Equality Assessment: Community and Economic Engagement

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

Responsible Directorate: Development & Renewal

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 wellbeing etc.

The objective of this funding is to help to increase employability of local residents through accredited/non-accredited training, volunteering and employment support, tackling inequalities, social inclusion of marginalised sections of the community and meeting local needs.

This funding aims targets members of the community who have disproportionately low employment rates and so require more targeted intervention. This is consistent with the employment strategy findings that "Third sector organisations are often more effective at the engagement and information, advice and guidance (IAG) stages of the journey to employment, particularly for those that are furthest away from the labour market ".

MSG Budget 2013-15

	Indicative Annual Budget	Corporate Programme Board Recommended Allocations
2012/13*	£	137,222
2013/14	£	548,889
2014/15	£	548,889
Total Funding	£630,450	£1,235,110

^{*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)

Job seekers allowance claimant count has been used as the basis for assessing need within the Borough. The claimant count rate for Tower Hamlets was 6.1% compared to London 4.1% and Nationally: 3.9%. This equates to 10,599 people who were unemployed and claiming JSA in Tower Hamlets.

The main target groups are the 14,600 residents who are ILO-unemployed and 6,300 economically inactive people assumed to want a job, totalling 21,000 residents. Whilst there is other provision targeting this market, community and

Analysis suggests that some key groups are more disadvantaged in the borough and subsequently are disproportionately represented in lower employment and higher unemployment statistics. These groups include:

Black (African) – the ethnic group with the highest proportion of JSA claimants, where people of Somali origin are particularly significant

Young men – over half of JSA claimants are young men

Women - economic activity rates are much lower than for men

Other ethnic minority communities, notably including the Bangladeshi community, which has the second highest percentage incidence of JSA claimants after Black (African) people. People with health issues or a disability, particularly mental health Overlaps between these groups — such as Bangladeshi women, who are significantly more likely to be economically inactive than other groups

The male claimant count rate for June 2012 was 7.5% and for females 4.6%. The male claimant count rate remained unchanged from the previous month (May 2012) whilst the female claimant count rate increased slightly.

Unemployment continues to be highest amongst younger residents, those aged 18 – 24, (9.2%) – these are almost one third of all JSA claimants in this age group.

Three wards, East India and Lansbury (9.1%), Bromley by Bow (8.4%) and Mile End East (7.9%) continue to have high concentrations of JSA claimant count.

More than a third of women in TH are not in work – which is more than half as high as the London average. Bangladeshi (and Pakistani) women account for the largest percentage of this group (page 20 ES).

TH has the youngest job seekers within London. 43% of JSA claimants are under 29 years old. The proportion of 16-18 year olds who are NEET fell from 10>9% in 2006 to 6.7% in 2008 but the rate is still higher than the London average of 5.8%, so there is a need (page- 22 ES)

A recent survey of London employers shows that, when recruiting, the majority of employers consider general employability skills (92%), basic literacy and numeracy (81%), and English fluency for speakers of other languages (76%), to be important or very important.

Lack of language skills is a significant issue for Tower Hamlets residents, with data indicating very low levels of proficiency in English among Bengali women, highlighting the importance of ESOL courses within the Borough in this context.

A quarter of residents have no qualifications at all, which is well above the London or UK average. Two fifths of Borough residents have skills at Level 2 or below, which corresponds to a maximum qualification of GCSEs at Grade C or a B.

Funding under this stream supplements is in addition to the Borough's Skills Match programme.

Type of Provision	Beneficiary target group/Area	Units of needs identified	Units of need met by recommendations
Accredited training, IAG, work experience, capacity building, progress into employment Economic Engagement	Unemployed, economically active groups Borough wide Women, men, young people, members of BAME communities and others furthest from the labour market	See "identified need above	To be negotiated following agreed allocation.
Language/ESOL	Economically inactive	333	To be negotiated following agreed
	Groups		allocation.

Appendix 2

	Men and women and women only BME, Bengali and Somali		
Youth	Open to all	140	To be negotiated following agreed allocation.
Employability Skills	Unemployed/economically inactive Young People	86	To be negotiated following agreed allocation.
Community Engagement – individuals and groups	Open to all	150 + 20	To be negotiated following agreed allocation.
AIG	Young people, men and women	150	To be negotiated following agreed allocation.
Accredited Training	Economically inactive and unemployed	459	To be negotiated following agreed allocation.
Volunteering/Work Experience	BME/Bangladeshi Young People Long term unemployed Women	272	To be negotiated following agreed allocation.

^{*}You may want to adapt the first 3 columns of this table to improve how you present the "identified need".

Impact Summary

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

At £1,235,000 the total amount recommended for funding has increased by approximately 96% of the initial indicative annual budget. The difference equates to a value of £604,550 over 27 months.

Funding has been recommended to 47 projects. The number of projects receiving funding under this round has more than doubled since the last round that awarded funding to 19 projects. Over £1,001,000 (82%) of the recommended allocations have gone to organisations not funded in the previous round.

Though the level of funding recommended is less that that requested by many organisations, with several new organisations in receipt of awards the impacts can be expected to permeate into the borough's various communities more extensively. However, the Council will need to work actively to monitor the quality of outputs/ services and ensure best value.

The increased level of funding will make a positive contribution in providing employability skills training, in an environment where Welfare Reforms changes will put a greater emphasis on employment as a criterion for qualifying for some benefits.

The recommended awards have the effect of spreading the funding and benefits across a greater number of projects serving vulnerable groups. There has been a decrease of 9 per cent to disability provision, but where possible this will be made up by improving access to generalist services.

Since the percentage of proposed awards varies from the amount requested on applications, the tables below show both the outputs based on the application and an estimated output based on the proposed funding award. Actual outputs will be agreed through further negotiation with the organisations once funding is finalised.

Equality Assessment

Target Groups	Impact ✓ - Positive	Reason(s) • Add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and,
	* - Adverse 0 = Neutral	Describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform decision making
	What impact will	
	the proposal have on specific	
	groups of service users or	
Race	staff? Neutral	Black (African) – the ethnic group with the highest
		proportion of JSA claimants, where people of Somali origin are particularly significant
		Members of all BAME groups will, in general, be able to access services in all the categories specified in the
		programme. Some services will be targeted for specified groups e.g. Somali women, people with visual impairment
		or carers for pregnant women. There are no specific services targeted for white working people but they too will
B: 130		be able to access generic services.
Disability	Neutral	The recommended funding means that 3 projects (two of which were not funded under the last round) will benefit
		people who with partially or complete blindness, hearing difficulties and people with learning difficulties wishing to
		enter the labour market. This balances out the fact that
		the total funding recommended to benefiting people with disabilities is not directed to any one project.
Gender	Neutral	There are many projects with women specific services to do with language, childcare training, work experience, confidence building, and health issues. In addition, there are other projects that are also open to women in all categories of service.
		Lone parents face particular barriers in accessing the labour market- a barrier can be the availability and cost of childcare.
		Female unemployment continues to be much higher than the national and regional levels, and is 4.5% compared to 3.2% for London and 2.6% for the UK.
		In June 2012 there were 6,750 male residents claiming JSA, a claimant count rate of 7.4%, and 3,805 female residents, a claimant count rate of 4.7%.
Gender Reassignment	Not known	No related data is available as it has not been collected by previously MSG-funded organisations.
Sexual Orientation	Positive	Whilst there is currently insufficient data to quantify the benefit to people of the LBGBT community. The proposed award, (which is a new contribution) and will benefit this sector of the community.
Religion or Belief	Not known	No data related to religion or belief is available as it has

		not been collected by previously MSG-funded organisations.
Age	Neutral	There are three projects that are specific to younger people (between the ages 16-25) that will be accessible universally. In addition, other projects will also be open to younger people throughout the borough.
		The lowest JSA count rate continues to be for those aged 25 - 49 (5.2 %).
		The borough's younger residents (aged 18 – 24) continued to be affected most by the recession and have the highest claimant count rate of 9.2%, 3.2% percentage points higher than the borough rate. Only 20 (0.1%) less young people are claiming JSA than the previous month (May 2012). The second highest rate is for the 50 - 64 age groups with 7.8% claiming JSA,
Marriage and Civil Partnerships.	Not known	No related data is available as it has not been collected by previously MSG-funded organisations.
Pregnancy and Maternity	Positive	A project not previously funded will provide services and train women who are pregnant or breast feeding as well as training. This type of project will be of positive benefit to this group of people.
Other Socio-economic Carers	Not known	

Impact Considerations

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

On the whole, the organisations recommended for funding are representative of the borough in terms of sectors of the community and geographical location. The recommendations will enable a wide range of people to be supported through the various projects including young people NEET, hard to reach women, ex-offenders and people with substance abuse issues.

The projects include support during pregnancy, ESOL courses, sewing skills, health awareness, accredited training employability skills and work experience. Recommendations also include projects that will provide capacity building and support financial management to a variety of community organisations.

The projects recommended for funding cover age, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, pregnancy, social disadvantage and disability in terms of learning disability, people with visual and hearing disability.

Whilst there are several projects designed for the general population, the recommendations include a sufficient number that take into account the religious and cultural need for gender specific projects. e.g. Somali women, BAME women etc.

The majority of projects tend to be borough-wide, however those targeting a particular group e.g. Somali men, Somali women, Bangladeshi women tend to operate for communities in specific areas.

Of the projects not recommended for funding that received funding in the last round, in the majority of cases the need can be met from the provision recommended. Unsuccessful projects addressing

1. Overall summary of projects recommended for funding (47)

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery	Anticipated Output/User s per annum	Outputs based on proportion of funding recommende d
1	Economically inactive local women -AIG and leading to Level qualification in Child Care (CEE-01)	Borough-wide	90	53
2.	Economically inactive men/women providing AIG and accredited courses (CEE-02)	Borough-wide	60	16
3.	People with learning difficulties accredited course Entry Level 3 employability, health and wellbeing. (CEE-03)	Borough-wide	32	8
4.	Men/women from Somali/BAME background - Training in ESOL, IT, CV writing, job search, work experience. (CEE-05)	LAPS 1 and 2 focus but open to all	17	8
5.	Economically inactive women with no qualifications - Practical English, DIY/finance skills training, accredited volunteer training and work experience. (CEE-06)	Borough-wide	60	12
6.	Unemployed TH residents pa - work experience/volunteering in local advice agency. (CEE-07)	Borough-wide	20	6
7.	Local women -accredited training to enable them to help and support women during pregnancy, childbirth. (CEE-08)	Borough-wide	32	6
8.	Homeless individuals - structured support including English, literacy, numeracy classes (CEE-09)	Tower Hamlets and surrounding neighbourhoods	30	9
9.	Hard to reach women (mainly from BAME communities) - providing accredited English language courses + manufacturing skills. (CEE-10)	Borough-wide	20	14
10.	Women (mainly Somali) with no qualifications- providing AIG, ESOL, mentoring, confidence building sessions and experience in public positions. (CEE-11)	BG Sth, Bow East, Bromley by Bow, East India and Lansbury, Limehouse, Millwall, Spitalfields and Banglatown, St. Dunstan and Stepney Green,	Not stated	
11.	16-years olds - education/employment package (Level 1,2,3) and work experience. (CEE-14)	Borough-wide	37	26

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery	Anticipated Output/User s per annum	Outputs based on proportion of funding recommende d
12.	courses (level 1) and work experience for 5 volunteers a year (CEE-15)	Wapping	45	22
13.	towards ASDAN qualification in volunteering. (CEE-16)	Laps 7 and * (Blackwall and Limehouse)	4	3
14.	Long term unemployed exoffenders, people with substance abuse issues, single mothers, homeless - food and safety L1-3, Health/Safety, First Aid, conflict resolution, Business administration, Youth work, Sia Security. (CEE-17)	Boroughwide	8	1
15.	25 years old NEET individual, providing accredited training, work placement, capacity building. (CEE-18)	Shadwell ward	90	36
16.	Provide English embedded in sewing, machining, work experience, mentoring for 80 women pa (CEE 19)	Limehouse	80	14
17.	BAME women with no qualifications - offer OCR Literacy 1 training and volunteering opportunities. (CEE-20)	LAP 3	Not stated	
18.	BME communities in TH - Bangladeshis - soft skills training & accredited training. (CEE-24)	Borough-wide	Not stated	
19.	16-25 years old - Accredited course. (CEE-25)	Borough-wide	16	5
20.		Borough-wide	45	25
21.	Unemployed people - Basic/Clait (12 hours each), placements and employment. (CEE-28)	Borough-wide	25	5
22.	Hard to reach, inactive Somali men - employment training in ESOL, literacy and numeracy. (CEE-29)	LAP7-East India and Lansbury, open to clients borough-wide	26	10
23.	structured volunteering project, providing each volunteer. (CEE-30)	Borough-wide	Not stated	
24.	Help blind and partially sighted residents to volunteer by providing 1:1 basic skills sessions for 20 weeks followed by work placements CEE32	Borough-wide	13	3
25.	qualifications or experience. (CEE-33)	Borough-wide	8	2
26.	Marginalised Muslim women - work placement, training employment. (CEE-34)	Borough-wide	30	15

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery	Anticipated Output/User s per annum	Outputs based on proportion of funding
				recommende d
27.	people (focus on women and immigrants) pa through workshops on cv writing, interview techniques, confidence building etc.(CEE 35)	Borough-wide	50	29
28.	return to work, speakers of languages other than English, providing AQA accreditation in Business administration. (CEE-36)	Borough-wide	24	5
29.	Somali and Chinese community - Awareness of Alzheimer's disease. (CEE-37)	Borough-wide	15 community groups	3
30.	Deafness suffers basic skills training, IT, job preparation training, and employment. (CEE-38)	Borough-wide	25	3
31.	Will work with Bangladeshi women and provide training programmes on ESOL, IT, Work preparation, health. (CEE-39)	LAP 2 and 3	8	7
32.	Bangladeshi women (mainly) with limited English - gain skills to access basic childcare. (CEE-41)	LAP1	Not stated	
33.	Universal - provide employment support. (CEE-42)	Bethnal Green North, open to residents from all areas of the borough	12	8
34.	Bangladeshi women - training programmes on ESOL, IT, Work preparation. (CEE-43)	LAP4-Shadwell	8	5
35.		LAPs 1, 2 and 3	20	16
36.	Women - develop constructive solutions to issues and problems that affect them. (CEE-46)	Borough-wide	50	10
37.		Lansbury, East India, Blackwall and Limehouse, Millwall and Cubitt Town	80	74
38.	employment. Healthy activities. (CEE-48)	Borough-wide	30	6
39.	about hate crimes, domestic violence, housing concerns through partnership working with TH Homes , TH Domestic Violence team, etc. (CEE-50)	Borough-wide	Not stated	
40.	Local residents - accelerate the employment in the hospitality sector. (CEE-51)	LAP4-St Katherine's and Wapping, open to clients borough-wide	Not stated	

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery	Anticipated Output/User s per annum	Outputs based on proportion of funding recommende d
41.	means of sewing, ESOL, primary skills. (CEE-54)	LAP1-Weavers	Not stated	
42.	dressmaking and soft furnishings; yoga and fitness classes pa; health seminars; decision making process. (CEE-56)	LAP7-East India and Lansbury, open to clients borough- wide	83	53
43.	Will work with (primarily) 16-25 years old NEET people in Blackwall and Cubitt town, providing accredited training, capacity building, work placement and employment. (CEE-57)	Shadwell ward	Not stated	
44.	inactive people - Basic Skills training, including Basic Skills in Childcare", employment support. (CEE-58)	Lap 3	Not stated	
45.	providing English embedded in sewing machine and work experience in manufacturing and mentoring for enterprise	Borough-wide4	80	14
46.	course (level 1&2) – 36 weeks for 20 women pa. (CEE 55)	Women in LAP 7 focus but open to all		43
47.	Somali Third Sector organisation - providing training in representation, community research and volunteering opportunities. (CEE-63)	Borough-wide	Not stated	

The projects recommended for funding cover age, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, pregnancy, social disadvantage and disability in terms of learning disability, people with visual and hearing disability.

The majority of projects tend to be borough-wide; however those targeting a particular group e.g. Somali men, Somali women, Bangladeshi women tend to operate for communities in specific areas.

The number of projects funded in the previous year is 10.

2. Projects recommended for funding that did not receive MSG funding in 2011/12 (37)

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery	Anticipated Output/User s per annum	Outputs based on proportion of funding recommende d
1.	Economically inactive men/women providing AIG and accredited courses (CEE-02)	Borough-wide	60	16
2.	People with learning difficulties accredited course Entry Level 3 employability, health and wellbeing. (CEE-03)	Borough-wide	32	8
3.	Men/women from Somali/BAME background - Training in ESOL, IT, CV writing, job search, work experience. (CEE-05)	LAPS 1 and 2 focus but open to all	17	8
4.	Economically inactive women with no qualifications - Practical English, DIY/finance skills training, accredited volunteer training and work experience. (CEE-06)	Borough-wide	60	12
5.	Local women -accredited training to enable them to help and support women during pregnancy, childbirth. (CEE-08)	Borough-wide	32	6
6.	Homeless individuals - structured support including English, literacy, numeracy classes (CEE-09)	Tower Hamlets and surrounding neighbourhoods	30	9
7.	Hard to reach women (mainly from BAME communities) - providing accredited English language courses + manufacturing skills. (CEE-10)	Borough-wide	20	14
8.	16-years olds - education/employment package (Level 1,2,3) and work experience. (CEE-14)	Borough-wide	37	26
9.	Universal – volunteering, will work towards ASDAN qualification in volunteering. (CEE-16)	Laps 7 and * (Blackwall and Limehouse)	4	3
10.		Boroughwide	8	1
11.		Shadwell ward	90	36
12.		Limehouse	80	14

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery	Anticipated Output/User s per annum	Outputs based on proportion of funding recommende d
13.	- offer OCR Literacy 1 training and volunteering opportunities. (CEE-20)	LAP 3	Not stated	
14.	Bangladeshis - soft skills training & accredited training. (CEE-24)	Borough-wide	Not stated	
15.	16-25 years old - Accredited course. (CEE-25)	Borough-wide	16	5
16.	(12 hours each), placements and employment. (CEE-28)	Borough-wide	25	5
17.	Hard to reach, inactive Somali men - employment training in ESOL,	LAP7-East India and		10
	literacy and numeracy. (CEE-29)	Lansbury, open to clients borough-wide	26	
18.	Local residents (16+) with no qualifications or experience. (CEE-33)	Borough-wide	8	2
19.	placement, training employment. (CEE-34)	Borough-wide	30	15
20.	Somali and Chinese community - Awareness of Alzheimer's disease. (CEE-37)	Borough-wide	15 community groups	3
21.	Deafness suffers basic skills training, IT, job preparation training, and employment. (CEE-38)	Borough-wide	25	3
22.	Will work with Bangladeshi women and provide training programmes on ESOL, IT, Work preparation, health. (CEE-39)	LAP 2 and 3	8	7
23.	Bangladeshi women (mainly) with limited English - gain skills to access basic childcare. (CEE-41)	LAP1	Not stated	
24.	Universal - provide employment support. (CEE-42)	Bethnal Green North, open to residents from all areas of the borough	12	8
25.	Bangladeshi women - training programmes on ESOL, IT, Work preparation. (CEE-43)	LAP4-Shadwell	8	5
26.	Somali women - and help them challenge taboos and stereotypes. (CEE-44)	LAPs 1, 2 and 3	20	16
27.	Women - develop constructive solutions to issues and problems that affect them. (CEE-46)	Borough-wide	50	10
28.	Local communities – Social activities : zumba classes, table tennis tournaments, cooking classes, dance classes. (CEE-47)	Lansbury, East India, Blackwall and Limehouse, Millwall and Cubitt Town	80	74
29.	Young people- accreditation, employment. Healthy activities. (CEE-48)	Borough-wide	30	6

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery	Anticipated Output/User	Outputs based on
			s per annum	proportion of funding recommende d
30.	LGBT - address core concerns about hate crimes, domestic violence, housing concerns through partnership working with TH Homes, TH Domestic Violence team, etc. (CEE-50)	Borough-wide	Not stated	
31.	Local residents - accelerate the employment in the hospitality sector. (CEE-51)	LAP4-St Katherine's and Wapping, open to clients borough-wide	Not stated	
32.	Local marginalised women by means of sewing, ESOL, primary skills. (CEE-54)	LAP1-Weavers	Not stated	
33.	Will work with (primarily) 16-25 years old NEET people in Blackwall and Cubitt town, providing accredited training, capacity building, work placement and employment. (CEE-57)	Shadwell ward	Not stated	
34.	Unemployed/economically inactive people - Basic Skills training, including Basic Skills in Childcare", employment support. (CEE-58)	Lap 3	Not stated	
35.	Will work with circa 80 women pa, providing English embedded in sewing machine and work experience in manufacturing and mentoring for enterprise	Borough-wide4	80	14
36.	Will run health Care assistant's course (level 1&2) – 36 weeks for 20 women pa. (CEE 55)	Women in LAP 7 focus but open to all		43
37.		Borough-wide	Not stated	

The range of new projects recommended for funding indicate a broad section of the communities needs will be addressed to some degree.

The projects recommended include projects designed a generic need as well as those to address the specific needs of hard to reach, marginalised and BAME, Somali and Bengali women.

3. Projects not recommended for funding that had received MSG funding in 2011/12 (1)

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
1	Young people (16-19) - employability skills in media sector fashion, film making, photography, music. (CEE-31)	Borough-wide – Spitalfields. Bromley by Bow, Mile End east, East India and Lansbury)	12

It is anticipated that the needs of people who would have benefited from these projects can be met through the main provision.

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	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
None			

BACKGROUND

Applications received: 63 - Total full years (2013/14) amount requested £4,505,744

Number of projects recommended for funding: 47 of which 37 were not previously funded under this stream. 10 had received funding in the previous funding round.

In the main projects targeting people based on 7 of the 9 protected characteristics (under the Equalities Act 2010) have been recommended.

Number of projects not recommended:

16 projects were not recommended for funding.