

<b>Committee:</b> City Bridge Trust	<b>Dated:</b> <b>14<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Progress Report	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Chief Grants Officer (CGO) and Director of City Bridge Trust	<b>For Information</b>

### **Summary**

This is a regular report by the CGO. You are asked within this report to note updates on the following:

- Bridging Divides, charitable funding strategy implementation
- Youth Providers' Event – Collaboration and Leadership
- Peer to Peer Grantee support grant
- Bridge to Work – mental health grant
- Charities and Safeguarding
- Spitalfields Music

### **Recommendation**

- a) That the report be noted.

### **Main Report**

#### **Introduction**

1. You will recall that you have agreed that each of the City Bridge Trust (CBT) Committee Meetings will begin with a presentation on a particular aspect of the work you support. On this occasion, we are trialling a different format with a pre-committee working lunch in the Members' private dining room. Clare Thomas and Deborah Xavier who have been engaged by London Funders, through CBT strategic initiative funding, to support the development of local giving schemes in London will be speaking to you over the lunch.
2. Inspired by Islington Giving, London's Giving aims to promote place-based giving initiatives within London boroughs. You are currently funding London Funders, as a strategic initiative, to develop this movement at the local level and to share the learning. In addition, you are funding several local giving schemes, also as strategic initiatives, with their development costs.
3. Local giving schemes play an important role in helping to build stronger, more resilient communities and therefore closely align with your new Bridging

Divides strategy whose vision is for a London where all individuals and communities can thrive. When you launch your new programmes in April, local giving schemes will be a specific priority under the 'Connecting the Capital' programme.

4. There are currently 12 local giving schemes operating in London, with a further 11 currently under development. Whilst each scheme benefits from being part of the London's Giving network and sharing learning from one another, each scheme is quite different, being characterised by local conditions.

### **Bridging Divides Charitable funding Strategy implementation**

5. Work continues on the implementation of the Bridging Divides Strategy 2018 – 2023, following your approval of the proposed programme priorities and overarching funding policies at your last meeting.

### **Learning Partner**

6. A Learning Partner, Renaisi, has been appointed through competitive tender to work with us during the period of Bridging Divides. Renaisi is a social enterprise whose mission is to help people and places to thrive. It is currently engaged as a learning partner with a number of trusts and foundations, including the Citizenship Integration Initiative that you are funding in partnership with the Greater London Assembly (GLA), Trust for London, Unbound Philanthropy, Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Pears Foundation.
7. The inception meeting has now taken place and the partnership will commence with a workshop for CBT staff to explore the challenges presented by the strategy and the potential insights that its delivery may present. How the Trust enables inclusion of those who are disadvantaged or marginalised will be at the heart of Renaisi's work.
8. One to one meetings with key members of staff and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to discuss the proposed evaluation activities will follow soon after. Other outputs will include six-monthly reports focusing on key external trends and changes affecting the London context and changes, including within the policy environment. A succinct report will be produced annually report with clear, practical recommendations for how to improve the way that the Trust 'lives' its values and how these are embedded in the Bridging Divides strategy. It is proposed that present this to Members at the CBT strategic half away-day.

### **Funder Plus**

9. At your November meeting, we set out proposals for improving your Funder Plus offer and better aligning it with other funders. To this end, we held a very positive roundtable for interested parties on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018. There is a

strong appetite to work together to improve our respective offers. A further update will be brought to your next meeting.

### Training

10. Two well-received workshops have been held and a third is planned for CBT staff, looking at what it means to be a vision and values-led funder and how it might change how we work. Training for Committee Members is in the process of being arranged.

### Sense checking

11. Work is underway to re-draft the Members Handbook which in turn will provide content for our website. A cross-sectoral roundtable has been arranged on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018, with approximately 10 civil society organisations, representing the range of work that you support, with a view to them acting as critical friends and to 'sense check' the content.

### **Youth Providers Event – Collaboration and Leadership**

12. An event was held at Mansion House on 15<sup>th</sup> January (at the invitation of Alderman Peter Estlin) to examine what might be required to enable and encourage organisations in the youth sector in London to collaborate and work more closely together. Also up for discussion was how to support leadership development. (The format of the event was similar to that which you instigated last year to look at how the LGBT sector could be supported.)
13. After the Chairman's introduction an invited audience of 35 heard presentations from some of London's key providers. All spoke of their commitment to supporting better collaboration with small, local, providers. The second part of the seminar saw delegates split into smaller groups to discuss four questions on collaboration and leadership.
14. Some of the key points raised included: the need to initiate and enable networking opportunities between groups; support leadership development programmes; support good partnerships – those which underpin equalities and which respect and sustain all partners; support place-based approaches to providing services.
15. Some of the key points raised will be incorporated within the implementation of the Bridging Divides strategy where, for example, your officers will look to facilitate networking opportunities. Your officers are also discussing with other key agencies how, together, we might be able to support leadership training.
16. A "quick-win" from the seminar occurred in the week following it when two key organisations met to discuss how they would work more effectively together in the future – which until then had been something of an obstacle.

## **Peer to Peer Grantee support grant**

17. A small delegated grant has been made to fund peer support between two existing CBT grantees, a new departure for CBT. Instead of offering the support of an external consultant, the skills and experience of a CBT grantee working in the same sector will offer a combination of knowledge, support and useful networking connections to a new CEO who is acting up, during a period of substantial development and change. CBT funding has been awarded to deliver between six and ten mentoring sessions, at which the acting CEO will be supported to tackle a range of operational, programmatic, governance and finance-related challenges. It is hoped that this grant will provide a model for Peer to Peer grantee support that can be scaled-up as part of Bridging Divides, reflecting the value of being adaptive, creative and purposeful.

## **Bridge to Work – mental health grant**

18. In June 2017, the Court of Common Council agreed a grant to the Centre for Mental Health for the mental health strand of the Bridge to Work programme. The grant funds the implementation of Individual Placement Support (IPS) in two locations in London, supporting individuals to enter employment shortly after diagnosis. Support, training, clinical care and welfare advice are offered while individuals are 'on the job' in the belief that treatment for mental ill health is complemented by individuals being employed. Following the project's development stage, IPS employment services in Bromley and Newham commenced in December and January respectively and have both been attracting referrals. Bromley has received 55 referrals and has 7 paid work outcomes to date. Newham has received 42 referrals and has 2 paid work outcomes. These figures are in line with agreed outcome targets for this grant and refers to the intensity of the interventions.
19. Each project is delivered in partnership with local Mind partners (Mind in Tower Hamlets & Newham, and Bromley & Lewisham Mind) and both are being supported by the Centre for Mental Health's CBT funded Manager, to bid - through the local Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships for NHS England - for transition funding (from the Five Year Forward View initiative). Each bid will initially propose to increase the numbers of workers in the IPS teams during 2018-2020, with plans in place to extend their provision into Greenwich in 2019-2021. If successful, these bids will double the numbers of people who can be helped by the CBT funded service, and crucially, will ensure that the local Mind services have the best chance of mainstream funding after the two years of CBT grant funding. This is a good potential example of how CBT funds may be used as leverage.

## **Charities and Safeguarding**

20. Members will be aware of the recent safeguarding issues affecting some major charities.

In December 2017, the Charity Commission re-issued its guidance on safeguarding and affirmed that *"Safeguarding should be a key governance*

*priority for trustees. Any failure by trustees to manage safeguarding risks adequately is of serious regulatory concern to the Commission."*

21. It reminded the charity sector that safeguarding applies to all charities – not just those working with children or with vulnerable adults – as it includes responsibilities for keeping staff, volunteers, etc safe from harm and goes beyond preventing physical abuse, to include protecting people from harm generally, including neglect, emotional abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, and the consequences of the misuse of personal data.
22. The Association of Charitable Foundations (ACF) held a half-day seminar last month to discuss some of the issues from funders' perspectives. At the seminar, attended by 12 other funders, we were reminded of the following:
  - *Where a charity funds other organisations, such as overseas partners, that work with children or adults at risk, its trustees should carry out appropriate due diligence so that they can be confident that their partner has in place appropriate safeguarding policies and procedures. Trustees should be confident that the partner is capable of delivering the proposed activities or services and has in place appropriate systems of control, including adequate safeguarding policies and procedures.*
23. Given the specific responsibility placed on charity funders by the Charity Commission, and the implementation of the new charitable funding strategy Bridging Divides, it is timely that CBT reviews our practices on how we can be assured of good practice within all grant recipients. Your officers will liaise with ACF, other funders, and with the City of London's Director of Community and Children's Services to undertake this review and we will report findings and recommendations to your May Committee.

## **Spitalfields Music**

24. At your last Committee a grant was approved for Spitalfields Music (SM) to provide arts and music engagement to reduce isolation and increase physical activity and well-being for 180 residents in three care homes in East London. Members requested an update on the other funding received by SM from the CoLC. Grants have been awarded to SM from City's Cash, City Fund, CBT and the City Educational Trust since 1996. SM have a current grant awarded by the City Educational Trust in 2016/17 of £135,000 (Over 3 years: 2016/17 - £45,000; 2017/18 - £45,000; 2018/19 - £45,000) for educational work associated with the festival. SM has been advised that any future funding from CoLC will need to fit with the new programmes and eligibility criteria of the Central Grants Programme.

## **David Farnsworth**

Director, City Bridge Trust

T: 020 7332 3722

E: [David.Farnsworth@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:David.Farnsworth@cityoflondon.gov.uk)