

Greater London Council

CRITERIA FOR GRANTS TO ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS

1 At their meeting on 8 February 1982, the Ethnic Minorities Committee agreed that the three main objectives for making grants should be:-

- (i) Responding to identified special needs which cannot be met through other grant-aiding arrangements (other such arrangements might include local urban-programmes, borough grants, inner-city partnerships, MSC special programmes, CRE grants etc.)
- (ii) Countering racial disadvantage through proposals utilising the positive action provisions of the Race Relations Act.
- (iii) Developing initiatives which are necessary to be developed on a London wide basis but in line with objectives (i) and (ii) above.

2 After taking into account the broad objectives set out above the Committee adopted the following criteria:-

- (i) Within the limits of its legal powers, and financial resources, the Council may offer assistance to bodies operating to the benefit of London or its inhabitants with the aims and objects of providing benefits to ethnic minority communities in respect of their special needs which would warrant such provision.
- (ii) The Council would not wish to confuse existing relationships by offering finance where there is already a clear responsibility and an established funding source from a public sector body.
- (iii) Where common powers exist between the Council and London borough councils (e.g., recreation, industry), the Council will concentrate its assistance to bodies covering an area wider than a single borough.
- (iv) Organisations applying will have to demonstrate -
 - (a) that their general objectives can be justified as in the interests of London, its inhabitants, or specific local need;
 - (b) that their specific objectives are in the best interests of ethnic minority groups who have identified special needs or are experiencing racial discrimination and are disadvantaged;
 - (c) that the granting of assistance will enable their operating to continue on a viable basis for the foreseeable future, in a way which achieves their stated objectives;
 - (d) that the ethnic minority groups will themselves be actively engaged in the overall management and day to day running of their operations;
 - (e) that self-help and voluntary assistance are being maximised;

- (f) that their operations encourage the involvement of the ethnic minority communities in understanding, supporting and contributing to their successful development;
- (g) that their operations are taking place within a context of providing equal opportunities for ethnic minority groups and encourage greater understanding and co-operation among the different races;
- (h) a proper conduct of their affairs, both general and financial.

3 When deciding on priorities, the Committee wish to give consideration to achieving a balanced programme which would reflect regional as well as local approaches to meeting the special needs of ethnic minorities. The following priorities were determined:-

- (i) Favourable consideration will be given to those projects which are new, seeking funds for the first time and of an innovative nature.
- (ii) Favourable consideration will be given to projects which attract a package of grants from a variety of sources (e.g. central and local government, private charities, CRE, etc.).
- (iii) Favourable consideration might be given to capital schemes (e.g., funds for acquiring or improving premises, or acquisition of key plant/equipment) because of their one-off nature and non-recurring effect.
- (iv) Favourable consideration will be given to projects which can be assessed within a framework of any local/regional strategy for race equality which may be devised relating to existing resources, funding arrangements, special needs, and future resource availability. (Local arrangements involving statutory and voluntary agencies would make it easier for the Committee to consider recommendations based on locally representative views.)
- (v) Proposals leading to the development of specialist regional facilities for race awareness training would be the sort of project which might also warrant priority consideration.

4 If you require any further information or assistance, please contact The Ethnic Minorities Unit, Director-General's Department (DG/EMU), County Hall, London, SE1 7PB; telephone 01-633 7845/5952.