

MEETING: 23/09/2015

Ref: 12738

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Making London Safer

Embrace CVOC (Child Victims of Crime)

Adv: Sandra Jones

Amount requested: £67,947

Base: City

Benefit: London-wide

Amount recommended: £68,000

The Charity

Embrace Child Victims of Crime (ECVOC) is a national charity providing a range of practical and emotional support for young victims. Since it was established in 1994 the organisation has developed a range of practical, emotional and specialist support services for children and their families. To date over 8,000 child victims and their families have been supported, with the demand for the charity's services increasing year on year. This figure includes 940 referrals from within Greater London and 14 from within the City of London.

Services provided include information, advice and guidance; practical support in the form of grants, shopping vouchers, family breaks and peer group support; one-to-one counselling for those young people who have been traumatised as a result of life changing serious crime. One-to-one counselling is something that has been developed recently by the charity, building on research commissioned in 2013 which highlighted the lack of readily-available counselling therapies for teenage victims of crime. A pilot counselling project in Staffordshire was developed and evaluated and which proved successful.

The Application

Following on from the success of the counselling pilot project, the charity is in the process of rolling out this service across the UK. Funding is sought to provide counselling and support to young people aged 12 to 18 years who are victims of crime. Specifically, the application requests funding for the salary of a London Counselling Service lead (one day per week) and counselling sessions.

The Recommendation

ECVOC is a leading national charity specialising in children and young people who are victims of crime. The project proposal has been well thought through and piloted before rolling it out nationwide. The funding will allow for 50 young people across London to benefit from much needed intensive counselling each year for three years.

£68,000 over three years (£22,650; £22,650; £22,700), towards the salary cost of a London Counselling Service lead (one day per week) and 500 counselling sessions per annum.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
28/01/2015	Organisation had withdrawn this application as it wished to resubmit a more substantial bid.

Background and detail of proposal

The charity commissioned research in 2013 to investigate the future opportunities for ECVOC and two gaps in provision were highlighted; a national counselling service for traumatised young victims of crime to offer specialist support; and the offer of emotional support through a school-based befriending/peer support service for young people.

Following on from a counselling pilot project the charity is in the process of rolling out this service across the UK. In London, funding would enable ECVOC to match child victims of crime in London (aged between 12 and 18) with specially trained counsellors. Up to 10 counselling sessions for each of 150 child victims of crime will be provided over the 3 year project, with support to young people who have become victim to a wide range of crimes; the majority of which are sexual assault, murder or child cruelty. The majority of referrals come from Child Protection Officers, Family Liaison Officers or through the SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centres).

As part of EMVOCs expansion, a Counselling Services Clinical lead role will be recruited with one day per week being dedicated to the project in London alongside the cost of counselling sessions for 50 child victims per year for 3 years. This member of staff will take on the responsibility of developing the local counselling project across London. Working closely with police forces and voluntary support organisations, the role would also involve screening, recruiting and training a bank of counsellors who would then be specially trained to deliver counselling to child victims of crime.

Financial Information

Budgeted income in the current year 2015 is £373k, of which £249k (66.8%) had been confirmed by August 2015. The charity advised that the increase in income and expenditure in 2015 reflects the extension of its pilot counselling project into London which is the basis of this application to CBT.

Year end at 31 December	2013 Independently Examined Accounts £	2014 Independently Examined Accounts £	2015 Current Year Budget £
Income and Expenditure			
Income	269,255	281,886	373,000
Expenditure	317,028	340,174	373,000
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	(37,649)	(41,900)	0
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	(10,124)	(16,388)	0
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	(47,773)	(58,288)	0
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	(17.7%)	(20.7%)	0%
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	55,722 (20.7%)	70,511 (25.0%)	-
Free unrestricted reserves			
Free unrestricted reserves held at Year End	205,636	164,887	164,887
How many months' worth of expenditure	7.8	5.8	6.1
Reserves Policy target	158,514	170,087	186,500
How many months' worth of expenditure	6.0	6.0	6.9
Free reserves over/(under) target	47,122	(5,200)	(21,613)