

TOLLCROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

07 February 2016

Councillor Paul Godzic
Convener of Education, Children and Families Committee
City of Edinburgh Council
City Chambers
High Street
Edinburgh
EH1 1YJ

Dear Councillor Godzic,

We are writing about our concern at the abrupt withdrawal of council funding for the Nari Kalyan Shangho(NKS) facility in our area. This organisation runs the only minority ethnic project in the southwest of the city. It has had a major impact on helping to integrate south Asian communities and particularly women into the wider community. Furthermore it has done sterling work in integrating the different south Asian communities. Its work in childcare and health promotion has been well recognised and it has won charity and empowerment awards. Its activities and aims are exactly what we are being told relate to important government policies. Such abrupt funding cessation will cause such a perturbation to its activities that many would have to cease. As a community, we value the work done by NKS and would seriously regret any disruption to its continuance.

We note that the third party grants were determined by paperwork alone and not a consideration of past knowledge and experience. It may be that seeking further information in this case is appropriate.

We do understand the severe pressures on local councils but feel that considering costs and benefits, there is a strong case to continue funding, or at least negotiate some transitional funding to help the work continue. We hope that these concerns can be considered when the committee makes its decision.

Yours sincerely

(Paul Beswick on behalf of Tollcross Community Council)

Cc

Councillor Catherine Fullerton (Vice-Convener)
Councillor Elaine Aitken
Councillor Robert Aldridge
Councillor Norma Austin Hart
Councillor Mike Bridgman
Councillor Maureen Child
Councillor Nick Cook
Councillor Gavin Corbett
Councillor Cammy Day
Councillor Allan Jackson
Councillor David Key
Councillor Richard Lewis
Councillor Alex Lunn
Councillor Melanie Main
Councillor Eric Milligan
Councillor Vicki Redpath
Councillor Keith Robson
Councillor Jason Rust
Councillor Stefan Tymkewycz
Councillor Andrew Burns (ex officio)
Councillor Sandy Howat (ex officio)