

Appendix 4

City School Visits Fund update June 2018

This short paper summarises the activity of the City of London School Visits Fund from its launch on 2 November 2015 to 28 June 2018. A fuller report, including evaluation findings, will be compiled at the end of the academic year.

Background

The City of London Schools Visits Fund was launched in November 2015 to help schools in disadvantaged areas make visits to the cultural venues supported by the City of London Corporation (see <http://cityschoolvisitsfund.org.uk/#portfolio>). Schools can apply for grants of up to £300 to help with the costs of making a visit, eg coach hire, teacher cover or admission/session charges. From April 2018 eligibility was widened to include not-for-profit educational organisations that work with school-age children (up to age 18) to enable even more people to benefit from the fund.

Eligibility criteria:

- Schools or organisations must be within Greater London (within the M25)
- At least 35% of pupils at the school must be eligible for Pupil Premium (raised from 30% in April 2018 to reflect the London average of 35%). Special schools do not need to meet this requirement
- Non-school, not-for-profit educational organisations are required to provide a supporting statement about the organisation's purpose and how the fund will be used to enable a visit for school-age children who face barriers to engaging with cultural experiences.

The requirement that schools should not have visited their chosen venue in the past three years was removed at the end of March 2018 in order to maximise the number of children benefitting from the fund.

Number of applications

There have been a total of 294 successful applications to the fund since its launch in 2015, benefitting 15,517 pupils. 440 applications have been received in total, 146 being unsuccessful, eg because the school did not meet the eligibility criteria.

Our target is to support 100 school visits pa and we are averaging 118 successful applications each year. The number of application has increased significantly over recent months – we have received 91 since April 2018.

Pupil Premium rate

The average Pupil Premium rate of schools successfully applying to the fund is 50% (national average 26%, London average 35%), demonstrating that the fund is achieving its aim of supporting schools in disadvantaged areas.

School types

Successful applications have been received from the following types of schools.

	Local authority	Academy	Free	Other
Applications	204	66	7	15

	Primary	Middle	Secondary	Special
Applications	220	1	60	11

We have received two successful applications from non-school educational organisations since April 2018. We will focus on raising awareness of the fund with these organisations over the summer.

Applications by venue

The following table shows the number of applications made to visit each cultural venue. Some applications include more than one venue, eg a visit to the Museum of London followed by a visit to London’s Roman Amphitheatre.

Venue	Applications
Museum of London/Museum of London Docklands	70
Tower Bridge	55
Barbican	55
Hampstead Heath	37
The Monument	20
London's Roman Amphitheatre	19
Epping Forest	19
Keats House	12
The City Centre	10
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	8
Guildhall Art Gallery	8
City Gardens	5

Highgate Wood	4
Guildhall Library	3
London Metropolitan Archives	3
West Ham Park	1
City of London Police Museum	1
City Business Library	1

Breakdown of applications by London borough

We have received successful applications from every London borough. Our work to encourage applications from the outer boroughs is paying dividends, with Barnet and Bexley featuring highly (4th and 5th).

Borough	Applications	Borough	Applications
Hackney	28	Hammersmith and Fulham	7
Haringey	26	Wandsworth	5
Tower Hamlets	26	Havering	4
Barnet	22	Kensington and Chelsea	4
Bexley	22	Barking and Dagenham	3
Camden	20	Bromley	2
Westminster	18	Sutton	2
Enfield	16	City	1
Southwark	15	Croydon	1
Islington	13	Ealing	1
Lambeth	12	Harrow	1
Lewisham	11	Hillingdon	1
Brent	8	Hounslow	1
Waltham Forest	8	Merton	1
Greenwich	7	Redbridge	1
Newham	7	Total	294