

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY – Growing Localities – Growing & Greening**

**Tree Council**

**Amount requested: £47,000**

**Ref: 11284**

**Adv: Sandra Davidson**

**Base: Southwark**

**Benefit: Ealing, Haringey & Merton**

**Purpose of grant request:** Working with our Tree Warden volunteers planting 'edible hedges' in parks and open spaces so that they become a source of free healthy local food.

**Background**

The Tree Council is the UK's lead charity for trees, promoting their importance in a changing environment. It was founded as the national tree planting campaign following the success of Plant A Tree in 1973, to encourage conservation of trees and to run National Tree Week.

An umbrella body for more than 180 voluntary and public sector organisations working together for trees and a forum for tackling issues relating to trees and woods, the Tree Council promotes sustainable responses to environmental issues and improvement of the environment by the planting and conservation of trees and woods.

The Tree Council launched the national Tree Warden Scheme in 1990 to enable people to play an active role in conserving and enhancing their local trees and woods. It has co-ordinated it nationally ever since, working with local councils, voluntary organisations and local partnerships to set up and develop Tree Warden networks in towns, cities and the countryside across the UK. The Tree Council provides each Tree Warden with a Handbook that covers all the basics they will need to get started and all the networks provide training and run induction days. In London, the organisation is working to increase the number of local networks by encouraging more people to sign up-to both new and well-established teams.

The Tree Council's Tree Warden Scheme gives Londoners who feel that trees matter an opportunity to champion their local trees and woods by carrying out or encouraging practical projects, involving neighbours whenever possible. Today there are many thousands of Tree Wardens in local networks throughout the UK, together devoting nearly two million volunteer hours a year to trees – time worth approximately £13 million. The Scheme celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010.

## **Funding History**

None

## **Current Application**

This application is to support work with Tree Wardens in Ealing, Haringey and Merton, to find the sites for planting productive fruit-bearing hedges. This project will build on the work already undertaken in the south east. It will combine practical community based project work with wider research and experimentation into hedgerow-based, fruit growing best practice. The project will be delivered by existing staff over a 19 month period to capture two growing seasons. Tree Wardens will be working with a range of partners including local schools, faith groups and transition town groups. The organisation aims to have 10 demonstration hedge projects, building on its success of working with communities in London. Over 2,500 people are expected to benefit from the project. This piece of work will build on the recent 'Hedgerow Harvest' project (supported by the Big Lottery Local Food programme) to enable people to access free food on their doorstep.

## **Financial Observations**

The Tree Council had an especially successful financial year ending March 2011 largely as a result of a very generous one-off donation from a former Vice President. In its 2010/11 annual report, the Tree Council's trustees state they aim to hold one year's core costs in free reserves. As at March 2011 free reserves were £219,426 which equates to 11 months' core running costs. Since then trustees have reviewed the policy and now consider 6 months' core running costs to be a sufficient cushion. Draft accounts for 2011/12 show that free reserves were reduced by approximately £50K, in line with the new policy.

## **Officer's Appraisal**

The Tree Council has a strong track record of working with member organisations and others on tree issues of particular concern, and Tree Wardens have an important part to play in these, too. There are an estimated 8,000 Tree Wardens in more than 150 local networks doing voluntary work for their communities' trees. Should you approve a grant today, it will build on the Hedgerow Harvest project that encourages local people to gather and grow food for free on their own doorstep. The project proposal addresses the objectives of the Growing and Greening strand of your Growing Localities programme.

## **Recommendation**

**£47,000 over nineteen months (£30,000; £17,000) towards the salary and running costs of working with Tree Warden volunteers planting 'edible hedges' in parks and open spaces with local community groups in London.**



# The City Bridge Trust

Charity Registration Number: 1035628

## Growing Localities: Application for a grant

Reference:  
(office use only)

11284

Date Received:

05/07/2012

Programme  
Area:

12

### 1. About your organisation

Name of organisation applying for grant: <b>Tree Council, The</b>	
If the organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
Address for correspondence: <b>71 Newcomen St London</b>	
Postcode: <b>SE1 1YT</b> Is this your home address? <b>No</b>	
Contact person: <b>Ms Margaret Lipscombe</b>	Position: <b>Programme Director</b>
Phone: <b>0207 407 9992</b>	Fax:
E-mail: <b>ml@treecouncil.org.uk</b>	
Website: <b>http://www.treecouncil.org.uk</b>	
Legal status of organisation: <b>Registered Charity</b>	
If registered, please give charity number: <b>279000</b>	
Date organisation established: <b>01/09/1975</b>	

### 2. Request for funds

Under which of the Trust's themes are you applying (see our website or brochure for further details)? <b>Growing Localities – Growing and Greening</b>	
Purpose for which funds are requested: (25 words maximum) <b>Working with our Tree Warden volunteers planting 'edible hedges' in parks and open spaces so that they become a source of free healthy local food.</b>	
How much funding is requested? <b>Year 1: £30,000 Year 2: £17,000 Total: £47,000</b>	
How long is funding required? <b>19 months</b>	When is the funding required? <b>05/07/2012</b>

### **3. Aims of your organisation**

The Tree Council was established in 1974 as an umbrella coalition for civil society and public sector organisations working together for the environment and a forum in which to tackle issues relating to trees and woods. We promote sustainable responses to environmental issues and the improvement of the environment and people's quality of life by the planting and conservation of trees and woods in town and country throughout the UK.

The Tree Council works towards:

- Making trees matter to everyone
- More trees of the right kind in the right place
- Better care for trees, of all ages
- Inspiring effective action for tree

### **4. Main activities of your organisation**

Our volunteering initiative, The Tree Warden Scheme, was launched in 1990 and has 8,000 Tree Warden Volunteers organised in 130 local groups across the UK.

In London we are a partner in the Londoners Love Trees Project supported by Team London The Mayors volunteering initiative. Through this project over 25,000 trees have been planted with volunteers across the capital and we have recruited 413 new Tree Wardens for London.

We give small grants to schools and communities to plant trees

We also work with more than 180 member organisations to deliver year-round community action programmes and various tree related campaigns.

## 5. Number of staff

Full-time	Part-time	Management committee members	Active volunteers
4	1	6	8,000

## 6. How do you support your volunteers?

We run regular training and induction sessions for our Tree Wardens and once a year invite them to a forum where we ask for feedback to help shape future projects. All Our office based volunteers have a job description and regular supervision.

## 7. Please tell us about your sustainable horticultural practice, environmental policy and steps which you are taking to reduce your carbon footprint?

We recycle all our office waste.

We have reduced the use of paper in the office.

Staff use public transport rather than cars where possible.

Rather than have staff come into London for meeting we do telephone conferencing.

We are on a green electricity tariff

We buy our planting material for UK suppliers that are local to our projects - to reduce transport miles and because of bio security which is a growing problem.

We do not use peat based composts.

We mulch our plantings with organic material like bark chippings rather than use pesticides or strimming to remove weeds.

We only plant in winter so conserving water by reducing the need to water newly planted plants and we recommend using 'grey' water for non food plantings.

## 8. Finance

From your most recent audited or independently examined accounts, complete the following:

Financial year ended - **Month: March**

**Year: 2011**

<b>Income received from:</b>	<b>£</b>
Voluntary income	277,964
Activities for generating funds	332,154
Investment income	7,713
Income from charitable activities	0
Other sources	4,623
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>622,454</b>

<b>Expenditure:</b>	<b>£</b>
Charitable activities	449,104
Governance costs	13,877
Cost of generating funds	18,914
Other	0
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>481,895</b>
<b>(Deficit)/surplus for the year:</b>	<b>140,559</b>

<b>Asset position at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed assets	1,647
Investments	26,094
Net current assets (liabilities)	332,633
Long-term liabilities	0
<b>*Total A:</b>	<b>360,374</b>

<b>Reserves at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Endowment funds	0
Restricted funds	113,207
Unrestricted funds	247,167
<b>*Total B:</b>	<b>360,374</b>

\* Total A and Total B must be the same and should be taken from your balance sheet

## 9. Statutory funding

For the financial year above, what % of your income was from statutory sources?  
**0%**

## 10. Material changes

Describe any material changes to the organisation's activities, structure or financial position since the date of the most recent accounts:

**None**

## 11. Details of your request:

Tell us about the people and organisations that will benefit from your project, how your project will meet the aims and objectives of Growing Localities and explain why you are qualified to deliver this work.

The project aims to:

- show the value of productive hedges for local food
- give people improved knowledge and understanding of their lost local food heritage so they have the confidence to go out and forage for food in the hedgerow, fundamentally changing their behaviour patterns and affecting those of people they come into contact with
- promote the opportunities for growing local food by planting productive hedges in strategically important locations with groups of Tree Wardens, children and communities, creating projects that will improve community cohesion and enhance understanding of this underused food resource

The grant will fund:

- training in planting and maintenance, for communities who want to plant productive hedges
- planting demonstration hedges with and by a wide range of interested local community and school groups and on the boundaries of land around, for example, schools, prisons, colleges, allotments, park edges and local nature reserves so that the resource will be accessible.

The Tree Council has been delivering practical planting project with its volunteer Tree Wardens for over 20 years. Our Tree Wardens are local people with a passion for making their environment better. They range from people who have huge expertise to people who have lots of enthusiasm who want to learn more.

The project will work with our Tree Warden volunteers in Merton Ealing and Haringey to find the sites for planting productive hedges. With our support Tree Wardens will then work with their community to plant and maintain the productive edible hedges.

We have evidence that significant benefit can accrue from educating and supporting people to plant and use edible hedgerows. Our recent 'Hedgerow Harvest' project in the south east has engaged over 20,500 people in 50 communities and created 60 fruitful hedges. We had many requests to expand the concept over a wider area and we know that the message of healthy, free food from a hedge, has national appeal. If successful, this application would enable us to take this in to urban London.

There are many reasons to do this:

- hedges are a very efficient way of growing food. The linear structure of a hedge ensures that pollinating insects find the flowers, and that sufficient sunlight reaches the developing fruit. These facts are little known and need to be promoted, ensuring food is produced from hedges
- we wish to experiment with different planting and maintenance regimes to establish which methods produce the most food
- the link between food production and the consumer is being lost as more and more of us live in urban communities with little space to grow food. Edible hedges provide the opportunity for city dwellers to reconnect with food growing even in the smallest space.

Our project will build on work already undertaken in the south east. It will combine practical community based project work with wider research and experimentation into hedgerow based, fruit growing best practice.

In the south east, interest in hedge food came from schools, transition town groups, allotment groups, offender institutes and parishes to name but a few. People wanted to grow hedge food in spaces from small gardens to large public parks. In all cases the motivation was free, locally grown food. Through the pilot, communities across the south east came together to design and plant fruit hedges. We wish to continue to work with communities in London and to take their lessons beyond, to other parts of the UK.

We have shown that productive hedges can be planted in the smallest urban green space. Space in urban areas is at a premium, so food production needs to be as efficient as is possible and achievable in a compact space. A fruit hedge meets all these requirements and planting hedges against walls and in small front gardens utilises the vertical space to best effect, providing the possibility of free food to almost everyone.

In 2009/10 we delivered a national project 325k project to plant 73,000 metres of native hedgerow with 8715 trees in communities across the country - we delivered this with our Tree Warden groups who with our support found the sites and planted the hedges.

**12. Explain how you will monitor and evaluate both your own outcomes and those of the programme under which you are applying.**

We will  
 Keep records of people who come to hedge planting days  
 Take photographs of project progress  
 Ask volunteers to fill in feedback forms  
 Keep a record of press interest  
 Record all this information on spreadsheets and a data base  
 The project manager will be responsible for keeping this information and reporting on it as necessary

We will  
 Draw up a project plan with milestones  
 Have regular meetings with project staff and volunteers to measure progress against the milestones  
 The project manager will be responsible for keeping the project on budget and will report to the finance manager

**13. Beneficiaries**

How many organisations will benefit from this grant? <b>5</b>			
How many people will benefit from this grant? <b>2500</b>			
In which local authority is your organisation based? <b>Southwark</b>			
Which borough(s) of Greater London will benefit from this grant? <b>Merton 33%; Ealing 33%; Haringey 33%</b>			
At what address will the activity be located? <b>In parks and open spaces, on school grounds, around allotment sites and local nature reserves.</b>			
What age group will benefit? <b>All</b>			
What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?			
	<b>%</b>		<b>%</b>
White - British	<b>70</b>	Black - Caribbean	<b>7</b>
White - Irish	<b>2</b>	Black - African	<b>3</b>
White - Other (please describe)		Black - Other (please describe)	
European	<b>1</b>		
Asian - Indian	<b>2</b>	Black - British	<b>8</b>
Asian - Pakistani	<b>2</b>	Chinese	<b>1</b>
Asian - Bangladeshi	<b>4</b>		
Asian - Other (please describe)		Other (please describe)	
Open to everyone			<b>100</b>
What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people? <b>10%</b>			



## 14. Funding required for the project

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

<b>Expenditure heading</b>	<b>Year 1 £</b>	<b>Year 2 £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Salaries, NI, pensions and other associated costs	22,000	14,000	<b>36,000</b>
Volunteer time	3,000	3,000	<b>6,000</b>
Information, educational and promotional materials	1,000		<b>1,000</b>
Premises costs	2,000	1,000	<b>3,000</b>
Travel and subsistence	1,500	500	<b>2,000</b>
Demonstration hedges (5 per year)	2,500	2500	<b>5,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>53,000</b>

What income has already been raised?

<b>Source</b>	<b>Year 1 £</b>	<b>Year 2 £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Volunteer time	3,000	3,000	<b>6,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>

## 15. Funding required from the Trust

How much is requested from the Trust?

<b>Expenditure heading</b>	<b>Year 1 £</b>	<b>Year 2 £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Salaries, NI, pensions and other associated costs	22,000	14,000	<b>36,000</b>
Information, educational and promotional materials	1,000		<b>1,000</b>
Premises costs	2,000	1,000	<b>3,000</b>
Travel and subsistence	1,500	500	<b>2,000</b>
Demonstration hedges (5 per year)	2,500	2,500	<b>5,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>47,000</b>

### Declaration

Please tick this box to confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, all the information you have provided in this application form is correct



**MEETING: 27/09/2012**

**ANNEX NUMBER: 2**

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Growing Localities - Growing & Greening**

**Islington Play Association**

**Ref: 11344**

**Amount requested: £43,627  
(Revised request: £45,211)**

**Adv: Sandra Davidson  
Base: Islington  
Benefit: Islington**

**Purpose of grant request:** To develop and sustain 6 food growing areas with children in Islington's adventure playgrounds and Boat club with special emphasis on children in greatest need.

**Background**

Islington Play Association (IPA) was established in 1972 as an umbrella body and development agency for local play providers in Islington. It provides a range of services to support playschemes, adventure playgrounds, out of office school child care, nurseries and playgroups, mainly through the provision of advice, information and training. In October 2011 IPA celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Funding History**

You have a long funding history with IPA dating back to 1997. These include a grant of £34,500 over three years, approved in April 2001, to enable it to implement quality assurance systems within Islington's playschemes and a grant of £74,700 over three years, approved in November 2005, to enable IPA to develop sustainable funding models for the (then) new Children's Centres within the voluntary sector. Both of these grants played a significant role in maintaining IPA's role as a vital player in infrastructure services to Islington's voluntary sector. You awarded a further grant of £55,000 over one year, in February 2011, towards the development of a strategy for the transfer of the play site assets in Islington to voluntary sector providers - currently in progress.

**Current Application**

The application before you is to develop and sustain 6 food growing areas in partnership with Islington's voluntary sector adventure playgrounds (situated across the borough in areas of deprivation) and with Islington Boat Club. The proposal includes employing a new member of staff to work 3 days a week in the first year to deliver at least 12 growing sessions with partners at each site throughout the year. In year 2, the project worker will work 2 days a week and will focus on handing over the management and responsibility of food growing sites to children, site-staff and families. A number of growing open days will be run throughout both years so that parents/carers can get involved with the growing project. Children will cook their own harvest on fires and clay ovens as well as in

the playground's kitchen. Over 1800 children, young people, parents and carers are expected to benefit.

IPA intends to build on the success of their 'Finding Nature through Play' project which started in 2010. This works with children and playworkers to develop nature reserves across the borough so that every child will have access to nature close to home and to open access, staffed, play sessions in adventure playgrounds, schools and parks. An evaluation of the first year of this project highlighted that the children apply themselves to tasks, have a raised awareness of the needs of animals and plants, and are able to discuss in detail the flora and fauna with which they come into contact. IPA has good networks with community gardens and local growing projects.

### **Financial Observations**

IPA's reserves policy is to hold between 3 and 6 months in free reserves. As at March 2011, free reserves equated to 2.7 months of total expenditure - just below the desired amount. IPA's service level agreement with LB Islington is until March 2013. At the time of assessment the outcome of the council's planned changes to its funding arrangements was not determined. The current budget for 2012/13 shows a deficit of £35,000, which does not include income from this application or money held in free reserves. The organisation is working on a fundraising strategy to diversify its income, including consultancy services and unrestricted revenue from sales and fees.

### **Officer's Appraisal**

The original request (see Q14/15) did not include pension contributions. The organisation has subsequently seen its error and amended the request accordingly - as at Appendix A.

IPA has built up a reputation as an organisation working tirelessly to develop and improve the practice and environment of 12 adventure playground sites. It fundraises for new projects that deliver cutting edge activities and spaces for children. The project proposal addresses the objectives of the Growing and Greening strand of your Growing Localities Programme.

### **Recommendation**

**£45,200 over two years (£26,800, £18,400) for the salary of a part time Growing and Playing project worker and running costs to develop and sustain 6 food growing areas.**



# The City Bridge Trust

Charity Registration Number: 1035628

## Growing Localities: Application for a grant

Reference:  
(office use only)

11344

Date Received:

15/08/2012

Programme  
Area:

12

### 1. About your organisation

Name of organisation applying for grant: <b>Islington Play Association</b>	
If the organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
Address for correspondence: <b>West Library Bridgeman Road London</b>	
Postcode: <b>N1 1BD</b> Is this your home address? <b>No</b>	
Contact person: <b>Mrs. Anita Grant</b>	Position: <b>Director</b>
Phone: <b>020 7607 9637</b>	Fax: <b>020 7607 9638</b>
E-mail: <b>anita@islingtonplay.org.uk</b>	
Website: <b>http://www.islingtonplay.org.uk</b>	
Legal status of organisation: <b>Registered Charity</b>	
If registered, please give charity number: <b>1086165</b>	
Date organisation established: <b>06/11/1971</b>	

### 2. Request for funds

Under which of the Trust's themes are you applying (see our website or brochure for further details)? <b>Growing Localities – Growing and Greening</b>	
Purpose for which funds are requested: (25 words maximum) <b>To develop and sustain 6 food growing areas with children in Islington's adventure playgrounds and Boat club with special emphasis on children in greatest need.</b>	
How much funding is requested? <b>Year 1: £25,848 Year 2: £17,779 Total: £43,627</b>	
How long is funding required? <b>24 months</b>	When is the funding required? <b>15/08/2012</b>

### **3. Aims of your organisation**

We aim to preserve, create, improve and promote places and opportunities for the children of Islington to play.

Our main focus is how, through play, children's overall welfare and life chances can be significantly enhanced with special emphasis on children in greatest need.

Play is an essential part of the health, education, development and happiness of children. We are committed to improving the quality of play experiences whenever they occur and wherever children are. Poverty or need can be an obstacle to a happy childhood and so we especially seek to help children and their families who are, or are at risk of being, socially excluded. This includes children with special needs and disabilities, who often face barriers to using services.

We operate as a second tier umbrella organisation; supporting, advising and working with other play providers, as well as being a direct provider of services for children.

### **4. Main activities of your organisation**

#### **Adventure play**

We design and build playgrounds with children. We provide information, support, training and model good practice on adventure playgrounds.

#### **Delivery**

We run Paradise Park Children's Centre where we deliver a child-centred service in a play-focused setting, reaching the most excluded families in the community and providing essential services for them.

#### **Wider play**

Our roving project workers travel the borough modeling and improving practice, and directly impacting on the lives of children and families, particularly focusing on children using tools and creating natural spaces.

#### **Strategy/Campaigning**

We work to ensure play is on everyone's agenda; engaging with communities, service users and partners to raise play's profile at local and national levels. We work closely with Islington Council and other local organisations/service providers, including schools and parks. We are committed to protecting Islington's play spaces. We have a history of bringing significant additional funding to the more deprived areas of Islington.

## 5. Number of staff

Full-time	Part-time	Management committee members	Active volunteers
14	22	8	16

## 6. How do you support your volunteers?

We have a volunteer policy that ensures volunteers are matched to suitable roles, are inducted and trained, have a designated staff member to go to, receive useful feedback and regular opportunities to discuss their roles and how they are going. A volunteer agreement is signed.

## 7. Please tell us about your sustainable horticultural practice, environmental policy and steps which you are taking to reduce your carbon footprint?

Islington has the second least amount of green space per head in London with more than 75% of children living without access to a garden. Islington has 6% of its space (public green space) available for play in comparison to its neighbours, with 18% in Camden and 42% in Hackney.

IPA have a strong interest in outdoor play and a belief that it is integral to children's development. Over the past few years we have been concerned about the decline in children's use of natural spaces influenced by an increased tendency to view freely roaming children "playing-out" as unacceptable (this decline is steeper for children in poorer families).

We have been working hard to counteract this trend by running our 'Finding Nature through Play Project'. During this project we are,

- Establishing 12 mini nature reserves directly involving Islington's disadvantaged children
- Enhancing access to nature for thousands of children in Islington
- Advancing the education of children in Islington by offering appropriate play and learning opportunities.
- Ensuring that playground workers and children know how to sustain these wildlife aspects
- Creating natural play opportunities for children who have no gardens.

The project has already worked with thousands of children and intends to work with many more.

We spread the message of reduce, recycle and reuse to children, partners and internally. We have a comprehensive environment policy which promotes the use of recycled resources from paper to the materials used to build playgrounds.

## 8. Finance

From your most recent audited or independently examined accounts, complete the following:

Financial year ended - **Month: April**

**Year: 2011**

<b>Income received from:</b>	<b>£</b>
Voluntary income	979,425
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	952
Income from charitable activities	161,959
Other sources	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,142,336</b>

<b>Expenditure:</b>	<b>£</b>
Charitable activities	1,044,216
Governance costs	12,758
Cost of generating funds	0
Other	0
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>1,056,974</b>
<b>(Deficit)/surplus for the year:</b>	<b>85,362</b>

<b>Asset position at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed assets	511
Investments	0
Net current assets (liabilities)	275,047
Long-term liabilities	0
<b>*Total A:</b>	<b>275,558</b>

<b>Reserves at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Endowment funds	0
Restricted funds	16,058
Unrestricted funds	259,500
<b>*Total B:</b>	<b>275,558</b>

\* Total A and Total B must be the same and should be taken from your balance sheet

## 9. Statutory funding

For the financial year above, what % of your income was from statutory sources?  
**70%**

## 10. Material changes

Describe any material changes to the organisation's activities, structure or financial position since the date of the most recent accounts:

## 11. Details of your request:

Tell us about the people and organisations that will benefit from your project, how your project will meet the aims and objectives of Growing Localities and explain why you are qualified to deliver this work.

Islington has 12 adventure playgrounds which are mainly used by children from poorer families. A 2011 analysis by Islington Council of children using these playgrounds found that:

- 77% live in social housing
- 58% live on low incomes
- 58% are claiming free school meals
- 51% come from a Black and Minority Ethnic background

This project will work with 5 of the voluntary sector playgrounds: Crumbles Castle, Hayward, Lumpy Hill, Timbuktu, and Martin Luther King plus Islington Boat Club. These sites are based in areas of deprivation with little green space, one is specifically for children with complex additional needs and provides places for hundreds of children with disabilities.

### Objective 1

Develop 6 food growing areas on 6 separate sites - making better use of green spaces  
We will concentrate on food growing by delivering after school sessions, building and preparing beds, growing plants from seed, planting seedlings, watering, feeding, weeding and harvesting.

### Objective 2

600 children will have learning opportunities about the value of biodiversity  
Children will be involved in sessions about roots, shoots, worms and insects in an effort to help them understand where food comes from. We believe that this engagement will improve children's knowledge of the natural world and their relationship with it. Research has shown that 'outdoor children' have improved outcomes in many areas of their development including concentration, managing emotions and motor skills (source: Sowing the Seeds - Greater London Authority).

### Objective 3

Children and families will have a greater understanding of improved nutrition.  
We aim to introduce children and families to new foods by offering cookery sessions (of their own harvests) on open fires and in clay ovens which aims to improve attitudes towards healthy eating.

### Objective 4

The children and families will have a sense of ownership of food growing sites.  
Children and families will enhance their own environment by taking part in planting activities during special open days in these unique play spaces.

The IPA has been supporting the work of local voluntary groups (especially adventure playgrounds), developing partnerships and working alongside the local authority for over 40 years. The board and staff team are well established and experienced.

We have a strong track record of delivering excellent services in an inclusive and efficient way. We have substantial experience in community engagement, partnership working, financial management, deploying and managing volunteers and carrying out practical work on adventure playgrounds.

We have been delivering our 'Finding Nature through Play' project during 2011/12 which focuses on providing spaces and food sources for urban wildlife on 12 Adventure Playgrounds. Through this project IPA has developed a network of connections with community gardens, local food growing projects and Islington's city farm. Our project worker is knowledgeable and experienced and is a trained 'master gardener' who has strong relationships with all of the playgrounds. The children we have been working with have expressed a keen interest in food growing, so we know there is a demand for this work.



**12. Explain how you will monitor and evaluate both your own outcomes and those of the programme under which you are applying.**

We will develop a list of milestones which have SMART outcomes that correlate with the aims and objectives of the project.

To ensure that the project is on course the project worker will be supervised by a professional line manager and will produce monthly written reports in a format designed to indicate progress against objectives, milestones and outcomes. Six monthly reports will be prepared for the IPA Board of Trustees and funders.

The project worker will evaluate this project by gathering information from key informants including children and families, playworkers and partnership workers. We will do this through video interviews with adults and playworkers, and games and quizzes for the children, which will be designed to ascertain the difference in knowledge as the project goes on.

**13. Beneficiaries**

How many organisations will benefit from this grant?			
<b>6</b>			
How many people will benefit from this grant?			
<b>1800</b>			
In which local authority is your organisation based?			
<b>Islington</b>			
Which borough(s) of Greater London will benefit from this grant?			
<b>Islington</b>			
At what address will the activity be located?			
<b>Six sites across the borough of Islington, all mentioned in section 3.</b>			
What age group will benefit?			
<b>Over 5 years, Adult, All children &amp; young people,</b>			
What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?			
	<b>%</b>		<b>%</b>
White - British	<b>30</b>	Black - Caribbean	<b>10</b>
White - Irish		Black - African	<b>10</b>
White - Other (please describe)		Black - Other (please describe)	
Children of many nationalities	<b>19</b>		
Asian - Indian	<b>1</b>	Black - British	<b>25</b>
Asian - Pakistani	<b>1</b>	Chinese	<b>1</b>
Asian - Bangladeshi	<b>3</b>		
Asian - Other (please describe)		Other (please describe)	
Open to everyone			<b>100</b>
What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?			
<b>10%</b>			

#### 14. Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Salary for part time food growing leader	21,452	14,586	36,038
Office cost and supervision	2,596	1,765	4,361
Tools and equipment	600	306	906
Transport	300	204	504
Growing resources	900	918	1,818
Labour	1,000	1,020	2,020
Expert advice and guidance	2,000	2,040	4,040
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,848</b>	<b>20,839</b>	<b>49,687</b>

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
In kind labour and advice from Islington Greenspace	3,000	3,000	6,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>

#### 15. Funding required from the Trust

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Salary for part time food growing worker	21,452	14,586	36,038
Office cost and supervision	2,596	1,765	4,361
Tools and equipment	600	306	906
Transport	300	204	504
Growing resources	900	918	1,818
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,848</b>	<b>17,779</b>	<b>43,627</b>

#### Declaration

Please tick this box to confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, all the information you have provided in this application form is correct



## Appendix A

### 14. Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Salary for part time food growing leader including pension	22,395	15,227	37,622
Office cost and supervision	2,596	1,765	4,361
Tools and equipment	600	306	906
Transport	300	204	504
Growing resources	900	918	1,818
Labour	1,000	1,020	2,020
Expert advice and guidance	2,000	2,040	4,040
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29,791</b>	<b>21,480</b>	<b>51,271</b>

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
In kind labour and advice from Islington Greenspace	3,000	3,000	6,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>

### 15. Funding required from the Trust

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Salary for part time food growing worker	22,395	15,227	37,622
Office cost and supervision	2,596	1,765	4,361
Tools and equipment	600	306	906
Transport	300	204	504
Growing resources	900	918	1,818
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,791</b>	<b>18,420</b>	<b>45,211</b>

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY – Growing Localities – Growing & Greening**

**Hackney City Farm**

**Amount requested: £50,000**

**Ref: 11275**

**Adv: Joan Millbank**

**Base: Hackney**

**Benefit: Hackney & East London**

**Purpose of grant request:** The fund would allow us to employ two part-time Volunteer and Education Co-ordinators, to recruit, supervise and evaluate volunteer sessions and deliver school workshops.

**Background**

Hackney City Farm (HCF) was set up by local volunteers in 1984. It occupies a 2.8 acre site at the corner of Haggerston Park, E2. It employs 12 staff and has 35 active volunteers, many of whom are (ex) service users who act as green ambassadors utilising their acquired knowledge and skills to establish environmental initiatives elsewhere in East London.

A range of horticultural and educational activities runs from its farm base and neighbouring orchard, which aim to build personal skills, support personal health and well-being, and enhance employability skills. HCF provides alternative schooling under contract to 10 young people excluded from mainstream schools. The farm generates income through a shop and cafe, fees for film work and the responsible hire of animals e.g. St Martin's Palm Sunday event. It also provides a base for several independent social enterprises including Golden Co-op (whose beehives are sited on the farm's roof) and a bike project. HCF works in active collaboration with several local organisations at their locations e.g. provision of garden maintenance and courses within St Mary's Secret Garden- a facility for adults with physical disabilities and mental ill health; and at Sundial, an older persons resource centre.

**Funding History**

You awarded a grant of £58,000 over three years in March 2002 towards the salary and running costs of a livestock / education project. In May 2007 you approved a further three year grant of £106,000 for the salary of the Director and development of the farm as an Environmental Improvement Centre and Social Enterprise. Both grants were successfully monitored and deemed to be 'very good' by your officers.

**Current Application**

This application is to support the continuing provision and further development of the Back to Earth Education and Volunteering

Programme, by contributing towards the salary costs of two part-time Education and Volunteering Manager posts. These posts, working 2 and 3 days per week each over a two year period, will set up and deliver gardening sessions and environmental education workshops to 50 school groups drawn from local primary and secondary schools, and 5 community based organisations including Haggerston Park Orchard, St Mary's Secret Garden and the Sundial Centre. 1000 school students and 70 local adults, including older people, disabled people, people with mental health issues and unemployed people of all ages, will directly benefit.

### **Financial Observations**

Draft figures for year ending March 2012 show expenditure of £336,925 and an end of year surplus of £50,311. The organisation has set an income budget for the current year of £293,842, which will generate a modest surplus of £3,000. Unrestricted reserves stood at £66,137 at March 2012, which is equivalent to approximately 2.5 months annual operating costs, slightly below the target set by trustees of three months.

Earned income currently makes up approximately one third of HCF's income and the farm has a strong reputation amongst funders and donors; it has been designated as a 'special project' within Hackney and secured four year core funding from the local authority, which is very encouraging. The Duchy of Cornwall College has recently contacted HCF to explore partnership opportunities for increasing access into agricultural and horticultural courses and employment. This connection, together with an emerging relationship with Northern Trust Investment Management Corporation, offers opportunities that could well lead into new sources of income and support, as well as increased profile.

### **Officer's Appraisal**

HCF has a strong track record in providing high quality community based services to a wide range of children, young people and adults. It is an established and respected organisation, which has an enterprising ethos and a pro-active approach. The project proposal fully addresses the objectives of the Growing and Greening strand.

### **Recommendation**

**£50,000 over two years (£25,000; £25,000) towards the Back to Earth Education and Volunteering Programme, through contributing towards the salary costs of two part-time (2dpw and 3dpw) Education and Volunteering Manager posts.**



# The City Bridge Trust

Charity Registration Number: 1035628

## Growing Localities: Application for a grant

Reference:  
(office use only)

11275

Date Received:

28/06/2012

Programme  
Area:

12

### 1. About your organisation

Name of organisation applying for grant: <b>Hackney City Farm</b>	
If the organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name? <b>n/a</b>	
Address for correspondence: <b>1a Goldsmiths Row, Hackney London</b>	
Postcode: <b>E2 8QA</b> Is this your home address? <b>No</b>	
Contact person: <b>Mr. Chris Pounds</b>	Position: <b>Farm Manager</b>
Phone: <b>0207 729 6381</b>	Fax: <b>0207 729 6381</b>
E-mail: <b>farm@hackneycityfarm.co.uk</b>	
Website: <b>http://www.hackneycityfarm.co.uk</b>	
Legal status of organisation: <b>Registered Charity</b>	
If registered, please give charity number: <b>291211</b>	
Date organisation established: <b>01/09/1984</b>	

### 2. Request for funds

Under which of the Trust's themes are you applying (see our website or brochure for further details)? <b>Growing Localities – Growing and Greening</b>	
Purpose for which funds are requested: (25 words maximum) <b>The fund would allow us to employ two part-time Volunteer and Education Co-ordinators, to recruit, supervise and evaluate volunteer sessions and deliver school workshops.</b>	
How much funding is requested? <b>Year 1: £25,000 Year 2: £25,000 Total: £50,000</b>	
How long is funding required? <b>24 months</b>	When is the funding required? <b>28/06/2012</b>

### **3. Aims of your organisation**

Hackney City Farm was originally founded by volunteers in 1984 and places community involvement central to its activities.

It aims to be a living community resource with a vision to become a model 'Educational Environmental Hub' for East London.

It aims to help people increase their environmental skills and knowledge through running accessible courses in a wide variety of subjects, on and around the Farm.

It aims to strengthen community cohesion, by providing opportunities for social integration to people of all ages, genders and socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds living in a challenging urban area.

It aims to improve participant's quality of life, through activities that enhance health as well as future economic prospects.

Furthermore it aims to create a unique and safe atmosphere for people to improve their social skills and develop confidence.

### **4. Main activities of your organisation**

We are open to the public 51 weeks a year and give the local people the opportunity to get up close to farmyard animals; see, smell and plant vegetables; and learn new skills to live healthier lives with a lower environmental impact. We run open access volunteer sessions in growing food and animal care and courses in bee keeping, pottery and yoga. Our volunteering sessions are for people of all abilities. We also run targeted gardening courses for older people, intergenerational projects for school children and elders and yoga sessions for refugees. We also work with the Hackney Learning trust to provide alternative education to up to 10 young people who have been excluded from mainstream education providers in Hackney. We train and support local 'green ambassadors' to set up their own environmental projects and work with local schools providing environmental education on their site and at the Farm.

## 5. Number of staff

Full-time	Part-time	Management committee members	Active volunteers
5	7	5	35

## 6. How do you support your volunteers?

We tailor our support to individual volunteer needs. Each volunteer has an initial interview with the staff member supervising them and on-going supervision sessions during their time with us. In addition we also carefully monitor volunteer experiences so we can address issues as they arise.

## 7. Please tell us about your sustainable horticultural practice, environmental policy and steps which you are taking to reduce your carbon footprint?

Our garden has been designed to create a range of bio diverse habitats including native hedgerows, orchards, vegetable patches and herb areas. We use organic growing and complimentary planting to promote growth and reduce pests in the vegetable and herb areas. We rotate what we plant and grow a wide range of fruit and vegetable cultivars and have been experimenting with heritage varieties to promote biodiversity, trying to use native plants wherever possible. We have set up and manage a woodland orchard project in the adjacent park using permaculture horticultural practices. We predominantly use our own compost to plant seeds and pot up with, but where we need to get compost we use peat-free composts. We have a recycled water irrigation system in our greenhouse, where water is collected from the building roof and pumped using solar pump to the greenhouse. In addition we have water butts around the farm for additional watering needs. We have hives at the farm and have plants that encourage pollinating insects, like bees, to visit our garden. All of our garden waste is sorted, composted and reused on site. We also use the decomposed animal manure and green manures to improve soil structure and nutrition. Our environmental policy helps to remind us to reuse whatever materials we can, and to buy ethically and sustainably when we need new materials. In addition we are reducing our carbon footprint by improving energy efficiency, increasing insulation and through new photovoltaics supplying energy to the farm yard.



## 8. Finance

From your most recent audited or independently examined accounts, complete the following:

Financial year ended - **Month: March**

**Year: 2011**

<b>Income received from:</b>	<b>£</b>
Voluntary income	225,261
Activities for generating funds	101,107
Investment income	11
Income from charitable activities	0
Other sources	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>326,379</b>

<b>Expenditure:</b>	<b>£</b>
Charitable activities	235,078
Governance costs	3,000
Cost of generating funds	127,401
Other	0
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>365,479</b>
<b>(Deficit)/surplus for the year:</b>	<b>(39,100)</b>

<b>Asset position at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed assets	323
Investments	0
Net current assets (liabilities)	72,630
Long-term liabilities	0
<b>*Total A:</b>	<b>72,953</b>

<b>Reserves at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Endowment funds	0
Restricted funds	22,718
Unrestricted funds	50,235
<b>*Total B:</b>	<b>72,953</b>

\* Total A and Total B must be the same and should be taken from your balance sheet

## 9. Statutory funding

For the financial year above, what % of your income was from statutory sources?  
**60%**

## 10. Material changes

Describe any material changes to the organisation's activities, structure or financial position since the date of the most recent accounts:

**None Applicable**

## 11. Details of your request:

Tell us about the people and organisations that will benefit from your project, how your project will meet the aims and objectives of Growing Localities and explain why you are qualified to deliver this work.

The Back to Earth Education and Volunteer Programme is directly in line with the objectives of Growing Localities. Reducing our carbon footprint is at the heart of Hackney City Farm's ethos and drives all new projects at the Farm, this project has been designed to reduce use of materials that are not produced on site and to reuse waste products brought on site through the café and other Farm projects.

This project aims to improve local green space, by helping to maintain growing areas on the Farm itself, in a local park, at local community projects; St Mary's Secret Garden and Sundial Daycentre and in local schools.

The project is providing training, though it is non-accredited, in planting and maintenance of an organic vegetable patch, orchard and herb area and participants are learning about commercial horticultural practice, on a small scale, by growing plants from seeds and cuttings for sale in the farm shop.

We focus on engaging hard to reach groups, such as people with long-term mental health problems, people with special educational needs, refugees and asylum seekers, under 5's and their carers on low incomes and elders. This project provides space for all of these groups to participate in volunteer growing sessions, greening the Farm or their local area and encourages cohesion between participants by creating safe spaces for people from a diverse range of backgrounds to work together and learn from each other.

Volunteers have been integral to the development of the project and we have set up volunteer steering groups to continue their involvement in the project delivery. All volunteers receive an assessment at the beginning of the project so they can define their own goals, on-going support and health and safety training. We aim to work with at least 70 volunteers over 2 years. In addition outside of this project we run courses in beekeeping so, if interested, participants can be signposted on to the courses on our site.

The Education strand of the project focuses on delivering environmental education sessions at the farm site for at least 500 pupils each year. These will be developed around key stages in the national curriculum and will cover topics such as growing food, with hands on seed sowing and herb smelling sessions; composting, with a section on handling worms; and creative recycling making windmills from recycled junk for older classes, and recycled instruments for the younger pupils.

In addition we will work with, initially, 5 schools to set up environmental education projects on their own sites to provide outdoor teaching resources in our wider area.

Hackney City Farm has over 25 years' experience in delivering environmental education and volunteering activities to people in Hackney, staff have experience ranging from horticultural training to managing their own successful companies and we feel this gives us a strong background to deliver this work.

**12. Explain how you will monitor and evaluate both your own outcomes and those of the programme under which you are applying.**

At the start of the project we will collect baseline data consisting of participant questionnaires, interviews and personal development targets to compare with at the end of the project. We will monitor attendance and ask schools to complete questionnaires. We will undertake a wider evaluation, towards the end of the project, to determine successes, areas of improvement and wider impact on the local community. This evaluation will consist of end of project reports, video and written testimonial and questionnaires. We may also employ an outside agency to facilitate evaluation with participants, locals and staff.

**13. Beneficiaries**

How many organisations will benefit from this grant? <b>50 school groups and 5 community projects</b>			
How many people will benefit from this grant? <b>70 volunteers 1000 school children</b>			
In which local authority is your organisation based? <b>Hackney</b>			
Which borough(s) of Greater London will benefit from this grant? <b>Hackney Tower Hamlets</b>			
At what address will the activity be located? <b>Hackney</b>			
What age group will benefit? <b>Adult; All children &amp; young people; All</b>			
What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?			
	<b>%</b>		<b>%</b>
White - British	<b>51</b>	Black - Caribbean	<b>4</b>
White - Irish	<b>1</b>	Black - African	<b>1</b>
White - Other (please describe)	<b>4</b>	Black - Other (please describe)	
European			
Asian - Indian		Black - British	<b>23</b>
Asian - Pakistani		Chinese	<b>8</b>
Asian - Bangladeshi	<b>1</b>		
Asian - Other (please describe)		Other (please describe)	
		Turkish	<b>7</b>
Open to everyone			<b>100</b>
What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people? <b>20%</b>			

## 14. Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Education & Volunteering Managers Salaries 3 days per week each at £15000/yr plus Employers NIC	32,065		32,065
Clothing allowance	435		435
Training	1,000		1,000
Equipment Costs	1,500		1,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,000</b>		<b>35,000</b>

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
City Bridge Trust (Applied for)	25,000	25,000	50,000
Ernest Cook Trust (Applied For) or Farm Reserves	10,000		10,000
Tudor Trust (Applied For) or Farm Reserves		10,000	10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>70,000</b>

## 15. Funding required from the Trust

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Education and Volunteering Manager Salaries Calculated as 3 days each plus Employers NIC (£1032) remainder from additional funding (applied for) or Farm Reserves			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>

### Declaration

Please tick this box to confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, all the information you have provided in this application form is correct



**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Growing Localities – Growing and Greening**

**Poplar Housing & Regeneration Community Association**

**Amount requested: £49,760**

**Ref: 11334**

**Adv: Joan Millbank**

**Base: Tower Hamlets**

**Benefit: Tower Hamlets**

**Purpose of grant request:** To extend our network of community gardens, birds, bats and insects projects and bee-keeping initiatives throughout Poplar, pooling resources and encouraging all residents to participate.

**Background**

Poplar HARCA is a Registered Social Landlord and charitable company, which manages some 8,500 homes across 10 estates in Tower Hamlets. Set up in 1996, its aim is to make Poplar a better place to live by undertaking initiatives to promote wider social, economic and environmental regeneration alongside its core purpose of housing management to benefit up to 52,000 local area residents.

As a locally-based organisation it has an emphasis on community involvement and resident-leadership. Its Board is made up of 7 tenants, 4 others and 1 councillor; trustees undergo accredited training in governance and strategic management, which offers many residents their first qualification.

**Funding History**

You awarded a grant of £52,500 over two years in 2006 towards a salary cost to support small community groups. The grant was successfully monitored.

**Current Application**

This application builds on existing work to engage local residents in taking ownership and transforming neglected and underused outdoor spaces into vibrant community gardens; a Birds, Bats and Insects Project where residents are supporting biodiversity through window box projects and planting in green spaces; and a bee project, which involves young people in building and siting hives on roof tops and in the gardens. An audit of work to date has clearly indicated a growing interest amongst residents of all ages to turn unused public spaces, both large and small, into quality green spaces to benefit residents' health and wellbeing and to promote biodiversity. Poplar HARCA also understands the potential for green space to be a mechanism for social inclusion and a route into training / employment.

Resident groups will be able to apply for funds for gardening and bee-keeping starter kits, and will be supported by the HARCA community development team. Events and trips will be used to encourage residents, including a Golden Marrow Award to showcase community gardens; cooking demonstrations, recipe sharing and food stalls to encourage local food growing and healthy eating; trips to well-known gardens including the Eden Project to inspire tenants. By the end of two years there will be up to 16 resident-led gardening groups including an intergenerational group, benefiting 100s of local tenants and residents. The initiative will be integral to Poplar HARCA's emerging Green Strategy to make Poplar more sustainable, which is being developed through a secondment from The Institute of Sustainability.

### **Financial Observations**

The financial information provided in question 8 of the application form relates to the financial year ending March 2011. The financial statements comply with Companies Act 2006, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and the Accounting Requirements for registered Social Landlords General Determination 2006. While there is no stated reserves policy within the accounts the Directors have taken action to identify and minimise risks. Fixed assets are valued at £157,597,000 and unrestricted reserves amount to £21,606,000. As a social landlord most of its income is restricted to its housing operation. It is allowed to contribute £2,100,000 towards its community regeneration activity and it raised an additional £2,197,000 in the year from a range of sources. The current year budget shows a similar level of activity.

### **Officer's Appraisal**

Poplar HARCA has reach into a large number of different communities of interest, across its own tenants and Poplar at large. It has a proven track record in community regeneration and a clear commitment to promoting sustainability within Tower Hamlets. This application builds on credible work to date in greening communities and as such addresses your programme aims. Its partners are informal tenant and residents groups, although it will also work in collaboration with other constituted organisations working in the area e.g. Bromley-by-Bow Centre.

Project costs total £56,440. This includes community development and specialist session workers' time (year 1 £9,726, year 2 £11,994) plus £8,900 over two years for the allocation of garden and beekeeping starter kits to groups. Other activity costs include materials, publicity, cost of events and trips, volunteer expenses. Poplar HARCA is contributing £9,412. The cost of trips has been excluded from the recommendation.

### **Recommendation**

**£39,900 towards Poplar Go Grow Project.**



# The City Bridge Trust

Charity Registration Number: 1035628

## Growing Localities: Application for a grant

Reference:  
(office use only)

11334

Date Received:

06/08/2012

Programme  
Area:

12

### 1. About your organisation

Name of organisation applying for grant: <b>Poplar Housing &amp; Regeneration Community Association</b>	
If the organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name? -	
Address for correspondence: <b>167a East India Dock Road London</b>	
Postcode: <b>E14 0EA</b> Is this your home address? <b>No</b>	
Contact person: <b>Mr. Babu Battacherjee</b>	Position: <b>Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods</b>
Phone: <b>020 7510 0555</b>	Fax: <b>020 7510 0550</b>
E-mail: <b>babu.bhattacharjee@poplarharca.co.uk</b>	
Website: <b>http://www.poplarharca.co.uk</b>	
Legal status of organisation: <b>Registered Charity</b>	
If registered, please give charity number: <b>1064397</b>	
Date organisation established: <b>01/01/1998</b>	

### 2. Request for funds

Under which of the Trust's themes are you applying (see our website or brochure for further details)? <b>Growing Localities – Growing and Greening</b>	
Purpose for which funds are requested: (25 words maximum) <b>Systematically extend our network of community gardens, birds, bats and insects projects and bee-keeping initiatives throughout Poplar, pooling resources and encouraging all residents to participate.</b>	
How much funding is requested? <b>Year 1: £23,810 Year 2: £25,950 Total: £49,760</b>	
How long is funding required? <b>24 months</b>	When is the funding required? <b>06/08/2012</b>

### **3. Aims of your organisation**

We operate in an area of long-standing social and economic deprivation with high levels of social exclusion and our aim is to help bring about the social, urban and economic regeneration of the Poplar area.

We have an ongoing programme of estate wide regeneration involving the refurbishment of existing homes and the construction of new ones and aim to achieve the highest standards of sustainable design, construction and operation, however the wider area remains a bleak urban environment, generally inhospitable to wildlife and suffering from a deficiency of public open space. We have therefore developed a 'Green Strategy' and our aim is to reclaim as much open space as possible for community growing projects and the introduction of natural habitats and wildlife. In doing this we aim to engage with people who have been traditionally marginalized in terms of environmentalism and inspire them to become involved for the long haul.

### **4. Main activities of your organisation**

Poplar HARCA is a Registered Social Landlord which owns and manages approximately 8,500 homes across 10 estates in Poplar. We are unusual as such in that we operate within a tight geographical focus and residents are represented at all levels of decision making, including the main board. Another unusual feature of our organisation is that, although provision and management of social housing is our main activity, we also have a community regeneration programme which links housing to training, jobs, education, health, sports and the arts. Under this programme we set up and run a wide range of projects designed to have a genuine and positive impact upon our residents' lives. We have also recently appointed an Environmental Innovation Coordinator whose remit is to develop and deliver a programme of green initiatives which cut across all of Poplar HARCA's activities with the aim of making Poplar a highly sustainable community.



## 5. Number of staff

Full-time	Part-time	Management committee members	Active volunteers
277	39	12	60

## 6. How do you support your volunteers?

Our system of volunteer support has developed over several years. Each volunteer is supervised and supported by a paid staff member based on a development and progression plan agreed from the commencement of their volunteering work. Volunteers' efforts are recognised at an Annual Volunteers Event.

## 7. Please tell us about your sustainable horticultural practice, environmental policy and steps which you are taking to reduce your carbon footprint?

We have already developed a Green strategy for Poplar and have recruited an Environmental Innovation Coordinator to develop and deliver all aspects of the strategy.

Our horticultural team practices the following:

- 1) Woody Green Waste- Chipped and shredded to return to shrub beds or to reduce green waste dispose of at waste disposal.
- 2) Grass Waste- Mulched on site using mulching decks and blades to reduce bulky grass cuttings being transported to waste Disposal.
- 3) Matting & Mulching -Continued programme of matting and mulching shrub beds to reduce need for herbicides, improve summer soil moisture levels, reduce need for hoeing and disposal of weeds at waste disposal site.

To reduce carbon footprint, we do the following among others:

- a) In recent years we have fitted 1253 of our properties with double glazing, 3216 with energy efficient boilers as well as extra insulation which has made them 10% more energy efficient and saves our residents money.
- b) We have installed 103 bird and bat boxes across Poplar and planted numerous wild flower meadows with local people and children.
- c) We are working with the Institute for Sustainability to further reduce resident bills, promote learning and influence the environmental habits of a sample of (over 100) our residents through a series of trials involving Home Energy Management Systems and other technologies. We will be using the learning from these trials to engage our residents and staff more widely in our homes and offices.

## 8. Finance

From your most recent audited or independently examined accounts, complete the following:

Financial year ended - **Month: March**

**Year: 2011**

<b>Income received from:</b>	<b>£</b>
Voluntary income	958,000
Activities for generating funds	1,542,000
Investment income	1,499,000
Income from charitable activities	34,426,000
Other sources	7,709,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>46,134,000</b>

<b>Expenditure:</b>	<b>£</b>
Charitable activities	34,603,000
Governance costs	135,000
Cost of generating funds	1,560,000
Other	0
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>36,298,000</b>
<b>(Deficit)/surplus for the year:</b>	<b>9,836,000</b>

<b>Asset position at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed assets	157,597,000
Investments	10,000,000
Net current assets (liabilities)	24,961,000
Long-term liabilities	170,952,000
<b>*Total A:</b>	<b>21,606,000</b>

<b>Reserves at year end:</b>	<b>£</b>
Endowment funds	0
Restricted funds	0
Unrestricted funds	21,606,000
<b>*Total B:</b>	<b>21,606,000</b>

\* Total A and Total B must be the same and should be taken from your balance sheet

## 9. Statutory funding

For the financial year above, what % of your income was from statutory sources?  
**60%**

## 10. Material changes

Describe any material changes to the organisation's activities, structure or financial position since the date of the most recent accounts:

**There are no material changes, however the Annual Accounts and Budget Projection should be read in conjunction with the short statement relating to funds available for work carried out by Poplar HARCA's Communities and Neighbourhoods team who will be conducting the project.**

## 11. Details of your request:

Tell us about the people and organisations that will benefit from your project, how your project will meet the aims and objectives of Growing Localities and explain why you are qualified to deliver this work.

This project will benefit all 52,000 residents of Poplar, whether or not they are our tenants. Poplar HARCA's geographical reach is large-covering over 8,500 homes, and we already have established systems of management and community engagement in place to deliver our proposed range of interventions. This project will involve six existing, volunteer led growing groups as well as the setting up of a number of additional groups. Poplar HARCA has an excellent track record of engaging with residents of all ages and ethnicities, supporting community groups and encouraging volunteering so is well placed to ensure that this project is successful and more volunteers are recruited and retained. We have employed a dedicated Environmental Innovation Coordinator to coordinate this process.

Poplar is densely built up and suffers from a deficiency of public open space. We have carried out an audit of green spaces and know that there are many with the potential to be used and managed by the community. This project will increase the net area of public open space within Poplar. As the RSL we already own most of this land so will not need to negotiate its use.

Health outcomes are generally poor for local people. The creation of more community managed green spaces, however small, will enhance their well-being by providing them with a reason to engage in outdoor physical activity plus the opportunity to establish community links and combat social isolation. Community events such as planting days and bird watching will bring people together through positive shared activities, building social capital as well as equipping residents with new skills and gaining a better understanding of the value of greening and growing.

Most wards score within the worst 10% in the country on the Index of Multiple Deprivation and residents have few opportunities to travel outside the area to enjoy natural beauty or wildlife at first hand. Opportunities to learn about biodiversity, food growing and bee-keeping are extremely limited. This project will bring the natural world to them and open up learning opportunities.

Over half of the borough's population are from non-white British ethnic groups. Black and minority ethnic groups are underrepresented in environmental organizations and employment in the green economy. This project represents an opportunity to use Poplar HARCA's expertise to engage with people who have been traditionally marginalized in terms of environmentalism and inspire them to become involved for the long haul.

Tower Hamlets has an extremely young population. The health and educational benefits to be gained from increasing the amount of greenery in residential areas and opportunities to learn about wildlife are particularly pronounced for children. Many children are barred from visiting open spaces by themselves so special efforts are needed to ensure they are provided with opportunities to enjoy and learn about the natural world.

Local recruitment rates for volunteers is good and enthusiasm for gardening and growing has already been demonstrated through a recent proliferation of small resident groups. Our project is particularly timely since it will be able to build upon existing momentum.

**12. Explain how you will monitor and evaluate both your own outcomes and those of the programme under which you are applying.**

Outputs in terms of numbers of participants in each activity, area of land brought into public use or being newly cultivated, amount of produce harvested, numbers of hives installed etc will be collected periodically, at pre-agreed points during the duration of the project.

Outcomes will also be recorded periodically, at pre-agreed points during the duration of the project. This will involve interviewing project participants to assess their satisfaction with the project, how they feel it has enhanced their well-being, how many neighbours they have got to know, how they feel their environment has improved etc.

Baseline data will be collected at the commencement and the data will be collated and compared against previous data sets to ensure that pre-agreed targets are met and that the project is progressing as predicted. Our Environmental Innovation Coordinator will assume responsibility for this task and will hold regular meetings with the project management team to consider the reports and decide whether the project should be amended to ensure that we remain on target to achieve our project aims.

**13. Beneficiaries**

How many organisations will benefit from this grant?  
**24 gardening groups**

How many people will benefit from this grant?  
**min of 8,500 families or 24,000 individuals in gen**

In which local authority is your organisation based?  
**Tower Hamlets**

Which borough(s) of Greater London will benefit from this grant?  
**Tower Hamlets**

At what address will the activity be located?  
**Poplar-In the area managed by poplar HARCA which covers 12 estates and approximately 8,500 homes.**

What age group will benefit? **All**

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

	%		%
White - British	<b>27</b>	Black - Caribbean	<b>1</b>
White - Irish	<b>2</b>	Black - African	<b>6</b>
White - Other (mixed)	<b>3</b>	Black - Other (please describe)	
Asian - Indian	<b>1</b>	Black - British	<b>3</b>
Asian - Pakistani	<b>1</b>	Chinese	<b>2</b>
Asian - Bangladeshi	<b>53</b>		
Asian - Other (please describe)		Other (mixed ethnicity)	<b>1</b>
			Open to everyone
			<b>100</b>

What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?  
**10%**

## 14. Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Supporting existing newly formed groups	3,636	5,364	9,000
Set up new gardening groups	4,788	4,788	9,576
Home Growers Project	3,024	3,024	6,048
Inspirational Visits	1,358	1,558	2,916
Home Grown cooking	1,008	1,008	2,016
Bee Hives	4,410	4,410	8,820
Wildflower Meadows	756	756	1,512
Strategic Project Management and Co-ordination	2,281	2,493	4,774
Green Marrow Scheme	189	189	378
Capital expenses	2,360	2,360	4,720
Matched costs	6,600	6,600	13,200
	<b>30,410</b>	<b>32,550</b>	<b>62,960</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30,410</b>	<b>32,550</b>	<b>62,960</b>

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Poplar HARCA's own funds	6,600	6,600	13,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>13,200</b>

## 15. Funding required from the Trust

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Total £
Supporting existing newly formed groups	3,636	5,364	9,000
Set up new gardening groups	4,788	4,788	9,576
Home Growers Project	3,024	3,024	6,048
Inspirational Visits	1,358	1,558	2,916
Green Marrow Scheme	189	189	378
Home Grown cooking	1,008	1,008	2,016
Bee Hives	4,410	4,410	8,820
Wildflower Meadows	756	756	1,512
Strategic Project Management and Co-ordination	2,281	2,493	4,774
Capital Costs	2,360	2,360	4,720
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,810</b>	<b>25,950</b>	<b>49,760</b>

### Declaration

Please tick this box to confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, all the information you have provided in this application form is correct

