

MEETING: 25/07/2019

Ref: 15295

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Positive Transitions

St Clement and St James Community Development Project

Adv: Sara Masters

Amount requested: £95,110

**Base: Kensington & Chelsea
Benefit: Kensington & Chelsea**

Amount recommended: £95,000

The Applicant

St Clement and St James Community Development Project (ClementJames) in North Kensington exists to support the local community to realise its potential. It was established by the Parochial Church Council in 1981 in an area characterised by the close proximity of extreme wealth and disadvantage. The charity operates four distinct strands of work: Children and Young People's Education which offers academic support, mentoring and aspirational activities; Employment Support which helps people gain meaningful and sustainable employment through personalised advice and support, mentoring and work skills; Adult Learning to improve English, Maths and ICT skills through a wide range of Functional Skills courses, intensive Literacy & Numeracy support as well as their ESOL work which is the focus of this application; and Wellbeing and Support which offers a range of services, including advice and guidance.

The Application

The application is continuation funding for their original 'Communicate' ESOL programme awarded in 2016 (now part of Adult Learning). It is to support the original role of Adult Learning Manager as well as a part-time Adult Learning Tutor. This application is for a higher amount than the original award as aspects of the previous application sat outside the 'Investing in Londoners' strategy whereas the work now sits fully within 'Bridging Divides'. Therefore, the full requested amount is recommended.

The Recommendation

ClementJames is a charity with an impressive track record and strong reputation. It was awarded Charity of the Year in 2014 at the Charity Times Award and was shortlisted again in 2015 and 2016. Its work is in demand and achieves significant results with 98% of eligible Adult Learners attaining external accreditation in their exams in 2017/18. All ClementJames tutors have received either a 'good' or 'outstanding' in teaching and learning observations and adult learning provision in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (of which ClementJames is part) was awarded 'good' at the last Ofsted inspection in April 2018. At a CBT learning visit in October 2018 it was found that the organisation had achieved or exceeded all its project outcomes.

£95,000 over two further and final years (£47,000; £48,000) towards the salary costs of the Adult Learning Manager and Adult Learning tutor for an ESOL programme for Beginners to Level 2.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
20/09/2017	£10,000 towards the costs of the Carnival Arts programme with young people (Grenfell Funders' Coalition).
24/05/2016	£94,500 over three years (£30,000; £31,500; £33,000) towards the salary of the full-time Adult Learning Manager and a contribution to project on-costs.
10/09/2009	£96,000 over three years (£32,000; £32,000; £32,000) towards the costs of English language classes.

Background and detail of proposal

Kensington & Chelsea is one of the most densely populated areas in the country and income inequality is higher here than any other London borough. The majority of learners come from housing estates that sit within a one-mile radius of the centre. These sit across four wards (Notting Dale, Golborne, Dalgarno and St Helen's) which are in the 10% most deprived in England. Many local residents suffer from inadequate or overcrowded housing, poor health, social isolation and low-income. Over 6,800 residents across the North Kensington area have no qualifications, severely limiting the employment opportunities available to them. 76% of people who participated in the adult learning in 2017/18 were BAME compared to 42% of the population of the surrounding wards. It is proposed that 100 students per year will achieve ESOL accreditation with CBT funding, 90% of whom will progress to higher-level ESOL courses; training or progress into employment.

Financial Information

Budgeting in 2018/19 assumes a complete match between income and expenditure but 94% of income has been raised making this a reasonable assumption. Free reserves held are broadly in line with the reserves policy. This is strengthened by the fact they have a highly experienced management team. The charity played a leading role in the immediate and ongoing support for the people affected by the Grenfell fire.

Year end as at 31st August	2018 Signed Accounts £	2019 Management Accounts £	2020 Forecast £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	1,172,800	1,039,762	1,268,144
- % of Income confirmed as at June 2019	N/A	94%	54%
Expenditure	1,098,672	1,039,762	1,138,894
Total surplus/(deficit)	74,128	0	129,250
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	0	0	119,250
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	74,128	0	10,000
	74,128	0	129,250
Cost of Raising Funds	36,244	36,968	37,707
- % of Income	3.1%	3.6%	3.0%
Operating expenditure	1,098,672	1,039,762	1,138,894
Free unrestricted reserves:			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	517,591	517,591	527,591
No of months of operating expenditure	5.7	6.0	5.6
Reserves policy target	549,336	519,881	569,447
No of months of operating expenditure	6.0	6.0	6.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	(31,745)	(2,290)	(41,856)