



Report – The City Bridge Trust Committee

Grants Strategy and Policy Review

To be presented on Thursday, 18th July 2013

*To the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of
the City of London in Common Council assembled.*

SUMMARY

1. Your City Bridge Trust Committee, which currently makes grants totalling about £16 million annually to voluntary organisations across Greater London, has recently undertaken its five-yearly review of its policies and priorities through which grants are made under its existing Working with Londoners programmes.
2. Following consultation, research and statistical analysis, as well as careful examination in several informal seminars to ensure that the grants are targeting the most important areas of need to assist the inhabitants of Greater London, we are now proposing to revise our priorities. We are also suggesting variations to our overarching policies, particularly to ensure that our resources are applied where they will be most effective.
3. Our existing main priorities are:-
 - **Accessible London** (which we propose to expand to include work enabling disabled people's participation in culture, and to include work supporting disabled people's independent living which we currently fund under our *Positive Transitions to Independent Living* programme)
 - **Bridging Communities** (where we propose to continue funding introductory level English classes for speakers of other languages, but otherwise refocus our community development work through new programmes on poverty reduction and communities engagement with the themes 2012 Localism Act)
 - **Improving Londoners' Mental Health** (which we propose to continue, with an explicit remit to prioritise work improving access to mental health services to London's black and minority ethnic communities, support for services that meet the mental health needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, and funding for services working to reduce suicide and address self-harm)
 - **London's Environment** (which we propose to expand so that it also includes support for outdoor learning initiatives, food-growing projects in schools, and work promoting tree-planting)
 - **Older Londoners** (where we propose to refocus on support for the over

75s, and to expand our priorities to include work tackling depression, professional advocacy services on issues relating to finance, housing and benefit entitlements, and support for older carers)

- **Positive Transitions to Independent Living** (where we propose to address many current disability themes through a new programme called *Making London more Inclusive* and to support work with those involved with the criminal justice system through a new programme called *Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders*)
- **Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector** (which we propose to continue as a more focused programme for second-tier, or umbrella, organisations, prioritising areas of activity that are likely to make the greatest difference to the capacity of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector).

4. In addition to the above priorities, we propose adding:-

- **Reducing Poverty** as a new programme to support work tackling the growing issue of food poverty, to support organisations providing money, debt and housing advice, and to investigate options for the growth of community finance (*as detailed in paragraphs 19 - 21*);
- **Making London Safer** as a new programme so we can address issues relating to domestic violence, forced marriage, honour crimes, female genital mutilation, trafficking, hate crimes, gang violence, perpetrators of sexual crimes, and the emotional needs of children and young people who are victims of domestic violence (*as detailed in paragraphs 39 - 44*);
- **Mobilising London's Communities** as a closed programme (i.e. by invitation only) to support suitably qualified voluntary and community organisations working with disadvantaged communities to use the themes under the 2012 Localism Act (*as detailed in paragraphs 49 - 50*);
- **Supporting Charitable Involvement in Social Investment** as a new invitation only programme to enable London charities to access social investment opportunities (*as detailed in paragraphs 51 - 56*);
- **Hardship Fund for Individuals** as a new priority, and run in partnership with specialist providers, in order to provide assistance to survivors of domestic violence as well as former prisoners who have been deported from countries around the world (*as detailed in paragraphs 57 - 59*);
- **Quality Standards in Youth Work** as a new partnership programme awarding funds to voluntary organisations gaining or renewing their London Youth Quality Mark at either Gold or Silver standard (*as detailed in paragraphs 60 - 62*); and
- **Arts Apprenticeships** as a new priority in order to support apprenticeships in London-based arts and cultural organisations by providing match fund grants to organisations supported by the Arts Council England's Create Employment Programme (*as detailed in paragraphs 63 - 67*).

5. Details of our current grant-giving priorities are set out in Appendix A, details of our proposed new priorities are set out in paragraphs 18 - 67 below, and our detailed recommendations are also set out in Appendix B.

RECOMMENDATION

6. We **recommend** that approval be given to the amendments proposed to the City Bridge Trust's overarching policies and programmes as set out in paragraphs 11 - 17 and summarised in Appendix B.

Main Report

BACKGROUND

1. In 1995, the Members of the Court of Common Council, as the Trustees of the Bridge House Estates, approved a Cy Pres scheme under which surplus income in the Bridge House Estates, after allowing for the annual provision towards the upkeep of the City's bridges, could be distributed in the form of grants for capital expenditure or revenue costs for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London by what is now known as the City Bridge Trust. The Trust awards most grants through the categories of its Working with Londoners programme, the current ones of which are outlined below:
 - Accessible London
 - Bridging Communities
 - Improving Londoners' Mental Health
 - London's Environment
 - Older Londoners
 - Positive Transitions to Independent Living
 - Strengthening the Third Sector.
2. The City Bridge Trust continues to enjoy an impressive reputation in the charitable sector, which reflects well on the City of London Corporation. Since its inception, the Trust has awarded grants totalling almost £300 million supporting over 6,700 projects and worthwhile causes to assist Londoners. The standard of work by your officers who are responsible for assessing grants requests, monitoring the grants awarded, and giving advice and assistance to charities is highly regarded in the field. The grants we have awarded have been targeted at London's most deprived communities, and each grant is monitored and evaluated annually to ensure it is reaching its intended target.
3. It was agreed some years ago that we would hold a quinquennial, or five-yearly, review of the grant programme categories along with our overall grant-making strategy and its future direction, to ensure that these policies continue to evolve and remain effective, bearing in mind the changing priorities of the third sector (charities and voluntary organisations), new issues impacting London and new demographic trends.
4. We conducted our first quinquennial review of grants policy priorities in 2002-3, when the programme was effectively modernised but not radically changed. Our second quinquennial review took place in 2007-08 and introduced some new programmes whilst providing a sharper focus to more established ones such as London's Environment and Older Londoners. This 2007-08 review resulted in the current grant programmes, all falling under the headline title of Working with Londoners.
5. The existing seven programmes have objectives, priorities and principles of good practice against which applications are currently assessed when this Committee determines any applications. The Trust also observes several exclusions, which we are not proposing to amend. For instance, we will not usually give grants to replace funding from statutory authorities, nor would we fund political parties, schools, medical research or religious purposes. These priorities and exclusions are set out in Appendix A.

6. We also run occasional one-off initiatives, such as Growing Localities, a £2 million environmental and horticultural work training programme launched in 2012 to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and Get London Working – The Youth Offer, a £3.28 million programme working with London boroughs to address the increasing problem of young people who are not in employment, education or training.
7. We can also occasionally make grants that fall outside the agreed criteria of our main programmes. By their nature, these are exceptional and are to enable the Trust to:
 - respond to new needs and circumstances which may have arisen since the Trust fixed its priorities, such as a major catastrophe impacting upon London's voluntary and community sector or work that falls outside the stated priorities but is nonetheless of strategic importance to London; or to
 - support strategic initiatives which will bring major benefits on a London-wide basis as identified by the Trustee, in consultation with voluntary sector leaders and other stakeholders. Such schemes would be additional to baseline grants.In all cases for exceptional awards, decision-making processes will conform with our usual grant-making procedures as previously agreed by the Court.
8. Should we find a pressing need to do so, there is scope for the Court of Common Council to approve amendments to our grant-making priorities between quinquennial reviews, as it did in 2005 when some amendments were made to the existing programmes following extensive consultation with the sector in order to address emerging needs. In any event we intend to review the new City Bridge Trust grants programmes one year after the launch, in the light of experience with the new priorities in practice and the changing external context.

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

9. At its meeting on 16th February 2012, the City Bridge Trust Committee agreed the scope, methodology and timetable of the review, which commenced in April 2012. This included:
 - reviewing and analysing the Trust's grant-making statistics between 2008-12 in order to identify strengths and weaknesses and any other issues that required attention;
 - meetings with charitable sector leaders and funders (public and charitable) to discuss the appropriate role for a charity of City Bridge Trust's size given changing needs in London, in particular increased youth unemployment, growing poverty and public expenditure cuts;
 - identifying the priorities of other funders for the next 5 years in order to establish the most effective niche for City Bridge Trust funding;
 - mapping emerging trends in London's charitable sector, policy context and patterns of disadvantage through "futures-scanning" research;
 - consulting with the wider voluntary and community sector, which the Charity Commission requires us to do regularly in any case, as well as funders about needs and the appropriate role for the Trust;
 - consulting with senior officers across the City of London Corporation whose feedback has been incorporated into this document where appropriate;

- researching key legislative and policy influences as they impact the Trust's grant-making and stakeholders;
 - examining the effectiveness of the Trust's monitoring and evaluation policies with proposals for achieving greater impact; and
 - reflecting on and refining the Trust's overall policies.
10. We suspended our Working with Londoners programmes in late June 2013 pending the completion of the review (although we continue to consider applications for grants for applications that were received before that date). Our carefully considered proposals are set out for your approval in paragraphs 11 - 67. A summary of the recommendations is also set out in Appendix B.

OVERARCHING POLICIES

11. In addition to the changes to the grant funding programmes, which we have set out in more detail in the appropriate sections below, we are also proposing some amendments to our overall grant-making policies.
12. We are proposing to amend our policy on who we can fund so that funds can be awarded to individuals through the proposed Hardship Fund for Individuals, and that City Bridge Trust can award funds to grant-making bodies to make grants on our behalf through the new partnership programmes proposed in paragraphs 57 - 59.
13. We propose to maintain our current policy that organisations cannot hold more than one grant at a time, except in the case where we support applicants who also apply for a free eco-audit, or where existing grant-holders apply for funding under the proposed Arts Apprenticeship programme outlined in paragraphs 63 - 67.
14. We further propose to clarify our policy regarding funding for large charities. Whilst we recognise that some have substantial reserves, greater fundraising capacity and public recognition that allows them to secure funding more easily than some smaller, more local charities, there are many instances when "household name" charities find it difficult to attract funding for pioneering work. This has been an area where our funding has sometimes been vital. We want to be fair to both large and small organisations and refrain from penalising any excellent, strategic projects. We propose a policy whereby grants to charities with a turnover of £10m or more will not usually be for more than 50% of the total project costs.
15. The Trust will also clarify that capital grants awarded for access improvements will not exceed £100,000 and will normally only be awarded to developments of existing buildings of less than £5m in total.
16. Furthermore, we propose to publish a policy that grants will not be awarded where City Bridge Trust funding would represent more than 50% of the applicant's total turnover in any year during the life of the grant.
17. Our Committee receives a substantial number of applications throughout the year and we wish to ensure that Committee has sufficient time to discuss matters of a strategic or complex nature. We therefore propose to streamline the approval process by delegating authority to make decisions on

applications up to £5,000 to the Chief Grants Officer and on applications of over £5,000 and up to £25,000 to the Chief Grants Officer, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of City Bridge Trust Committee. Decisions made by delegated authority, together with a running total of decisions made in this way, will be reported at each City Bridge Trust Committee meeting. Decisions on applications of over £25,000 (which form the majority of requests to City Bridge Trust) will be taken by City Bridge Trust Committee.

NEW PRIORITIES

a.) Making London More Inclusive

18. More than 1.4 million Londoners have a disability, and 25% of all Londoners have a family member or close friend who is disabled. The Trust already has a well-established reputation for its work on disability issues. Over the past five years although much has changed to bring about positive change for disabled people, there remain significant barriers, physical or otherwise, that prevent disabled people from living lives that are as independent or fulfilling as they would like. We would like to implement a programme supporting the following:

- **funding for independent access audits (up to a value of £5,000);**
- **access improvements of existing community buildings, up to a maximum of £100,000 (and normally only for developments of less than £5m);**
- **work which increases disabled people's participation in sport, arts, and culture;**
- **services that help people with a newly acquired or diagnosed disability to maintain choice and control in their lives; and**
- **work to support adults and young disabled people (aged 16-25) in the transition to adulthood and/or independent living.**

b.) Reducing Poverty

19. London is by far the richest part of the UK and is the engine of the national economy. At the same time, working age poverty is increasing including 'in-work' poverty amongst those in employment, many of whom work part-time hours. Child poverty in London is higher than in the rest of England, with 38% of the Capital's children in low-income households, compared to 30% elsewhere. High housing costs explain why London has the highest poverty rate of all England's regions. The overall percentage of people living in poverty in London is 28%, compared to 22% for the rest of England.
20. The changed economic landscape in London is hitting many communities hard. More Londoners are living in poverty with many people unemployed, living on reduced benefits, in debt, facing ever-increasing prices on both basic foodstuffs and energy. Increasing numbers of Londoners are now living in impoverished circumstances, some of whom have not done so before, needing recourse to emergency food rations and debt advice services. Growing numbers of Londoners are accessing 'payday' loans and falling victim to doorstep lending as they lack access to fair and affordable finance.

21. Whilst City Bridge Trust has worked to tackle disadvantage since it was established, it has not historically had a specific poverty programme. For the reasons outlined above, we would like to introduce a programme supporting the following:

- **the provision of money, debt and housing advice by accredited organisations;**
- **work tackling food poverty; and**
- **research to examine how the Trust might support community finance initiatives.**

c.) English for Speakers of Other Languages

22. The 2011 census revealed that in London, 22.1% (1.73 million people) use a language other than English as their main language, an increase of approximately 4% since 2003. Of the Londoners in 2011 whose main language is not English, 16% cannot speak English well and 3% cannot speak English at all. Other than Richmond, Havering, and the City, every London borough has residents speaking over 100 main languages.

23. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes, delivered by voluntary sector organisations in the community, play a vital role in helping people to settle and access services, and to reduce isolation. Community ESOL classes provide a much-needed foundation before learners move into mainstream provision. High quality ESOL classes are vital in helping to develop a more cohesive London.

24. We propose to continue funding work that increases the number of Londoners with improved English language skills, and leads to enhanced access to mainstream services and greater participation in the wider community, as follows:

- **Funding for ESOL classes up to and including Level 2, delivered by charitable organisations to adults not accessing mainstream ESOL provision.**

d.) Improving Londoners' Mental Health

25. Many people will experience a mental health problem at some point in their lives. Mental ill health is more prevalent in London than the rest of the UK and the mental health needs of Londoners can be complex. Some people with mental health problems may also have a problem with drugs or alcohol – often referred to as 'dual diagnosis'.

26. Some people are more vulnerable to mental ill health than others: 10% of children have a mental health problem at any one time; 9 out of 10 prisoners have a mental disorder; and mental ill health is prevalent amongst homeless and transient people. Suicide is the single biggest cause of death amongst men aged under 35 whilst the number of men aged between 35 and 54 who have taken their own life has increased by 18% in the last 10 years.

27. Whilst many of the issues facing people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities are the same as for everyone, people from BME communities are often over-represented within the mental health system due to a combination of cultural differences and the impact of marginalisation and they can face difficulties in accessing the right care and treatment. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people are also more likely to be at risk of mental ill health, in particular as a result of the psychologically distressing effects of homophobia or biphobia.
28. For the reasons outlined above we propose to prioritise funding of specialist services for:
- **children and young people;**
 - **homeless people and rough sleepers;**
 - **those in contact with the criminal justice system;**
 - **refugee and asylum seekers;**
 - **London's BME communities;**
 - **LGBT people; and**
 - **services to reduce suicide and self-harm.**

e.) Older Londoners

29. Londoners in the 21st century can expect to live longer. Over the next 30 years London's population of people aged over 80 is expected to rise by 40%, with the most significant growth in the 90-plus age group. Whilst many older people lead an active life and play an important role in their communities, they can also face challenges including ill health, isolation, lack of support and lack of respect. Circumstances can be particularly difficult for older Londoners living in poverty.
30. London's older population is diverse, and different approaches are required to meet different needs. Black and Minority Ethnic older people are disproportionately affected by poor health and may experience barriers to accessing services. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender older people are more likely to live alone and to rely on formal support services which may not understand or meet their needs, and in some cases may directly discriminate.
31. We propose to prioritise funding for:
- **social, cultural and educational activities to encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce isolation for older people aged over 75 years;**
 - **professional advocacy and advice for people aged over 75 years, particularly on issues related to finance, housing and benefit entitlements;**
 - **non-medical services to support people living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia;**
 - **work tackling depression amongst older people aged over 75 years; and**
 - **support, respite and advice for older carers aged 65 years and over.**

f.) Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders

32. Reoffending rates amongst those released from custody remain a significant problem. Ministry of Justice figures published in 2012 show “proven reoffending” rates for adults in England and Wales were 47.9% for those released from custody and 34% for those starting a court order (community order or suspended sentence order). Several factors contribute to an increased risk of reoffending, for example, Prison Reform Trust research found that 79% of offenders who are homeless at the time of imprisonment are reconvicted compared to 47% who have accommodation. There are similar disparities in relation to issues of drug-taking, levels of literacy, and employability skills.
33. There is substantial evidence to demonstrate the value of “through-the gate” and on-release work in helping break the cycle of crime and incarceration. Voluntary and community organisations play a crucial role in this. Offering compassion with expertise, voluntary and community organisations have developed a range of innovative and effective models such as music therapies, group support, and employability training.
34. **For the reasons outlined above we propose to prioritise funding for ‘through-the-gate’ and on-release work with ex-offenders leaving custody.**

g.) Improving London’s Environment

35. London has some of the finest green spaces in any major city. Nevertheless many areas suffer from an under-provision of open space and poor air quality. Over the last decade, the area of garden vegetation has declined from 25,000 to 22,000 hectares due to the building of patios and driveways, whilst more than half of all London households live in flats with no access to a garden.
36. Environmental education plays a vital role in introducing many Londoners to the benefits and value of conserving and improving the ‘green’ environment.
37. At the same time, there is growing evidence of childhood obesity and this represents a widespread threat to health and wellbeing. Many children are unaware where their food comes from and its nutritional value. School gardens and growing projects can help address healthy eating at the same time as helping to improve London’s environment.
38. For the reasons outlined above we propose to prioritise funding for:
 - **work to support the environmental education of Londoners;**
 - **outdoor learning initiatives, including city farms, wildlife centres and river and canal initiatives;**
 - **food-growing projects in schools, delivered by established environmental organisations;**
 - **work maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in London;**
 - **work promoting tree-planting and/or community tree warden schemes; and**

- **a continued programme of free eco-audits for organisations wishing to consider the carbon footprint of their buildings and services.**

h.) Making London Safer

39. Whilst overall levels of recorded crime involving violence in London have reduced, for some Londoners abuse and violence is a day to day reality. Violence against women and girls costs London £5.6 billion a year arising from broken bones, miscarriages, long-term mental health problems, substance abuse and poverty. Domestic violence accounts for 29% of violent crime in London and 1 in 7 children and young people will have lived with domestic violence at some point during their childhood.
40. We know that not all Londoners are affected by domestic violence in the same way. Some BME women may face particular forms of domestic violence, including forced marriage, honour crimes, and female genital mutilation. Racial discrimination or religious stereotyping can present barriers to support. Disabled survivors of domestic violence may face additional challenges where the perpetrator is also their carer and lack of appropriate support services may limit their access to safety. Voluntary sector research suggests that 1 in 4 lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people will experience domestic violence throughout their lifetime.
41. There is growing awareness of the scale of trafficking into the UK. Public authorities estimate that between 1,000 and 10,000 women and girls are trafficked into the UK each year for sexual exploitation, many to or through London.
42. Hate crime, where a perpetrator targets a victim because of his or her perceived membership of a certain social group, is an enduring concern. Racial hatred is most commonly identified by victims as an offender's motivation for crime. Approximately 260,000 incidents of hate crime are recorded on average per year in the UK, though numbers are likely to be higher due to under-reporting.
43. Violence in London is a huge issue which City Bridge Trust cannot tackle alone and so we recommend funding priorities for areas where our support can be most effective.
44. For the reasons outlined above we propose to prioritise funding for:
- **refuge, counselling and specialist services for survivors of domestic violence, including forced marriage, honour crimes, and female genital mutilation;**
 - **refuge services that address the emotional needs of children and young people and give them a voice;**
 - **specialist refuge provision and counselling support for survivors of trafficking;**
 - **information, advice, advocacy services and representation for victims of hate crime;**

- **an invitation-only programme that focuses on prevention of sexual crimes against girls and support for victims/survivors in the context of gang behaviour; and**
- **an invitation-only programme that supports specialist agencies working with perpetrators of sexual or violent crimes.**

i.) Strengthening London’s voluntary, community and social enterprise sector

45. London’s voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations play a vital role in delivering services to vulnerable and marginalised groups. They advocate on behalf of people who might not otherwise be heard, and help support those who could easily ‘fall through the cracks’. The sector is a powerful source of innovation and energy. The sector is well recognised by all main political parties as an essential element of what makes for a good society.
46. London has the UK’s highest concentration of voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations, which accounts for approximately 140,000 London jobs. With a combined annual income of almost £15bn and assets of nearly £50bn, London’s voluntary, community and social enterprise sector includes many household-name organisations. However, the majority of organisations have small staff teams (or are entirely volunteer run), and annual incomes of less than £1,000,000.
47. The funding and regulatory environments that voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations work within remain complex. Managerial and governance requirements can be onerous, and it is important that organisations can access high-quality support-services in key technical areas including fundraising, impact assessment, and HR.
48. For the reasons outlined above we propose to prioritise funding for second-tier support services that enable voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations to:
- **improve their:**
 - **volunteer management,**
 - **monitoring, evaluation and impact reporting, and**
 - **financial management;**
 - **strengthen the voice, advocacy and representation skills of equalities organisations; and**
 - **brokerage services which put professionally skilled volunteers in touch with charities who need technical, pro-bono, assistance.**

j.) Mobilising London’s Communities

49. Since the Localism Act (2012), community groups can have their say in what happens to local amenities, how local services are delivered and how areas develop. However, not all communities have the skills to take advantage of the new powers, and there is scope for charitable organisations to provide support with engagement and planning.

50. **We propose to launch a grants scheme, with selected organisations invited to apply to work with disadvantaged communities to make better use of the Localism Act.**

k.) Supporting Charitable Involvement in Social Investment

51. The City of London Corporation has a strong history of philanthropy, and in recent years it has been in the vanguard of organisations seeking to develop a thriving social investment market.
52. Research by Boston Consulting Group (2012) indicates that the UK's social investment sector has the potential to grow from £165m in 2011 to £1bn by 2016. The Corporation is active not only in addressing the regulatory barriers that currently curtail the market, but also in encouraging greater interest from mainstream investors in a market which has the potential to inject significant sums of new money in activities that generate positive social and environmental impacts.
53. Over the last 12 months there has been significant development of the Corporation's social investment strategy and work towards establishing London as a global centre for social investment. Sitting beneath this is the Corporation's own Social Investment Fund, which has been established from the Bridge House Estates endowment. Managed by City Bridge Trust and overseen by Members of the Social Investment Board, this £20m fund is one of the UK's largest and has the remit to invest in deals in London, the UK and internationally.
54. However, the Corporation does not currently receive a strong flow of investment-ready proposals, and this experience is commonplace for social investors. Research by ClearlySo and New Philanthropy Capital (2012) indicates that many voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations are keen to seek social investment, but are not yet investment ready and need support.
55. Significant investment readiness work is already underway with funding from the Cabinet Office and Big Lottery Fund. Several social enterprise incubators are helping early stage organisations to grow to scale, and angel investment in high-risk early stage social enterprise activity is providing cornerstone capital to new ventures.
56. **For reasons outlined above we propose to commission research into current social investment support provision and market gaps to identify where our support can make the most difference. Based on these research findings, to launch a new grants programme that supports London charities to access social investment.**

l.) Hardship fund for individuals

57. City Bridge Trust's new programmes will be launched at a time of rising poverty. Given the acute poverty experienced by a significant number of households and individuals, we propose to establish two specific hardship funds to be delivered by external partners with the experience, referral

networks and expertise to manage grant initiatives that address personal hardship.

58. The hardship funds will address issues related to and add value to the programmes entitled *Reducing Poverty* (paragraphs 19 to 21) and *Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders* (paragraphs 32 to 34) presented in this paper.
59. We propose to establish:
- **An Emergency Fund for survivors of Domestic Violence; and**
 - **An Emergency Essentials Fund for former prisoners who have been deported from countries from around the world.**

m.). Quality standards in youth work

60. Between 2010 and 2020 the number of young people in London is projected to rise significantly because of the large population of women of child-bearing age and the projected higher number of births. The number of children in London aged 0-15 years is projected to increase by 21% between 2010 and 2020, compared to 8% for England as a whole. Although funding for youth clubs and general youth provision has been in decline in recent years, with latest estimates from the Department of Education showing cuts of 26% between 2010 and 2012 to youth services, the need for and value of high-quality youth work is as great today as it ever was. Good youth work is effective – it supports and challenges young people to reach their full potential and enables them to become positive and productive citizens.
61. London Youth, as the Capital's chief membership/support body for youth organisations, aims to help young people to be the best they can be by supporting development, opportunity and voice. Most of its work is delivered via its member agencies, of which there are currently *circa* 440. The London Youth Quality Mark is the only quality assurance scheme for youth clubs accredited by City & Guilds and, uniquely, involves young people in the assessment process. There are three standards – gold, silver and bronze. London Youth is currently processing approximately 40 Quality Mark applications per year. Each Quality Mark lasts for three years, after which it needs to be renewed.
62. We propose to support youth work in London by promoting and supporting the highest possible standards of service delivery by:
- **implementing a grant award scheme, in partnership with London Youth, between September 2013 and August 2016, to award funds to voluntary organisations gaining or renewing their London Youth Quality Mark at either Gold or Silver standard and to London Youth for overall administration. The grant criteria award levels would be:**
 - **£500 payable for administrative support to London Youth for every Quality Mark awarded;**
 - **£7,000 payable to every voluntary-managed youth organisation which gains the Gold standard for the first time;**

- £5,000 payable to every voluntary-managed youth organisation which gains the Silver standard for the first time;
- £3,000 payable to every voluntary-managed youth organisations which renews either its Gold or Silver standard; and
- no more than one ‘reward’ grant to be claimed by any organisation.

n.) Arts Apprenticeships

63. 14% of Londoners aged 16 – 24 are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). We recently initiated two high profile projects to tackle this problem: the £1m horticultural work training aspect of your Growing Localities programme; and the £3.2m Get Young People Working – the Youth Offer, supporting partnership work across all London boroughs.
64. We propose to build on these initiatives through an apprenticeships programme run in collaboration with the arts sector. Apprenticeships, if suitably targeted, offer meaningful opportunities for disadvantaged young people to gain the skills and competencies to become positive members of society.
65. The City has a long and rich tradition of supporting apprenticeships, not least through the Livery Companies which have developed and maintained skills for centuries. The arts provide a wide and interesting variety of opportunities; generate revenue for the economy; give meaning to life; encourage creativity; and are an attractive vehicle for involving young people. City Bridge Trust has a strong track record of supporting arts activity to tackle disadvantage.
66. Arts Council England (ACE) has recently committed £15m over two years to support apprenticeships and paid internships in the creative industries through a programme called *Creative Employment*. Awards made under the Arts Council England programme (which have a maximum value of £2,000 per apprentice) do not cover the full costs of an apprenticeship, and following receipt of a grant, organisations need to raise the balance from other sources or use free reserves.
67. Given our longstanding interest in employment skills training, we propose to offer an Arts Apprenticeships programme open to London-based charitable organisations which have received a grant from Arts Council England’s Creative Employment scheme We propose:
- **a programme to match fund grants awarded under the Arts Council England’s Create Employment Programme to support apprenticeships in London-based arts and cultural organisations.**

CONCLUSION

68. We believe the changes and refinements to our grant-making priorities will be the best way for us to continue the City Bridge Trust’s mission of giving quality support to charitable activity across London, particularly bearing in mind the current economic environment and the results of recent research on

current issues and of the consultation with the third sector and key stakeholders. These new priorities should assist the organisations that come to us for help by giving them a better indication of whether they will meet with success, whilst permitting us to focus on the areas that we see to be the most significant issues requiring our assistance at this time. The proposed amendments modify and consolidate our priorities, thereby ensuring we are still targeting vital needs in the London community.

All which we submit to the judgement of this Honourable Court

DATED this 6th day of June 2013

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee

Deputy Billy Dove MBE JP
Chairman of the City Bridge Trust Committee

THE CITY BRIDGE TRUST

Mission: The City Bridge Trust aims to address disadvantage by supporting charitable activity across Greater London through quality grant-making and related activities within clearly defined priorities.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT PRIORITIES (PRIOR TO THE REVIEW)

Working with Londoners Programmes

1. Accessible London.

This programme is subdivided into three areas:

Accessible transport

Work which:

- supports the capital cost of new accessible vehicles; and
- seeks to generate new business and develop new income streams for community transport schemes, improving their longer-term financial sustainability.

Accessible buildings

Work which:

- supports access audits, disability equalities training and related consultancy; and
- improves access to buildings in the third sector.

Accessible arts and sports

Work which increases disabled people's participation in arts and sporting opportunities.

Not included are; churches and places where the main purpose is to support worship; and large, national public buildings such as museums, galleries, arts venues and tourist attractions. However, local and community resources can be supported.

2. Bridging Communities.

This programme supports the following activities:

- leadership initiatives bringing together people from two or more different communities (geographical, faith-based, cultural, ethnic or communities of interest);
- joint work involving different communities working together, on volunteering or active citizenship projects;
- work delivered by third sector organisations providing adults who are not accessing mainstream courses with English language skills; and
- new, partnership work between mainstream and minority community organisations on a specific issue, resulting in improved services for both.

3. Improving Londoners' Mental Health

This programme supports the following activities:

- work tackling depression amongst older people;
- services specifically for children and young people and their families and carers;
- work supporting homeless people, transient people and rough sleepers;
- work with prisoners, ex-prisoners and others in contact with the Criminal Justice System;
- work to address trauma amongst refugee and asylum seekers; and
- resettlement support for people with mental health issues living independently or in supported accommodation.

4. London's Environment

This programme supports the following activities:

- work to support the environmental education of Londoners; and
- work to maintain and enhance London's biodiversity.

5. Older Londoners

This programme supports the following activities:

- work with older people (75 years old and above) including social, cultural, educational, volunteering activities and projects encouraging healthy lifestyles;
- work encouraging healthy lifestyles with older people 65 years old and above; and
- non-medical services supporting older people of any age living with dementia and Alzheimer's.

6. Positive Transitions to Independent Living

This programme supports the following activities:

- services for people with newly acquired disability to help them maintain choice and control in their lives;
- work assisting young disabled people with the transition to adulthood, such as managing the move from residential care to independent living or supporting disabled school leavers into employment, college or a community resource;
- support for disabled people in managing independent living and 'personal budgets';
- work supporting disabled parents including those with learning disabilities;
- work with young care leavers preparing for independent living, helping raise their educational and employment aspirations, and supporting them in their new accommodation; and
- resettlement work with ex-offenders leaving custody.

7. Strengthening the Third Sector

This programme supports the following activities:

- work to increase and improve volunteering;

- work strengthening minority ethnic and refugee community organisations and encouraging their collaboration;
- new and strategic approaches to the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT);
- services improving financial management and skills; and
- work improving the quality of evaluation.

8. Exceptional Grants

Very occasionally grants may be made outside of published priorities. This is to enable the Trust to:

- respond to new needs and circumstances which may have arisen since the Trust fixed its priorities, such as a major catastrophe impacting upon London's voluntary and community sector or work that falls outside the stated priorities but is nonetheless of strategic importance to London; or
- support strategic initiatives which will bring major benefits on a London-wide basis as identified by the Trustee, in consultation with voluntary sector leaders and other stakeholders.

Where the Trust awards grants under its Working with Londoners programmes, it will not usually be the organisation's largest, single funder.

Before recommending an organisation for a grant on the Working with Londoners programmes, officers will undertake a visit to the organisation concerned as part of the assessment process. Exceptions may be made for access audit grants or on occasions where a request is to extend an existing grant from the Trust.

Not Usually Funded

The Trust will not usually give grants to replace funding from statutory authorities, except where that funding was explicitly time limited and was for a discretionary (non-statutory) purpose. In exceptional circumstances the Trust may support organisations following the withdrawal of discretionary statutory funds in order to protect its services in the longer term. The Trust will not relieve a statutory body of a duty by funding a statutory obligation or "topping up" an under-priced contract to deliver such a service.

In addition, the Trust will not fund:

- political parties and political lobbying;
- non-charitable activities;
- work which does not benefit the inhabitants of Greater London;
- individuals;
- grant-making bodies to make grants on our behalf;
- schools, universities or other educational establishments;
- medical and academic research;
- churches or other religious bodies where the monies will be used for religious purposes;
- hospitals;
- projects which have already taken place or building work which has already been completed;
- statutory bodies, such as local authorities;
- profit making organisations, except social enterprises;
- charities established outside the UK.

No payment can be made which directly relieves the City of London, or any other body or government department, of expenditure which they are under statutory or other legal duty to incur.

Types of Funding

- Grants can be made for capital expenditure or for running costs, though the Trust does not usually consider both capital and revenue in the same application.
- Applications can be for any sum - there is neither a minimum or maximum level on the Working with Londoners programmes.

“Of benefit to the inhabitants of Greater London”

- Inhabitants of Greater London are the people who are resident in the 32 London Boroughs and the City of London. Projects based outside Greater London must be able to demonstrate that they are providing a unique facility which benefits a significant proportion of Londoners.
- Applications from national and regional organisations must either show from existing monitoring systems the proportion of service beneficiaries who are Londoners or clearly demonstrate the need for what is proposed. Any grant agreed for such an organisation will specifically relate to the benefit of the grant being restricted to Londoners.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE REVIEW

All the recommendations, which are discussed in detail in paragraphs 11 to 67 of the report, are set out below. (Please note that these headings are working titles and will be further developed into suitable programme names if the recommendations are approved.)

1. **Overarching Policies** (Detailed in paragraphs 11 to 17)

Overall, we would suggest that the following points should be incorporated into our overarching policies:

1. funds can be awarded to individuals through the proposed Hardship Fund for Individuals (see paragraphs 57 to 59);
2. funds can be awarded to grant-making bodies to make grants on our behalf through the new partnership programmes proposed in paragraphs 57 to 59;
3. organisations cannot hold more than one grant at a time, except in the case where we support applicants who also apply for a free eco-audit, or where existing grant-holders apply for funding under the proposed Arts Apprenticeship programme outlined in paragraph 63 to 67;
4. grants to charities with a turnover of £10m or more will not usually be for more than 50% of the total project costs;
5. capital grants awarded for access improvements will not exceed £100,000 and will normally only be awarded to developments of existing buildings of less than £5m in total;
6. grants will not be awarded where City Bridge Trust funding would represent more than 50% of the applicant's total turnover in any year during the life of the grant; and
7. streamlining the approval process by delegating authority to make decisions on applications up to £5,000 to the Chief Grants Officer and on applications of over £5,000 and up to £25,000 to the Chief Grants Officer, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of City Bridge Trust Committee. Decisions made by delegated authority, together with a running total of decisions made in this way, will be reported at each City Bridge Trust Committee meeting. Decisions on applications of over £25,000 (which form the majority of requests to City Bridge Trust) will be taken by City Bridge Trust Committee.

2. **Making London More Inclusive** (Detailed in paragraph 18)

We would like to implement a programme supporting the following:

- funding for independent access audits (up to a value of £5,000);
- access improvements of existing community buildings, up to a maximum of £100,000 (and normally only for developments of less than £5m);
- work which increases disabled people's participation in sport, arts, and culture;
- services that help people with a newly acquired or diagnosed disability to maintain choice and control in their lives; and
- work to support adults and young disabled people (aged 16-25) in the transition to adulthood and/or independent living.

3. **Reducing Poverty** (Detailed in paragraphs 19 to 21)

We would like to introduce a programme supporting the following:

- the provision of money, debt and housing advice by accredited

- organisations;
- work tackling food poverty; and
- research to examine how the Trust might support community finance initiatives.

4. **English for Speakers of Other Languages** (Detailed in paragraphs 22 to 24)

We propose to continue funding work that increases the number of Londoners with improved English language skills, and leads to enhanced access to mainstream services and greater participation in the wider community, by:

- funding for ESOL classes up to and including Level 2, delivered by charitable organisations to adults not accessing mainstream ESOL provision.

5. **Improving Londoners' Mental Health** (Detailed in paragraphs 25 to 28)

We propose to prioritise funding of specialist services for:

- children and young people;
- homeless people and rough sleepers;
- those in contact with the criminal justice system;
- refugee and asylum seekers;
- London's BME communities;
- LGBT people; and
- services to reduce suicide and self-harm.

6. **Older Londoners** (Detailed in paragraphs 29 to 31)

We propose to prioritise funding for:

- social, cultural and educational activities to encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce isolation for older people aged over 75 years;
- professional advocacy and advice for people aged over 75 years, particularly on issues related to finance, housing and benefit entitlements;
- non-medical services to support people living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia;
- work tackling depression amongst older people aged over 75 years; and
- support, respite and advice for older carers aged 65 years and over.

7. **Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Offenders** (Detailed in paragraphs 32 to 34)

We propose to prioritise funding for 'through-the-gate' and on-release work with ex-offenders leaving custody.

8. **Improving London's Environment** (Detailed in paragraphs 35 to 38)

We propose to prioritise funding for:

- work to support the environmental education of Londoners;
- outdoor learning initiatives, including city farms, wildlife centres and river and canal initiatives;
- food-growing projects in schools, delivered by established environmental organisations;
- work maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in London;

- work promoting tree-planting and/or community tree warden schemes; and
- a continued programme of free eco-audits for organisations wishing to consider the carbon footprint of their buildings.

9. **Making London Safer** (Detailed in paragraphs 39 to 44)

We propose to prioritise funding for:

- refuge, counselling and specialist services for survivors of domestic violence, including forced marriage, honour crimes, and female genital mutilation;
- refuge services that address the emotional needs of children and young people and give them a voice;
- specialist refuge provision and counselling support for survivors of trafficking;
- information, advice, advocacy services and representation for victims of hate crime;
- an invitation-only programme that focuses on prevention of sexual crimes against girls and support for victims/survivors in the context of gang behaviour; and
- an invitation-only programme that supports specialist agencies working with perpetrators of sexual or violent crimes.

10. **Strengthening London's voluntary, community and social enterprise sector** (Detailed in paragraphs 45 to 48)

We propose to prioritise funding for second-tier support services that enable voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations to:

- improve their:
 - volunteer management,
 - monitoring, evaluation and impact reporting, and
 - financial management;
- strengthen the voice, advocacy and representation skills of equalities organisations; and
- brokerage services which put professionally skilled volunteers in touch with charities who need technical, pro-bono, assistance.

11. **Mobilising London's Communities** (Detailed in paragraphs 49 and 50)

We propose to launch a grants scheme, with selected organisations invited to apply to work with disadvantaged communities to make better use of the Localism Act.

12. **Supporting Charitable Involvement in Social Investment** (Detailed in paragraphs 51 to 56)

We propose to commission research into current social investment support provision and market gaps to identify where our support can make the most difference. Based on these research findings, we propose to launch a new grants programme that supports London charities to access social investment.

13. **Hardship fund for individuals** (Detailed in paragraphs 57 to 59)

We propose to establish:

- An Emergency Fund for survivors of Domestic Violence; and
- An Emergency Essentials Fund for former prisoners who have been deported from countries from around the world.

14. **Quality standards in youth work** (Detailed in paragraphs 60 to 62)

We propose to support youth work in London by promoting and supporting the highest possible standards of service delivery by implementing a grant award scheme, in partnership with London Youth, between September 2013 and August 2016, to award funds to voluntary organisations gaining or renewing their London Youth Quality Mark at either Gold or Silver standard and to London Youth for overall administration. The grant criteria award levels would be:

- £500 payable for administrative support to London Youth for every Quality Mark awarded;
- £7,000 payable to every voluntary-managed youth organisation which gains the Gold standard for the first time;
- £5,000 payable to every voluntary-managed youth organisation which gains the Silver standard for the first time;
- £3,000 payable to every voluntary-managed youth organisations which renews either its Gold or Silver standard; and
- no more than one 'reward' grant to be claimed by any organisation.

15. **Arts Apprenticeships** (Detailed in paragraphs 63 to 67)

We propose to offer an Arts Apprenticeships programme open to London-based charitable organisations which have received a grant from Arts Council England's Creative Employment scheme. We propose to introduce a programme to match fund grants awarded under the Arts Council England's Create Employment Programme to support apprenticeships in London-based arts and cultural organisations.