



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Stephen Halsey
Head of Paid Service
London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
6th Floor, Mulberry Place
5 Clove Crescent
London E14 2BG

7 November 2014

Dear Mr Halsey

**COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS;
UNDERTAKINGS AND INFORMATION ON PROPERTY DISPOSALS AND
TRANSFERS**

Thank you for your letter of 5 November 2014 providing undertakings by your Authority in relation to grant making and the appointment and/or designation of statutory officers, and information about proposed real property transactions.

The Secretary of State considers that the undertakings your Authority has given avoids the need for immediate directions in relation to grants and the appointment and/or designation of statutory officers.

Those undertakings involve your Authority seeking the Secretary of State's written approval for certain actions. Any request for such approval should be made in writing and should be sent by email to Daniel.Hallam@communities.gsi.gov.uk, copied to Paul.Rowsell@communities.gsi.gov.uk, or in hard copy to the address below marked for the attention of Dan Hallam. Any such request on grants should include the information described in the Annex to this letter, and the Secretary of State may require further information before deciding whether or not to give his approval.

In my letter to you of 4 November, I explained that the Secretary of State might decide it is necessary to use his powers to make immediate directions in relation to property transactions, depending on the information your Authority provided about such transactions. Having now carefully considered

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the information on proposed property transactions enclosed with your letter of 5 November, the Secretary of State considers that it is not necessary to use such powers, subject to his being satisfied that there are no risks to your Authority's position or its resources on the proposed transactions on the following properties:

- [redacted];
- [redacted];

To satisfy the Secretary of State on this matter your Authority is invited to provide by 3pm on Tuesday 11 November either -

- information setting out your Authority's view of the current market value or market rent (and the basis of its calculation) for these properties and a written undertaking not to accept a lower figure, unless as a result of a Tribunal decision; or
- a written undertaking not to enter into any commitments in relation to these properties without prior written approval of the Secretary of State, pending decisions on any intervention package.

I am copying this letter to your Authority's Section 151 Officer, and to its Monitoring Officer.

PAUL ROWSELL

ANNEX

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED WHEN REQUESTING SECRETARY OF STATE'S APPROVAL ON GRANTS

For each proposed new grant, new agreement to pay grant or modification to an existing agreement to pay grant, the following information must be supplied:

- the name of the grant programme;
- the name of the proposed recipient;
- where the proposed recipient is an organisation, a description of its objectives and activities;
- the amount of the proposed funding and the period of the proposed grant agreement or grant modification;
- the purpose of the proposed funding;
- full details of any existing grants or other funding from your authority to the proposed grant recipient for the past 4 years, including the dates of any funding agreements, the amount of the funding and the purpose of the funding;
- confirmation that the bid process undertaken by the authority in relation to the proposed grant agreement or grant modification complied with all relevant processes required by the authority, and details of those processes;
- confirmation that the bid from the proposed grant recipient meets all relevant criteria set by the authority, and details of those criteria;
- confirmation that the proposed grant recipient is eligible for the proposed grant funding;
- whether or not officers have recommended the proposed amount of grant and the proposed recipient, and any views of members on the proposed grant, and
- a copy of the proposed grant letter or determination.

Each request for the Secretary of State's written approval must be authorised by one of the Authority's statutory officers.

The Secretary of State may require further information in addition to that set out above.

