

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Royal National Institute of Blind People	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Camden	
Contact person: Ms Katie Parker	Position:
Website: http://www.rnib.org.uk	
Legal status of organisation: First Contact	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 226227
When was your organisation established? 01/01/1868	

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying? Older Londoners
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve? Fewer older Londoners aged over 75 years with depression and more reporting improved well-being Older Londoners aged 75 years and over living more active and healthier lives
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. To support the costs of around 350 older RNIB Talking Book Members in London for three years.
When will the funding be required? 01/11/2018
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £26,900 Year 2: £27,599 Year 3: £28,304 Total: £82,803

Aims of your organisation:

Our main aim is to make every day better for blind and partially sighted people, by being there when they need us - at any stage of their lives. RNIB supports independent living, working hard to create an inclusive society and preventing unnecessary sight loss. Whether you're losing your sight, blind or partially sighted, our practical and emotional support can help you to face your future with confidence. RNIB offers a broad range of specialist services including a Helpline, Education Employment and E-learning, Reading and Transcription, Eye Health, Campaigning and Support in Eye Clinics at the point of diagnosis.

Main activities of your organisation:

Reading Services and Transcription - our free reading and listening libraries send out 10,000 books a day to more than 43,000 customers.

Support in Eye Clinics - at the point of diagnosis

Emotional Support - offering sight loss counselling and telephone social groups, which help isolated people to forge new friendships.

Campaigning - on key issues

Helpline - offering support 7 days a week

Employment & Education - helping people to find or retain employment,

Children and Young People - schools, college and residences, leisure activities and residential stays, study, careers advice & family support

Services for Older People - advice and tele-support for the housebound and three residential care homes for older people with serious sight problems

Independent Living Support - including housing issues, welfare, benefits & financial advice

Technology - producing guides and e-newsletters and our volunteer Technology Support Squad visit customers at home

RNIB Connect Radio - broadcasting 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
1,302	760	10	5,000

Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned, leased or rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding agreement?
Owned	

Summary of grant request

Sight loss reduces our levels of independence and means having to abandon much loved pastimes. It's often compared to bereavement, with feelings of isolation and loneliness that can lead to depression. Blind and partially sighted people are three times more likely to experience depression than their sighted peers. Sight loss is one of the top three triggers of suicide amongst people aged over 60.

But reading for pleasure provides a welcome escape from the isolation that vision impairment and old age can bring. It's also a shared point of reference with sighted friends of all ages. RNIB has around 1,500 Talking Book customers aged from 65 to 103 yrs living in the Greater London area.

It's hard to believe that in 2018, blind and partially sighted people are still being denied access to books. Only 7% are ever published in accessible formats, and then often months or years after their print equivalents. The few commercially produced audio versions that become available are generally expensive compared to standard print.

This expense can place reading for pleasure out of reach for many older people living with little or no sight. They're more likely to live in poverty than their sighted peers. Sight loss in old age is frequently coupled with low income. 90% of visually impaired older people exist on half the average national income. This is a widely accepted definition of poverty, and a threat to wellbeing.

Despite meagre later-life income, older blind and partially sighted people face extra costs of daily living associated with their disability. From help with cleaning and home maintenance, to a greater need for taxis, mobile phones and ready meals - living with sight loss is expensive. This leaves little room for luxuries such as audio books.

Some public libraries offer audio books but the number of titles is usually small and won't contain more recent publications and bestsellers. With many local libraries now closed or facing closure, accessing these limited services is increasingly difficult.

RNIB's Talking Books service is offered free, giving access to 28,500 books. Most older RNIB Talking Book readers listen via CD. These are ordered by phone or online and delivered without charge. We recently launched RNIB Overdrive, a web based system enabling members to borrow and download titles to enjoy on their computer, Smartphone or tablet. Take up of this amongst older customers is increasing.

Reading helps us to wind down, de-stress and forget our problems for a while. It frequently tops the list of things people tell RNIB they want to continue doing, when they first lose their sight. Our project will enable older Londoners with impaired vision to continue to experience the joy of reading for pleasure. It will help reduce levels of isolation and depression, and increase feelings of wellbeing and connectedness. RNIB Talking Books service is a useful gateway service to our other provision for older people including Telebefriending and Welfare advice.

Uniquely, we send out up to 10,000 unabridged, professionally recorded books per day to 36,000 customers. Titles are available in many languages, reflecting the diversity of London's population (including Bengali, French, Gujarati, Spanish and Urdu).

We value the input of our all our customers. They're experts in areas that help us improve services and inform all that we do. We work hard to nurture partnerships that can add value. RNIB couldn't achieve its aims without the help of its 5,149 volunteers who receive training and ongoing support.

To reduce our carbon footprint, we assess building and transport energy consumption, arranging environmental audits of our sites.

If you need any planning or other statutory consents for the project to proceed, what stage have the applications reached?

Do you have a Vulnerable Adults policy? **Yes**

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

IQM - Inclusion Quality Mark

Matrix Standard

ISO 9000

British Standard PAS 150

Outputs and outcomes

What are the main activities or outputs you want to deliver? Please include no more than 5. By activities or outputs we mean the services, products or facilities you plan to deliver. If you plan to deliver work over more than one year you should include activities over the full grant period requested. Try to be specific.

Support around 350 blind and partially sighted older Londoners per year over 3 years with the provision of free RNIB Talking Books

What main differences or outcomes do you hope the activities you have described above will achieve? Please include no more than 5. By differences or outcomes we mean the changes, benefits, learning or other effects that result from the work your project would deliver. These might be for individuals, families, communities or the environment.

Improving feelings of wellbeing

Reducing levels of isolation and increasing feelings of connectedness

Reducing levels of depression

Tackling disadvantage

Do you plan to continue the activity beyond the period for which you are requesting funding? If so, how do you intend to sustain it? If not, what is your exit strategy?

We plan to continue this activity and will fundraise (via trusts, major donors, corporate, legacy and lottery) to support its costs.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

How many people will benefit directly from the grant per year?

350

In which Greater London borough(s) or areas of London will your beneficiaries live?

London-wide (100%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

75 and over

What gender will beneficiaries be?

All

What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?

A range of ethnic groups

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?

91-100%

Funding required for the project

What is the total cost of the proposed activity/project?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Salary Costs & Recruitment	5,250	5,355	5,462	16,067
Audio, Recording, Publishing and Production	13,000	13,260	13,525	39,785
Property Costs	2,750	2,805	2,861	8,416
Staff Training and Travel	125	128	130	383
Marketing and Subscriptions	2,125	2,168	2,210	6,503
Computer Software and Maintenance	600	612	624	1,836
Management and Support costs	1,000	1,020	1,040	3,060
Impact Monitoring	2,000	2,200	2,400	6,600
Printing Stationery and Postage	50	51	52	153

TOTAL:	26,900	27,599	28,304	82,803
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What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	0	0	0	0
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What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	0	0	0	0
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How much is requested from the Trust?

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Finance details

Please complete using your most recent audited or independently examined accounts.

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2017
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	72,597,000
Activities for generating funds	
Investment income	229,000
Income from charitable activities	46,047,000
Other sources	326,000
Total Income:	119,199,000

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	24,373,000
Governance costs	
Cost of generating funds	108,452,000
Other	-1,011,000
Total Expenditure:	132,825,000
Net (deficit)/surplus:	-12,615,000
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	-16,470,000
Net Movement In Funds:	-29,085,000

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	98,459,000
Investments	
Net current assets	18,118,000
Long-term liabilities	38,999,000
*Total Assets (A):	77,578,000

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	20,698,000
Endowment Funds	5,871,000
Unrestricted funds	51,009,000
*Total Reserves (B):	77,578,000

*** Please note that total Assets (A) and Total Reserves (B) should be the same.**

Statutory funding

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources? 11-20%
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Organisational changes

Describe any significant changes to your structure, financial position or core activities since the date of your most recent accounts:
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RNIB has a new Chair person and is currently starting the recruitment process to the post of a new CEO (our previous CEO having resigned in April 2018)

Previous funding received

Please list the funding received by your organisation from the following statutory sources during the last THREE years.

	Year 3 £	Year 2 £	Most recent £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	0	0	0
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	178,646
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	0	0	0

Previous grants received

Please list the grants received by your organisation from charitable trusts and foundations (other than City Bridge Trust) during the last THREE years. List source, years and annual amounts. Please include the 5 largest only.

Name of Funder	Year 3 £	Year 2 £	Most recent £
Pears Foundation	0	3,400,000	0
Garfield Weston	250,000	0	0
Rohan Foundation	0	0	100,000
Catherine Cookson Foundation	0	100,000	0
BBC Children In Need	102,000	0	0

Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information I have provided in this application form is correct. I fully understand that City Bridge Trust has zero tolerance towards fraud and will seek to prosecute and recover funds in every instance.

Please confirm: Yes Full Name: **Katie Parker**

Role within **Trust Fundraiser**
Organisation: