

Committee	Dated:
City Bridge Trust	15 th June 2017
Subject: Progress report: Prince's Trust	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer	For Information

Summary

This report provides an update, written by the charity, on the work of the Prince's Trust funded by the City Bridge Trust.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Receive this report and note its contents

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CITY BRIDGE TRUST – Strategic Initiative progress report

The Prince's Trust

Ref: 13975

Grant Amount: £1m per annum over 10 years.

Purpose of grant:

This grant supports The Prince's Trust's work with young Londoners who are furthest away from the labour market and hardest-to-reach, for example, those who have struggled at school, are disengaged from further education or have multiple barriers between them and employment. The grant funds a number of our programmes to support the journey of these young people into a 'good positive outcome' such as employment, training and education or volunteering.

Project Start Date: 01/04/2015

Projected End Date: 31/03/2025

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

1. The funding has been utilised on our programmes which engage the hardest-to-reach young people and our education offer: the *Fairbridge* programme caters for young people with the most complex needs providing participants with a bespoke programme to address these; *Get Started* is a week-long profession-themed course developing employability skills and the 'soft skills' needed to nurture success; *Team* is a 12-week personal development programme building the skillset and confidence of young people; and *Achieve* aims to reduce the likelihood of academic underachievement fostering personal and social development, life skills and active citizenship. City Bridge Trust (CBT) funding has also supported our Outreach and assessment functions helping create new pathways for young people into the Trust, especially those 'hidden'; outside of unemployed support networks. Funding has also supported the work of our housing advice worker who takes on individual cases and uses a network of close partners to resolve complicated housing issues hindering the development of some young people on our courses.
2. At the conclusion of the second year of this partnership 3,409 young people had received direct support from the funding. The transition rates for young people on programmes into a positive outcome have been high with 77% of young people going into a positive outcome within 3 months of completion. Of these, 37% had gone into an employment outcome, 37% into education or training and 13% into volunteering. 160 young people have received case support from our housing advisor.
3. Additional outcomes of the funding have included establishing partnerships with CBT stakeholders and networks which have added value and efficiency to our operations. Some examples of these include collaborating with CBT grantees who are now co-delivering some of our *Get Started* programmes, working with City of London Corporation Education and Early Years' Service to promote our *Achieve* programme in sponsored schools, and at a more strategic level working alongside the Samuel Wilsons Loan Trust to open additional funding opportunities to young people from our '*Enterprise*' programme.

4. CBT Funding has also helped contribute to our plans for growth in London. Across all our programmes in London the Trust has delivered to 140 additional young people (2015/16 vs. 2016/17) with an increase of +729 planned for 2017/18. This has been made possible due to the CBT investment. The flexibility of CBT funding means we have been able attract more external investment to support growth, for example, Morgan Stanley investment for *Achieve* in East London schools.
5. With support of CBT investment the Trust was able to commission an external evaluation of its outreach and delivery models in London. This review has now been completed and has provided valuable insight for the Trust including common local characteristics, needs of the young people we cater for, and recommendations that can be implemented in the region and across the Trust.

Do you have any particular learning points to share?

6. Across the Trust and particularly evident in London is the trend of more young people coming to us with a mental health need. From CBT funded programmes, 24% young people have a mental health need (21% in 2015/16) identified at the beginning of or during a programme. Participants on our *Fairbridge* programme, which engages our most complex young people has seen a 9% rise during this period. To help address this the Trust has appointed a specialist Mental Health Adviser to co-ordinate our partnerships with specialist organisations and connect them to our young people. An example in London was securing funding from the Berkley Foundation in partnership with MIND to deliver one day a week mental health provision for young people in our Kennington and Poplar centres.
7. Our data collection from CBT-funded programmes provides interesting insight into some other common traits we are seeing amongst the hardest to reach in London. Across the two years of funding 12% young people were care leavers (423), 27.5% had a disability (965) and 14.5% were homeless – ‘sofa surfing’ or without permanent stable accommodation (498). This insight is useful when forming partnerships to support our Outreach work; bespoke training for members of staff, and approaching specialist organisations to refer young people in need of support where the Trust is not in a position to provide this specialist support.
8. The need for interventions in schools like the *Achieve* programme to prevent academic underachievement is vital. London youth unemployment remains consistently high in comparison with the UK average (16.7% vs. 12.4% Jan-Dec 2016) and the data we gather from our young people’s background show that 32% on CBT-funded activity were classified as ‘educational underachievers’. Uptake of *Achieve* has grown significantly in the last year (281 in 2015/16, 444 in 2016/17) and we are forecasting 990 young people for 2017/18.
9. The external evaluation of our outreach and delivery models has provided some noteworthy trends in our work which will help shape our future delivery models. For example, the research showed some consistent trends for young people; males’ are predominant making up 67% of all *Fairbridge* and *Get Started* (F&GS), whilst BAME participants make up over two thirds of all CBT-funded young people on F&GS. This has helped us evaluate our Outreach approach to ensure we are targeting more female participants and in places where BAME young people can find us. F&GS participants were also asked to identify the challenges they feel they face, and the main ones cited were problems with numbers/maths (31%), and problems with reading/writing (30%). This information has helped us to ensure the correct

literacy and numeracy support is available and in the correct format for young people to engage and overcome this barrier.

What are your plans for the remainder of the period funded:

10. For the third year of delivery we have agreed a plan against the outcomes mentioned in the progress section of this report but with an increase in the number of young people that will benefit from this grant; we are planning to engage 1,729 young people with CBT funding in 2017/18.
11. As per the initial funding agreement, the plan and outcomes of this grant will be reviewed in preparation for year four of the partnership. This is an opportunity to look back on the impact to date but also to consider strategic changes at CBT and The Prince's Trust. With the conclusion of CBT's strategic review this summer we want to make sure we are aligned to the new strategic aims. In addition to this the Trust is about to embark on several operational changes which may influence our delivery model and how we allocate CBT funding going forward. Some examples include the full integration of Mosaic* into our operational structure and the transition of some activities to our new digital delivery platform, Prince's Trust Online.

**Mosaic (a charity that has recently become a part of the Trust, and previously funded by CBT) offers mentoring to school-aged young people in deprived communities across the UK helping them build skills but also giving them a network of support and opportunity. Mosaic works especially but not exclusively in Muslim communities, and also delivers mentoring in prisons.*

12. The Trust is working towards a five year London Growth plan which will see us significantly increase our footprint across the Capital and increase the numbers of young people accessing our programmes. CBT funding will help us to structure and deliver against this plan by providing us with stable income whilst its foundations are established. As one of our biggest supporters in London we also intend to fully engage CBT with the development of this growth plan to maximise impact and delivery opportunities with other CBT grantees.

What will happen at the end of the grant?

13. The Prince's Trust relies on a wide range of funding sources and partners in order to deliver our work across London and the UK. We believe that this mix offers security should one area of fundraising be more difficult in any year. This approach is led by a national and regional fundraising team.
14. Longer-term partnerships are particularly valuable in allowing us to plan for delivery, development and growth further ahead, but also in allowing time and confidence to develop other long-term funding relationships; we are better able to prove success and ambition in terms of our support for young people.
15. Fundraising approaches and conversations with others continue throughout all of our funding partnerships so that funding cliff-edges are avoided. The ambition of our plans for London, made possible by CBT support, is a definite boost to these conversations.