

The City Bridge Trust

Bridging Divides: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Organisation Details

Name of your organisation:

Surrey Docks Farm

If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?

N/A

In which London Borough is your organisation based?

Southwark

Contact person:

Ms Gemma Hooper

Position:

Farm Manager

Website:

<http://www.surreydocksfarm.org.uk>

Social Media Accounts:

**@surreydocksfarm /
www.facebook.com/SurreyDocksFarm**

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

Green Flag Community Award obtained in 2007 with annual application in process/ Member of London Youth and completing bronze with the London Youth Quality Mark (City & Guilds accredited)

Legal Status

Legal status of organisation: **First Contact**

Charity Number:

800277

Company Number:

IPS 22829R

CIC Number:

Bencom Number:

When was your organisation established? **21/04/1980**

Aims of your organisation:

Occupying a 2.2 acre site on the south bank of the river Thames at Rotherhithe, the Farm, now in its 42nd year, aims to provide opportunities for city dwellers ? and in particular all communities in the London borough of Southwark and surrounding areas - to:

? Engage with all aspects of a working farm

? Learn about animal care, horticulture, food production, cooking, nutrition, healthy eating, crafts and country life

? Get Involved with the protection and Improvement of the natural environment and local heritage

? Learn about sustainable development and best environmental practices and develop life skills which will enable healthier lives with a lower environmental impact

We aim to ensure the involvement of people of all ages, social and economic circumstances and walks of life ? from those bringing their skills and experience to those looking to learn new skills, from those with support needs or disabilities or who would benefit from the company of others.

Main activities of your organisation:

The Farm gates are open 7 days/week, entry is free and everyone is welcome. Alongside our animals reared on the farm we have a variety of green and horticultural areas: the orchard, herb garden, dye garden, vegetable plots and wildlife area. We have a fully accessible gardening workshop for our trainees, clubs and visitors; a 'green' inter-active education trail demonstrating how we harvest renewables through our solar panels, grass roofs, rain water collection and bio-digesters; community allotments and a Farm Shop selling fresh food and farm produce.

We provide ongoing and seasonal projects throughout the year, including youth clubs, adult workshops, holiday projects and seasonal fairs. We run a programme for schools, a Mobile Farm for education visits and a range of training programmes for adults with learning disabilities.

We encourage involvement and progression through volunteering, work experience, training and apprenticeships with annually 100 active volunteers, 60 students on work placement and 20 corporates working in volunteer task groups

Your Staff & Volunteers

Full-time:	Part-time:	Trustee/Board members:	Active volunteers:
5	10	7	100
Do you have a Safeguarding policy? Yes			
Are the following people in your organisation subject to DBS checks?			
Paid Staff	Volunteers	Trustees / Management Committee Members	

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?
Leased	35 years

Environmental Impact**What action have you taken in the past year to progress environmentally sustainability principles and practice?****Energy reduction:**

? Our array of solar panels generated clean electricity for Farm use and earned £1,450 from Feed-in Tariff payments.

? We installed a second bio-digester in partnership with University College London, turning our pig manure into gas (to make our tea) and liquid fertiliser (to activate our muck heap)

? We harvested rainwater for our polytunnels and toilets

Training & Demonstration projects:

? Our projects with adults with learning difficulties ran 3 days a week (New Leaf, Plot to Shop & Farm Produce) with students cultivating vegetable plots & growing and making farm produce for sale in our Farm Shop

? We provided weekly food growing sessions and monthly training workshops on e.g. natural dye processes and herbal remedies

? We helped develop a community garden off-site & hosted weekly gardening sessions with young people

? We developed a 'green' education trail with signage and inter-active features demonstrating how renewable energy can be harvested

Finance Details

Organisation Finances

	Year of most recent audited / examined accounts	Current financial year forecast	Next financial year budget
End of financial year date	31/03/2017	31/03/2019	
Grants & donations:	£241,517	£152,224	£0
Earned Income:	£284,616	£268,453	£0
Other income:	£0	£0	£0
Total income:	526,133	£420,695	£0
Charitable activity costs:	£489,090	£396,466	£0
Cost of raising funds:	£22,529	£18,247	£0
Other costs:	£0	£0	£0
Total expenditure:	£511,619	£414,713	£0
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end:	£79,996	£85,960	£0

What is your organisation's reserves policy?

The Farm aims to build up a level of unrestricted free cash reserves sufficient to cover a minimum of 3 months running costs and thereby to:

- ? Ensure continuity of services and give time to enable Surrey Docks Farm to find alternative funding in the event of loss of funding
- ? Provide sufficient cash flow to cover delays in the receipt of income
- ? Provide cover for any further unmitigated risks identified
- ? Provide flexibility and ability to take advantage of opportunities that may arise and to cope with unexpected cost increases which are not covered by ongoing project funding

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

Organisational changes

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

N/A

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying?
Connecting the Capital

Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve?
Connecting the Capital\Local communities have better, more sustainable, assets (financial, physical, environmental)

Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence.
?Putting Down Roots in Rotherhithe?: Establishing a centre for environmental education and a Green Network promoting ?growing & greening initiatives?, developing ?green skills?, supporting community action and creating neighbourhood improvements.

When will the funding be required? **22/10/2018**

Is this request to continue work that is currently funded or has been funded in the last year by:

City Bridge Trust?
No

Another funder? (if so which)

How much funding are you requesting?

Year 1:
£37,106

Year 2:
£35,323

Year 3:
£32,790

Year 4:
£24,864

Year 5:
£17,948

Total Requested: £148,031

You and your grant request

What, specifically, are you applying for (your project)?

5 year tapering funding to establish new green resources for Rotherhithe, North Southwark and surrounding areas by:

? **ESTABLISHING THE FARM AS A LOCAL CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**
 promoting: knowledge and awareness of the green environment; hands-on experience of growing & cultivating; the value of ?green? practices and contribution to health and wellbeing.

? **DEVELOPING A GREEN NETWORK & SUPPORTING RESIDENTS TO CHAMPION THEIR GREEN SPACES**
 promoting: initiatives around growing and ?greening?, improving local neighbourhoods, preserving the environment, ensuring biodiversity.

? **PROMOTING FOOD GROWING & COOKING WITH FRESH PRODUCE**
 promoting: healthy lifestyles and understanding of the importance of good, nutritional, balanced diets, specifically with children and young people and disadvantaged families

? **DEMONSTRATING THE PROJECT'S IMPACT & SECURING ITS FUTURE**
 securing: a long term resource bringing residents of different backgrounds & ages together, working with them to green and sustain their environment and contributing to their health & wellbeing.

What are the changes you hope to achieve?

? Many residents become newly aware of green issues and possibilities, develop gardening skills and get involved - as a result:

- A green network is established, bringing residents together, holding inter-generational events, sharing news, linking with environmental groups, local authorities and developers

- New greening & growing initiatives take place annually, in homes, on estates, on unused land

- Green, bio-diverse amenities are created and maintained within and around new developments

- The area's green environment is enhanced and contributes to residents' health & wellbeing

? New generations of young people gain practical work experience in horticulture, food growing and conservation and many children are enabled to make simple, nutritious organic meals.

? The Farm's contribution to the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged and special needs groups is developed and its green profile raised.

? Continuation funding is obtained and the impact of the project sustained in future years

How do you know there's a need for this work?

1. With continuous new builds in Rotherhithe, a 70% growth in population is forecast over the next 10 years. Constant care and attention are needed to ensure the creation and maintenance of quality open space, clean air & bio-diversity ? from parks and woods to verges, squares and walkways.

2. Informed and active residents have a key role to play protecting their environment and keeping it green: there is considerable local interest but lack of know-how. To encourage all ages to get involved with conservation and ?growing and greening?, ongoing training, co-ordination and resourcing are needed.

3. Many young people don't know where their food comes from or what constitutes a healthy diet: in Lambeth & Southwark 1 in 4 10 -11s are recorded as obese. A range of family initiatives is needed ? providing fun and encouragement and an antidote to the pull of on-line, under-exercised, indoor lives

How will the work be delivered - specifically, what will you do?

A Green Mentor and Horticulture Apprentice will deliver ?Putting Down Roots In Rotherhithe? through:

1.

- Regular accredited training workshops, on & off-site
- Showcasing sustainable practices
- Seasonal interactive education trails & website

2.

- Hosting intergenerational events promoting greening and bio-diversity
- Connecting resident initiatives through newsletter, social media
- Helping residents take local greening initiatives
- Networking with local and London-wide environment groups & hosting meetings for resident engagement with councils & developers

3.

- Food growing workshops & assisting growing food in under-used spaces
- Hosting drop-in gardening groups, supporting those feeling isolated ? viz single dads
- Partnering the Mini-cooking Club, running free week-end classes for young people
- Providing placements for school students, volunteer opportunities and AQAs in horticulture

4.

- Recording evidence and impact
- Demonstrating value to local developers and landlords to promote partnerships
- Establishing contracts and fee paying workshops

Why are you the right organisation to do this work?

1. With short term funding the Farm has successfully piloted projects promoting growing and greening delivered by a part-time Green Mentor, designed and built community gardens with residents and developers and laid the foundations for a Green Network.
2. As a consortium member with neighbouring environmental groups - Friends of Russia Docks Woods, Stave Hill Ecological Park and Lavender Pond Nature Reserve - we have engaged with developers and Southwark Council to promote green, bio-diverse amenities to an expanding residential population.
3. We provide hands-on environmental education with (i) schools (100 class visits/year) (ii) youth programme (clubs & activities throughout the year for 500 from early years to early teens) (iii) weekly training projects with adults with learning disabilities (iv) partnership projects with community groups
4. We demonstrate and promote green, sustainable practices
5. We are here to stay, committed to reaching and including all sections of the community

How does your work complement and not duplicate other services within your area?

As the only City Farm In Southwark, we offer a unique local resource which we look to share by working in partnership and complementing the work of other community providers. We tailor programmes to meet the specific interests of different sectors and their organisations - from schools to asylum seekers, from family centres to older people, from carers to young offenders.

In our environmental work, we:

- ? Have come together as a consortium with our neighbouring environmental groups and involve young people from our youth programmes as conservation volunteers in their projects
- ? Worked with residents' associations and developers on greening local areas
- ? Linked with Walworth Garden to provide the training element for our Horticulture Apprentice once appointed

We try to respond where there is demand and interest: residents are still asking for a continuation to our previous short-term Green Mentor project, as no other agency is offering it.

How will this proposal meet the Programme Outcome(s) under which you are applying?

OUTCOME 1: We will achieve better, more sustainable environmental assets for Rotherhithe and surrounding areas by establishing a long term green resource which:

- Promotes and supports care and improvement of the local environment
- Involves residents in developing their skills in growing and greening, their knowledge and understanding of the green environment and biodiversity and their contribution to sustaining them
- Brings residents of all ages and backgrounds together and enables collaboration with all sectors

OUTCOME 2: We will enable disadvantaged, disabled & older people to actively participate in well-being opportunities by:

- Ensuring that all projects identify and address any issues creating barriers to their access and inclusion, whether physical or social
- Informing & circulating invitations to organisations who serve and represent them of the opportunities for getting involved
- Developing partnerships with interested organisations and devising projects with them

How will you ensure that your project will hear and represent the views and needs of disadvantaged people and/or diverse communities?

Our approach with all our users is to tailor projects to meet their needs and interests. At the outset we ask participants what they are looking to get from the activity; we then ask for feed-back after each session verbally and at the final session via an evaluation questionnaire. So with our trainee adults with learning disabilities guiding us re their preferences, we work out personal plans with them, agree staged goals, review achievements and agree next staged goals.

To ensure we reach and include disadvantaged people, we have recently enlarged membership to our Governing Body so not only local individuals but also charities and community providers can now become members. We are now working to recruit organisations able to represent the range and diversity of need and disadvantage in the community. Having such organisations in membership then helps to ensure the needs and views of their members are represented.

How does your project engage and empower individuals and/or communities to come together on this issue? Will you be working with people who are particularly excluded?

1. The project focuses on engaging, training up and supporting individuals and community groups keen to improve and preserve their environment. It's a 'can-do' project bringing people together in:

- Workshops ? providing the skills to make a difference in their home environment and community
- Gardening and growing projects ? developing plots at the Farm and around estates
- Meetings with developers and environmental bodies ? to ensure quality green spaces within new developments
- Local networking and get-togethers - sharing, supporting, encouraging environmental initiatives

2. The Farm is committed to reaching and including those most in need and disadvantaged. For this project we will:

- Circulate information & invitations to organisations across the range of need and disadvantage re opportunities for their members
- Develop projects and initiatives targeted at those who might otherwise be particularly excluded - e.g. cookery courses with asylum seeker families/food bank users etc.

Is the focus of your project meeting an already identifiable need (acute or otherwise) or are there elements which are preventative and/or incorporate early action?

Needs have been identified and local interest expressed for preventative and early action in the following areas:

1. With all the development taking place in Rotherhithe over the next 10 years, now is the right time to bring local residents and environmental groups together to ensure quality of life for present and future generations. In the increasingly built-up environment, access to little havens of greenery and opportunities to interact with plant, bird, insect and animal habitats will be increasingly important in providing balance to city lives.
2. With 1 in 4 10-11 year olds recorded as obese, initiatives are needed to try to ensure better prospects for future generations. The Farm has asked to be part of a programme hosted by Guys & St Thomas? Charity offering fun activities for families with overweight issues: growing and cooking with fresh produce and learning the difference between healthy diets and junk foods.

Who might you need to work closely with in delivering this project - whether before, during or afterwards?

RECRUITMENT OF HORTICULTURE APPRENTICE EVERY 18 MONTHS:

- InSpired to Work and Southwark Council's SEEDS programme re financial subsidy and Walworth Garden re training

RECRUITMENT OF GREEN MENTOR then PROJECT PROMOTION & RESIDENT INVOLVEMENT:

- Residents & Tenants Associations
- Environmental Groups
- Voluntary Sector and Community Groups
- Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens

PARTNERSHIP BUILDING ACROSS SECTORS:

- Developers, in particular British Land and Grosvenor
- Housing Associations/Social Housing/ Landlords
- Southwark Council ? Environment & Ecology dept

OTHER PARTNERSHIP BUILDING:

- Guy's & St Thomas? Charity
- Corporates
- Charitable trusts

REACHING THOSE MOST IN NEED and/or DISADVANTAGED:

- Organisations and community groups serving them, including local schools
- Community Southwark
- Southwark Council, Social Services, Public Health departments

DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MATERIALS accessed from the FARM WEBSITE:

- Department of Educational Studies, Goldsmith University
- Local schools

PROJECT EVALUATION & IMPACT MEASUREMENT

- Community Southwark

Our aim as a funder is to help people move positively between any of the four stages of Surviving, Coping, Adapting and Thriving. For your project at which of these stages will most people begin their journey?

A difficult question to answer for a project with free admission 7 days/week offering different opportunities to up to 50,000 users & visitors a year over 5 years from all ages, backgrounds and individual circumstances! For the 3 major activity areas:

1. ESTABLISHING THE FARM AS A LOCAL CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ? above will be particularly the case, involving children, families and adults starting at all of the 4 stages, though we presume the majority are likely to be Adapting
2. DEVELOPING A GREEN NETWORK & SUPPORTING RESIDENTS TO CHAMPION THEIR GREEN SPACES ? through the networking, events and community action we would aim to involve all ages at all 4 stages, but again we presume the majority are likely to be Adapting
3. PROMOTING FOOD GROWING & COOKING WITH FRESH PRODUCE ? here we will be particularly targeting those starting at the stages of Surviving & Coping

Will there be any elements of this project that will help you or your beneficiaries to reduce your environmental footprint?

In continuing to develop the Farm's green, inter-active education trail, two new initiatives already identified for the project are:

1. Installing & demonstrating 3 WAYS HOT WATER CAN BE HEATED SUSTAINABLY for public use:
 - A handwashing station by our Green Shed - using waste heat from the outdoor tea making facilities fuelled by gas from our biodigester
 - An intelligent solar diversion switch which will divert surplus solar energy into a storage tank for a handwashing station outside our café
 - Solar thermal panel and storage tank for heating hot water for the all-purpose sink in our Segal building ? used for training with adults with disabilities, youth groups etc.
2. Installing & demonstrating a sustainable SALAD PLANT GROWING SYSTEM USING AQUAPONICS - showing how taking advantage of the Nitrogen Cycle and recycling water, a sustainable system for growing salad plants can be established with few resources.

What are the main activities or outputs you want to deliver?

Over Years 1/5, FARM ESTABLISHED AS A LOCAL CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION - providing:

- Project motor: Green Mentor + Horticulture Apprentices
- 60/120 residents/year on AQA accredited training programmes
- New seasonal education trails demonstrating sustainable practices Introduced each year
- 5K/10K visits/year to enhanced website education resource

Over Years 1/5, GREEN NETWORK DEVELOPED/RESIDENTS SUPPORTED TO CHAMPION GREEN SPACES:

- 500/1,000 subscribers/year share news/progress through digital newsletter/social media
- 20/50 residents/year initiate growing and greening projects
- 100/200 residents & families/year attend green intergenerational events
- 20/50 residents/year engage with council/landlords/developers & link with London ?green? campaigns

Over Years 1/5, FOOD GROWING/COOKING WITH FRESH PRODUCE PROMOTED:

- 50/100 residents/year (50% older/disadvantaged) on monthly workshops/courses
- 10/30 x 14-24s/year achieve AQA in Horticulture
- 60 x 8-11s/year (50% disadvantaged) attend 100 food growing sessions/year
- 28/56 x 5-11s & family members/year (50% disadvantaged) attend termly cooking courses

What 3 main differences or outcomes do you hope the activities you have described above will achieve?

- Local resource established providing environmental education & stimulating community action
- Many more residents acquire gardening skills and motivation to ?green?
- Quality of Farm's environmental offer augmented/Visitors better informed and motivated to care for their environment
- Environment education for primary schools enlivened through new interactive website
- Many more residents are better informed, connected and equipped to improve their environment and champion green spaces
- Many more residents involved in greening and growing initiatives
- Residents from all backgrounds come together to celebrate green initiatives
- Green & biodiverse amenities enhanced within and around new developments
- More people who are older, disadvantaged or with greater needs are involved & included in well-being opportunities
- Young adults acquire practical experience in horticulture, ecology, biodiverse food growing and conservation
- Many more children know about and practice healthy eating
- More young families report enhanced wellbeing

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
SALARIES	0	0	0			0
Green Mentor Salary (4 days/week + on costs	23,521	23,999	24,377	24,760	25,149	121,806
Horticulture Apprentice (full time + oncosts)	20,427	20,845	21,176	21,510	21,851	105,809
Signs, Interpretation, education trails	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	11,000
Seed funding, including plants, seed packets, tools	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000
Green workshops: tutors	1,500	1,800	2,200	2,200	2,200	9,900
Cooking courses: tutors & food (working w. disadvantaged families)	2,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	18,000
AQA Awards & assessor training	1,000	600	600	600	600	3,400

TOTAL:	53,448	55,244	56,353	57,070	57,800	279,915
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What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Southwark Council SEEDS (50% Apprentice salary)	9,282	0	0	0	0	9,282
Contract with developers re growing & greening projects	2,000	0	0	0	0	2,000

TOTAL:	11,282	0	0	0	0	11,282
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What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Southwark SEEDS (50% Apprentice Salary)	0	9,421	9,563	9,706	9,852	38,541
Contract with developers re growing & greening projects	0	2,500	3,000	3,500	4,000	13,000
Developers/landlords/council/charitable trusts	4,000	6,000	8,000	15,000	21,000	54,000
Workshop fees & sale of produce grown	1,060	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	15,060

TOTAL:	5,060	19,921	23,563	32,206	39,852	120,601
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How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
SALARIES	0	0	0			0
Contribution to Green Mentor salary + on costs (Yrs 1,2,3: 4 days/week; Year 4: 3 days; Year 5: 2 days	23,521	23,999	24,377	18,283	12,575	102,755
Contribution to Horticulture Apprentice + on costs (Years 1	4,085	4,169	4,235	4,302	4,370	21,161

- 5: 1 day/week						
Contribution to Other Project Costs	9,500	7,155	4,178	4,302	4,370	24,115
TOTAL:	37,106	35,323	32,790	24,864	17,948	148,031

Who will benefit?

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

1,000

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

Southwark

Does this project specifically target any groups or communities?

As stated above under Activity 3 & Difference 3, we have specific targets for involving people who are older, disadvantaged or with greater needs

This project will specifically work with the following age groups:

0-15

This project will specifically work with the following gender groups:

Male

This project will specifically work with the following ethnic groups:

Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

This project will specifically work with Deaf and disabled people:

Yes

This project will specifically work with LGBTQI groups:

No

This project will specifically work with other groups or communities:

As stated above under Activity 3 & Difference 3, we have specific targets for involving people who are older, disadvantaged or with greater needs

How will you target the groups/communities you have identified? What is your expertise in providing services for these groups?

As stated above, through (i) recruiting organisations able to represent the range of disadvantage into Farm membership (ii) keeping them informed of opportunities for their members (iii) developing partnership projects with them

Are there any groups or communities you think your organisation will find hard to include through this project?

Yes - please specify

If yes, please specify which groups or communities? Where possible using the categories listed above.

The Farm has experience of involving older people, those who are isolated, those with mental health issues, refugee and asylum seekers, children with special needs etc. but to offer more needs additional resourcing: to do outreach, to offer regular activities & to have additional activity space to enable them.

If yes, what steps will you take to make your services accessible to and meet the needs of the groups/communities you have identified?

The Green Mentor will undertake outreach, the Apprentice will facilitate sessions and by Year 3 the Farm will have additional activity spaces (its Riverfront development) to offer for partnership projects ? with a Farm kitchen and a calm therapeutic space

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: **Gemma Hooper**

Role within **Farm Manager**
Organisation: