

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
The City Bridge Trust	4 <sup>th</sup> July 2013
<b>Subject:</b> Get Young People Working – The Youth Offer – Introductory Paper	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Chief Grants Officer	<b>For Decision</b>
<b><u>Summary</u></b>	
<p>This paper updates the current position regarding this initiative, following your approval of 29 proposals at your last three meetings. Proposals from the final two Local Authorities are also presented for your consideration.</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> That you receive this report and approve the attached recommendations for Grant.</p>	

## **Main Report**

### **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 At your last three meetings, you considered a total of 29 applications (one a joint bid between Haringey and Enfield) from Local Authorities under your “Get Young People Working – The Youth Offer” initiative tackling the issue of young NEETs in London. You awarded a total of £2,999,123 from the allocated budget of £3.28million. It was reported that two applications remained outstanding and would be presented to you at later meetings.

### **2.0 The Process**

- 2.1 These remaining applications are presented to you here today, and these are attached as Annex A and B, as follows:

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Annex</b>	<b>Borough</b>	<b>Recommended Amount</b>
11728	A	LB of Bromley	£100,000
11722	B	LB of Redbridge	£100,000

### **3.0 Work in progress – The Evaluation**

- 3.1 Your officers, in consultation with colleagues from London Councils and the City of London’s Economic Development Office, drew up an Evaluation brief to ensure that this major initiative is independently evaluated. We expect that the evaluation will be rich in learning and the

best practice can be shared and will be disseminated at two learning events, the first mid-way through the evaluation and then on completion of the research.

- 3.2 Six leading research organisations were invited to submit a proposal to undertake this evaluation, with a maximum fee of £50,000, which has already been costed, available for this piece of work. Four proposals were received and three were shortlisted for interviews which took place on the 14<sup>th</sup> June. The interview panel comprised several of your officers and representatives from London Councils and the Economic Development Office.
- 3.3 All three shortlisted organisations were of an extremely high quality and made excellent presentations. The successful organisation will be announced once the contract has been signed.
- 3.4 An initial meeting with the contracted organisation will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> June so that the evaluation can start immediately and take place in “real time”. They will also take part in a Briefing Meeting for all London Boroughs and their voluntary sector partners which is taking place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July in the City Marketing Suite and the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, our Press Officer and the Chief Grants Officer will speak about our expectations and how City of London’s role will be acknowledged.

#### **4.0 Conclusion**

- 4.1 Should you approve these final two proposals today, you will have made awards to all 32 London Boroughs, totalling £3,199,123. This substantial investment will greatly assist Local Authorities and their partners in improving their services to young NEETs living in the Capital.

#### **5.0 Recommendation**

**That you receive this report and approve the attached recommendations for Grant.**

**MEETING: 04/07/2013**

**ANNEX NUMBER: A**

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

**London Borough of Bromley**

**Ref: 11728**

**Adv: Clare Thomas**

**Amount requested: £100,000**

### **Introduction**

An analysis of the data from 2008 to 2013 shows that the reported percentage of young people aged 16-18 years old who are NEET in LB Bromley has remained low and relatively stable. However, the percentage of young people whose status is or 'Not Known' has risen significantly. As a result, the true NEET figure is likely to be higher than thought. Bromley has a wealth of existing resources, including schools, colleges and work-based providers, but the participation rate appears to indicate a need for more effective matching of provision to person. This is particularly the case for young people whose status is variable and who are typically hard to identify and engage.

### **The Programme**

The proposed two year programme will engage 500 young people whose Education, Employment and Training (EET) status is unknown. These people will have their status identified and updated on the Borough's Caseload Client Information System. They will then be signposted and supported into a year round schedule of community, school and college based EET Participation surgeries and events. These will target young people identified as at risk of becoming NEET at end of Year 11 and 12 and those who have recently become NEET and who are seeking urgent assistance to return to EET.

The outcome of this support will be recorded with between 150 and 200 of these identified for targeted support. This will involve intensive one-to-one and group support in order to: facilitate access to the most appropriate type of provision for each individual young person; stabilise participation for the duration of the individual young person's time on the programme; maintain a "watching brief" when the individual leaves the programme caseload (through telephone follow up, with short-term return to caseload if required or referral to EBP Mentoring programme) in order to maintain their participation.

Of those receiving targeted support the aspiration is that at least 50% of these will make a successful transition to EET and then remain there for the duration of their contact with the worker. Funding will pay for the recruitment of an EET Participation worker who will be seconded to the London Borough of Bromley.

### **Voluntary sector partner**

This application demonstrates a strong partnership approach between London Borough of Bromley and JusB, a registered charity who have experience working with NEETs and have delivered projects on behalf of the borough previously.

### **Conclusion**

In summary, this is a well-established partnership between the local authority and JusB which will support groups furthest away from the labour market ('not knows').

### **Recommendation**

**£100,000 towards a programme of support for 500 young people either NEET or at risk of becoming NEET, with approximately 150 going on to take part in intensive support.**

**MEETING: 04/07/2013**

**ANNEX NUMBER: B**

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

**London Borough of Redbridge**

**Ref: 11722**

**Adv: Clare Thomas**

**Amount requested: £100,000**

### **Introduction**

The London Borough of Redbridge reports an “unprecedented” rise in youth unemployment in recent years as a result of the recession and local and national economic situation. JSA claimant rate for 18–24 year olds rose from 910 in January 2008 to a peak of 2,150 in September 2011. This figure has been gradually declining with some seasonal blips since then and currently stands at around 1,600. Of these, 160 have been unemployed for 6–12 months, and 185 for over 12 months.

Although the NEET cohort in Redbridge is relatively small at 3.6% of 16–18 year olds in October 2012, these young people have a range of complex issues which are barriers to engagement. Furthermore, the borough and its partners suggest that the JSA figures do not give a true picture of youth unemployment and NEET levels, as they believe that not all young people claim JSA.

### **The Programme**

The proposed project is to be led by Work Redbridge, a Council led partnership of 20+ employment and training organisations working together to tackle worklessness in Redbridge. The project will be delivered by a New Choices for Youth, a voluntary organisation with experience and a successful track record of working with young people with complex needs.

Over two years, the project aims to target 25-30 disengaged and disaffected 16–24 year olds with a range of complex needs, particularly those with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities, who are NEET. Referrals will be made predominantly through Jobcentre Plus and Connexions, both of whom are active members of Work Redbridge.

The project will offer bespoke and intensive support which will include: small group engagement activities; long term on-going one to one mentoring; employability and basic skills training to meet identified individual needs; supported work experience; and job matching and access to Job Coach support for employer and employee as required. At least 20 young people are expected to progress into sustainable employment or learning.

### **Voluntary sector partner**

New Choices for Youth are well known to the Trust, being currently in receipt of a grant of £74,250 on your Positive Transitions to Independent Living programme.

### **Conclusion**

This project will offer intensive support for young people who are amongst the hardest to reach and therefore the furthest away from the labour market. The support offered will be individually tailored to meet their needs.

### **Recommendation**

**£100,000 towards bespoke and intensive support to 25 young people, including on-going mentoring and job-coaching.**