

Committee	Dated:
City Bridge Trust	26 th March 2020
Subject: Strategic Initiative Progress Report – GLA/Young Londoner’s Fund	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust (CGO)	For Information
Report authors: Ciaran Rafferty, Funding Director	

Summary

This report provides a progress update on the Young Londoners Fund strategic initiative delivered in partnership with the Greater London Authority. The report covers your funding to the GLA to assist with their delivery of network support to YLF grantees. Elsewhere in your papers is a separate report of the YLF in its totality over year 1 of its operation.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Receive this progress report and note its contents.

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CITY BRIDGE TRUST – Strategic Initiative progress report

Greater London Authority - Young Londoners Fund Ref: 15197

Grant Amount: £300,000

Purpose of grant:

£300,000 towards the costs of commissioning charitable organisations to provide sub-regional networking and multi-agency co-ordination of Young Londoners Fund projects.

Project Start Date: February 2019

Projected End Date: February 2022

Please summarise your progress to date, specifically focusing on the key outcomes and impact of the project:

We have established YLF Local Networks covering every London borough, to support over 200 Young Londoners Fund (YLF) grantees and the wider youth sector. We have built on existing VCS and youth networks to provide YLF fund-holders and organisations planning to apply to the YLF with access to advice and support on how to achieve their objectives and outcomes. YLF Local Networks are funded for three years from January 2019 with City Bridge Trust contributing £300,000 and the GLA £830,000. www.london.gov.uk/ylf-networks

We have:

1. Grant funded 11 YLF Local Networks and 8 Young People's Foundations (through John Lyons Trust) to build networks with community organisations working with young people in London. Aims are to:

- help generate proposals for round 2 of the fund and support potential bidders;
- ensure that young people are effectively and appropriately engaged in developing proposals and delivering activities;
- promote YLF activities to young people in their locality;
- share best practice between Young Londoners fund-holders to develop sustainability; and
- provide a network for organisations supporting young people to work collaboratively.

2. Their key priority in this year was to support YLF round 2 commissioning which invested £15 million in positive activities for young people. 35 Information Sessions were held across London compared to six sessions prior to YLF round 1. Sessions were hosted and led by the YLF Local Networks to support organisations to understand the fund requirements and application process. This was underpinned by one to one support provided to community groups. Over 500 applications were made. Those organisations that decided the Fund was not appropriate for them were given support to identify alternative funding.

3. YLF Local Networks also established local meetings, some focused on YLF grantees in their area, others that brought together YLF and non-YLF grantees who

support young people. Sessions provided opportunities to identify and provide training to youth organisations, shared knowledge and learning, and facilitated collaboration. Partnership development, including building links with statutory agencies and referrals is also prioritised. Youth organisations have access to free training through the YLF Local Networks core offer.

4. YLF Local Networks provided a bespoke offer to help ensure their successful project delivery. Training needs were assessed and used to inform discussions with London Youth and the Centre for Youth Impact, who also support YLF grantees. All of the YLF Local Networks fed back training needs to the Partnership for Young London (PfYL) to inform their YLF training programme (which is also funded by City Bridge Trust). Several networks have worked with PfYL, London Youth and Centre for Youth Impact to deliver local training and support sessions.

5. A GLA led Local Networks Forum has been established to share learning. across the Local Networks. London Youth, Centre for Youth Impact and Partnership for Young London also participate, which has enabled us to align and coordinate the offer to YLF grantees and the wider youth sector in London.

Thinking about the past year of your grant - please describe the differences or outcomes the work you have delivered has achieved.

The core offer provided by each YLF Local Network is tailored to each locality, reflecting differences in the youth sector infrastructure, relationships between the community and voluntary sector and statutory agencies, and levels of youth violence, deprivation and wider socio-economic issues. Analysis of the round 1 YLF investment in different parts of the capital informed the round 2 commissioning strategy and the work of the YLF Local Networks. Where investment was low, compared to youth violence and other indicators of need, we highlighted this with YLF Local Networks who stepped up their dissemination and support in those localities.

In addition, YLF Local Networks attended borough visits with GLA staff and borough community safety and youth leads to ensure Round 2 of the YLF was informed by local priorities and needs and boroughs could refer local youth organisations to the YLF Local Networks for support.

Local YLF Network teams have also worked to improve links between community and voluntary organisations and key agencies through joint training and networking sessions, and representation at strategic meetings.

Feedback from YLF grantees show they particularly value the YLF Local Networks offer to get to know other youth organisations delivering in their area and opportunities for joint working or cross referrals.

CASE STUDY: Hounslow and Hillingdon Local Network have sought to build relationships with community organisations supporting young people and their families. For example, H4All, Hillingdon Youth Council and Hillingdon Adult Learning Centre who run local Community Partnership Board meetings have been working

with their YLF Local Network to promote the YLF work and activities. Hounslow and Hillingdon YLF Local Network will provide joint safeguarding training with H4All to community organisations and will also support them with capacity building and funding.

CASE STUDY: The HEY YLF Local Network covering Haringey and Enfield delivered a County Lines training session for professionals in Haringey and Enfield. The session included attendance from two officers from Homes for Haringey (Haringey's Council Housing team) and the police. The police subsequently funded additional training sessions in Haringey and Enfield for parents and carers, and Homes for Haringey commissioned the trainer to train their staff teams on estates in the borough.

Did you face any challenges with your CBT funded project and if so, what action have you taken?

1. The YLF Local Networks were established after the first YLF grants had been awarded and engagement with the Networks is not mandatory. Due to limited capacity in some community organisations this has resulted in slow take up of their offer in some London boroughs. This is specifically the case with Pan-London projects which span across YLF Local Networks. YLF Local Networks have also reported varying engagement with London boroughs.

In November 2019, the GLA hosted a 'Meet Your Local Networks' event at City Hall for round 1 and 2 grantees, which provided an opportunity to find out more about the offer and connect with other YLF grantees. This event was attended by more than 150 organisations.

We have included a question in the YLF grantee quarterly and annual monitoring claims asking about the support that the project has had from their local network. Analysis of their feedback has informed wider communications to YLF grantees and to the YLF Local Network leads. YLF contract managers also refer YLF grantees who need further support to their YLF Local Network.

2. The YLF Local Network offer is open to all youth sector organisations. However, Project Oracle evaluation support, London Youth Quality Mark and PfYL Training Offer is restricted to YLF grantees (and those that applied to YLF). This has presented a challenge for groups that are not funded under YLF and Networks with fewer YLF grantees. We have worked with London Youth, PfYL and the Centre for Youth Impact to coordinate the wider offer.

Additionally, the GLA has provided a small amount of funding (£25k) through the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, to provide additional capacity building support. This funding will extend the offer to groups not funded by YLF.

3. There have been some staffing/governance changes within two of the YLF Local Networks. We have worked with them to understand the issues and determine the forward strategy to reduce the impact on the service offer to youth organisations.

What are your plans for Years 2 and 3:

Years two and three will focus on impact and sustainability of YLF funded activity and support for the wider sector:

1. We will continue to share learning across YLF Local Networks through the quarterly Local Networks Meetings. Relationships have been developed between local networks leading to resources and learning being shared across and between Local Network areas. The GLA has established a YLF Advisory Group to support the strategic direction of the programme and any future investment in young people's activities in London. The Local Networks will be represented at the Advisory Group.
2. Support YLF grantees to meet their outcomes and targets, including achievement of the London Youth Quality Mark and Project Oracle evaluation standard 1. To work with projects to help them overcome any local delivery challenges they face and to further shape and promote the PfyL training offer.
3. Explore and build on local methods for evaluating impact, including appointing a programme level evaluator. This includes supporting the YLF Local Networks to assist youth organisations to sustain their services beyond the funding and to further support those not funded by YLF.

Who benefited from your City Bridge Trust funded project or activities?

How many organisations benefited directly from your City Bridge Trust grant this year?

869

In which Greater London borough(s) did your beneficiaries live? Please include the relevant percentages, ensuring that the total is exactly 100%.

869 = total youth org supported (including those attending YLF R2 Network Info Sessions)

Barking & Dagenham/Havering: 7%

Bexley/Bromley: 7%

Croydon/Sutton: 7%

Enfield/Haringey: 14%

Greenwich/Lewisham: 6%

Hackney/Islington: 4%

Hounslow/Hillingdon: 7%

Lambeth/Southwark: 7%

Merton, Wandsworth, Kingston & Richmond: 7%

Newham/Tower Hamlets: 5%

Redbridge/Waltham Forest: 14%

West London Young People's Foundations: 15%

