

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Kingston Environment Centre (KEC)	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Kingston	
Contact person: Ms Jean Vidler	Position: Director/ Company Secretary
Website: http://www.kingstoneco.org.uk www.kbn.uk.com	
Legal status of organisation: Charitable company	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number:-
When was your organisation established? 11/01/2011	

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 Londoners with a greater knowledge and understanding of the 'green' environment and biodiversity More people reporting improved wellbeing through greater use of open spaces and through growing and greening initiatives
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. Implementing and promoting our biodiversity action plan, and enabling and activating public commitment to saving species and support initiatives linking health and environmental outcomes.
When will the funding be required? 11/01/2014
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £9,000 Year 2: £9,000 Year 3: £9,000 Total: £27,000

Summary of grant request

NEED

Kingston is one of the only London Boroughs without its own Biodiversity Action Plan. This resulted in the adoption of the Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy, a plan not specific to Kingston. In May 2013, we initiated the Kingston Biodiversity Network and highlighted a number of conservation concerns throughout the Borough, such as a lack of...

- a strategic plan for volunteer recruitment.
- communication between all interested parties.
- capacity to collate, interpret and utilise existing ecological data.
- current ecology surveying, leading to the destruction of habitat.
- informative material and activities for the public.

DELIVERY

We wish to employ one part time worker for three years. They will be trained and line managed by the Centre Manager of KEC with goals set through the network's Steering Group.

The Biodiversity Officer will be responsible for the successful operation of the network, strengthening and forging partnerships and relationships. They will promote and support ongoing conservation activity, encourage volunteer recruitment, and create and manage innovative projects targeting areas of need throughout the borough. The role will also entail creating and updating environmental strategies such as Habitat Action Plans, in consultation with the Kingston Councils ecology unit.

WHAT WE WILL ACHIEVE

We envisage an inclusive and vibrant network of public biodiversity champions trained and supported by our local wildlife experts and conservationists who will then conduct surveys, engage in conservation activities and recommend interventions if necessary.

WHY WE ARE THE RIGHT ORGANISATION

We are Central to Kingston and based in a centre with all required facilities including, meeting space, studio for local radio and computer/internet access. A worker would be supported by a strong voluntary presence and an established board of trustees, with the network's steering group providing direction and training opportunities.

MEETING THE IMPROVING LONDON'S ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

The Network links people and organisations to exchange environmental knowledge but at present lacks the capacity to share this widely. Quarterly network meetings and presentations are performed to focus on Kingston's wildlife and borough updates. Meetings are attended by all local conservation groups, local ecologists and open to the general public at no cost. A worker would enable us to engage with schools, community groups and businesses to publicise the activities of the network and deliver environmental workshops, as well as encouraging more and better attended ecological surveys.

The employee will build upon existing links throughout all members of society including 'hard to reach' groups. Encouraging participation with the various food growing initiatives that KEC and Network members are already involved with, as well as conservation activities throughout the borough.

MEETING THE GOOD PRACTICE PRINCIPLES

A strong and committed volunteer work force from the local community has been pivotal to the successful operation of the Kingston Environment Centre and the Biodiversity Network thus far. KEC has been reaching out to ethnic minorities since its establishment and celebrates cultural diversity. Meetings are always held in accessible venues and designed to be welcoming to all abilities. We highly value our volunteers, supporting them with unique training opportunities, social events and hospitality.

KEC prides itself on its comprehensive and forward thinking environmental credentials, acting as a role model within the local community. We operate recycling facilities including composting, wormery and a food growing facility. The centre follows a green procurement policy, where second hand items are always preferred to new items. As a centre we continually strive to reduce our carbon footprint, through our comprehensive environment policy, not only trying to tackle our own emissions but reducing the carbon footprint of the borough.

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.

The work will complement and assist the councils work within conservation and green spaces. We hope to increase wildlife conservation and biodiversity for both the visiting and residing wildlife in the Borough. Habitat creation will improve the local environment and aesthetic value and increase positive attitude towards environmental conservation.

Allow local organisations, businesses, individuals, educational establishments and community groups to share and utilise their knowledge and skill, to ensure successful conservation practise. Influence planners and developers, landowners, garden owners and general public.

Raised awareness of environmental issues and opportunities for involvement in environmental and conservation activities. Increased interest and participation in local projects. Create new links and partnerships.

To broaden engagement in conservation. Increase species protection through creating and maintaining habitats. Monitoring species through methods such as transects and surveying. Improve the local environment through tree planting and nature reserve creation. Improve health of local people by increasing participation in activities and use of green spaces.

To add to the current knowledge base and identify trends of ecosystem health over time. Highlight areas of need and inspire organisations and individuals to increase positive environmental behaviour. Knowledge is filtered into the community and partnerships generated.

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?

One function of the post will to be to find match funding, sponsorship and develop self-funding models, in consultation with our green business advisor.

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Biodiversity Officer 2 days per week @ £10.82	7,877	7,877	7,877	23,631
Budget Expenditure	1,133	1,133	1,133	3,999
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0

What income has already been raised?

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

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
Biodiversity Officer	9,000	9,000	9,000	27,000
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0

Finance details

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

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2014
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	15,756
Activities for generating funds	163
Investment income	20
Income from charitable activities	600
Other sources	0
Total Income:	16,376

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	16,332
Governance costs	163
Cost of generating funds	25
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	16,520
Net (deficit)/surplus:	(144)
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	8098

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	1,744
Investments	0
Net current assets	6,354
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total Assets (A):	8,098

Reserves at year end	£
Endowment funds	0
Restricted funds	949
Unrestricted funds	7,149
*Total Reserves (B):	8,098

*** 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?

Organisational changes

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

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	0	0	0
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
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 £
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0

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: **Jean Vidler**

Role within **Director**
Organisation: