

MEETING: 21/03/2019

Ref: 15207

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Positive Transitions

St Augustine's Community Care Trust

Adv: Sandra Davidson

Amount requested: £79,281

Base: Richmond

(Revised request £70,317)

Benefit: Richmond

Amount recommended: £70,300

The Applicant

St Augustine's Community Care Trust (known locally as HomeLink), established in 1995, supports people with long-term illnesses, disabilities, or mental health problems living in Whitton and the surrounding areas of the LB Richmond and LB of Hounslow. The charity has an excellent track record and is well-regarded locally. Operating five days a week, HomeLink provides a respite service, run by local volunteers and qualified staff. Serving 140 older people each week, many of whom are 75+ and frail, the service is currently full.

The Application

This application is for continuation funding of the service following your previous grant and a review of the organisation's management structure. The charity decided to re-instate the position Chief Executive Officer (CEO) rather than a shared leadership between the Business Manager and Centre Manager. Your support is now being sought towards the CEO post to enhance and develop the service and seek further collaborative relationships with other organisations for the benefit of clients and carers. The intended outputs and outcomes are the same as for your previous funding.

The Recommendation

HomeLink is well regarded and trusted. Respite care serves an increasing number of dementia clients giving carers a temporary break enabling them to sustain and continue in their caring role. The CEO post is crucial to meet the increasing demand of the service. This project fits well with your Positive Transitions programme outcomes and priorities. A revised budget has been submitted (appended to the application form) hence the slight reduction in recommended amount:

£70,300 over two further years (£34,700; £35,600) towards the salary costs of a full time Chief Executive Officer.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
18/03/2016	£99,500 (£32,500; £33,200; £33,800) towards the salary costs of a full time Chief Operations Officer, and running costs of the Homelink Day Respite Service.
04/06/2009	£60,000 over three years (£20,000; £20,000; £20,000) towards running costs of the Homelink Day Respite Service for older people.
07/05/2009	Application withdrawn.

Background and detail of proposal

The number of older people 65+ in the LB of Richmond is projected to increase from 1,986 in 2016 to 2,235 by 2021 – a 15% increase over five years – and to 2,561 by

2025 – a 32% increase over ten years. Currently 6% of older adults are from a Black, Asian or minority ethnic community. This will double to 12% by 2041. HomeLink's client and carer support needs are constantly changing. Consultation with clients, carers, staff and partners is essential to service delivery. The charity has set up a Carers Strategy Group to explore ways to better support carers. People with dementia and their carers talk to staff about the everyday challenges they face in living with dementia. Difficulties include getting appropriate service in shops, banks and post offices, using transport, and maintaining social contact and hobbies. HomeLink offers a range of activities including; arts and crafts, cooking, exercise, hairdressing music, and reminiscence and reflexology. A quiet room is available for those who do not want to join in or just want to chat. Recently introduced evening activities for clients and carers include supper clubs in partnership with Home Instead. Plans include leasing the adjacent church hall to expand the number of clients supported and developing carer support services. Improvements to the day care centre to address access issues is in the pipeline, with the intension of approaching the Trust for an access audit. Over the 160 carers and clients per annum will benefit from HomeLink's specialist support services.

Financial Information

Client fees for the current financial account for 65% of running costs. The cost of raising funds is for a part time fundraiser. The growth in income for 2019 is due to an increase in grants applied for as well as planned client fee increase in August. Plans to move into the adjacent church hall will expand the number of clients supported and generate income from fees.

Year end as at 31 December	2017 Examined Accounts £	2018 Draft £	2019 Budget £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	380,953	375,589	391,996
- % of income confirmed as at 23/1/2019		100%	81%
Expenditure	(377,801)	(410,568)	(444,360)
Total surplus/(deficit)	3,152	(34,979)	(52,364)
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	(47,839)	(26,396)	(26,396)
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	50,991	(8,583)	(25,968)
	3,152	(34,979)	(52,364)
Cost of Raising Funds	7,525	12,803	8,761
- % of income	2.0%	3.4%	2.2%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	307,556	340,372	396,214
Free unrestricted reserves:			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	150,023	141,440	115,472
No of months of operating expenditure	5.9	5.0	3.5
Reserves policy target	76,889	85,093	99,054
No of months of operating expenditure	3.0	3.0	3.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	73,134	56,347	16,419