

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Lift People	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name? No	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Brent	
Contact person: Ms Atara Fridler	Position: CEO
Website: http://www.liftpeople.org.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1121266
When was your organisation established? 01/09/2001	

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. To offer green training and volunteering, develop a safe and inspiring community green space, and help local people to increase their understanding of bio-diversity issues.
When will the funding be required? 01/07/2014
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £20,000 Year 2: £20,000 Year 3: £0 Total: £40,000

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Aims of your organisation:

Lift started as a small, local self-help group for homeless people, then became a charitable company, then developed a social enterprise and started to work across London, gaining and gained an excellent reputation for its research and user involvement work.

We are now a user-focused organisation that works with homeless and disadvantaged people in Brent and beyond, with the aim of empowering them to improve their lives and realise their potential.

An ethos of inclusion is at the heart of what we do: we promote inclusiveness and the empowerment of homeless and disadvantaged people and lead by example.

Our vision is of a society where all people have a decent home, a worthwhile job and are empowered and valued members of their communities.

We work to achieve this vision by working with our service users and others in the community to create enterprising, high quality and collaborative housing, involvement and employment solutions.

Main activities of your organisation:

- **Employment support** - We believe that gaining reliable remunerated employment is fundamental to personal wellbeing and independence for our service users. We aim to increase significantly the number of people we assist in gaining and sustaining productive employment.
- **Engagement and Involvement** - We believe that real engagement and empowerment create positive changes in individuals and that this can be used to achieve greater changes in their lives.
- **Housing Plus** - There is clear evidence that homelessness is on the rise and that more and more people are finding it hard to find and/or sustain a home. We believe that a stable home is a basic right and it is crucial for enabling individuals to start making other changes in their lives, including finding and holding a job and positively engaging in the community. We are delivering housing service provide advice and supporting to access the private rented sector.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
9	3	12	30

Property occupied by your organisation

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

Summary of grant request

Need

Near Lift's office in Harlesden is a small public park that has been badly neglected because of safety issues. Drug crime, vandalism, and prostitution have all been problems in the garden. Residents have pointed out the vicious cycle that keeps them from enjoying this space -- they do not use the garden because it is unsafe, and it is unsafe because it is neglected and criminal activities can take place there unnoticed. In 2012 Lift organised a consultation for local people; almost 50 of them volunteered to help regenerate the garden and the Friends of Harlesden Town Garden was formed.

With the Friends group, we will create a safe green space where local people can get training and volunteering opportunities. Ultimately, our aim is to support local community members, including those at risk of homelessness, to make positive changes in their lives while helping to create a park fit for use by people all across the neighbourhood.

Delivery

A dedicated Volunteer and Activities Co-ordinator will manage the project and support local volunteers to participate in the project. The Co-ordinator will ensure that volunteers from disadvantaged backgrounds will play a key role in improving the green space and managing and delivering activities and will also support them to gain transferable skills.

Aims

Our vision is to lead community action to reclaim the space so it can be put to better use by local people, and to do so in a way that will lead to new and exciting volunteering and engagement opportunities. Community members who have lacked access to local green space and have been concerned about anti-social behaviour will feel safer, more connected to other local people, and better able to engage in outdoor activities near their home. Overall, residents in a deprived area will feel there is an outdoor space that belongs

Right organisation

Lift has strong relationships with local groups and a strong track record in community engagement, as well as commitment to developing community involvement -- all of which mean we are well placed to lead the transformation of this unloved space.

Programme outcomes

Lift is supporting local people to become involved in the design of the garden and in planning and managing it to meet the needs of people who live nearby. We will provide hands on educational activities -- both practical and theoretical -- to improve and maintain the park and we will support engagement with the space by providing activities local people have asked for. Unlike public parks managed and administered by local authorities, this will be a public space that local people not only helped design and use, but also one that local people will help to grow and operate on a day-to-day basis.

Good Practice

The project is both managed and run by local residents. Local volunteers, including a trainee group, are instrumental in further developing the park and in contributing to the day-to-day running of the space. Lift's training and support is aimed at helping local people to gain the skills to manage the green space. The project is aimed at involving people who have historically been less likely to become involved with a green community project -- people who have been homeless, who are dealing with substance abuse issues, who have mental health support needs, or who have been excluded for other reasons. Lift has a sub group on its board to ensure best practice in supporting our volunteers. We recycle and offer cycle to work schemes to our staff.

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

The project will take place on land owned by the local council. The permission is in place to run training activities on site and we have already worked closely with council in developing and designing the community gardening area with them.

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

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

Lift was accepted to the West London Framework of supporting people, which required us to undertake similar work around reviewing policies and procedures. Lift's board discussed adoption of quality mark such as Investors in People but it felt that through internal work (e.g. board committee "effective organisation" overseeing HR & Quality Assurance) and work around being accepted to framework (such as Supporting People) -- we have already a robust approach to this area.

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.

Recruit, support and work with 50 volunteers over two years; Volunteers will form part of the Gardening Club -- which will include training and group volunteering activities. Access to further support will be through one-on-one meetings with employment advisers, through peer support networks, and through partnership work with community groups.

With volunteers, create a programme of activities that will include gardening training events (practical activities in the park and theoretical activities in the office), weekly/fortnightly Green Gym gardening maintenance days, and workshops and events.

Liaise with others in the community to develop additional complimentary activities (e.g. the providers of sports coaching, football, basketball, netball etc to ensure the smooth running of these activities).

Monitor the use by the local community to ascertain what attracts the people and see if there are further services that could be provided. Also determine if there are any problems, and liaise with the Friends, Brent Council, Community Police and other stakeholders or interested parties to provide solutions.

Monitor progress of volunteers through questionnaires and one-on-one interviews held at the beginning, mid-point, and end of the first year. Feedback on skills gained will also be provided by Employment Advisers working with volunteers from our client group.

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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.

We will lead community action to reclaim a neglected space so it can be put to better use by local people, and do so in a way that will lead to new and exciting volunteering and engagement opportunities.

Disadvantaged people will -- through volunteering and training activities -- build their skills, confidence, well-being and employability.

Community members who have lacked access to local green space and have been concerned about anti-social behaviour will feel safer, more connected to other local people, and better able to engage in outdoor activities near their home.

Residents in a deprived area will feel there is an outdoor space that belongs to them -- where they can garden, meet with neighbours, exercise, learn about nature, or just enjoy being in a quiet green space.

The park -- and community involvement with management of the space and activities in it -- will substantially improve the quality of life and wellbeing of local community members and volunteers.

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?

Our aim is to build local capacity and interest to help volunteers stay involved through a friends group. The friends group will look after the green space, hold events there, and continue to support wider community involvement. At this point, the group will be sustainable with a lower level of funding.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

2,000

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

Brent (100%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

All ages

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?

1-10%

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 cost	17,500	17,500	0	35,000
training facilitation	7,500	7,500	0	15,000
direct costs (marketing, vol. expenses, etc)	5,000	5,000	0	10,000
contribution to office costs	2,000	2,000	0	4,000
contribution to governance and management	750	750	0	1,500
contingency	250	250	0	500
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	33,000	33,000	0	66,000

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
People's Health Trust (via Friends group)	3,595	3,595	0	7,190
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	3,595	3,595	0	7,190

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 - coordinator	17,500	17,500	0	35,000
contribution to office costs	2,500	2,500	0	5,000
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	20,000	20,000	0	40,000

Finance details

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

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2013
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	283,260
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	206
Income from charitable activities	221,113
Other sources	0
Total Income:	504,579

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	447,213
Governance costs	13,981
Cost of generating funds	12,286
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	473,480
Net (deficit)/surplus:	31,099
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	0

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	6,728
Investments	0
Net current assets	170,204
Long-term liabilities	7,950
*Total Assets (A):	168,982

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	120,870
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	48,112
*Total Reserves (B):	168,982

* Please note that total Assets (A) and Total Reserves (B) should be the same.

Statutory funding

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?
21-30%

Organisational changes

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

in 13-14, we have seen a 20% growth in our income and improve our unrestricted reserves - which now stand on approx. £100K (equivalent of 2 months of operational spending). The increased income translated to increase capacity in Employment enabling us to work with more people supporting more of them into work.

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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)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	15,248	32,950	175,500
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	50,000	50,000	50,000
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	0	0	0

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 £
The Oak Foundation	115,767	109,326	50,760
Crisis PRS	0	50,000	37,500
The Monument Trust	50,000	50,000	50,000
Homeless Transition Fund	0	0	69,000
Big Lottery	9,997	39,975	39,975

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: **Atara Fridler**

Role within **Chief Executive**

Organisation:

UPDATED
BUDGET.

Lift People	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Total	% inflation
staff costs	17500	17675			1%
training facilitation	3,595	3630.95			
Direct costs (marketing & vol. expenses etc)	3,000	3030			
contribution to office costs	3500	3535			
contribution to governance & management costs	1000	1010			
Total Project Costs	28595	28880.95			
Amount requested from CBT	25000	25000			
Income raised (people health trust)	3595	3595			
Income to be secured		300			
Total Request / Secured	28595	28895			
Shortfall	0	14.05			

Breakdown Direct Costs: 20 volunteers per annum - annual volunteer event - £400 (dinner); quarterly v £150x 4 - £600; Marketing - leaflets design & printing £1,000; additional garden equipment, seeds, et