

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Improving Londoners' Mental Health**Passage 2000****Adv: Gilly Green****Amount requested: £120,000****Base: Westminster****Benefit: Westminster & neighbouring boroughs****Amount recommended: £120,000****The Applicant**

Passage 2000 is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee and is based in Victoria, close to the mainline station. It aims to help long term rough sleepers to transform their lives through providing a range of health, housing and welfare services. It runs a large resource centre which is used by up to 200 people a day, as well as providing outreach services to those on the street. The Passage works with over 4000 people each year.

The Application

66% of the people who use the Passage's services have identified levels of poor mental health ranging from complex needs such as psychosis and schizophrenia to low level depression and anxiety. Many cannot access mainstream services so their symptoms go unreported and untreated. The Passage has a specialist health team which includes two mental health workers and a dual diagnosis specialist who undertake initial assessments and work with individuals to produce a personalised action plan. This may involve one to one sessions, therapeutic group work and referrals to statutory mental health services. Due to unprecedented increases in the numbers of people presenting high levels of need, the organisation appointed an additional specialist mental health worker and is now seeking funding of £40,000 per annum to cover this post for the next three years. The team helps people boost their confidence and self-esteem, develop strategies for coping, offload frustrations and manage anger more effectively, and for those with severe and enduring mental illness it can ensure faster access to intensive statutory support if needed.

The Recommendation

The Passage has a well-earned reputation of working positively with some of the most marginalised long term rough sleepers in London. It also has a demonstrable track record in providing effective mental health support through a range of therapeutic services. It has been engaged with mental health work for over 20 years and has developed strong connections with other services for onward referral. The project meets your outcomes for Improving Londoner's Mental Health by ensuring that more homeless and transient people have access to mental health services, as well as increasing the take up of services from the most marginalised communities including refugees, ex-offenders and people from BME backgrounds. Funding is recommended as follows:

£120,000 over three years (3 x £40,000) to meet the salary, on costs and a contribution to management charges of a f/t specialist mental health worker.

Funding History

| Meeting Date | Decision |
|--------------|--|
| 22/09/2016 | Stepping Stones application declined as the proposed work did not appear to require any social investment in its future development. |

17/11/2011

£120,000 over three years (3 x £40,000) for the salary and associated overheads of a full-time Mental Health Worker.

Background and detail of proposal

The number of people sleeping rough on the streets has risen consecutively over the last seven years, and homeless people's needs have become increasingly complex. During 2017/18 there were over 33,000 visits by 2,445 individuals to the Passage - a 15% increase in new clients. Homelessness and mental health often go hand in hand and without adequate support it can be hard to recover. A significant proportion of Centre users have mental health and substance misuse issues, which often go undiagnosed and untreated. Through a range of creative approaches by specialist workers, the mental health team build therapeutic relationships with service users to help them address their needs and move forward with their lives. The team also works closely with the Joint Homeless Team to ensure access to statutory in-patient services where needed. The need for additional staff has become critical with the rise in numbers of people presenting with increasingly complex problems.

Financial Information

The deficit in unrestricted expenditure in 2016/17 was due to spending designated funds carried forward. Four years ago, The Passage had a statutory funding base of 50%. This is predicted to drop to 20% by 2020 (although 2018 has seen an unexpected rise due to targeted government initiatives), and all statutory funding to its core resource centre will cease, hence the charity building its free reserves to compensate for reduced income from these sources and why its current level of free reserves exceeds its relatively modest policy target of 3 months' operating expenditure. The organisation has a high profile and the fundraising team has a good track record. In addition to the free reserves held currently there is also £2m set aside for further capital development to increase the number of self-contained flats for long term rough sleepers.

| Year end as at 31st March | 2017 Audited Accounts £ | 2018 Draft £ | 2019 Budget £ |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Income & expenditure: | | | |
| Income | 4,254,654 | 5,410,834 | 5,236,499 |
| - % of Income confirmed as at 1/8/18 | n/a | 100% | 67% |
| Expenditure | (5,109,089) | (5,144,405) | (5,355,489) |
| Total surplus/(deficit) | (854,435) | 266,429 | (118,990) |
| Split between: | | | |
| - Restricted surplus/(deficit) | (574,587) | (220,743) | (220,000) |
| - Unrestricted surplus/(deficit) | (279,848) | 487,172 | 101,010 |
| | (854,435) | 266,429 | (118,990) |
| Cost of Raising Funds | 286,679 | 344,376 | 237,565 |
| - % of Income | 6.7% | 6.4% | 4.5% |
| Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds) | 2,813,399 | 2,909,668 | 2,987,782 |
| Free unrestricted reserves: | | | |
| Free unrestricted reserves held at year end | 1,556,625 | 2,043,797 | 2,144,807 |
| No of months of operating expenditure | 6.6 | 8.4 | 8.6 |
| Reserves policy target | 703,349 | 727,417 | 746,945 |
| No of months of operating expenditure | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| Free reserves over/(under) target | 853,276 | 1,316,380 | 1,397,862 |