

Committee:	Date:
City Bridge Trust	15 th May 2014
Subject: Progress Report	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer	For Information
Summary	
This is a regular Progress Report by the Chief Grants Officer.	
Recommendations	
Members are asked to note the report.	

Main Report

Mental Health Work

1. The May Committee meeting falls in the middle of Mental Health Awareness Week. The Trust's commitment to supporting work to improve Londoners' mental health remains an important strand of your 'Investing in Londoners' grants programmes. Mr Fraser and I went to visit your grantee, Mind in Camden, to learn about the innovative work they are doing to support young people who hear voices, see visions, or experience unusual perceptions.

Media Work

Parklife London

2. You may re-call that at your last meeting, officers reported that the media agency, Champollion, had completed work on the website, Parklife London, as part of your *Growing Localities* initiative. This is the interactive site that allows geo-location software to enable one to find green spaces in London, and allows people to post information about events and volunteering opportunities taking place at those spaces. With information about some 2,300 green spaces included, the site was soft-launched just before Easter.
3. As well as promoting the site using social media (principally through twitter and blogs), Champollion have placed tailored press releases with local press at the borough level. So far, coverage includes the following outlets:

Outlet	Link
Croydon Citizen Online	http://thecroydoncitizen.com/cronxwire/parks-pocket-mobile-map-londons-parks-green-spaces-comes-croydon/
Haringey Independent Online	http://www.haringeyindependent.co.uk/news/11166145.Find_a_park_in_your_pocket_with_new_app/?ref=var_0
Bexley Times	http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/launch.aspx?referral=other&refresh=wK0531mJi2D0&PBID=abd4a8f0-fc75-4f30-a24c-1f7b6a4f2f88&skip
Barking and Dagenham Times	http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/Launch.aspx?PBID=837deba7-ef67-4dba-bdae-c5f1ed9391f9
Barking and Dagenham Times online	http://www.barkinganddagenhampost.co.uk/news/mobile_parks_map_extended_to_include_barking_and_dagenham_1_3541709?usurv=skip
The Ilford Recorder online	http://www.ilfordrecorder.co.uk/news/new_app_to_help_explore_redbridge_green_spaces_1_3545762

An article appeared in the 1st May 2014 edition of the Evening Standard online <http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/online-map-of-londons-parks-now-covers-the-whole-city-9310618.html>. Another online article was featured on the Horticulture Week website on 2nd May 2014. <http://www.hortweek.com/news/1291977/website-sets-park-trending-goal> Both articles included a quote from the Chief Grants Officer.

Partnership with Buttle UK

4. You may re-call that you agreed to establish a hardship fund in partnership with Buttle UK to help families that have survived domestic violence re-build their lives. The partnership was launched at a seminar at Mansion House on 6th May 2014. Following the issue of a joint press release from City Bridge Trust and Buttle UK, an article was featured in the Evening Standard on 30th April 2014.

London Symphony Orchestra Grant

5. At the last committee you approved a grant of £172,000 to the London Symphony Orchestra to support creative music making activity for adults with learning disabilities at LSO St Luke's, the Barbican and in residential/day centres. This sum included an uplifted evaluation sum and you requested the revised figures be clarified in this report.

6. The total figure to be spent on the evaluation of this grant will be £20,000 (Year 1: £5,000; year 2: £7,000; year 3: £8,000). This will fund an external evaluator on a consultancy contract basis. The evaluator will research the impact of the project; act as a critical friend to the LSO project leads; participate in a learning conference at the end of year 2; and write up and assist in the dissemination of a full report pulling together the learning over 3 years. Throughout the evaluation, appropriate links will be made with the research you are funding on improving provision of access to mainstream arts venues for people with learning disabilities.

Sustainable City Awards

7. The Sustainable City Awards were held at Mansion House on 27th March 2014. The Trust continued its collaboration with the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers, running the category of *Greening the Third Sector*. This rewards voluntary and community organisations that do not have the environment as their main focus but which have nevertheless made significant improvements in reducing their carbon footprint. Mrs Mead and Mrs. Littlechild represented the Trust on the judging panel, together with two of the Pattenmakers.
8. This year's winner was Poplar HARCA, an organisation that is currently in receipt of a grant under your *Growing Localities* programme, for its Green Programme which aims to draw together the various sustainability strands of all aspects of its work to create more coherent and sustainable outcomes.

City Philanthropy – A Wealth of Opportunity

9. City Philanthropy – A Wealth of Opportunity is working with City Wealth, a membership organisation for advisors of Ultra High Worth Individuals (£20m+), to promote philanthropy at its various networking events.
10. On 8th April 2014, Dr Fred Mulder, an advisor to City Philanthropy and a major philanthropist, spoke to their Tomorrow Club and on 29th April 2014 Dame Stephanie Shirley spoke at the Women and Wealth event – both were a great success. The first event resulted in several audience members registering to attend The Funding Network philanthropy events for the first time and the second was an inspiring and engaging occasion.
11. City Philanthropy Director Cheryl Chapman will be following up with some attendees to explore opportunities for philanthropy. Both talks are on The City Wealth website.

Working with Other Funders

12. The Trust remains committed to working with other funders to achieve the best outcomes for Londoners. This takes on different forms: participation in and funding for formal networks such as the Association of Charitable Foundations; London Funders; collaborations such as the work with the Buttle Trust on supporting families fleeing domestic violence; and the more informal sharing of intelligence and good practice.
13. An example of how learning is shared between trusts and foundations is your Principal Grants Officer Ciaran Rafferty attending the launch of the Lloyds Bank Foundation's new grants programmes following its major strategic review in 2013.
14. Funds available to disperse throughout England and Wales are c.£22m per annum. The Foundation's funding now falls into two distinct programmes: *Invest* – which provides longer term core or delivery costs for charities (with scope to fund an organisation up to £25,000 pa for up to 6 years); and *Enable* – which aims to help individual organisations become stronger and/or develop capacity, offering grants of up to a total value of £15,000 over two years.
15. The rationale behind the strategic focus on helping small and medium sized charities is acknowledged by many in the trust and foundation world, as it is usually these organisations which are more susceptible to a challenging funding environment. The Foundation also declares a commitment to becoming more of a learning organisation and to sharing the knowledge gleaned from its relationships with grantees and the wider sector. Strategies which are not dissimilar to your own.

Social Investment

16. In the Trust's business plan for 2014 -2015 the relationship between the Trust's grant-making and social investment features as an objective, particularly where we could encourage more London charities to participate in the social investment market.
17. At the last committee, a brief update was provided on your officers' work to develop a 'transition fund', as part of your Investing in Londoners grants programmes, to support grant-funded organisations access social investment. At that time it was envisaged a full report would be brought to this Committee. Following a meeting of relevant officers last week, Transition Fund parameters were agreed. It is now clear that considerably more detailed work is need before a report is ready for presentation to the Committee (particularly since the additional capacity to support the social investment will not come on-line until next month). The report will now be presented to your September Committee.

18. A good example of why this work is so important has occurred in the last month in relation to the organisation, Praxis. Praxis is based in Bethnal Green and provides advice and support to new migrants in London. Your most recent grant was to support the development of the Language Gym, a new IT and web based means of learning English. The Language Gym has become a social enterprise with the potential of earning unrestricted income for the charity. Also this month the Social Investment Board has approved an investment of £500,000 in a supported housing programme for destitute migrants which will involve work by Praxis. It is encouraging to see an example of one of your grantees starting to access the social investment market, and using repayable finance to expand its reach.
19. The inter-relationship between grant-funding; social enterprise; and social investment is likely to become increasingly important for the organisations the Trust supports. The transition fund will be an excellent opportunity to progress this work.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

David Farnsworth, Chief Grants Officer
020 7332 3713
david.farnsworth@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Report written: 29th April 2014