

Growth Type	Mayoral Priority
Title	Early Years Provision Victoria Park and St Hilda's Community Centre
Reference	MPG / CHI 002 / 18-19
Strategic Priority Area	1.2 Children and Young people feel they are protected and get the best start in life and realise their potential
Lead Member	Amy Whitelock Gibbs
Directorate	Childrens Services
Service Area	Education and Partnerships
Lead Officer	Christine McInnes

Financial Information	Budget Allocation	Growth Bid		
	2017-18 £'000	2018-19 £'000	2019-20 £'000	2020-21 £'000
Employee Costs				
Other Costs		88	31	31
Income				
To Reserves				
Capital		50*		
HRA				
Total		138*	31	31

*The site needs to be refurbished to comply with DDA requirements. It also needs a new kitchen. The costs are yet to be finalised although the £50K quoted is an estimate of the potential capital investment required based on previous work commissioned.

Staffing Impact	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Employees (FTE)				

Description & Justification

This growth bid is for an adjustment to the budget for 3 consecutive years

At the Cabinet meeting on 10 January 2017, the Mayor announced additional funding for early years' services to enable commissioning to support the children's centre offer. This enabled early years' services be supported, including those offered from St. Hilda's and Victoria Park. We anticipate that early years' services at Victoria Park (associated with Overland Children's Centre) and St. Hilda's (associated with Mowlem Children's Centre) will continue on the basis of this bid.

Continuation of services at Victoria Park will require some refurbishment / development works to make the building suitable for the delivery of early years' provision. This is likely to require a temporary suspension of service to allow works to proceed.

The St Hilda's site and service offer is extremely popular with local families. This is because the nearest children's centre, Mowlem Children's Centre, is a 20min bus journey away. The loss of services from this outreach site would result in a significant drop in the overall reach of Mowlem Children's Centre.

Residents would welcome the continued provision of services from the Victoria Park site as they are concerned that early years' services will cease once the site at Olga is up and running. To continue to run services from Victoria Park and St Hilda's, additional resources would be required as outlined in this growth bid.

Budgeted Outcomes/ Accountability (Focus on Improved performance)

Align with the councils strategic priorities; provide performance information data; agreed proposed outcomes and expected improvements in service delivery/ performance

The additional service would meet the LA strategic objectives:

1. Children get the best start in life and young people realise their potential
2. Gaps in inequality have reduced and diversity is embraced

The Victoria Park site provides additional services for families, on the border with LB Hackney. This brings the challenge of ensuring that the families who use services are from LBTH.

April-October

Total Number unique families using Victoria Park	349
Total number of unique families from Hackney	45
Total number of unique families from Tower Hamlets	304

The growth funding would enable the service to create additional childcare places at Victoria Park for up to 16 children per session (32 places). This would help the LA in meeting its sufficiency targets.

St. Hilda's Site - April-October

	Adult Reach	Adult Volume	Child Reach	Child Volume
Number of individuals	162	487	183	647

Risks & Implications

Highlight Service/ Corporate associated;

Victoria Park Site -

The risk associated would be that potentially 304 families, from Tower Hamlets would not engage in the new site at Olga which is approximately 10mins walking distance from Victoria Park. This is a low risk as the new site has new the facilities and increased capacity for each session (to up to 30 people at any one time). This will mean that more services for a greater number of families will be provided.

St. Hilda's Site –

The risk is that we would lose the engagement of 183 children and 162 parents, resulting in our early identification work from Mowlem becoming more difficult.

Value for Money & Efficiency

Provide justification for VFM & Efficiency

Provision at these sites will ensure that families who might not otherwise engage with early education or take up early help are able to engage with these services. We are aware that should families not take up help early, problems can easily escalate becoming more serious, more difficult to address and more expensive. Research indicates that for every £1 of early intervention 0-4, £8 is saved in relation to more specialist services required at a later point.