



London Funders Grant Report to London Councils – July 2016

London Councils Grant April 2015 to March 2016

The London Councils Grants Committee pays £60,000 in subscriptions on behalf of London boroughs. As well as providing a £14,800 saving to local government in London, the subscriptions pay for a range of services open to local authority members and staff.

Additionally having all 33 London local authorities and London Councils within the membership of London Funders enables us to leverage additional funding to undertake pan-London initiatives. In 2015 – 16 this totalled £100,000.

Summary of Outputs

Activity	Total	Boroughs Covered	Boroughs - Individuals
Events – Networks, Funder Forum's & Roundtables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 Network Events 28 Funder Forum's & Roundtables 	28	196
E-bulletin	12	33 + London Councils	450
Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 Meeting Reports 17 Research & other papers 12 E-bulletins 	33 + London Councils	N/A
Secretariat to Borough Grants Officer Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Forum Meetings 2 The Way Ahead Consultation's 2 London Councils Grants Consultations 	22	81

So what is London Funders?

London Funders is the membership body for public, private and independent funders and investors in the work of civil society across London. We provide a safe space to think, share, learn and act together to meet the needs of Londoners. With 116 members London Funders is unique in bringing together public sector funders and commissioners, with independent foundations, social and corporate investors, lottery funders and others. From March 2015 to the present day, we have had 25 new members join London Funders. These range from corporate foundations (Allen and Overy, The Berkeley Group), to Business Improvement Districts (Camden Town Unlimited), to large national and regional funders such as the Premier League Charitable Trust, the Henry Smith Charity and the London Marathon Charitable Trust.

Borough involvement in London Funders

- 28 boroughs participated in one or more London Funders Networks, Funder Forums or Roundtables during the year;
- 196 individuals participated in one or more London Funders Networks, Funder Forums or Roundtables during the year;
- 450 borough Members and Officers receive our monthly e-bulletin;
- London Councils and officers from three boroughs (Barking & Dagenham, Hounslow and Southwark) are members of the Board of London Funders.

NB A borough by borough list of engagement is attached as Annex 1

Purpose of the Grant

The London Councils grant provides borough members and staff with access to the following activities and services:

Learning development networks for all local authority members and officers.

We have facilitated 18 learning development network events:

- Unlocking Assets Network (4 events) covering :Future Plans: Heritage Lottery Fund and London Marathon Charitable Fund; Reaching Communities; Neighborhood Planning and Urban Parish Councils; Asset transfers; An introduction to The Power to Change; survey results from the Ethical Property Foundation and Community Assets in Difficult Ownership
- Children's & Young People's Network (4 events) covering: Engaging women and girls in sport; Supporting care leavers; Youth homelessness and housing and mental health services for young people
- Research & Evaluation Network (4 events) covering; Sport for Development Coalition- published framework; New Philanthropy Capital- Impact Measurement; Supporting Grantee Impact Measurement and 360 Giving and open data
- Learning From Funders Network (2 events) covering: NCVO's Cultural Commissioning Programme and Learning from Big Local
- London's Giving Masterclasses: (4 Events) covering Engaging Business, A Giving Tuesday Roundtable, Fundraising Approaches and Evidencing the need

Annual programme of Funder Forums and Roundtables for all local authority members and officers

We have convened, hosted and run 28 Funder Forums and Roundtables. These provide a space to be briefed on significant issues facing London and have covered:

- Workshop on Social Investment from a Grantee Perspective
- London Fairness Commission Civil Society Discussion
- Supporting your grantees to achieve sustainability
- 8 reference group meetings regarding the Future of Civil Society Support Review
- Two forums with borough grants officers and Council representatives regarding the Future of Civil Society Support Review
- Four forums with front line voluntary organisations and specialist/local infrastructure organisations regarding the future of Civil Society Support review
- Future of Civil Society Support Review- Emerging Findings Conference
- Place Based Giving- 'Share and build event'
- Social Policy in a Cold Climate
- The Alternative Commission on Social Investment: Conclusions and Recommendations
- Future of Voluntary Sector Infrastructure

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- London Health Commission
- Youth Services in London
- Social Investment for Children and Young People
- Future of Voluntary Sector Infrastructure - 2
- London Funders Impact- Members Meeting
- The next 5 years in London – Whats got to change?
- Camden's Giving Roundtable

Reports, research and publications

We have published:

- 27 meeting reports
- 12 monthly e-bulletin's
- 17 research and other papers covering:
 - Children and Young People: 'A Vision for Young Londoners'
 - The Way Ahead- Civil Society Support at the Heart of London- Emerging Findings
 - The London Fairness Commission – Rapid Evidence Review
 - Advice to the BAMER Network
 - An overview of the funding landscape for 2015 and beyond for the Greater London Volunteering Conference
 - 10 Blogs providing advice and support for the London's Giving Network including a briefing from the Macquarie Foundation regarding their funding approach, interviews with Kristina Glenn and Tom Jupp from the Cripplegate Foundation, and the East London Business Alliance outlining their work with businesses and Islington Giving
 - 2 pieces from John Griffiths from Rocket Science on the 'Way Ahead' focusing on how there needs to be a broader definition of civil society and the increasing role of the private sector in supporting civil society organisations

Secretariat to the Borough Grants Officers Forum

We provide the secretariat to the group that brings together the officers from all boroughs and London Councils which has met three times during the year. These meetings are open to all 33 of London's local authorities and regularly attract between a third and a half of London boroughs, with a spread of representatives from both inner and outer London. In addition to servicing the actual meetings, preparing the Agenda and papers, London Funders also maintains the database of Borough Grants Officers, and works between meetings in supporting boroughs with information, sharing innovation, good practice and connecting borough officers with colleagues in different authorities who are working on similar issues and challenges.

Additionally in the last 12 months we have held a number of meetings for London Councils relating to the review of your grant programme, including consultation meetings with independent and lottery funders in London. We also held two consultation events for boroughs to enable their needs to be feed into the final report 'The Way Ahead - Civil Society at the Heart of London'.

Studies and projects looking at major, strategic issues facing civil society in London (with other funders)

We have taken the lead on a number of studies and projects looking at major, strategic issues facing civil society in London. These include:

London's Giving (grant-funded by City Bridge Trust)

Inspired by the innovative [Islington Giving](#), a ground-breaking cross sector collaboration, London's Giving is sharing the evidence base, lessons learnt and know-how from local giving campaigns to help interested London boroughs to create their own locally tailored initiatives. Supported by City

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Bridge Trust the project team is currently working with 14 London boroughs, 5 of which have established local giving campaigns and 9 of which are prospective or emerging. All boroughs are at different stages of the journey in developing the local partnerships necessary to enable local residents, business, public agencies and others to give what they can (be it money, time or talents) to make a real and lasting difference within their local community.

Supporting 'The Way Ahead'- The Future of Civil Society Support in London (grant-funded by City Bridge Trust)

Building Sector Resilience –London Funders are to take forward the conversation and associated recommendations for funders arising from The Way Ahead report and working closely with London Councils, City Bridge Trust, Big Lottery Fund and others.

Dialogues Project (grant-funded by City Bridge Trust)

Working with New Local Government Network on the relationship between the independent funding community in London, and the public sector funding and commissioning authorities..

Responding to the challenges facing borough based youth services (funded through membership subscriptions)

London Funders is to continue working with London Youth & Partnership for Young London to champion the 'Vision for Young Londoners' aspiration with new Mayor and Assembly, central & local government and other stakeholders and opinion formers

Supporting the development of an effective funding ecology for London (funded through membership subscriptions)

A Development of an on-line "Theory of Change" that shows London Funding ecology & contribution that London Funders makes towards it. Furthermore, in partnership with Big Lottery Fund we will start initial mapping of funding geography in London and testing appetite for London Funders to support sub-regional networks

Finance April 2015 to March 2016

Incoming Resources

London Councils	60,000*
Other Membership Subscriptions	50,848
City Bridge Trust	50,000
Civil Society Review (City Bridge Trust)	55,000
London's Giving	44,969
Gifts In Kind	12,000
Other Income	495
Total Incoming Resources	273,308

Subscription rates are based on the annual support of VCS in London and have been held at 2011 levels for a fifth year.

London Funders has [different membership bands](#) for full membership based on levels of funding. Public sector funders and funders who contribute more than £10 million to London's civil society pay £2,200 a year for membership (Band 1)*, this sliding scale goes down to a £500 a year subscription for organisations that provide less than £1 million a year of funding (Band 6).

*A total saving of £12,600 equivalent to a saving of £325 per annum for each London borough in comparison to Band 1 membership.

Resources Expended

Networks & Forums	79,231
Projects & Development	65,258
Information & Communication	18,262

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London's Giving	39,878
Civil Society Review	63,254
Projects Commissioned for delivery in 2016/17	3,500
Governance	993
Total Resources Expended	270,376
Surplus/(deficit)	2,932

Plans for 2016/17

We will:

- Run 16 learning and development networks covering: Children & Young People; Research & Evaluation; Assets and Investments; Healthy London;
- Convene, host and run 12 other events, being a combination of Funder Forums and Roundtables
- Publish 12 editions of our e-bulletin and reports from all of our meetings;
- Publish at least three additional reports
- Provide the Secretariat to the Borough Grants Officers Forum;
- Support London Council's work undertaking their Grant's Review;
- Continue to deliver the London's Giving project working with boroughs;
- Continue to convene conversations and facilitate the recommendation of 'The Way Ahead' - Civil Society at the Heart of London
- Work closely with London Councils and the GLA on the changes to the welfare system and their impact on London;

Conclusion

Whilst it is too early to confidently predict the detail of the changes and challenges ahead, following the recent Referendum result, one thing that is clear is that London (like the UK as a whole) is a divided city. Moving forward in trying to heal these deep divisions will require strong political and civic leadership across London, in which civil society will play a very important role.

The London Councils grant to London Funders provides all the boroughs access to a much wider network of funders and investors in London civil society. London Funders has 116 members spanning large national and regional independent charitable foundations, local and specialist independent foundations, lottery distributors, social finance and investment organisations, corporate investors, housing associations and others.

For London's local government to be successful in supporting their communities and citizens in building resilience over the next few years working increasingly collaboratively with other funders and investors will be essential. London Funders provides the network and space to make that happen.

David Warner
Director

28th June 2016

Borough engagement with London Funders April 2015 to March 2016 (Annex 1)

Authority	Number Events Attended	Number Attendees
LB Barking & Dagenham	14	14
LB Barnet	7	9
LB Bexley	4	4
LB Brent	5	8
LB Bromley	0	0
LB Camden	22	29
Corporation of London	1	1
LB Croydon	0	0
LB Ealing	0	0
LB Enfield	03	3
RB Greenwich	6	6
LB Hackney	6	6
LB Hammersmith & Fulham	2	2
LB Haringey	1	1
LB Harrow	4	4
LB Havering	4	4
LB Hillingdon	2	2
LB Hounslow	3	4
LB Islington	9	11
RB Kensington & Chelsea	7	8
RB Kingston upon Thames	1	1
LB Lambeth	3	3
LB Lewisham	12	13
LB Merton	0	0
LB Newham	2	2
LB Redbridge	2	2
LB Richmond upon Thames	1	1
LB Southwark	22	23
LB Sutton	8	9
LB Tower Hamlets	1	1
LB Waltham Forest	0	0
LB Wandsworth	1	1
City of Westminster	10	10
London Councils	10	14
Total	173	196