

Dear THCAN member

We have received the sad and shocking news that Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network (THCAN) doesn't meet the priorities set by the Mayor's Fund Programme and therefore the essential work through THCAN is no longer funded.

This likely means that after October, there will be **NO MORE**

- **Volunteer Training Project.**
- **Free Trainings & Workshops.**
- **Welfare Right Forums**
- **Newsletters**
- **THCAN Website (www.thcan.org.uk)**

**This is even a greater concern at a time
When workforce shortage is experienced across the
voluntary sector
Funding for social welfare rights advice continues to be
reduced by the Local Authority
While the demands for advice and support is rising in light
of the Cost of Living Crisis**

**Please support us by raising your concerns over the future
of THCAN**

By emailing the attached letter or text below

**to mayor@towerhamlets.gov.uk ;
saied.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk;
maium.talukdar@towerhamlets.gov.uk;
Stephen.Halsey@towerhamlets.gov.uk; [thcan@island-
advice.org.uk](mailto:thcan@island-advice.org.uk)**

Dear Mayor Rahman

I am writing to express my concern about the impending closure of Island Advice THCAN work.

This project has been instrumental in supporting advice services in Tower Hamlets for many years.

The decision to stop funding this work will have significant implications.

THCAN has strongly contributed to creating better collaboration and coordination between different statutory services and the voluntary sector, raising issues Tower Hamlets residents faced with the relevant authorities in view of improving the lives of Tower Hamlets residents and the services they receive.

THCAN has helped many Tower Hamlets residents' skilling up, developing their social welfare knowledge, support local advice agencies through volunteering and becoming a new work force, a work force with lived experience and a strong understanding of the community.

THCAN website has over 9000 users www.thcan.org.uk in the last year and has been in existence for the last 10 years.

This website has become a first point of access for many front-line workers in Tower Hamlets and over 46 organisations and 450 registered front line workers are on the THCAN referrals portal which allowed organisations from multiple sectors to make 3350 cross referrals enabling a no wrong door approach for resident in crisis.

All these beneficial services are now at risk and the infrastructure which grew through THCAN's work will now end, leading to Tower Hamlets' residents facing disjointed and disinformed services and difficulties accessing the service they need in times of crisis .

Please add some specific/personal information about how you / your project benefits/has benefited if you have time

We agree with Island Advice Centre that the Local Authority should continue to fund THCAN valuable work.

Name

Project/department (or address if this is a personal support message)

Job title (if appropriate)