



Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board

Date: MONDAY, 12 JUNE 2023
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOM - 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL / MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members: Paul Martinelli (Chair)
Deputy Nighat Qureishi (Deputy Chair)
John Griffiths
Deborah Oliver
Jannat Hossain (Co-opted Member)
William Hoyle (Co-opted Member)

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Lunch will be served in the Guildhall Club at 1.00pm.

**Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk & Chief Executive**

AGENDA

Trigger warning: these papers include discussion of a number of sensitive topics which could cause distress. Topics may include, but are not necessarily limited to: hate crime, abuse, suicide, self-harm, coercion and neglect.

Part 1 - Public Agenda

Strategy and Governance

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE*

To receive the Committee's terms of reference, as agreed by the Bridge House Estates Board on 15 May 2023.

For Information
(Pages 5 - 6)

4. MINUTES

To agree the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 6 March 2023.

For Decision
(Pages 7 - 16)

5. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS*

Report of the BHE Governance Officer

For Information
(Pages 17 - 18)

6. CHIEF FUNDING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Information
(Pages 19 - 26)

7. CBT DRAFT OPERATIONAL RISK REGISTER

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Decision
(Pages 27 - 38)

Bridging Divides - Funding Applications

8. SUMMARY OF BRIDGING DIVIDES*

To note a summary of the Bridging Divides programme.

For Information
(Pages 39 - 40)

9. ALLIANCE PARTNERSHIP: FIGHT FOR SIGHT/VISION FOUNDATION

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Decision
(Pages 41 - 50)

10. GRANT FUNDING ACTIVITY: PERIOD ENDED 24 MAY 2023

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Decision
(Pages 51 - 122)

11. CORNERSTONE FUND UPDATE

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Information
(Pages 123 - 126)

Other

12. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOTION – With the Court of Common Council for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates (Charity No. 1035628) having decided to treat these meetings as though Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 applied to them, it now be moved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that their consideration will in each case disclose exempt information of the description in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A, being information relating to the financial and business affairs of any person (including the City Corporation as Trustee of the charity) which it would not be in the charity's best interests to disclose.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

Strategy and Governance

14. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

To agree the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2023.

For Decision
(Pages 127 - 128)

15. OFFICER DELEGATION LEVELS

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Decision
(Pages 129 - 134)

Bridging Divides - Funding Applications

16. SMALL GRANTS REVIEW

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Decision
(Pages 135 - 146)

17. PIPELINE OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES*

Report of the Chief Funding Director

For Information
(Pages 147 - 150)

Other

18. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

*NB: Certain non-contentious matters for information have been marked * with recommendations anticipated to be received without discussion, unless the Committee Clerk has been informed that a Member has questions or comments prior to the start of the meeting.*

FUNDING COMMITTEE OF THE BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES BOARD 2023/24

1. Constitution

A Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board (“the Board”) responsible for discharging functions of the Board in furthering the ancillary object of Bridge House Estates (charity no. 1035628) (“the charity”) by way of funding or social investment activity, consisting of:

- 4 Commoners or Aldermen appointed on an annual basis directly from the membership of the Board.
- Up to 3 co-opted members (either from the wider Court of Common Council (“the Court”) or externally) with full voting rights to be appointed on a staggered basis.

and each is a “Committee Member”.

2. Quorum

The quorum consists of three Committee Members, although Members of the Court (Commoners or Aldermen) must not be in a minority of those in attendance to form a quorum.

3. Membership 2023/24

4 Members of the Board, to be appointed by the Board at its meeting on 15 May 2023.

Together with the Co-opted Members referred to in paragraph 1 appointed by the Board, in accordance with the procedure for their appointment approved by the Court which provides that co-opted members will be selected on the basis of their skills, knowledge and experience in order to ensure that the Board and its Committees have an appropriate balance of skills, knowledge and experience necessary to administer the charity on behalf of the Court.

4. Terms of Reference

In furthering Bridge House Estates’ ancillary object being for the following purposes: -

- In or towards the provision of transport and access to it for elderly or disabled people in the Greater London area; and/or,
- For other charitable purposes for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London,

to be responsible for:

- (a) Overseeing the implementation of the policy settled by the City Corporation (acting in its capacity as trustee of the charity) (“the Trustee”) for the application of funds allocated to further the ancillary object of the charity (“the funding policy”), including to determine the application of funds in accordance with that

policy other than decisions to apply £1,000,001 or more for a grant, project or activity, which decisions are reserved to the Board upon this Committee's recommendation;

- (b) Determining terms, conditions and other requirements to be imposed in applying the charity's funds in accordance with the funding policy;
- (c) Reviewing and analysing the amounts, nature and spread of funding approved or refused by way of grants or otherwise applied under the funding policy;
- (d) Reviewing and making recommendations to the Board on the funding policy, and in so doing to undertake appropriate consultation;
- (e) Making recommendations on the management and the operation of administrative arrangements as they relate to furthering the ancillary object;
- (f) Authorising social investments, disposals and variations of terms thereof, other than decisions to apply £2,000,001 or more for a social investment, which decisions are reserved to the Board upon this Committee's recommendation, in accordance with the social investment policy and the Investment Strategy Statement.
- (g) Monitoring social investments placed against the approved impact considerations in the social investment policy and the Investment Strategy Statement; and;
- (h) Monitoring the performance and outputs of independent advisors tasked with undertaking due diligence of social investment proposals.

GRANTS COMMITTEE OF THE BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES BOARD Monday, 6 March 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Grants Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board
held at Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 6 March
2023 at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Paul Martinelli (Chair)
Deputy Nighat Qureishi (Deputy Chair)
Alderman Alison Gowman
Judith Pleasance
Jannat Hossain (Co-opted Member)

Officers:

David Farnsworth	- Managing Director of Bridge House Estates
Sacha Rose-Smith	- BHE Chief Funding Director
Catherine Mahoney	- BHE Communications & Engagement Director
Anne Pietsch	- Comptroller & City Solicitor's Dept.
Amelia Ehren	- BHE
Samantha Grimmett-Batt	- BHE
Tim Wilson	- BHE
Geraldine Page	- BHE
Lily Brandhorst	- BHE
Khadra Aden	- BHE
Clara Espinosa	- BHE
Helen Martins	- BHE
Julia Megone	- BHE
Shegufta Slawther	- BHE
Joseph Anstee	- BHE

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming Members and officers, as well as any members of the public or stakeholders observing the meeting via YouTube.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from William Hoyle.

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Alderman Alison Gowman declared her standing interest by virtue of being a Trustee of Trust for London.

David Farnsworth, Managing Director of Bridge House Estates (BHE), declared his standing interest by virtue of his role as Chair of London Funders.

At this point, David Farnsworth introduced and welcomed Sacha Rose-Smith, the charity's Chief Funding Director, to the Committee on her first meeting.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 5 December 2022 be agreed as a correct record.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS***

The Committee received a list of outstanding actions and noted the updates provided in respect of the items listed.

The Chief Funding Director provided the Committee with additional detail regarding measures undertaken to mitigate the application backlog and improve application turnaround times, advising that the backlog was now almost fully allocated.

RESOLVED – That the outstanding actions list be noted.

5. **MANAGING DIRECTOR'S UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee considered a report of the Managing Director of BHE providing an update on key areas of activity and outlining upcoming activities. The Managing Director of BHE introduced the report and drew Members' attention to the key points. The Managing Director of BHE advised Members to provide any feedback on the Committee or the charity's governance arrangements to officers ahead of the scheduled review to be considered at the 27 March BHE Board meeting. The Committee then noted the deadline for applications for Co-opted Member positions on the Committee later that day, with a number of applications having been received.

The Managing Director of BHE also reminded Members that City Bridge Trust's (CBT) Funded Organisations Networking and Learning day would take place on 20 March 2023 at the Barbican Centre, with Members encouraged to attend and take part if available.

Foundation Practice Rating (FPR)

The Managing Director of BHE advised that CBT were pleased to be part of the FRP scheme having recently been assessed, receiving a score of AAC and an overall score of B. As CBT had scored lowest on diversity, officers were now addressing the findings to see where improvements could be made to achieve a rating of A. The Managing Director of BHE advised that a Lead Member for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) had now been appointed and officers would seek their support in this work.

A Member commented that they were aware that the issue had been raised at a recent fundraising event, adding that as the charity was under scrutiny, it was important to uphold standards on diversity, particularly insofar as particular standards were expected of others. The Managing Director of BHE confirmed that one of the Funding Directors had been present at the event where this had

been discussed and that officers had been open and transparent in their response.

Another Member commented that they felt that was not necessarily an issue for CBT to expect higher standards of organisations it worked with whilst working to improve its own standards concurrently, adding the framing of EDI issues was sometimes wrong across the sector, which replicated many of the issues seen across wider society. The Member added that it was preferable to make progress as part of a shared journey than risk delaying required actions.

The Chair commented that some elements such as staffing were limited in the rate at which they could be affected, adding that whilst the charity had made great progress, focus could be increased in areas requiring more attention.

Responding to Funding Enquiries

The Managing Director of BHE reminded Members that approaches to them regarding CBT funding should be directed to the website to check matters such as eligibility prior to beginning an application. The Managing Director of BHE added that a suggested response would be circulated to Members to note and for use when responding in writing.

Anchor Programme

The Committee received a briefing on the Anchor Programme, setting out its aims and requirements ahead of a dedicated report to be brought to the next meeting. It was noted that information on the programme was expected to be accessible on the CBT website imminently.

The Chair then gave thanks to Stewart Goshawk on his last meeting of the Committee before moving on from BHE in April 2023. The Chair thanked Stewart on behalf of the Committee for his incredible longstanding service to CBT and to BHE, and for his invaluable expertise and leadership, wishing him well at WNST and for the future.

The Chair also thanked officers for their work undertaken in awarding over 300 grants in short space of time in the form of funding uplifts to assist funded organisations in tackling inflation and cost of living issues.

RESOLVED – That the Grants Committee of the BHE Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Note the contents of the report; and
- ii) Approve the recommendation, in relation to London's Giving, not to proceed with proposals to establish a Match Fund for place-based giving schemes in London.

6. **CBT OPERATIONAL RISK REGISTER**

The Committee considered a report of the Managing Director of BHE presenting the complete CBT Operational Risk Register, following a review of all of BHE risks in 2022.

RESOLVED - That the Grants Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Approve the revised and complete CBT operational Risk Register; and,
- ii) Note that operational risk register will be reported to Committee twice per year in line with the BHE Risk Management Protocol 2023.

7. **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FOR BHE FUNDING ACTIVITIES: PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023**

The Committee considered a report of the BHE & Charities Funding Director (representing the Chamberlain) providing a financial update on BHE Funding activities to 31 January 2023 and an updated forecast for the financial year ending 31 March 2023.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the underspend against the current year's budget, the Managing Director of BHE advised that an anticipated spend for the current year had been agreed during the Covid-19 pandemic, adding that whilst trends in respect of forecasting were improving, there was further work to do. The BHE & Charities Finance Director added that figures relating to the Propel programme had been added to the figures since the previous meeting. The Member responded that whilst they understood the reasons, there was a degree of disappointment, noting that overhead costs were also proportionate to the total amount granted and were therefore more cost-effective as funding increased.

The Managing Director of BHE further confirmed that the charity had access to the City Corporation's Internal Audit function, and advised that the underspend partly related to the timing of uplift funds, with most main grant funding work delivered to target. The Member commented that it was worth considering whether underspending on the charity's grants budget should be considered as a formal risk, as it may encourage a higher level of scrutiny. The Managing Director of BHE advised that this would be taken away for consideration by officers.

The Chair commented that it was also key to distribute funding as efficiently as possible, noting the increasing long-term nature of grants awarded, and the likely impact of the Propel programme. With regards to operational costs, another Member encouraged officers to consider the relational impact surrounding the use of consultants, as this risked a more distant relationship between funder and grantee.

The Managing Director of BHE noted Members' comments and reiterated officers' commitment to meeting the ongoing challenge, also advising that there

had been positive work on the BHE budget for next year, which had been approved by the BHE Board at its February meeting and would be submitted to the 9 March Court of Common Council meeting. In response to a question from a Member, the Managing Director of BHE confirmed that the charity had access to the City Corporation's internal audit function and that grants expenditure was picked up as part of risk management.

The Chair thanked Members for their comments, which would be taken into account and Members' concerns noted.

RESOLVED - That the Grants Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests, note the contents of the report.

8. **SUMMARY OF BRIDGING DIVIDES***

The Committee noted a summary of the Bridging Divides programme.

9. **PROPEL FUNDING ROUND ONE**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director presenting seven applications for decision as part of the first round of the Propel programme, a funder collaboration stewarded by London Funders which iterated the successes of the London Community Response, a pioneering and widely celebrated vehicle for funder collaboration in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The programme was also intended to extend collaboration beyond the emergency context, to provide strategic and long-term funding at scale, continuing to test and learn from progressive approaches to funding. The Chief Funding Director introduced the report and presented the Propel programme, also outlining the proposals for consideration by the Committee.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the number of proposed grants relative to the number of proposed applications, the Chief Funding Director explained the process by which applications had been prioritised and then assessed with regards to their eligibility, with it being aimed to aware around £15m in this round of funding. The Chief Funding Director added that there would be further work undertaken to ensure that organisations understood the criteria, particularly around being user-led and doing systems change work, for future rounds. The Committee was advised that officers had noted applications which had not been progressed, but which may be approved for regular Bridging Divides funding, and would communicate with these organisations to have their applications redirected.

The Chief Funding Director further advised that timelines for the programme had been adjusted during 2022 in response to the passing of Her Majesty the Queen, but officers had minimised the impact of this and had given organisations as much time as possible to submit their applications. The Chief Funding Director confirmed that CBT's timescales compared reasonably well to other funders within the programme.

In response to a question from a Member, the Chief Funding Director gave the Committee further explanation around what funders expected with regards to

being an equity-led organisation, and how this had been assessed and used to prioritise applications.

The Chair then thanked officers for their work in getting the programme to this stage, before drawing Members' attention to the recommendations, which were agreed.

RESOLVED – That the Grants Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

(i) Endorse to the BHE Board the recommendations for funding of the following four grants (totalling £4,128,000):

- a. £1,073,400 over three years to the Bridge Renewal Trust (charity no. 1131941);
- b. £989,600 over three years to Inclusion London (charity no. 1157376);
- c. £1,216,600 over three years to The Ubele Initiative (company no. 09035399); and,
- d. £848,400 over three years to Young Westminster Foundation (charity no. 1169255).

(ii) Approve the following three recommendations (totalling £1,398,000):

- a. £398,000 over three years to Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network (charity no. 1058631);
- b. £500,000 over three years to Race on the Agenda (charity no. 1064975); and,
- c. £500,000 over three years to Women's Environmental Network (charity no. 1010397).

(iii) Approve the rejection of one grant to Community Barnet (charity no. 1071035).

10. ALLIANCE PARTNERSHIP - SMALLWOOD TRUST

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director requesting funding of £864,283 over three and a half years be awarded to the Smallwood Trust to establish the Women's London Resilience Fund, a collaborative place-based grants programme to tackle the root causes of gendered poverty, identify approaches that can be scaled and help foster resilient community networks to transform social and economic outcomes for women. The Chief Funding Director introduced the report and presented the proposal to the Committee, noting that it would be referred to the next meeting of the BHE Board if endorsed.

RESOLVED - That the Grants Committee of the BHE Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of BHE and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Endorse a grant of £864,283, as an Alliance Partnership, for onward approval by the BHE Board, to the Smallwood Trust [charity no: 205798] for onward grant making as part of the London Women's Resilience Fund.

11. **STRATEGIC INITIATIVE: LONDON CLIMATE ACTION WEEK AND THE LONDON CLIMATE CLUSTER - ASHDEN CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director requesting £159,760 over 18 months as a strategic initiative to support the establishment of the London Climate Action Week Secretariat as an independent organisation, with a contribution to the costs of the LCAW 2023 event. The Chief Funding Director introduced the report and presented the proposal for Members.

A Member, also Lead Member for Climate Action for the BHE Board, sought assurance that the funding would not be used towards the City Corporation's planned Net Zero Delivery Summit, as this would effectively be subsidising the City Corporation's own work, and suggested BHE consider hosting its own event during London Climate Action Week. The Chief Funding Director confirmed that the funding would be entirely separate to the City Corporation's work, although mutual opportunities to promote the event would be utilised. The Chief Funding Director added officers would welcome consideration on hosting a BHE event, noting that there had been funder events in previous years.

In response to questions from Members, the Chief Funding Director advised that officers would seek to take advantages of any learning opportunities, and that the debrief report on last year's event could be shared with the Committee following the meeting. The Committee noted that whilst this proposal was within the scope of Bridging Divides, the BHE Board also held a designated fund for climate action which could be used for additional related work which was not suitable or eligible for funding through CBT.

Noting the financial information provided in respect of Ashden Climate Solutions, the BHE & Charities Finance Director explained officers' approach to organisations with deficits, which was considered in context on a case-by-case basis.

RESOLVED – That the Grants Committee of the BHE Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of BHE and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Approve a grant of £159,760 over 18 months to Ashden Climate Solutions (charity no. 1104153), towards the costs of establishing the London Climate Action Week Secretariat as an independently registered organisation, with a contribution towards the costs of LCAW 2023.

12. **GRANT FUNDING ACTIVITY: PERIOD ENDED 16 FEBRUARY 2023**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Funding Director providing details of funds approved and rejected under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Grants Committee in December 2022 through to 16 February 2023; the remaining 2022/2023 grants budget; grants spend to date and for this meeting by London Borough compared with the Multiple Index of Deprivation; any grant variations that have been approved under delegated authority. The report also sought the Committee's approval for 3 grant rejections and 8 grants between £250,000 and £500,000, and the endorsement to the BHE Board of 1 Bridging Divides application over £500,000. The Chair introduced the item, commending the breadth of work and increased rate of funding.

In response to a question from a Member, the Managing Director of BHE assured the Committee that officers would continue to be mindful of potential issues such as dependency, noting the trend towards the awarding of longer-term grants.

With regards to the application from The Garden Classroom, the Chief Funding Director advised that the environmental sector was generally less diverse in comparison to other areas of the sector, and that officers would seek to pick up any concerns about the ability to achieve the desired reach of the proposals, with CBT able to offer assistance in enhancing the organisation's outreach and relationships work.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the diversion of funding away from London, the Managing Director of BHE commented that it was important for BHE as a London funder to continue to use and share the evidence it saw, adding that the profile of poverty in London was as high in London as it was elsewhere in the UK.

The Chair then drew the Committee's attention to the proposals and took each recommendation in turn, all of which were agreed.

Members further highlighted and commended the proposals in respect of Mind in Croydon and Kanlungan Filipino Consortium, as well as encouraging officers to further consider the 'heat map' graphs with a view to assessing whether these were providing the right information or could provide any additional context.

RESOLVED – That the that the Grants Committee of the BHE Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Receive this report and note its contents;
- ii) Endorse to the BHE Board a grant of £585,125 to the Media Trust (charity no. 1042733);
- iii) Approve the following grants as recommended in:
 - The Garden Classroom (no. 1168587) - £276,120 over five years
 - Mind in Croydon (no. 1073880) - £271,000 over five years

- Katherine Low Settlement (no. 1081248) - £425,325 over five years
- Choice in Hackney (no. 1077287) - £294,400 over five years
- Bromley Homeless CIO (no. 1186655) - £298,000 over five years
- Hackney Co-operative Developments CIC (company no. 1673378) - £365,090 over three years
- No.1 Performing Arts (NOPA) (no. 1182507) - £355,360 over five years
- Kanlungan Filipino Consortium (no. 1077224) - £270,500 over five years; and

iv) Approve the rejection of grants as listed in the schedule appended to the report.

13. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

In response to a question from a Member regarding public and grantee attendance, officers advised that this had been discussed and it was intended to agree a form of invitation for the next civic year, noting that the public part of the meeting was open to attendees as well as streamed on YouTube. The BHE Communications & Engagement Director then outlined the intended provision for promoting recent funding on the new BHE website, which would include a dedicated page, and confirmed that detailed funding information was shared with 360Giving. A Member asked that officers to ensure that Community Infrastructure Levy grants were not being wrongly attributed to CBT due to overlaps in staffing resource.

The Managing Director of BHE then set out the details of upcoming LocalMotion visit events, which were taking place across the country, and advised that these would be circulated to the Committee, with Members encouraged to participate where possible.

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOTION – With the Court of Common Council for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates (Charity No. 1035628) having decided to treat these meetings as though Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 applied to them, it now be moved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that their consideration will in each case disclose exempt information of the description in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A, being information relating to the financial and business affairs of any person (including the City Corporation as Trustee of the charity) which it would not be in the charity's best interests to disclose.

15. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting on 5 December 2022 be agreed as a correct record.

16. PIPELINE OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES*

The Committee received a report of the Chief Funding Director.

17. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was no other business.

18. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the confidential minutes of the meeting on 5 December 2022 be agreed as a correct record.

The meeting ended at 12.36 pm

Chair

Contact Officer: Joseph Anstee
joseph.anstee@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board – Outstanding Actions

Status Key

Green = Complete

Amber = In progress

Red = Not yet started

Item	Date	Action	Officer responsible	Target Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Progress update	RAG
1.	5 December 2022	Application Turnaround Times	Sacha Rose-Smith	12 June 2024	-	<p>The application backlog has now been cleared, with all of these applications having been allocated and under assessment.</p> <p>Application turnaround times will be reviewed as part of the end-to-end review, which is due to conclude in June 2024.</p>	

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Committee: Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board	Date: 12 June 2023
Subject: BHE Chief Funding Director's Update Report	Public
Report of: Sacha Rose-Smith, BHE Chief Funding Director	For Information

Summary

To support the Funding Committee in the discharge of its duties, this regular report provides an update on key areas of activity to note and agree, where necessary. Specifically, the report provides details on the following: the appointment of the Funding Committee, an update on final spend against funding budget for the 2022/23 financial year, various funding updates and updates on the CBT End to End Review, Funding Team Away Day, Suicide Prevention, Cold Spots and Trans Inclusion, LocalMotion, Anchor Programme, Propel, Baobab Foundation, Comic Relief (Global Majority Fund), GrantAdvisor UK and the London's Giving Resource Hub. Updates are also provided on the recent Networking and Learning Day for Funded Organisations and Learning Visits, and philanthropy updates in respect of the Joint Philanthropy Strategy and corporate volunteering.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Funding Committee, in discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Note the contents of the report.

Main Report

Governance

1. Appointment of Funding Committee – As the Committee will be aware, arising from the BHE Board's review of its governance arrangements for the 2023/24 year, in re-appointing the Grants Committee the Board agreed that the Committee should be renamed the Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board for the ensuing year. This reflects the addition of functions relating to the charity's social investments to the Committee's terms of reference, which are set out at Item 3 for information. The Committee's revised terms of reference also include provision for a third Co-opted Member. As part of the recruitment exercise being undertaken for Co-opted Members of the BHE Board and the Board's newly appointed Investment Committee, applications will be assessed for candidates with social investment expertise aligned with this Committee's responsibilities, in which case they could be considered for appointment to the Funding Committee.

Finance

2. BHE Funding Update for Financial Year 2022/23 – The total grants awarded, including revocations, was £60.02m, against an approved budget of £102.53m. The grants awarded under different programmes were as follows:

Programmes	Amount Awarded (£m)
Bridging Divides Responsive Grant making	34.75
Transition Funding	4.24
Cornerstone	1.99
London's Giving	2.82
Alliance Partnerships	10.40
Propel	5.72
Anchor Projects	0.10

3. Grants awarded were significantly below budget, due to planned delays in anticipated grant commitments across various strands, postponement of work on the staffing plan for the funding team, and deferred spend now earmarked for the next three financial years. The original budget had been set before the programmes could be properly scoped, and as such the delays were within expected parameters. Following consultation within the sector, the start date of the Anchor Programme for funding commitments was pushed back, the launch of Propel fell behind due to the time taken to build funding plans, to appoint partners, and due to the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
4. In April 2023, the total grants awarded was £9.59m. Development of Propel Round Two is underway, alongside a strong expression of interest in the Anchor Programme. The forecast position for 2023/24 remains £89.50m, against an approved budget of £101.5m and a full budget monitoring report will be brought to the September meeting of the Committee.

Bridging Divides Funding Updates

5. End to End Review – This is a significant project for the Funding team, the purpose of which is to provide a detailed review of all aspects of CBT's main grant-making practice, to ensure the best customer experience and that CBT is achieving its intended reach. The work will be led by Julia Mirkin, who was recently appointed to a fixed-term Project Manager role. Julia is a very experienced Funding manager and has been with CBT for many years. The project will commence this month, with the appointment of an internal core and advisory group. The agreed aims are to:
 - a) Understand user experience, identify, and remove barriers so CBT is better positioned to reflect the needs of communities it seeks to support.
 - b) Streamline internal funding processes to ensure they support exemplar funding and more equitable practice.
 - c) Review funding policies to ensure they support exemplar funding.
 - d) Ensure that a feedback loop is fully embedded in CBT processes, and CBT embodies relational funding.
 - e) Reduce turnaround times if possible.
 - f) Regular updates will be provided, as this work progresses.
6. Funding Team Away Day – The Funding team recently held an Away Day in order to engage on CBT's forthcoming workplan and the end-to-end review. Milly Ehren, BHE's Head of Strategy & Governance, facilitated a session on BHE Governance,

which provided an opportunity to reflect on where the charity culture is now and where CBT aspire to be. Finally, Big House Theatre (a CBT grantee) joined the Away Day to perform a brief excerpt from their current show 'No Man's Island,' with an informal reflection afterward. The extremely insightful reflection with the young actors provided an opportunity to hear directly from young people about what the project's funding meant to them and provides a keyway to connect the team to our purpose.

7. Suicide Prevention – Sacha Rose-Smith, Chief Funding Director, continues to develop this work, supported by Abi Sommers, Funding Manager. Currently in the scoping phase, officers are analysing available data and will be hosting a series of round tables over the coming weeks.
8. Cold Spots and Trans Inclusion – Several Funding Managers are continuing work developed prior to the Covid-19 pandemic on funding in geographical cold spots, in a Task & Finish group. Aneka Singh, Funding Manager will lead the work. Nat Jordan, Head of Propel Programme, and Dion Holley, 2027 Associate are progressing work to develop a paper on trans inclusion. Both pieces will be presented to the September meeting of the Funding Committee.
9. LocalMotion – LocalMotion is a collaboration between CBT and five other funders, joining forces to tackle economic, environmental, and social inequality in six places, utilising the resources of all six funders and places to have an impact which is greater than the sum of its parts. In May, Sacha Rose-Smith, Chief Funding Director visited Lincoln, one of the 6 places that are part of the LocalMotion movement. All the places will host visits for funders, their trustees, and members of core groups from other areas. These visits are an opportunity to see the areas and hear from local people about what is happening and understand their respective journeys. The visit included seeing a training academy for young people who are learning to cook, the local social enterprise academy and community library, where officers heard from residents about what this facility means to them. Officers also visited a community greenspace offering different activities around growing and greening to residents with mental health support needs, and children and young people. Most notable was the opportunity to engage with members of the newly established Poverty Truth Commission, where residents with experiences of poverty were able to tell their stories in a safe and non-extractive way to key local commissioners. The Enfield place visit is planned for 27 July and Members are welcome and encouraged to attend.
10. Anchor Programme – Following the Grants Committee's endorsement of a £20m allocation from the designated grants fund in June 2022, work has continued on the Anchor Programme. The programme aims to support anchor voluntary sector organisations by supporting their ongoing sustainability long-term to deliver systemic change by awarding long term core grants. The programme is being led by Khadra Aden and Clara Espinosa, who were recruited internally on fixed-term contracts to be the Anchor Co-Leads.
11. The Anchor Programme went live on 17 April 2023, with the deadline for organisations to submit an expression of interest form following on 8 May. A total of 173 applications were received and sifted and assessed by the CBT team, as

well as a small Assessment Panel comprised of civil society organisations. 15 organisations have been shortlisted and invited to submit a second stage application form by 12 June. The assessment period will take place between 12th June- 10th August with the aim to submit recommendations to the September meeting of the Funding Committee.

12. **Propel** – Propel is a funder collaboration stewarded by London Funders, building on the response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Propel extends collaboration beyond an emergency context to provide strategic and long-term funding at scale for systems change work (fundamental change that affects how the whole system functions). Since the last update, all decisions for Propel Round One applications have been made. CBT has awarded a total of £7,036,700 across 10 Deliver and Develop (D&D) grants for up to three years, and 23 Explore grants for 12 months. The larger D&D grants ranged from £150,000 to just over £1.1m, while the smaller Explore grants were for up to £50,000. The success rates for applications assessed by CBT for D&D and Explore grants were 77% and 79% respectively.

User led category	Total £ approved (Explore)	# Approvals (Explore)	Total £ approved (D&D)	# Approvals (D&D)	Total £ approved (all)	# Approvals (all)
Deaf and Disabled	£198,900	4	£1,290,600	3	£1,489,500	7
Intersectional	£48,100	1	£0	0	£48,100	1
LGBT	£146,300	3	£0	0	£146,300	3
Racialised/migrant	£368,000	8	£2,225,600	4	£2,593,600	12
Women and Girls	£337,400	7	£500,000	1	£837,400	8
Not by and for	£0	0	£1,921,800	2	£1,921,800	2
TOTAL	£1,098,700	23	£5,938,000	10	£7,036,700	33

13. Organisations from the first cohort of grantees were invited to a Welcome Breakfast hosted by London Funders at the Arc Community Centre in Islington on 26 April 2023. The event was well attended, with speakers including Bruna Boscaini, Director of IRMO (co-funded through Propel by CBT and London Legal Support Trust), Ali Ahmed from equity partner Ubele, with the Chair of the Funding Committee, Paul Martinelli, representing CBT.

14. Plans for future iterations of the programme are in development, convened by London Funders. There are a further £10.5m of funds to be awarded from the BHE grant making designated fund during this financial year, which will likely all be awarded in a second round of funding to be launched later this year. CBT officers remain involved at strategic, communications, and operational working groups to ensure that learning from the first round is suitably incorporated into these plans, and that the programme continues to meet the strategic aims of CBT. Equity partners will remain involved in the collaboration, providing strategic and operational support and expertise to the programme, and supporting the collaboration to respond to data such as those presented above.

15. Baobab Foundation – The Committee recommended funding totalling £2.2m in December 2021 towards phase two (incubation phase) of the development of the Baobab Foundation (Baobab), the first funder dedicated explicitly to growing, supporting, and strengthening groups and organisations led by and serving Black people and communities affected by racism and racial disparities in the UK. The funding was to be directed towards running costs and onward grant-making, with conditions which were subsequently met. Since then, development has continued and the first awards are due to be made in the next few weeks. £1m of onward grant-making funds will be distributed towards Black and minoritised community led civil society organisations in 2023/24, with a further £1m to be distributed in 2024/25.
16. Comic Relief (Global Majority Fund) – In November 2022, BHE awarded £2,069,395 over three years as an Alliance Partnership to Phase III of the Global Majority Fund (a collaborative fund managed by Comic Relief), to support infrastructure and grassroots organisations led by and for communities experiencing racial inequality to address the needs of communities they support. Phase III partners are working on their organisational strengthening plans, with Comic Relief also hiring a consultant to work on the Theory of Change for the Fund, as it moves away from Covid-19 response work to rebuilding, recovering, and strengthening the ‘led by and for’ sector. The grant agreement has now been signed and the first tranche of payments will be made in the next few weeks, with all CBT funding to be directed towards work with communities in the Greater London area, in line with the legal parameters of our funding.
17. GrantAdvisor UK – Following a successful piloting, the revamped GrantAdvisor UK service is now online and Sam Grimmitt-Batt, Funding Director, provided a quote expressing CBT’s pride at being a founder (and continuing) funder of the service, as well as a champion of its impact. GrantAdvisor UK allows fundraisers and grantseekers to share their first-hand experiences of working with funders. Reviews are free and anonymous. CBT actively encourages all funding applicants, whether successful or not, to leave a review and responds to all feedback. CBT directs applicants to GrantAdvisor UK via our website, grant offer letters, grant evaluation forms, and with updates in our social media and our email bulletin to funded organisations.
18. London’s Giving – Resource Hub – London’s Giving is a programme delivered by London Funders, supported by funding from CBT. The programme brings together the capital’s local schemes to share knowledge, network, and advocate for the role place-based giving can play in the wider funding and civil society policy agenda. At the December 2022 meeting, approval was given in principle to build on the existing work of London’s Giving, in partnership with London Funders, by establishing a Resource Hub to further support the development of place-based giving schemes (PBGS) as part of the London’s Giving Network. London’s Giving already offers a range of support, including:
 - a) Web-based resources, toolkits and publications
 - b) Consultancy
 - c) Evaluation framework
 - d) Networks, masterclasses, and other face to face events
 - e) Signposting and connecting.

19. The purpose of the Resource Hub is to amplify, increase and develop the range and depth of support available. It was agreed that officers would work with London Funders to draw up a fully costed budget to be brought to this Committee for approval.
20. At the Committee's last meeting, it was reported that whilst the London Funders Board had expressed its willingness to continue to host London's Giving, it was in the process of reviewing its governance structures, not only in the light of London's Giving, but also in its capacity as steward of the ongoing evolution of funding collaborations such as Propel, the funder collaboration of which CBT is a partner. Various options are therefore being explored. In parallel, the London's Giving Network is being consulted on its key priorities for the Resource Hub which will help inform the proposals to be brought to this Committee, with it anticipated that recommendations will be brought to the September meeting.
21. In the meantime, as reported at the last meeting, interim funding of £100,000 has been approved to support the ongoing work of London's Giving from April 2023 to March 2024.

Philanthropy

22. Joint Philanthropy Strategy – At its February meeting, the BHE Board noted the retrospective review of its Joint Philanthropy Strategy. The review was also noted by the Policy and Resources Committee. As part of the next phase of the review, external consultants (Corporate Citizenship) have been commissioned to examine key trends in philanthropy since the Joint Strategy was first launched in 2018, and the extent of their relevance and integration within the funding practices of BHE and the City Corporation more broadly. The consultants have also been tasked with highlighting how other organisations with similar characteristics to BHE are deploying the skills, assets and networks of their Corporate Trustees with a view to stimulating thinking around the 'Total Assets' dimensions of our work. The work is now in its concluding stages and its insights will help inform thinking around potential options for the next phase of the strategy which will be tested with members.
23. Alongside managing this commission, officers have also undertaken early-stage work to scope how/whether the City Corporation's philanthropy can be enhanced in order to provide provisional costings for potential consideration at the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee awayday in late June 2023. This submission is both headline and provisional, noting that further refinement and testing needs to take place with members over the summer as part of the anticipated review process in order to produce concrete proposals for consideration in the Autumn. It reflects the requirement from the BHE Board that, if the City Corporation is to continue to benefit from a joint strategy, it must pay an appropriate proportion of the required resourcing.
24. Corporate Volunteering – The Corporate Volunteering team are finalising the outputs of research with The Social Impact Partnership (TSIP) which looked at how to maximise accessibility of the employee volunteering programme, LEAP, both for

volunteers and for volunteer-involving organisations (noting that a number of these are BHE-funded organisations). The original motivation for this research was from an Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) perspective: interestingly the research found there are no significant differences in volunteering percentages by ethnicity, religion or gender and disabled employees are no less likely to volunteer than their non-disabled counterparts. The research has revealed a trend that staff holding grades A-C job roles are less likely to volunteer than staff in higher grades. The research summary makes recommendations for quick wins and strategic programme design changes that will be used to inform future thinking around our volunteering work as part of the Philanthropy Strategic Review.

25. On Monday 5 June 2023 an evening Reception will be held in the Great Hall at Guildhall, presided over by Alderman Sir William Russell to recognise the work of the volunteers who support the City of London Corporation's volunteering work – whether as employee, residential or external volunteers. Over 200 volunteers will be thanked at the reception which has been timed to coincide with Volunteers' Week, and the Corporate Volunteering Manager job-share have helped shape Sir William's speech.

Impact and Learning

26. Networking and Learning Day for Funded Organisations – The Impact and Learning and Communications teams delivered the second funded organisations Networking and Learning Day on 20 March 2023 in the Garden Room and Conservatory at the Barbican Centre. The event was attended by over 150 organisations funded by CBT, a more than threefold increase on the 2022 event. The event featured three interactive sessions, delivered by four CBT funded organisations, on topics identified by the Impact and Learning team on the basis of data gathered from funded organisations. These were: How to Support Staff, Making the Most of Organisational Strengths, and How to Raise the “Voice” of Organisations. The event also included opportunities around the interactive sessions for funded organisations to network with each other and with BHE staff members.
27. Funding Committee Chair Paul Martinelli gave the opening speech, with Co-opted Member Jannat Hossain closing the event. There was a prize draw to win the opportunity to raise Tower Bridge, won by Yeukai Taruvinga, CEO of Active Horizons. You can watch a very short film about the event at the following link: <https://youtu.be/jc6x8x2x3rg>. Attendees rated the day 4.5 out of 5 and variously described the day as informative, interesting, engaging, motivating and inspiring.
28. Learning Visits Re-launch – Following a review and trial of a more equitable approach to learning visits with funded organisations and training of staff and Members, Funding Managers have been setting up learning visits with Funded Organisations. Each member of the BHE and Funding Committees will be invited to at least one learning visit per year. The purpose of the learning visits is to give funded organisations space and time to reflect honestly on their achievements and challenges with BHE Funding Managers, senior staff and Members so that this can inform BHE decision making.

29. The visits have been designed to acknowledge and reduce the power imbalance between funded organisation and funder and CBT have received positive feedback on this:

“You grasped the power differential that is often felt by grantees and addressed this up front - really valuable. It's a tough challenge to make this sort of engagement feel less like scrutiny and more like a supportive relationship but you met it well.”

30. A 20-minute training session on the Learning Visits review and trial was delivered by the Impact and Learning Team for Members of the BHE Board and Grants Committee in December 2022, and the recording of this session is available for Members to view on request.

31. Funding Manager and Small Grants Lead, Caspar Cech-Lucas, led a learning visit to small grant holder Shadwell Community Project in May. An important part of the learning visits process is sharing learning effectively back with BHE so that it can influence decision-making. Caspar shared his learning with the rest of BHE at the weekly stand up.

32. The organisation is proud of providing healthy, varied meals for young people from diverse communities, flexing their service to provide best support possible during pandemic / cost of living crisis, the skills that young people develop in the adventure playground and the outlet they provide for non-academic development in young people, through play. They appreciated this face to face rather than online interaction with CBT, felt the visit was proportionate and said that CBT's guidance had been made clearer. Current challenges are instability and increased competition and difficulty accessing funding particularly from their Local Borough of Tower Hamlets. Because of this and their high fixed costs, including insurance, they have had to reduce their staffing bill, meaning that they are down to just one full time member of staff. At the same time, need has increased, with the parents of young people attending under real stress due to the cost of living crisis and lack of investment in schools and public services.

33. When asked how CBT could further support them, the charity said helping to find funding that would fit, making introductions to other funders and using our position to be a voice for the voluntary sector. Due to their lack of staff, they welcomed support with corporate volunteering and recruiting volunteers. They need longer-term funding and suggested a fund for organisations in crisis.

Conclusion

21. This report provides a high-level summary of CBT activities since the Funding Committee last met in March 2023. The Funding Committee is asked to note the content of the report. Further information on any of the updates given in this report can be provided to the Funding Committee orally in the meeting or in written format in advance of or as a follow-up to the meeting.

Sacha Rose-Smith

Chief Funding Director, Bridge House Estates

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Committee: Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board	Date: 12 June 2023
Subject: CBT Draft Operational Risk Register	Public
Report of: Sacha Rose-Smith, Chief Funding Director	For Decision
Report author: Paul Dudley, Corporate Charity Risk Manager	

Summary

This report presents to the Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board (the Funding Committee) the latest City Bridge Trust (CBT) Operational Risk Register. In line with the Bridge House Estates (BHE) Risk Management Protocol, the operational risk registers will be reported twice yearly to Committees. The CBT Operational Risk Register (at Appendix 1) shows current and target scores for the risks identified, together with a series of mitigating actions. Of the 6 risks, none are scored red, 2 are scored amber and 4 are currently scored green. The Funding Committee are asked to review the Risk Register and confirm that the risks are comprehensive, scored correctly and that appropriate control measures are in place.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Approve the revised and complete CBT operational Risk Register.

Main Report

Current position

1. In line with the BHE Risk Management Protocol, the CBT Operational Risk Register will be reported to the Funding Committee twice a year to ensure the effective oversight and management of risks relating to the ancillary object of the charity.
2. The 6 risks identified in the Risk Register (provided in detail at Appendix 1) are shown below in risk score order.

Table 1 – CBT Operational Risks in risk score order (June 2023)

Risk code	Risk title	Current Risk Score	Current Risk Score Indicator
BHE CBT 012	Grant Making systems	12	
BHE CBT 009	Funding Team Staff recruitment and retention	6	
BHE CBT 007	Non-compliant funding applications and payments	4	
BHE CBT 008	Ineffective budgetary control and financial reporting	4	

Risk code	Risk title	Current Risk Score	Current Risk Score Indicator
BHE CBT 010	Failure to deliver work in the best interests of communities most impacted on by inequality and lack of diversity.	4	
BHE CBT 011	Strategic planning (Bridging Divides)	2	

3. As shown above, two risks scored amber, and four risks scored green. Mitigating actions are in place for all risks and are being managed appropriately at this stage. No new risks have been identified since the last report to the Funding Committee, although updates have been provided for each risk at Appendix 1.

BHE Principal Risks

4. For information, the BHE Principal Risks are shown below to provide assurance to the Funding Committee that other risks such as safeguarding, reputational damage etc are being appropriately managed across the whole charity. The BHE Board will receive an updated Principal Risk Register at their meeting on 5 July 2023.

Table 2 – BHE Principal risks in risk score order (Feb 2023)

Code	Title	Current Risk Score	Current score	Target Risk Score	Target score	Target Date	Risk Approach
BHE SLT 006	Structural damage to Bridges	24		24		N/A	Accept
BHE SLT 004	Insufficient Investment Returns	12		8		31-Mar-2024	Reduce
BHE SLT 007	Maintenance of the Bridges	12		8		30-Sep-2023	Reduce
BHE SLT 008	Reputation Management	12		6		31-Mar-2023	Reduce
BHE SLT 001	Failure to deliver BHE's strategy and organisational change	8		4		31-Mar-2024	Reduce
BHE SLT 002	Ineffective charity governance	8		4		31-Mar-2024	Reduce
BHE SLT 005	Safeguarding	8		8		N/A	Accept
BHE SLT 003	Lack of diversity of skills, knowledge, and experience within the charity	6		4		31-Mar-2024	Reduce

Conclusion

5. Following a review of the CBT Operational Risk Register in 2022/23, the latest version of the Risk Register is presented to the Funding Committee for review. The Committee are asked to review the Risk Register and confirm that the risks are comprehensive, scored correctly and that appropriate control measures are in place.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - CBT Operational Risk Register, February 2023

Paul Dudley

Corporate Charity Risk Manager

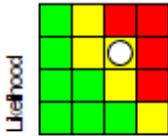
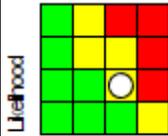
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Appendix 1 – CBT Operational Risk Register (June 2023)

CBT Operational Risks are shown in risk score order (highest risk first)

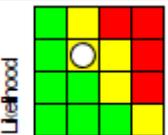
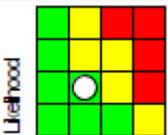
Risk 12 – Grant Making Systems

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
CBT 012 Grant Making systems 13-Dec-2022 Scott Nixon	<p>Cause: Failure of external providers or contractors to deliver IT and other funding management systems, or failure of staff to properly operate the systems.</p> <p>Event: Uncertainty on reliance of the systems to identify control breaches or issues (because of provider error or data not being recorded appropriately or being flagged to the relevant individuals).</p> <p>Effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT failure leading to inability to access records. Issues that emerge with grant applicants not dealt with appropriately leading to poor communications, reputational risk. Failure to follow up on conditions attached to grants and ensure they are enforced. Failure to report on the correct information where changes are made manually and not in a way that is picked up for financial reporting. Increased possibility of fraud and error (should system be run in manual mode). 	 <p>Likelihood</p> <p>Impact 12</p>	<p>No change to risk score at latest update – mitigating actions in progress as planned.</p> <p>14 Mar 2023</p>	 <p>Likelihood</p> <p>Impact 8</p>	31-Dec-2023 Reduce	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
012a New Grant Making system	To procure a new grant making system and transition from BBGM to Salesforce.	The CRM procurement process has been completed. Phase 1 of the build has commenced which will complete by late June 2023, in anticipation of the existing grant making database contract terminating on 1st August 2023. No issue to report to date.	Scott Nixon	14-Mar-2023	31-Jul-2023
012b Grant making system training	To deliver ongoing tailored training to staff in use of the new system.	Training for key staff and super users is being delivered as part of the User testing process. Wider training will commence in May/June 2023.	Scott Nixon	14-Mar-2023	30-Jun-2023
012c Maintain grant making current system	To continue to follow current processes for using BBGM and ensure appropriate oversight and maintenance of the system.	The current BBGM system is fully functional and fit for purpose with no issues reported.	Scott Nixon	14-Mar-2023	31-Jul-2023

Appendix 1 – CBT Operational Risk Register (June 2023)

Risk 9 – Funding Team Staff recruitment and retention

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
CBT 009 Funding Team Staff recruitment and retention 13-Dec-2022 Sacha Rose-Smith	<p>Cause: Recruitment market conditions, unattractive salaries and terms/conditions of service, responsiveness of internal HR systems for arranging interviews etc, culture of the charity not welcoming, delays in sign off for Funding Team resource plan.</p> <p>Event: Inability to recruit and retain the right number/quality of staff, particularly in the professional funding area.</p> <p>Effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delays in making grants. Complaints from those who have applied or wish to apply for grants. Adverse impact on the reputation of the charity. Low morale/increased stress amongst existing staff. Failure to achieve delivery objectives set out the CBT business plan. High staff turnover. Adverse impact on ability to deliver on uplifted spend. Reliance on freelance assessors at higher cost to charity. 	 <p>Impact 6</p>	No change to risk score at latest update – mitigating actions in progress as planned. 14 Mar 2023	 <p>Impact 4</p>	31-Mar-2024 Reduce	

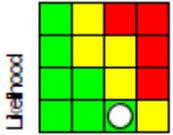
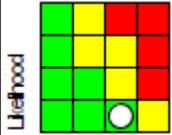
Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
009a Head of People	To onboard the new BHE Head of People role who will be responsible for leading on HR matters.	Caroline Reeve, BHE Head of People, started in role on 1 February and an induction schedule has been arranged to support her successful onboarding.	Simon Latham	14-Mar-2023	30-Apr-2023
009b People Strategy	To develop a new overarching BHE People Strategy.	BHE Head of People is working with BHE COO to identify key priorities for the BHE People Strategy ensuring alignment with the wider City Corporation's People Strategy.	Caroline Reeve	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024
009c Identify solutions - Recruitment and retention	Head of People to work closely with the Chief Funding Director to understand and improve issues (e.g., fixed term contracts, HR delays) regarding recruitment and retention within the Funding Team.	Initial discussions have taken place between the BHE Head of People and the Chief Funding Director and a plan agreed to address key issues around fixed term contracts.	Caroline Reeve	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023
009d One Charity Culture	To continue to develop one charity culture and opportunities for staff engagement, including the development of BHE values.	A culture change programme is being developed for 2023/24 to support the further development and embedding of a one charity culture. Recent opportunities for staff engagement have been Amelia Ehren 10-Feb-2023 31-Mar-2024 Page 32 Appendix 1 –	Amelia Ehren	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024

Appendix 1 – CBT Operational Risk Register (June 2023)

		CBT Operational Risk Register (February 2023) 3 introduced and are providing opportunities for staff to engage with other teams in the charity. BHE values work to be developed in the summer '23, alongside the roll out of the new brand.			
Funding Team Development	To continue to provide team-building opportunities for the Funding Team, both internally and externally. <u>(On going action)</u>	An away day for the funding team has been scheduled for 4th May 2023. This will provide opportunities for the team to come together and further our journey towards being one organisation.	Sacha Rose-Smith	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024
009f Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	To continue to embed DEI practices that support an inclusive and diverse environment. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Officers continue to implement the DEI Action Plan, whilst also considering new actions to advance more inclusive practices across the charity.	David Farnsworth	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024

Appendix 1 – CBT Operational Risk Register (June 2023)

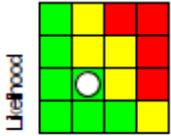
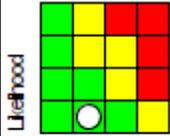
Risk 7 – Non-compliant funding applications and payments

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
CBT 007 Non-compliant funding applications and payments 13-Dec-2022 Sacha Rose-Smith	Cause: Staff fail to apply robust checks and approvals in line with defined procedures and processes. Event: Incorrect /fraudulent grant payments may be processed. Effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded organisations having to repay (significant) amounts or in worst case scenario charity funds being lost and unable to be recovered. Adverse impact on reputation on CBT. Internal/external audit/investigations into loss/errors. 	 Likelihood Impact 4	No change to risk score at latest update – mitigating actions in progress as planned. 14 Mar 2023	 Likelihood Impact 4	Accept	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
007a Grants Manual	To continuously use and update the Grants Manual. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Ongoing action – Grants Manual is updated as and when required.	Sam Grimmatt-Batt	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023
007b Funding Officers Manual	To develop a new Funding Officers manual which outlines relevant processes and procedures for processing grants and payments etc.	Funding Officer manual development commenced on 6th February 2023. Due to other priorities the team will take a slow and steady approach to its development and implementation. A lead Funding Officer has been assigned initially who will after laying the foundations of the manual will open up the development to the wider FO team for input..	Scott Nixon	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023
007c Staff Training	To provide to Funding Managers and Funding Officers in the policies, processes and procedures regarding funding applications and payments.	Ongoing action – officers provided with relevant policies, processes and procedures.	Sacha Rose-Smith	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024
007d Member Training	To provide training and support to Members in the relevant processes and procedures for decision-making on funding applications. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Training requirements for the Grants Committee are being scoped and developed for 2023/24, working closely with the Funding Team and Impact & Learning Team to roll out relevant training.	Amelia Ehren	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024
007e Financial controls	To continue to follow appropriate City Corporation and BHE control frameworks e.g., new supplier details, procurement regulations, payment approval processes. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Financial controls continue to be followed with no issues reported to highlight at this stage.	Scott Nixon	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024

Appendix 1 – CBT Operational Risk Register (June 2023)

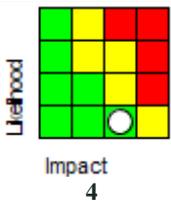
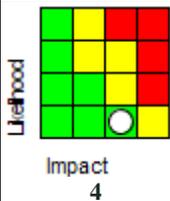
Risk 8 – Ineffective budgetary control and financial reporting

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
CBT 008 Ineffective budgetary control and financial reporting 13-Dec-2022 Sacha Rose-Smith	<p>Cause: Poor/effective budgetary control; budget holders lack relevant financial training, skills or experience; financial controls /procedures not followed/enforced.</p> <p>Event: There is insufficient management control and focus on the CBT budget.</p> <p>Effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget does not match key objectives. Decisions made on inaccurate financial projections or reporting. Overspending against agreed budget, hence committing unauthorised funds. Underspending against agreed budget, hence not utilising funds for agreed purposes. Inability to meet commitments or key objectives (as set out in the business plan). 	 <p>Impact 4</p>	No change to risk score at latest update – mitigating actions in progress as planned. 14 Mar 2023	 <p>Impact 2</p>	31-Aug-2023 Reduce	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
008a Training	BHE & Charities Finance Team to develop and deliver training for budget holders.	Further training opportunities being developed for 2023/24.	Helen Martins	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023
008b Budget Monitoring Meetings	Budget holders and Finance Business Partner to meet on a monthly basis to review budgets and maintain oversight. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Meetings continue as scheduled.	Helen Martins	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023
008c Financial controls	To continue to follow appropriate City Corporation and BHE financial control frameworks. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Financial controls continue to be followed with no issues reported to highlight at this stage.	Scott Nixon	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023
008d Financial reporting	to ensure that the Grants Committee receive regular and updated management accounts.(At least quarterly). <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Budget monitoring report provided to Grants Committee in March.	Helen Martins	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023

Appendix 1 – CBT Operational Risk Register (June 2023)

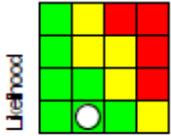
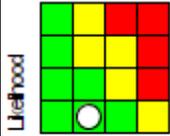
Risk 10 – Failure to deliver work in the best interests of communities most impacted on by inequality and lack of diversity

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
CBT 010 Failure to deliver work in the best interests of communities most impacted on by inequality and lack of diversity. 13-Dec-2022 David Farnsworth	Cause: Lack of awareness and understanding by Members and officers of equity, diversity and inclusion issues for the communities that could apply to CBT for funding. Event: Insufficient regard is given by CBT to equity, diversity and inclusion issues in the design and delivery of funding. Effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-compliance with CoLC and BHE policies. • Inability to deliver funding to London's communities – leading to greater inequality. • Failure to achieve stated objective(s) in business plan. • Negative publicity and damage to the charity's, and its Trustee's, reputation 		No change to risk score at latest update – mitigating actions in progress as planned. 14 Mar 2023		Accept	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
010a DEI Working Group	To continue committing support to the DEI Working Group to develop and deliver on the DEI Action Plan, and ensure it is embedded within our funding workstreams. Ongoing action.	The DEI Working Group continue to meet on a monthly basis, with 'sub-groups' progressing relevant strands of the DEI Plan. The DEI Plan is due to be updated for 2023/24, following the expansion of the group to all teams within BHE.	David Farnsworth	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024
010b DEI Member & Staff Training	To procure consultants to deliver DEI training to staff and then roll-out this training to Members of the BHE Board & Grants Committee	Following a retender exercise a suitable proposal has been received. An initial conversation has been had with a potential provider. Further internal conversations are planned to agree the scope and aims of the training before contracting with the provider.	Sacha Rose-Smith	14-Mar-2023	31-Aug-2023
010c Review of Funding Policies	To (regularly) review the CBT Funding Policies to ensure that funding priorities reflect the needs of London's diverse communities.	A review of our funding policies will be included in the scope for the end-to-end review that is planned for 23/24.	Sacha Rose-Smith	14-Mar-2023	30-Jun-2023
010d Equity Partners	To continue to engage with equity partners in the design and delivery of relevant processes, including funding strategies and programmes. Ongoing	Ongoing action – CBT continue to engage with equity partners.	David Farnsworth	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024

Appendix 1 – CBT Operational Risk Register (June 2023)

Risk 11 – Strategic planning (Bridging Divides)

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
CBT 011 Strategic planning (Bridging Divides) 13-Dec-2022 David Farnsworth	<p>Cause: There is ineffective/robust processes for developing revisions to the “Bridging Divides” funding policy and other related funding plans and policies.</p> <p>Event: CBT lacks direction, strategy, and forward planning</p> <p>Effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBT does not create workable strategic and may fail to achieve its stated objectives. • Lack of strategic planning makes it difficult to produce accurate budgets and put in place staffing resources needed to deliver the work. 	 <p>Impact 2</p>	No change to risk score at latest update – mitigating actions in progress as planned. 14 Mar 2023	 <p>Impact 2</p>	Accept	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
011a BHE Strategic Framework	To undertake a review of all BHE’s strategies and develop an appropriate overarching framework for the future development of the charity’s strategies and policies, ensuring there is alignment between the funding policy and the Bridging London Strategy.	A review of all BHE strategies is due to take in the spring/summer 2023, with relevant recommendations being discussed with officers and Members as appropriate.	Amelia Ehren	14-Mar-2023	31-Jul-2023
011b Workplan	To deliver and maintain the Funding Team Workplan. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	A review of all BHE strategies is due to take in the spring/summer 2023, with relevant recommendations being discussed with officers and Members as appropriate.	Sacha Rose-Smith	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024
011c Consultation with stakeholders	When necessary, to consult with appropriate persons regarding the funding policy, as required by Order of the Charity Commissioners, dated 10 July 1997. <u>Ongoing action.</u>	Ongoing action – no update as at February 2023.	Sacha Rose-Smith	14-Mar-2023	31-Mar-2024

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Bridging Divides Eligibility Criteria

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered charity Registered Community Interest Company Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered charitable industrial and provident society or charitable Bencom Charitable company Exempt or excepted charity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue grants cannot amount to more than 50% of an organisation's turnover/income in any one year Organisations cannot hold more than one grant at a time, except where the application is for: an eco-audit, an access audit, or is made under one of the Trust's special one-off programmes or is a strategic initiative Grants must benefit inhabitants of Greater London
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Bridging Divides Programmes

Connecting the Capital	Positive Transitions	Advice and Support
Infrastructure funding: capacity building and representation.	Support for children and young people	Provision of advice and support to disadvantaged individuals
Increasing the quality and scale of giving	Support and services for older people	Food poverty
Place based giving schemes	Support services for Deaf and Disabled people	
Making London a greener city <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Revenue funding. b. Eco audits. c. Capital funding 	Support for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants to access mainstream services and widen community participation	
Access improvements to community buildings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Access audits b. Capital funding 	Criminal justice: for those leaving custody or serving community sentences	
Voice & Leadership	Tackling abuse, exploitation and hate.	
	Mental health services	

Detailed criteria available on the website: [What we fund - City Bridge Trust](#)

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Committee: Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board	Date: 12 June 2023
Subject: Alliance Partnerships – Fight for Sight/Vision Foundation (Ref: 20566)	Public
Report of: Sacha Rose-Smith, Chief Funding Director	For Decision
Report Authors: Sam Grimmett, Funding Director, Matt Robinson, Funding Manager	

Summary

This paper seeks Funding Committee approval of a grant of £500,000 to Fight for Sight/Vision Foundation towards the Vision Fund, a grantmaking programme aimed at reducing isolation and tackling mental health issues within the sight loss community. The funds will be used towards onward grantmaking (£437,575), programme evaluation and running costs (£32,500) and administration (£29,925 – 3%). Onward grant making funds will only be used for grants for work benefiting Londoners. Vision Foundation is also contributing £549,575 towards the Fund (inclusive of admin and running costs).

The funding will allow Vision Foundation to continue to support blind and partially sighted Londoners and the organisations that support them, and will allow them to spend more of their own contribution to the fund on national organisations, by investing in the London (eligible and supportable) applicants. It also complements CBT's Alliance Partnership with Trust for London supporting their Disability Justice Fund which will award onward funds to disabled people's organisations to support their ongoing sustainability across London.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Funding Committee, in discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Approve a grant of £500,000 over two years, as an Alliance Partnership, to Fight for Sight/Vision Foundation [charity no: 1111438 (formerly 1074958)] for running costs and onward grant making as part of the Vision Fund. A payment timetable will be drawn up in line with the launch dates of the four funding rounds, and the related payments to onward grant recipients.

Main Report

Background

1. This report seeks support for a recommendation to partner with Vision Foundation (VF), an established funder with an excellent reputation for work focused on transforming the lives of people facing or living with sight loss by funding projects which inform, empower, and include.

2. CBT has engaged in collaborative funding practices for much of its 27-year history – particularly, but not limited to, its support of London’s voluntary and community sector infrastructure. It has widely been agreed across the sector that collaborative funding approaches are required for a thriving civil society and should form a healthy part of the overall funding ecosystem.
3. At the Grants Committee meeting on 6 December 2021, the Committee agreed to earmark up to £15m toward a series of Alliance Partnerships which would advance the mission and vision of the Bridging Divides Strategy. In September 2022, a further £3m was allocated to the initiative by the Committee, bringing the total available allocation to £18m. It was agreed that Alliance Partnerships would be awarded to:
 - a) Established funders, with a track record of delivering grant funding programmes, where the organisation’s primary aim (or primary aim within civil society) is funding.
 - b) For grant programmes which are in development, or recently begun, and which have a finite end point; and for,
 - c) Initiatives which have involved significant scoping/evidence review work, where the funder has specialist knowledge of the funding theme/priority that is additional to CBT’s own reach.
4. The proposal in this report meets the above criteria and, if approved, would see CBT strengthen its commitment to supporting Londoners most impacted by inequality and injustice through a partnership that will multiply the impact of the funding we have available.
5. A table of Alliance Partnerships is included at Appendix 1.

About Fight for Sight/Vision Foundation

6. Fight for Sight and Vision Foundation have recently merged. By combining their strengths and expertise, the organisation will be the only significant national funder with the efficiency, capability, and capacity to increase investment in medical research and social improvement.
7. The staff teams have been combined, and whilst some new roles were created no further significant changes are expected. The new organisation will use the (amended) governing document of Fight for Sight, with Vision Foundation continuing to exist as an entity for the time being, as a subsidiary of Fight for Sight. The organisation will be overseen by a team of twelve trustees (6 from each former board) and co-chaired by each of the former board chairs. It will be led by Fight for Sight CEO Keith Valentine.
8. For the purposes of this paper, VF officers have focused on the team and background, as this is the organisation from which the original proposal had its genesis, and the fund will be administered by Vision Foundation’s Social Impact Team (sitting within the wider merged charity). Due diligence has been undertaken on both organisations where appropriate (for example in relation to safeguarding) or only one where appropriate (for example the governing document of Fight for

Sight was examined for appropriate dissolution clause and objects, as this is the document which will form the basis of governance for the newly merged organisation).

9. Officers are satisfied that the merger represents a genuine joining of forces which will strengthen the impact of both organisations and improve the resilience and capacity of London's sight loss charities.
10. VF has over one hundred years of experience supporting blind and partially sighted people in London to achieve their potential. By partnering with a network of sight loss charities in the heart of some of London's most deprived communities, it helps remove the biggest barriers facing blind and partially sighted people in our society today.
11. During the pandemic, VF moved quickly to help address the problems faced by London's blind and partially sighted people and:
 - a) Committed £100,000 to the London Community Response Fund to support essential community organisations to ensure they could adapt and innovate quickly and effectively.
 - b) Wrote a joint letter with RNIB to the Mayor of London to draw his attention to the challenges faced by visually impaired people.
 - c) Amplified the voices of the sight loss community in London by sharing their stories of life during lockdown through our social media campaign #BlindLockdownLife.
 - d) Supported projects alleviating isolation and loneliness including telephone befriending; community-based dance programme to engage young VI people from the Asian community; 'Music Makers' sessions, for VI children with profound learning difficulties; assistive technology training to older VI people on use of computers, smartphones, e-readers.
12. Since its inception in 1921, it has distributed more than £32 million. In the 2021-2022 financial year, it distributed over £432,000 in grants, a vital resource for several organisations, including those struggling to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. It has been recognised nationally, winning the UK 2020 Directory of Social Change 'Great Giving' Award in acknowledgment of its positive impact on the visual impairment sector, and in particular its capacity building approach. As a funder, VF fills a critical gap for the sight loss sector, which would otherwise have to compete with other organisations and issues, even though they provide vital services to an otherwise largely overlooked population.
13. VF's Board of Trustees and staff team have multiple decades of combined fund and grant management experience. They bring invaluable lived experience at all levels of decision making from Board of Trustees to staff.
14. VF's 'Funder Plus' relationship with its funded partners involves free training on key issues such as fundraising, accessible communications, meaningfully applying lived experience, an annual forum for shared learning and 1-2-1 support as an organisational development offer. It has also recently introduced a Resilience Fund of unrestricted funding in its commitment to support the strengthening of the sight

loss sector. In addition to its grant making, it also invests time and resources on developing complementary campaigns for our thematic areas of focus. Through events and campaigns, we are better able to support and inform the wider sight loss sector as well as influence change, working with and on behalf of visually impaired people on the issues that matter most to them.

15. One of VF's values is to work collaboratively and intelligently with diverse stakeholders. To ensure an evidence-informed application of its strategy, it first commissions research to gain a better understanding of the issues affecting blind and partially sighted people's lives. This enables it to invest in work that results in the greatest impact for blind and partially sighted people.
16. This model of social research, events, dissemination, recommendations and directed funding is now well-established, having been trialled with a focus on employment and more recently refined for its work on domestic violence experienced by blind and partially sighted people. The next thematic area it intends to focus on will be loneliness, isolation, and poor mental health in the visually impaired community through its Strengthening Connections Programme.
17. CBT has a good relationship with Vision Foundation, and worked with the organisation during the pandemic, when it contributed £100,000 to the London Community Response as an aligned funder. Neither Vision Foundation nor Fight for Sight have received funding from CBT previously.

Partnership Proposal – the “Vision Fund”

18. According to research by the Campaign to End Loneliness, sensory loss is one of the key risk factors leading to loneliness. Since the pandemic, there has been an increase of 44% in the number of people who reported feeling lonely. This was exacerbated in the visually impaired with reduced opportunities to socialize, withdrawal of guiding (due to social contact concerns), and the move to home working.
19. Age UK has highlighted the impact of loneliness and isolation on older people with the number of over fifties experiencing loneliness increasing by 49% in the last 10 years. Almost three quarters of London's sight loss community are aged sixty-five and over – that is approximately 150,000 older blind and partially sighted people who are at far greater risk of chronic loneliness than sighted older people. Loneliness is also a critical issue for children and young people.
20. According to the Royal Society for Blind Children, 37% of visually impaired young people aged 11 – 22 disagree with the statement 'I have good friends in my local neighbourhood' and almost a third believe their visual impairment has made it difficult to make friends. Current literature also points to the connection between visual impairment and increased risk of depression. A 2016 study by Thomas Pocklington Trust and partners says that whilst this link exists, falling into depression is more related to visual functioning and the impairment itself, that is, the degree to which blind and partially sighted people can carry out day to day

activities.¹ The report outlines the impact of sight loss on various intersections with mental health, for example age, multiple disabilities, illnesses, or social isolation. It seeks to understand the interplay in the lives of blind and partially sighted people of loneliness, isolation, and mental health.

21. These findings were echoed in a VF survey in 2019, in which 11% of respondents shared that they had had suicidal thoughts as a result of their sight loss. In their 2019 report, the Royal Blind and Mental Health Foundation identify various mental health challenges resulting from sight loss. It highlights the limited access to mental health services for blind and partially sighted people and calls for a more nuanced support to individual needs and respective sight loss journeys.

22. Additional studies highlight the desperate need for a better approach:

- a) 31% of blind and partially sighted people are rarely, or never, optimistic about the future.
- b) Only 17% of people experiencing sight loss are offered emotional support in relation to their deteriorating vision.
- c) More than 4 in 10 people attending low vision clinics are suffering from symptoms of clinical depression.
- d) In a survey by Mental Health Foundation Scotland, 85% of respondents stated that 'sight loss had an impact on their emotional wellbeing'.² In a previous report, "Social Connections and Sight Loss," the Foundation also highlighted sight loss often comes with a diverse range of emotional trauma.
- e) Disability Rights UK data published in March 2023, which uses ONS Census data overlaid with death registration data, has found that disabled men are three times more likely to die by suicide, and disabled women nearly four times more likely, than non-disabled people.

23. Over the last 5 years, VF has invested over £150k in projects, supporting nearly twenty organisations that directly address loneliness, isolation and mental health. Based on its analysis of its grants portfolio and from anecdotal evidence, it has estimated a need for a commitment of at least £750k to research, identify and invest in the most impactful community projects which can act as a "test bed" of the best interventions.

24. The aim of this comprehensive programme of work is to ensure that blind and partially sighted people are included in all aspects of life and can access formal and informal support and friendship. VF will tackle loneliness and poor mental health in the sight loss community through commissioned research, targeted partner funding (the subject of this proposal), awareness events and public campaigning.

25. This proposal recommends a collaboration with VF on the targeted partner funding element of this thematic area of focus. VF will create a ring-fenced Vision Fund pot

¹ Thomas Pocklington Trust, South West London, St. George's Mental Health NHS Trust, South West London Academic, Health and Social Care System (2016) Visual Impairment, Depression and Access to Psychological Therapies

² Emotional support for sight loss | Mental Health Foundation

of £888,000 to continue investing in the critical area of poor mental health, loneliness and isolation among blind and partially sighted people.

26. Funding will be distributed through four rounds over two years during 2023-2025. Co-funding totalling £500,000 from City Bridge Trust will enable VF to concentrate on London based sight loss organisations and other London based specialist organisations seeking to support the 80% of blind and partially sighted people who sometimes, often or always feel lonely, and the 31% who experience severe anxiety or depression as a result of their sight loss (Vision Foundation Survey, 2019).
27. The Fund will be managed by VF's expert Social Impact Team and supported by VF's Advisory Committee made up of five experts with lived experience of sight loss. Standard due diligence has been undertaken and although the recent merger does mean that the wider organisation is now operating nationally, a separate cost centre for CBT funds will be established to ensure that this grant is only used towards the Vision Fund and onward grantmaking to London organisations, alongside all of the usual and expected internal financial procedures and measures. Standard grant terms and conditions will also apply restricting the funding to work that benefits Londoners.
28. The budget below shows that, of the £500,000 grant from CBT over two years, £437,575 will be used for awarding onward grants to blindness and visual impairment charities benefitting Londoners. £32,500 will be used towards promotion and evaluation costs, the costs of paying advisory panel members to participate, and the costs of making the fund accessible to all applicants. £29,925 (3% of the total grant) will be used towards VF's own administrative costs of operating the fund, which is within acceptable parameters within the sector and similar to or less than the management costs paid to other Alliance Partners.

Budget

Description	Vision contribution	CBT cost revised	Overall Total cost	Notes
Grants to organisations	450,000	437,575	887,575	Split over 4 funding rounds
			-	
Campaign / Promotional costs	10,000	-	10,000	VF Contribution
			-	
Monitoring and Evaluation: research, including establishing impact and modelling social value (development of impact framework- including impact report	18,750	18,750	37,500	50% of total cost requested
			-	
Advisory Committee	11,250	11,250	22,500	50% of total cost requested
			-	Grants Advisory Panel made up of 5 Experts by Experience. Fixed fee of £1,500 per Advisor x5 x 3 funding rounds
Accessibility	2,500	2,500	5,000	50% of total cost requested
			-	
	492,500	470,075	962,575	
			-	
Fund management overhead costs	56,707	29,925	86,632	3% of overall cost
			-	
TS	549,207	500,000	1,049,207	

Outcomes

29. Onward grants in the Vision Fund will be awarded to organisations undertaking work which contributes to the following outcomes for blind and partially sighted Londoners:
- a) Improved mental health and wellbeing.
 - b) Increased access to activities (e.g., jobs, sports) reducing loneliness and isolation.
 - c) Improved access to mental health support nuanced to the needs of blind and partially sighted people.
 - d) Increased confidence and ongoing resilience through better connection to their communities.
 - e) Increased independence.
30. The wider programme that the Vision Fund will sit within (the Strengthening Connections Programme) will also contribute to the following outcomes via its research and campaigning and influencing functions:
- a) Contribution to evidence and data on the impact of loneliness and isolation within the visually impaired community.
 - b) Increased capacity to influence policy makers and the public.
 - c) Opportunity to develop and cascade best practice guidance.
 - d) Building a network of grassroots organisations with shared aims.
31. As an established funder distributing around £432,000 in grant funding in 2021/22, and around £300,000 in the previous year, VF has good capacity to manage a grant of £500,000. Additionally, the recent merger can provide access additional resource and capacity if required (although the project has been well planned and there is no indication that additional support will be required).

Timeline and Impact Measurement

32. The fund will launch in September 2023 and will run for two years – including launch, assessment, and award periods. There will be four rounds of funding, each learning from the previous. Some of the funds (see table below in budget section) will be used for research and development which will include the development of an impact model/framework and the production of an impact report. As an Alliance Partnership, this work will also be evaluated as part of CBT's wider measurement of the impact of the Alliance Partnerships programme.

Communications

33. BHE and CoLC communications and media officers will work with VF to align communications and appropriate and commensurate acknowledgment will be ensured in any media, as with all BHE funding.

Financial Information

34. The newly merged Fight for Sight/Vision Foundation derives income from a diverse mix of sources including individual major and regular donors, trading activities, trusts and foundations, corporates, research partners, income from investments,

community fundraising and others. Grants towards research and social impact represent the majority of expenditure, in addition to the costs of fundraising, policy work and core operational costs. The reserves currently held by the newly merged organisation are substantial and held comfortably above the interim target set, which represents 9 months' running costs plus 50% of non-liquid assets.

35. During the assessment, the organisation indicated the reserves policy is due to be reviewed in Autumn 2023 with a likely reduced target. The organisation said the unrestricted reserves holding would be reduced accordingly, through a pattern of deficits to be planned across the medium term in financial forecasting – to spend down the reserves towards the revised policy target and to achieve greater impact through strategic time-limited programmes. In this period of transition, the governance structures, and financial policies of the new organisation, including an agreed reserves policy, are currently being drawn up.

Year end as at 31 March	2022		2023	2024
	Audited Accounts		Draft Results	Headline Budget
	Vision Foundation	Fight for Sight	(Merged Organisation)	(Merged Organisation)
	£	£	£	£
Income & expenditure:				
Income	2,205,654	3,514,000	7,485,000	7,377,000
Expenditure	(2,157,124)	(3,898,000)	(7,143,000)	(7,530,000)
Gains/(losses)	90,312	177,000	(418,000)	0
Surplus/(deficit)	138,842	(207,000)	(76,000)	(153,000)
Reserves:				
Total restricted	2,500	540,000	857,000	857,000
Total unrestricted	2,340,005	7,473,000	9,422,000	9,294,000
Total reserves	2,342,505	8,013,000	10,279,000	10,151,000
Of which: free unrestricted	1,363,921	4,781,000	7,520,000	7,392,000
Reserves policy target	1,500,000	1,984,000	5,600,000	5,891,500
Free reserves over/(under) target	(136,079)	2,797,000	1,920,000	1,500,500

Conclusion

36. The current economic situation is only serving to exacerbate the experiences for blind and partially sighted people. According to a survey this year by Mind, 78% of people surveyed said that the cost-of-living crisis is impacting their mental health, rising to 94% for those with existing mental health problems.

37. Fight for Sight/Vision Foundation exists to serve people with sight loss by saving sight and changing lives through social impact. It directs the funding it raises specifically towards innovation and change and recognises the importance of managing its scale to ensure its impact remains significant. It has been speaking up for blind and partially sighted people by highlighting inequalities such as the disproportionate levels of domestic violence within the sight loss community and the increased numbers of people with sight loss who died of Covid-19, to give two examples. It will now pivot to highlighting the equally disproportionate impact that mental health issues and isolation have on blind and partially sighted people, and Alliance Partnership funding of £500,000 will significantly increase the amount of funding available to London based organisations during the grant funding portion of this work.

38. This initiative provides an excellent opportunity to direct funds to Londoners impacted by visual impairment in a targeted approach as well as an opportunity to learn from this innovative work which utilises experts by experience, as recruited by an organisation which itself has a good representation of people impacted by sight loss within the staff team, senior leadership team, and board.

39. This partnership also contributes to increasing the spread of funding within the Alliance Partnerships programme, which currently only has one other partnership related to disabled people. VF has confirmed it will ensure CBT funds are restricted for the benefit of Londoners.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Alliance Partnerships awarded to date

Sam Grimmett

Funding Director

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Matt Robinson

Funding Manager

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Appendix 1

Alliance Partnerships awarded to date:

Name of org	Amount awarded	Target communities/funded organisations
Rosa	£499,999	Black and minoritized women and girls
GLA	£720,000	Equity infrastructure organisations
JLC	£1,020,000	Young people
USS	£500,000	Community led organisations in Southwark
Trust for London	£2,000,000	Black and minoritized communities
Trust for London	£1,500,000	Disabled people
Comic Relief	£2,069,375	Black and minoritized communities
Smallwood Trust	£864,283	Women and girls
Baring Foundation	£1,500,000	Communities with protected characteristics
LLST	£6,000,000	Legal support for disadvantaged communities
Vision Foundation (if agreed today)	£500,000	Disabled people
	£17,173,657	
Total Available Allocation	£18,000,000	
Remaining budget (subject to this grant being approved)	£826,343	

NB: There is a remaining negotiation underway with Children in Need which will likely utilise the remaining funds.

Committee: Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board	Date: 12 June 2023
Subject: Grant Funding Activity: Period Ended 24 May 2023	Public
Report of: Sacha Rose-Smith, Chief Funding Director	For Decision
Report author: Scott Nixon, Head of Managing Director's Office	

Summary

This report provides details of: funds approved and rejected under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Funding Committee in March 2023 through to 24 May 2023; the remaining 2023/2024 grants budget; grants spend to date and for this meeting by London Borough compared with the Multiple Index of Deprivation; any grant variations that have been approved under delegated authority; and seeks the Funding Committee's approval for 2 grant rejections and 7 grants between £250k - £1,000,001 within this report.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Receive this report and note its contents;
- ii) Approve the eight grants as recommended in Appendix 3; and
- iii) Approve the rejection of grants as listed in Appendix 4.

Main Report

Budget and Applications update

1. There have been 110 grants awarded from the main grants programmes to date in 2023/24 (1 April - 25 May 2023) with the net grant spend £11.2m. This leaves the remaining budget for 2023/24 at £91.4m, before grants recommended to this Committee of £2.7m.
2. In addition, 44 grants totalling £2.4m (including 7 final inflationary pressures payments) were awarded under delegated authority between the March Committee and the financial year end 31 March 2023. This spending is reflected in the opening designated grant making fund balance available at 1 April 2023 of £179.5m.
3. In addition to the grants listed below, 25 applications were withdrawn since the last meeting to 23 May 2023.
4. A full summary of grants committed and funds available for future commitments can be seen in **Appendix 1**. Heat maps of spending are shown in **Appendix 2**.

Recommendations to approve between £250k - £1,000,001

4. The Funding Committee's approval is requested for Bridging Divides applications of between £250k - £1,000,001 within this report. A copy of the corresponding grant assessment reports can be found at **Appendix 3**.

Grant Rejections

5. The 2 applications above the level delegated to officers recommended for rejection at this meeting are listed within **Appendix 4**. In each case the "purpose" of the application is that provided by the applicant organisation. The reasons for rejection are specified following assessment against the Bridging Divides funding strategy criteria and related Policy Guidance.
6. Copies of these application forms are available electronically. If any Committee Member wishes to query any of the recommendations, this can either be done at the meeting, in which case the decision may be deferred while full details are provided to the Member concerned, or by contacting the CBT office in advance of the meeting so that an explanation can be provided prior to or at the meeting.
7. A list of all rejections approved in line with the current delegated authority procedure are provided within **Appendix 5**.

Grant Variations

8. Variations to the grants outlined have been agreed by the Managing Director of BHE or the Chief Funding Director, in line with the delegated procedure for the amendment of grants. Details of all variations are provided at **Appendix 6**.

Funds approved under delegated authority

9. The details provided at **Appendix 7** advises the Funding Committee of funds approved under delegated authority and urgency procedures from March 2023 to 24 May 2023.

Conclusion

10. This report provides details of grant funding activity since the last meeting of the Funding Committee in March 2023 and seeks the Funding Committee's approval for 2 grant rejections and 7 grants between £250k - £1,000,001 within this report.

Appendices:

- Appendix 1: Budget and applications update
- Appendix 2: Heat maps of Index of Multiple Deprivation, Bridging Divides spend to date and this meeting's grants
- Appendix 3: Grant recommendations to approve between £250k - £1,000,001
- Appendix 4: Grant rejections recommended for approval
- Appendix 5: Grant rejections
- Appendix 6: Grant variations

- Appendix 7: Funds approved under delegated authority or urgency requests

Scott Nixon

Head of Managing Director's office

E: Scott.Nixon@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Budget for main grants programmes and restricted funds to date (23/34 financial year).

<i>Date of this report: 25/5/23</i>	Designated Fund - Bridging Divides, Cornerstone, Bridge Fund	Restricted funds - LCRF, TFL, RRR2	TOTAL
£'000			
Funds balance at 1 April 2023 per draft accounts	179,866	409	180,275
<i>Already earmarked for projects</i>	(399)	0	(399)
Funds available for grantmaking at 1/4/23	179,467	409	179,876
Grants awarded 2023/24			
<i>Delegated authority grants financial YTD</i>	(10,949)	0	(10,949)
<i>Grants approved at March Cttee and awarded in 23/24</i>	(276)	0	(276)
TOTAL AWARDED TO DATE OF REPORT	(11,225)	0	(10,949)
Number of grants awarded	110	0	110
Write backs, variations & revocations financial YTD	0	0	0
Number of grants revoked, varied or written back	0	0	0
Other costs incl. staff costs associated with £200m uplift	(23)	0	(23)
Conditional grants*	(178)	0	(178)
Stepping Stones loan awarded under Bridging Divides*	(50)	0	(50)
TOTAL SPENT/ALLOCATED TO DATE	(11,475)	0	(11,022)
Subtotal: available at the date of this report	167,991	409	168,854
Total grants recommended for approval 12 June 2023	(2,742)	0	(2,742)
Remaining funds available	165,249	409	166,112
2023/24 budget summary			
Approved Grants Budget 2023/24	101,500	0	101,500
Add non-grant spend budget 2023/24	1,400	0	1,400
Add restricted funds brought forward	0	409	409
Budget for 2022/23	102,900	409	103,309
<i>Grants awarded to date of this report net of revocations</i>	(11,225)	0	(11,225)
<i>Other costs and allocations</i>	(250)	0	(250)
Budget available to Committee at report date	91,425	409	91,834

*Awarded in 21/22 but remain in this report for 23/24

Appendix 2: Heat maps of Index of Multiple Deprivation (average score for borough), Bridging Divides spend to date (£), and this meeting's grants (£)

Note that City Bridge Trust (CBT) data is categorised by the borough location of the funded organisation. Support from that organisation may go to the same or other boroughs. Not all grants have this data recorded.

Index Multiple Deprivation (Average borough score)

Most Deprived							
2nd Quartile							
3rd Quartile							
Least Deprived							
				Enf			
				59			
		Hrw	Brn	Hgy	Wth		
		199	184	37	45		
Hdn	Elg	Brt	Cmd	Isl	Hck	Rdb	Hvg
151	88	49	132	28	7	160	179
Hns	Hms	Kns	Wst	Cty	Tow	Nwm	Bar
95	96	122	134	208	27	12	5
	Rch	Wns	Lam	Swr	Lsh	Grn	Bxl
	297	173	42	43	35	60	190
		Kng	Mrt	Crd	Brm		
		270	214	102	230		
			Stn				
			227				

Rank of deprivation (1=most deprived) in England (average score per borough)

Main grants from start of Bridging Divides (September 2018) to Committee date (excluding LCRF)

Lowest Quartile							
2nd Quartile							
3rd Quartile							
Upper Quartile							
				Enf			
				£900,000			
				£3,000			
		Hrw	Brn	Hgy	Wth		
		£1,800,000	£3,400,000	£2,900,000	£1,700,000		
		£7,000	£16,000	£11,000	£6,000		
Hdn	Elg	Brt	Cmd	Isl	Hck	Rdb	Hvg
£1,200,000	£1,400,000	£1,900,000	£9,800,000	£9,800,000	£8,700,000	£800,000	£400,000
£4,000	£4,000	£8,000	£29,000	£40,000	£23,000	£3,000	£2,000
Hns	Hms	Kns	Wst	Cty	Tow	Nwm	Bar
£800,000	£2,800,000	£3,300,000	£7,300,000	£5,600,000	£7,300,000	£3,300,000	£1,200,000
£3,000	£15,000	£21,000	£27,000	£20,000	£22,000	£9,000	£110,000
	Rch	Wns	Lam	Swr	Lsh	Grn	Bxl
	£1,900,000	£3,700,000	£7,300,000	£6,600,000	£3,000,000	£1,300,000	£700,000
	£10,000	£11,000	£23,000	£21,000	£10,000	£4,000	£2,000
		Kng	Mrt	Crd	Brm		
		£900,000	£2,000,000	£1,500,000	£1,300,000		
		£5,000	£10,000	£4,000	£4,000		
			Stn				
			£900,000				
			£4,000				

KEY
Total £
Per 1000

Total since the start of Bridging Divides per borough (upper), total per thousand population (lower)
 blue = high; red = low

Main grants for this Committee

				Enf			
				£200,000			
				£1,000			
		Hrw	Brn	Hgy	Wth		
		£0	£400,000	£300,000	£100,000		
		£0	£2,000	£1,000	£1,000		
Hdn	Elg	Brt	Cmd	Isl	Hck	Rdb	Hvg
£0	£0	£500,000	£1,600,000	£1,000,000	£1,600,000	£200,000	£200,000
£0	£0	£2,000	£5,000	£4,000	£4,000	£1,000	£1,000
Hns	Hms	Kns	Wst	Cty	Tow	Nwm	Bar
£100,000	£100,000	£100,000	£100,000	£0	£800,000	£500,000	£200,000
£0	£1,000	£1,000	£0	£0	£3,000	£1,000	£20,000
	Rch	Wns	Lam	Swr	Lsh	Grn	Bxl
	£200,000	£100,000	£700,000	£300,000	£200,000	£100,000	£100,000
	£1,000	£0	£2,000	£1,000	£1,000	£0	£0
		Kng	Mrt	Crd	Brm		
		£0	£100,000	£100,000	£100,000		
		£0	£1,000	£0	£0		
			Stn				
			£200,000				
			£1,000				

KEY
Total £
Per 1000

Total this committee per borough (upper), total per thousand population (lower)
 blue = high; red = low

Appendix 3: Grant recommendations to approve between £250k - £1,000,001

MEETING 12 June 2023

Ref: 19982

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Support for children and young people

You Make It

Amount requested: £580,548.00

Amount recommended: £560,000.00

Adv: Abi Sommers

Base: Hackney

Benefit: London-wide

Purpose of grant request: To support young un-employed and under-employed women into employment, training and education through a holistic empowerment programme.

The Applicant

You Make It (YMI) is a charitable incorporated organisation (no. 1158572) registered as Women Who Learn in 2014. YMI has been supporting young un- and under-employed women into employment, training and education since 2011 when it ran its first pilot programme. The programme aims to both provide practical support to access opportunities and also address some of the root causes of employment challenges for working class women. YMI primarily works in Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Southwark. It also runs an anti-racism allyship programme.

Background and detail of proposal

YMI is applying for funding to be split equally across three posts (Chief Executive, Director of Operations and Programmes and Participation Manager), totalling 1 FTE. Together, these roles will run YMI's holistic empowerment programme for young women. YMI run three four-month programmes a year with 25 participants per cohort. The programme has been co-designed with service users and consists of:

- *Workshops and guest talks:* These are held at different venues around London to develop young women's right to the city. Guest talks are from diverse professionals e.g. Riz Ahmed (actor) and Reni Eddo-Lodge (writer). Initial workshops focus on building confidence, self-awareness and promoting mental health, before moving onto practical employability skills.
- *Wellness activities:* These can be accessed for free for the duration of the programme, including online yoga classes, running with the Outrunners running club, and reduced waste cookery classes with Made in Hackney.
- *Therapy:* All service users can access up to 20 sessions of therapeutic support. Programme participants have often experienced trauma and abuse which may affect their ability to enter and sustain employment. YMI hires accredited freelance therapists who are qualified in a range of modalities.
- *Mentoring:* Service users are matched with mentors after one month on the programme. From that point, mentors and participants meet once a week. Mentors pay to engage with the programme and come from a range of professional backgrounds. Mentors and service users are trained on what to expect from the mentoring relationship and appropriate boundaries.
- *Work placements:* For those who have not accessed education, training or employment opportunities by the end of the programme, YMI organises paid

work placements in an area of interest. These have been highly successful in the past and resulted in permanent roles at host organisations.

YMI's holistic approach not only supports young women into education, training and employment, but also helps tackle obstacles that can hinder career progression. Participants are taught how to care for their mental health and better advocate for themselves, whilst seeing examples of women with similar backgrounds to them succeeding. YMI's programme compares positively with similar employability initiatives. Evaluations show reductions in the proportion of participants claiming benefits and the rate of unemployment. Additional outcomes include improved understanding of how to promote themselves, improved professional networks and public speaking skills, increased clarity around reaching future goals, and more interaction with people outside their immediate social and cultural backgrounds.

YMI's programme targets young working class women. The vast majority of service users are women of colour in their early 20s. Young working class women of colour experience intersections of oppression and discrimination which impact their employment prospects and financial situation. Working class women are more likely to work in low paying sectors and in lower paying roles within these sectors. Their key skills and essential work are under-valued and under-rewarded, and opportunities for training and career development are severely restricted.¹ Additionally, young people are less resilient to shocks in the labour market. Young people were among the most affected by the impact of the pandemic on the labour market and continue to be affected by the cost of living crisis.² Women of colour also have high unemployment rates, impacted by factors including discrimination and stereotyping. When in work, people of colour are more likely to be in the lowest paid work and to be living in poverty.³ Without support, the economic challenges facing young working class women of colour can lead to a lifetime impact on their earnings, savings and financial stability, further entrenching systemic disadvantage.

YMI's proposal meets your criteria as a service addressing the needs of disadvantaged young women under the age of 25. It is led by working class women of colour who have specialist knowledge which helps guide the direction of the programme. Lived experience is embedded across YMI's staff team and Board. The programme does not just focus on hard employability skills but places importance on soft skills and resilience. This promotes sustainable employment and progression in work. The programme has a robust evaluation process, building evidence of effective interventions. Its approach has been and continues to be co-produced with young people, for example therapeutic support was introduced in response to service user requests. There are constant lines of communication between service users and the YMI team. The team work hard to reduce barriers to the service, arranging sessions around childcare and covering food and travel costs. YMI is extremely well-

¹ *The problems faced by low income women in the labour market* (2019): <https://wbg.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Problems-faced-by-low-income-women-in-the-labour-market.pdf>

² *Young people in the labour market by socio-economic background, UK: 2014 to 2021*: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/articles/youngpeopleinthelabourmarketbysocioeconomicbackgrounduk/2014to2021>

³ *The Colour of Money: How racial inequalities obstruct a fair and resilient economy* (2020): https://assets.websitefiles.com/61488f992b58e687f1108c7c/61bcc1c736554228b543c603_The%20Colour%20of%20Money%20Report.pdf

connected. It has relationships across the private, public and voluntary sector which support different aspects of its work, from early outreach to final work placements.

Financial Information

YMI is in a stable financial position and has grown over the last five years, whilst maintaining a surplus. It is predicting deficits in 2022/23 and 2023/24 which will reduce free unrestricted reserves to below target level. YMI is supported by a relatively diverse range of funders and received income from trading activities in 2021/22. It will earn some income from trading activities in 2022/23 and 2023/24 but this is expected to decrease as YMI is seeing reduced demand for its anti-racism training. It plans to apply for more grant funding to address this gap. YMI currently has 54% income confirmed for 2023/24 – it is confident it will be able to raise the rest and has successfully accessed grant funding in the past. Although under target level, YMI's reserves would enable it to absorb some short term loss of income if needed, although not anticipated.

Year end as at 31 March	2022 Signed Accounts £	2023 Forecast £	2024 Budget £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	399,648	318,472	354,972
Expenditure	(278,853)	(384,372)	(410,261)
Surplus/(deficit)	120,795	(65,900)	(55,289)
Reserves:			
Total restricted	177,071	111,936	104,833
Total unrestricted	238,451	237,686	189,500
Total reserves	415,522	349,622	294,333
Of which: free unrestricted	235,804	235,039	186,853
Reserves policy target	230,470	282,990	282,990
Free reserves over/(under) target	5,334	(47,951)	(96,137)

YMI's Chief Executive receives an above average salary for the sector. This salary was set by the trustees in light of the Chief Executive's expertise and experience, both professional and lived, and to recognise her work. The trustees also sought to challenge the systemic devaluation of the work of working class women of colour. The assessing Funding Manager is satisfied that the Board made the decision with independent oversight and with reference to appropriate benchmarks.

Funding History

ID	Type	Meeting Date	Decision
15984	Bridging Divides	08/07/2020	The proposal is to offer employment support and personal development programmes and does not meet your specific priorities.
17323	COVID19 London Community Response Fund	08/07/2020	£22,296.00 to fund the essential and urgent costs outlined in the application, in order to carry on providing support to Londoners.
15020	Bridging Divides	25/07/2019	The organisation does not require funding at least until late 2020.

YMI has had an application rejected previously in 2020 for not meeting the Trust's criteria at the time. This followed withdrawing an application in 2019 as funding was not yet needed at this stage. The Trust's criteria has changed since the 2020 application and so the rejection reasoning no longer applies.

Recommendation

The recommendation differs from the request due to an adjustment to staff costs. After assessment of the job descriptions provided, it was felt that the original request for the funds to be split equally between three posts did not appropriately reflect the time each staff member spent on the project. Funding is recommended as follows:

£560,000 over five years (£97,500, £107,500, £112,500, £118,500, £124,000) towards 0.2 FTE Chief Executive, 0.1 FTE Director of Operations, and 0.7 FTE Programmes and Participation Manager to run You Make It's empowerment programme, as well as associated project and counselling costs.

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Infrastructure funding: capacity building and representation

British Refugee Council

Amount requested: £317,504

Amount recommended: £317,505

Adv: Julia Mirkin

Base: Newham

Benefit: London-wide

The Applicant

A registered charity (number 1014576), the British Refugee Council (BRC) is a leading provider of services for asylum seekers and refugees (AS&R), and a prominent advocate for refugee protection. Its services address issues affecting resettlement of AS&R, including poverty, housing, mental health, and employment. The charity delivers services in various locations in England, including dedicated help to unaccompanied minors. It directly supports between 1,300 to 1,500 people in London each year.

The Application

BRC requests funding to build capacity in refugee community organisations (RCOs) in London and to strengthen their network, called the Advocacy Forum. BRC established the Advocacy Forum, now comprising 45 RCOs, in 2019, with funding from the Cornerstone Fund, which aimed to support systems change. BRC's support for the Advocacy Forum has been driven by a belief in the power of smaller, user-led, refugee organisations to communicate about the issues pertinent to their users.

Background and detail of proposal

Refugee community organisations (RCOs) are typically small, user-led charities or community organisations with limited resource but strong links to their communities. It is the lived experience and the community languages spoken in RCOs that often make them the first port of call and trusted support agency for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (AS&R) in London. By strengthening RCOs and the network that connects them, BRC can ensure that more people are reached, and that the support provided is of the best possible quality.

Building capacity in the Advocacy Forum will also enable it to campaign more effectively on behalf of the communities it represents, influencing local and national government, service-providers, funders, and employers. The proposed five-year grant seeks to improve services provided for AS&R in London; to authenticate the communications and advocacy work delivered on their behalf and enable the Advocacy Forum to become self-sustaining during the funding period.

BRC requests funding to contribute to a 0.6 FTE Advocacy and Campaigns Coordinator, who will coordinate Forum activity, such as user engagement or influencing events. The post-holder will undertake a skills audit of Forum members, identifying skills gaps, which will inform the training provided. It is anticipated that areas of training may focus on organisational development, communications, using data and fundraising. The post-holder will support the Forum to undertake publications and campaign planning; they will support fundraising; implement the

governance arrangements to constitute as an independent organisation; and become more visible and trusted in the voluntary sector.

Deliverables for the proposed programme include RCOs learning about community engagement methodologies; RCOs learning about evidence-driven advocacy and campaign planning, to ensure they make best use of the data they collect about AS&R experiences; and training of 'Refugee Influencers', who will draw on their lived experience to communicate with service providers and strategic planners. In addition to staffing, the project budget includes IT and website development costs, travel, specialist training and venue hire.

Financial Information

BRC's surplus in 2021-22 reflects income received in response to two refugee crisis appeals, relating to Afghan and Ukrainian refugees.

The level of general funds held, above the organisation's reserves policy target, which is up to £3,000,000, is forecast to reduce during 22-23. BRC will invest in staff training, its digital communications and brand, and IT infrastructure as a way of preparing for a drop in EU funding and increased challenges posed by the political and economic environment.

BRC aims to diversify its income streams, focussing on income raised from donors. Considering the anticipated challenges ahead, BRC is also planning to review its reserves policy target, currently representing less than three months of current expenditure. It is likely that the levels of reserves shown in the 2022-23 forecast and 2023-24 budget will fall within the parameters of a revised reserves policy target set by BRC's Board this year.

Year end as at 31 March	2022	2023	2024
	Signed Accounts	Forecast	Budget
	£	£	£
Income & expenditure:			
Income	15,792,000	14,941,000	18,147,000
Expenditure	(12,919,000)	(14,936,000)	(18,568,000)
Surplus/(deficit)	2,873,000	5,000	(421,000)
Reserves:			
Total endowed	110,000	110,000	110,000
Total restricted	2,392,000	3,434,000	2,941,000
Total unrestricted	6,347,000	5,310,000	5,383,000
Total reserves	8,849,000	8,854,000	8,434,000
Of which: free unrestricted	4,618,000	3,581,000	3,654,000
Reserves policy target	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Free reserves over/(under) target	1,618,000	581,000	654,000

Funding History

ID	Type	Meeting	Decision
19059	Strategic Initiatives	09/03/2022	£100,000 over 12 months to support the London-focused work of the Programme for Afghan Refugee Community Support
16397	COVID19 LCRF	13/05/2020	£5,000 to fund essential and urgent costs.
15300	Bridging Divides	25/07/2019	£79,200 over two further and final years for the costs of a Full-time Psychological Therapist in London.

15325	Anniversary infrastructure support programme	21/03/2019	£220,800 over three years towards the establishment of a forum to enable refugee community organisations to engage effectively with policy and decision makers.
14842	Anniversary infrastructure support programme	07/09/2018	£20,000 towards staffing and associated running costs to explore the development of a pan-London forum to enable Refugee Community Organisations to directly influence policies, practices and strategies that impact the lives of refugees and asylum seekers.
14370	Anniversary infrastructure support programme	14/03/2018	£25,000 towards the salary of a Community Co-ordinator to support Refugee Council's engagement with The Way Ahead.
13944	Anniversary infrastructure support programme	11/05/2017	£50,000 for a salary, associated on-costs and operational costs.
13288	Investing in Londoners	24/05/2016	£112,000 over three years towards staffing, running costs and overheads of a counselling service for refugees in London
12905	Investing in Londoners	18/03/2016	Application lapsed. Organisation received significant other funding from the Department of Health.

The Recommendation

The proposed programme is a strong fit to the Trust's capacity building strand of Bridging Divides. It also aligns with the aims of much of the Trust's strategic work in that it seeks to redistribute power to communities that have historically experienced marginalisation and systemic inequality; it seeks to amplify voices from these communities and develop leadership capacity within them. This is a strong application from an organisation that is aiming to be an exemplar within the voluntary sector.

£317,505 over five years (£65,645; £59,835; £64,821; £62,971; £64,233) for the 0.6 FTE Advocacy and Campaigns Coordinator post, 0.1 FTE of the Community Engagement Manager post and 0.04 FTE of the Head of Public Affairs and Policy; Staff and volunteer travel costs, IT hardware, Website development, specialist training consultancy, space hire and oncosts.

MEETING 12th June 2023

Ref: 19872

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Support for children and young people

YMCA West London

Adv: Hannan Ali

Base: Hillingdon

Amount requested: £294,326

Benefit: Hillingdon

Amount recommended: £262,200

The Applicant

YMCA West London (YMCA) is a registered charity (number 1058593) established in 2009 to help young people at risk of crime from some of the most deprived areas of Hillingdon, Ealing, and Harrow, to turn their lives around, recognise their value, develop potential, and improve their emotional, physical, and spiritual wellbeing. It has 135 full-time staff, 50 part-time staff, and over 20 volunteers. It encourages local people to get involved to keep youth safe and prevent/divert them from getting involved in crime.

The charity provides support and a safe place to stay to around 1,200 young people each night across seven London Boroughs. Residents are supported by a large housing team with pastoral care, support brokerage, community activities, and counselling. Over 1,000 families benefit weekly from breakfast and afterschool clubs, holiday playschemes, nursery, preschool and soft play facilities, sports for development, and youth sessions. YMCA's on-site gym offer fitness classes and personal training for all ages and abilities. More than 5,000 young people have stepped through its doors in the past 20 years, with service users giving back to their community by volunteering and/or training as youth workers and housing officers.

YMCA is currently working towards the 'Best Companies Award' with Investors in People and working towards an award with London Youth. A reference was sought from John Lyon's Charity, who over the last three years supported the charity with £96k to deliver intensive preventative work with 60 young offenders aged 14-17 referred by the Ealing Youth Justice Service. This involved bringing together the wider community and breaking down barriers between local criminal gangs. This was not received in time for the deadline for papers and officers can provide a verbal update at the Committee meeting.

The Application

YMCA seeks funding to be able to continue delivering its 'Crime Diversion and Prevention' activities to support young people aged 11-21 in Hayes and Northolt. The charity will run two programmes; 'Sports for Development' and 'Individual Mentoring' to create safer communities, improve wellbeing, and make better life choices. One full-time and two part-time youth workers will deliver a full weekly evening programme with the help of volunteers from its youth premises in Hayes Town Centre and Rectory Park Northolt. The services will run throughout the year over 46 weeks, including during school holidays.

'Sports for Development' benefits over 150 young people per year through a schedule of activities. This improves young people's fitness, confidence, self-esteem, resilience, teamwork, leadership skills, and anger management. There are specific sessions to appropriately support disadvantaged young women and girls. 'Individual Mentoring' provides targeted intervention support to 20 individuals per year and includes family mediation/support where needed. Those identified are involved in child criminal exploitation, albeit they have not necessarily had contact from the police yet. High-risk individuals are assigned a youth worker to further safeguard from exploitation and divert from criminal behaviour. Over 90% of YMCA's service users grow up in poverty, qualify for free school meals, use foodbanks, and experience crime.

Background and detail of proposal

The original request included 'Youth Club Sessions', and more than one full-time equivalent post. The revised request does not include the staff costs incurred for the ineligible project run on Wednesdays. A detailed breakdown was provided. Funding will be used to cover staffing (Youth Work Lead 0.5 FTE, Youth Worker 0.25 FTE, Youth Worker 0.25 FTE), venue hire, events, travel, equipment (boxing, footballs, refreshments, IT, etc.), marketing, administration, and management costs (approximately 10%). YMCA will operate sessions from Monday through to Friday for young people aged 11 – 21. These will include a dedicated girls' group, non-contact boxing, football, and a beginners' gym.

YMCA has a well-established reputation in the area for inspiring lifestyle changes through positive activities delivered by trusted youth professionals. Monitoring records show over 80% of those in its crime diversion programmes having taken steps away from negative behaviour, 70% supported with employment issues are working or re-engaged with education, and around 80% in the sports programmes have received formal sporting awards. The youth team is appropriately experienced and uses its lived experience and local knowledge to break down barriers, and address issues of youth crime and anti-social behaviour through multiple measures. Currently there are only four hours of statutory youth provision per week in Hayes and none in Northolt. The creation of football sessions to encourage younger children with positive behaviours came via a direct request from Somali parents. With the lack of youth-friendly places to socialise outside of school and the increased demand for existing services, the services are needed in the community.

To avoid duplication and to compliment other targeted initiatives for residents, YMCA takes a multi-service, cross-reference approach. Other community centres are a mile away and often charge for services. It is a free and open space aiming to be available for all and is involved with various local panels such as Hayes Town Centre Partnership. It has strong partnerships with the Police Safer Neighbourhood team, Secondary Schools, CAMHS (*Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services*), Social Services, Hayes Muslim Centre, and Ealing Youth Justice Service for referrals. The charity conducted a youth consultation, consisting of both online and in-person focus groups, and launched a report in 2022 to ensure disadvantaged youth voices were adequately represented. A 'Young Leaders' team will be established to give young people involved more in project design. Regular suggestions are also placed in a communal box to provide ideas for activities. Beneficiaries are at the surviving and coping stages in life and experience racial inequity. In Hayes, it works with the large

Somali Muslim community and in Northolt it works with predominately white and mixed.

Financial Information

Year end as at March	2022	2023	2024
	Signed accounts	Management accounts	Budget
	£	£	£
Income & expenditure:			
Income	7,843,582	27,298,576	29,712,799
- % of Income confirmed as at May 2023	100%	100%	100%
Expenditure	(7,666,382)	(26,378,461)	(28,310,332)
Total profit/(loss)	177,200	920,115	1,402,467
Operating expenditure	7,479,753	24,928,536	26,943,289
Balance sheet:			
Net assets/(liabilities)	8,684,115	33,418,117	34,820,584
<i>Of which:</i>			
Share capital / share premium	0	0	0
Income and expenditure reserves	8,684,115	33,418,117	34,820,584
	8,684,115	33,418,117	34,820,584
Months' expenditure covered by reserves	13.93	16.09	15.51

In March 2023, YMCA West London fully amalgamated into YMCA St Paul's Group (SPG) (No. 1041923). Although YMCA is a charity, its accounts are prepared under the Housing SORP, hence the presentation of financial information in the format above. The 2022 figures are for YMCA, and 2023 and 2024 figures are for the amalgamated charity. YMCA participated in a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan for employees of YMCAs in England, Scotland, and Wales, which was closed to new members and accruals on 30 April 2007. It has a contractual obligation to make pension deficit contribution payments over the period to April 2029. SPG was in the same scheme and had similar contribution obligations to YMCA. All payments c.£220k across the two charities are manageable and sufficient cash is held to meet these obligations. YMCA held £27.14m and SPG held £32.85m in fixed assets in 2022. The newly merged entity also has healthy net assets, c50% of which are mortgaged; this is relatively low debt for the sector and comparatively low gearing.

YMCA made a surplus of £177k in 2022, a drop from £325k in 2021 due to a decrease in covid support grants and increase in maintenance costs. The income in 2022 was generated from various charitable activities, with social housing lettings accounting for £5.55m. Although most of its assets are tied up in properties, the charity is in a healthy financial position. Its 'Treasury Policy' includes a liquidity policy which is regularly monitored by the Board; the current levels of liquidity are maintained at a higher level than in its business plan and are sufficient. SPG follow a 'value for money' strategy by focusing on cost control, better use of technology, and growth. Appropriate measures are in place to manage key risks such as 'Rent Standard Compliance', 'Cost and Shortage of Labour', and 'Financial Viability'.

The Recommendation

Through its 'Crime Diversion and Prevention' activities, YMCA supports around 200 disadvantaged young people aged 11-21 in Hayes and Northolt to turn their lives around, recognise their value, develop potential, and improve their wellbeing. Its

programmes are successful due to the lived experiences of staff and volunteers and have a successful track record of reducing child criminal exploitation. The charity is well-connected with local partners and has a well-respected reputation amongst the local community and families. Funding is recommended as follows:

£262,200 over three years (£84,100, £88,000, £90,100) to deliver Crime Diversion (Sports for Development) and Prevention (Individual Mentoring) activities and interventions to reach at risk and high need young people aged 11-21 from Hayes and Northolt.

MEETING 12th June 2023

Ref: 19948

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Infrastructure funding: capacity building and representation

Aston-Mansfield

Adv: Chris Walker

Amount requested: £262,783

Base: Newham

Benefit: Newham

Amount recommended: £262,785

The Applicant

Aston-Mansfield (A-M) is a registered charity (number 220085). It was formed in 2000 from the merger of two well-established local organisations; the Aston Charities which had a long history of helping disadvantaged people in the East End; and the Mansfield Settlement.

A-M undertakes a range of activities from childcare to capacity building for around 200 voluntary and community organisations in Newham annually. It is closely linked to a sister Registered Social Landlord, the Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust (charity number 208155), from which it receives an annual grant.

The Application

This is a request to continue work funded by City Bridge over the past 5 years to improve the financial capability of voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations in Newham (Fitter Finance). The experience of that project was that there were a growing number of small voluntary and community organisations emerging in the health sector that need specific support. This is in the context of the disproportionate impact of Covid on ethnic minority communities in Newham.

Infrastructure support in Newham is re-establishing itself following Council funding cuts as well as the impact of Covid. A-M is working alongside Compost, who deliver the main Council VCS capacity building project, as well as other umbrella organisations One Newham and Community Links.

The application is based on a general appreciation of the VCS landscape within which A-M has worked to establish trust and working relationships. It centres on a continuation of the financial capability support delivered in the previous project. This new project will again aim to support 80 VCS organisations per year. Whilst A-M has not always achieved this annual target, it has made some promising links with relevant health networks locally which gives a greater degree of confidence for future work.

There were no concerns raised on previous grant monitoring, and the organisation's previous Funding Manager encouraged this continuation request under the 'Infrastructure' funding priority given the Trust does not operate a policy of 'fallow periods' for this programme.

There is a close inter-relationship between A-M and the sister Charitable Trust, which is progressing major redevelopment plans for A-M's main base. At the time of

the previous application in 2017, these were given as a justification for A-M's low reserves and were scheduled to be completed by 2023. Six years on, the situation has not changed, albeit with Covid as delaying factor.

However, planning permission has now been granted and the redevelopment is likely to start during this project. A-M will therefore re-locate to another base in Newham which will cause disruption, but has some advantages as it is also a health centre.

This request is to mainly meet staffing costs of two part-time workers, with an annual balance of £5,000 to be met through secondments.

Financial Information

A-M is effectively underwritten by its sister Charitable Trust, which has assets of over £15m and makes grants of over £500,000 to A-M annually. A-M also has a separate land and property endowment of £1.4m.

A-M has a zero-reserves policy and plans budget deficits during the run up to the forthcoming re-development in 2022/23 and 2023/24. The Charitable Trust has committed to meet any deficits during this period and A-M has a separate fundraising pipeline with £350,000 potentially identified for 2023/24.

The table below contains only confirmed funding to date for 2023/24, with the risk around the negative free unrestricted reserves in 2024 underwritten by the Charitable Trust.

Year end as at 31 March	2022 Signed Accounts £	2023 Forecast £	2024 Budget £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	1,619,019	1,645,289	1,218,677
Expenditure	(1,613,101)	(1,766,586)	(1,851,920)
Surplus/(deficit)	5,918	(121,297)	(633,243)
Reserves:			
Total endowed	1,447,416	1,447,416	1,447,416
Total restricted	210,314	40,011	40,011
Total unrestricted	141,017	190,023	(443,220)
Total reserves	1,798,747	1,677,450	1,044,207
Of which: free unrestricted	141,017	190,023	(443,220)
Reserves policy target	0	0	0
Free reserves over/(under) target	141,017	190,023	(443,220)

Funding History

ID	Type	Meeting Date	Decision
IPP250	Inflationary Pressures Payment	06/03/2023	£2,285 to support increased costs.
17979	Bridging Divides	28/01/2021	£93,500 over two further and final years towards the salaries of two part-time workers to provide capacity-building support to local groups; plus a contribution to overheads, digital resources and toolkits, volunteer expenses, training and venue hire.
17746	COVID19 London Community Response Fund (Wave 3)	17/09/2020	£49,600 towards the costs of a project making small local organisations more financially sustainable.

14021	Investing in Londoners	27/07/2017	£144,000 over three years towards a Project Manager, Project worker, volunteer expenses and associated running costs.
13959	Investing in Londoners	11/05/2017	The applicant has withdrawn its application, with a view to submitting a revised proposal in the future.
11347	Working with Londoners	13/02/2013	£32,350 over two years for an Outreach Worker and running costs to engage minority organisations in Newham ESOL Exchange, improving access to ESOL and gathering evidence of need and provision to inform ongoing delivery.
9503	Working with Londoners	02/07/2009	Application withdrawn.

The Recommendation

A-M's track record with CBT and the strategic need to capacity build the sector in Newham provides a case for further support towards this programme. There is no fallow period in City Bridge funding for infrastructure services, so funding is recommended as follows:

£262,785 over four years (£56,625; £66,815; £68,823; £70,522) towards two part-time workers delivering Aston Mansfield's Fitter Finance programme addressing the financial capability of voluntary and community sector organisations in Newham.

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Infrastructure funding: capacity building and representation**The Health Forum****Adv: Abi Sommers****Base: Westminster****Amount requested: £138,000****Benefit: Kensington & Chelsea****{Revised amount requested: £268,731}****Amount recommended: £270,000**

Purpose of grant request: A capacity building programme to support Black and Minority Ethnic- (BME-)⁴ led organisations to improve their policy and practice.

The Applicant

The Health Forum (known as BME Health Forum) is a charitable company (charity no. 1151980) which empowers marginalised patients and communities to engage and influence local healthcare provision and provides a way for health professionals and commissioners to listen to the health needs of marginalised patients and make improvements to health services. It also delivers projects with and works to support BME-led organisations working in health inequalities. BME Health Forum was first established in 2002 when it was located within Westminster Primary Care Trust. BME Health Forum became an independent body in 2011, after changes in legislation and restructuring. It was incorporated into a limited company in 2012 and was registered with the Charity Commission in 2013. BME Health Forum targets BME communities and BME-led organisations across London but has strongest relationships in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea.

Background and detail of proposal

The Trust has previously funded BME Health Forum to train five BME member organisations in community-based research. As a result of the funding, BME Health Forum interviewed over 400 people from BME groups by training 17 volunteer's representative of different ethnic and age groups from eight organisations. This resulted in a report on loneliness and isolation in BME communities, inclusive of recommendations for BME organisations and funders.⁵ More recently, the charity was funded through the Trust's Cornerstone Fund for the development phase of a user-led partnership to mobilise local organisations and influence statutory policy and provision to reduce health inequalities amongst people from BAME communities in Northwest London. The development stage was successful, and the second stage of the project is being funded by the National Lottery Community Fund.

BME Health Forum is requesting funding for 1 FTE Partner Development Manager to run a capacity building programme for BME-led grassroots organisations. The programme will include training, one-to-one advice, and peer support around topics such as increasing inclusivity, improving governance and developing staff and volunteers. These are all areas for improvement identified by BME Health Forum's partners, both to improve delivery and attract new funding. The Partner Development

⁴ BME is the preferred terminology used by the Health Forum and is used throughout this report.

⁵ *Loneliness and isolation in BME communities: a study of BME Communities in London during the Coronavirus pandemic* (2021): <https://www.bmehf.org.uk/files/4016/6091/2638/BMEHF-Report-24pageA4-final-pages.pdf>

Manager will provide some of the support directly, as well as facilitating guest speakers and trainers where additional expertise is needed, e.g., safeguarding. BME Health Forum's staff already provide some capacity building support, however this is provided across different roles and on an ad hoc basis. The Partner Development Manager will enable BME Health Forum to provide a consistent service and further develop its relationships with partner organisations.

BME Health Forum recognises that the proportion of funding and support going to organisations led by-and-for BME communities remains imbalanced. BME community groups have traditionally faced significant barriers in accessing support and funding – many BME-led organisations are micro or small organisations, operating at the grassroots level and lacking robust financial and governance structures.⁶ In a survey of BME-led community and voluntary organisations, respondents reported that some of their key areas of greatest support need were capacity building support, access to grant funding support, and strategic and business planning support (including governance).⁷ BME Health Forum will be able to provide this support to BME-led organisations that it already has a trusted relationship with. Challenges around accessing funding and scarcity of resources for BME-led groups can also fuel a culture of competition which negatively influences the sector.⁸ By facilitating peer support and facilitating fundraising, the BME Health Forum will challenge these dynamics and help develop a culture of collaboration.

BME Health Forum's proposal meets the Trust's criteria as an initiative delivering capacity building services to BME-led organisations in the voluntary and community sector which will help them in the delivery of the work. Its training, one-to-one advice and facilitation of peer support will help increase the sector's governance, fundraising, people management, networking and safeguarding, among other areas. By supporting BME-led organisations, BME Health Forum meets the Trust's criteria for organisations working with groups that have historically faced barriers in terms of receiving an equitable share of the funding, resources, and other support available.

80% of BME Health Forum's trustees come from BME communities and half of the staff team. They have everyday lived experience of systemic health inequalities. BME Health Forum hosts regular public meetings for BME-led organisations where they discuss the challenges they are facing and organisational needs. The charity uses these discussions to inform its services. BME Health Forum has strong relationships with a range of BME-led organisations. This will be vital for it to carry out the proposed work effectively, as a trusted partner. It will also enable it to successfully bring organisations together and facilitate collaboration. As well as voluntary and community organisations, BME Health Forum also works closely with the NHS and local authorities in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea.

Financial Information

BME Health Forum is in a positive financial position. It has seen rapid growth in income and expenditure over the last two years but is expecting income to drop over

⁶ *Booksa Paper. Exposing Structural Racism in the Third Sector* (2021): <https://www.ubele.org/assets/documents/Booska-Paper-2021.pdf>

⁷ *The Impact of COVID-19 on BAME-led Community and Voluntary Organisations: A Follow-Up* (2020): <https://www.ubele.org/assets/documents/REPORT-Impact-of-COVID-19--on-the-BAME-Community-and-voluntary-sector---A-Follow-Up.pdf>

⁸ *Booksa Paper. Exposing Structural Racism in the Third Sector* (2021):

2022/23 and 2023/24. It is forecasting a restricted deficit over these two years but expects free unrestricted reserves to remain above policy level. BME Health Forum has previously been highly reliant on local authority funding, although that funding has come from a range of local authority sources. Recently, it has reduced the risk of relying on this funding by applying for funding from trusts and foundations. It has been successful with applications to Comic Relief and the National Lottery Community Fund and has 100% income confirmed for 2023/24. Further, a significant proportion of BME Health Forum's funding is passed on to delivery partners whilst the charity itself has relatively low overheads. This would reduce the impact of any potential short-term loss of income.

Year end as at 31 March	2022 Signed Accounts £	2023 Forecast £	2024 Budget £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	377,013	332,438	322,522
Expenditure	(345,282)	(349,376)	(324,460)
Surplus/(deficit)	31,731	(16,938)	(1,938)
Reserves:			
Total restricted	29,134	11,075	0
Total unrestricted	92,505	93,626	102,763
Total reserves	121,639	104,701	102,763
Of which: free unrestricted	92,505	93,626	102,763
Reserves policy target	72,000	81,755	87,687
Free reserves over/(under) target	20,505	11,871	15,076

Funding History

ID	Type	Meeting Date	Decision
18726	Cornerstone Fund	30/09/2021	£23,000 towards the development phase of a user-led partnership to mobilise local organisations and influence statutory policy and provision to reduce health inequalities amongst people from BAME communities in Northwest London.
15755	Bridging Divides	17/09/2020	£27,400 over twelve months to enable The Health Forum to deliver training in community-based research, to five BME member organisations.
17590	COVID19 London Community Response Fund (Wave 3)	17/09/2020	£48,869 towards a partnership of BAME community organisations providing direct support, advice, and assistance to people in need.
17162	COVID19 London Community Response Fund	08/07/2020	£21,642.00 to carry on providing support to Londoners

Recommendation

BME Health Forum submitted a revised project budget to better reflect the full cost of the project after discussion during the assessment process. The recommendation has been made based on the revised budget. Funding is recommended as follows:

£270,000 over five years (£47,000, £51,500, £54,500, £57,000, £60,000) towards a 1 FTE Partner Development Manager to provide infrastructure support to BME-led organisations, as well as associated project and management costs.

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Support for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants

Women's Health and Family Services

**Adv: Cecile Hyafil Guillerme
Base: Tower Hamlets
Benefit: Tower Hamlets**

**Amount requested: £226,629
{Revised request: £269,729}
Recommended: £269,725**

Purpose of grant request: To embed service user involvement and expand local services for marginalised, disadvantaged women facing social exclusion through the creation of a dedicated full-time post.

The Applicant

Established in 1999, Women's Health and Family Services (WHFS), a registered charity (number 1033764) and company limited by guarantee, is a women's led and multi-cultural community health organisation supporting disadvantaged women and their families in East London. The organisation aims to reduce stark health inequalities experienced by marginalised women in Tower Hamlets, Newham, and Waltham Forest, and improve their health and wellbeing. The women supported by WHFS are mostly refugees, asylum seekers or migrants, lacking English language skills, not familiar with the health system, often isolated and without support from family or friends. Through WHFS's services, they benefit from specialist, trauma-informed and culturally sensitive peer support programmes. Every year, WHFS improves the health and wellbeing of over 400 vulnerable women and their families.

WHFS trains volunteers from the local community to support women facing multiple social complexities through pregnancy and childbirth. Thanks to this one-to-one tailored relationship with trained volunteers ('maternity mates'), vulnerable, isolated women access continuity of care during pregnancy, labour and up to three months post birth, and are supported to navigate maternity, women's health, and social services. The Maternity Mates volunteer team was shortlisted for the London Mayor's awards in the category Bringing Londoners Together in 2019.

A three-year pilot programme, 'Little Cues, Big Difference', testing the benefits of extending maternity mates support for up to twelve months after childbirth is currently underway, with a strong focus on mother and baby attachment. This pilot is funded by Comic Relief's Changemakers Grant Programme.

WHFS also engages the community to raise awareness and educate about the health complications of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), and empower women affected by FGM/C to access clinical care and improve their quality of life. Trained, local health advocates drawn from the communities provide one to one peer support to survivors, trauma counselling, expert health advice and access to specialist NHS services.

Background and detail of proposal

WHFS seeks funding over five years to cover the cost of a full time Service User involvement and Communication post. WHFS has worked with other small charities to develop Service User Involvement best practices. A Full-Time Service User Involvement and Communication post would apply these findings and empower marginalised, disadvantaged women, particularly refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, to directly influence WHFS's work and wider, local healthcare services.

This proposal builds on research carried out with Lloyds Bank Foundation, which demonstrated the need to do more to involve women facing stark and intersecting inequalities that are currently excluded and effectively silenced. These women are often isolated and completely disconnected from public services, leading to far poorer outcomes for them.

Enabling involvement takes dedicated resource and time as many people in crisis lack the language, self-confidence, and life skills to be meaningfully involved in governance and face complex barriers preventing participation. WHFS views a long-term approach, offering choice, training, mentoring, confidence-building and support to women, as essential for the successful involvement of service users.

By embedding involvement in the design and development of all services, this project would help improve WHFS' service delivery and ability to meet the complex and holistic needs of disadvantaged women and their babies. It would directly inform service expansion into neighbouring boroughs, and allow service users, trained as 'radicals', to be empowered to advocate for themselves, fight social exclusion and reduce health inequalities.

The initial request included a reduced amount in years 4 and 5 following a misunderstanding of the Trust's funding guidance. After discussion with the assessor, WHFS submitted a revised request to cover the full costs of the post over the five-year term.

Financial Information

The organisation's income is derived from a combination of government contracts and grants from Trusts and Foundations. Statutory funding represents just over half of the organisation's annual income. There are strong relationships in place, and a commitment from authorities to fund multi-year. WHFS has also been working on developing a business plan for the organisation and looking at opportunities to diversify its sources of income. Over the past five years, the organisation's income has largely remained stable or slightly grown. Small deficits incurred can be explained by misalignment between financial years when funding payments are made, and actual costs incurred.

Trustees have agreed to target a level of unrestricted reserves which would cover three to six months of the organisation's operating costs. WHFS is committed to building its reserves and to reaching the 6-month target in the next few years. It is currently in discussion with The Lloyds Bank Foundation about the possibility of placing a new grant into the organisation's free reserves, for which it has received an agreement in principle. A designated fund of £40,000 is also in place for contingency purposes, which in fact can be considered as free reserves. By the end of the next

financial year (2024), the organisation's level of reserves versus total staff costs will represent three to four months.

In terms of financial oversight, the organisation has a Board of Trustees which meets every two months to review management accounts and discuss financial matters. A Treasurer is in place and holds financial expertise. A prior COVID-19 grant from the City Bridge Trust has enabled the organisation to bring finances in-house, with the recruitment of a part-time Finance Manager working alongside the WHFS's Executive Director.

Year end as at 31 March	2022	2023	2024
	Signed Accounts	Forecast	Budget
	£	£	£
Income & expenditure:			
Income	521,969	568,697	596,406
Expenditure	(493,242)	(614,280)	(658,761)
Surplus/(deficit)	28,727	(45,583)	(62,355)
Reserves:			
Total restricted	278,901	258,901	112,507
Total unrestricted	79,882	54,299	138,458
Total reserves	358,783	313,200	250,965
Of which: free unrestricted	77,036	51,453	135,612
Reserves policy target	120,000	120,000	120,000
Free reserves over/(under) target	(42,964)	(68,547)	15,612

Funding History

ID	Type	Meeting Date	Decision
18792	COVID19 London Community Response Fund (Wave 5)	7/14/2021	£50,000 towards salaries, rent and staff training.
17823	COVID19 London Community Response Fund (Wave 3)	9/17/2020	£24,220 towards moving your community engagement work to a secure digital platform.
16482	COVID19 London Community Response Fund	7/8/2020	£1,490 for costs as described in the application.
12430	Investing in Londoners	1/28/2015	£114,000 over three years for the salary of a p/t Project Co-ordinator a p/t Project Support Worker and related overheads and associated project costs.
11766	Working with Londoners	7/4/2013	Application withdrawn by applicant to resubmit at a later date.

Recommendation

Given the organisation's successful track record of providing advice and support to marginalised and socially excluded women, and improving access to existing health services, funding over the five years requested is deemed appropriate. The organisation has strong funding partnerships in place and is committed to building its

reserves. This grant will enable the organisation to embed best practices related to service user engagement within the organisation and in service delivery.

Funding is recommended to embed service user engagement under the Trust's Support for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants programme as follows:

£269,725 over five years (£50,640, £53,040, £54,095, £55,345, £56,605) to cover the costs of a full-time Service User engagement and Communications role and community engagement activities.

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Increasing the quality and scale of giving

Carefreespace

Adv: Lydia Parr

Base: Islington

Benefit: London-wide

Amount requested: £403,866

{Revised requested amount: £500,000}

Amount recommended: £500,000

The Applicant

Carefreespace (Carefree) is a registered Charity (1176459) providing respite breaks for full time (30+hr pw) unpaid carers donated by the hospitality industry via a purpose-built technology platform, to improve the mental and physical health of unpaid carers and support them in their caring roles. After successfully testing the concept in 2016 the organisation was awarded a place on an accelerator for charitable ventures. The charity officially incorporated in 2017 as work on the first version of the booking platform began. Initial automated pilots in 2018 and 2019 enabled hundreds of carers to enjoy breaks in hotels and holiday cottages throughout the UK and further revealed the potential of the organisation's sharing economy model.

Carefree builds partnerships across the business and social sectors, employing easy-to-use, flexible technology to mobilise a network of support for carers. Hospitality Partners donate unsold surplus accommodation via the platform, the applicant has developed relationships with Community Partner organisations which refer carers or carers can self-refer following a verification process. Carers can then independently book donated breaks via the platform for up to three nights, either alone or with a companion, once a year.

The Application

Funding is requested to contribute towards 20% of the Community Partnerships Manager, 20% of the Hospitality Partnerships Manager and 60% of the London Area Manager roles and the associated operational costs. This will enable Carefree to convert £1.5m of donated hotel stays into breaks for 5,200 London-based unpaid carers. A fee of £25 per break is charged to generate an earned income stream. Community Partners often pay the fee, or it is covered by corporate businesses as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) aims. The cost of the break to Hospitality Partners for a stay of upto 3 days with bed and breakfast is £25-£85 and costs Carefree circa £60 per carer through Community Partner referrals. As the service develops Carefree is exploring introducing a membership fee for Community Partners to generate further income and enable further development within the community.

Self-referring carers are signposted to relevant local Community Partner organisations for additional support towards their wellbeing. Carefree aims to deepen collaboration with London based carer support groups and local authorities to create stronger joined up service delivery for carers within London, enabling better access

to respite and general wellbeing. Care for the individual (whilst the primary carer is away) is typically taken up by friends or relatives, or individuals with high care needs are entitled to statutory respite breaks away from their carer for one week a year.

Funding would enable the applicant to draw social value by mobilising and distributing £1.5m of donated London accommodation that would otherwise go unused to over 5000 unpaid carers between 2023-2025. Carefree is aiming for over 11,000 London based carers to be better connected to services supporting their wellbeing through the online platform.

Background and detail of proposal

In the UK, 80% of home care is unpaid, provided by a hidden workforce of 9 million individuals, 2 million of whom provide full-time care. Their contribution to the public sector is worth £132 billion each year. 74% of unpaid carers are facing burnout with 64% having been unable to take time off since the pandemic, during which the lockdowns also removed many carers' support networks and often heightened their worry for vulnerable loved ones. 46% of carers have not had a break in five years. This has contributed to many carers struggling with their mental health and needing solutions that are workable and affordable.

There are 1 million unsold hotel rooms in UK every week, 5 months low season vacancy for holiday cottages and 20 million potential 3-night breaks each year. The applicant's sharing economy model enables accommodation providers to use their surplus to easily meet CSR aims. Hospitality Partners commit the donated accommodation in advance which allows carers to book at short notice or up to 4 months in advance.

In 2019, Carefree won Breakthrough Charity of the Year at the Third Sector Awards and was awarded multi-year funding by the National Lottery Community Fund, the Postcode Innovation Trust, and several other funders. The organisation is still developing and continues to grow, forging relationships with private and public sector partners to drive forward the innovative solution to systemic challenges within the UK's social care sector. The organisation is having a significant impact with 98% of carers reporting improved wellbeing and 86% reporting they would not have had a break otherwise.

The original budget requested over one FTE, an amended budget and increased overall request was submitted to reflect: one FTE salary breakdown across three roles, deeper investment into the brand, marketing, and digital marketing of the initiative to potential accommodation donors, community partners and carers, tech maintenance costs and an increased contribution to the organisation's overheads.

Previous funding history

None

Financial Information

Over 2020 and 2021, Carefree received £250,000 in blended finance (50% grant 50% loan) from the Postcode Innovation Trust to be repaid over 7 years at a 3% interest rate; and in 2022 received a further £150,000 in follow-up finance at 0%

interest to be repaid over 6 years. In principle, based on the investment terms Carefree is eligible to receive a further £100,000 in 2024 if required.

Latest signed accounts show negative free reserves, the organisation is working prudently to bring free unrestricted reserves closer to target across 2023 and 2024 fuelled primarily through earned income with the latest actuals and forecasts indicating Carefree is moving in the right direction. In part due to the disruption of the pandemic and the organisation establishing itself during this time, turnover has fluctuated over the past few years; the organisation expects this to stabilise over the next 12 months. 56% of income in YE Dec 23 has been confirmed, remaining income will be raised from grants, corporate and individual philanthropy, earned income and public fundraising. The significant increase in income between YE Dec 22 and YE Dec 23 represents increases in earned income and funders renewing grants.

Year end as at 31 Dec	2021 Signed Accounts £	2022 Draft £	2023 Projected £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	337,449	441,032	689,250
Expenditure	(405,025)	(485,134)	(647,599)
Gains/(losses)	3,125	2,895	0
Surplus/(deficit)	(64,451)	(41,207)	41,651
Reserves:			
Total restricted	17,208	(30,052)	(13,824)
Total unrestricted	(635)	2,523	18,751
Total reserves	16,573	(27,529)	4,927
Of which: free unrestricted	(4,054)	(896)	15,332
Reserves policy target	101,256	121,284	161,900
Free reserves over/(under) target	(105,310)	(122,180)	(146,568)

The Recommendation

Funding would enable the organisation to make a significant positive impact within the London care sector. Its unique model means the organisation is best placed to provide a service of this nature. A grant as advised would increase the quality and scale of the giving of accommodation assets, increase the number of carers receiving tailored support and create stronger joined up service delivery for carers within London.

£500,000 over three years (£103,500; £179,500; £217,000) to convert £1.5m of donated hotel stays into breaks for 5,200 London based unpaid carers.

Appendix 4: Grant Rejections recommended for approval

Request Date	Ref	Organisation	Purpose	Reason for Recommendation for Rejection	Amount Requested	Funding Manager	Area
<u>Bridging Divides</u>							
<u>Support and services for Deaf and disabled people</u>							
February 2023	20126	ASL Aspire Support Learn CIC	To provide work based training and employment to adults with additional needs, through support and guidance from our support workers.	Funding is requested to pay the salaries of three learning disabled people to work in a café. No support, training, supervision or inflationary costs have been included. This service is not evidence-based and therefore, is not eligible for CBT funding. Issues of Safeguarding and Health and Safety are not addressed in the application, and no detail is given about what supervisory measures are in place to support learning disabled participants working in the café.	£375,000	Julia Mirkin	Newham
<i>Total Support and services for Deaf and disabled people (1 item)</i>					£375,000		
<u>Propel</u>							
<u>Deliver and Develop</u>							
January 2023	20030	HEAR Equality and Human Rights Network organisation.		The funding requested would result in CBT being the majority funder. Having discussed with the organisation, it is agreed that Propel funding would not be awarded and that the organisation may wish to consider submitting an application for Anchor funding.	£328,300	Ben Banks	
<i>Total Deliver and Develop (1 item)</i>					£328,300		
Grand Totals (2 items)					£703,300		

Appendix 5: Grant requests rejected under delegated authority (£250,000 or less)

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
19722	BME Volunteers CIC	Bridging Divides	30/03/2023	£224,210	Kerry Luker	Based on Companies House records and information provided by the applicant, assurance has not been provided that the organisation's governance is sufficiently robust.
20020	BME Volunteers CIC	Propel	03/04/2023	£49,800	Kerry Luker	Based on Companies House records and information provided by the applicant, assurance has not been provided that the organisation's governance is sufficiently robust.
19899	Britain Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Bridging Divides	30/03/2023	£111,538	Matthew Robinson	The organisation is able to self-fund the project from reserves held comfortably above its policy target level.
19649	The Care Workers' Charity	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£100,000	Lydia Parr	The application proposes to deliver activities that are not directed at the benefit of Londoners. As such this does not meet the criteria of your policy.
19920	Carers Lewisham	Bridging Divides	30/03/2023	£146,095	Abi Sommers	Based on the financial information provided by the applicant your officer has not been assured that the organisation's management of its finances is sufficiently robust.
19799	Chinese National Healthy Living Centre	Bridging Divides	06/03/2023	£71,088	John Mulligan	The organisation has not provided an adequate level of detail on the proposed programme of work, the beneficiaries and the intended impact. It is unlikely, in any event, that the activities anticipated would have anything other than a short-lived benefit for the limited numbers involved.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
20008	Community Health Action Trust	Propel	27/03/2023	£15,000	Kristina Glenn	The applicant organisation did not demonstrate sufficient capacity to meet the outcomes of the Propel programme, with doubts as to whether the organisation is a going concern.
19681	Coram	Bridging Divides	30/03/2023	£240,744	Anneka Singh	The proposed work seeks to deliver workshops to young refugees, asylum seekers and migrants but there is limited evidence of scope to provide long-term holistic support to beneficiaries. The applicant could also not evidence strong links with the wider London refugee sector who would be crucial referral partners for project success.
20068	Cudham environmental Activities Centre	Eco Audits	12/06/2023	£0	Lydia Parr	The organisation has sufficient reserves to self fund.
19976	Cut Moose	Bridging Divides	21/03/2023	£4,400	Julia Mirkin	This application is for funding to deliver puppetry workshops to children to help them develop social and emotional awareness and skills. . CBT's priority areas for the CYP programme are to work with vulnerable caregivers, disadvantaged young women or girls or CYP engaged in criminal exploitation. The application does not detail how the proposal meets these priority areas or specified age groups.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
19912	Dementia UK	Bridging Divides	13/03/2023	£100,000	John Mulligan	The organisation has successfully fundraised for the Admiral Nurse scheme which is the focus of this application, accumulating a designated fund of around £2m. The availability of these funds coupled with the relative strength of the organisation's funding capacity means that a grant from the Trust cannot be seen as a priority at this time.
20168	East Finchley Neighbourhood Support	Bridging Divides	24/04/2023	£5,000	Gilly Green	The application from a volunteer-led community project providing free food for anyone who needs it in Finchley seeks costs towards the ingredients for making meals. The request falls outside the eligibility criteria of the Trust's Food Poverty programme which does not directly fund the purchase of food for distribution. The application is therefore recommended for rejection.
20054	Eastside Community Heritage	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£40,448	Chris Walker	The application is for work to bring extensive archive of community history into Care Homes for the benefit of dementia sufferers. However, organisation has high levels of reserves in excess of reserves policy and should be able to self-fund.
20012	Ekota Academy Ltd	Propel	27/03/2023	£36,000	Ben Banks	The organisation's governance does not meet the requirements for funding from City Bridge Trust at this time. The applicant organisation otherwise did not demonstrate sufficient capacity to achieve the ambitions of the work proposed or meet the outcomes of the Propel programme.
20017	The Empowerment Group	Propel	12/06/2023	£40,000	Ben Banks	

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
20173	Evolve Initiative	Bridging Divides	24/04/2023	£5,260	Dipali Chandra	The proposed activities do not align sufficiently well with the Trust's priorities for mental health support. It is also unclear what track record the organisation has of providing mental health services.
20103	Family Futures CIC	Bridging Divides	30/03/2023	£235,000	Natalia Griffiths	The request for capital funding for a new roof and solar panels is outside scope of the Trust's funding since the organisation has not undertaken an eco audit.
20043	FitMind	Bridging Divides	13/03/2023	£10,000	Kerry Luker	The proposed work is outside scope of the Trust's mental health programme. The proposed project delivers personal training rather than mental health services delivered by accredited and qualified practitioners.
19448	The Friends of Wanstead Park	Small Grants - Bridging Divides	12/06/2023	£8,368	Anneka Singh	This application for capital funding cannot be recommended as a grant would significantly exceed 50% of the applicant's turnover, which is contrary to City Bridge Trust's guidance. A smaller grant would not enable the organisation to deliver the proposed works.
19967	Fulham Reach Boat Club	Bridging Divides	12/06/2023	£135,000	Cecile Hyafil Guillerme	The proposed work is not a strong fit with the Trust's criminal justice programme's focus on preparation for release.
19947	Get Set Girls	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£74,610	Abi Sommers	Based on the financial information provided by the applicant, the assessing Funding Manager has not been assured that the organisation's management of its finances is sufficiently robust. Accounts for 2020/21 show negative free reserves.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
20100	GetScouted Kicks	Bridging Divides	11/06/2023	£10,000	Abi Sommers	Based on the information provided by the applicant, it is not possible to determine that the organisation's governance processes and management of its finances is sufficiently robust.
19844	Grow Inspires	Bridging Divides	06/03/2023	£45,914	Lillie Swift	The organisation is not constitutionally eligible to hold a grant from City Bridge Trust.
19965	Hampton Pool Trust	Eco Audits	12/06/2023	£0	Lydia Parr	The applicant does not demonstrate sufficient wider community use of the building.
19608	Citizens Advice Bureaux, Haringey	Bridging Divides	30/03/2023	£120,000	Dion Holley	The charity has not demonstrated that it could deliver the project aims, nor has it provided sufficient evidence to link these aims with the organisation's proposed activities.
19814	Hear Women Foundation	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£30,000	Chris Walker	The Hear Women Foundation is delivering valuable services for East African and Middle eastern families in the local community, but needs more specific evidence of need and track record in extending activities to the new target group of girls 10-14 years. There are also concerns regarding funding for years 2 and 3 of the project as well as the scope of the constitution of the Foundation.
19784	Hft	Bridging Divides	11/06/2023	£5,000	Ben Banks	The applicant has access to substantial funds designated for capital purposes such as this request.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
20028	Hibiscus Initiatives	Propel	04/05/2023	£50,000	Natalia Griffiths	The application was not as strong as others under assessment for Propel. Specifically,, the systems change element, and that the organisation was not prioritising women with lived experience into employment within the advice sector.
20115	Hyde Housing Association	Bridging Divides	06/03/2023	£18,244	Gilly Green	A request for support under the Trust's Place-Based Giving programme, but the organisation is not a Place-Based Giving Scheme nor part of London's Giving Network. The application includes onward granting to another organisation which falls outside City Bridge Trust's criteria.
20064	Kids Space	Bridging Divides	24/04/2023	£100,000	Julia Mirkin	A broad ranging application that seeks funding for activities beyond the scope of the children and young people's funding stream. The outcome framework does not demonstrate sufficient knowledge of measuring impact. Budget items appear to have been arbitrarily costed.
19768	KULAN SOMALI ORGANISATION	Bridging Divides	21/03/2023	£24,175	Anneka Singh	This application is recommended for rejection as stronger governance controls would need to be in place before a City Bridge Trust grant could be awarded.
19963	London School of Mosaic	Bridging Divides	03/04/2023	£70,000	Lorna Chung	This grant application is recommended for rejection due to concerns about the organisation's current financial position and the risk this might pose to a significant capital grant.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
19871	Nene Tereza	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£50,000	Andrew Jermeý-Boys	The organisation proposed to deliver a range of activities which all needed further development and clarification to fully meet the funding criteria. Based on the financial information provided by the applicant the Trust has not been assured that the organisations management of its financial reporting is sufficiently robust. Accounts for March 2021 fail to differentiate between restricted and unrestricted income, expenditure and reserves.
19949	North London Sports Academy	Bridging Divides	13/03/2023	£15,000	John Mulligan	The organisation has not demonstrated the experience, networks or track record needed to deliver the work proposed in this funding application.
20292	Organisation & Development of Opportunities for All PALOP	Bridging Divides	15/05/2023	£100,000	Tim Wilson	The most recent accounts show a turnover of less than £400 with the previous year's accounts submitted to the Charity Commission almost one year late.
19971	Pembroke College Settlement	Bridging Divides	12/06/2023	£232,000	Cecile Hyafil Guillerme	The application does not fit with the Trust's priorities for support and services for older people being rather a set of activities for community members of all ages.
19731	Poetry in Wood CIO	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£75,000	Annabel Bennett	There would be significant risk to any City Bridge grant since the organisation is almost entirely reliant on statutory funding with a fee charged per participant to take part in its workshops. The bulk of these fees are funded by statutory agencies and these fees make up the majority of the organisation's income.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
19970	Poplar HARCA	Bridging Divides	12/06/2023	£128,787	Sandra Jones	Request is for capital funding for building works to reduce carbon. However, in order to access this grant they need to have had an eco-audit undertaken by one of City Bridge Consultants and this has not been done.
19958	Project Lily	Bridging Divides	12/06/2023	£150,000	Kate Halahan	The application proposes a preventative mental health intervention that is not delivered by an accredited practitioner(s). Where referral pathways are provided, these are for a subsidised service that is not free for the client. As such, this does not meet the criteria of your policy when funding mental health services.
20056	Rowland Brothers Foundation	Bridging Divides	24/04/2023	£50,000	Lillie Swift	Whilst there are strengths in the work, the project is not considered a strong enough fit with CBT's criteria in that it does not sufficiently demonstrate that it is targeted at providing mental health services to those experiencing inequality and disadvantage or most in need.
19711	Royal National Institute of Blind People	Bridging Divides	30/03/2023	£124,175	Chris Walker	Well designed and run service with strong outreach, but insufficient focus on advice to Londoners in line with City Bridge Trust funding priority. Only a proportion of time likely to be spent on blind and partially sighted Londoners, with other agencies well placed to provide comprehensive welfare, debt and immigration advice, for example.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
19962	Sherwood Park Hall Community Interest Company	Bridging Divides	21/03/2023	£80,000	Julia Mirkin	Funds are requested for general early years activities, after-school and holiday programmes and arts and sports activities for young people, all of which are too broad to meet the specific focus of the Trust's children and young people's programme. This application is not eligible for funding.
19698	Shop and Donate CIC	Bridging Divides	06/03/2023	£1	Chris Walker	The amount requested exceeds the organisation's annual turnover and the proposed use of grant funding is unclear.
20205	Shubbak: A window on contemporary Arab culture	Bridging Divides	04/05/2023	£210,000	Dipali Chandra	The project proposed is ineligible. The work does not meet the criteria of the Bridging Divides category of Infrastructure funding: capacity building and representation for Londoners experiencing inequality or disadvantage, and does not fit under another appropriate category.
19993	SOCIAL SQUARE (UK)	Bridging Divides	13/03/2023	£10,000	John Mulligan	The proposed activities in the application - the provision of second hand school uniforms to children in families experiencing poverty - does not fit the criteria of the relevant strand of the Trust's funding.
20045	St Luke's House	Eco Audits	12/06/2023	£0	Lydia Parr	The applicant is the managing agent for the building, rather than trustee of the property and is therefore ineligible for funding.
19794	StreetVet	Bridging Divides	21/03/2023	£27,500	Cecile Hyafil Guillerme	The proposed work does not meet City Bridge Trust's programme priorities sufficiently well and therefore cannot be funded.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
20218	Strength With In Me Foundation	Bridging Divides	24/04/2023	£60,000	Stella Brown	Based on the evidence provided in the application, the organisation does not appear to have the necessary networks/partnerships to deliver this project in Croydon and accounts are not SORP compliant.
20106	Thames21	Eco Audits	12/06/2023	£0	Lydia Parr	The organisation does not own or lease any property therefore is ineligible for an eco audit.
19979	Transform Drug Policy Foundation	Bridging Divides	03/04/2023	£100,000	Cecile Hyafil Guillerme	The proposed work does not fit under City Bridge Trust's existing funding strands.
19898	Trinity Fencing CIC	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£45,000	Dipali Chandra	The project proposed does not meet the any of the 3 priorities stated under the Positive Transitions Programme: Support for children and young people.
19956	Wandsworth Chelsea and Fulham Sea Cadets	Bridging Divides	27/03/2023	£25,000	John Mulligan	The applicant has not demonstrated that its work is sufficiently distinctive from similar branches operating elsewhere in London, especially with regard to addressing the needs of young people from more difficult backgrounds.
20029	women@thewell	Propel	03/04/2023	£33,377	Natalia Griffiths	Although a women-led organisation, the organisation's leadership does not include women with direct lived experience of the issues that the work seeks to engage (engagement in sex work). The proposed activities, to train staff at organisations that support women, is also insufficiently focussed on systems change to meet the outcomes of the Propel programme.

Ref	Organisation	Type	Date Declined	Requested Amount	Funding Manager	Declination Comments
19749	Yard Theatre Limited	Bridging Divides	12/06/2023	£215,200	Julia Mirkin	This application requests support for core salaries, access training for staff and captioning or similar adaptations to make existing productions more accessible. Only 10% of requested funds are for youth activities and there is no indication of how many young participants are disabled. As the majority of this request focusses on organisational development needs – as opposed to the delivery of activities that allow disabled people to participate in the arts – it was not considered a close fit to your priorities under this funding stream.
Grand Totals (54 items)				£3,856,934		

Appendix 6: Grant Variations

New London Performing Arts Centre (Grant ref 15210)

1. On 25/07/2019 a grant of £4,914.00 was awarded to New London Performing Arts Centre for an access audit. The audit cost less than anticipated (£2,520) so the remaining balance of the grant after everything was paid is £2,394.

Recommendation

That a sum of £2,394.00 out of the grant of £4,914.00 to New London Performing Arts Centre be revoked.

Greenwich Cooperative Development Agency Ltd (Grant ref 15002)

2. On 31/01/2019 a grant of £2,400.00 was awarded to Greenwich Cooperative Development Agency Ltd for the purpose of an eco audit and the associated costs. The organisation failed to engage after the audit took place and a balance of £800.00 remains, therefore a revocation of the remainder is recommended.

Recommendation

That a sum of £800 out of the grant of £2,400.00 to Greenwich Cooperative Development Agency Ltd be revoked.

Streets of Growth (Grant ref 14069)

3. On 23/11/2017 a grant of £49,000 was awarded to Streets of Growth (charity reg.1143126) to recruit an Enterprise Development Manager to test the organisation's furniture upcycling and youth unemployment project's viability as a long-term self-sustaining business model to enable social investment. After a delayed recruitment to the proposed new post, funding was drawn down in late 2018 and the vacancy was filled for twelve months with exploration of future social investment – the key overarching aim of the Stepping Stones programme – undertaken. Following twelve months in post and a period of furlough, the postholder was re-appointed to a different role within the organisation and no replacement for Enterprise Development Manager was found. The project was ended at this point, leaving six months of budgeted salary, on-costs and a portion of associated project costs unspent.
In terms of impact, some small-scale repayable social investment has since been secured and this continues to be considered as part of the organisation's future funding ecology strategic planning.

Recommendation

That a sum of £16,000 out of the grant of £49,000 to Streets of Growth be revoked.

Transitions UK (Grant ref 15638)

4. On 25/03/2021 a grant of £75,000 was awarded to Transitions UK over five years. Transitions UK supports the complex needs of disadvantaged and chronically excluded young people. The grant was towards the costs of the

project manager and some of the running costs of the charity's Affirm Project in London which is a mentoring and befriending programme to support 25 disadvantaged young people who have mental health and complex emotional needs each year. The grant was split over the five years as follows: £25,000, £20,000, £15,000, £10,000, £5,000. A total of £25,000 of the £75,000 awarded has been paid with the last payment (£6,250) made on 10/01/22. We have learnt that Transitions UK has gone into insolvency and we are therefore recommending that the remainder of the grant (£50,000) is revoked.

Recommendation

That a sum of £50,000 out of the grant of £75,000 to Transitions UK be revoked.

Cambridge House Law Centre (Grant ref 15593)

5. On 28/11/2019 a grant of £2,400.00 was awarded to Cambridge House Law Centre. The organisation failed to engage after the audit took place and a balance of £600.00 remains, therefore a revocation of the remainder is recommended.

Barking & Dagenham Council for Voluntary Service (Grant ref 15378)

6. On 25/07/2019 a grant of £3,400.00 was awarded to Barking & Dagenham Council for Voluntary Service. The organisation failed to engage after the audit took place and a balance of £3,000.00 remains, therefore a revocation of the remainder is recommended.

Recommendation

That a sum of £3,000 out of the grant of £3,400.00 to Barking & Dagenham Council for Voluntary Service be revoked.

The New Cross Gate Trust (Grant ref 15597)

7. On 30/01/2020 a grant of £1,600.00 was awarded to The New Cross Gate Trust. The organisation failed to engage after the audit took place and a balance of £1,000.00 remains, therefore a revocation of the remainder is recommended.

Recommendation

That a sum of £1,000 out of the grant of £1,600.00 to The New Cross Gate Trust be revoked.

Furzedown Project (grant ref 15629)

8. On 30/01/2020 a grant of £2,000.00 was awarded to Furzedown Project. The organisation failed to engage after the audit took place and a balance of £600.00 remains, therefore a revocation of the remainder is recommended.

Recommendation

That a sum of £600 out of the grant of £2,000.00 to Furzedown Project be revoked.

Family Based Solutions (Grant Ref 15064)

9. On 30/01/2020 a grant of £1,600.00 was awarded to Family Based Solutions. The organisation failed to engage after the audit took place and a balance of £1,000.00 remains, therefore a revocation of the remainder is recommended.

Recommendation

That a sum of £1,000 out of the grant of £1,600 to Family Based Solutions be revoked.

Urban Partnership Group (grant ref 15014)

10. On 09/05/2019 a grant of £3,800.00 was awarded to Urban Partnership Group. The organisation failed to engage after the audit took place and a balance of £800.00 remains, therefore a revocation of the remainder is recommended.

Recommendation

That a sum of £800 out of the grant of £3,800 to Urban Partnership Group be revoked.

Appendix 7: Funds approved under delegated authority or under urgency (March 2023 to 24th May 2023)

Ref	Organisation	Recommended Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	DA Approval
					Amount
20041	360 Giving	22/05/2023	£170,000 over four years (£50,000; £45,000; £40,000; £35,000) as a contribution to core costs.	Stella Brown	£170,000
19570	Acheinu Cancer Support	06/03/2023	£34,000 over two years (£18,000 £18,000) towards the provision of emotional advice and well-being support groups for cancer patients.	Hannan Ali	£34,000
20034	Action on Disability	09/05/2023	£150,900 over three years (£50,300; £50,300; £50,300) towards a project co-ordinator, administration, project activities, premises and associated project running costs.	Nat Jordan	£150,900
20121	Advice Services Alliance	20/04/2023	£35,000 over 6 months as a contribution towards running a pilot new Entry Level Assurance mechanism for small advice providers which will act as a progression vehicle to the full Advice Quality Standard (AQS).	Sandra Jones	£35,000
19588	Advocacy for All	02/03/2023	£57,900 over two years (£27,600; £30,300) to fund the research and production of a cost-of-living crisis report and associated activities.	Lorna Chung	£57,900
19791	Afghan Association of London (Harrow)	17/05/2023	£27,000 over 2 years (£13,500, £13,500) towards core and staff costs, including improvement of finance systems.	Stella Brown	£27,000
20069	Age UK Croydon	05/05/2023	£3,000 (7.5 days) to provide an eco audit.	Lydia Parr	£3,000
19508	Age UK Barnet	26/04/2023	£248,400 over five years (£47,400; £47,700; £49,300; £51,100; £52,900) towards the costs of a 0.8FTE Activities Co-Ordinator, a 0.2 FTE Volunteer Co-ordinator and associated running costs.	Sandra Jones	£248,400

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
20023	Anti Trafficking & Labour Exploitation Unit	05/04/2023	£42,100 over one year towards ATLEU staff costs and survivor participation, VODW staff costs and domestic worker participation plus associated expenses	Shegufta Slawther	£42,100
19944	Autograph ABP	11/05/2023	£93,600 over three further and final years (£31,100, Hannan Ali £30,500, £32,000) towards creative art workshops at Autograph, which will be co-led by an artist with complex needs, for families who have a child or children with SEND.		£93,600
20024	AVA - Against Violence and Abuse	28/03/2023	To engage women with lived experience in a community of practice to explore mental health systems. £50,000 for one year to fund the Senior Project Manager (0.2FTE), Project Manager (0.4FTE), Youth Facilitator (0.4FTE), some senior staff time, payments for Experts by Experience and project costs, to explore ways to reduce the amount of suicide amongst women who've experienced gender-based violence.	Nat Jordan	£50,000
19774	BeLifted Now CIC	19/04/2023	£14,835 over two years (£6,900; £7,935) to Belifted Salma Abdi Now to deliver a second young girl support group to disadvantaged girls in a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) in Barnet, providing support with confidence, relationships and improving behaviour.		£14,835

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
19635	Bexley Churches Care Trust t/a Evergreen Care Bexley	15/03/2023	£95,000 over two years (£50,000, £45,000) towards the core costs of caring and friendship services supporting vulnerable, lonely elderly people in Bexley. The release of the first year of funding is conditional on Evergreen Care Bexley confirming it will take to improve financial reporting arrangements. The release of the second year of funding is conditional on a satisfactory review of Evergreen Care Bexley's most recent set of annual accounts.	Hannan Ali	£95,000
19741	The Bobath Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy	13/04/2023	£171,650 over three years (£54,450, £57,170, £60,030) for 400 hours/year of specialist neuro-Physical, Occupational and Speech and Language Therapist time, management, administration, marketing, training, evaluation, and client travel costs.	Lily Brandhorst	£171,650
19827	Brent Carers Centre	14/04/2023	£245,000 over five years (£49,000; £46,000; £49,000; £49,500; £51,500) towards the organisation's advice work, including one full-time Advice Worker's salary and on-costs, recruitment fees, training costs, publicity and a contribution to core costs.	Matthew Robinson	£245,000
19622	Brent Play Association	11/04/2023	£60,000 over three years (3 x £20,000) to staff costs across the three years, to boost existing hours to expand provision. Up to £27,000 can be used towards equipment costs, including a computer for service users, art materials and musical instruments. The release of the first instalment is conditional on receipt of an updated satisfactory safeguarding policy, and release of funds in years 2 and 3 are conditional on satisfactory accounts with the correct designation of City Bridge Trust support in restricted funds.	Stella Brown	£60,000

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
20004	British Deaf Association	05/04/2023	£49,900 over 12 months towards a project to explore the systemic issues faced by the Deaf community in London, including a Project Coordinator (0.5 FTE) and consultation activities	Nat Jordan	£49,900
20223	Bromley Little Theatre	15/05/2023	£3,600 (9 days) to provide an eco audit.	Lydia Parr	£3,600
19744	Buglife - The Invertebrate Conservation Trust	15/03/2023	£44,460 for two years (£21,900; £22,560), contributing to the Engagement Officer's salary, the demonstration site costs, seeds, materials and artists fees for engagement activities and project oncosts.	Julia Mirkin	£44,460
19592	C4WS Homeless Project	16/03/2023	£85,300 over two years (£41,500; £43,800) towards welfare and wellbeing support costs for the C4WS Winter Night Shelter and the Friday Club.	Clara Espinosa	£85,300
19763	Camden Psychotherapy Unit	22/05/2023	£121,045 over five years (£20,226; £22,046; £24,030; £26,193; £28,550) towards psychotherapy services for young people.	Stella Brown	£121,045
19566	Cassandra Centre (referred to as CC in application)	07/03/2023	£77,580 over two years (£37,660, £39,920) towards sessional therapy and counselling costs, a 20 hours p/w co-ordinator and related project overheads.	Anneka Singh	£77,580
19579	Centre For Armenian Information & Advice	25/04/2023	£1,800 (4.5 days) to provide a Refresher Eco Audit.	Lydia Parr	£1,800
19706	Chance to Shine	25/04/2023	£16,000 over three years (£5,000 in year 1 and then 2 x £5,500) to help the Chance to Shine Street Programme engage refugees and asylum seekers.	Maria Hughes	£16,000

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19874	Children England	14/04/2023	£249,410 over three years (£81,177; £83,117; £85,116) for the full-time Research and Learning Officer and the 0.6 FTE Community Outreach Officer, activity and research costs and a contribution to overheads.	Julia Mirkin	£249,410
20036	St Mary's Centre Community Trust	12/04/2023	£36,400 over one year towards staff costs, external researchers, mentoring organisations / youth clubs expenses and production of a report to understand and to address how professional support and supervision for youth workers and mentors can be made more culturally and socially appropriate to make the profession more inclusive.	Nat Jordan	£36,400
19873	Church of the Ascension, Blackheath	11/04/2023	£31,100 over 5 years (5 x £6,220) to cover costs of the provision of free ESOL classes for 60 people per year in Lewisham.	Maria Hughes	£31,100
19689	The Cinnamon Network	22/05/2023	£175,000 over five years (£45,000; £40,000; £35,000; £30,000; £25,000) as a contribution to the salary and project costs of a organisational capacity building programme for a network of London churches committed to establishing social action projects to meet the needs of their local communities.	Stella Brown	£175,000
19928	City Of Sanctuary UK	12/04/2023	£167,700 over three further and final years (£53,600; £55,900; £58,200) towards the London Regional Coordinator (25hpw), the Local Authority Network Coordinator (8hpw) and associated project costs for City of Sanctuary UK initiatives across London.	Lorna Chung	£167,700

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19587	Community Empowerment and Support Initiatives (CESI)-UK	08/03/2023	£33,150 over two-years (£16,150; £17,000) for a Project Coordinator (1.5 d.p.w), volunteer expenses, sessional tutors, space and coach hire and a 10% contribution to overheads.	Julia Mirkin	£33,150
19752	Company Drinks CIC	26/04/2023	£150,000 over five years (5 x £30,000) towards expansion of Community Gardener (0.4 FTE), expansion of Youth Programmes Co-ordinator (0.4 FTE), Facilities Maintenance, Training, and oncosts.	Lily Davies	£150,000
20025	Connect: North Korea	28/03/2023	£42,800 for one year to fund training and salary of Community Health Worker (0.6FTE) with support from CEO (0.1FTE) and Operations Director (0.1FTE) to explore barriers to accessing healthcare for the North Korean refugee community.	Shegufta Slawther	£42,800
20022	Connected Routes CIC	22/05/2023	£49,500 over 12 months to backfill Head of Programmes role (0.8FTE) and the involvement of experts by lived experience to support exploration of more equitable pathways into work for refugee and asylum-seeking women. Release of funding is conditional on the update of persons of significant control on Companies House to accurately reflect current governance.	Shegufta Slawther	£49,500
19545	Contact	02/05/2023	£226,650 over three years (3 x £75,550) towards the Family Worker (24 hours a week) and a Manager at the Lewisham project (7.5 hours a week), rent at the Lewisham project space, office costs, travel, workshops, events with up to £34,000 available for the costs of an external evaluation of the charity's frontline services in the capital.	Stella Brown	£226,650

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20123	Cordwainers Grow CIC	18/04/2023	£50,000 over five years (£10,000 x5) for a part-time Garden Volunteer Manager's salary, on-costs, personal training budget and associated project costs, to deliver a programme of structured volunteering opportunities and open days at the Victoria Park Outdoor Classroom.	Matthew Robinson	£50,000
19728	The Change Foundation	13/04/2023	£120,000 over three years (£39,000; £39,000; £42,000) towards the costs of delivering Fencing for Change programme, including coach fees, project management, evaluation, and the costs of an onward training course for future coaches.	Matthew Robinson	£120,000
19964	Crisis UK	26/04/2023	£246,275 over three years (£79,500, £81,350, £85,425) towards a 1 FTE Senior Immigration Caseworker to support Crisis' service users in London to improve their immigration status, as well as associated project and management costs. Funding is conditional on both organisations signing a satisfactory service-level agreement.	Abi Sommers	£246,275
19775	Crossroads Care Richmond and Kingston upon Thames	26/04/2023	£185,000 over five years (£50,000, £45,000, £40,000, £30,000, £20,000) for expansion of provision for Older Carers (0.5FTE), 800 hours/year of respite breaks and a recruitment drive for new carers.	Lily Davies	£185,000
20013	C V S Brent	05/04/2023	£47,200 over 12 months towards salary costs of a 21 hpw project worker, communication support, staff cover for small voluntary organisations and peer research training and interviews for the VOICE project. The grant is payable to CVS Brent, as host for the Brent African Caribbean Alliance.	Shegufta Slawther	£47,200

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20021	Day-Mer, Turkish and Kurdish Community Centre	12/04/2023	£50,000 for one year towards the costs of their research and service development project.	Shegufta Slawther	£50,000
20097	Disability Law Service	26/04/2023	£150,000 over two years (£64,500, £85,500) towards the salaries of two FT trainee solicitors and associated project costs.	Shegufta Slawther	£150,000
20073	Dr Johnson's House Trust Ltd	25/04/2023	£3,985 towards the cost of an access audit and community stakeholder consultation for access improvements to Dr Johnson's House, with the award excluding the costs of interpretation materials.	Maria Hughes	£3,985
19847	DreamArts	03/04/2023	£87,675 over two further and final years (£43,295, £44,380) to continue support for the Express Plus Programme, a free arts-based therapy service enabling children and young people with poor mental health to explore their challenges and strengths, to express and regulate emotions, and foster greater self-worth.	Maria Hughes	£87,675
19925	ecoACTIVE	25/04/2023	£50,800 for a further and final two years (£25,000: £25,800) to contribute to the salary costs of the Project Co-ordinator for 24 hours per week and associated running costs.	Sandra Jones	£50,800
19644	Elays Network	26/04/2023	£142,000 over three years (£49,000; £45,000; £48,000) towards the Community Chef position (1FTE) and associated activity costs.	Lorna Chung	£142,000
19569	Free Your Mind CIC	26/04/2023	£142,500 over three years (£50,000, £47,500, £45,000) to sustain fundraising staff, develop marketing strategies, and support general growth.	Hannan Ali	£142,500

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19623	Freedom from Torture	02/05/2023	£213,000 over three years (3 x £71,000) to cover the full-time salary of a Psychological Therapist, interpretation costs and travel costs and mobile top ups for remote therapy sessions for clients as well as a contribution to overheads related to the costs of Freedom from Torture's London Centre.	Stella Brown	£213,000
20033	Friends of the Joiners Arms Ltd	12/04/2023	£49,800 over 12 months towards a research project exploring the inclusion of marginalised LGBTQIA+ people (in particular those with experience of homelessness and seeking asylum) including through a replicable community business model, including the costs of a research lead, participation costs for members of grassroots organisations, and other associated costs.	Nat Jordan	£49,797
20094	Galop	21/03/2023	£1,500 for an Access Audit.	Julia Mirkin	£1,500
19927	Gasworks	05/04/2023	£119,500 over three further and final years (£38,000; £39,800; £41,700) towards Triangle Arts Trust's collaboration between artists in residence and people from migrant and refugee communities who have mental health difficulties.	Kate Halahan	£119,500
19881	Getting in to Tech (The Intrapreneurs Club)	02/03/2023	£50,000 over eighteen months for the salary and on-costs of a full-time Project Manager to oversee the Apprentice Pathway programme.	Matthew Robinson	£50,000
19738	Goldstar Creative Marketing	26/04/2023	£190,800 over 5 years (£38,950; £38,950; £38,950; £38,950; £35,000) towards general operating costs to enable Goldstar Creative to deliver a bespoke skills training programme providing Charedi young women with tools and resilience required to transition from education to sustainable work.	Lydia Parr	£190,800

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20026	Goldstar Creative Marketing	06/03/2023	£49,900 for 12 months to fund the Project Coordinator (0.4FTE), Youth Facilitator (0.4FTE), Director (0.2FTE) and project costs, to explore means of dismantling the aspiration gap for young Charedi women experiencing intergenerational poverty	Shegufta Slawther	£49,900
20162	Greater London Authority	25/04/2023	£100,000 over eighteen months towards the second round of the Civil Society Roots 3 fund, of which 80% will be distributed in onward grant-making funds and 20% will support the second round's administration, grant management and access costs.	Matthew Robinson	£100,000
19666	Greenwich Winter Night Shelter CIO	02/03/2023	£100,000 over two years (2x £50,000) towards the Shelter Director and general operating costs to enable GWNS to equip people experiencing homelessness to overcome the challenges in moving forward to an improved quality of life.	Lydia Parr	£100,000
20014	Hackney Chinese Community Services Association Ltd	12/04/2023	£49,500 for one year towards the costs of a research consultant (0.5 FTE) and associated project costs to establish empirical research data to support the the ESEA community against the multiple forms racial discrimination they face.	Shegufta Slawther	£49,500
19299	Hackney CVS	26/04/2023	£233,352 over three years (£78,848, £75,460, £79,044) towards the strategic development of Hackney Giving, specifically for staff salaries, PGM activities and other related costs.	Khadra Aden	£233,352
19848	Harmony House Dagenham CIO	11/04/2023	£63,500 over two further and final years (£31,500; £32,000) with the release of second instalment in year one conditional on receipt of an updated Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Policy.	Lily Davies	£63,500

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20016	Headway East London	12/04/2023	£49,100 over 12 months towards the costs of exploring ways to bring the voice of brain injury survivors to discussions to increase awareness and inform best practice within the health and social welfare system.	Nat Jordan	£49,075
20190	Healing Justice London	05/05/2023	£50,000 over one year to Healing Justice London for the creation of a holistic evaluation framework including consultancy, facilitation of trauma informed approach, equipment, and interactive evaluation sessions. The grant is conditional on the revision of HJL's governing document to include an asset lock, charitable objects, and others such clauses as required to be present in a standard CIC constitution.	Sam Grimmett-Batt	£50,000
20071	Henna Asian Women's Group	19/05/2023	£50,000 over five years (5 x £10,000) to contribute to weekly arts and craft sessions and group outings around London and the associated costs.	Lydia Parr	£50,000
19929	Hestia Housing and Support	02/03/2023	£48,000 over eighteen months for the salary and on-Matthew Robinson costs of a Social Investment Lead to manage a project exploring social investment to purchase 40 units of move-on accommodation for women and their children leaving refuge accommodation.		£48,000
19745	Holy Mission Guru Nanak	02/03/2023	£49,380 over five years (£9,714; £9,790; £9,970; £9,942 and £9,964) towards the programme for older people which is delivered in the Sindhi Community Centre.	Gerard Darby	£49,380
19565	Home-Start Lambeth	12/04/2023	£144,130 over three years (£46,530; £48,000; £49,600) for the salary, project costs and contribution to overheads for a Home Start co-ordinator with a focus on domestic abuse.	Lily Brandhorst	£144,130

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20124	Hounslow Seniors Trust Association	16/05/2023	£50,000 over five years (£10,000 x5) to provide a series of visual arts workshops for older residents of Hounslow and neighbouring West London Boroughs.	Lydia Parr	£50,000
20118	Hundred Flower Cultural Centre	17/05/2023	£45,240 over three years (£14,790; £14,780; £15,670) for Project Birlakta and safeguarding training in year 1.	Anneka Singh	£45,240
19589	Immediate Theatre	28/03/2023	£100,000 over two years (2 x £50,000) for a part-time Programme Coordinator post (2.5 dpw) and other related costs to deliver the Creative Connections programme with older people in Hackney, Newham, and Enfield.	Kate Halahan	£100,000
20096	Indoamerican Refugee and Migrant Organisation	21/04/2023	£201,000 over three years (£71,000; £86,500; £43,500) towards a workforce development programme in partnership with High Trees, Baytree, Latin American Women's Rights Service and Southwark Law Centre, including contributions to the costs of an Advice Manager, Supervising Advisor, Partnership Co-ordinator, trainees, and training costs, running costs, and overheads. Funding is conditional on the securing of £300,000 match funding from the London Legal Support Trust, and the provision of a satisfactory finalised partnership agreement between all partners.	Nat Jordan	£200,000
19715	Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith Ltd	11/04/2023	£33,000 over three years (£10,000; £11,000; £12,000) to provide services for isolated people over 70 in London. Release of first instalment is conditional on accounts for 2022 being received by the Charity Commission.	Stella Brown	£33,000

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19556	Islington Somali Community	23/05/2023	£128,000 over five years (£25,000, £25,750, £25,750, £25,750, £25,750) to Islington Somali Community to assist and advise Somali and East African refugees in accessing housing, immigration, health, and education services through a wide-ranging advice programme.	Salma Abdi	£128,000
19937	Jigsaw4u Limited	26/04/2023	£114,330 over two further and final years (£56,698, £57,632) towards the full-time salary of a Project Coordinator, volunteer training costs, organisational overheads, and associated project delivery costs.	Stella Brown	£114,330
20040	Kensington and Chelsea over 50s Forum	23/03/2023	£20,000 over two years (2 x £10,000) to give older people opportunities to learn how to prevent and manage ill health issues and participate in activities to expand their knowledge and prevent cognitive decline.	Lydia Parr	£20,000
19973	Laburnum Boat Club	25/04/2023	£4,055 to cover the costs of an access audit for improvements to LBC's centre as part of its redevelopment strategy. Increased funding is being recommended to reflect the cost of accessibility awareness training included in CAE's audit proposal.	Salma Abdi	£4,055
19938	Rathbone Society	21/03/2023	£83,000 over two further and final years (£40,000; £43,000) to cover salary costs of the Transitions Worker, additional youth work hours, youth committee costs and project activities.	Matthew Robinson	£83,000

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19798	Little Village	18/04/2023	£158,530 over three years (£51,290; £52,830; £54,410) for costs associated with Little Village's baby bank, covering a contribution to operations staff, delivery and transport costs, site running costs and a contribution to organisational overheads.	Anneka Singh	£158,530
19783	The Lloyd Park Children's Charity	02/03/2023	£4,400 (11 days) to provide an eco audit.	Lydia Parr	£4,400
20122	London Funders	21/03/2023	£100,000 over 12 months towards the London's Giving resource hub.	Geraldine Page	£100,000
19802	London Museum of Water and Steam	05/04/2023	£3,580 to meet the costs of an independent access audit for the museum and heritage site.	Stella Brown	£3,580
20015	Mabadiliko CIC	19/05/2023		Shegufta Slawther	£49,112
20010	Maternity Action	12/04/2023	£50,000 over one year towards the cost of an outreach worker (0.6FTE), an advice worker (0.4FTE) and associated expenses towards an exploration of the intersectional disadvantages faced by pregnant women and new mothers which increase the risk of poverty and financial hardship	Shegufta Slawther	£50,000
20002	Islington/ The Maya Centre	12/04/2023	£50,000 over 12 months towards the costs of its Explore project including contributions to the Community Organiser role (0.4 FTE), CEO (0.2 FTE), and consultancy with ActBuildChange	Nat Jordan	£50,000
19667	Mesila UK Limited	26/04/2023	£160,000 over 5 years (£28,400; £30,100; £31,900; £33,800; £35,800) towards the costs of a Co-ordinator (12 hours per week), administrator (12 hours per week) and client coach liaison (6 hours a week) and associated running costs.	Sandra Jones	£160,000

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19417	Migrant Training Company Learning (MTCL)	26/04/2023	£120,000 over three years (£40,500; £39,500; £40,000) towards a full-time Specialist Employment Advisor and a contribution towards on-cost to deliver the WISE Project.	Kate Halahan	£120,000
19710	Mind in Camden	05/04/2023	£249,600 over five years (£47,100, £48,400, £49,900, £51,300, £52,900) towards a 0.4 FTE Hearing Voices Manager and 0.6 FTE Development Worker for The Voice Collective, as well as associated project and management costs.	Abi Sommers	£249,600
19578	Money A+E Community Interest Company	18/04/2023	£125,945 over three years (Y1: £45,498, Y2: £41,494, Y3: £38,953) to cover the cost of two part-time project staff (a Money Coach and a Project Support staff), Money Education workshops and a portion of overheads.	Lorna Chung	£125,945
19606	Mosaic LGBT+ Young Persons' Trust	05/04/2023	£230,750 over four years (£53,500, £56,250, £59,000, £62,000) towards a 0.8 FTE Youth Services Manager, as well as associated project and management costs for Mosaic LGBT+ Young Persons' Trust's youth and culture clubs.	Abi Sommers	£230,750
20006	Mosaic LGBT+ Young Persons' Trust	12/04/2023	£48,000 for one year towards the cost of 1FTE Community Link Worker and associated project costs.	Nat Jordan	£48,032
19567	MRS Independent Living	07/03/2023	£60,100 over two years (£29,500; £30,600) towards Clara Espinosa Hackney Dude's art and music groups.	Clara Espinosa	£60,100
19859	Multi-Story Music	05/04/2023	£24,000 over two years (2 x £12,000) towards the cost of a Youth Coordinator to develop the leadership skills of 24 young people in Peckham through a Young Creatives Project.	Lily Davies	£24,000

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20031	National Survivor User Network	12/04/2023	£50,000 over 12 months towards the scoping exercise to help determine the systems and models which enable the voices of its representative communities to be heard.	Shegufta Slawther	£50,000
19870	NCT	18/04/2023	£242,430 over three years (£77,771; £80,721 and £83,938) towards NCT's Newham Nurture initiative, empowering parents from migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking families to access services to help them during pregnancy or the early years with their child. In addition, to enable them to use their lived experiences to shape and develop mainstream maternal services.	Gerard Darby	£242,430
19686	New Philanthropy Capital	28/02/2023	£170,000 over two years (£103,000; £67,000) to review and collate research into the impact of the climate crisis on disabled and older Londoners and those from ethnic minority communities, and to use this learning to accelerate climate action in the social sector.	Lily Brandhorst	£170,000
19841	North London Hospice	02/05/2023	£119,300 over three years (£38,400, £39,800, £41,100) towards a community engagement coordinator, training, group activity expenses, associated project running costs and contribution to overheads.	Stella Brown	£119,300
19671	Oxford Diocesan Council for Social Work (aka Parents And Children Together, PACT)	08/03/2023	£46,000 over two years (£22,700; £23,300) towards the Adoption Support worker, Specialist Education worker, Adoption Support Manager and Adopter Champion roles that form part of the adoption support services.	Clara Espinosa	£46,000
19685	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church with All	23/03/2023	£87,170 over three years (£29,810, £27,980, £29,380) towards the running costs of a food delivery service for vulnerable families in food poverty in Tower Hamlets. Release of first	Maria Hughes	£87,170

	Saints Spitalfields		instalment contingent on receipt of a satisfactory monitoring framework.		
19682	Peninim	02/03/2023	£30,000 over three years (3x£10,000) towards the sports programme and associated costs.	Lorna Chung	£30,000

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19521	Peter Bedford Housing Association	16/03/2023	£176,690 over three further and final years (£54,620, £59,760, and £62,310) to Peter Bedford Housing Association for continuation funding to support disabled people and those with learning disabilities to overcome social isolation and build skills for life and work.	Gerard Darby	£176,690
19756	Petit Miracle Interiors Ltd	18/04/2023	£86,000 over five years (£20,000, £18,000, £17,000, £16,000, £15,000) towards tools, materials, staffing, training and associated overhead project costs.	Stella Brown	£86,000
20000	Place At My Table	11/04/2023	£44,300 over 12 months towards the costs of their Where Rivers Meet Network project, including the costs of a Development Worker (0.5 FTE)	Shegufta Slawther	£44,300
19679	Pro Bono Community	06/04/2023	£199,425 over five years (£36,090; £37,895; £39,790; £41,780; £43,870) to cover the costs of a part time Volunteer Coordinator role, training costs and organisational overheads.	Lorna Chung	£199,425
20027	Project Zero WF	05/04/2023	£48,700 over 12 months towards the project costs of youth-led research projects into inequalities in youth services in Waltham Forest, to be awarded on condition of receipt of an updated safeguarding policy.	Nat Jordan	£48,700
19600	Pursuing Independent Paths (PiP)	28/03/2023	£84,800 over two years (£41,800; £43,000) towards the self-advocacy in the community project and associated activities.	Lorna Chung	£84,800
19930	QQF (Quite Quite Fantastic)	28/03/2023	£29,750 over 5 years (5 x £5,950) towards weekly drama classes and associated costs and a contribution towards live performance costs. This grant is conditional on the applicant updating its safeguarding policy and engaging in appropriate safeguarding training.	Lydia Parr	£29,750

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20018	Queercircle CIO	05/04/2023	£48,500 over 12 months towards the staffing, workshops, research and evaluation costs of creative health programming improving LGBTQ+ health and wellbeing.	Nat Jordan	£48,500
20098	Race On The Agenda	20/04/2023	£20,000 over 12 months to enable Race On The Agenda to offer a competitive salary to recruit a suitable CEO.	Lydia Parr	£20,000
19717	www.renewalprogramme.org.uk	22/05/2023	£227,000 over five years (£50,000; £47,500; £45,000; £42,500; £42,000) towards Renewal Programme's core costs.	Anneka Singh	£227,000
19586	Rising Stars Support CIC	20/04/2023	£44,000 over two years (2 x £22,000) towards costs to deliver Boxing sessions and mentoring and progression support for young people aged 16 – 19 years old in Lambeth, as part of the Fight For Your Future programme.	Kate Halahan	£44,000
19535	Rosetta Life	26/04/2023	£50,000 over two years (£20,000, £30,000) to develop the network of Brain Odysseys Ambassadors as volunteers, advocates, and key drivers of the Stroke Odysseys programme as it evolves beyond the leadership of Rosetta Life. Release of first payment is contingent on receipt of an updated Constitution from the charity with an appropriate dissolution clause.	Lily Davies	£50,000
19597	Saint Francis Hospice	05/04/2023	£231,000 over five years (£41,800, £43,900, £46,100, £48,400, £50,800) towards a 1 FTE Child and Family Therapist to provide therapeutic support for children and young people, as well as associated project and management costs.	Abi Sommers	£231,000
20075	Scarabeus Aerial Theatre	02/05/2023	£60,000 over three years (3 x £20,000) towards Scarabeus Aerial Theatre's programme of aerial theatre with disadvantaged young women.	Lily Davies	£60,000

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19668	Shpresa Programme	06/04/2023	£98,500 over two years (£42,500, £56,000) towards a leadership programme for the Albanian-speaking community in London, including project, management and staff costs.	Abi Sommers	£98,500
20084	Sir Stanley Matthews Foundation	20/04/2023	£44,000 over 5 years (£6,500 then 4 x £9,375) towards the running costs of football and other activities for children and young people with Down's Syndrome.	Lily Davies	£44,000
20083	Smallwood Trust Trustee Limited	15/03/2023	£6,500 for Local Authority and Women's Sector analysis research carried out with Women's Budget Group to support Smallwood Trusts Alliance Partnership to establish the London Women's Resilience Fund in Newham and Hackney.	Geraldine Page	£6,500
19663	Solace Women's Aid	26/04/2023	£238,465 over three years (£77,172; £79,488; £81,805) towards the salary of an Immigration Service Manager and associated running costs of the immigration service.	Lydia Parr	£238,465
19797	Soundcastle Ltd	22/05/2023	£129,100 over three years (£40,870; £42,990; £45,240) to cover a portion of staff costs (part-time Programme lead, lead and associate music facilitators and a project coordinator equating to 1 FTE), venue hire and refreshments, project resources and materials as well as music equipment.	Lily Davies	£129,100

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
19903	Sounddelivery Media	19/05/2023	£94,360 over two years (£47,180; £47,180) towards the programme delivery and content costs, external facilitators and overheads for a training programme to develop the skills and confidence of thirty six migrant domestic workers to advocate for their community in the media and influence public discourse.	Lara Rufus	£94,360
19781	Community Southwark	02/03/2023	£3,200 (8 days) to provide an eco audit.	Lydia Parr	£3,200
19746	Sparks Communities	04/04/2023	£30,000 over three years (3 x £10,000) for the costs of the Call the Shots programme delivered for young people with ASD, including project management, facilitation, equipment, and staff training.	Matthew Robinson	£30,000
19770	Speak Street	11/04/2023	£28,000 over two years (£15,000; £13,000) towards the salary and on-costs of the Director, to support the organisation's continued delivery of ESOL classes for migrants and refugees in community settings, and the development of its ESOL workbook resources.	Matthew Robinson	£28,000
19933	St Augustine's Community Care Trust	05/04/2023	£3,750 for an access audit plus two follow up meetings with an access consultant.	Lily Davies	£3,750
19544	St Barnabas Dulwich PCC	02/03/2023	£47,880 over two years to fund the employment of a part-time Refugee Support Worker, to support Ukrainian refugee adults and children in Dulwich.	Maria Hughes	£47,880
19812	St Giles Trust	02/05/2023	£146,725 over three years (£48,492, £48,463, £49,770) to sustain the Peer Circles programme, a tailored advice service supporting 180 of the most vulnerable and stigmatised people to build a better future for themselves.	Lily Davies	£146,725

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
19580	Stepney Community Trust	22/03/2023	£83,715 over three years (3 x £27,905) to cover the costs of an ESOL tutor (0.2 FTE), Project Support Coordinator (0.2 FTE), training and volunteers as well as a portion of overheads.	Lorna Chung	£83,715
20160	Streatham Common Community Garden	18/04/2023	£15,270 over three further and final years (£5,090 x 3) to fund community gardeners to run projects taking place at the garden	Caspar Cech-Lucas	£15,270
19593	Sustrans	07/03/2023	£99,540 over two years (£49,560, £49,980) to support hostel residents with long-term mental health conditions, to feel more socially connected, confident with active travel, motivated and empowered to influence local decision-making on planning and road safety.	Julia Mirkin	£99,540
19946	Sutton Mencap	22/05/2023	£116,000 (£57,143, £58,857) over two years to cover project manager (p/t), and learning disabled support worker (p/t) salaries, project and management costs.	Lily Davies	£116,000
19554	Suvai Deaf East Community	27/03/2023	£27,950 over two years (£14,160; £13,790) for a Health and Wellbeing Walking Club, covering a 8 hours p/w Project Co-ordinator, 2 hours p/w admin support, 1 laptop, volunteer costs and related project overheads.	Anneka Singh	£27,950
19720	SydenhamGarden	06/04/2023	£165,355 over three years (£52,452; £55,075; £57,828) for salary, oncosts, and materials for the Growing Lives Project.	Julia Mirkin	£165,355
19879	Teatro Vivo	23/05/2023	£50,000 over five years (£10,000 x 5) towards monthly drama workshops with learning disabled people. Release of first instalment is conditional on Teatro Vivo providing an updated safeguarding policy.	Lorna Chung	£50,000

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
20019	Teen Action	19/04/2023	£48,100 for a one-year research project into barriers to employment for young women from the Charedi community in Hackney and Haringey.	Shegufta Slawther	£48,101
19808	Theatrum Mundi	18/04/2023	£75,000 over two years (£39,600, £35,400) towards associated project costs of delivering the PolyvocalCity programme in Croydon.	Lily Davies	£75,000
20007	Touretteshero CIC	12/04/2023	£49,910 over 12 months towards salary costs, disabled access and inclusion and youth led social action projects. The grant is payable to Touretteshero CIC, which acts as host for Sounds Like Chaos.	Nat Jordan	£49,910
19739	Tower Hamlets Parents Centre	25/04/2023	£48,000 over three years (3x £16,000) towards an ESOL tutor, materials, management, and premises costs.	Maria Hughes	£48,000
19642	The Traveller Movement	05/04/2023	£161,450 over 3 years (£52,230; £53,800; £55,420) covering 1 FT Women's Support Worker, supervision costs, co-design costs and related project overheads.	Anneka Singh	£161,450
19212	TRCP = Jesuit Refugee Service	06/04/2023	£183,800 over three years (£59,200; £61,400; £63,200) towards the costs of a FTE Senior Legal Caseworker and associated running costs.	Sandra Jones	£183,800
19432	Turkish Cypriot Women's Project	13/04/2023	£162,600 over five years (£29,660; £30,920; £32,350; £34,000; £35,670) for the salary and on-costs of a 28 hpw Advice Worker, associated costs of the advice service and a contribution to core costs.	Lily Brandhorst	£162,600
19558	Vauxhall City Farm	06/03/2023	£95,000 over two years (£50,000; £45,000) towards Vauxhall City Farm's core costs enabling it to provide environmental and educational activities for 570 local people each year.	Gerard Darby	£95,000

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
19916	Voluntary Action Camden	12/04/2023	£100,000 over two years (2 x £50,000) for the salary and associated costs of a Membership Development Officer (3 days), Training Coordinator (1 day) and a contribution towards management and core running costs.	Maria Hughes	£100,000
19876	Enfield Voluntary Action	12/04/2023	£176,800 over three years (£57,500, £59,300, £60,000) towards staff costs, room hire, associated project running costs and contribution to overheads for Enfield Voluntary Action's financial management, impact reporting and fundraising work with voluntary and community organisations.	Lily Brandhorst	£176,800
19719	Wadajir Somali Community Centre	05/04/2023	£35,020 over two years (£17,000; £18,020) for a weekly Elderly Women's Luncheon Club, covering a 16 hours p/w Project Manager, 8 hours p/w Cook and related project overheads.	Anneka Singh	£35,020
19747	Waltham Forest Migrant Action	11/04/2023	£19,740 over two years (£9,780; £9,960) for a 10 hours p/w Communications and Campaigns Coordinator, safeguarding training and related project overheads.	Anneka Singh	£19,740
20081	Walworth Garden	05/05/2023	£4,000 (10 days) to provide an eco audit.	Lydia Parr	£4,000
19712	women@thewell	06/04/2023	£243,590 over 5 years (£43,210; £45,800; £48,550; £51,470; £54,560) for a Senior Outreach Worker, external supervision and related project overheads.	Anneka Singh	£243,590
19703	Women's Consortium	18/04/2023	£41,500 over two years (£19,750, £21,750) towards a 0.4 FTE BACP accredited Counsellor to provide mental health support to women who have experienced abuse, hatred or exploitation, particularly in a domestic setting.	Abi Sommers	£41,500

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
20011	Women's Resource Centre	05/05/2023	£45,900 over 12 months towards freelance workers, Nat Jordan capacity building, associated project running costs, safeguarding training and hosting fee. The grant is payable to the Women's Resource Centre to act as host on behalf of Sisters of Frida. Payment is contingent on the provision of a satisfactory written agreement between the two parties.		£45,900
19945	Young Camden Foundation	02/03/2023	£80,000 over two years (2 x £40,000) to support the Abi Sommers Young Camden Foundation's work for voluntary sector organisations working with children and young people. Release of funding is conditional upon the Young Camden Foundation submitting a satisfactory updated safeguarding policy.		£80,000
Grand Totals (146 items)					£13,252,109
Of which approved in 22/23					£2,304,165
Of which approved in 23/24					£10,947,944

Inflationary Pressure Grant Payments March 2023

Ref	Organisation	DA Approval Date	Grant Recommendation	Funding Manager	Recommended Amount
20181	Centre For The Acceleration Of Social Technology	17/03/2023	Inflationary Pressures Payment	Tim Wilson	£20,000
20178	Consortium LGBT	17/03/2023	Inflationary Pressures Payment	Tim Wilson	£10,000
20177	East European Resource Centre	17/03/2023	Inflationary Pressures Payment	Tim Wilson	£6,240
20179	Homeless Link	17/03/2023	Inflationary Pressures Payment	Tim Wilson	£12,300

20182	Justice Collaborations	17/03/2023	Inflationary Pressures Payment	Tim Wilson	£15,000
20180	London Legal Support Trust	17/03/2023	Inflationary Pressures Payment	Tim Wilson	£11,900
20176	Media Trust	17/03/2023	Inflationary Pressures Payment	Tim Wilson	£5,900
Grand Totals (7 items)					£81,340

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Committees: Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board	Date: 12 June 2023
Subject: Cornerstone Fund Update	Public
Report of: Sacha Rose-Smith, Chief Funding Director	For Information
Report Authors: Geraldine Page, Funding Director and Jenny Field, Consultant	

Summary

The purpose of this report is to update the Funding Committee on Round 2 of the Cornerstone Fund and to highlight additional learning gleaned from Round 1.

The Cornerstone Fund was originally approved in October 2016 with an additional allocation of £3million to assist in the strategic development of infrastructure support for London's civil society. Round 1 of this Fund was launched in April 2018, as part of the overall Bridging Divides funding strategy, with Round 2 being launched in February 2021. The Cornerstone Fund is a collaborative initiative, bringing together funders and civil society support organisations and their partners, with the aim of enabling the systemic change needed for a thriving civil society, with a focus on tackling structural inequalities.

Collaborate CIC was appointed as Learning Partner to work alongside CBT and an executive summary of the findings of their interim report on Round 2 of the Fund can be found [here](#)¹

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 10 partnerships funded under Round 1 took longer to complete than originally envisaged. Collaborate therefore undertook some additional learning work with this cohort and have produced an Executive Summary, full report and a set of case studies, links to which are provided within the report for information.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Funding Committee of the Bridge House Estates Board, in the discharge of functions for the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i) Receive this report and note its contents.

Main Report

Background

1. The Cornerstone Fund was originally approved in October 2016 with an additional allocation of £3million to assist in the strategic development of infrastructure support for London's civil society. Round 1 of this Fund was launched in April 2018, as part of the overall Bridging Divides funding strategy. The Cornerstone Fund is a collaborative

¹ The full report is [here](#)

initiative, bringing together funders and civil society support organisations and their partners, with the aim of enabling the systemic change needed for a thriving civil society, with a focus on tackling structural inequalities.

Cornerstone Fund Round 2

2. Round 2, towards which Trust for London generously awarded a grant of £500,000, launched in February 2021. As with Round 1, there was a two-stage application process, with the successful Stage 1 applicants being awarded a development grant of up to £25,000 in order to work up their Stage 2 proposals.
3. 85 applications were received in total, of which 13 were approved to go forward to Stage 2. One of the partnerships was sufficiently established to go through to Stage 2 without the need for a development grant, meaning that 12 development grants, totalling £257,850, were awarded. This total takes account of one of the partnerships which was not able to proceed due to unforeseen circumstances and which returned £21,000 of unused funding to the Trust out of a total grant of £25,000.
4. CBT awarded 10 of the Stage 2 grants (with the benefit of funding from Trust for London) totalling £3,158,510. Additionally, the National Lottery Community Fund awarded 2 grants totalling £550,000. All these funding decisions were made during the period March to September 2022 (across the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years).
5. Collaborate CIC were appointed as Learning Partner in April 2021, following a competitive tendering process (they had also been successful in their tender as Learning Partner for Round 1).
6. It is still early days in the lives of the funded projects although 4 learning workshops have been held, bringing together the funded organisations, the collaborating funders and our 'in-kind' partners, London Funders, London Plus and London Councils. It is testimony to the success of the Cornerstone Fund that lead partners have been willing to fully participate in the workshops before the outcome of their second stage application was known.
7. In addition, 3 learning workshops were held bringing together the funders and 'in-kind' supporters.
8. Collaborate has produced an interim report on learning from Round 2 in the form of an [Executive Summary](#) and a [full report](#).
9. One of the main areas of focus of the report is on how the partnerships are addressing systemic inequalities and it identifies five overarching approaches being taken:

- a. Collecting and sharing knowledge and insight, nurturing the skills and capabilities for systems change, particularly with communities directly experiencing systemic inequalities.
- b. Experimenting and innovating to demonstrate alternative ways of thinking and doing that are built on more relational, democratic, equitable and person-centred approaches.
- c. Gathering insight about the experiences of people and communities experiencing inequality, in order to help systems be more responsive and person-centred.
- d. Growing the collective power and strengthening the influence of people and communities experiencing inequalities, through finding common purpose and acting together.
- e. Connecting parts of the system together better, breaking down barriers and building understanding and relationships across boundaries to improve access and inclusion.

10. It identifies some of the key challenges and questions for exploration over the coming months:

- a. Maintaining a focus on long-term change when fighting short-term crises. This issue is further exacerbated by the relatively short-term nature of the Cornerstone Funding (grants of up to 3 years).
- b. Translating the big goals of systems change (and the associated jargon) into language and ideas that are meaningful and motivating to people that want immediate change.
- c. Further centering grassroots groups and marginalised people in the work and deepening the conversations and practices for equity.
- d. Finding and using every-day learning practices with the people who the work is about.
- e. Widening the circle of people that are involved in making sense of data and insight and understanding the system and testing how best to use data and insight in mobilising change.
- f. Developing collaborative relationships outside of partnerships, particularly with decision-makers and power-holders that they want to influence.
- g. Further exploring and articulating what the system is, where you sit in relation to the system, and the desired impact on system conditions you want to have.
- h. Understanding the roles that are needed for the work and what these look like.

Additional Learning from Round 1

11. The 10 partnerships funded during Round 1 were significantly impacted by the Covid pandemic which meant their projects ran beyond the life of Collaborate's original contract as Learning Partner. We therefore commissioned Collaborate to do some additional work with these projects to capture learning that might otherwise have been lost. This has been written up as [10 Stories from Round 1](#).

12. Both Round 1 and Round 2 cohorts, together with funders and other partners, were brought together in a special learning event at Guildhall in November 2022.

Conclusion

13. At the time of its launch in 2018, the Cornerstone Fund was breaking new ground in approaches to collaborative ways of working and the relationship between funders and grantees. Learning from this has helped shape our development as a funder and to our engagement with initiatives such as the London Community Response and the Propel funder collaboration as well as the design and launch of the Anchor Programme.

14. Both rounds of the Cornerstone Fund offered grants of up to three years. With hindsight, there is an inherent tension in devising a grants programme with a focus on systems change and offering relatively short-term funding. Understanding of the importance of long-term funding has informed the Anchor Programme and the Trust's partnering with the Propel programme, both of which offer funding for up to 10 years.

15. Despite this, and the impact of the pandemic, the conclusion from Round 1 is that the partnerships were able to build the foundations for systemic change. Collaborate said of the stories from Round 1,

“The stories are like a jigsaw puzzle, each story provides a piece of the jigsaw. Read together, they paint a picture of the fund as a whole, spotlighting its different aspects and characteristics”.

Geraldine Page

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