

CATALYST – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Executive Summary

Since its inception in 1989, Catalyst has worked to promote the mental health and wellbeing of people in Surrey, improving lives in terms of stability and wellbeing, with the aim of reducing harm to themselves, their families and the community. There are currently over 20 projects benefitting residents of all boroughs, including Woking, offering one to one and group mental health and wellbeing support, support around drug and alcohol use and support for victims of cuckooing crimes.

The Organisation has submitted an application for funding of £53,028 to provide Appreciative Inquiry Community training linked to a place-based model, which aims to enable a group of people to discover their strengths and redesign their futures.

The grant request includes the cost of twelve programmes of two days each would be equate to £37,416 (£3,118 each), with administration and overhead costs leading to the overall grant request of £53,028.

The outcome and benefits of the Appreciative Inquiry Community Training are stated to:

- create an opportunity for residents and service users in Woking experiencing issues around mental health and wellbeing with the opportunity to be heard and express their own thoughts around addressing key issues and wider determinants that affect them, directly.
- give users and residents the opportunity to dream, share their dreams and employ meaningful ways to realise and put plans in place.
- create an environment and opportunity in which people can contribute to their greater Woking community.

Through community engagement and partnership working, Catalyst proposes that participants will be selected and engaged via community based training, held for two days each month by an Appreciative Inquiry professional. This approach would encourage the attendees and communities to participate back into their community in a meaningful way to them, having actively engaged with the entire process.

It is estimated the programme will impact at least 132 residents in Woking in one year, with the training aiming to have a maximum of 14 participants per month.

The Council works with Catalyst very closely and is very supportive of this new piece of work and all their work in the Borough as its leading mental health partner. However, this project should be funded from more appropriate mental health, NHS or ICP Alliance funding and the CEO could attend the Alliance Board to discuss the proposal. It is recommended that no grant should be awarded for 2022/23.

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to:

RESOLVE That no grant be awarded.

Reason for Decision

The Council is not able to award the level of funds applied for towards the cost of the programmes set out in the application.

The Executive has authority to determine the above recommendations.

Background Papers:

2022/23 Application Form.

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1.0 Summary of Application	
1.1 Status and Aims	<p>Catalyst is a Charity which works to promote the mental health and wellbeing of people in Surrey, improving lives in terms of stability and wellbeing, with the aim of reducing harm to themselves, their families and the community. It is proud to offer support for individuals and their friends and families in a holistic, friendly, professional and non-judgemental way and has been a charity operating in Surrey since 1989. There are currently over 20 projects benefitting residents of all boroughs, including Woking, offering one to one and group mental health and wellbeing support, support around drug and alcohol use and support for victims of cuckooing crimes.</p> <p>Covering all of Surrey, the Charity offers face to face support in some form in all 11 boroughs, whether through Counselling or Community Connections. This ensures that people feel valued in their community and can ensure convenient and timely support.</p>
1.2 Employees	115, across drug and alcohol services and mental health and wellbeing, divided between strategic leadership, service managers and frontline staff.
1.3 Volunteers	65, whose activities include the provision of counselling, administrators and the running of the charity shop in Godalming. There is a Peer Mentor training programme which enables volunteers to access training and placements.
1.4 Clients/Users	<p>99 from Woking, comprising:</p> <p>49 male</p> <p>50 female</p> <p>24 disabled</p> <p>99 resident in Woking</p> <p>1 aged 16-18</p> <p>78 aged 19-65</p> <p>2 aged 65+</p> <p>All services are provided free of charge.</p>
1.5 Members	N/A
1.6 Sum Requested	£53,028 (Revenue)
1.7 Project	<p>Catalyst operates a range of sole and partnership projects which are all linked by inclusive and community approaches, and is looking to deepen its involvement in Woking by establishing and developing a more place-based methodology.</p> <p>Catalyst offer outreach, drug and alcohol support, mental health interventions, joint projects with partners like Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum (SMEF) and runs the needle Xchange across Woking. The Surrey County Council Joint Strategic Assessment highlighted that economic deprivation is exceptionally high in areas like Maybury and Sheerwater with effects including deprivation across older people, high percentages of children living in Poverty and high numbers of</p>

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young people not in education, employment and training. A snapshot of Woking data highlighted that in general Woking has high levels of alcohol related hospital admissions, high levels of child obesity and long term health problems. Data from the local Safe Haven suggests significant presentations of long term mental health conditions and acute crisis. It is also recognised as having high populations of ethnic minority groups with the highest population of Pakistani and Indian communities residing in areas such as Canalside.

The Charity states that there is an increasing amount of evidence around the benefits of place based systems of care, with providers working to deliver the right care, at the right time with the best placed provider by working directly with users around their needs.

Catalyst has submitted a grant application for the sum of £53,028 to utilise Appreciative Inquiry Community training linked to a place-based model. Appreciative Inquiry is a strength based, collaborative approach to change and develop an organisation or human system including communities. It is a provocative approach that has four key processes:

- discovering an organisation or group’s current strengths
- involving all members of the group in designing an attractive future
- redesigning the organisation to reflect the first two
- using the energy generated by the process to make things happen.

The outcome and benefits of the Appreciative Inquiry Community Training are:

- It will create an opportunity for residents and service users in Woking experiencing issues around mental health and wellbeing with the opportunity to be heard and express their own thoughts around addressing key issues and wider determinants that affect them, directly.
- It will further give users and residents the opportunity to dream, share their dreams and employ meaningful ways to realise and put plans in place.
- It will create an environment and opportunity in which people can contribute to their greater Woking community.

Through community engagement and partnership working, Catalyst proposes that participants will be selected and engaged via community based training, held for two days each month by an Appreciative Inquiry professional. This approach would encourage the attendees and communities to participate back into their community in a meaningful way to them, having actively engaged with the entire process.

1.8 Cost breakdown:

The funding is to establish a robust training programme.

Cost of Courses for 12 months: £37,416

Overheads and management Cost: £5,612

Administration

i.e. logistics and bookings: £5,000

Promotion and Marketing: £5,000

Total: £53,028

The cost of 12 x 2 day programmes would be £3,118 per course,

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	<p>including extras (such as materials for participants and expenses), and so 12 courses would equate to £37,416. The cost also includes scoping, planning, administration and making the course bespoke.</p>
<p>1.9 Community Benefit</p>	<p>It is estimated the programme will impact at least 132 residents in Woking in one year, with the training aiming to have a maximum of 14 participants per month. It is anticipated that the training will be at least 80% full. Some of the Woking residents that would benefit are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people between the ages of 18 and 25 years old; • Residents who have lost their jobs during COVID/lockdown. • Residents with social challenges including need for counselling. • Residents benefitting from the support and intervention of Crime reduction • Population at large because of impact on employment and income. • Industries/businesses in the area benefitting from a quality, skilled and trained workforce • Residents recovering from drugs and alcohol issues and integrating them back into the Community and Economy - improved and better engaging community. • Individuals coming out of lockdown/COVID who have experienced mental health issues and would like support re-engaging back within the community. • Young people who would benefit from interventions with support around crime reduction. • Maybury and Sheerwater generally as a result of improved employment, better income and its positive impact on the vitality of the area as well as economic contribution to the area and Woking.
<p>1.10 Covid-19 Impact</p>	<p>As with many organisations, COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the Charity and its service delivery. Most of the premises from where it previously operated from remained closed. It was, however, able to respond quickly to the changing environment to keep staff and beneficiaries safe, and to make changes in the way it supported people with new tools for service delivery including online support using digital platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Catalyst Big Blue Button, and the scaling up of telephone support. The cost base of the Charity was realigned during the year to provide additional resources in these areas.</p> <p>All funding streams remained as planned during the pandemic and the Charity worked closely with commissioners and funders to ensure it continued to best meet people's needs. No staff were placed on furlough under the Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and we were grateful for some access and funding support which allowed the Organisation to obtain PPE, vaccinations and testing for frontline staff working with clients.</p> <p>The Charity is continuing to develop a range of new projects in response to the changing landscape, the full impact of which will become clearer over time. In addition, it will look at increasing its independent funding sources and further develop social enterprise initiatives to strengthen service delivery moving forward.</p> <p>It adapted its service delivery during the pandemic to meet the increased and changing needs for its users, moving to enhanced online and telephone support and continuing to provide face to face services for many of the most vulnerable in the county, adhering to</p>

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	strict PPE and COVID protocols. Much of the increased demand, whether for drug and alcohol support or responding to wellbeing concerns has been increasing even as the stricter lockdowns are eased and as people are coming back into the community; it states that there is no doubt that high demand for the services provided will continue.
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2.0 Financial Background	
2.1 Budget	<p>At the time of the application, the Group held £607,779 in the bank. Catalyst holds funding provided from its partners for specific projects, and the above balance includes the monies for quarters 2 and 3.</p> <p>The Group has submitted a budget for 2022/23 which shows an anticipated income of £3,988,000 against an anticipated expenditure of £4,031,000, resulting in an anticipated deficit of £43,000.</p>
2.2 Accounts	The Group has submitted accounts for 2020/21 which show an income of £3,715,426 (£3,021,613 in 2019/20) against expenditure of £3,516,531 (£3,166,539 in 2019/20), resulting in a surplus of £198,895 (a deficit of £144,926 in 2019/20). The sum of £549,029 was carried forward at the end of the 2020/21 year.
2.3 Support over the past five years	New application.

3.0 Assessment of Application		
3.1 Key Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Constitution ○ Registered Charity ○ VAT Registered ○ Equal Opportunities Policy ○ Safeguarding Policy ○ Reserves Policy ○ Quality Mark ○ Other funding sources pursued ○ Other support by the Council ○ Fundraising ○ Two quotes ○ Regular monitoring provided previously <p>* As part of the drug and alcohol support for adults in Surrey, Catalyst occupies premises at 20 High Street and leases space at Moorcroft.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes *</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
3.2 Assessment	The Council works with Catalyst very closely and is very supportive of this new piece of work and all their work in the Borough as our leading	

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mental health partner. However, this project should be funded from more appropriate mental health, NHS or ICP Alliance funding and the CEO could attend the Alliance Board to discuss the proposal. It is recommended that no grant should be awarded for 2022/23.

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