

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Providence Row	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Tower Hamlets	
Contact person: Ms Laura Hopper	Position: Social Enterprise Development Manager
Website: http://www.providencerow.org.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Charitable company	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 07452798
When was your organisation established? 01/05/1860	

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying? Improving London's Environment
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve? More people reporting improved wellbeing through greater use of open spaces and through growing and greening initiatives More Londoners with a greater knowledge and understanding of the 'green' environment and biodiversity
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. Improving the well-being of homeless people and building local knowledge of the 'green' environment and biodiversity through greater use of open spaces.
When will the funding be required? 02/01/2015
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £36,024 Year 2: £37,753 Year 3: £33,163 Total: £106,940

Aims of your organisation:

Providence Row was established in 1860 and has a long track record of helping homeless and vulnerable people in East London. We aim to tackle the root causes of homelessness to help people get off and stay off the streets, supporting 1,200 people each year. Our 3 year strategy outlines four main aims: i) Thriving - providing a safe, welcoming and high quality environment for vulnerable people, supporting them into a stable, secure and positive way of life; ii) Dynamic - a leading frontline agency, working in a thoughtful and strategic way with other organisations across all sectors to prevent homelessness; iii) Sustainable - financially robust, independent and sustainable; iv) Effective - focused, efficient and making a difference.

Main activities of your organisation:

We help 1,200 people each year through the following services:

- Resource Centre - for people who are sleeping rough with breakfast, showers and access to IT.
- Advice and Support - housing and benefit advice and support for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- Recovery and Progression - for people whose mental health and substance misuse issues are affecting their ability to find and stay in accommodation. We offer 1:1 advice and group support; help to access treatment; a learning programme (funded by the Big Lottery).
- Training and Employment - our trainee schemes and social enterprise help people with complex needs to improve their self-esteem; gain certifications and move into regular learning, volunteering or work. We run a catering trainee scheme with progressions to a bakery social enterprise. We have also run pilot schemes in painting and decorating and buildings maintenance.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
18	8	13	15

Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned, leased or rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding agreement?
Owned	

Summary of grant request

Providence Row tackles the root causes of homelessness to help people get off, and stay off the streets. We aim to improve people's well-being and help them to develop their skills and interests so that they may lead a more independent and fulfilled life.

Homeless people are amongst the most marginalised in our society. Their physical and mental health are significantly worse than others in the community, exacerbated by limited access to healthy food, inadequate health care and very few opportunities to access learning and training programmes to get back into employment. People who are sleeping rough can also feel excluded from parks and public spaces due to fear of being accused of loitering or begging.

The aim of this project is to improve the well-being of 90 homeless and vulnerably housed people through greater use of open spaces and to create a community resource for more than 200 Londoners to gain a greater knowledge of the green environment.

We will do this by developing our gardens into an area for growing a wide range of fruits, vegetables, mushrooms and herbs. The design and planning of our garden incorporates the principles of permaculture through the utilisation of recycled materials, creation of insect and green walls, beekeeping, rainwater collection and composting systems.

We will run learning and training programmes in the garden. Our weekly gardening group will be focused on learning and caring for plants and horticultural therapy. Our trainee scheme with City & Guilds accreditations in Practical Horticulture Skills will build clients' skills and confidence, enabling them to move on to further learning/training, volunteering or employment. Through both activities, we will support clients to grow food and incorporate it into our daily lunch service thus improving their diet and physical health. We will organise corporate challenges and community gardening days where clients will have the opportunity to engage with other members of the local community and share their pride and knowledge of creating a beautiful 'green' environment in the heart of the city.

Through these activities, the following outcomes will be realised: i) 90 homeless and vulnerably housed clients will show improved physical health; ii) 60 improved emotional and mental health; iii) 70 will be less isolated and show improved confidence; iv) 53 will improve their skills and employability; v) more than 200 Londoners (clients and volunteers) will gain an improved understanding of the 'green' environment and biodiversity.

Providence Row is the right organisation to deliver this work as the charity has over 150 years of experience of supporting homeless people in east London and developing learning and training programmes for homeless people with mental health and/or drug and alcohol problems. We own our own buildings and in 2013 transformed our barren courtyard space into a beautiful flower garden. We have been running a weekly gardening group under the guidance of an experienced gardener for the last 9 months with 44 clients participating. We have already seen evidence of improved well-being and several clients are now moving on to further education, training and employment in gardening.

This project reflects 'Principles of Good Practice' by involving local people (70% of clients are from the local area) in the design and building of various structural elements. Client volunteers will be trained as Peer Mentors and be responsible for maintaining the garden during the week. Corporate challenges and community gardening days will provide more opportunities for local people of all backgrounds to enjoy the garden and learn about its 'green' elements. The project will reduce our carbon footprint through growing our own food, composting and enhancing the productivity of our solar panels.

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

A planning application has been submitted to the Tower Hamlets for a rooftop greenhouse. No other consents for the project are required.

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

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

Our kitchen has a 5 (out of 5) rating from Tower Hamlets Environmental Health.

Outputs and outcomes

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

Develop Phase 2 of our garden using our rooftop space for growing fruits, vegetables, mushrooms and herbs and beekeeping. We will build insect walls, green walls and planters using recycled materials. We will create composting and rainwater harvesting systems.

Run a weekly gardening group in our learning programme for 72 homeless and vulnerable people per year. Sessions will focus on caring for plants; horticulture therapy; learning about the environment. Clients will plan and build a green wall and create a multi-media project on wildlife in our garden.

Deliver a gardening trainee scheme with a City & Guilds accreditation in Practical Horticulture Skills for 18 homeless/ex-homeless people per year; provide them with 1:1 and group support for their mental health and drug/alcohol problems through our specialist workers; provide them with job search support, cv writing, move on options.

Support 90 homeless and vulnerable people per year to plan the food we grow and integrate it into our breakfast/lunch service for clients, teaching principles of growing food organically and healthy eating.

Organise 8 team challenges with corporate or community volunteers; 4 community gardening days with local gardening groups from neighbouring estates with introductory tours on our green initiatives; hold 2 events per year whereby local people can access the garden.

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

Improved physical health and energy levels for 90 clients per year, with 40 clients per year showing improved diet and nutrition through growing and consuming healthier food.

Improved emotional and mental health for 60 clients per year - connecting with nature in a peaceful environment will reduce levels of depression, anger and stress; 40 clients per year will use their time more meaningfully, reducing their consumption of drugs/alcohol and show improved mental and physical health.

Reduced isolation and improved confidence for 70 clients per year - clients will engage in activities, work and communicate better with others, be more confident in what they can do.

Improved skills and employability - 53 clients per year will show improved motivation, responsibility and confidence - key elements of employability; 18 clients per year will gain an accreditation; more clients will be completing job searches (16 per year); 15 clients will progress to volunteering in other gardening projects annually.

Improved knowledge and understanding of the 'green' environment and biodiversity for more than 200 Londoners per year - 90 homeless/ex-homeless people and more than 120 volunteers from the local community per year.

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

The cost of our garden project will reduce after 3 years as more trained volunteers take an active role in its maintenance. Funding will be sustained by small trusts and companies (we have a track record for this with gardening) and an increasing amount of our independently generated income.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

How many people will benefit directly from the grant per year? 200
In which Greater London borough(s) or areas of London will your beneficiaries live? Tower Hamlets (50%) City (10%) Hackney (7%) London-wide (33%)
What age group(s) will benefit? 16-24 25-44 45-64 65-74
What gender will beneficiaries be? All
What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be? A range of ethnic groups If Other ethnic group, please give details:
What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people? 21-30%

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Staff costs	31,814	33,360	34,027	99,202
Activity Costs	17,376	17,172	12,153	46,700
Office, General and Admin	356	363	370	1,089
Premises Costs	3,468	3,638	3,462	10,568
Overhead Cost Allocation	5,301	5,420	5,167	15,888
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	58,316	59,953	55,179	173,448

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Trusts & Foundations	3,762	3,706	1,802	0
Liveries	1,250	0	0	0
Companies	1,035	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	6,047	3,706	1,802	0

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Staff Costs	23,760	25,145	25,648	74,552
Activity Costs	6,660	6,660	2,160	15,480
Office, General & Admin	187	191	194	572
Premises Costs	2,142	2,277	2,041	6,461
Overhead Cost Allocation	3,275	3,481	3,120	9,876
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	36,024	37,753	33,163	106,940

Finance details 12449

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

Financial year ended:31	Month: March	Year:2014
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	199,954
Activities for generating funds	339,438
Investment income	42,404
Income from charitable activities	251,000
Other sources	218,717
Total Income:	£1,051,513

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	1,055,569
Governance costs	57,539
Cost of generating funds	156,520
Other	
Total Expenditure:	1,269,628
Net (deficit)/surplus:	(218,115)
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	127,831
Net Movement in Funds:	(90,284)

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	5,625,884
Investments	1,831,367
Net current assets	1,434,464
Long-term liabilities	
*Total Assets (A):	8,891,715

Reserves at year end	£
Endowment funds	617,506
Restricted funds	2,667,996
Unrestricted funds	5,606,213
*Total Reserves (B):	8,891,715

Statutory funding

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?
29.73%

Organisational changes

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

On 30.05.2014 we acquired the leasehold interest in a commercial property adjacent to our main operating site for £1,150,000 (we financed this from unrestricted designated reserves). We already held the freehold interest in this property and intend to hold it as a managed investment property continuing to let the units to small business

Previous funding received

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

	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	26,000	0	16,000
London Local Authorities	258,000	217,125	234,875
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	0	113,470	61,614

Previous grants received

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

Name of Funder	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
Big Lottery Fund	0	0	84,759
Street Smart	5,000	10,000	7,600
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	5,000	5,000	5,000
The Albert Hunt Trust	5,000	5,000	5,000
The Worshipful Company of Feltmakers	3,000	3,000	7,500

Declaration

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

Please confirm: Yes Full Name: **Laura Hopper**

Role within **Social Enterprise Development Manager**
Organisation: