

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Making London Safer

Stop the Traffik

Amount requested: £167,485

Amount recommended: £98,400

Adv: Shegufta Rahman

Base: Lambeth

**Benefit: Kensington & Chelsea,
Westminster and Hammersmith
& Fulham**

The Charity

Stop the Traffik (STT) was established in 2008 to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking. The charity's objective is to prevent abuse and harm caused by modern slavery and human trafficking by engaging in: community transformation by empowering individuals to take action to prevent trafficking in their communities; global campaigning to inform consumers on how trafficking impacts the supply chains of businesses world-wide; and gathering and sharing knowledge through its Centre for Intelligence Led Prevention.

The Application

Following the success of STT's community transformation pilot projects in Manchester and the London Tri-Boroughs (Kensington & Chelsea, Westminster and Hammersmith & Fulham), the charity is seeking longer-term funding to continue its work under the European Communities Against Trafficking (ECAT) pilot programme in London.

The Recommendation

STT has demonstrated the strength of its role in the ECAT project in London and the need to continue this strategic work following the project's end, and build on the success of its work in Manchester. The amount recommended is at a reduced rate in recognition of the organisation's strong reserves position and ability to contribute some of its own funds towards this project.

£98,400 over three years (£32,200, £32,800, £33,400) for the FT salary of the Modern Slavery Network and Community Engagement Coordinator in London.

Funding History

None

Background and detail of proposal

STT received funding from the European Commission in 2012 to form a partnership with numerous organisations, including SC07 (the Metropolitan Police's anti-trafficking and kidnap unit) and the Tri-Borough area. The aim of the project was to establish a multi-agency, best practice approach to community engagement in the prevention of human trafficking alongside victim-centred intervention and aftercare, which can then be replicated trans-nationally. STT's role was to provide awareness and training to councils, police, victim support, housing, health, community groups and NGO's. Over the two years of the project STT trained 224 volunteers and 950 front-line professionals to spot the signs of trafficking. The collaboration exposed and disrupted six trafficking rings across the three boroughs and over 300 potential trafficking victims were identified.

In Manchester, STT has had a Coordinator in post since 2015, supporting a joined-up approach to work amongst local organisations and Greater Manchester Police

(GMP). GMP has seen a 197% increase in numbers of trafficking victims referred to the National Referral Mechanism. Part of the Coordinator's role has been to coordinate the Greater Manchester Modern Slavery Response Network, which includes: GMP, NGO forum, multi-faith forum, statutory services, business sector, voluntary groups and the local community. The pilot has been innovative and successful, as evidenced by the coordinator recently receiving a GMP Chief Constable's Commendation for "...her role in establishing a pioneering, multi-agency Modern Slavery Coordination Unit. This unit is recognized as a "leading light" in this field and has already saved lives and rescued people from circumstances they described as "worse than death"."

Although adapted to fit the needs of the local area, the proposed project will replicate the Manchester model in the London Tri-Borough area. It will ensure survivors identified in the Tri-Borough area have access to information, advice and advocacy needed as they re-integrate back into society. It will also build the personal resilience of vulnerable individuals in the area equipping them to identify trafficking and resist being trafficked. In addition, the project will mobilise a cross section of organisations, including local NGOs, statutory services and community groups, to work together to increase awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking, spot and stop it where it does exist, report potential victims, prevent it from occurring, and identify gaps for victim support.

Financial Information

STT successfully applied for The Financial Times Seasonal Appeal in 2014. This provided the charity with a communications platform on scale, nurtured relationships with banks and businesses, and led to a significant increase in income in 2015/16. The organisation has followed a strategic plan to grow its activities and annual spend. However, STT's reserves policy is to hold three months of expenditure. Given its current and projected level of reserves are above its reserves policy, the recommended amount is only for the salary costs, and does not include the associated project costs requested, which the organisation could self-fund.

Year end as at 31st August	FY 15/16	FY 16/17	FY 17/18
	Audited Accounts	Budget	Forecast
	£	£	£
Income & expenditure:			
Income	438,391	303,062	452,333
- % of Income confirmed as at 31/07/2017	n/a	n/a	29%
Expenditure	(272,139)	(346,152)	(448,364)
Total surplus/(deficit)	166,252	(43,090)	3,969
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	6,459	0	0
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	159,793	(43,090)	3,969
	166,252	(43,090)	3,969
Cost of Raising Funds	10,680	30,431	32,400
- % of income	2.4%	10.0%	7.2%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	227,463	265,752	189,031
Free unrestricted reserves:			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	225,487	182,397	186,366
No of months of operating expenditure	11.9	8.2	11.8
Reserves policy target	70,000	66,438	47,258
No of months of operating expenditure	3.7	3.0	3.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	155,487	115,959	139,108