

MEETING: 25/09/2014

Ref: 12369

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Making London Safer

Galop (Registered as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Anti-violence and Policing Group.)

Adv: Sandra Davidson

Amount requested: £189,418
Amount recommended: £150,000

Base: Islington
Benefit: London-wide

The Charity

Galop is London's leading charity working with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community, providing advice, support and advocacy to people who have experienced hate crime, domestic abuse, or sexual violence. It has over 32 years' experience of providing specialist care to victims and campaigning for an end to anti-LGBT abuse. It delivers its service to clients through a variety of means, including: a helpline, one-to-one casework, advocacy and online advice resources for LGBT victims of crime.

The Application

Galop is respected by police, charities, councils and government for its expertise on hate crime. It retains the trust and confidence of the LGBT community by remaining an independent, community-centred organisation. This application is to develop its specialist service to help vulnerable Londoners who have experienced hate crime to cope and recover.

The Recommendation

The project will build on Galop's successful history of providing support to the LGBT communities to overcome barriers to reporting crime and engaging with mainstream services. The funding requested is to pay for a full-time specialist case worker and to support twelve volunteer peer mentors who themselves have been victims of crime. The grant advised is less than that requested as some components of the project budget were unusually high and, if supported, ran the risk of supporting costs which fell outside your priorities.

£150,000 over three years (3 x £50,000) for the salary of a full-time specialist Case Worker and towards general running costs of the specialist service to LGBT victims of hate crime. The grant in years 2 and 3 is subject to the necessary balances being raised to make the project viable.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
24/10/2002	£40,600 over 3 years (£11,850; £14,650; £14,100) towards the development of a third party reporting scheme combating homophobic crime in London.

Background and detail of proposal

Galop is requesting a grant to meet the salary and running costs of a specialist service to help vulnerable LGBT Londoners by providing practical and emotional support. The project will deliver a pan London service to help people recover and to reduce their vulnerability through a package of support tailored to each individual's needs. Information and resources will be produced that is inclusive and targets the diverse London LGBT communities, raising awareness of the individual's rights.

A recent survey by Galop - 'The Hate Crime Report' - found that there is a disproportionate concentration of homophobia and transphobia in London. Much hate crime still goes un-reported and only half of LGBT victims who report feel they get a good response. At present few boroughs have good LGBT safety provision, leaving many victims vulnerable, fearful and in need of help. London has a large LGBT community, but under-resourced and over-stretched voluntary sector services to meet their needs, though Galop is committed to working with local mainstream and specialist partners where they exist. During 2013/14 the charity increased its service delivery, supporting over 700 vulnerable victims of crime.

The specialist caseworker will provide advice, support and advocacy to LGBT victims of crime. Through face-to-face, telephone and email contact, both practical and emotional support will be provided for at least 200 beneficiaries per year. In addition, at least 60 victims of hate crime with complex needs will get in-depth practical and emotional support. The postholder will manage the recruitment, training and on-going support of four volunteer mentors per year, each providing support to three mentees.

Since its original submission – and following discussion with your officer - the charity has revised its request (as shown at Appendix A to the application form.) The recommended grant is less than requested as overheads were considered to be on the high side.

Financial Information

Forecast income for the current year 2014/15 is £273,356 of which £222,851 (82%) had been confirmed by August 2014. The 'cost of generating funds' was reported as £988 (0.4% of total income) in the charity's 2012/13 accounts. This appears to be very low and has been queried with the charity, which has agreed to review this figure when preparing it as part of its year-end accounts for 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Year end at 31 st March	2012/13 Audited Accounts	2013/14 Draft Accounts	2014/15 Current Year Budget
	£	£	£
Income and Expenditure			
Income	256,576	294,428	273,356
Expenditure	259,291	291,069	285,421
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	(6,855)	7,266	(12,064)
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	4,140	(3,907)	0
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	(2,715)	3,359	(12,064)
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	(1.1%)	1.1%	(4.4%)
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	988 (0.4%)	0	-
Free unrestricted reserves			
Unrestricted free reserves held at Year End	50,843	59,557	47,493
How many months' worth of expenditure	2.4	2.5	2.0
Reserves Policy target	64,823	72,767	71,355
How many months' worth of expenditure	3.0	3.0	3.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	(13,980)	(13,210)	(23,862)