

# **Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee**

**Wednesday, 9 November 2022 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Committee Room One - Town Hall Mulberry Place**

## **Supplementary Agenda**

# London Borough of Tower Hamlets

## Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee

Wednesday, 9 November 2022

5.30 p.m.

6 .3 Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report April 2022-June 2022 5 - 64



<b>Grants Determination Sub-Committee</b>  9 November 2022	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Sharon Godman, Director Strategy, Improvement & Transformation	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report – April 2022 – June 2022</b>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	Cllr Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Afazul Hoque, Head of Corporate Strategy & Communities Mark Waterman, Senior VCS Development Officer
<b>Wards affected</b>	All
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Forward Plan Notice Published</b>	
<b>Reason for Key Decision</b>	N/a
<b>Community Plan Theme</b>	All

## Executive Summary

The Mayor in Cabinet agreed on 31st July 2019 to a programme of funding for voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations from 1st October 2019. A total of 50 projects were awarded funding totalling £9.31m up to 31 March 2023 to deliver activity across five themes - Inclusion Health and Wellbeing, Digital Inclusion and Awareness, Information Advice and Guidance, Employment and Skills, Community Safety. At Grants Determination Sub Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 it was agreed that the above Local Community Fund (LCF) projects would be extended until September 2023 to ensure that council-funded VCS services are in operation whilst the council develops new funding options for the VCS to commence from October 2023.

The performance report covers the period April 2022 to June 2022 and reports on the five themes of the LCF and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building funding. The Project Summary (Appendix 2) gives an update by each project.

## **Recommendations:**

The Grants Determination Sub Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the performance of the Local Community Fund (LCF) programme as set out in 3.2 to 3.7 and Appendix 2 for April to June 2022.
2. Note the change of RAG ratings for Age UK East London's Caxton Hall and Friend at Home projects, moves from RED to AMBER and then GREEN, which has permitted the release of project funds due to Age UK for work on these projects, as outlined in 3.2 (f)
3. Note the updates on the funded organisations in Council premises and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building funding as set out in 3.8 to 3.9.
4. Approve the proposed provision and the continuation of a grant variation for the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project for the extension period for this project, from October 2022 to March 2024, as outlined in paragraph 3.9 (e) and Appendix 3.

## **1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 The Grants Determination Sub Committee Terms of Reference sets out the need to provide performance report to the Committee.
- 1.2 Regular performance updates ensure that the LCF themes and individual projects are on track to achieve the targeted outcomes. Any issues that arise can be addressed and appropriate remedial actions agreed. Where necessary, this could include the reduction, withdrawal or reallocation of funds to ensure that the overall Programme is making the most effective use of resources and maximising the potential achievement of agreed aims and objectives.
- 1.3 There is a need to agree to the activities that are proposed to be delivered by the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project for the extension period for this project, from October 2022 to March 2024. This should include continued Council support through this project for the activities of Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlet's COVID-19 Volunteering Hub to support volunteering within VCS organisations in the borough, particularly with the persistence of COVID-19 and the possibility of a full-scale resumption of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 Information relating to various aspects of project and monitoring activity is contained within the report to provide Grants Determination Sub-Committee (GDSC) with an overall understanding of how projects and organisations have performed against the key elements of their Funding Agreements.

- 2.2 GDSC could request further information or alter the recommendations.
- 2.3 The Infrastructure and Capacity Building project does not provide continued funding for the COVID-19 Volunteering Hub between October 2022 to March 2024 to support volunteering within local VCS organisations. This would result in the removal of Council funding for a centralised volunteering recruitment system for VCS organisations in the borough in the context of the persistence of COVID-19 in the borough and the possibility of a full-scale resumption of the COVID-19 pandemic

### **3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

#### **3.1 Background**

(a) The Mayor in Cabinet agreed on 31st July 2019 to a programme of funding for voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations from 1st October 2019. This programme is called the Local Community Fund (LCF) with 50 projects awarded funding totalling £9.31m up to 31 March 2023 to deliver activity across five themes:

- Inclusion Health and Wellbeing
- Digital Inclusion and Awareness
- Information Advice and Guidance
- Employment and Skills
- Community Safety.

(b) At GDSC meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 it was agreed that the above LCF projects would be extended until September 2023 to ensure that Council-funded VCS services are in operation whilst the Council develops new funding options for the VCS to commence in October 2023. The cost of this extension amounts to £1,328,537. Council officers have been negotiating with VCS organisations delivering LCF projects about the KPIs and outcomes that their projects will deliver during the extension period of April-September 2023.

(c) As outlined at GDSC meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022 one of the above 50 LCF projects, St Hilda's East Community Centre - Surjamuki Disabled Youth Project, was permanently suspended in January 2022 after the provider conducted a review of its services. St Hilda's ensured that the project beneficiaries, who had reached the point to move on from its services, were satisfactorily transitioned to other appropriate services to receive required support.

#### **3.2 Overview of April 2022 – June 2022**

(a) The 3-month period in this update witnessed LCF projects encountering a number of challenges:

- projects continuing to have to deliver their services through a range of methods due to COVID-19 pandemic – physical basis, digitally, via the

telephone (e.g. for befriending of elders). Many projects operated on a hybrid basis, combining the above methods.

- high levels of staff and volunteer sickness absence for LCF providers in April – June 2022 due to high rates of COVID-19
  - projects having to respond to demands relating to the cost of living increase and higher rates of poverty in Tower Hamlets.
- (b)** LCF projects have continued to deliver against targets in spite of the above challenges, delivering outcomes to meet the needs of residents in the borough.
- (c)** LCF projects are assigned a Red, Amber or Green rating (RAG rating) when reporting to the GDSC on project performance - please see Appendix 1 for more details. When a project is classified as Red the Council suspends LCF payments to the project until it moves off Red status, to Amber or Green. When a project is classified as Amber the Council pays it two thirds of the LCF that it is due until the project moves to Green. When a project moves from Amber to Green then the Council pays the provider any LCF funds that it has held back for the provider.
- (d)** All of the 49 current LCF projects are now classed as Green.

The Infrastructure & Capacity Building project, which is managed on a similar basis to LCF and supports local VCS organisations is classified as Green

**(e) Age UK East London**

- (i)** Age UK East London's two LCF projects – Caxton Hall and Friend at Home - have moved from RED status, as reported at GDSC meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022, to AMBER and then GREEN status. The above RED and AMBER RAG ratings had not been made due to performance issues – both projects are on track to deliver agreed outcomes – but due to a tenancy issue between Age UK East London and the Council.
- (ii)** Age UK East London occupies the ground and second floors of a Council-owned building at 82 Russia Lane in Bethnal Green. The grant agreements with Age UK East London for the delivery of the above two LCF projects state that the Council may withhold a grant payment, or withdraw it, if Age UK East London occupies or uses Council owned premises and there is no satisfactory premises agreement in place. This is a standard condition of Council grant funding.
- (iii)** The Council began negotiating a lease with Age UK East London to regularise its occupation of 82 Russia Lane before LCF funding commenced in October 2019. Progress towards agreeing a lease was reported to the Sub-Committee in order to seek a temporary waiver of the funding condition and continue payment of LCF quarterly instalments, on the basis that some, albeit limited, progress, was being made towards completing a lease. Following the Sub-

Committee's decision to delegate to the Divisional Director (Strategy, Improvement and Transformation) authority to waive this funding condition in consultation with the Corporate Director, Place, funding to Age UK continued until January 2022.

- (iv) Officers considered that discussions with Age UK to agree lease terms had not progressed satisfactorily and, accordingly, the LCF funding was suspended from January 2022.
- (v) There have been further discussions between Council officers and Age UK East London since the last GDSC meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022. Age UK had been making sufficient progress towards meeting the premises grant payment conditions with the Council for Council officers to agree in September 2022 that Age UK's RAG rating for LCF projects be moved from Red to Amber and then Green. This change of RAG rating permitted the Council to make payments due to Age UK for its work on its two LCF projects between January to September 2022. Lease terms between Age UK and the Council for the premises at 82 Russia Lane are now near completion.

### **3.3 Theme 1 Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing**

#### **(a) Theme Overview**

Theme 1 incorporates five schemes supporting children and families, older people, and people with disabilities. There are 27 current projects, focusing on improving the health and wellbeing of residents and the quality of the care services they receive.

#### **(b) Scheme A Children, Young People and Families (Eight projects)**

Projects in this Theme are focused on developing the confidence and life opportunities of young people, enabling them to fulfil their potential and access opportunities and services. During the reporting period projects have made good progress in engaging their beneficiaries. Activities have included:

- Projects engaging their beneficiaries in a range of networking, social, cultural artistic and physical activities to develop their confidence and improve their physical and mental health. Between April-June 2022 119 young people participated in Half Moon Young People's Theatre's Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People project, thus helping them to develop their communication and life skills. Four of the project's theatre groups had their end of term performance in the last week of June 2022.
- St Hilda East's Community Centre's Girl Driven project has provided its beneficiaries with mental health awareness day sessions on self-love and care and an evening advice session from creative industry professionals on career options in that sector

- linking socially excluded young people to training, employment and performance opportunities in the arts sector. The Yard Theatre's Black Excellence at Night-time initiative, part of its Tower Hamlets Teens' project, is supporting its group of 16-21 year olds to develop a creative project for young people their age to be launched in January 2023. This has involved the beneficiaries attending workshops on how to run a successful project and explore what projects there are for young people in London
- developing relationships within families, enabling parents to understand their children better and improving understanding between parents and their children. Osmani Trust's Family Mentoring Project - Early Help has supported families whose mental health has been challenged by the pandemic. It has provided one to one and group parenting support, relationship development and healing and family trips.
- assisting young women to develop their confidence, resilience and life skills. The Canaan Project launched its After School Club in May 2022 which meets for two hours every Thursday. The young women that it supports enjoy a variety of activities at the Club, including crafts and football.

**(c) Scheme B – Older People (Seven projects)**

The seven projects in this Theme are concerned with improving the health and wellbeing of older residents and the quality of the care services that they receive. Notable areas of progress have included:

- befriending projects have helped to reduce loneliness, isolation and anxiety for housebound older people or those with very limited mobility, improving their psychological well-being. Services have been delivered on physical, digital and telephone basis. For example, due to COVID-19, Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbour's Older Peoples' Befriending Project has supported beneficiaries by combining face to face visits, when safe, with a remote tele-befriending service. More than 85% of adults the project interacts with reported improved outcomes; reduced isolation, less anxiety and improved confidence levels.
- delivery of a range of health promotion, user led and social activities to improve beneficiaries' physical and mental health and widen their social networks. 22 elderly people from the local Vietnamese and Chinese communities were able to participate in diet and healthy cooking sessions in April-June 2022 through Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London's Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club project.
- provision of local support groups and one to one support on-line and remotely to LGBT people over 50 through East London Out Project's

Tower Hamlets LGBT Support project. Fifty nine disabled LGBT people or LGBT people experiencing mental health concerns who participated in such support reported better life satisfaction and better quality of life three months after start of service.

- fifty-nine older people participating in St Hilda's East Community Centre's Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project have reported to being less lonely and isolated after attending its range of activities such as Tai Chi, women only Dancercise, yoga and social coffee mornings.
- for the first time 50% of activity sessions at Toynbee Hall's Wellbeing Centre are user led, facilitated by service users who have a skill and have identified a need and interest.

**(d) Scheme C – Access, Information and Self-Management (Two projects)**

**(i)** The focus of projects in this Theme is enabling older and physically disabled residents to be better informed and equipped to manage health and social care conditions. Projects have continued to support clients who are isolated/excluded – with their needs heightened because of COVID-19 – due to a number of reasons:

- physically, due to lack of accessible infrastructure
- linguistically, due to insufficient developed English language skills
- sensory impairments
- lacking accessible information and experiencing digital exclusion.

**(ii)** Many clients have complex needs and some would be classified as hard to reach. The provision in this Theme has been delivered during the reporting period through online, remote and face to face/one-to-one sessions. Successful examples of project interventions have included:

- 14 people were able to increase their knowledge, awareness and confidence to self-manage their health conditions in April-June 2022 through participation in a mindfulness-based pain management programme delivered by Globe Community Project's Take Back Your Life project
- Real DPO's Taking Control of Your Life project developed action plans and delivered support relating to these plans to 14 physically disabled people. The project supports beneficiaries through providing high level support and in-depth time to make information accessible for them, It provides home visits and follow up support with the hard-to-reach beneficiaries who have differing levels of engagement.

**(e) Scheme D – Healthy Living and Healthy Choices (Six projects)**

**(i)** Projects under this theme are concerned with:

- making residents better informed to enable them to make healthier choices
  - increasing engagement in physical activity.
- (ii) Projects have delivered a range of activities during the reporting period to promote exercise, healthy eating and improve social and life skills, including holding of communal celebrations to bring people together. This has included:
- London Tigers' Exercise for Health (BAME Women, Children and Young People) project holding celebration events for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, involving fun activities, and Baishakhi Mela & Multicultural Festival to celebrate Bangladeshi culture with traditional music and dance.
  - Stifford Centre Limited's Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme holding celebration events for Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Festival of Communities. The second event involved hands-on demonstrations of local research and services, many fun family activities, food stalls and games to create two-days of fun for all ages and interests.
  - The Royal Society for Blind Children's Live Active Live Well Tower Hamlets project responding to beneficiaries' feedback by providing sessions that are more social in nature, such as bowling and trampolining.
- (iii) Projects under this scheme have also delivered health promotion sessions, such as sexual health workshops, and workshops focusing on pain management and promoting healthier lifestyles. The Bangladesh Youth Movement 's Live Healthy Enjoy Life (Female Health & Development Project) supported 42 women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic and refugee communities to access health support activities between April-June 2022.
- (iv) Projects have supported interactions between residents and improved their physical and mental health. During the Easter holidays Mudchute Association's Playing out at Mudchute project added animal handling sessions to its programme, which were very popular. This involved three sessions a day, that attracted an average of 90 children.
- (f) **Scheme E – Improved Inclusion, Health and Well-being Outcomes for Disabled People and People Experiencing Mental Health Issues (Four projects)**
- (i) Projects in this theme are focused on improving health outcomes for disabled people and ensuring that people experiencing mental health issues are better supported. Projects have responded to the pandemic to deliver a range of successful interventions, including:

- deafPlus' Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People in Tower Hamlets project has delivered eight events in April-June 2022 as part of a programme to improve the health and well-being of its beneficiaries. This has included six week programmes for fitness, healthy cooking and a Face Yoga course. In the Easter holidays it also organised family events for trampolining and bowling.
- ICM Foundation produced its summer edition of its beneficiary-led newspaper for young people with learning difficulties, which had 5,000 copies printed. It included 13 articles and received excellent feedback from its readers. This included comments on how valuable the newspaper is as a community resource and how the discounted prices in the newspaper are useful when readers take people out on trips.
- the Woman's Trust's Therapeutic Support Groups for Women Affected by Domestic Abuse project has supported 15 women in April-June 2022 to reduced their stress and anxiety, increase their confidence and self-esteem.
- Working Well Trust's Upskill project has run a series of joint workshops with Look Ahead for its beneficiaries, which it will continue to run with this organisation, along with information sessions. It has also made progress in networking with organisations, supporting isolated and elderly residents in the borough.

### **3.4 Theme 2 Digital Inclusion and Awareness**

#### **(a) Theme Overview**

There are two schemes in this theme, concerned with promoting Information, Communication and Technology skills support and training for older people and the development of digital skills and training for young people.

#### **(b) Scheme A: ICT Skills and Digital Careers (Three projects)**

- (i)** The three projects under this theme all provide digital ICT skills to residents and continue to build their knowledge, giving them the confidence to use digital devices to access online activities and health information. They have responded well to increases in COVID-19 rates in the borough, ensuring that provision safeguards beneficiaries' health. Examples of successful LCF project progress in this area in April-June 2022 have included:
- Limehouse Project's DigITIES project, which supports older people to become digitally included, has increased its co-production work with local charities, organisations, residential social landlords and community centres to reach those most in need and extend its geographical reach in the borough. The project has achieved 71% of its lifetime targets and has been focusing on providing additional support

sessions and interventions for its beneficiaries, delivered by inter-generational volunteers remotely for reasons of personal safety during the recent increase in COVID-19 rates.

- Newham New Deal Partnership's @online club Network Tower Hamlets project increased eight older residents' confidence about going on-line and enabled nine older residents to do more things on-line.
- Wapping Bangladesh Association's Digital First project has enabled nine older people to have a better understanding and appreciation of the potential benefits of learning computers and how to navigate around the internet. Project beneficiaries have been taught about the risks of internet scams, how to shop on-line and how to collect medicine from their pharmacists.

**(c) Scheme B: Online Safety (Two projects)**

- (i) The priority of this theme is children and young people's online safety. The two funded projects in this theme have empowered children to recognise and deal with the impact of online abuse, resulting in young people speaking out and getting the help that they need, including from their families. Parents have gained skills and knowledge to keep their children safer online.
- (ii) SocietyLinks' Tower Hamlets E-Safety project continues to link up with the Metropolitan Police's Safer Neighbourhood Teams to enable women participating in the project to benefit from weekly workshops addressing e-safety issues. This support has addressed topics such as on-line shopping web sites, where individuals have to share personal details and addresses, how to meet safely on a physical basis with people met online and authenticity checks for holiday booking sites to combat potential fraud.
- (iii) Sporting Foundation's Building Digital Resilience project is focusing on securing more female beneficiaries. The project engaged 22 parents and 35 children in April-June 2022. They all reported that the project had supported them to develop an understanding and awareness of grooming on social media and identifying signs of grooming. These parents thus felt more confident about maintaining their children safe online, whilst the children increased their ability to spot signs of grooming.

**3.5 Theme 3 Advice and Information (Two projects)**

- (a) Both of this theme's projects provide social welfare advice and information, one delivered by a consortium of providers and one delivered by a partnership of two organisations. Both projects in this theme have made good progress between April to June 2022 on meeting their KPI targets, outputs and outcomes, despite the high level of demand on their resources:

- East End Citizens Advice Bureaux (East End CAB)-led Advice Tower Hamlets Consortium assisted 5,402 beneficiaries on social welfare advice in April-June 2022
  - 1,260 East End CAB project clients were supported to increase or maximise their income in April-June 2022. £4,937,994 of clients' income was increased/or backdated. There were £1,146,556 debt reduction or write offs resulting in reduction in amounts of personal debt for beneficiaries.
  - Island Advice Centre/Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project delivered 72 participants on a range of issues, such as benefits, housing, homelessness, employment, and immigration.
- (b)** During the April-June 2002 period social welfare advice services have faced a number of challenges, including:
- cost of living crisis, which has led to increased reliance on food banks, inability to pay fuel bills or afford basic decent amenities. Beneficiaries of services have included people in employment.
  - increase in transport costs
  - random increases in housing rents and increases in the number of disrepairs and possession proceedings by private landlords. Landlords are asking their clients to quit their properties unless they pay for increased costs.
  - huge increase in the number of reported redundancies, which has led to increased demand on services in relation to benefit claims and appeals over negative decisions relating to Personal Independence Payments, Disability Living Allowance and Carers Allowance. LCF-funded services have responded effectively to these demands. Advice Tower Hamlets Consortium reports a 97% success rate in dealing with the latter cases in April-June 2022.

### **3.6 Theme 4 Employment and Skills**

#### **(a) Theme Overview**

Theme 4 incorporates three schemes focusing on supporting socially excluded groups to access employment, delivering employment and training support to project beneficiaries and working with employers to provide employment and work placement opportunities for beneficiaries.

**(b) Scheme 4A: Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work (One project)**

Real DPO's Then and Now project delivered two workshops for local employers in April-June 2022 - 'Taking the fear out of employing Disabled people' and 'Empowering Disabled candidates'. Attendance and feedback from both sessions was good and resulted in several new employer becoming members of the project. The project also produced two new inclusive employment guides, *Find your audience* and *Be an inclusive employer of choice*. The project also facilitated two co-production workshops in April-June 2022 with project beneficiaries. The first workshop gathered the beneficiary group's experiences and opinions on job design for the project's next inclusive employment guide, *Inclusive Job Design*. The second workshop was a review of the work that the project has done so far as a group and a discussion on the future direction of its work.

**(c) Scheme 4B: Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups (Four projects)**

The projects in this scheme continue to work closely with their beneficiaries and project partners. Projects are engaging with beneficiaries to motivate them, increase their confidence levels and deliver training to them in work-related qualifications. Focus of individual projects has included

- Limehouse Project's Developing Potential project providing an integrated programme of personal skills development to enable socially excluded women to work towards achieving qualifications such as Childcare Levels 1 and 2, Teaching Assistant Level 2 and Functional Skills English from Entry Level 1-3 to Level 1 and 2 courses.
- St Giles Trust's Choices Tower Hamlets project working with a cohort of 13 young people who are not in education employment or training (NEET) to support their progress into training and education courses and improve their mental health and wellbeing.
- SocietyLinks' Tower Hamlet's Job Club working on a resettlement programme with refugees from Afghanistan who are currently being housed in the City of London. It has been planning workshops to run in line with SocietyLinks' employment service to help the refugees create CVs to enable them to obtain employment, when they are eligible to do so.
- Stifford Centre Limited's BAME Women's Employment Support Programme supporting beneficiaries through a range of methods:
  - creating and updating CVs
  - mock interview sessions
  - job search

- ESOL classes
- training for Health & Social Care and Teaching Assistant roles, digital skills and business start-up.

**(d) Scheme 4C: Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries (Four projects)**

**(i)** Projects have continued to work with young people and socially excluded residents to provide them with opportunities to access training and employment in the arts and culture industries:

- Auto Italia South East's Learning Live! project delivering two Creative Learning workshops in Tower Hamlets Schools - St Paul's Way Trust, for GCSE and A Level Photography and GCSE and A Level Art and Design students, and Stepney All Saints School, for GCSE Media Studies students. The project supports young people to progress into higher education courses, with the aim to increase access into the art and cultural industries.
- six trainees on Four Corners Ltd's ZOOM Film School completed their accredited film/TV skills training programme, one trainee obtained a work placement and two trainees obtained paid employment.
- the Bromley by Bow Centre's Creative Communities project taking project participants and their families to Van Gogh Immersive experience in Spitalfields to introduce them to the art sector. The majority of participants never had an experience such as this before. There have also been similar trips, with a similar purpose, to Charles Saatchi contemporary art gallery, for a smaller group of beneficiaries and their children, and to Kensington Palace.

**3.7 Theme 5 Community Safety**

**(a) Theme Overview**

Projects in this theme are concerned with protecting children and young people, improving community cohesion – including between young and older people – and combating domestic violence.

**(b) Scheme A- Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups (Three projects)**

Projects in this scheme are focused on supporting children excluded from mainstream education, developing the confidence and emotional intelligence of children in secondary schools and developing peer support amongst young people. Notable areas of progress for projects for the period covered by the report have included:

- Kazzum Arts' Build project supports four groups of vulnerable young people aged 13-16 in a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), reducing their vulnerability to exploitation through a programme of creative and regulating activities, such as drama, visual arts and digital media. This includes a boy's group, focusing on supporting mental health and masculinity and the intersection between the two through games and discussions. The project has a girls group, focusing on wellbeing and common interests and considering what helps them to feel respected in relationships, mostly through visual arts activities and discussion. There is also a group supporting students with communication skills and another group within the Inclusion unit of the PRU that supports beneficiaries to develop social connections and interpersonal skills.
- Osmani Trust's Youth Intervention Officers, working on behalf of its Schools and Community Resilience Programme, have delivered one-to-one mentoring sessions to 28 pupils. Young people involved in the sessions responded well to the mentoring, as it gave them the space to speak safely and openly about their challenges, including dangers of being exposed to violence and being groomed in the community.
- Streets of Growth's Resilient Young Leaders Programme beneficiaries produced a community mural launched in an event in June 2022 which was co-ordinated and delivered by five of the project's young influencers/leaders. This involved a 'Community Roundtable' hosted by 'The People Speak' with local police and councillors taking part. This event strengthened the Young Influencers/Leaders partnerships with Tower Hamlets Young People's Services and with the local police.

**(c) Scheme B - Improving the perception of young people in the community (Two projects)**

This scheme's two projects are concerned with enabling children to be a positive part of the community, promoting community cohesion and inter-generational relationships between young and older people. Significant achievements between April-June 2022 for projects in this theme have included:

- the photographic work of 14 to 25 year olds and over 50s supported by Four Corners Ltd's Into Focus Photography project being displayed at an exhibition in Four Corners Gallery in May 2022. Beneficiaries have received support from professional photographers and artists to develop their photography skills.
- Leaders in Community's Project Connect has gained a new group of elders in April-June 2022 who joined in with project's weekly social activities. Young people involved with the project have been volunteering with these activities, helping the elders with teas and coffees, and joining in the discussions and conversations

**(d) Scheme C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances (One project)**

Hestia Housing and Support's Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets project has promoted awareness amongst children and families of domestic violence and sexual abuse, including information on how to report this abuse and access appropriate support services. Project has delivered awareness sessions in the community and in its own refuge in the borough. Group sessions in the refuge in April-June 2022 focused on domestic abuse awareness, emotions and feelings, mental health awareness, self-esteem and body positivity.

**3.8 Premises update**

- (a)** There are several LCF funded organisations that are based in Council-owned buildings. It is a condition of funding that LCF organisations occupying Council owned premises have an appropriate property agreement in place. There are monthly meetings between officers responsible for the VCS and the Council's Asset Management Team to ensure that these agreements are in place, and, where they are not, to monitor progress. Where organisations are not actively negotiating with the Council to put appropriate agreements in place, quarterly instalments of LCF funding may be delayed or withheld.

**3.9 Infrastructure & Capacity Building**

- (a)** Although the current Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme funding was awarded through a separate process, the management and reporting arrangements are the same as for LCF and performance reporting is thus included as part of this report. Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS) is the lead organisation in a partnership with Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH) to deliver an Infrastructure and Capacity Building project. Tower Hamlets Community Transport (THCT) was a partner in this project, but, as reported to GDSC on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022, it had to suspend its services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The project is focused on increasing the range and number of VCS organisations in the borough that are well-run, resilient and sustainable and strengthening the VCS as a key public sector strategic delivery partner in Tower Hamlets. From October 2020, after approval by Cabinet, the project has also supported VCTH to continue to deliver and manage the COVID-19 Volunteering Recovery Hub to recruit and place volunteers to support local VCS organisations to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and assist the recovery process in the borough.

**(b) THVCS**

During the reporting period THCVS delivered the following development support to VCS organisations:

- supported 45 VCS organisations in development support over 75 interactions. 43 of the above 45 organisations reported positive outcomes (96%) from the support that they received from THCVS.
- the above areas of intervention were wide in scope and included:
  - support in producing funding bids
  - business planning
  - producing fire safety policy
  - risk register
  - governance and organisational structure
- worked with 257 people across all funding, learning and networking events, including 202 people from VCS organisations and 8 individual community members. These sessions were also attended by 34 people from public sector organisations – Council and the NHS; 13 people from housing associations and academic institutions.
- ran a Meet the Funders event on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 which was attended by 192 organisations.

**(c) VCTH**

VCTH project activities in April-June 2022 included:

- delivered a training session for five volunteer managers - *Your Volunteer Policy – is it Fit for Purpose?*
- running a peer learning session on Zoom for 8 volunteer managers - *Adapting your Volunteer Programme for Living with COVID*
- registered 5 new VCS organisations for the COVID-19 Volunteering Hub for the first time
- supported 26 VCS organisations to advertise their volunteering roles via the COVID-19 Volunteering Hub (annual target of 75)
- advertised a total of 40 unique roles on behalf of VCS organisations via volunteering alerts
- 149 new volunteer registrations with the Hub (annual target of 500 registrations).

- (d)** VCTH continued to deliver within the project a small programme of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community trustee training, that also involved matching trained trustees with local VCS organisations. This programme involved training for 25 people, all of which were Tower Hamlets residents from a wide range of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities. 22 beneficiaries completed their training in line with the programme’s target. Fourteen

registered charities based in or providing significant services in Tower Hamlets were recruited for programme participation. VCTH worked with these organisations to prepare them for a trustee matching event that took place on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022, including reviewing their trustee selection process. 17 programme beneficiaries were subsequently offered and accepted VCS organisation trustee positions, exceeding programme target of 15.

- (e) GDSC is asked to approve the continuation of the grant variation for the Infrastructure and Capacity Building project as outlined in **Appendix 3 - Proposed Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme Activity In Extension Period (October 2022 to March 2024)**. This would enable the above project to continue to support the delivery of the COVID-19 Volunteering Hub, managed by Programme partner, VCTH, to recruit volunteers for VCS organisations in the borough during the extension period for the project. Appendix 3 outlines the previously approved grant variations for this project and the proposed basis of the grant variation for October 2022 to March 2024. THCVS activity for the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme for the extension period will be on the same basis as current provision, on a pro rata basis.

#### **4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 A strategic equalities assessment was undertaken of the Local Community Fund (LCF) programme with the Equality Analysis comprising part of the report recommending funding as agreed at the 31 July 2019 Cabinet. This included looking at the change from Mainstream Grants (MSG) to the Local Community Fund and whether the recommended projects were able to deliver against identified need.
- 4.2 The analysis identified some potentially adverse impacts relating to age, race and disability and these were addressed by initiating activity outside the LCF programme including:

New themes developed for the Small Grants Programme

- Access and Participation
- Community Support Services for Older People

Commissioned Services contracts to address key areas:

- Young People's Mental Health
- Early Years
- Young People's Disability Sports
- Young Carers

- 4.3 The programme continues to deliver against the themes developed to address the identified need.

#### **5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.

5.2 There are no other specific statutory implications relevant to consideration of this report.

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

6.1 There are no direct financial implications of this report. If report implications were to lead to re-alignment of funding then it would need to be within the agreed grant budget of £9.31M.

## **7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

7.1 The Council is required to ensure it obtains Best Value in the administration of the various grants referred to in this report. A significant part of demonstrating Best Value is ensuring that the recipient organisations perform in accordance with the original applications and to take action where performance does not meet the required standard. This report shows compliance with this legal duty.

7.2 It is also part of the Council's overall duty to the burgesses of Tower Hamlets that its assets are appropriately safeguarded. It therefore continues to be in the Council's interest to ensure that written agreements are in place for the use of all the Council's buildings by VCS organisations as referred to in this report.

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## **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

### **Linked Report**

- NONE

### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Local Community Fund Programme Management Arrangements
- Appendix 2 – LCF Project Summary Apr 22 – Jun 22

- Appendix 3 - Proposed Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme Activity In Extension Period (October 2022 to March 2024).

**Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012**

- NONE

**Officer contact details for documents:**

N/A

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## **Appendix 1 - Local Community Fund Programme Management Arrangements**

Each Local Community Fund project has a named VCS Development officer who works with the projects to support the organisation and ensure the overall aims of the programme are met.

Theme and thematic areas also have named officers and they work with other teams / directorates in the Council and the wider sector to ensure the LCF programme links in with Council and wider borough aims and objectives.

RAG Rating – projects are assigned a Red, Amber or Green rating when reporting to the Grants Determination Sub Committee on project performance, summary below and Appendix 2.1 for more details.

### **RED**

- organisation has not signed funding agreement
- significant planned delivery not taken place
- serious project management issues
- high risk that the project will not achieve planned outcomes

### **AMBER**

- significant underperformance against targets
- some planned delivery not taken place
- some project management issues
- still able to achieve project outcomes over the lifetime of the project with support

### **GREEN**

- on track to achieve project objectives
- delivery taken place
- any performance issues are resolved
- satisfactory project management

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<b>Theme / Scheme</b>	<b>1- Inclusion, Health &amp; Wellbeing</b> <b>1A - Children, Young People &amp; Families</b>
<b>Priorities:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase access to Youth Services</li> <li>2. Provision of Early Help support to families</li> <li>3. Support for young carers</li> </ol>
<b>Outcomes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children and young people, in particularly girls and young women:                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. have more confidence in themselves;</li> <li>b. are more resilient, and</li> <li>c. are able to, and do, access a range of spaces, activities and social opportunities across Tower Hamlets.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Girls and young women feel included, are able to participate in any service, and are more likely to train to become youth leaders and/or develop their own initiatives.</li> <li>3. Children and young people who may feel excluded from participating in mainstream services and activities (e.g from minority groups, who are disabled, who are LGBTQI, or who are carers for others) can participate in a range of activities and experiences.</li> <li>4. Children, young people and their families are listened to and their input is considered and included in decision making.</li> <li>5. Young carers are supported and included; their needs and concerns are understood and are taken into account at local and strategic levels.</li> <li>6. Children under 5 grow up in positive family environments and are supported to thrive.</li> </ol>

<b>Organisation / Project</b>	<b>Start / End Date</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22</b>	<b>RAG Rating / Comments</b>
Canaan Project / Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£100,835	Canaan Project provides activities for young women aged 11-19 on the Isle of Dogs. Working with George Green’s school and Café Forever we offer activities including cooking, craft, sports, and inspirational workshops at our weekly lunch and after school clubs as well as opportunities to join us for regular trips.	<p>Number of young women who demonstrated increased confidence in one or more dimensions – 28</p> <p>Number of young women who demonstrated increased knowledge of how to build and maintain positive relationships – 11</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Project launched its After School Club in May 2022 which meets for two hours every Thursday. Beneficiaries enjoy a variety of activities including crafts and football.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>Number of young women have increased hopes and aspirations for their futures – 23</p>	
<p>Half Moon Young People's Theatre / Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People</p>	<p>01/10/2019 31/03/2023</p>	<p>£133,746</p>	<p>Professional theatre shows and inclusive participatory drama opportunities in an accessible and welcoming venue. The activity is for children and young people from 0-18 (or 25 for disabled young people) from all backgrounds and abilities from across Tower Hamlets, providing free access support to anyone who needs it.</p>	<p>In April-June 2022 119 young people from Tower Hamlets participated in Youth Theatre sessions at Half Moon. 82% of them attended at least 80% of sessions a term.</p> <p>Four of the project’s theatre groups did their end of term performance in the last week of June. The young people decide what themes they will explore each term.</p> <p>Project worked with 32 families at the Around Poplar and Isle of Dogs Children and Family Centres over the last term. Feedback has been really positive from staff at both centres and the families were really engaged.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
<p>Look Ahead Care and Support / Domestic Abuse Children's Worker</p>	<p>01/10/2019 31/03/2023</p>	<p>£141,825</p>	<p>A specialist Domestic Abuse Children’s Worker to support children who are vulnerable due to early exposure to domestic abuse. Providing emotional support through age-appropriate engagement, e.g. play, to address challenges faced by children living at</p>	<p>Number of new children supported by the project – 6</p> <p>Number of children exposed to domestic abuse with improved wellbeing - 6</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			our LBTH Domestic Abuse Service and in the community.	Number of mothers of children report improved communications with their child – 4	
Newark Youth London / Girls in Action	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£70,634	Our project aims to increase access to regular youth services by girls and young women so they develop their confidence and life skills; make them resilient and enable them to participate in a six month social action project and other learning opportunities so they develop their leadership, communication and organisational skills.	Number of girls and young women registering onto the project (contacts) – 19  Number of girls and young women attending five or more sessions – 14  Number of girls and young women state they are able to cope with things better after gaining knowledge and understanding and getting advice and guidance – 14	<b>GREEN</b> Project is progressing well against its KPIs.
Osmani Trust / Family Mentoring Project (FMP) Early Help	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£126,000	Project aims to provide through family mentoring a range of Early Help support to children, young people and their families to help them overcome their immediate challenges and meet their needs in order for them to thrive in healthy and safe families.	Number of families supported through Early Help - 10  Increase in confidence in young people and families – 5  Increase in resilience in young people and families - 5  Parents Improvement in parenting skills –10	<b>GREEN</b> Project has supported families whose mental health has been challenged by the pandemic. Support has included one to one and group parenting support, relationship development and healing and family trips.  The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£57,624	St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project is an inspirational initiative designed to support, inspire, drive girls and young women to reach their full potential and realise their authentic ambitious life goals. Enhance core skills, confidence, grit, motivation, equality and leadership by building on current and long heritage of successful girls work.	Number of girls and young women who report an increase in confidence – 5  Number of girls and young women have developed skills through activities and workshops to be a support system for others – 5	<b>GREEN</b> Project has been involved in a range of activities – mental health awareness day sessions on self-love and care; evening advice session from creative industry professionals on career options in that sector; fundraising bake sale that developed links with local residents and the community.  The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
Stifford Centre Limited / Stifford Young Girl's Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£50,974	The Project will run a Young Girl's Club that will offer disadvantaged young girls a safe space in which they can socialise, participate in a range of activities that encourage their wellbeing, improve confidence and learn skills that are useful for their future development.	Number of young girls report feeling less isolated and happier as a result of accessing a range of activities– 11  Number of young girls attending a range of workshops and reporting increased levels of self-esteem - 8	<b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
The Yard Theatre Ltd / Tower Hamlets Teens	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£129,196	Free, fortnightly youth leadership workshops, weekly drama workshops, summer masterclasses, and schools' performances for Tower Hamlets teenagers. Delivered at Tower Hamlets assets, Hub67, The Yard, and local schools, it increases access to youth services, improves participants' health and wellbeing through cultural	Theatre ran its third schools programme of the year, which offers free and subsidised tickets to local pupils and their teachers, alongside free workshops to help them explore the show's themes.  Yard Youth Group has been working on their summer sharing, This Show is a Gift.	<b>GREEN</b> Project has been engaging its beneficiaries in a range of activities to develop their potential.  The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			activities, and supports community cohesion through public events.	Black Excellence at Nighttime Group has been working on a creative project to be launched in January 2023 and has attended workshops to support this process.	

Scheme:	<b>1B – Older People</b>
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ageing well and reducing social isolation</li> <li>2. Provision of physical and health-promotion activities for older people</li> </ol>
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduced isolation and loneliness among older isolated adults, particularly those who are housebound, and those facing additional challenges (e.g dementia, disability, limited English);</li> <li>2. Older people are able to continue making a positive contribution to their communities;</li> <li>3. Older people feel more included and integrated in their communities and are able to mix with people of different ages and from different backgrounds to increase the sharing of skills, experience and knowledge both amongst older people, and between different generations;</li> <li>4. People living with dementia are supported to participate as much as, and as long as possible. Carers of people living with dementia are supported.</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Age UK East London / Caxton Hall, a dynamic activity centre led by older people for the whole community.	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£258,090	Caxton Hall is a dynamic activity centre led by older people. Come and enjoy a warm welcome, healthy snack at our cafe, meet your neighbours and connect to others young and old in your community.	<p>Number of new older people accessing services at Caxton Hall – 15</p> <p>Number of older people contributing to running the Hub Café – 9</p> <p>Number of older people feel more included and integrated as a result of participating in a community cohesion project – 33</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p> <p>Progress has been made since the last report at a satisfactory level on the premises agreement between Age UK and the Council for the former organisation’s occupation of a Council-owned premises. This has enabled Council officers to agree in September 2022 that the RAG rating of this project be moved from Amber and then to Green.</p>
Age UK East London /	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£220,866	Matching housebound older people who would like a bit more company at home with volunteers who would like	Number of isolated, housebound older people are matched with a Friend at Home and receive weekly one-hour visits - 12	<p><b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Friend at Home			to share an enjoyable hour or two of conversation and company with them.	For Year 3 to date, (from Oct.21) there has been 34 matches.  95% of isolated, housebound older people reported an increase (or stabilisation).	Progress has been made since the last report at a satisfactory level on the premises agreement between Age UK and the Council for the former organisation’s occupation of a Council-owned premises. This has enabled Council officers to agree in September 2022 that the RAG rating of this project be moved from Amber and then to Green
Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London / Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£114,548	The Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club project provides healthy lunches and social and health promotion activities for people aged over 50, from the Vietnamese and Chinese community in Tower Hamlets.	Number of older people participating in diet & healthy cooking habits sessions - 22  Number of people supported to reduce isolation who live on their own or are housebound -4  Number of social and wellbeing activities held at the centre & online - 44	<b>GREEN</b> The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The project has delivered the majority of services in-person and some on-line and through telephone.
East London Out Project / Tower Hamlets LGBT Support	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£96,661	LGBT Community Support to enhance peer networks, lessen isolation and provide mental health crisis prevention support. Two facilitated social support groups, for older people, people with mental health needs or other disabilities, Individual mental health crisis prevention support provided. LGBT training available to other organisations.	Number of LGBT people over 50 accessing new social activity per year and report on increased social connections and increased social activity and feeling less lonely – 9  Number of disabled LGBT people or those experiencing mental health concerns attend either group or individual support per year and report better life satisfaction and	<b>GREEN</b> The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The Project has continued to deliver all of their support on-line this quarter and have continued to provide social and support groups and one to one support.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>better quality of life three months after start of service – 39</p> <p>Number of training sessions delivered to organisations - 3</p>	
St Hilda's East Community Centre / Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£105,000	'Feeling Good!' wellbeing project is based in Weavers Ward and open to older people from throughout the Borough, Monday-Friday. Providing nutritious lunches, it is more than an ordinary Lunch Club, providing invigorating opportunities from indoor sport, IT learning, singing, art, intergenerational activities with schoolchildren, outings and quizzes, and much more!	<p>Number of older people attending the varied 'Feeling Good!' activities programme report feeling less isolated and lonely – 59</p> <p>Number of older people report improved wellbeing - the regular nutritious lunch they have improves their health - 10</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The project has built good partnerships with other local organisations and statutory bodies to deliver the various wellbeing activities.</p>
Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours (THFN)/ Older Peoples Befriending Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£175,000	THFN will be providing befriending and advocacy services to older people in the borough. Our team of befriender advocates will provide regular one to one support to people in their own homes and assist with making appointments and help in accessing services, as well as organising small group outings locally.	<p>Due to the corona virus, THFN have adapted services to support beneficiaries by combining face to face visits when safe with a remote tele-befriending service.</p> <p>Number of isolated older adults are visited by a befriender advocate on a fortnightly basis – 18</p> <p>More than 85% of adults the project interacts with report improved outcomes; reduced isolation, less anxiety and are more confident.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The project has carried out a mixture of face to face visits and tele-befriending calls this quarter. The KPIs have been met. The project is on track to achieve lifetime targets and project outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Toynbee Hall / The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£144,949	This project will offer holistic relational support to older people aged 50+ in Tower Hamlets. It aims to make Toynbee Hall’s existing provision at our Wellbeing Centre more inclusive and responsive to needs and to build stronger networks of information sharing and peer-support between users and those not accessing services.	Number of individuals attending health promotion sessions held at the Wellbeing Centre per year – 38  Number of user-led activities held at the Wellbeing Centre – 52  Number of new befriending matches - 5	<b>GREEN</b> The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The project is progressing well and is exceeding the targets in the areas of health promotion activity, user led activity, and social activity.

Scheme:	<b>1C – Access, Information and Self-Management</b>
Priorities:	1. Residents better informed/equipped to manage health conditions
Outcomes:	1. Residents of all ages are better informed/equipped to manage health conditions 2. Increased awareness of and access to local services, including crisis support 3. Residents and their families are aware of the benefits of healthy eating and eat more healthily

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Globe Community Project / Take Back Your Life	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£98,165	A mindfulness-based pain management programme, addressing chronic pain/illness, related social isolation and inactivity delivered by experienced, fully accredited Breathworks trainers.	Number of people per quarter report increased knowledge, awareness and confidence to self-manage health condition (through mindfulness, nutrition and exercise) – 14  Number of people per quarter report increase in levels of pain self-efficacy after 5 week course - 10  Number of people per quarter report decrease in levels of pain catastrophising after 5 week course- 10	<b>GREEN</b> The project has delivered against the KPIs for this quarter and is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.
Real DPO Ltd / Taking control of your life (TCOYL)	01/04/2020 31/03/2023	£218,714	The "Taking control of your life" project delivers creative support planning support alongside a user-led co-production group harnessing the views of people with lived experience of disability. This project maximises independence, supporting people to make decisions on how they want to fulfil their ambitions and also help 'change the system'.	Number of action plans produced – 14  86% of clients reported they felt more independent and reported a better quality of service  90% report the new services accessed had a positive effect on their life  The project supports clients through providing high level of support and in-depth time with the client to make information accessible, providing home visits and following up with the hard-to-reach clients who have differing levels of engagement.	<b>GREEN</b> The project has exceeded the KPI targets for the quarter and has received positive feedback from clients. The project is on track to achieve the lifetime and project outcomes.

Scheme:	<b>1D – Healthy living and healthy choices</b>
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Residents better informed to make healthier choices</li> <li>2. Increased engagement in physical activity</li> </ol>
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increased participation in a wide range of culture, play, physical activity, leisure and sport that are inclusive of age, gender, disability, race and mobility</li> <li>2. More social opportunities for reducing isolation through participation in culture, play physical activity and sport.</li> <li>3. Increased participation from marginalised groups</li> <li>4. Creating opportunities for intergenerational relationships, shared experience through culture, play, physical activity, leisure and sport for all above</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
London Tigers / Exercise for health: BAME women, children and young people	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£149,590	Exercise for health project delivers a series of sports, physical activities and health-related workshops for women, young people and children to make positive choices about their health and wellbeing. It will provide pathways to stay involved, excel in sports, and develop healthier habits for life.	<p>% of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities CYP attending sport and physical activities including health workshops report improved health and wellbeing - 93%</p> <p>% of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities women attending sport and physical activities report improved health and wellbeing – 98%</p> <p>% of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities women per year attending the varied sports and physical activities programme report feeling less isolated and less lonely – 93%</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>This quarter the project ran 6 face to face sessions a week along with an additional online session. The project is delivering well against KPI targets and is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
MUDCHUTE ASSOCIATION / Playing out at Mudchute	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£70,000	We will use Mudchute’s unique natural facilities to provide a range of freely chosen play opportunities in a safe, stimulating environment. Enabling children access to participate in freely chosen, innovative leisure and sporting activities will promote; exercise, healthy eating, social and life skills through the process of ‘Learning through Play’	<p>Consistent play leisure opportunities for children and young people – 150 hours of play provision delivered this quarter</p> <p>Children who do not usually interact in social events outside of school or home will participate in the project – 15</p> <p>Number of participants from those who do not usually participate in social events, ethnic minority groups, those with additional needs and girls / women – 25</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The project has delivered on the KPIs and has been able to reach/engage with families and children. The project is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.</p>
Newark Youth London / Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£98,399	The Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT) project will offer a wide range of sports and physical activities across the borough with the objective of engaging	The Project has worked with 235 children, young people and adults in this quarter with	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Project has met its KPIs for the quarter and is on track to achieve the</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			inactive young people (10 to 25) and their families in regular sports and physical activities to improve health and wellbeing and reduce isolation and exclusion.	<p>68 participants registering on the project for the first time.</p> <p>32 participants who have taken part in the programme have reported significant improvement to their health and wellbeing.</p> <p>32 participants have stated that they are less isolated and excluded after enrolling onto the project.</p>	lifetime targets and project outcomes.
Stifford Centre Limited / Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£280,095	A free membership health club with over 20 different classes and groups per week, brought to you by seven different organisations working together. Build points, beat your personal best and feel your health improve. Health Club is suitable for all ages, and participants will design the activity program alongside providers.	<p>Number of people become members per annum – 110 this quarter</p> <p>95% of members reported higher levels of wellbeing after six weeks of membership</p> <p>90% of members have reported improved health and wellbeing through adopting a healthier diet.</p> <p>90% of members report having a better understanding of maintaining a healthy lifestyle</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The health partnership project is going well; offering a wide array of health and wellbeing activities in the quarter. The KPIs have been achieved and the project is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM) / Live Healthy Enjoy Life [the Female Health & Development Project]	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£75,397	‘Live Healthy, Enjoy Life’ will operate from BYM’s Women’s Centre providing proactive and responsive health development activities which ensure excluded women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities and refugee women develop healthy lives and manage their own physical and mental health; peer volunteer befriending and development of social networks will alleviate isolation and facilitate inclusion.	Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community women to access health support activities – 42  Number of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community /Bangladeshi females raising their awareness to a range of health issues appropriate to leading healthier lives – 42  Numbers of women accessing the women’s forum – 6	<b>GREEN</b> The project is progressing well. It has met the KPIs for the quarter. Women have demonstrated increased personal and social development during this period of the project.
The Royal Society for Blind Children / Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	63,463.00	Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets will enable 60 blind and partially sighted young people aged 8-25 to gain the confidence and motivation to participate in physical activities and inform their ability to make healthier choices over the next three years.	Number of participants have shown an improvement in their physical activity levels this quarter – 3  Number of participants have reported that their health has improved through physical activity – 5  Number of participants reported improvements in their self-confidence and resilience - 8	<b>GREEN</b> The project has delivered a number of in-person activities, one to ones and 'check' in calls this quarter. The project is on track to achieve the overall outcomes and lifetime targets.

Scheme	<b>1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues</b>
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improved health outcomes for disabled people</li> <li>2. People experiencing mental health issues are better supported</li> </ol>
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More mainstream services are culturally inclusive, welcoming and accessible for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues from different ethnic backgrounds, different faith backgrounds, and who are LGBTQI</li> <li>2. Adults with complex needs (i.e who have multiple issues affecting their lives) have better health outcomes</li> <li>3. Disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues;                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) are more independent</li> <li>b) are more aware of and more likely to participate in local services</li> <li>c) have a better quality of life</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. People experiencing mental health issues have improved knowledge of where to access support, including peer support, social activities, and activities that build confidence and develop resilience</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
deafPLUS / Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£158,249	A borough wide health and wellbeing project that will address health inequalities, loneliness and isolation, mental health issues and barriers to employment, lack of confidence and self-esteem by bringing deaf and hard of hearing people together across communities.	<p>Number of deaf and hard of hearing adults report improved health and wellbeing - 14</p> <p>Number of deaf and hard of hearing adults report improved mental health – 5</p> <p>Number of deaf and hard of hearing adults and families report feeling less isolated – 14</p>	<b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets, KPIs and outcomes. The project has resumed in-person services.
ICM Foundation CIC / CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£45,952	From October 2019 to March 2023, 20 people with learning disabilities aged 18+ from Tower Hamlets will work in partnership with ICM Foundation. Three times each year we will design and deliver 5000 accessible	For each edition of the newspaper 50% of people with learning disabilities who participated in the newspaper sessions report that this has helped them feel more confident and less socially isolated – 100% reported positively	<b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve outcomes and lifetime targets.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Healthy and Active Lifestyles			newspapers, on the theme of health and wellbeing, distributed to communities that reflects the borough's diversity.	5,000 copies of the newspaper have been printed in the 2nd quarter of 2022  20+ people from the newspaper team over the lifetime of the project will organise activities and events; meeting and talking to new people and will produce work which will exhibited in a newspaper - 13	
Woman's Trust / Therapeutic Support Groups for women affected by Domestic Abuse	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£67,478	Our Therapeutic Support Groups provide a safe, moderated space for female survivors of domestic abuse to share experiences and support each other. Groups help women to recover their mental health by reducing isolation, learning from shared experiences, being empowered by supporting others and thereby gaining confidence and independence.	15 women have reported reduced stress and anxiety as a result of participating on the programme  15 women have reported increased confidence and self-esteem as a result of participating in the programme  14 women have reported reduced isolation as a result of participating on the programme.	<b>GREEN</b> The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets and outcomes.
Working Well Trust / Upskill	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£379,698	Improve the wellbeing of people with lived experience of mental health by supporting them to achieve their goals by accessing new opportunities and including support from their peer, enabling to reconnect with the local community.	Initial engagements per quarter of Tower Hamlets resident with mental health – 75  50 registrations per quarter.  39 Tower Hamlets resident with mental health per quarter accessing one to one support  Over 50s residents with mental health issues have initial engagement with Upskill offered access to peer support – 18	<b>GREEN</b> The Project has delivered against the KPIs this quarter and is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				Over 50s Tower Hamlet residents with mental health to access one to one support towards achieving short term goals - 12	

Theme / Scheme:	<b>2 – Digital Inclusion and Awareness</b> <b>2A – ICT Skills and Digital Careers</b>
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Access to ICT support and training for older people</li> <li>2. Digital skill development for children and young people             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Increase awareness of careers in the digital sector, and</li> <li>b) Provide children and young people with the opportunity to develop the skills for the digital sector.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Residents with limited digital/ICT skills, particularly older residents, disabled residents, those with English as a second language or other barriers to digital inclusion:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Have increased confidence in using ICT, especially around security;</li> <li>b) Are able to use digital methods to access services, find information, and communicate with others, and do so more regularly;</li> <li>c) Have increased digital skills.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Working age residents have greater awareness of digital careers, have increased digital skills, and have increased access to work and work placements in the digital sector</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / DigiTIES	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£62,297	The aim of DigiTIES workshops is to prevent digital exclusion in older adults in order to prevent social isolation and increase their ability to access online health related support. The content of the workshop includes how to use social media, managing email accounts, and accessing online health related support services.	<p>Number of older people have learned to use at least three ICT platforms – 10</p> <p>Number of older people have learned to use a search engine to find health information on NHS websites - 10</p> <p>Number of older people report greater confidence using ICT - 10</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The Project concentrated on delivering sessions to on accessing the NHS website to check symptoms and process their health needs online. Training was also delivered around booking online health appointments – this was delivered through a combination of one-to-one support remote delivery.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Newham New Deal Partnership / @online club network Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£68,320	@online club network will build the confidence of older residents (over 50s) to go online using tablet devices, learning in small friendly groups, through taster sessions and eight-week or longer programmes of practical activities based on the needs and interests of participants.	<p>Number of older residents' report increased confidence going on-line- 8</p> <p>Number of older residents report able to go online to do more things – 9</p> <p>Three feedback sessions with hosting/referral organisations per year– 2</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The project delivered a mix of one-to -one digital buddy tuition and small group work. Annual report submitted highlights that all participants reported an increase in confidence using online services.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Wapping Bangladesh Association / Digital First	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£16,503	Digital First will engage socially isolated BME older adults aged 55+ but not exclusively living in Wapping and Shadwell, who are not computer literate and are digitally excluded. The Project will deliver ICT and Internet training that will help older adults to cope with facing key life transitions or challenges.	<p>Number of older adults develop a better understanding and appreciation of the potential benefits of learning to use computers and how to navigate around the internet – 9</p> <p>More than 75% of older adults report increase social contacts and community involvement as a result of accessing the project - 7</p> <p>More than 40% of the older adults on the Project report able to use online services to manage daily life tasks.</p> <p>The project has delivered 25 sessions this year - 5</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The project has delivered on-line and face-to-face group sessions. The project has also had COVID absences this period where staff and volunteers have not been able to work. The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

Scheme:	<b>2B – Online Safety</b>
Priorities:	1. Children and young people online safety
Outcomes:	1. Residents are aware of potential dangers online and implement suitable prevention measures 2. Children, young people and their families know how to report online bullying and abuse 3. Older people are aware of how to identify online scams and how to keep themselves safe

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / E-Safety Champions	1/10/2019 31/03/2023	£20,293	The E-Safety Champions project will train local women to become ‘champions’ for e-safety in the community. Weekly workshops will cover all areas of online safety. Once trained, our champions will go into schools and community groups to spread their knowledge to young people and parents/carers through presentations and workshop	Number of Project Champions reported feeling confident enough to make a change and tell others to do so too – 18  Number of project participants reported taking a specific action at home to improve online safety - 18  100% of adults and young people who partook in workshops were able to relay the information learnt back to the staff and group which confirmed that they understood how to report and identify cyber bullying – 100	<b>GREEN</b> The project continued with online sessions as well as face to face group delivery during the summer period. Additional sessions this period was skilling participants on selling and buying goods online safely.  The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.
Sporting Foundation / Building Digital Resilience	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£30,811	Sporting Foundation will build the digital resilience of children and young people and raise the awareness of online safety with parents so that as families they are safe from risk and able to utilise digital resources and managed effectively and reduces harm.	Number of parents and young people report being more confident in understanding the relationship between social media and online grooming – 22  Number of parents and young people report increased awareness of risks pertaining to on-line activity- 35	<b>GREEN</b> The project has been actively encouraging more female participants to join the activities.  The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.

Theme / Scheme:	<b>3 - Advice and Information</b>
Priorities:	This theme has a single priority, Social Welfare Advice and Information.
Outcomes:	<p>Reduce poverty across the spectrum of social welfare advice and information activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increased access to social welfare advice and income from benefits</li> <li>2. Improved personal budgeting, financial stability and reduction in personal debt</li> <li>3. Reduction in the number of people negatively impacted by welfare reforms and housing repossessions</li> <li>4. Individuals are more informed about their legal rights</li> <li>5. Individuals are more informed about their housing rights</li> <li>6. Increased employment security</li> <li>7. Increased access to immigration/asylum advice and casework</li> <li>8. Increased engagement of older people with social welfare advice services</li> </ol> <p>Capacity building and training within the sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improved coordination and cooperation between advice providers</li> <li>2. Increased integration of service both within the VCS advice sector and with services in other sectors</li> <li>3. Increased number of local volunteers achieving a recognised advice training accreditation</li> <li>4. Improved liaison and co-ordination with public sector agencies</li> <li>5. Improved access to information for providers</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
East End Citizens Advice Bureaux / Advice Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£3,234,357	Advice Tower Hamlets provides free, confidential, independent, quality-assured advice services to help Tower Hamlets residents resolve the problems they face, including welfare benefits, housing, money/debt, employment, immigration, consumer, education, community care, family, personal issues. This service is led by Citizens Advice	<p>5,402 clients have been assisted with social welfare advice</p> <p>1,260 clients have been supported to increase/maximise incomes</p> <p>£4,937,994 of clients’ income has increased/or backdated</p> <p>£1,146,556 debt reduction/write offs resulting in reduction in amounts of personal debt.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The cost-of-living crisis and the rises in transportation costs, housing issues and redundancies have kept this project and their partners really busy this quarter.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			Tower Hamlets, in partnership with twelve local advice agencies.		
Island Advice Centre / Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£175,000	The project improves capacity, training, quality and access to the borough’s advice services. We will develop coordination and cooperation between advice and other sectors providing recruitment and training for volunteers, facilitation of the THCAN network, updated website of advice provision and information / factsheets, coordination of meetings, delivering formal training.	<p>The project has delivered-</p> <p>8 Advice Workshops to 72 participants on a range of issues, such as benefits, housing, homelessness, employment, and immigration.</p> <p>1 quarterly welfare rights advisor meeting took place with 25 people attending the meeting.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The project continues to deliver training sessions digitally and face to face and are supporting the advice sector with provision of training, facilitating advice networks and distributing social welfare rights advice information in the borough.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

Theme / Scheme:	<b>4 – Employment and Skills</b> <b>4A - Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work</b>
Priorities:	1. Promoting ethical employer practices to focus on improving employment and progression opportunities for people with additional needs, with an emphasis for employers on sustaining or improving business productivity.
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More disabled people and people with mental health issues access work experience placements and employment opportunities</li> <li>2. Disabled employees feel more comfortable and better supported in sustainable roles in the workplace</li> <li>3. Disabled people have access to meaningful, relevant training and skills development</li> <li>4. Tower Hamlets employers are more inclusive and employ more disabled people and people with mental health issues and are more aware of how to support them.</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
REAL DPO / THEN & NOW	01/04/2020 31/03/2023	£405,729	A holistic package of services, underpinned by coproduction, to support Tower Hamlets companies develop the confidence and capacity to be excellent employers of disabled people, and increase levels of employment amongst them. The project creates communities of current and potential workers, and employers, to drive positive change.	<p>Number of organisations engaged in each quarter and the nature of the engagement – 26</p> <p>The project has provided one-to-one support to 20 beneficiaries and has achieved 100% satisfaction rate from them.</p> <p>The project had 34 employers attending across two Inclusive Employment workshops and have achieved a 94% satisfaction rate.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The project has increased project membership this quarter with 5 new employers signing up predominantly from the arts sector.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.</p>

Scheme:	<b>4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups</b>
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups</li> <li>2. Employment and volunteering opportunities for older people</li> <li>3. Employment skills for vulnerable young people and those who are NEET</li> <li>4. Employment and skills for young people at risk of achieving poor outcomes</li> </ol>
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Young people have increased life skills, employability skills, communication /presentation and interview skills and confidence, and have access to mentoring, work experience and internships</li> <li>2. Older people gain life skills and secure employment and/or voluntary roles</li> <li>3. Potential entrepreneurs/business founders have access to independent support and advice and increased knowledge of business and financial planning</li> <li>4. Increased opportunities for women who are far from the labour market or on a low salary to develop their confidence, soft skills, and work ready skills to access employment or start their own business.</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / Developing Potential	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£176,033	Developing Potential is an integrated programme of personal skills development designed to enable women to make informed choices on their futures, supporting them into training, volunteering and work. This project will link with the existing provision and act as a progression route forwards new opportunities for women in Tower Hamlets	<p>Women self-report an improvement in personal and/or professional skill- 9</p> <p>Women report feeling confident and job ready following a volunteer placement or employer engagement taster session - 2</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>This quarter have seen many individuals affected by the widening skills, social, employability and digital skills gap. The project continues to offer flexible support where required and working closely with partners to achieve outcomes.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / Job Club	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£53,536	This project will deliver two weekly job club sessions Mondays and Wednesdays 9-12 pm run by our experienced	The number of people who are NEETs and/or from workless households) who access	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The project has been working on a resettlement programme with</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			employment support worker. The sessions will include access to computers and tailored employment support with creating a CV, accessing emails, job searching, applications and using Universal Job Match.	employment support to assist their employment prospects - 34  Beneficiaries obtain an accredited training outcome (Level 2) - 11	refugees from Afghanistan who are currently being housed in the City of London. The project has been planning workshops to run in line with their employment service to help them create CVs for themselves as many are highly skilled and eager to work when they are allowed to do so.  The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
St Giles Trust / Choices Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£198,800	We will support NEET Young people who are facing multiple disadvantages to access education, skills development and employment. The project will deliver credible, consistent and holistic work via individualised one-to-one support, supporting the young person to address and overcome barriers to raise their aspirations and towards reaching their potential.	Number of young people engaged on a consistent voluntary basis, minimum of one face to face intervention per week - 11  Number of young people show improved levels of mental health and wellbeing due to reducing barriers to employment, increased confidence in their future and access to specialist mental health support as required – 12	<b>GREEN</b> Choices Tower Hamlets has made progress this quarter, the referrals have increased via Probation and other sources such as Look Ahead hostel.  The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
Stifford Centre Limited / BAME Women's Employment Support Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£106,323	This project will run a training programme to help long-term unemployed and economically inactive, isolated and disenfranchised women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities and improve their job prospects. The focus is on carers and single parents of Bengali,	Beneficiaries will have gained volunteering experience and report that they have gained confidence – 6	<b>GREEN</b> The project continued to support local long-term unemployed and economically inactive women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities to create and update their CV, deliver mock interview

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			Somali and Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community heritage with limited English language, confidence and secondary education for community learning.		<p>sessions, job search, ESOL classes, Health &amp; Social Care and Teaching Assistant training, digital upskilling sessions and business start-up training throughout this quarter.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

Scheme:	<b>4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries</b>
Priorities:	1. Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increased opportunities in the arts and cultural industries for people from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, women, disabled people, working class people, older people;</li> <li>2. Increased access to industry relevant training;</li> <li>3. Increase in people participating in arts projects for the first time</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Auto Italia South East / Learning Live!	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£38,500	Learning Live! is a training and mentoring programme designed to support young people in Tower Hamlets progression into higher education courses, with the aim to aim to increase access into the art and cultural industries.	Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community working class people booked onto and attend 3 half day portfolio review and mentoring workshops - 137	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>This quarter the project delivered 2 Creative Futures workshops in two schools in Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
Four Corners Ltd / ZOOM Film School	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£284,806	ZOOM Film School will work with 90 disadvantaged residents particularly people from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, women and people with disabilities to nurture their creative talent, increase confidence and self-esteem, and enable them to acquire the practical skills, experience, and industry knowledge needed to move into work in the creative industries.	<p>Number of participants successfully completed their accredited training programme - 6</p> <p>Number of trainees gained paid employment - 2</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>This quarter, 7 trainees began their training in person at Four Corners with the tutors and equipment and began pre-production for their shoot with The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Magic Me / Artworks	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£96,587	Artworks is a new traineeship delivered by arts charity Magic Me, identifying and supporting talented Tower Hamlets Residents from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities and working-class backgrounds to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to access careers in community arts coordination and producing.	Number of community partners identified/contacted for recruitment pathways – 4  Number of trainees recruited/selected for work placement– 3	<b>GREEN</b> This quarter, the project delivered a successful recruitment round throughout April and May, working with local partners to identify and recruit 3 new trainees to join the Artworks programme.  The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
The Bromley by Bow Centre / Creative Communities	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£202,237	Our project will equip at least 180 people from under-represented communities to increase their participation and readiness for employment in the creative sector. We will do this through a flexible community-based programme of engagement, needs assessment, practical group work and 1:1s, combining personal and core skills development, with individual support.	Number of participants from target groups are enrolled and assessed – 18  Number of participants identified as having not previously engaged in an arts/culture activity, state they have now participated in such an activity. – 18  Number of local people from target groups secure an arts related work placement within 3 months of completion - 9	<b>GREEN</b> The project worked on participants’ action plans and got them involved in a range of different creative activities such as taking them and their families to Van Gogh Immersive Experience and to Saatchi Gallery.  The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.

Theme / Scheme:	<b>5 – Community Safety</b> <b>5A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups</b>
Priorities:	1. Reduction in the exploitation of children and young people, and vulnerable groups
Outcomes:	1. Children, young people and other vulnerable people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Have increased confidence and critical thinking skills;</li> <li>b) Have an increased understanding of what a safe relationship is, what exploitation is, and how to spot the signs of abuse and exploitation;</li> <li>c) Have an emotional and actual vocabulary to articulate what is happening to them;</li> <li>d) Are better able to challenge and support each other around relationships.</li> </ul>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Kazzum Arts / Build	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£63,552	Build supports young people excluded from mainstream education, currently educated at a pupil referral unit (PRU) in Tower Hamlets. Students in this setting are at risk of exploitation and coercion into criminal activity. Through a programme of creative activities, the project develops participants confidence, emotional, literacy and interpersonal skills.	<p>Project’s boys’ groups continued to focus on supporting mental health and masculinity and the intersection between the two through games and discussions.</p> <p>Project’s girls’ group continued to explore areas of wellbeing and common interests and considering what helps them to feel respected in relationships mostly through visual arts activities and discussion.</p> <p>Project’s third group supported students with communication skills, promoting understanding and support through team building activities and games. Its fourth group, a new cohort, took place within the inclusion unit at the PRU.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Project’s groups have responded well to routine and knowing the structure of the session e.g checking in, games, activity, check out. They enjoyed time-based incentives and working towards a shared goal as a group.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its KPIs.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Osmani Trust / Schools and Community Resilience Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£125,843	<p>This project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. transforms and changes the attitudes and behaviour of secondary school children; improving their confidence, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence.</li> <li>2. delivers a peer programme engaging young people as ambassadors to their peers, changes attitude, promotes understanding, increase community cohesion, and ultimately empowers young people.</li> </ol>	<p>The project continued to support young people who have been identified as at risk of exclusion and violence through school sessions, community workshops, digital workshops, and mentoring.</p> <p>Number of young people engaged in the project that accessed education and mentoring support - 28</p> <p>Number of face to face, phone or online education and mentoring sessions provided - 27</p> <p>23 young people engaged in project’s peer programme involved in delivery of social action projects.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Project finished its school-based workshops at Langdon Park with its second cohort of beneficiaries with 17 pupils graduating.</p> <p>Project is currently working with two peer groups, one in Stepney Green and one in Bethnal Green.</p> <p>Project is on track to meet its targets.</p>
Streets of Growth / Resilient Young Leaders Programme	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£90,356	<p>The Resilient Young Leaders Programme is an innovative, impactful initiative led by and for young people (15-19 years) to enable young people to build skills and capacity to feel safe, confident, and responsible when demonstrating the community safety and positive change they want to see in their neighbourhoods.</p>	<p>Number of young people new to the project have engaged in leadership sessions - 14</p> <p>10 young people were involved in design and delivery of a social action project with a mural launch in June.</p> <p>6 young leaders participated in ASDAN peer learning accredited workshop on planning community intervention projects..</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Project delivered workshops on cultural heritage, art therapy and mural consultation and painting.</p> <p>Project is on track to meet its targets.</p>

Scheme:	<b>5B – Improving the perception of young people in the community</b>
Priorities:	1. Improving the perception of young people in the community
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children and young people are, and are seen to be, a positive part of the community</li> <li>2. Increased community cohesion and sense of belonging</li> <li>3. Residents, especially older people, people feel less wary of children and young people</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / Into Focus photography project	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£58,044	Into Focus offers an intergenerational photography project for 24 people each year (12 young people aged 14-25 years and 12 over-50s). Groups will create work for a final exhibition, focusing on social perceptions and misconceptions between older and younger people to promote positive attitudes and increasing mutual understanding.	<p>Number of beneficiaries participating in the project - 12</p> <p>Photographic work produced by project beneficiaries was exhibited at Four Corners Gallery between 18-28 May 2022.</p> <p>Beneficiaries attended two photo walks for camera training, a portrait studio lighting workshop, two workshops making pin hole cameras and studio photography and 16 darkroom workshops to produce exhibition prints.</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Project is making good progress and is progressing successfully towards its outcomes.</p> <p>Project is making special efforts to attract over 50's next quarter and have discussed recruitment with a number of local VCS organisations.</p>
Leaders in Community / Project Connect	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£68,391	A group of young people recruited by LiC will collaborate with older people to design a programme of activities and celebrations, which enable long-term social connections to be made, and ideas and points of view to be exchanged. The outcomes of the activities will be shared with the wider community.	Project has gained a new group of elders in April-June 2022 who joined in with project's weekly social activities. Young people involved with the project have been volunteering with these activities, helping the elders with teas and coffees, and joining in the discussions and conversations	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Project is on schedule to meet its targets.</p>

Scheme:	<b>5C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances</b>
Priorities:	1. Services for people affected by domestic violence
Outcomes:	1. More residents, particularly families and young people, are aware of the different forms that domestic violence and sexual abuse (DVSA) can take, know how to report it, and where to access support. 2. Young victims and witnesses of DVSA are supported to recognise and report it.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Hestia Housing and Support / Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/03/2023	£80,850	This project supports families who have experienced DVSA and who are living in a local refuge to address the trauma they've faced and to learn about what a healthy relationship looks like. It also raises awareness amongst the Tower Hamlets community of DVSA and how to report it.	<p>Within the refuge, the Project Worker delivered two group sessions for adult women and worked with one individual on a one-to-one basis. In the community, the worker delivered one group session and worked with one individual on a one-to-one basis</p> <p>The Project Worker delivered her first community session with the Women's Environmental Network (WEN) at the Limborough Food Hub.</p> <p>Project partner, Nour, delivered a workshop in June, focusing on types of domestic abuse and signposting attendees to relevant information and domestic abuse support providers.</p>	<b>GREEN</b> The project is on schedule to meet its KPIs.

Fund:	<b>Infrastructure and Capacity Building Support</b>
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Skills exchange and accessible training</li> <li>2. Making organisations ready to respond to new funding opportunities</li> <li>3. Fundraising support for smaller, volunteer led organisations without staff</li> <li>4. Developing quality assurance</li> <li>5. Managing assets for community benefit</li> <li>6. Developing resilience and supporting organisations through periods of transition</li> </ol>
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Broader pool of organisations accessing public service funding</li> <li>2. Increased proportion of organisations achieving recognised quality assurance standards</li> <li>3. VCS more resilient with more sustainable funding base</li> <li>4. Organisations supporting each other</li> </ol>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 22 – Jun 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS) / Infrastructure and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2022	£780,000	<p>THVCS Infrastructure Partnership brings together the main Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) infrastructure support agencies in Tower Hamlets to increase the range and number of VCS organisations that are well-run, resilient and sustainable; and to strengthen the VCS as a key Public Sector Strategic Delivery Partner in Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>Partners: Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets</p>	<p>Number of VCS organisations supported – 45</p> <p>Number of volunteer managers being trained – 2</p> <p>Number of VCS organisations with improved volunteering practices – 5</p> <p>Number of VCS organisation staff attending training/peer learning workshops – 8</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>The partnership project is making good progress against its KPIs.</p> <p>Although there has been some under-performance against quarterly targets in April-June 2022 this has been compensated for by over-performance in previous quarters, with annual targets for one KPI already being attained.</p>

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## **Appendix 3 – Proposed Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme Activity In Extension Period (October 2022 to March 2024)**

### **1. Programme Extension**

- (a) Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee (GDSC) approved at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 the extension of the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme from October 2022 to March 2024. The Programme supports a wide range of local VCS organisations and is delivered by a consortium of Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS) and Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH).

### **2. Previous Grant Variations for Infrastructure & Capacity Building Project**

- (a) The grant for the above Programme has been subject to a variation in its lifetime, that was subsequently extended, to enable the Project to fund the work of the VCTH Volunteer Hub between October 2020 to September 2022 to recruit volunteers to support VCS organisations to respond to the demands of the pandemic and the recovery process in the borough. This funding involved the reconfiguration of annual VCTH funding of £37,800 to be used on Hub activities.
- (b) The Hub has been a major success, both in supporting the response to the pandemic and the recovery process in the borough. It has secured 3,985 volunteer registrations from March 2020 to July 2022. of its Project

### **3. Proposed Focus of the Volunteering Hub Going Forward**

- (a) The proposed work of the Hub between October 2022 to March 2024 will be on supporting the recovery process in Tower Hamlets, including responding to the cost of living increase, with a new focus on economic and wider social activity. It has already begun refocusing its work through the help of Council contract funding, which concludes in March 2023. Future Project support for the Hub would be primarily concerned with work relating to this new focus.
- (b) Future proposed Hub work for October 2022 to March 2024 would include:
- linking volunteers to education, employment and training. The Hub would send monthly Employment Support and Training Alerts for volunteers seeking employment/training and deliver regular presentations to groups of marginalised residents to raise awareness of volunteering.
  - developing relationships with employment and skills brokerage and support services, such as Jobcentre Plus, WorkPath, VCS-provided services and education services, including Queen Mary University London and New City

College Tower Hamlets, to help it link volunteers to opportunities with these organisations.

- providing assistance to volunteers with CV writing, enabling them to link their volunteering experiences to applications for employment
  - increasing the levels of volunteering by Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic Communities to ensure that the borough's volunteer pool is reflective of its population.
  - supporting the economic recovery in the borough by recruiting volunteers to support foodbanks, food pantries and other essential food services for local residents
  - promoting a healthy borough by recruiting volunteers to provide support on mental and physical health through supporting helplines, wellbeing activities and mentoring services
  - securing volunteers to address loneliness among older and isolated residents by helping to improve their digital skills and providing group, online and face-to-face support for them.
- (c) Project support would also help maintain the Hub website to register local residents wanting to volunteer.

### **3. Additional Volunteer Hub Activities To Be Delivered Between October 2022 to March 2024**

- (a) Between October 2022 to March 2024 additional Volunteer Hub activities supported by the Project would include.
- an increase in the number of VCS organisations supported by the Hub: from 75 to 100 organisations a year
  - an increase in the number of volunteers registered with the Hub from the current target of 500 per annum to:
    - 250 volunteers for October 2022 to March 2023 (pro rata equivalent of 500 volunteers per annum)
    - 660 volunteers per annum between April 2023 to March 2024
  - an increase in the number of VCS organisations receiving best practice support, from 18 organisations over 30 sessions to 24 organisations over

40 sessions 90% of VCS organisations receiving this support will report improvements in their volunteering practices

#### **4. Summary**

- (c)** The Volunteering Hub has played a crucial role in the life of Tower Hamlets over the past 2.5 years. Its importance was recognised in Tower Hamlets Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy 2020-2024 which highlights the need for partnership work to ensure that volunteer engagement is sustained and developed. There is a need to approve the continuation of the above grant variation to fund Hub activity between October 2022 to March 2024 and contribute to the development of the VCS and the recovery process in Tower Hamlets.

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