

MEETING: 24/11/2016

Ref: 13482

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders

The Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners Trust (RAPt)

Adv: Shegufta Rahman

Amount requested: £123,382

Base: Lambeth

Benefit: London-wide

Amount recommended: £123,400

The Charity

The Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners Trust (RAPt) was set up 26 years ago to help people with drug and alcohol dependence both in prison and in the community, overcome the grip of addiction and lead positive lives, free from drugs and crime. In 1992 RAPt founded the first drug treatment facility in a UK prison. It is now the leading provider of intensive, abstinence-based drug and alcohol rehabilitation programmes in UK prisons, and provide services to over 15,000 each year both within the criminal justice system and in the community.

The Application

Following a strategic review in May 2016, RAPt is looking to roll out Recovery Support Services for clients that have completed their intensive substance misuse abstinence-based treatment programmes who have been released from prison. The service will also be available to beneficiaries who are in an established and evidenced addiction recovery pathway and committed to abstinence. The service will be delivered through Recovery Hubs, and the London Hub was opened in July 2016. This centre allows beneficiaries to access holistic support and develop the skills and resilience to stay free from drugs and alcohol. The funding is requested to support this new service out of their London Hub in Haggerston.

The Recommendation

RAPt has established itself in delivering treatment services in prison as a route out of the cycle of addiction and crime, whilst providing on-going support on release to develop the skills and resilience to stay free from drugs, alcohol and crime.

£123,400 over three years (£40,100, £41,100, £42,200) towards the salary of a full-time Recovery Support Worker working out of the London Hub, and associated project costs.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
18/03/2016	Application withdrawn – The organisation is currently undergoing business planning. As the original request was for a general contribution to the service, they would like to resubmit, post business planning, with a request to support something specific with London benefit only.

Background and detail of proposal

RAPt delivers treatment services in 19 prisons across the country and six projects in the community, to help people overcome the grip of addiction and live a fulfilled and positive life free from drugs and crime. The National Offender Management Service (NOMS, National Reducing Re-offending Action Plan, 2004) identified seven

pathways to reduce re-offending. The Recovery Support RAPt offers provides five of these pathways directly (accommodation; education, training and employment; drugs and alcohol; finance, benefits and debt; children and families) and the remaining two indirectly (by helping people to stay clean from drugs and alcohol they improve their health; and by addressing underlying causes of addiction improve attitudes, thinking and behaviour).

In 2014 the charity undertook a 'Release Needs' study with beneficiaries using their services in prison. This identified the key areas where beneficiaries felt they needed most support on release. The Recovery Support Services have been developed to ensure each of these needs, such as basic life skills; opening a bank account, benefits advice, and paying bills, are all met.

The delivery model of the London Hub is based on partnership working and building a membership base. RAPt is able to offer training, mentoring and employment opportunities through its partnerships with organisations such as Lords Cricket Ground, Aimia, and Blue Sky. The Hub itself will harness a strong, peer-based 'recovery community' that is vital for people to get the support that they need to stay free from drugs and crime, as evidenced in a report by the National Treatment Agency for Substance Abuse (2012). Offering free membership to beneficiaries will provide a sense of belonging, social inclusion and community.

Financial Information

Forecast income in the current year is £16,245,463 of which £15,512,812 (96 %) is confirmed as at October 2016.

The charity's reserves policy is under review. At the most recent Finance and General Purposes Sub-Committee meeting, three months reserves target had gained initial consensus, but has yet to be agreed by the full Board. Currently, the organisation is confident its reserves level is sufficient to cover any expected issues, but also anticipates future forecast surpluses to build on its reserves position.

The organisation states that given the vast majority of its income is from contracts secured to provide statutory services the cost of generating funds is quite low.

Year end at 31 March	2014/15 Audited £	2015/16 Draft Accounts £	2016/17 Forecast £
Income and Expenditure			
Income	20,823,000	20,987,000	16,245,463
Expenditure	21,614,000	20,443,000	16,029,398
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	(961,000)	584,000	(378,449)
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	170,000	(40,000)	594,514
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	(791,000)	544,000	216,065
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	(3.8%)	2.6%	1.3%
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	337,000 (1.6%)	243,000 (1.2%)	251,662 (1.6%)
Free unrestricted reserves			
Unrestricted free reserves held at Year End	1,766,000	2,300,000	1,921,000
How many months' worth of expenditure	0.98	1.35	1.44
Reserves Policy target	5,403,000	5,111,000	4,007,000
How many months' worth of expenditure*	3	3	3
Free reserves over/(under) target	(3,637,000)	(2,811,000)	(2,086,000)