

MEETING: 16/07/2014

Ref: 12156

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Making London More Inclusive**

Tikva

Adv: Tim Wilson

Base: Hackney

Amount requested: £70,262

Benefit: Hackney

**The Charity:**

Tikva (which means 'Hope') is a registered charity serving the Charedi (Orthodox Jewish) community in Hackney and Haringey. The organisation provides services to young men with learning disabilities. There is a sister charity in the community for young women which is not the subject of this application.

**The Application:**

Tikva seeks £70,262 (out of £105,072) over three years towards the running and overhead costs of its weekend activities, day trips and annual sleep-away for young learning disabled men. These activities involve sport and arts activities as well as opportunities to practice independent living skills such as cooking and money management.

**The Recommendation:**

A relatively small, community-based charity, Tikva has developed a range of services for clients with high support needs. It is your officer's opinion that Tikva can use the requested funding well, and that the grant will make a positive difference to the target clients. The charity will need to raise the balance of funding from other sources, but there is evidence that Tikva has expanded its donor base in recent years so this should be achievable.

***£70,500 over three years (£22,800; £23,500; £24,200) towards work to support disabled adults make the transition to independent living. The grant is conditional on raising the balance of funding from other sources and providing signed accounts for 2012.***

**Funding History**

Meeting Date	Decision
March 2009	You rejected an application for core costs which would have made City Bridge Trust Tikva's single largest funder. This was contrary to your then policy, and officers noted concerns about how Tikva could replace City Bridge Trust funding at the end of the grant.
June 2007	You rejected an application for further funding towards the costs of a new post on the basis that the charity had presented insufficient evidence of need to expand its services.
July 2005	You awarded Tikva £5,000 for one year towards the cost of the organisation's project coordinator.

**Background and detail of proposal**

Tikva was established in 2003 by a group of parents from the Charedi community in Hackney. Unable to access mainstream services due to cultural barriers, the parents wanted support for adult male children with learning disabilities. Many of the parents

were frail elderly, and were finding it increasingly difficult to respond to their children's increasing needs.

The charity is clear that it is not a 'baby-sitting' service, but rather an organisation that seeks to stretch and develop the young men as far as possible. Activities are designed to build confidence, develop independent living skills, and encourage improved self-control.

Activities offered by Tikva are not otherwise available from local authority day centres or family homes. The charity complements its work with young people through a programme of stress management workshops for parents as well as the ongoing provision of information about available services in the area.

Demographic data indicates a continued need for the sort of service Tikva provide. London's Charedi community numbers around 25,000, with over half aged 16 or under. Of the children and young people, 10% are estimated to have some level of disability (twice the national average). In addition to the need to access culturally appropriate services, Charedi parents have also seen the reduction of alternative provision with the closure of several local care centres.

### Financial Information

The deficit on unrestricted funds seen in 2013 occurred as Tikva used its reserves to cover the costs of services that had previously been funded with restricted grants.

The organisation is currently mid-way through a programme of expanding its donor base to boost income and at 20<sup>th</sup> June had confirmed 36.8% of its anticipated total income for 2014. The remaining 63.2% is expected from pending grant applications of £34,732 and sundry donations of £25,000. The charity does anticipate a lower expenditure in 2014 compared with 2013 as part of its plan to strengthen unrestricted reserves.

As the cost of generating funds can only be accounted for at year end, this figure is not available for 2014.

Year-end at 31 December	2012 Examined	2013 Draft accounts	2014 Current Year Forecast
	£	£	£
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>			
Income	91,656	76,976	94,462
Expenditure	83,456	90,314	76,982
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	2,230	(13,338)	6,748
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	5,970	0	10,732
<b>Total Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>(13,338)</b>	<b>17,480</b>
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	8.9%	(17.3%)	18.5%
Generating funds as % of income	0%	2%	-
<b>Free unrestricted reserves</b>			
Unrestricted free reserves held at Year End	5,110	4,917	11,665
How many months' worth of expenditure	0.7	0.7	1.8
Reserves Policy target	20,865	22,579	19,246
How many months' worth of expenditure	3	3	3
Free reserves over target / (under target)	(15,755)	(17,662)	(7,581)