

MEETING 06/06/2013

ANNEX NUMBER: A

**Get Young People Working – The Youth Offer**

London Borough of Ealing

Ref: 11729

Adv: Clare Thomas

**Amount requested: £100,000**

**Introduction**

Since 2007 the London Borough of Ealing has been running a number of successful programmes tackling the NEETs issue amongst 16-24 year olds, including apprenticeships, training programmes, work experience and other support. These programmes are delivered by the Borough's Connexions service under the Pathways heading. As a result the number of NEETs has been reduced, to 3.5% of this age group. This represents over 340 people, who are often the hardest to reach and most vulnerable within the community.

**The Programme**

This application is for a pre-employment project to provide one-to-one support for young people in the areas of Greenford, Northolt and Southall in LB Ealing. Support will include mentoring, job search skills, work experience or volunteering and an intensive pre-employment course. The programme will be managed by the Council's Connexions team, working alongside a range of VCS organisations who will be invited to become 'opportunity brokers' - identifying work placements, volunteering opportunities, jobs and apprenticeships, and providing mentoring support. A minimum of 50 young people will enter education, employment or training as a result of the project from the 100 expected to engage with support (40%).

A significant proportion of the funding will go to young people themselves – in the form paid placements. So the split of funding of the grant would be 41% direct to young people; 50% to VCS organisations, 4% to a qualified Information Advice & Guidance practitioner and 5% to the Council for management.

**Voluntary sector partner**

Third sector organisations will be invited to become "opportunity brokers" that will seek out suitable work placements, volunteering opportunities, apprenticeships and employment openings matched to the aspirations of the young people and as expressed in their individual action plans.

Specifically, Ealing Volunteer Centre will broker volunteering opportunities for young people while The Accession Social Enterprise Partnership will offer opportunities in a number of vocational areas for young people. Finally, Business Launchpad is an organisation that is able to offer training and support to young people interested in setting up a business and becoming self-employed. Other Third Sector organisations will be involved as appropriate according to the expressed needs and aspirations of the young people. These could include but are not limited to Platform 51, Ealing Mencap and Green Corridor, the latter two organisations having received City Bridge Trust funding.

**Conclusion**

This is a focused and well-targeted bid. The Connexions Service clearly knows the NEET group well and is targeting support in an area of the borough where it is less easy to access more intensive one-to-one support.

**Recommendation**

**£100,000 towards a programme of pre-employment support for young NEETs living in Ealing conditional on the voluntary sector partner meeting the Trust's approval.**



MEETING: 06/06/2013

ANNEX NUMBER: B

## Get Young People Working – The Youth Offer

London Borough of Havering

Ref: 11716

Adv: Clare Thomas

Amount requested: £100,000

### Introduction

In the period 2010-11, Havering experienced the largest increase in 16-24 year olds in London. This bid proposes to support a minimum of 20 young NEETs into a four month work placement with one of its partner agencies from the public, private and third sectors. The target group are long term NEET young people, including those from the 'Looked After Children' group. The selection process will be competitive and will give the participants a 'real' experience of the world of work.

### The Programme

This project proposes to use the same delivery model used for the Future Jobs Fund programme – which the council believes is a tried and tested model. Havering Council will act as lead partner and accountable body, managing contracts and agreements, chairing the project board and monitoring delivery of the project which will be undertaken by Third Sector partners. The Business Education Partnership (BEP) Group, an established Third Sector partner who has extensive experience of working with young people, will act as the employer of the beneficiaries. The project will last approximately 18 months with the job starts delivered over three tranches.

Each client will be employed to work up to 28 hours per week over four days, plus one day for training for £6.19 per hour, the national minimum wage for 21 years plus; the hours could differ depending on the circumstances of each young person, and could be adapted according to their needs. The project aims to identify appropriate training courses that will support and enhance each individual's experience whilst on the programme and beyond. It will work with partners to access Skills Funding Agency grants for Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications and funding from this project to access courses that cannot be paid for through existing provision. It is envisaged that clients who participate on this programme will receive support to enable successful progression to employment for 15 young people; with 10 remaining in sustained employment after 6 months, and further 2 will take up apprenticeship opportunities.

### Voluntary Sector Partners

The council has a strong track record in working with both internal and external partners. The project will be managed by the council's Economic Development Team, with support from the Young People and Adult Learning Team, Jobcentre Plus, Prospects, Havering Association of Voluntary & Community Organisations (HAVCO) and the BEP Group. The main partners responsible for delivery will be HAVCO and BEP, both of which are experienced in the delivery of projects funded by ESF and the Skills / Education Funding Agencies.

### Conclusion

This is a very pro-active approach, with strong Voluntary Sector involvement that has a good chance of success.

### Recommendation

**£100,000 to provide 20 young people with a four-month paid work placement and support to access employment or an apprenticeship.**



MEETING 06/06/2013

ANNEX NUMBER: C

## Get Young People Working – The Youth Offer

London Borough of Hounslow

Ref: 11731

Adv: Clare Thomas

Amount requested: £100,260

### Introduction

This proposal is to establish a strategic partnership/NEET action group to enable better coordination and targeting of the different current (and future initiatives) supporting those who are NEET. This will improve the effectiveness of engagement with those currently 'not known' and enable wider access to the range of current and future opportunities supporting progression for NEETs.

The new strategic board will work together to design a new programme of activity which will identify, engage and work with not known NEETs and encourage them into education or sustained employment. This work will be delivered by third sector organisations with a track record of delivering successful outcomes for Young People.

### The Project

The project will engage 150 young people via the new programme of activity. This would provide sustained job outcomes at 20%. The budget Hounslow has allocated to this is approx. £80,000.

An ethos of joint and partnership working is clear throughout the bid. This should strengthen the effectiveness of designing and delivering the new activity of support as well as identifying 'not known' young people. It has a thorough knowledge of NEETs in the area and recognises the importance of fully understanding the provision on offer before designing new programmes.

### Voluntary sector partner

All Voluntary Sector organisations working in Hounslow to support the NEET agenda will be invited to join the NEET Strategy/action group, which will meet quarterly. A number of organisations have already committed their support for this model and an initial meeting has taken place during the preparation of this bid.

During the first phase of this project further work will be undertaken to map current activities and to identify specifically what and how the new activity will add value to work already underway. This needs analysis will support the development of a specification for new activity which will be developed during April and May 2013 and put out to tender in June 2013.

### Conclusion

The bid is a good example of addressing an unmet need around navigating and understanding provision and support for young people, as well as the intention to design a new programme of support for unknown NEETs with voluntary partners and other organisations.

### Recommendation

**£100,000 towards a NEET partnership board and programme of activities aimed at young people, conditional on the voluntary sector partner meeting the Trust's approval.**