

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - English for Speakers of Other Languages**All Hallows Bow****Adv: Sandra Jones****Base: Tower Hamlets****Benefit: Tower Hamlets****Amount requested: £89,195****(Revised request : £147,230}****Amount recommended: £146,400****The Charity**

All Hallows Bow (AHB), based in Bromley by Bow, have a track record of working within the community to meet local needs. Many of the activities supported operate from Fern Street Settlement, and are managed by a Joint Steering Group comprising AHB and Fern Street Settlement trustees. Activities include ESOL, family learning and play, after school and holiday clubs, youth mentoring and groups, and a range of activities and events to build community cohesion.

The Application

The application is to support the delivery of ESOL classes at the Fern Street Settlement. The original bid was for two years, but after discussions with your officer this was changed to three years (a revised budget is appended to the application form). Using a range of teaching methods, the project will provide ESOL for 70+ adults per annum. This will be provided by a project manager, tutor, volunteers, crèche and associated running costs. Fern Street Settlement will continue to support the project in year 1 by covering the rent element, which makes the revised bid seem proportionally higher than the two year project as it covers the latter two years including the rent.

The Recommendation

Over the last two years the Project Manager has been funded through the Fern Street Settlement reserves to pilot ESOL support. This has proved to be successful with demand outstripping supply, hence the need to consolidate the work. This project will provide an important service, with adults and children developing their English language skills so that they can take a fuller part in the wider community and their children's lives. Funding will cover the Project Manager/Tutor (2 days per week), ESOL teacher (2.5 days per week) business support (.5 days per week) and associated running costs. The amount is slightly below the revised request as the inflation on year 3 was higher than for year 2.

£146,400 over 3 years (£41,600; £51,600; £53,200) towards the salary costs of the Project Manager /Tutor (2 days per week); ESOL teacher (2.5 days per week); business support (0.5 days per week); and associated running costs.

Funding History

None

Background and detail of proposal

The charity estimates that many of the intended participants are Bangladeshi/ Asian but also include others (Somali, Eastern European, Spanish) with 90% being women with dependent children.

Learning will include work in the classroom, conversation classes within a 'café' setting at the centre, family learning for parents and their children under 5 years, cook and talk sessions. All are aimed at using different settings to advance the participants language skills. A crèche will be available to enable the parents to concentrate on the learning. The project will be working with local partners, including a local Health Centre where conversation sessions around health will be held to assist participants to understand language around health issues. Classes will enable the participants to be able to engage more fully with the wider community and enable them to access local services more easily.

Financial Information

Major sources of funding are through grants and donations, of which the majority has been confirmed for 2017.

In the 2016 examined accounts the cost of raising funds was not included. Your officer discussed this with the charity and they identified that the cost of raising funds is the cost of a fundraiser who supports the steering committee in applying for funds. This figure is low as much of the income is through regular donations.

Unrestricted funds are within a reasonable margin of the charity's reserves policy.

Year end as at December	2016 Examined Accounts £	2017 Forecast £	2018 Forecast £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	268,099	315,299	328,781
- % of Income confirmed 29/06/17	n/a	80.40%	0.00%
Expenditure	(271,380)	(312,249)	(322,385)
Total surplus/(deficit)	(3,281)	3,050	6,396
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	12,829	2,966	271
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	(16,110)	84	6,125
	(3,281)	3,050	6,396
Cost of Raising Funds	0	3,650	3,650
- % of income	0.0%	1.2%	1.1%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	140,998	146,093	141,320
Free unrestricted reserves:			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	80,658	80,742	86,867
No of months of operating expenditure	6.9	6.6	7.4
Reserves policy target	70,499	73,047	70,660
No of months of operating expenditure	6.0	6.0	6.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	10,159	7,696	16,207