from the Harrow Road budget to date total £156,550.00 leaving **£27,450.00** to be allocated.
- 3.2 The proposals for expenditure in this report amount to **£4,900.00** and leaves **£22,550.00** available for future allocation.
- 3.3 Expenditure and approvals in process from the Maida Vale budget to date total £146,299.97 leaving **£37,700.03** to be allocated.
- 3.4 The proposals for expenditure in this report amount to **£9,100.00** and leaves **£28,600.03** available for future allocation.

3.5 This report approves the release of the above funding from the ward budget(s) as listed above. The individual decisions taken on the projects being funded are made by the ward members for the ward(s) involved.

#### **4. Legal Implications**

4.1 Section 1 of the Localism Act, aka “the general power of competence” enables authorities “to do anything that individuals generally may do”. The proposals within this report are consistent with the Council exercising this power.

#### **5. Outstanding Issues**

5.1 None.

#### **6. Consultation**

6.1 The proposals have been approved by all Councillors, or a majority of Councillors from all wards involved

6.2 The proposal for ‘Support to flood-affected Westminster residents’ has been drawn up by the Councillor and Governance Support Officer with One Westminster and the financial and legal aspects of the funding have been verified by the Council’s Finance and Legal Services Departments.

**If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect one of the background papers please contact Naomi Ariama on email [nariama@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:nariama@westminster.gov.uk)**

For completion by the Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

**Declaration of Interest**

- I have no interest to declare in respect of this report

Signed ..... Date .....  
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

- I have to declare an interest

State nature of interest: .....  
.....

Signed ..... Date .....  
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and  
Regeneration

(N.B: If you have an interest you should seek advice as to whether it is appropriate to make a decision in relation to this matter.)

For the reasons set out above, I agree the recommendation(s) in the report entitled **Approval of Expenditure from the Ward Budget of Harrow Road and Maida Vale** and reject any alternative options which are referred to but not recommended.

Signed .....  
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

Date .....

**For Ward Specific Reports Only**

In reaching this decision I have given due regard to any representations made by relevant Ward Members.

Signed .....  
Councillor Heather Acton, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and Regeneration

Date .....

If you have any additional comment which you would want actioned in connection with your decision you should discuss this with the report author and then set out your comment below before the report and this pro-forma is returned to the Secretariat for processing.

Additional comment: .....  
.....

NOTE: If you do not wish to approve the recommendations, or wish to make an alternative decision, it is important that you consult the report author, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Director of Finance and Performance and, if there are staffing implications, the Director of Resources (or their representatives) so that (1) you can be made aware of any further relevant considerations that you should take into account before making the decision and (2) your reasons for the decision can be properly identified and recorded, as required by law.

**Note to Cabinet Member: Your decision will now be published and copied to the Members of the relevant Policy & Scrutiny Committee. If the decision falls within the criteria for call-in, it will not be implemented until five working days have elapsed for any call-in request to be received.**