

MEETING: 18/03/2016

Ref: 13046

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Making London More Inclusive

Islington Boat Club (IBC)

Adv: Sandra Jones

Amount requested: £81,900

Base: Islington

Benefit: Islington, Hackney

Amount recommended: £81,900

The Charity

Operating since 1983, Islington Boat Club (IBC) offers a range of activities for young people with the aim of developing and improving their life skills and confidence. The organisation has been accredited by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) as a registered 'Sailability' charity that exists to promote water sports to disabled people. Activities are water and land based; and supervised. From their barge they also operate a youth club. Young people are encouraged to reach their full potential by enabling them to gain skills, proficiency awards and, ultimately, coaching certificates.

The Application

IBC seeks three year funding for 'All Aboard', a project to support disabled young people to take part in sports that they would not try otherwise. By offering 2 courses per week specifically for young disabled people, it will enable them to learn a new skill and build confidence which will enable them to take part in other activities on offer at IBC alongside non-disabled young people. The ultimate aim of the project is to provide integrated water sports activities.

The Recommendation

IBC is a highly regarded organisation providing supervised water and land based activities for young people. Currently there are some disabled young people who take part but this project aims to increase the number of disabled young people using the Centre and to ensure that activities are fully inclusive. The programmes of activity will be co-designed by the IBC and participants, therefore have not been finalised. It is recommended that the grant be subject to IBC submitting the final co-designed programmes.

£81,900 over three years (3 x £27,300) towards the costs of 4 instructors for 7 hours per week each, for 39 weeks per annum. The grant is subject to submission of satisfactory, final, co-designed programmes.

Funding History

None

Background and detail of proposal

Through being an accredited RYA Sailability club, IBC are able to give assurance that they have the correct procedures and management in place to provide a safe environment to participants. The staff are all trained and qualified Sailability Instructors who deliver sports pathways for people of all abilities to maximise the success of participants.

Activities for the All Aboard project will be for disabled young people aged from 9 years, with those who do not feel confident initially taking part in land based activities. The programme will be designed by disabled young people, including the

timing of the two sessions per week. This will be organised by the co-ordinator who will deliver workshops and focus groups, ensuring that the needs of the participants are fully met.

In addition to the weekly sessions, ten peer mentoring / family days will be organised throughout the year in conjunction with the participants.

Financial Information

Forecast income for the current year ending 31st March 2016 is £149,652, all of which has been confirmed. Budgeted income for the following year ending 31st March 2017 is £153,703, of which £80,940 (53%) has been confirmed as at 25th February 2016.

The charity has advised that the decrease in income in 2015/16 compared to the prior year was mainly due to a decrease in funding from Islington Council of £112,095 and a total of £77,100 of one-off grants in 2014/15; expenditure has decreased in line with this. However, this application to CBT for £81,900 is not included in the income and expenditure figures in the table and would come some way to offsetting these reductions.

The cost of generating funds was not disclosed in the audited accounts for 2014/15; however the charity has provided an estimate for 2014/15 shown in the table below.

The charity has advised that its reserves policy is currently under review; however it anticipates that 6 months' worth of expenditure is likely to be sufficient.

Free unrestricted reserves were £56,811 as at 31st March 2015, being equivalent to 2 months' worth of expenditure; this is significantly below the current reserves policy target to hold 12 months' worth of expenditure. However, reserve levels are forecast to increase and the charity is currently undertaking refurbishment of its premises, due to be completed this year, which it anticipates will increase income capacity by £20,000 per annum from 2017/18.

Year end at 31 March	2014/15 Independently Examined Accounts	2015/16 Current Year Forecast	2016/16 Budget
Income and Expenditure	£	£	£
Income	330,217	149,652	153,703
Expenditure	338,558	149,303	132,572
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	49,744	51,901	21,131
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	(58,085)	(51,552)	0
Gains on investment assets	1,352	-	-
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	(6,989)	349	21,131
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	(2.1%)	0.2%	13.7%
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	£24,000 (7.3%)	-	-
Free unrestricted reserves			
Unrestricted reserves held at Year End	56,811	108,712	129,843
How many months' worth of expenditure	2.0	8.7	11.3
Reserves Policy target	338,558	149,303	132,572
How many months' worth of expenditure	12.0	12.0	12.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	(281,747)	(40,591)	(2,729)