

Emergency Funding Emergency Funding Award



Sisters In Business

Total award - £9,069.50

Organisation Details

Emergency Funding

Award:

£9,069.50

Date Applied:

3rd October 2023

Date Awarded:

2nd November 2023

Background

Sisters In Business is a registered Community Interest Company (CIC). The organisation supports Muslim women to start up their own businesses, including providing them with the skills to start up a business and help it grow. The organisation has a board with three directors who are responsible for the management and governance of the company. Staffing is made up of an administrator, project coordinator and a community engagement worker. All the staff are recruited as self-employed and therefore pay their own NI contributions.

Defined Emergency

Sisters in Business was facing a financial emergency due to outstanding unpaid invoices from the last six months from one of its primary clients to whom it provides media production services to. Its operational sustainability is heavily reliant on timely payments for services rendered. Sisters in Business made several attempts to recoup the outstanding payments and is now seeking legal help from the Citizens Advice Bureaux.

Award

The Emergency Funding of £9,069.50 was awarded to help fund the salaries for the core staff of Sister in Business between September to December 2023, to enable it to address its emergency and continue providing services to residents.

Emergency Funding

Emergency Funding Award



Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club

Total award - £10,000.00

Organisation Details

Emergency Funding

Award:

£10,000.00

Date Applied:

20th November 2023

Date Awarded:

3rd December 2023

Background

Emmott Close Senior Citizen Club is an unincorporated organisation that was set up in 1970 to run a daycare service for older residents in the borough. It provides a safe warm space for older people living in the Ocean estate and neighbouring communities in Tower Hamlets. The Club runs luncheon clubs, activities, events and support to reduce isolation and increase social interactions between older people who often live on their own. The organisation supports 116 beneficiaries, 80 of which are Tower Hamlets residents.

Defined Emergency

Since the council stopped the warden estate service two years ago, which played a crucial role in supporting the opening and closing of the local centre for older residents, the organisation has been relying on small amounts of funding to continue its projects for the elderly. It unsuccessfully applied for Mayor's Community Grant Programme funding. This resulted in a funding emergency for the organisation as it was unable to pay the salary of the older people coordinator responsible for organising and facilitating its weekly sessions. It was also unable to keep the doors open for the above luncheon clubs and drop-in sessions for the older residents in the Ocean estate and local community.

Award

Emergency Funding of £10,000 was awarded to help fund the Club's part-time co-ordinator for a year (December 2023-November 2024).

Award Conditions

- Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club to work with a Council VCS Development Officer to establish a 12-month capacity-building action plan, including financial planning, fundraising, and training
- The Club to agree to referral for support on bid writing and fundraising efforts
- The Club to apply to the LBTH Small Grants – Capacity Building Theme.

Emergency Funding

Emergency Funding Award



Emergency Funding Award:
£9,800.00

Date Applied:
20th November 2023

Date Awarded:
3rd December 2023

Bikeworks

Total award - £9,800.00

Organisation Details

Background

Bikeworks is a registered CIC organisation that was established in 2006 in Tower Hamlets. The organisation has been delivering the All-Ability inclusive cycling clubs to disabled residents of Tower Hamlets for 17 years.

Defined Emergency

The organisation applied for funding from the National Lottery in 2023, after having received six months funding from Public Health Tower Hamlets. The second stage of this application process was delayed, due to the increased demand on funding from the National Lottery from charitable organisations. This resulted in a financial gap for Bikeworks and it was unable to cover the costs of the above clubs from September to December 2023. Its bike fleet lock-up based in Victoria Park was burgled over the summer, which had an impact on its ability to deliver the clubs' sessions. Some of the bikes were covered by the organisation's insurance policy, but the value and short period of repetitive break-ins left Bikeworks with significant capital costs to cover.

Award

The Emergency Funding award enabled Bikeworks to cover the costs of the All-Ability inclusive cycling clubs between September-December 2023 and continue their existence. £7,793 of the funds awarded covered the clubs' salary costs during the above period, including those of the Inclusive Cycling Instructors.

Award Conditions

- Bikeworks CIC to develop a long-term fundraising and financial planning strategy.
- Bikeworks CIC to improve its security arrangement to prevent break-ins from occurring in the future.

