

MEETING: 12/03/2015

Ref: 12548

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Strengthening London's Voluntary Sector**

**Partnership for Young London**

**Adv: Sandra Jones**

**Base: City**

**Amount requested: £141,629**

**Benefit: London-wide**

**Amount recommended: 142,000**

**The Charity**

Partnership for Young London (PYL), was established in 1997 and aims to provide leadership and vision about young people's services across London. Incorporated as a charitable company in 1997, the organisation is hosted by the City of London and its current Chairman is Deputy William Fraser. Other trustees are drawn from the voluntary youth sector, private sector, housing, Duke of Edinburgh scheme, colleges and youth support organisations. In line with its priorities, the charity provides information, networking and brokering opportunities, consultancy, research, professional development and policy and practice updates to its members. The charity facilitates a number of strategic initiatives such as the London Policy Network (which covers such subjects as Youth Innovation Zones, Future Models of Commissioning, Cabinet Office review of youth services), and the Strategic Youth Engagement Board.

**The Application**

PYL is seeking funding to enable voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations which provide youth services, to improve their monitoring evaluation and impact reporting. This will be achieved through a number of events including networking opportunities, individual support, and sharing information and resources online. The funding will cover the Development Lead (4 days per week), admin support (0.5 days per week), associated running costs and the costs of events and training sessions.

**The Recommendation**

PYL provides quality services, London-wide, to organisations working with young people, many of which have suffered from a decline in the level of funding available over recent years. In a competitive funding climate, it is more important than ever that organisations are able to demonstrate their effectiveness and to work in partnership. This project has been developed from feedback received from the charity's stakeholders, which identified the issues that the programme addresses as being priority for the youth sector.

***£ 142,000 over three years (£47,300, £47,000, £47,700) for a part-time (4 dpw) Development Lead, related admin support (0.5 days per week), associated running costs, and the costs of events and training sessions.***

**Funding History**

None

**Background and detail of proposal**

The need for the project has been developed through PYL's on-going role as the Regional Unit for Young People's services, further supported by research it has undertaken looking at the impact of the financial climate on the youth sector. The

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charity has also had feedback from stakeholders (such as local authority commissioners) and from Engage London, its other project, funded through London Councils. This highlighted a number of issues, including an increase in the level of competition for funding with some local authorities cutting their services by 50%; a need to develop more effective collaboration across service providers to meet the needs of young people; the need for workforce development; and support around quality and impact, and an increased focus on targeted versus universal services for young people.

In order to deliver the project, a part-time programme lead officer will be appointed, supported by 0.5 day per week administrative support. The work will comprise the provision of local and regional training sessions and support programmes across London, facilitation of regional networking events bringing together key stakeholders to share best practice, and a peer support programme for practitioners. A website will also be developed profiling resources, events and networking opportunities including the training materials produced as part of the local and regional training sessions, and a monthly e-bulletin. It is anticipated that, over the life of the programme, over 500 organisations will benefit directly, with 1,500 accessing the website and receiving the monthly e-bulletins.

Partnerships will be developed to share resources and expertise and widen the reach of the programme.

### Financial Information

Forecast income in the current year 2014/15 is £98,907, of which £79,587 (80%) had been confirmed by 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

Year end at 31 March	2013/14 Audited Accounts £	2014/15 Current Year Budget £
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>		
Income	101,668	98,907
Expenditure	115,977	102,768
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	(14,309)	(3,861)
Net gain/(loss) on investment assets	5,638	(1,808)
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	(8,671)	(5,669)
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	(8.5%)	(5.7%)
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	-	8,400 (8.0%)
<b>Free unrestricted reserves</b>		
Free unrestricted reserves held at Year End	67,769	62,100
How many months' worth of expenditure	7.0	7.3
Reserves Policy target	57,989	51,384
How many months' worth of expenditure	6.0	6.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	9,780	10,716