

# The City Bridge Trust

## Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



### About your organisation

Name of your organisation: <b>Women's Environmental Network Trust</b>	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? <b>Tower Hamlets</b>	
Contact person: <b>Ms Bethany Summers</b>	Position: <b>Co-director</b>
Website: <b><a href="http://www.wen.org.uk">http://www.wen.org.uk</a></b>	
Legal status of organisation: <b>First Contact</b>	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: <b>1010397</b>
When was your organisation established? <b>17/03/1988</b>	

### Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying? <b>Improving London's Environment</b>		
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve? <b>More people reporting improved wellbeing through greater use of open spaces and through growing and greening initiatives</b> <b>More Londoners with a greater knowledge and understanding of the 'green' environment and biodiversity</b>		
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. <b>To fund the coordination of the Tower Hamlets Food Growing Network, a vital local resource that promotes the well-being and environmental benefits of food growing.</b>		
When will the funding be required? <b>30/09/2018</b>		
How much funding are you requesting?		
Year 1: <b>£30,642</b>	Year 2: <b>£32,334</b>	Year 3: <b>£32,793</b>
<b>Total: £95,769</b>		

**Aims of your organisation:**

WEN's mission is to make the links between women's health and equality, and the environment.

We aim to:

1. Tackle the environmental concerns that are closest to women's health and everyday lives, and connect these to global issues
2. Inspire and empower women to become agents of change in their families, networks and society
3. Diversify the environmental movement by championing women's voices, particularly BAME women and other underrepresented groups

Our values are: Equality, Collaboration, and Respect for our Environment

**Main activities of your organisation:**

Through training, network building and campaigning, locally and nationally we work in the following areas:

? Food: Champion women's involvement in community gardens and sustainable food systems, particularly in areas of economic deprivation and disadvantage.

? Health: Raise awareness of harmful chemicals in cosmetics and household products. Promote and deliver nature based therapeutic interventions.

? Climate Change: Highlight the impacts of climate change on women's lives, and support gender sensitive strategies.

? Waste: Promote real nappies, reusable menstrual products, sustainable clothing and household waste reduction.

? Women's Empowerment: Advocate women's equality and involvement in decision-making, inspire women to make environmentally informed choices, and empower women to become agents of change.

**Number of staff**

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>

**Property occupied by your organisation**

Is the main property owned, leased or rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding agreement?
<b>Leased</b>	<b>3 years</b>

## Summary of grant request

We are applying for a part-time coordinator and the key activities of the Tower Hamlets Food Growing Network (THFGN). This will allow us to expand this vital local resource which supports local food growing projects, and creates opportunities for more Londoners to improve their wellbeing and environmental knowledge through engaging in food growing locally.

### Need for the project:

Tower Hamlets has a high level of deprivation and a scarcity of green space, especially in the most deprived areas where the prevalence of physical and mental health issues is highest.

Small green spaces and growing projects have a key role to play in increasing access to green space, and improving wellbeing.

We use food growing to improve people's understanding of the green environment and biodiversity and make links to wider environmental issues.

Despite their importance, growing projects are under-resourced. THFGN plays a crucial role in supporting them to succeed over the long term.

A lack of understanding about how to access growing and greening projects amongst social prescribers and health care professionals means missed opportunities to direct people towards appropriate projects. We are well placed to bridge this divide.

Where resources are limited, a strong voice for food growing is vital. We are the borough's only organisation which can effectively lobby to protect and expand access to food growing.

### How the work will be delivered:

The coordinator will lead on delivery supported by gardening workshop leaders and WEN staff.

The work will be co-produced with network members; a core part of WEN's philosophy.

We will use our strong partnerships with the local food sector, council, health care providers, social prescribers, and social landlords to deliver this project.

### What our project will aim to achieve and how we meet the trust's outcomes:

- 1) Increase the number of people whose wellbeing benefits from food growing projects by:
  - ? equipping local food growers with the knowledge and resources to make their gardens successful and sustainable
  - ? ensuring local communities know how to get involved in growing
  - ? increasing referrals by building relationships between growers, social prescribers and healthcare providers
  - ? promoting a sense of pride in these projects
- 2) Improve participants' knowledge and understanding of the green environment and biodiversity by:
  - ? Ensuring these issues are built into our workshops and events
  - ? Encouraging participation at our seasonal gatherings where topics range from gardening tips to local biodiversity to international environmental issues

Our food growing work has always focussed on low-income, socially isolated and BAME women in Tower Hamlets. We will continue to prioritise these groups.

**Why we are the right organisation to deliver the work:**

For fifteen years, WEN has delivered food-growing projects primarily with low-income women from minority groups. We have excellent networks, a high level of engagement and attendance at our events, and a reputation for delivering effective community-based programmes.

We work in close partnership with community groups, third sector organisations, LBTH council, social prescribers, health care providers and businesses to deliver high quality, good value programmes.

National organisations including Sustain and the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens use our work as a model for engaging with local communities.

**Good Practice:**

? Local people shape our events by creating the content, hosting events in their gardens and giving feedback? Our workshops are co-designed with members

? This will be developed by forming a community steering group

? The network has very diverse participation, and our workshops target low income and marginalised women

? We support our volunteers through collective goal setting and training

? We have a comprehensive policy and action plan to reduce our carbon footprint

If you need any planning or other statutory consents for the project to proceed, what stage have the applications reached?

Do you have a Vulnerable Adults policy? **Yes**

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

**We are working towards a PQASSO quality mark**

## **Outputs and outcomes**

What are the main activities or outputs you want to deliver? Please include no more than 5. By activities or outputs we mean the services, products or facilities you plan to deliver. If you plan to deliver work over more than one year you should include activities over the full grant period requested. Try to be specific.

**Strong network building, resource sharing and education: Four seasonal network gatherings annually for local growing projects and their members to access free training and education about food growing, biodiversity and environmental issues. It will be a vital space for network building and resource sharing. Each event will have 100 participants.**

**Food growing workshop programme: Two four-week growing workshop programmes annually aimed at BAME women, attracting 30 participants. Workshops will improve wellbeing and break down social barriers. Each programme will include a tour of local gardens creating a sense of community and building knowledge about biodiversity in London.**

**Training for garden leaders and prescribers: An annual training conference for those delivering food growing projects, social prescribers, and health care professionals. This will increase awareness of the importance of growing for wellbeing, share best practice, skills and resources, and build networks. Each event will attract 50 participants.**

**Responsive support for new gardens. We are often approached by local residents who want to start a food growing project. We will support new projects by using our organisational knowledge and position to link new local projects with the right people in the council, RSLs and to provide volunteers.**

**Food growing map and portal: We will create a user friendly access point, map and database on our website to direct people to food growing projects near them, including an indication of what level of support projects can offer for people with physical and psychological support needs.**

What main differences or outcomes do you hope the activities you have described above will achieve? Please include no more than 5. By differences or outcomes we mean the changes, benefits, learning or other effects that result from the work your project would deliver. These might be for individuals, families, communities or the environment.

**Local people have improved physical and mental wellbeing through access to food growing projects, including improved confidence.**

**Project participants and network members have an improved understanding of the green environment and biodiversity in the borough, and at a national and international level. This will be an integral part of the content of our gardening workshops, our seasonal gatherings and our online resources.**

**Resources are shared more effectively within the sector (including seed sharing). Over the next three years we will build a stronger more vibrant network, with a wider membership and an improved understanding of what resources are on offer both peer to peer and from the coordinator.**

**Social prescribers, health care providers and food growers have an improved understanding of the health and wellbeing benefits of food growing and how to access these projects in the borough leading to an increase in referrals to nature based projects.**

**An increased number of individuals will connect with local food growing and greening projects through the network. This will improve wellbeing for those taking part, and also increase the number of volunteers at local projects.**

Do you plan to continue the activity beyond the period for which you are requesting funding? If so, how do you intend to sustain it? If not, what is your exit strategy?

**Yes, through a combination of increased individual and organisational affiliation fees to the network and continued grant funding from other funders.**

## Who will benefit?

### About your beneficiaries

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

**600**

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

**Tower Hamlets (100%)**

What age group(s) will benefit?

**0-15**

**16-24**

**25-44**

**45-64**

**65-74**

**75 and over**

What gender will beneficiaries be?

**All**

What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?

**A range of ethnic groups**

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?

**21-30%**

## Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Project coordinator salary with oncosts and + 10% management costs @ 3 days/week FTE	22,500	22,950	23,409	68,859
Network gathering costs (4 per year)	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
8 X growing workshops	2,400	2,400	2,400	7,200
Garden tours X 2 (1 In first year)	492	984	984	2,460
Conference for garden leaders, RSLs, health providers and other stakeholders	0	750	750	1,500
Responsive support for new gardens from freelance gardeners	250	250	250	750
In kind support from partners (venues)	4,800	5,800	5,800	16,400
In kind support (web development)	5,000	0	0	5,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>40,442</b>	<b>38,134</b>	<b>38,593</b>	<b>117,169</b>

### What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
In kind support from partners (venues)	4,800	5,800	5,800	16,400
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

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

### How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Project coordinator salary with oncosts and + 10% management costs @ 3 days/week FTE	22,500	22,950	23,409	68,859
Network gathering costs (4 per year)	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
8 X growing workshops	2,400	2,400	2,400	7,200
Garden tours X 2 (1 In first year)	492	984	984	2,460
Conference for garden leaders, RSLs, health providers and other stakeholders	0	750	750	1,500
Responsive support for new gardens from freelance gardeners	250	250	250	750
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>30,642</b>	<b>32,334</b>	<b>32,793</b>	<b>95,769</b>



## Finance details

Please complete using your most recent audited or independently examined accounts.

Financial year ended:	Month: <b>March</b>	Year: <b>2017</b>
-----------------------	------------------------	----------------------

Income received from:	£	Expenditure:	£
Voluntary Income	118,163		
Activities for generating funds	0	Charitable activities	146,647
Investment income	56	Governance costs	0
Income from charitable activities	29,293	Cost of generating funds	0
Other sources	0	Other	0
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>147,512</b>	<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>146,647</b>
		<b>Net (deficit)/surplus:</b>	<b>865</b>
		<b>Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Net Movement In Funds:</b>	<b>865</b>

Asset position at year end	£	Reserves at year end	£
Fixed assets	0	Restricted funds	15,261
Investments	0	Endowment Funds	0
Net current assets	53,433	Unrestricted funds	38,172
Long-term liabilities	0		
<b>*Total Assets (A):</b>	<b>53,433</b>	<b>*Total Reserves (B):</b>	<b>53,433</b>

**\* Please note that total Assets (A) and Total Reserves (B) should be the same.**

### Statutory funding

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?  
1-10%

### Organisational changes

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

We have been awarded £245,016 from Big Lottery for our three year programme, Soil Sisters.

We have also been awarded grants from Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (£60,000 over two years), and Rosa: the UK fund for women and girls (£25,000 over 1 year). The charity trustees have recently updated WEN's constitution. This is due to be approved at the next trustee meeting.

### Previous funding received

Please list the funding received by your organisation from the following statutory sources during the last THREE years.

	<b>Year 3 £</b>	<b>Year 2 £</b>	<b>Most recent £</b>
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	3,000	0	0
London Local Authorities	4,444	2,798	0
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	101,489	51,930	27,870
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	0	0	0

### Previous grants received

Please list the grants received by your organisation from charitable trusts and foundations (other than City Bridge Trust) during the last THREE years. List source, years and annual amounts. Please include the 5 largest only.

<b>Name of Funder</b>	<b>Year 3 £</b>	<b>Year 2 £</b>	<b>Most recent £</b>
Big Lottery - Local Sustainability Fund	0	0	64,197
Tower Hamlets CVS Innovation bursary	0	0	19,570
Santander Social Enterprise Development Awards	10,000	0	0
East End Community Foundation	9,805	0	0
Comic Relief - Core Strength	0	0	9,710

### Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information I have provided in this application form is correct. I fully understand that City Bridge Trust has zero tolerance towards fraud and will seek to prosecute and recover funds in every instance.

Please confirm: Yes      Full Name: **Bethany Summers**

Role within                      **Co-director**  
Organisation: