

## RECORD OF INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISION MADE BY A CABINET MEMBER

Decision Maker	Decision Type	Date
CLlr Sean Fielding	Delegated Decision in relation to Business Grants	19/12/2019

### Award of a Business Improvement Grant in Lees district centre

#### Decision (s)

Approve a max award of £8,000 Business Improvement Grant to:

Lees Bacaro Ltd (t/a Milan Bar) in respect of 13 Elliott Street, Lees

Exempt/Confidential Report		No
Key Decision		No

#### Reasons for the decision(s)

The purpose of the report is to seek approval to award a Business Improvement Grant in Lees District Centre.

The Council recognises the important role that independent businesses play in sustaining the vibrancy and vitality of our high streets and has developed a Business Improvement Grant scheme for Lees District Centre. Discretionary grants of 50% of the costs of improvements, up to a maximum of £8,000, are available.

**The Council recognises the important role that independent businesses play in sustaining the vibrancy and vitality of our high streets and has developed a Business Improvement Grant scheme for Lees District Centre. Discretionary grants of 50% of the costs of improvements, up to a maximum of £8,000, are available.**

An application has been received and for which approval is sought.

**Lees Bacaro Ltd, T/A Milan Bar, 13 Elliott Street, Lees.**

The building is in a prominent location on Elliott Street and is in use as a bar, restaurant and function venue.

The grant application seeks funding towards the refurbishment, alteration and improvement works to the toilet facilities within the venue. They wish to add a baby changing facility, disabled toilet and enhance the existing toilet facilities. This would involve new stud walling, internal rearrangements, flooring works, new ceiling, electrics and decoration. The business is aware that Building Regulations approval is required, and this will be a condition of any grant offered.

The works to the premises would enable wider opportunities for the business and allow a greater number and variety of functions to be held. The current lack of baby changing and disabled facilities is limiting the range of functions that can be accommodated, as well as restricting the use of the premises by some people, and the venue have lost a number of potential bookings as a result. The business estimates that with these new facilities, additional bookings would be made and the growth in business would result in additional employment opportunities for bar, service and kitchen staff. They are in discussions with Get Oldham Working regarding employing an apprentice.

The applicant is registered and up to date with their Business Rates. Milan Bar has been awarded a Food Hygiene Rating of 5 (Very Good) following an inspection on 23rd January 2019.

The applicant has submitted 3 quotes with their application and based on the lowest quote – the works come to £17,024.68 exc VAT. The applicant is therefore applying for a maximum grant of £8,000.

The Lees Grant Advisory Panel is made up of at least 2 of the 3 ward councillors for Saddleworth West and Lees. They were consulted via email dated 2nd December 2019, and all three councillors have responded and recommend approval of this application especially because of all the community work that Milan Bar does..

**Options/Alternatives considered**

1. Do nothing. If the Council chooses to adopt this approach then the Council's regeneration aspirations for Lees District Centre would be delayed.
2. Approve the award of the Business Improvement Grant. Business Improvement Grant applicants will enter into a contract with the Council, to ensure that works are being undertaken satisfactorily with claw back arrangements for non-compliance. Funding takes place once the contract is completed and the works completed to the satisfaction of the Council.

**Conflict of Interest declared**

None



**Oldham**  
Council

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(Councillor Signature and portfolio)

In consultation with

Helen Lockwood, Executive Director of Economy, Neighbourhoods and Skill

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(Executive Director Signature)

