

QUESTIONS RECEIVED

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## QUESTIONS RECEIVED FOR AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 4 MARCH 2024

1. Mike Oldreive
2. Mike Oldreive

### Question 1

What is the total amount of payments made to date to support the Stepping Up programme ( since 2018)?

Please provide amounts paid, source of funding, date of payment and Payee, reason for payment( ie contractual/grant/programme participant fees).

( Approvals shown on WECA website total £147,395, but BCC FOIs suggest £150k or more has been paid prior to this)

The Authority is in the process of carefully considering the issues that have been raised and will respond in full once that process has been completed.

### Question 2

Call decision dated 02.03.22 approves a payment of £48,000 to Stepping Up. It notes that "due diligence is incomplete and recommendation is conditional on reaching the appropriate threshold".

Can officers :

- explain why a grant was recommended when due diligence requirements were not in place? (This does not represent best practice.)
- provide a copy of due diligence checklist used confirm that all information received was complete before final approval was given ( the MOA on Companies House is incomplete and contains no objects)
- provide evidence that all applicants for Community Support Fund grant were treated equitably?
- explain the processes in place for monitoring grant expenditure and provide copies of submissions to date by Stepping Up Leadership CIC, including any audit activity.
- provide names & details of the independent panel members who evaluated the grant applications, including appointment process.

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