

**THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA  
PUBLIC REALM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 11 DECEMBER 2018**

**REPORT BY COUNCILLOR GERARD HARGREAVES**

**LEAD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND CULTURE**

**CURRENT ISSUES**

The following are matters of current and future business. I can provide additional information at the Committee meeting if requested.

**FOR COMMENT**

**1.1 Three Year Grant Funding Award for Notting Hill Carnival 2019 to 2021**

The council is a committed supporter of Carnival, both in terms of finance and the importance to our communities, so we provide grants and operational support to Notting Hill Carnival, as well as the carnival arts. As part of this, the council awards a grant of £100,000 annually to support planning and event management.

The grant funding award process was presented for discussion at the Public Realm Scrutiny Committee meeting on 5 July 2018, and the invitation for expressions of interest opened at the end of July, with the deadline of 31 October 2018 for expressions of interest.

Four grant award expressions of interest were received, which were read in full, and evaluated by a newly formed Grant Advisory Panel, to provide a diverse view from the local and Carnival community. The Grant Advisory Panel consisted of four local ward councillors, seven community representatives and strategic partners.

At a meeting on Monday 22 October, the four organisations interested in the grant gave presentations to, and took questions from, the panel, before all members submitted scoring for each expression of interest against set criteria, in order to confirm the highest scoring as the recommended grant recipient. The highest scoring expression of interest was Carnival Village Trust and therefore were recommended to the Leadership Team to enter into a three grant agreement.

A more detailed report reviewing the 2018 Carnival and planning for Carnival 2019 will be presented at the January 2019 PRSC meeting.

## **1.2 Kensington High Street Revitalisation– Cultural Place Making**

As part of the Kensington High Street Cultural Place making programme, a number of arts and culture-led initiatives are in development, linking the streets significant assets from Leighton House to Kensington Palace via Japan House and the Design Museum.

Taking a lead from Japan House designs for an art crossing on the road surface at the pedestrian crossing point at their premises to be installed in the summer of 2019, the project team will launch a design competition for a number of other pedestrian crossings at key locations to the street’s cultural institutions, and taking those institution as the artistic reference for the designs. The competition will also seek designs for a complimentary set of lamppost banners, pending funding through the Capital Bid programme.

In addition, this programme will be looking at creating a vibrant space for residents and visitors, early stage plans are looking at re-thinking the Town Hall square and Kensington Library, including using the undercroft as an events space, providing a café concession, opening up the library to present a broader programme of activity, and potentially home a Caribbean Heritage Museum.

**COUNCILLOR GERARD HARGREAVES  
LEAD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND CULTURE**

**Background documents:** None

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