

# The City Bridge Trust

## Bridging Divides: Application for a grant



### About your organisation

#### Organisation Details

Name of your organisation: <b>Children England</b>	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? <b>Camden</b>	
Contact person: <b>Ms Kathy Evans</b>	Position: <b>Chief Executive</b>
Website: <b><a href="http://www.childrenengland.org.uk">http://www.childrenengland.org.uk</a></b>	Social Media Accounts: <b>@childrenengland</b>
What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?	

#### Legal Status

Legal status of organisation: <b>Registered Charity</b>			
Charity Number: <b>1044239</b>	Company Number: <b>3011053</b>	CIC Number:	Bencom Number:
When was your organisation established? <b>04/01/1942</b>			
<b>Aims of your organisation:</b> Mission: To create a fairer world for children, young people and families by championing the voluntary organisations which work on their behalf.  Children England aims to represent, connect and strengthen the voluntary sector for children, young people and families, through campaigning and quality infrastructure support, building their capacity to represent the voice of service users, improving the quality of services they provide and facilitating their full contribution to policy development.  Children England helps charities achieve more by providing accessible tools, training and resources on key responsibilities such as good governance and active participation of Children Young People and Families (CYP&F) in local services and communities. We support best practice through providing excellent policy and information services, training and events, enabling members to learn from each other and from leading edge professional			

**Main activities of your organisation:**

As a small membership body that aims to influence major social policy/culture change we have embraced the fact that we can only achieve significant impact by collaborating and joining with others and not claiming uniqueness or 'credit' ourselves. We campaign constantly in the sense that everything we write, say, promote, and produce is intended to embody and promote our aims of keeping children at heart throughout society creating a sustainable funding environment for charities and voluntary organisations. We don't claim to 'own' innovative products, we don't 'brand' our ideas, and if we hear echoes of our work and our messages in the work of others, we see it as a success in influencing sector debates. Because of the nature of our democratic governance, our Board of Trustees also acts as our 'super-group' of members large, medium, small keeping us regularly updated on issues affecting our members that might warrant campaigning on, and shaping, testing our campaign priorities and ideas.

**Your Staff & Volunteers**

Full-time:	Part-time:	Trustee/Board members:	Active volunteers:
<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>

Do you have a Safeguarding policy? **No**

**Are the following people in your organisation subject to DBS checks?**

Paid Staff <b>No</b>	Volunteers <b>No</b>	Trustees / Management Committee Members <b>No</b>
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**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?
<b>Rented</b>	<b>12 month - one month notice</b>

**Environmental Impact****What action have you taken in the past year to progress environmentally sustainability principles and practice?**

We have an green environmental policy which we follow and have attached it to this bid

## Finance Details

### Organisation Finances

	Year of most recent audited / examined accounts	Current financial year forecast	Next financial year budget
End of financial year date	31/03/2018	31/03/2019	31/03/2020
Grants & donations:	£230,612	£253,171	£241,500
Earned income:	£94,080	£10,538	£45,500
Other income:	£31,673	£33,954	£0
<b>Total income:</b>	<b>356,365</b>	<b>£297,663</b>	<b>£287,000</b>
Charitable activity costs:	£361,408	£331,640	£303,699
Cost of raising funds:	£6,850	£5,275	£4,500
Other costs:	£0	£0	£0
<b>Total expenditure:</b>	<b>£368,258</b>	<b>£336,915</b>	<b>£308,199</b>
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end:	£109,927	£77,802	£62,236

#### What is your organisation's reserves policy?

Trustees recognise that they have an overriding duty to act prudently and in the best interests of the charity as per our overall reserves policy, and this extends to making sensible provision for the future in the form of retaining an appropriate level of reserves. The Board examined the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets or otherwise committed. Our policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the company. Trustees have considered the potential risks facing Children England and assessed future plans. Full version in accounts

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?  
**21-30%**

#### Organisational changes

Describe any significant organisational changes to your structure, financial position or core activities since the date of your most recent accounts.

**None**

## Grant Request

Which of the Trust's programmes and priority areas will your application deliver? <b>Connecting the Capital/Capacity building support</b>				
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve?				
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. <b>Continuation funding for 4in10:London's Child Poverty Network, to match funding from Trust for London, to share knowledge and build skills of VCS and statutory sector to respond to child poverty.</b>				
When will the funding be required? <b>13/05/2019</b>				
Is this request to continue work that is currently funded or has been funded in the last year by:				
City Bridge Trust?		Another funder? (if so which)		
<b>Yes</b>		<b>Trust for London</b>		
How much funding are you requesting?				
Year 1:	Year 2:	Year 3:	Year 4:	Year 5:
<b>£60,748</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>Total Requested: £60,748</b>				

### What 3 main differences or outcomes do you want to achieve through your funding proposal?

Create and share more knowledge of child poverty, its impact and solutions for key elected representatives, decision makers, organisations & individuals across voluntary and statutory sectors in the capital through the identification and improved access to new policy, research, best practice and network building with over 800 contacts across London.

Service providers improve their practice. Through our network and communications many VCS members and the 200 attendees of our events will be equipped with new information and skills in their work to enable the better design and delivery of more effective policy and practice to alleviate child poverty in London.

Build skills within the voluntary and community sector in advocacy and representation leading to greater coordination of VCS voice on child poverty, increased profile for member organisations in our influencing work and at least 10% significantly taking part in child poverty debate, with opportunities created and supported by 4in10.

### What are the main activities or outputs you will deliver to achieve these differences?

Create and share more knowledge of child poverty: We will increase visibility of key issues affecting children and their families among local/regional practitioners and policy-makers amplifying the voices of children and families through two research reports, related resources, social media content, a monthly newsletter and running London Challenge Poverty Week.

Service providers improve their practice: Alongside targeted work with individual contacts we will run 10 good practice and capacity building events (half funded by City Bridge Trust, half Trust for London) focusing on topical issues. Event Reports will highlight good practice/ planning and learnings will be publicised widely.

Build skills within the voluntary and community sector in advocacy and representation: A 20% membership increase will expand network's potential impact. Relevant capacity-building events will provide 40 members with knowledge of routes and opportunities to influence. We'll establish a peer-to-peer support network for 10 practitioners for influencing, media or practice-issues.

## You and your grant request

### **What, specifically, are you applying for (your project)?**

The grant is to further develop the capacity of the 4in10 network. It would enable 4in10 to work towards its aim of ending child poverty in London by enhancing the development of good practice in the voluntary and statutory sectors, achieving real change in the visibility of child poverty and improving response of policy and practice across London.

This grant would fund the continuation of the wider 4in10 staff team for one year to include a full-time Research and Learning Officer and a part-time Network Membership Officer alongside the existing strategic manager post (which is being funded by Trust for London until March 2020).

The additional skills and resources provided by these staff members would allow 4in10 to:

- ? engage a larger and more diverse membership group and build on the success of the inaugural London Challenge Poverty Week.
- ? Carry out and disseminate research and learning to network members.

### **How will the project described achieve your stated outcomes?**

Many organisations across London work with children living in poverty, or focus on issues affected by and affecting child poverty. 4in10 brings these organisations together to share expertise and resources, to learn from each other and to benefit from expert advice and experience. We have found that this, and in particular 4in10's focus on bringing statutory and voluntary services together to share and learn, is a most effective way to achieve change. 29% of respondents to our membership survey have made changes to their service delivery and 22% have lobbied at a local level as a result of a 4in10 event or resource.

We will work with others, gathering together leading thinkers, practitioners and decision-makers to support evidence-based action on child poverty. This includes a commitment to enhance and highlight the work of member organizations through research, and support the voices of our members and the families they work alongside.

### **How do you know there's a need for this work?**

There are currently 700,000 children living in poverty in London and estimates predict a rise over the coming years in child poverty, with homelessness and problem debt expected to grow too. A combination of soaring housing and living costs, pressurised public services and diminished state support are worsening the capital's child poverty problem.

Given this scale the 4in10 network meets a clear need for ensuring that tackling child poverty is understood and addressed by the huge number of organisations whose work impacts on the lives of children and families living in poverty.

We can also observe the need for the network through the growth in membership and member feedback. 67% of respondents to our member survey were 'extremely satisfied' with their 4in10 membership, with over 60% rating the access to policy and research, the newsletter and the events and training as elements of the membership that they find useful.

**How will the work be delivered - specifically, what will you do?**

Voluntary organisations play a vital role in London's communities. Many are deeply embedded in them providing services that respond directly to local needs ? we will connect and amplify their expertise through the network. Our activities will include:

- ? 10 good practice and capacity building events (5 funded by CBT, five funded by TfL),
- ? 2 research and policy projects
- ? Maintain our newsletters, website and online communications eg Twitter @4in10
- ? Establishing a new peer to peer support network for practitioners
- ? Coordinating the London Challenge Poverty Week, which we established this year along with Trust for London and members of LCPA.
- ? continuing gathering the forum of London councillors with an interest in child poverty
- ? continuing active involvement in the London Child Poverty Alliance and close working with CPAG and liaising with experts.
- ? Building upon our direct engagement with GLA and the Mayor's office

**Why are you the right organisation to do this work?**

4in10 has a well-established reputation across London for working with providers, policy makers, local authorities and other regional bodies to tackle the roots of child poverty.

The challenge for organisations working to mitigate the effects of child poverty is huge and constantly changing. 4in10 has the experience and cross-sector links to effectively meet the need for information, advice and support. Over the course of the last grant we've impacted national policy and local practice and are proud of the feedback we've had including:

?Delighted to work with @4in10 to secure a pledge from ministers to fix serious problem with #UniversalCredit in relation to free #childcare for the most needy two year olds?  
Caroline Lucas MP

? 4in10 has been a really helpful infrastructure body to have in London. It has allowed us to communicate grant and programme activities with the ..sector ? Farah Elahi, Senior Policy and Projects Officer, GLA

**How does your work complement and not duplicate other services within your area?**

There is no other child poverty network in London and the service we offer to support the VCS is not provided by any other organisation working on child poverty. We work closely with others, on one to one basis, as well as through the London Child Poverty Alliance, and London Challenge Poverty Week.

We also use member organisation feedback, to design our policy and events programme to ensure it complements the work of others and builds on what is working well. Our research and policy work promotes the work of member organisations and highlights their concerns to wider audiences.

Our approach is centred on learning from practice, and linking together sectors and organisations that do not normally engage regularly with each other, in order to address the wide ranging but linked issues affecting child poverty in the capital.

**How will you ensure that your project will hear and represent the views and needs of disadvantaged people and/or diverse communities?**

We are committed to representing the voices of families in poverty and challenges they face in London. We conduct our policy and research work through our member organisations, asking their concerns and knowledge of the needs of the families they support, conducting direct interviews and where appropriate we will facilitate peer researchers to include and amplify the voices of people with lived experience of poverty.

In our capacity building work we encourage member organisations to consider how they include voices of experience in their planning and communications work. For London Challenge Poverty Week we intend to work with members to ensure people with lived experience are at the forefront of their activity and communications.

In our influencing work we have previously held participation events for children so they could feed into a mayoral consultation and would continue to consider these possibilities for opportunities to influence as appropriate.

**How does your project engage and empower individuals and/or communities to come together on this issue? Will you be working with people who are particularly excluded?**

We work collaboratively with our members on all activity. We have networking opportunities at all our events, we'll establish a peer-to-peer support network and work to create opportunities to influence and support people to take part in local media and in consultations or influencing meetings. We're also running events to help member organisations consider how to work with particularly excluded families in their planning and communications.

We're proud of our growth in membership, our continued satisfaction ratings from membership and our busy event schedule; serving to demonstrate that our network is valued for the way it is bringing people together ? and helps for future work too: Current Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, at GLA said ?Really enjoyed helping to promote London Challenge Poverty week this year and would be really pleased to talk about how we can promote it at City Hall next year.?

**Is the focus of your project meeting an already identifiable need (acute or otherwise) or are there elements which are preventative and/or incorporate early action?**

We work to improve policy and practice on a twin track of both avoiding child poverty from arising and alleviating the symptoms of child poverty within communities.

For example the preventative elements would include working with LCPA to highlight problems with Universal Credit for families in London to MPs ahead of the debate on regulations for the managed migration; or our previous research with Young Women's Trust, ?Working Well? uncovering problems for young parents at job centres, which was quoted by Stephen Timms MP in the Youth obligation debate. The alleviating symptoms elements would be providing councils with examples of good practice to use when they are tackling resident debt or examples of how to poverty proof their school day, producing research such as ?Picking up the pieces? and enabling services from across the capital to gather and discuss employment support and learn from each other's practice.

**Who might you need to work closely with in delivering this project - whether before, during or afterwards?**

Our collaborative approach means working closely with funders and members on all activities especially our expert partners in CPAG and London Child Poverty Alliance. While building connections with coalitions/movements such as Just Fair, Living Wage Foundation and others that are resident-led across London, we're also researching good practice from other cities to share eg North East Child Poverty Commission, Poverty Alliance and Children in Wales.

We'll continue to work closely with decision makers across London including GLA's Deputy Mayor, policy staff, London Councils, Local Authority poverty leads and elected representatives.

We relish the close working with our members and the families they support the most: "Being part of the 4 in 10 family means a lot to us. Having someone to cheerlead, advise, and provide connections has been such a great benefit to our ability to meet the needs of our marginalised mums and children." Jane Williams, Founder, Magpie Project

**Our aim as a funder is to help people move positively between any of the four stages of Surviving, Coping, Adapting and Thriving. For your project at which of these stages will most people begin their journey?**

Given breadth of membership and types of organisation that continue to join, (from Community clubs, debt advice, to theatre groups or sports projects) there will be people at a variety of those stages within their services, and the strength of the network is that the organisations can learn from each other about how best to support marginalised families in a variety of ways whether at Surviving, Coping, Adapting or Thriving.

However the aim of the network is to increase and develop skills of staff to communicate the problems they are seeing, work together to tackle them and highlight the difference they can make to families: "Your help has been invaluable,... It also feels really good to be part of a network... It helps me to have a better overview of who is working on what, and where we might build deeper partnerships." Sophia Parker, Chief Executive, Little Village

**Will there be any elements of this project that will help you or your beneficiaries to reduce your environmental footprint?**

Yes we will follow our green policy



## Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Staff Costs (2 full time and 1 part time)	96,598	0	0	0	0	0
Organisational Costs (Inc overheads and management)	9,500	0	0	0	0	0
Good Practice Workshops	3,625	0	0	0	0	0
Research/reports	3,000	0	0	0	0	0
Events, Materials, Meetings, Website	3,425	0	0	0	0	0
Staff Training	600	0	0	0	0	0
Staff Travel	500	0	0	0	0	0

<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>117,248</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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### What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Trust for London - Confirmed last year of 3	56,500	0	0	0	0	0

<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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### What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Staff Costs (1 full time and 1 part time)	49,898	0	0	0	0	0
Organisational Costs (Inc overheads and management)	5,000	0	0	0	0	0
Good Practice Workshops	2,000	0	0	0	0	0
Good practice workshops, events	1,500	1,750	0			3,250
Events, Materials, Meetings, Website	1,800	0	0	0	0	0
Staff Training	300	0	0	0	0	0
Staff Travel	250	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>60,748</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Who will benefit?

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

**800**

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

**London-wide**

Does this project specifically target any groups or communities?

**No - open to everyone**

This project will specifically work with the following age groups:

This project will specifically work with the following gender groups:

This project will specifically work with the following ethnic groups:

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

This project will specifically work with Deaf and disabled people:

**No**

This project will specifically work with LGBTQI groups:

**No**

This project will specifically work with other groups or communities:

How will you target the groups/communities you have identified? What is your expertise in providing services for these groups?

Are there any groups or communities you think your organisation will find hard to include through this project?

**Yes - please specify**

If yes, please specify which groups or communities? Where possible using the categories listed above.

**Gypsies, Roma or Travellers**

If yes, what steps will you take to make your services accessible to and meet the needs of the groups/communities you have identified?

**We will reach out to our member organisations who serve these communities and work with them to discuss their needs and how the network can provide services / support that fits.**

### **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: **Kathy Evans**

Role within Organisation:                      **Chief Executive**