

Equality Assessment

Equality Assessment of the potential impact of the recommendations of the Corporate Third Sector Programme Board for 2013-15 funding.

Responsible Directorate: Children Services (Study Support)

Priorities/Objectives

State how the funding stream relates to tackling inequality (for example, advice services can help mitigate impact of deprivation; lunch clubs reduce social isolation, sports increase health and well being etc);

The Study Support funding stream has a number of priorities aimed at supporting the borough's most vulnerable children and families and the delivery of the Council's Children and Young People's Plan and related strategic priorities:

- increase in the level of parental engagement in children's learning and development
- Improve access to and quality of support to disabled children, young people and their families
- Improve the use of data by schools to enhance attainment, promote assessment for learning, improve personalised learning, strengthen evaluation and planning and support early intervention and inclusive teaching

MSG Budget 2013-15

	Cabinet Approved Annual Budget	Corporate Programme Board Recommended Allocations
2012/13*	£14,521	£23,094
2013/14	£57,908	£92,378
2014/15	£57,908	£92,378
Total Funding	£130,337	£207,850

*2012/13 award only represents 3 months allocation as funding for existing Main Stream Grants projects has been extended until 31st December 2012.

Identified Need*

Summarise what we know about the need for this service in the borough, including information how need for the service differs between different equality groups (for example, women and BME communities higher levels of unemployment .lower skills levels)

In 2012, 89% of the school population in Tower Hamlets was classified as belonging to an ethnic group other than White British compared to 26% in England overall. Furthermore, English is an additional language for 74% of pupils and English and Bengali are the most commonly recorded spoken community languages in the area. Of those children and young people under 19 years, 55% come from a Bangladeshi background. The numbers of children from other backgrounds are much smaller at 10.6%. (African Caribbean 5.7%, Somali 3%, Chinese 0.5%, Turkish 0.5% and Vietnamese 0.5%). There are 90 different languages spoken in Tower Hamlets.

The latest child poverty rates for 2009 show that 29,680 children in Tower Hamlets were living in poverty which represents 53 per cent of all children.¹ Our high levels of child poverty are also evident in the high proportion of children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) in 2011 at 57 per cent. In fact in 2010/11, Tower Hamlets had the highest proportion of pupils eligible for FSM at the end of Key Stage 4 in London (60%), compared to an inner London figure of 36%.

Tower Hamlets over the last 5 years has seen an upward trend in the number of young people leaving school with better grades. In addition, 66% of all pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 had English as a second language with 79% of pupils from a non-white background. The GCSE attainment figures for last year released by the DFE showed Tower Hamlets as the second most improved borough, with 61.4% of children in the LA achieving at least five GCSE's A* to C, including English and Maths, the highest ever figure and higher than the nation average in England of 58.4%.

Study Support Funding Stream is set against the following outcomes to be achieved as outlined in the Children and Young People's Plan.

Children are achieving their full potential and are active and responsible citizens

Good and improving key stage 2 attainment of level 4 English and maths, and good levels of progression between key stage 1 and 2 in English and in Maths

- for all pupils
- for pupils on Free School Meals
- for pupils with Special Educational Needs
- for Looked After Children
- for all ethnic groups and genders, with a particular focus on groups who have tended not to demonstrate high levels of attainment in the past

Type of Provision	Beneficiary target group/Area	Units of needs identified(as total beneficiaries)	Units of need met by CGPB recommendations	Difference
Homework and after school classes in subjects such as Maths, English, ICT and Science in Key Stage 1 to 3	All young people	520	625	+106
“	BME students: predominantly of Bangladeshi and Somali heritage	190	210	+20
“	Students of Bangladeshi heritage	188	203	+13
“	Students of Chinese and Vietnamese heritage	186	186	0
“	Students of Somali heritage	65	65	0

Units of need have been identified as the total number of beneficiaries that projects have stated will gain from the service. This has been borne out by previous monitoring statistics as well as projections stated within applications.

*You may want to adapt the first 3 columns of this table to improve how you present the “identified need”.

¹ HMRC Child Poverty Statistics 2009. Child poverty data is based on the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% median income. This data is released each September, for data for two years previously

Impact Summary

Summarise any overall impact of the recommended allocation on the protected groups.

The sponsorship of after school study support classes by the local authority ensures pupils in Tower Hamlets continue to achieve above national average educational results. These classes in the main provide additional support to pupils with English as an additional language, many of whom are pupils receiving free school meals. The gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers at Key Stage 4 has seen improvement, reducing from 11 percentage points in 2008/09 to 9 percentage points in 2010/11. This gap compares favourably with both the national position and that of our statistical neighbours. This is 19 percentage points lower than the gap in England and the second lowest for an inner London local authority.

Equality Assessment

Target Groups	Impact ✓ - Positive ✘ - Adverse 0 = Neutral What impact will the proposal have on specific groups of service users or staff?	Reason(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and, Describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform decision making
Race	Neutral	Children from BME backgrounds such as Bengali, Somali, Chinese and Vietnamese pupils are more likely to have English as an additional language and are predominantly eligible for Free School Meals pupils. The provision of these classes is thus helping to narrow the attainment gap. The current study support funding profile of organisations is 14 Bengali, 4 Somali, 1 Chinese and Vietnamese. In the new funding round there are 20 organisations across the borough proposing to run a universal service for all groups including white young children.
Disability	Neutral	Monitoring reports submitted for 2011/12 by MSG funded study support groups show that approximately 6 disabled children per quarter accessed such provision compared with about 950 non-disabled children. None of the projects received sought specifically to target disabled children.
Gender	Neutral	All but one study support project recommended for funding is accessible to pupils of both genders. Monitoring reports submitted for 2011/12 show that more boys access this provision e.g. 573 boys and 435 girls / 515 boys and 407 girls in quarters 3 and 4 respectively. In the new funding round one organisation proposed to run a Bangladeshi girls only group for approximately 25 per session. However this group has declined the proposed award as the project will not be viable. This is new provision so there will be no impact on existing provision for girls. Girls will be able to access the mixed groups.
Gender Reassignment	0	
Sexual Orientation	0	
Religion or Belief	0	
Age	0	
Marriage and Civil Partnerships	0	
Pregnancy and Maternity	0	

Other Socio-economic Carers	Positive	The majority of pupils to benefit from the study support classes are pupils with English as an additional language and those receiving free school meals.
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Impact Considerations

What are likely to be the “real life” consideration for beneficiaries, in light of the proposed changes/recommendations?

The Programme Board has recommended that three Somali led organisations be offered reduced funding compared to the previous MSG funding round for 2009-12. This means that these organisations may have to scale back their service to this group of children.

However, organisations providing a universal service could absorb some of the pressure on the Somali led projects. SSS-31 is a new bid for girls-only provision. Although an award has been made, the organisation feels it cannot run a viable service with the amount recommended and has declined the offer. This will not impact on existing provision.

1. Overall summary of projects recommended for funding

Services described as universal

Ref	Beneficiary Target Group Children between the ages of 5 - 17	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
SSS-01	GCSE support	E1	41
SSS-02	Young people up to 16 years of old	E1	50
SSS-03	Young people between 7-11 years old	E1	25
SSS-04	Young people between 5-16 years old	E1	40
SSS-06	Young people aged 8-15 years	E2	22
SSS-07	Young people aged 7-16 years	E1	20
SSS-09	Local young people	E14	22
SSS-11	Local young people	E1	15
SSS-13	Children at Key stage 2 and 3	E1	20
SSS-15	Young people working towards GCSE	E1	30
SSS-16	Local children at Key stage 1 and 2	E14	30
SSS-17	Children under 8 years old	E3	Not indicated
SSS-18	Young people aged 5-15	E2	Not indicated
SSS-19	Young people	E2	25
SSS-20	Young people aged 6-16	E2	25
SSS-21	Young people aged 11-16	E2	40
SSS-23	Local young people	E1	100
SSS-24	Young people working towards GCSE	E2	15
SSS-29	Young people aged up to 17 years	E2	Not indicated
SSS-33	Young people aged 6-16	E14	Not indicated

Comments:

Funding recommendations were made in all geographical areas for this category of beneficiaries.

BME students but predominantly from Bangladeshi and Somali heritage

Ref	Beneficiary Target Group Children between the ages of 5 - 17	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
SSS-12	Bangladeshi and Somali young people	E1	30
SSS-22	Bangladeshi and Somali young people	E14	30
SSS-25	Bangladeshi and Somali young people	E14	32
SSS-28	Bangladeshi and Somali young people	E1	70
SSS-35	Bangladeshi and Somali young people	E2	28
Comments:			
No applications were received from E3 geographical area for this category of beneficiaries.			

Predominantly those of Bangladeshi heritage, including 1 girls group

Ref	Beneficiary Target Group Children between the ages of 5 - 17	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
SSS-05	Bangladeshi children aged 8-16 years	E1	60
SSS-10	Bangladeshi children aged 8-16 years	E1	30
SSS-27	Bangladeshi young people	E2	20
SSS-30	Bangladeshi young people	E1	18
SSS-31	Bangladeshi girls	E2	25
SSS-34	Bangladeshi young people	E1	35
Comments:			
No applications were received from E3 and E14 geographical area for this category of beneficiaries. Where necessary there are other services borough-wide which may be able to absorb some of the pressure on the Bangladeshi led projects.			
SSS 31 has declined the offer of funding as the organisation will be unable to run a viable study support service with the amount recommended.			

Predominantly those of Chinese and Vietnamese heritage

Ref	Beneficiary Target Group Children between the ages of 5 - 17	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
SSS-08	Chinese and Vietnamese children	E14	186
Comments:			
This was the only application received for this category of beneficiaries. The project offers a borough wide service.			

Predominantly those of Somali heritage

Ref	Beneficiary Target Group Children between the ages of 5 - 17	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
SSS-14	Somali young people aged 11-17 years	E3	20
SSS-26	Somali young people	E14	15
SSS-32	Somali young people	E1	30

Comments:

3 applications were received for this category. Where necessary there are other services catering for Bangladeshi and Somali and others for all communities which may be able to absorb some of the pressure on the Somali led projects.

2. Projects not recommended for funding that had received MSG funding in 2011/12

No of Projects	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum

Comments:

All projects were recommended for funding

3. Projects not recommended for funding who were not previously funded under this stream

Ref	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum

Comments:

All projects were recommended for funding

4, Projects not recommended for funding who were not previously funded under this stream where the primary beneficiary are from one of the 9 protected characteristics.

No of Projects	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum

Comments:

BACKGROUND

i) **Applications received:** 35. Total full year (2013/14) amount requested £844,405

20 - Universal service for young people

5 - BME students but predominantly from Bengali and Somali heritage

6 - Predominantly those of Bengali heritage, including 1 girls group

1 - Predominantly those of Chinese and Vietnamese heritage

3 - Predominantly those of Somali heritage

ii) **Number of projects recommended for funding:**35

iii) **Number of projects not recommended:**0