

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Connecting the Capital**Living Streets (The Pedestrians Association)****Adv: Shegufta Slawther****Base: Tower Hamlets****Amount requested: £135,256****Benefit: Redbridge, Havering,
Barking & Dagenham****Amount recommended: £135,250****The Applicant**

Established in 1929, Living Streets promotes the safety and comfort of the walking public. The charity aims to address social isolation, minimise the risk of preventable illness and reduce pollution by promoting and championing walking. The charity has led on campaigns that resulted in the first speed limits and zebra crossings. It aims to address barriers that prevent people from walking, particularly as a result of age or disability.

The Application

The charity is seeking continuation funding for three years, having secured your funding for an initial two years for its older people's project in Redbridge. Building on the success of the first two years, a further three years funding will expand the project into Havering and Barking and Dagenham.

The Recommendation

The first two years of delivery have had strong outcomes with over 350 older people engaged in their community events, over 153 older people reporting feeling healthy, active and less isolated as a result of walking more, and 145 older people making a Walking Pledge; supporting lasting behaviour change for participants. Taking the success of delivery in Redbridge, the charity wishes to expand delivery into two further boroughs, which was an aim of the original two-year grant.

£135,250 over three further and final years (£44,560, £44,740, £45,950) for the full-time Project Coordinator and running costs for Living Street's work to address barriers to walking for older people in Redbridge, Havering, Barking & Dagenham.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
24/11/2016	£85,900 over two years (£43,500; £42,400) for a part-time Co-ordinator (3 days per week) and project resources to support Living Streets? work to address barriers to walking for older people in Redbridge.
20/01/2011	£135,860 over three years (£43,370; £45,270; £47,220) for a project to improve knowledge and action for a better walking environment in London.

Background and detail of proposal

The project has two main strands; first the community-based initiatives; addressing issues preventing older people from walking. Using Community Street Audits (CSAs) and one-to-one sessions, the charity will uncover barriers to walking for older people and their carers. The charity has evidenced that encouraging Walking Pledges and

social walking events, has increased walking amongst this group. It has also inspired older people to walk by providing positive and practical tips about how to get around safely and working within existing community infrastructure to increase physical activity. Participants act as walking champions for others and volunteers provide support and build confidence. The second strand of work is around sharing best practice across London; by bringing together borough partners and representative from other councils to discuss the findings, celebrate the successes and tackle challenges.

Having already worked with the London Borough of Redbridge, the charity is aware there are more older people and carers who are inactive and/or socially isolated in Barking and Dagenham. Through its Best Practice event, which had 43 colleagues from various local authorities attend, the charity was able to highlight the impact of its approach on getting older people active. The London Borough of Havering have identified isolation and loneliness within their local population as a problem. All three boroughs have high percentages of older people living alone with Havering having the oldest population across London; 48% of people 65 and over living alone. The 2017 Joint Strategic Needs Assessments for all three boroughs demonstrate the link between people living alone and social isolation.

Financial Information

The charity's reserves policy is to hold six months of core costs. The organisation holds additional designated funds for specific projects in the period to end of September 2020 and have not been included in the figure for free reserves held in 2018.

Income has grown steadily with more funding secured from trusts and foundations, as well as the income from its wholly owned trading subsidiary; Living Streets Services.

Year end as at 30th September	2018 Signed Accounts £	2019 Draft Accounts £	2020 Forecast £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	5,038,547	5,699,640	4,555,565
- % of Income confirmed as at 23/08/2019	N/A	N/A	55%
Expenditure	(5,296,973)	(5,749,850)	(4,789,522)
Total surplus/(deficit)	(258,426)	(50,210)	(233,957)
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	(466,075)	191,262	(335,089)
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	207,649	(241,472)	101,132
	(258,426)	(50,210)	(233,957)
Cost of Raising Funds	123,031	219,417	201,930
- % of Income	2.4%	3.8%	4.4%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	1,050,290	1,670,266	1,341,775
Free unrestricted reserves:			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	572,326	330,854	431,986
No of months of operating expenditure	6.5	2.4	3.9
Reserves policy target	835,406	835,133	670,888
No of months of operating expenditure	9.5	6.0	6.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	(263,080)	(504,279)	(238,902)