

Citizenship and Integration Initiative
Piloting legal advice in an educational context
Invitation for expressions of interest
April 2018



SUMMARY

The Citizenship and Integration Initiative (CII) brings together funding from independent foundations to work closely with the Mayor of London to advance shared goals on social integration. One of these goals is **Young Londoners**: supporting young Londoners to secure their legal rights to residence.

We are seeking expressions of interest from civil society organisations (as the lead organisation) in partnership with other relevant organisations to pilot the most effective provision of support (legal and otherwise) to children with irregular status (and their families), delivered in partnership with a primary school. The ambition of this pilot is to test, through educational settings for 5-11 year olds, ways in which:

- young Londoners' awareness of their legal rights to residence and citizenship can be increased;
- the conditions in which more children and young people are able to secure their residence/citizenship are facilitated.

A total budget of £140,000 is available for the pilot, inclusive of all VAT and costs. For the lead organisation selected at Stage 1, up to £20,000 of the total budget can be requested towards the costs of developing the partnership and the full proposal in Stage 2. We expect that the pilot will run for 18-24 months.

This document provides an overview of the Citizenship and Integration Initiative; a summary of the issues we are seeking to address; the parameters of the pilot we are seeking to fund; details on how to apply and timescales for decisions.

Key Dates

5pm on 16th May 2018: Deadline for submission of STAGE 1 Expressions of Interest

23rd May 2018: Assessment visits to shortlisted organisations/partnerships

6 June 2018: Trust for London Grants Committee makes funding decision. Selected lead organisation receives funding to develop partnership and work up full proposal

7 September 2018: Deadline for STAGE 2 full proposal

3 October 2018: Trust for London Grants Committee makes funding decision.

November 2018: Pilot commences.

HOW THE CITIZENSHIP AND INTEGRATION INITIATIVE WORKS

Summary

The Trust for London, in partnership with Unbound Philanthropy, established a new initiative in April 2017 to ensure that Londoners of all backgrounds have meaningful opportunities to participate in the life of the city and the decisions that affect them.

The Citizenship and Integration Initiative brings together funding from independent foundations, to work closely with the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority. The Paul Hamlyn Foundation, City Bridge Trust and the Pears Foundation have now joined, and the pooled funding is £500,000 for the first two years. On the GLA's part, the Mayor has appointed a Deputy Mayor with a specific brief for Social Integration, and the GLA have made an investment at an equivalent level into their new Social Integration Team.

All partners believe that the best, and only, way to achieve meaningful change towards these goals is for civil society organisations and the public sector to collaborate, drawing on the strengths and resources of all.

Shared Goals

The initiative's goals are:

1. **Civic Engagement:** Encouraging the take up of citizenship and democratic engagement
2. **Young Londoners:** supporting young Londoners to secure their legal rights to residence
3. **Diversity, social contact and identity:** celebrating diversity and building shared identity

Funding

The two main approaches are to fund secondments from civil society into the GLA's new Social Integration team, and to support on the ground, community-based projects that further the initiative's objectives.

Note that organisations that already have a grant from individual funders involved in the CII may ALSO apply to the CII as this is a separate funding stream.

Action to date

The first round of secondment grants were allocated to four civil society organisations with relevant expertise: Migrants Organise, Citizens UK, Coram Children's Legal Centre and Just for Kids Law; to enable them to second a staff member into the new Social Integration Team at the GLA.

The Round 1 secondees have contributed to the Mayors' strategy on Social Integration alongside developing new projects that progress the GLA's social integration agenda: on the Young Londoners, these include establishing a Young Londoners steering group, producing new guidance for professionals on supporting children with insecure status, and raising awareness amongst young people themselves of their rights. Round 2 secondees joined the GLA in April 2018, and are from Citizens UK, Coram Children's Legal Centre, Just for Kids Law and New Europeans.

THE ISSUE WE ARE SEEKING TO ADDRESS

An estimated 120,000 children in the UK have irregular migration status (0.9% of the UK's under 18 population), with over half of them having been born in the UK to parents with irregular migration status. Children born in the UK to parents with irregular migration status have an automatic right to become British citizens after 10 years residence in the UK. It is estimated that the majority of these children live in London. Brexit is likely to increase these numbers substantially, with the children of EEA Nationals becoming affected – again, many of whom live in London.

Many of these young people (and their families) do not seek help to secure citizenship, for a variety of reasons – often to do with the high costs, or fear of the hostile environment.

We know that for some young people, the issue only comes to light in the sixth form. Teachers who find out may treat the issue with sensitivity, but often do not know what they can do, for example whether they can write letters of support for pupils' immigration applications, or where they can refer children for specialist support. Evidence provided by schools is likely to become an issue for EEA nationals in any new system for applying for settled status in the UK. However, before young people are able to speak openly about their status, they need to have a relationship of trust with their teachers, and to realise that they have done nothing wrong.

There are a number of civil society organisations providing support to non-British pupils in London schools and resources for schools to help them understand and address the issues these pupils may face. A small number of schools invest in some form of dedicated in-house resource. With reductions in public budgets, the funding model for this work is often short term and insecure, and the journey to citizenship is often long and complex.

We recognise that raising awareness among children and young people of their rights can put pressure on families which they are unable to address and increases the demand for expert legal support which is in short supply. We are therefore seeking to develop a pilot project which tests a whole system approach to this issue.

Note that this pilot is intended to cover all children subject to immigration control, who lack permanent status in the UK. This might include children in the asylum system but is not limited to refugee or asylum seeking children.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PILOT

COLLABORATION: We are seeking a partnership that works across sectors.

Background: In discussions within CII, we have placed value on primary schools (for early intervention), law centres (for immigration law expertise) and on civil society organisations (for reach to children and families, safe space). The CII emphasises the need to put children and families at the centre of the pilot and the need to involve them in shaping interventions. Through the CII, there is the potential to link with the GLA and the CII funders, who can promote the model that is developed.

Your Proposal: Expressions of interest are welcome from civil society organisations who would lead the development of a partnership in Phase 2. We understand that partnerships take time to develop, so you can identify others with whom you would like to work in the development phase to put formal agreements in place. You should also demonstrate how you will engage children and families themselves, and how you would leverage the interest of the GLA and CII funders.

BUILDING ON EXISTING KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE: We are seeking a pilot that draws on resources that already exist, joining them up better and making them accessible/visible for young people, families and schools.

Background: The CII recognises that there is a developing community of organisations working on these issues. We also know that pilots have already been undertaken, for example to provide legal advice directly in schools. We think there is potential in basing this pilot on one place, for example within one London borough.

Your Proposal: Your expression of interest should identify a suitable place-based focus for the pilot. You should demonstrate your understanding of the landscape and the range of interventions already in place, and show how you will build on them.

SYSTEM CHANGE POTENTIAL: We want to explore broader change and how that might be achieved.

Background: Above all, the CII is seeking systemic change. We envisage that the parts of the system that the pilot will need to engage with will include: families and their peers, schools, civil society organisations, legal practitioners, local authorities, and regional government. The CII also values an early action approach, recognising that the earlier families can access support and advice the better.

Your Proposal: Your expression of interest will need to show a strong understanding of the wider systemic issues and the challenges for families in navigating the complexity of the system. You should identify the potential for addressing issues as early as possible, and set out how this pilot will address potential blocks to progress as well as identifying opportunities for change.

GENERATING LEARNING: We are looking to generate a model that can be shared and replicated by others.

Background: the CII expects that the pilot will have a clear ‘test and learn’ approach. We expect that alongside learning about what works in local practice, this pilot may generate proposals for national policy change.

Your proposal: Your expression of interest should set out the questions that the pilot will test, and how you will share the learning. You should consider how your partnership will include appropriate capacity for both building evidence about what works and strategic communications to persuade senior leaders to take up the recommendations. You should demonstrate an understanding of the wider political and policy context.

A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION: We are looking to develop a sustainable model.

Background: The CII is interested in exploring options for how the model interventions can be financially viable/funded in the future. For example, there may be incentives for education providers to invest in this approach themselves. Might this pilot generate an evidence base that addressing immigration issues can lead to greater engagement of parents in their children’s education and development leading to better long term outcomes for children? Children with no status and no recourse to public funds do not trigger the pupil premium – are there potential ‘invest to save’ models?

Your proposal: Your expression of interest should set out how the pilot will consider issues of future funding and sustainability.

HOW TO APPLY

This is a two stage process with Stage One being the submission of an Expression of Interest.

Your Expression of Interest should outline how you would approach this pilot, and should include:

- Name and address of your organisation, contact details of the lead person, and a brief outline of your activities.
- An outline of your skills, suitability and experience to deliver the project (*please give examples of complex cross-sector programme or initiatives that you have delivered*)
- The organisations to be involved in your partnership
- The questions that your pilot will seek to test
- The activities you propose to undertake
- Your understanding of the opportunities and risks associated with this pilot and how you would maximise or mitigate them
- An outline budget.

The maximum length of the Expression of Interest should **not exceed 4 A4 pages**.

Expressions of interest will be assessed against the five key elements of the pilot approach.

Please submit your Expression of Interest by email to Sioned Churchill, Director of Grants
sioned@trustforlondon.org.uk

DEADLINE 5pm on 16th May 2018: Deadline for submission of STAGE 1 Expressions of Interest

23rd May 2018: Assessment visits to shortlisted organisations/partnerships

CONTACT

If you have any questions about this call for proposals, please contact Geraldine Blake, CII Co-ordinator for Trust for London: geraldineblake66@gmail.com (if before 24 April 18) or Sioned Churchill: sioned@trustforlondon.org.uk (before Friday 11 May 2018).