

MEETING: 20/03/2017

Ref: 13663

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Strengthening London's Voluntary Sector**

**Alliance for Inclusive Education**

**Adv: Sandra Jones**

**Base: Lambeth**

**Amount requested: £166,237**

**Benefit: London-wide**

**Amount recommended: £166,300**

**The Charity**

Alliance for Inclusive Education (ALLFIE), established in 1990, works on education issues, engaging mainstream stakeholders in the education sector and supporting young disabled people and their families to enable the young people to build their aspirations and meet their full potential. Activities include: regular production of Inclusion Now magazine; awareness briefings on 'the case for inclusive education' and the effects of education legislation on disabled people; supporting disabled pupils and students; working with parents of disabled students; facilitating the Inclusion Champions Consortium; working to raise awareness of inclusive education with Disabled Person-led Organisations (DPOs).

**The Application**

ALLFIE seeks a three year grant to upskill at least 40 DPOs across London to extend their existing community offer to young disabled people and their families. This covers legislation, engagement skills, working with families and training the trainer so as to cascade the learning to other organisations. They will also establish an e-hub for participants of the project to share learning. This will be achieved by employing a part time Inclusion Champion (2.5 days per week) and Policy Co-ordinator (0.5 days per week), and a proportion of the time of the existing the Director (5 hours per week) and the Communications Officer (1 day per month).

**The Recommendation**

ALLFIE has a solid track record of advancing educational opportunities for young disabled people through its different projects, and works closely with other disability organisations such as Inclusion London to achieve its aims. This project is based on a pilot undertaken by the charity, funded by Esmée Fairbairn, which finished in November 2016. This pilot worked with 10 DPOs in London and has proven to increase support to young disabled people and their families.

***£166,300 over three years (£55,900; £55,700; £54,700) towards an Inclusion Champion post (2.5 days per week), the Policy Co-ordinator (0.5 days per week) and a proportion of the Director's time (5 hours per week) and the Communications Officer (1 day per month), as well as the costs of developing the e-hub, and training and capacity building costs.***

**Funding History**

Meeting Date	Decision
28/01/2016	The capacity-building support referred to in this application does not meet the criteria set out in your programme. In addition, the cost of supporting 6 organisations is excessive.

## Background and detail of proposal

Work undertaken by ALLFIE over the last two years with their New Voices group of disabled young people has evidenced that they want better links with empowered disabled adults and to have a better understanding of their rights. To date, very few DPOs work with disabled children and young people and their families because traditionally it has been the preserve of the larger non user-led disability charities. This project therefore aims to train and strengthen DPOs to work with this cohort of people. This will be achieved by identifying the capacity building needs of the DPOs, and by providing support and training, including training the trainers which will enable the DPOs to cascade the learning. An e-hub will also be developed for the participants to further network and share learning.

## Financial Information

Forecast income in the current year is all confirmed, with 13% of the 2017/18 budget being confirmed as at February 2017. The charity has a successful track record of raising charitable funds to sustain activity levels and does not rely on any statutory funding, although they do anticipate that funding in 2017/18 will decrease whilst they await the outcome of a number of applications. The Director is focussing on fundraising over the coming months and anticipates that this will improve their financial position. This will put their free reserves to 9 months, a decrease from the previously two years to get them towards their reserves policy of 3 months. The charity advises that it is something that the trustees will be addressing over the next two years.

Although ALLFIE's accounts do have a statement on the cost of raising funds, this is not translated into the financial figures in their accounts; this has been raised with the charity and they will be addressing this in future. They state that the cost of raising funds equates to 15% of the Directors salary.

Year end as at 31st March	2015/16 Examined Accounts £	2016/17 Current year forecast £	2017/18 Forecast £
<b>Income &amp; expenditure:</b>			
Income	158,222	185,141	125,322
- % of Income confirmed	n/a	n/a	13%
<b>Expenditure</b>	(198,570)	(185,141)	(148,828)
<b>Total surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(40,348)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(23,506)</b>
<b>Split between:</b>			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	(28,401)	0	0
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	(11,947)	0	(23,506)
	<b>(40,348)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(23,506)</b>
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	22,975	49,518	41,316
<b>Free unrestricted reserves:</b>			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	54,583	54,583	31,077
No of months of operating expenditure	28.5	13.2	9.0
Reserves policy target	11,488	12,380	20,658
No of months of operating expenditure	6.0	3.0	3.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	43,096	42,204	10,419