

Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee



Wednesday, 8 November 2023 at 5.30 p.m.

Council Chamber - Town Hall, Whitechapel

Agenda

Chair

Mayor Lutfur Rahman (Executive Mayor)

Members

Councillor Kabir Ahmed (Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding)

Councillor Saied Ahmed (Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)

Substitutes

Councillor Suluk Ahmed (Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion)

Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury (Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care)

Councillor Abu Chowdhury (Cabinet Member for Safer Communities) Councillor Iqbal Hossain (Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation)

Councillor Kabir Hussain (Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency)

Councillor Maium Talukdar (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))

[The quorum for the Sub - Committee is 3 Members]

Further Information

Reports for consideration, meeting contact details, public participation and more information on decision-making is available on the following pages.



Public Information

Viewing or Participating in Meetings

The public are welcome to attend meetings of the Grants Determination Sub - Committee. Except where any exempt/restricted documents are being discussed, However seating is limited and allocated on a first come first served based.

Meeting Webcast

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system.

<http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Contact for further enquiries:

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Web:<http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>

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The Grants Determination Sub – Committee is a Cabinet Sub – Committee established to consider matters relating to grants.

Upcoming Decisions are published on the website on the 'Forthcoming Decisions' page through www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee

Published Decisions and Call-Ins

Once the meeting decisions have been published, any 5 Councillors may submit a Call-In to the Service Head, Democratic Services requesting that a decision be reviewed. This halts the decision until it has been reconsidered.

- The decisions will be published on: **Friday, 10 November 2023**
- The deadline for call-ins is: **Friday, 17 November 2023**

Any Call-Ins will be considered at the next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee can reject the call-in or they can agree it and refer the decision back, with their recommendations, for final consideration.

Public Engagement

The main focus of the Sub – Committee is as a decision-making body. However there is an opportunity for the public to contribute through making submissions that specifically relate to the reports set out on the agenda.

Members of the public may make written submissions in any form (for example; Petitions, letters, written questions) to the Democratic Services Officer (details on the previous page) by 5 pm the day before the meeting.

Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

5.30 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (Pages 7 - 8)

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, please see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are reminded to declare the nature of the interest and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it's the Members' responsibility to declare any interests form and to update their register of interest form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of your interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES (Pages 9 - 12)

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2023

4. CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Consideration of any written comments received from members of the public in relation to any of the reports on the agenda.

[Any submissions should be sent to the clerk listed on the agenda front page by 5pm the day before the meeting]

5. EXERCISE OF MAYORAL DISCRETIONS

To note for information individual decisions relating to the award of grants that have been taken by the Mayor the last meeting.

6. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 MAYOR'S COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAMME 13 - 206

6.2 EMERGENCY GRANT REVIEW 207 - 224

6.3 SMALL GRANTS

To follow

7. LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND (LCF) PERFORMANCE REPORTS

7.1 LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND (LCF) PERFORMANCE REPORT OCTOBER 2021 - SEPTEMBER 2022 225 - 314

7.2 LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND (LCF) PERFORMANCE REPORT OCTOBER 2022 - DECEMBER 2022 315 - 360

7.3 LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND (LCF) PERFORMANCE REPORT - JANUARY 2023 - MARCH 2023 361 - 410

7.4 LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND PROGRAMME REPORT APRIL 2023 - JUNE 2023 411 - 460

8. VCS FUNDING AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORTS

8.1 VCS FUNDING AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY (APRIL 2023) 461 - 488

8.2 VCS FUNDING AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY (JULY 2023) 489 - 498

8.3 VCS FUNDING AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY (OCTOBER 2023) 499 - 504

9. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

9.1 COMMUNITY GARDENS - PHASE 2 UPDATE & TERMINATION OF GRANT DELIVERY CONTRACT 505 - 508

Next Meeting of the Committee:

Wednesday, 17 January 2024 at 5.30 p.m. in Council Chamber - Town Hall, Whitechapel



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Agenda Item 2.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS– NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii) Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests. In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive.

(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless:**

- A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. **If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.**

(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

Guidance on Predetermination and Bias

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

Further Advice contact: Janet Fasan, Divisional Director, Legal and Monitoring Officer, Tel: 0207 364 4800.

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE GRANTS DETERMINATION (CABINET) SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD AT 17:30 ON WEDNESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2023

**COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT,
LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present:

Councillor Kabir Ahmed (Member)	(Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding)
Councillor Ohid Ahmed (Member)	(Cabinet Member for Safer Communities)
Councillor Saied Ahmed (Member)	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)
Mayor Lutfur Rahman (Member)	(Executive Mayor)

Officers Present:

Jonathan Fox	(Principal Contracts Lawyer, Legal Services Governance)
Mark Waterman	(Senior VCS Development Officer)
Thomas French	(Democratic Services Officer (Committees))

Officers Present Virtually:

Afazul Hoque	(Head of Corporate Strategy & Policy)
Afraa Ali	(Regeneration Manager)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the meeting of the Sub – Committee held on 9 November 2022 be approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

4. CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

There were no public submissions considered.

5. EXERCISE OF MAYORAL DISCRETIONS

There were none.

6. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 VCS FUNDING AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Mark Waterman presented the report. The report provided an update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED:

1. Note the update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since their last meeting.
2. Note that from the next round of Small Grants £10,000 has been earmarked to fund events to mark the coronation of King Charles III.

6.2 INFRASTRUCTURE & CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT

Mark Waterman presented the report. The report sought agreement for the revised programme between October 2022 to September 2023 and proposes a continuation of an existing variation for the Programme during the revised extension period.

RESOLVED:

1. Approve the revised extension period for the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme of October 2022 to September 2023.
2. Approve the proposed provision and the continuation of a grant variation for the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project for the new extension period for this project, from October 2022 to September 2023, as outlined in paragraph 2.3 and Appendix 1.

6.3 COMMUNITY GARDENS - PHASE 2 UPDATE/ TERMINATION OF GRANT DELIVERY CONTRACT

Afraa Ali presented the report. The report notified the Sub-Committee of the termination of the Phase 2 Grant Delivery Contract following LIF review recommendation from the Mayor, and to formally close this grant.

Members of Sub-Committee asked the following questions and comments:

- Members of the Sub-Committee requested that a follow up report comes to a future Sub-Committee meeting to set out the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

1. Note that the Grant Approach was originally approved by Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee of which the contract was an integral part and to note that the Regeneration Team is currently seeking permission from the Corporate Director Place to terminate the Contract in accordance with advice from Legal Services
2. Note that the Regeneration Team are notifying the committee about the formal closure of this grant.


7. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

None.

The meeting ended at 19:23

Chair,
Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee

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<p style="text-align: center;">Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 November 2023</p>	
<p>Report of: Steve Halsey, Chief Executive</p>	<p>Classification: [Unrestricted or Exempt]</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mayor’s Community Grants Programme 2023-2027</p>	

Executive Summary

This report presents proposals for funding 110 projects provided by voluntary and community sector organisations through the Mayor’s Community Grants Programme (MCGP).

The MCGP will run between 1st November 2023 – 31st March 2027 and will provide £11.96m of funding to the VCS over the 41 months period.

Despite many councils reducing their funding for the voluntary and community sector, Tower Hamlets has increased the level of spending on the sector through the corporate grants programme by nearly £1m per year, across three key grants programmes as agreed by Cabinet in March 2023.

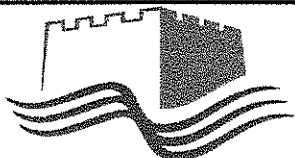
The Mayor’s Community Grants Programme was established with an annual budget of £3.5m. Despite the high level of funding available the programme was significantly oversubscribed. We received 308 project applications from 170 organisations totalling nearly £11.3m per year. This is over three times the available budget and has meant some strong bids have not been recommended for funding. The grant programme has been subject to rigorous external assurance and internal challenge by senior officers of the Council and overseen by the Chief Executive. Lessons learned have been captured and will be used to inform future grant initiatives.

Recommendations:

The Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note and comment on the attached report and appendices.

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Chief Executive Decision	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Interim Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation	Classification: [Unrestricted]
Mayor's Community Grants Programme 2023-2027	

Is this a Key Decision?	Yes
Decision Notice Publication Date:	11 th August 2023
General Exception or Urgency Notice published?	Not required
Restrictions:	None
Reason for seeking Chief Executive Decision	Cabinet agreed a new <u>Grants Policy and Outcomes Framework</u> at its meeting in March 2023 to replace the current policy and grants programme. As part of this, it agreed to establish the MCGP to replace the Local Community Fund which ends on 31 st October 2023. Cabinet agreed to delegate decision making powers on grant award to the Chief Executive.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents proposals for funding 110 projects provided by voluntary and community sector organisations through the Mayor's Community Grants Programme (MCGP).

The MCGP will run between 1st November 2023 – 31st March 2027 and will provide £11.96m of funding to the VCS over the 41 months period.

Despite many councils reducing their funding for the voluntary and community sector, Tower Hamlets has increased the level of spending on the sector through the corporate grants programme by nearly £1m per year, across three key grants programmes as agreed by Cabinet in March 2023.

The Mayor's Community Grants Programme was established with an annual budget of £3.5m. Despite the high level of funding available the programme was significantly oversubscribed. We received 308 project applications from 170 organisations totalling nearly £11.3m per year. This is over three times the available budget and has meant some strong bids have not been recommended for funding. The grant programme has been subject to rigorous

external assurance and internal challenge by senior officers of the Council and overseen by the Chief Executive. Lessons learned have been captured and will be used to inform future grant initiatives.

Full details of the decision sought, including setting out the reasons for the recommendations and/or all the options put forward; other options considered; background information; the comments of the Chief Finance Officer; the concurrent report of the Head of Legal Services; implications for Equalities; Risk Assessment; Background Documents; **and other relevant matters are set out in the attached report.**

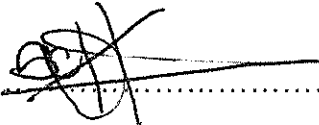
DECISION


The Chief Executive is recommended to:

1. Agree the Mayor's Community Grants Programme (MCGP) and funding to individual organisations as set out in Appendix D of this report for the period 1st November 2023- 31st March 2027.
2. Authorise Interim Divisional Director for Strategy, Improvement & Transformation to approve detailed funding agreements setting out the outcomes the projects are expected to achieve for the funding allocated and achievements of any conditions of grant.
3. Note the Equalities Impact Analysis and the specific equalities considerations as set out in paragraphs 4.1-4.8 (of main report) and Appendix A and agree mitigating actions set out in full Equality Impact Analysis.
4. Note the various assurance processes incorporated in the grant making process as summarised in paragraph 3.17 and set out in relevant sections of the report.

Chief Executive

I have been delegated this decision by Mayor in Cabinet March 2023 and I approve the recommendations above.

Signed  Date 25/9/23

Corporate Leadership Team	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Interim Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation	Classification: [Unrestricted or Exempt]
Mayor's Community Grants Programme 2023-2027	

Lead Member	Councillor Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and Cost of Living
Originating Officer(s)	Afazul Hoque, Head of Corporate Strategy & Communities Robert Mee, VCS Grants Lead Craig Morbey, Strategy & Policy Lead
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	Yes
Reason for Key Decision	Over £1m expenditure and impacts all wards
Forward Plan Notice Published	[Insert date notice was published – see forthcoming decisions webpage]
Exempt information	<i>None</i>
Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome	Priority 1: Tackling the cost of living crisis Priority 3: Accelerate education Priority 4: Boosting culture, business, jobs and leisure Priority 5: Invest in public services Priority 6: Empowering communities and fighting crime Priority 7: Working towards a clean and green future Priority 8: A council that listens and works for everyone

Executive Summary

This report presents proposals for funding 110 projects provided by voluntary and community sector organisations through the Mayor's Community Grants Programme (MCGP).

The MCGP will run between 1st November 2023 – 31st March 2027 and will provide £11.96m of funding to the VCS over the 41 months period.

Despite many councils reducing their funding for the voluntary and community sector, Tower Hamlets has increased the level of spending on the sector through the corporate grants programme by nearly £1m per year, across three key grants programmes as agreed by Cabinet in March 2023.

The Mayor's Community Grants Programme was established with an annual budget of £3.5m. Despite the high level of funding available the programme was significantly oversubscribed. We received 308 project applications from 170 organisations totalling nearly £11.3m per year. This is over three times the available budget and has meant some strong bids have not been recommended for funding. The grant programme has been subject to rigorous external assurance and internal challenge by senior officers of the Council and overseen by the Chief Executive. Lessons learned have been captured and will be used to inform future grant initiatives.

Recommendations:

The Chief Executive is recommended to:

1. Agree the Mayor's Community Grants Programme (MCGP) and funding to individual organisations as set out in Appendix D of this report for the period 1st November 2023- 31st March 2027.
2. Authorise Interim Divisional Director for Strategy, Improvement & Transformation to approve detailed funding agreements setting out the outcomes the projects are expected to achieve for the funding allocated and achievements of any conditions of grant.
3. Note the Equalities Impact Analysis and the specific equalities considerations as set out in paragraphs 4.1-4.8 and Appendix A and agree mitigating actions set out in full Equality Impact Analysis.
4. Note the various assurance processes incorporated in the grant making process as summarised in paragraph 3.17 and set out in relevant sections of the report.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Cabinet agreed a new Grants Policy and Outcomes Framework at its meeting in March 2023 to replace the current policy and grants programme. As part of this, it agreed to establish the MCGP to replace the Local Community Fund which ends on 31st October 2023.
- 1.2 Following a process for inviting voluntary and community sector organisations to bid for the MCGP, assessments, moderation, and programme design work were completed. This report sets out recommended projects to be funded for the period between November 2023- March 2027 valuing £3.5m annually.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Council could decide not to fund any projects in the Mayor's Community Grants Programme. This is not recommended as the Grants Policy and Outcomes Framework notes the voluntary and community sector

plays an important role in improving outcomes for local people and is in many instances the first call for support from local people.

- 2.2 The Council could fund a different programme from that recommended. The MCGP is based on a policy framework and designed with the sector and agreed by Cabinet in March 2023. The invitation to bid, assessment and design of the programme were all in accordance with the Cabinet decision and as set out in the programme prospectus. Therefore, it is not recommended to move away from the agreed process.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

Context

- 3.1 The Council's [Strategic Plan 2022-26](#) sets out eight priorities designed to improve outcomes for residents. This includes a commitment to partnership working with the voluntary and community sector. In March 2023 Cabinet agreed a new Grants Policy & Outcomes Framework with a commitment to provide long-term funding to enable the achievement of our shared vision to 'support and invest in a thriving and diverse VCS to enable it to improve outcomes for Tower Hamlets residents'. This builds on our recognition that the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Tower Hamlets plays a crucial role in supporting residents with many important services. They played a key role in the response to the pandemic, the subsequent recovery as well as throughout the current cost of living crisis.
- 3.2 The main principles that underpin our new vision are:
- Funding that supports a wider range of services and groups to ensure all sections of the community benefit from a grants programme and address the challenges facing Tower Hamlets residents.
 - Funding that supports services and activities that are inclusive, promote cohesion and designed and delivered with residents.
 - Long term funding to organisations in return for efficient and effective services.
 - Achieving value for money.
 - Alignment to the Council's Strategic Plan.
 - Improved partnership working between local VCS organisations
- 3.3 As part of the agreement of the Grants Policy and Outcomes Framework, Cabinet established the MCGP for the period between November 2023 – March 2027 with an annual value of £3.5m. The MCGP consists of the following themes, priorities and budgets which are based on a needs assessment which can be found [here](#):

Schemes	Priorities	Indicative Annual Budget
Theme: Tackling the Cost-of-living crisis		
1A Advice and Information	Information, advice and representation concerning individuals' legal rights,	£900,000
	Immigration/asylum advice and casework	
	Debt advice and support with budgeting and financial stability, particularly for vulnerable, marginalised and hard to reach groups	
	Support with welfare benefits	
	Housing/homelessness advice and casework	
	Employment advice	
	Income maximisation	
	Support for residents in crisis needing immediate support	
Theme: Accelerate Education		
2A – Education attainment and development of children and young people	Community-based study support	£700,000
	Community language development	
	Community-based provision for children with Special Educational Needs	
	Extracurricular activities and after school provision	
2B – Lifelong Learning	Skills for life and lifelong learning	
	English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL)	
	Digital Inclusion	
Theme: Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills		
3A - Employment and skills opportunities for socially excluded residents	Supporting people not in education, employment or training (NEET)	£650,000
	Targeted youth outreach	
	Access to Youth Provision	
	Enterprise and innovation, particularly the greening of the borough	
	Job brokerage	
3B Sports and local culture and heritage	Local culture and heritage	
	Sports activity	
Invest in public services		
4A – Physical and mental wellbeing of older people	Supporting older and vulnerable people, including luncheon clubs, meals delivered to homes and pensioner projects	£800,000
	Developing community activities aimed at tackling loneliness and active lifestyle	
4B - Physical and mental health of residents	Promoting health and wellbeing through tackling inequality	
Empower communities and fight crime		

Schemes	Priorities	Indicative Annual Budget
5A – Inequalities experienced by people and communities reflecting different equality groups and social economic backgrounds	Addressing inequality for Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities and women	£450,000
	Creating opportunities for people from different backgrounds to come together	
5B – Community safety	Tackling drug and alcohol issues	
	Promoting safer communities	
	Supporting ex-offenders	
	Gang intervention and prevention	
	Victim support	
	Violence against women and girls	
Total		£3,500,000

Bidding Process

- 3.3 The MCGP opened for bidding on the 24th of April 2023 for 6 weeks, closing at midday on 5th June 2023. Organisations had to apply through the online application process that has been used on previous grants programmes. Organisations were required to submit an Organisation Information Form and a Project Form for each project applied for. Substantial training and support were provided for applicants including an extensive communications and marketing plan, 3 information events delivered by the Council which were attended by 115 people, and 21 training sessions delivered by Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services who were commissioned to provide support to organisations applying for MCGP. Further details of this support are set out in Appendix B - Training and Support.

Assessment of Bids

- 3.4 Assessments were undertaken through a two-stage process. Stage 1 was an organisation assessment and Stage 2 was a project assessment. Applicants had to submit an organisation application and a project application and had to meet the three essential criteria of the organisation bid and the Project bid to be assessed. The details of how to apply, scoring criteria and assessment process were set out in the publicly available prospectus, available [here](#) with details in Appendix C – Assessment Process. All assessments were carried out by Council officers with one officer undertaking the Stage 1 assessment. Organisations had to pass three essential criteria to move to stage 2. The three areas were Governance, Managing Money, and Borough Connection. If an organisation failed Stage 1 these were then put forward for moderation by a Senior Manager. Organisations that failed other areas of the organisation assessment in Stage 1 assessment moved onto Stage 2. Those organisations recommended for grant award as part of the grant mobilisation process they

will be required to provide evidence or action plan to demonstrate they pass these areas. Below is a summary of stage 1 assessments:

Stage 1 overview:

- 170 Organisation bids were submitted
- 15 Organisation bids did not submit a Project bid
- 155 Organisation bids were assessed
- 12 Organisation bids did not meet the criteria following assessment and moderation

- 3.5 The Project assessments (Stage 2) were undertaken by two officers for each project. If the overall score had a difference of more than 10 then this was moderated by a Senior Manager. Otherwise an average of the two assessors scores was taken as the project score. Below is a summary of stage 2 assessments:

Stage 2 overview:

- 308 project bids were submitted
- 10 Project bids were submitted without an Organisation bid
- 2 Project bids were duplicates
- 20 Project bids were submitted by the 12 Organisation bids that did not meet the criteria at Stage 1
- 276 Project bids were assessed

- 3.5 An independent Audit was carried out on the assessment process by external auditors to provide process assurance against pre-defined criteria as set out in the prospectus. The audit covered the following:

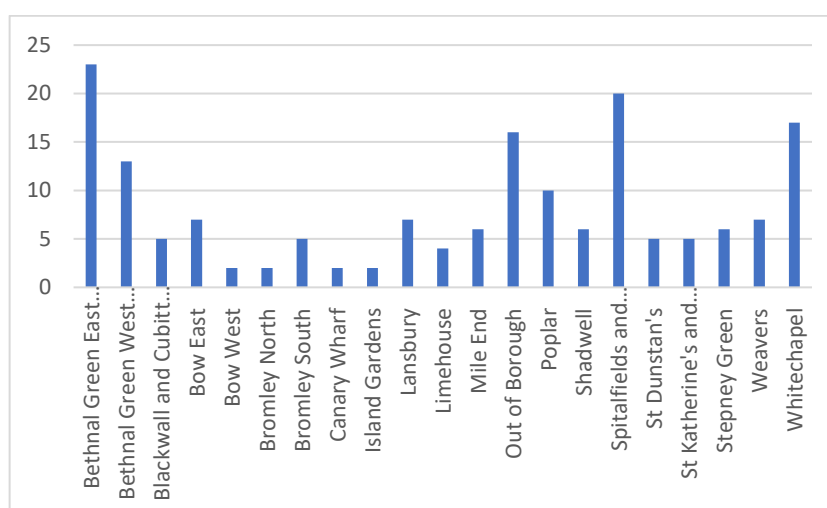
- Selection and Training of Grant Assessors: review the process for the selection and training of grant assessors, to ensure suitability and transparency.
- Due diligence in Assessment and Moderation – Suitability of Organisations: review a sample of fifteen organisations – five for each category of selected, rejected, and moderated - to assess their suitability against Council's pre-defined criteria and the consistency of the rationale provided for the decision in the moderation process.
- Grant Assessment & Moderation – Projects: For a sample of fifteen projects – five for each category of selected, rejected, and moderated - establish whether the grant assessment was done in accordance with pre-defined criteria and the moderation process and confirm that there is a clear audit trail to support the rationale and decision.

- 3.6 Following the findings of the audit the auditors were able to provide a reasonable assurance over the governance, risk management and controls in operation for all three areas that were reviewed. The only recommendation from the Audit is to undertake learning on difference in scoring between assessors to ensure this can be used for future grant assessment. Two learning events have been held with moderators and assessors and this will feed into future grants programme and guidance on grants management.

3.7 The total value of the bids received (amount per year) was over £11m as set out below which is approximately three times the available budget:

Theme	Bids Received	Annual Budget
1 - Tackling the Cost-of-living crisis	£1,757,759	£900,000
2 - Accelerate Education	£2,413,008	£700,000
3 - Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills	£2,932,595	£650,000
4 - Invest in Public Services	£2,860,121	£800,000
5 - Empower Communities and Fight Crime	£1,335,254	£450,000
Total	£11,298,737	£3,500,000

3.8 The graph below shows the geographic distribution of where organisations which submitted bids are based. This shows that most organisations which submitted bids are based in the borough. Only 16 bids (9%) came from organisations which are based outside of the borough. The highest number of bids came from organisations based in Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) with 13.5% and Spitalfields and Banglatown with 11.8%. The lowest number of bids in a ward were 2 (1.2%) in Bow West, Bromley North, Canary Wharf and Island Gardens respectively.



Mayor's Community Grants Programme 23-27

3.8 Following the assessment of Stage 2 as set out in para 3.5 a long-list of projects who had passed all requirements set out in the prospectus was established. To develop a recommended list of projects the following considerations were applied:

- Scores for applications
- Response to the grants theme / priorities
- Equalities consideration
- Geographic spread
- Support to diverse range of organisations (a key principle of the grant)
- Consideration of funding amount to be recommended (The council is seeking to achieve maximum impact for local people from a limited budget.)

3.9 Once a recommended list of projects was established it was sent to relevant service areas to get their feedback on any duplication of existing projects, any issues with proposed organisations recommended for funding and their comments. The recommended projects reflect this feedback and are set out in Appendix D.

3.10 The projects recommended for funding support a wide range of groups and benefit all sections of the community. It includes a mix of small, medium, and large organisations and ensures that the programme provides borough-wide coverage. The programme includes a balance of new projects from organisations which are not currently funded along with organisations that are currently funded with projects which develop and take forward existing services. Of the 86 organisations (including consortia partner organisations) recommended for funding through the Mayor’s Community Grants Programme, 38 have not been funded in the previous two Council main grants programmes while an additional 14 have not been funded in the current grants programme.

Organisations previously funded through:	No. of Organisations (lead only)	MSG Annual Amount awarded	LCF Annual Amount awarded	MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Annual Amount
MSG 2015-18 only	14	£429,507.41	0	£517,046
Local Community Fund (LCF) only	11	0	£602,568.94	£399,643
MSG and LCF	15	£827,638.03	£1,744,836.62	£1,492,135
New to Mayor’s Community Grants Programme	38	0	0	£1,090,947
Total	78	£1,257,145.44	£2,347,405.56	£3,499,771.00

3.11 A key principle of the Mayor’s Community Grants Programme is to support a diverse range of organisations. This provides long-term funding and allows organisations to use Council funding to secure funding from range of other sources. The 78 lead organisations supported (not including consortia partner organisations) breakdown as follows:

Mayor’s Community Grants Programme 2023-27		
Size of Organisation	No. of Organisations recommended for funding	% of organisations recommended for funding
Large (£250k+)	46	59%
Medium (£150k-£250k)	12	15%
Small (less than £150k)	20	26%
Total	78	100%

3.12 For the Mayor’s Community Grants Programme it was important that small and medium organisations had the opportunity to deliver multiple projects if they had the capability and expertise. The recommended 110 projects delivered by the 78 lead organisations show that 42% of the projects will be delivered by small or medium-sized organisations:

Mayor's Community Grants Programme 2023-27							
Size of Organisation	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5	Total	% split
Large (£250k+)	4	15	15	18	12	64	58%
Medium (£150k-£250k)	2	3	7	5	1	18	16%
Small (less than £150k)	0	12	6	7	3	28	26%
	6	30	28	30	16	110	100%

- 3.13 In contrast, the previous Local Community Fund programme funded mainly large organisations with only 20% of the projects delivered by small or medium-sized organisations:

Local Community Fund 2019-23				
Size of Organisation	No. of Organisations recommended for funding	% of organisations recommended for funding	No. of Projects awarded funding	% of organisations delivering projects, by size
Large (£250k+)	29	74%	40	80%
Medium (£150k-£250k)	7	18%	7	14%
Small (less than £150k)	3	8%	3	6%
Total	39	100%	50	100%

- 3.14 The geographic spread of services recommended for funding are shown graphically in Appendix E. There are many projects which borough wide coverage which will ensure all sections of the community benefit from the grant programme. A large proportion of the projects are focused on areas where there is higher deprivation (north of the borough). It should also be noted that many of the VCS organisations are based in the north of the borough.
- 3.15 The annual level of funding for each project range in size from the advice consortium of 14 providers at £720,000 to the £5,156 recommended for the St Margaret's House – The Children's Making Tree Project. The average level of funding for each theme is set out in the table below. The Theme 1 average reflects the Advice Consortium recommended for £720,000. The average funding for the 5 other projects in Theme 1 is £36,000.

	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5
Number of projects	6	30	28	30	16
Average level of funding	£150,000	£23,365	£23,506	£26,418	£28,007

- 3.16 In the prospectus and information events it was explained it would not be possible to fully fund all the amounts that organisations requested. For

themes 2 – 5 an annual amount of £40,000 was the limit that could be requested. In majority of the cases, the recommended project funding is less than this figure. As part of the programme mobilisation the Council will support grant recipients to re-work their original proposal to ensure they are able to deliver services that meet the project aims, ensure value for money and project sustainability, and provide high-quality services to residents.

Grant development assurance

3.17 To develop a transparent, accountable and fair process for the MCGP the Council put in place a number of internal and external assurance processes. This included the following:

1. Advice from Kings Counsel on the Grant decision making process – The advice was positive and considered the process set out in the Cabinet report in March to be both sensible and reasonable in its approach. It highlighted the need to consider best value which is a key feature of the assessment and to ensure the proposed grant delivers the priorities set out in our prospectus. It also emphasises the need to consider the Public Sector Equality Duty and to continue follow the process that was agreed by the Cabinet. This report sets out the process followed as agreed by Cabinet and the equalities implications section of the report regards to the Public Sector Equality Duty.
2. External Audit of assessment and moderation process – Paragraphs 3.5-3.6 provides further details.
3. Review by lead service areas – Paragraph 3.9 provides further details.
4. Equality Impact Analysis, Quality Assurance – Paragraphs 4.1- 4.8 provides further details.
5. Internal Challenge Session – An internal challenge session was organised with Directors from various services to review and provide challenge on the recommended grants project. The summary recommendations from this are set out below:

Recommendation 1	Develop a corporate grant register
Recommendation 2	Develop and extend similar high standards of assurance corporately for all council grant programmes
Recommendation 3	Capture learning from the new grants programme to feed into corporate standards on grants
Recommendation 4	In future grants programme where groups will be offered less money than they requested be useful to ask what they can deliver for 75% or 50% of the requested funding.
Recommendation 5	If third party are commissioned to manage and deliver Council grant, ensure in the procurement of this we clearly state they need to follow the Council's standard on grants
Recommendation 6	Any gaps identified and mitigation are detailed in the report and future presentations.

Recommendation 7	As part of project learning engage with groups to identify ways of improving reach to 'seldom heard groups'.
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6. The outcome of the grant decision will be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee on 9th October and Grants Determination Sub Committee on 11th October 2023.

Subsidy Control Act 2022

- 3.17 The Subsidy Control Act (SCA) 2022 is the UK's new domestic subsidy control regime, replacing State Aid regulations with UK's exit from the European Union. The Act allows public authorities, such as local authorities, to give subsidies that are tailored to local needs or drive economic growth while minimising distortion to UK competition and protecting the UK's international obligations.
- 3.18 The Council has conducted an assessment process to determine whether proposed MCGP grant awards are compatible with the principles of SCA, judging that they are compatible. The Council's legal service has reviewed the application of the Subsidy Control Principles in respect of MCGP grant schemes and has confirmed that the grant scheme complies with SCA. Please see Appendix F Subsidy Control Act Principles 2022 (should be read in conjunction with [MCGP prospectus](#) and [Priority Needs Analysis](#)) which outlines information on:
- the principles that the grants awards/subsidies would adhere to
 - clarification of the nature and purpose of the grant awards/subsidies
 - evidence required for the grant awards/subsidies, including:
 - o Tower Hamlets evidence
 - o potential scenarios for the borough if subsidies are introduced or are not introduced
 - o information on how grant awards/subsidies would be implemented in the borough
 - remedies to be delivered by grant awards/subsidies

Currently funded services and available support

- 3.18 Some activities currently funded through the Local Community Fund will not be funded through the Mayor's Community Grants Programme. Some of these may be significant, good quality services which no longer meet highest priority needs but which are, none the less, important in their communities. The Council recognises that in any period of change it is important to ensure that this happens in a managed, orderly way and that, as far as possible, adverse impact on the sustainability of organisations and quality provision for their service users is mitigated. A full Equalities Impact assessment has been undertaken and further details is provided in section 4 of the report and Appendix A.
- 3.19 To reduce the impact of change the Council will:

- Work with organisations to seek alternative provision for service users where a service is significantly reduced or comes to an end.
- Work with funded organisations especially at contract mobilisation to target and promote new services funded under the MCGP.
- Support a programme of capacity building to increase organisations' chance of bidding successfully from future Council programmes and other funders
- Provide support through the Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services to those organisations that were not successful
- Launch a new Small Grants Programme including a capacity building theme to enable organisations to secure funding to develop their organisation
- Launch the refreshed Emergency Grant to support organisations that may face closure
- Work with Tower Hamlets Funders Forum to help identify further opportunities for funding locally, regionally and nationally
- Develop the Council's funding page and Newsletter to raise awareness of funding, training and support availability

Budget

3.20 The Mayor's Community Grants Programme will be funded by combination of grants as set out below:

Funding Source	No. of Projects	Annual Budget	3.5 Year Budget
Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)	71	£2,504,494.00	£8,765,729.00
Public Health Grant	39*	£980,000.00	£3,430,000.00
General Fund	* One PH funded project to be part funded by GF	£16,822.00	£58,877.00

3.21 The Infrastructure Programme Team has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of each recommended project against the NCIL criteria, a total of 71 out of 110 projects have been approved for NCIL funding, for 3 and half years. The yearly amount allocated from NCIL will be £2,504,494. The remaining 39 projects will be funded separately by the Public Health grants. The Public Health grant is up to £980,000 a year, and the overspend amount of £16,822 will be funded from the general fund. The guiding principle for the assessment and use of NCIL is set out in Appendix G.

Next Steps

- 3.22 Following the decision by the Chief Executive work will commence on the mobilisation process to work with the recommended projects to enable them start delivery from November 2023. As set out above feedback to unsuccessful organisations will be offered and support provided as necessary.
- 3.23 The agreed recommendations will be presented by the Chief Executive to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9th October and the Grants Determination Sub Committee on 11th October 2023.

3.24 Work will commence to communicate the outcome to residents and organisations including consideration of a MCGP conference to bring together all the providers of service and enable opportunities to collaborate, refer and support the projects.

3.25 Quarterly monitoring of all projects will be undertaken and reported to the Grants Determination Sub Committee.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Mayors Community Grants Programme has been designed to promote equality in Tower Hamlets. It was designed using the following principles:

- Funding that supports a wider range of services and groups to ensure all sections of the community benefit from a grants programme and address the challenges facing Tower Hamlets residents.
- Funding that supports services and activities that are inclusive, promote cohesion and designed and delivered with residents.

4.2 The new programme will have wide ranging positive impacts, for example:

- **Advancing Equality of opportunity** through the reduction of targeted inequalities, for example female employment rates and health & wellbeing
- **Fostering good relations** between groups through a focus on community cohesion, cultural events and education
- **Reducing discrimination** by supporting projects from across the community and more specific interventions for example advice and support to educate residents on legal rights.

4.3 Funded projects have a significant range of positive impacts for residents with protected characteristics, including:

- Age
- Disability
- Sex
- LGBTQIA+
- Religion (through provision focused on hate crime)
- Race
- Sexual orientation
- Socio-economic status
- Parents /carers

4.4 These projects were designed and funded by using evidence and data to respond to key need in the borough.

4.5 Equalities considerations have been built into the grant application process and award criteria to ensure that:

- Prospective organisations had comprehensive Equality and Diversity Policies for i. Recruitment, ii. Planning and provision of services, and iii. Overall management of the organisation

- Any proposed project would promote community cohesion and address inequalities impacting those with 'Protected Characteristics' living in the Borough
- Organisations could evidence good knowledge of the local neighbourhoods, needs, services and demographic
- Equalities considerations, geographic spread of projects and project scores have been balanced in order to make robust funding recommendations

4.6 In comparing the recommended projects to the previous Local Community Grant funding and the identified need in the borough and the full equality impact analysis identifies a number of specific equalities risks and proposes mitigation for these, including:

- No specific provision in the new programme for sports provision for blind and partially sighted young people – Discuss with recommended providers to address needs of this group
- No specific in provision focused on community safety for residents with a disability – Discuss with recommended providers ways to address this and also role of Disabled Peoples Network
- The lack of focus on educational attainment for boys, despite data showing boys under-achieve – Discuss with recommended providers how this group will be supported
- No specific provision focused on community safety for LGBTQIA+ residents - Discuss with recommended providers ways to address this and also role of LGBT Community Forum
- No specific provision for young carers – Discuss with service current provision and if gap commission specific provision

4.7 Robust action planning has been undertaken to minimise the above risks and the MCGP Grants Programme has been rated as amber with guidance to **proceed pending agreement of mitigating action**. Further detail can be found in the equality *impact analysis and the action planning* section of this document in Appendix A.

4.8 The draft Equality Impact Analysis was reviewed by Diversity McKenzie an equality and diversity specialist organisation. Feedback from them have been incorporated into the Equality Impact Analysis and they have provided a quality assurance validation.

5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Best Value Implications

5.1 The design and implementation of the MCGP had at the core delivering best value from the Council's grants programme. This included delivering different methods to engage local VCS organisations in the design phase and in the bidding stage. Learning from the Local Community Fund grants process were incorporated throughout the programme. Designing of the programme and drafting recommendations on projects to fund considered how the selected projects would provide best value for the Council including how they meet the

corporate priorities, provide good geographical coverage, meet needs of different equalities groups. The project assessment process also included a section on value for money.

Risk Management

- 5.2 Existing LCF projects that are not recommended for funding under MCGP will have an impact on users and the organisation. This will be mitigated through the mobilisation and discussion with existing groups to ensure users are referred to new provision and groups are supported by the Council and Tower Hamlets CVS. The grants were assessed by officers and an independent audit was carried out of this process as set out in paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6. The management of risk in the assessment process has included the development of clear and transparent assessment criteria and which were published as part of the MCGP prospectus and participation in the training of assessors and moderators. The moderation process provided a further assurance that scoring was fair where there was failure or significant differences between assessors.

Crime Reduction

- 5.3 There are no specific crime reduction implications arising from this report. However, the MCGP has a scheme which includes priorities on:
- Tackling drug and alcohol issues
 - Promoting safer communities
 - Supporting ex-offenders
 - Gang intervention and prevention
 - Victim support
 - Violence against women and girls

The projects recommended for funding under this scheme are listed under Theme 5B in Appendix D.

Safeguarding.

- 5.4 There are no specific safeguarding implications arising from this report. However, as part of the organisational and project assessment a focus was on how services will be delivered to ensure children and vulnerable adults are protected. As part of the mobilisation of the grants contracts any issues around safeguarding will be addressed before contracts are signed with the providers. All projects will be monitored on a quarterly and any issues around safeguarding will be picked up through monitoring unless more urgent actions are required.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 The Mayor's Community Grant Programme (MCGP) approved by Cabinet in March 23 replaces the current Local Community Fund which ends on 31st October 2023.

- 6.2 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) includes the cost of the grants programme and £982k funding from the Public Health grant for services that are eligible for the use of the Public Health grant.
- 6.3 The new programme is funded through the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) of £2.5m including £982k from Public Health and £17k from general fund. The funding through NCIL will result in a saving to the general fund that will be included in the revised MTFS.
- 6.4 An in year saving of c£1.7m general fund budget for 23/24 is also achievable from the NCIL funding across the Council's grant programmes.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The Council has the legal power to make the grants referred to in this report.
- 7.2 The Council has the legal duty to obtain Best Value in terms of economy efficiency and effectiveness when deciding how to deliver its functions. The Council has a wide discretion to determine how Best Value might be achieved and in particular what might make the delivery of a function particularly effective. The Council determined what, in the Council's view, would make a bid effective prior to any bids being received by stating the criteria against which subsequent bids will be assessed in the prospectus. The evaluation panels application of the criteria to the bids demonstrates compliance with the Best Value legal duty.
- 7.3 The Council has also evaluated the level of funding requested against specific outcomes and reached a funding proposal in respect of each application. This demonstrates that the Council has complied with the economic strand of the Best Value duty.
- 7.4 Provision of funding will be subject to agreeing a written funding agreement. The funding agreement gives the Council the ability to withdraw and or reduce funding in the event that targets are not subsequently met or the funding is used for purposes outside the terms of the agreement. Monitoring of compliance with the agreement will ensure compliance with the effectiveness strand of the Best Value duty.
- 7.5 The Council has a duty to treat all applicants fairly. The Council used the prospectus to detail the Council's priorities in respect of utilisation of the grant funding. Applicants saw the priorities prior to submitting their applications and therefore all applicants were on an equal footing when designing their schemes. The Council evaluators then applied the same criteria to the evaluation of each application which gave applicants and equivalent opportunity to gain funding.
- 7.6 The Council's new grants process was designed in conjunction with leading legal opinion to get assurance of the position. The results have also been audited by an external organisation to provide further assurance.

- 7.7 The grants that may be provided under this process will be subsidies for the purposes of the Subsidy Control Act 2022. Most of the grants given under this process will not exceed the de minimis “minimal financial assistance” criteria of £315,000 in a 3 year period (calculated in accordance with the rules under the act). The Council has considered the scheme in the light of the subsidy control considerations prior to any grant funding decision being made and determined that all the subsidies would in any case be lawful under the act.
- 7.8 The determination of the value of subsidy when considering the de minimis rule should also take into account the value of any state aid given within the same period. There is some overlap between the proposed organisations under this grant scheme and that previously. However, given the nature and variety of previous grants, previous legal advice confirmed that such grants were not state aid under the previous directive as there was no cross-border interest.
- 7.9 Where funding may cease from previous programmes it may be that people who have a protected characteristic could be affected when compared with people who do not have that characteristic. However, the report demonstrates that strategies are in place to provide alternative and reasonable routes to support such people.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

[LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS](#)- Grants Policy & Outcomes Framework – Cabinet March 2023

Appendices

- Appendix A Equality Analysis
- Appendix B Training and Support
- Appendix C Assessment Process
- Appendix D Recommended Projects
- Appendix E Geographic Distribution of Proposed Projects
- Appendix F Subsidy Control Act Principles
- Appendix G Guiding Principles for use of NCIL

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

Or state N/A

Equality Impact Analysis

Section 1: Introduction


Name of proposal
For the purpose of this document, 'proposal' refers to a policy, function, strategy or project
Mayor's Community Grants Programme
Service area and Directorate responsible
Strategy, Improvement and Transformation
Name of completing officer
Anna Murphy, Strategy and Policy Officer External Scrutiny – Mike Burnitt – Senior Partner McKenzie LLP (reviewer)
Approved by (Corporate Director / Divisional Director/ Head of Service)
Robin Beattie (Interim Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation)
Date of approval
05/09/2023



Conclusion – To be completed at the end of the Equality Impact Analysis process

This summary will provide an update on the findings of the EIA and what the outcome is. *For example, based on the findings of the EIA, the proposal was rejected as the negative impact on a particular group was disproportionate and the appropriate actions cannot be undertaken to mitigate risk. Or, based on the EIA, the proposal was amended, and alternative steps taken.*

The focus of this is to analyse the impacts of the proposal on residents, service users and the wider community that are likely to be affected by the proposal. If the proposed change also has an impact on staff, the committee covering report should provide an overview of the likely equality impact for staff, residents and service users and the range of mitigating measures proposed.

Conclusion	Current decision rating (see Appendix A)
<p>The Mayors Community Grants Programme has been designed to promote equality in Tower Hamlets. It was designed using the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding that supports a wider range of services and groups to ensure all sections of the community benefit from a grants programme and address the challenges facing Tower Hamlets residents. • Funding that supports services and activities that are inclusive, promote cohesion and designed and delivered with residents. <p>The new programme will have wide ranging positive impacts, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advancing Equality of opportunity through the reduction of targeted inequalities, for example female employment rates and health & wellbeing ○ Fostering good relations between groups through a focus on community cohesion, cultural events and education ○ Reducing discrimination by supporting projects from across the community and more specific interventions for 	<p>Amber</p> 

example advice and support to educate residents on legal rights.

Funded projects have a significant range of positive impacts for residents with protected characteristics, including::

- Age
- Disability
- Sex
- LGBTQIA+
- Religion (through provision focused on hate crime)
- Race
- Sexual orientation
- Socio-economic status
- Parents /carers

These projects were designed and funded by using evidence and data to respond to key need in the borough.

Equalities considerations have been built into the grant application process and award criteria to ensure that:

- Prospective organisations had comprehensive Equality and Diversity Policies for i. Recruitment, ii. Planning and provision of services, and iii. Overall management of the organisation
- Any proposed project would promote community cohesion and address inequalities impacting those with 'Protected Characteristics' living in the Borough
- Organisations could evidence good knowledge of the local neighbourhoods, needs, services and demographic
- Equalities considerations, geographic spread of projects and project scores have been balanced in order to make robust funding recommendations

In comparing the recommended projects to the previous Local Community Grant funding and the identified need in the borough this EQIA identifies a number of specific equalities risks and proposes mitigation for these, including:

- No specific provision in the new programme for sports provision for blind and partially sighted young people
- No specific in provision focused on community safety for residents with a disability
- The lack of focus on educational attainment for boys, despite data showing boys under-achieve
- No specific provision focused on community safety for LGBTQIA+ residents

<p>- No specific provision for young carers</p> <p>Robust action planning has been undertaken to minimise the above risks and the MCGP Grants Programme has been rated as amber with guidance to proceed pending agreement of mitigating action.</p> <p>Further detail can be found in the <i>Impact analysis and the action planning</i> section of this document.</p>	
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The Equality Act 2010 places a ‘General Duty’ on all public bodies to have ‘due regard’ to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between those with ‘protected characteristics’ and those without them.
- Foster good relations between those with ‘protected characteristics’ and those without them.

This Equality Impact Analysis provides evidence for meeting the Council’s commitment to Equality and the responsibilities outlined above. For more information about the Council’s commitment to Equality, please visit the Council’s [website](#).

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Section 2: General information about the proposal

Describe the proposal including the relevance of proposal to the general equality duties and protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010

2.1 Introduction and Overview:

The *Mayor's Community Grants Programme (MCGP)* has a vision to support and invest in Tower Hamlets voluntary and community sector to enable it to improve outcomes for residents. The programme has specific aims of improving outcomes for Tower Hamlets residents.

The programme has five agreed overarching principles:

- 1: Support a wider range of services and groups to ensure all sections of the community benefit from a grants programme and address the challenges facing Tower Hamlets residents.
- 2: Support services and activities that are **inclusive, promote cohesion** and are designed and delivered with residents.
- 3: Provide long-term funding to *Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)* organisations in return for efficient and effective services.
- 4: Achieve value for money.
- 5: Improve partnership working between local VCS organisations.

In developing this programme, the Council engaged extensively with local VCS organisations and partners to ensure that the scheme addresses some of the key challenges faced by local people. The grants programme is also designed to replace the previous *Local Community Fund (LCF)* programme. This assessment will consider the potential service delivery gaps by comparing the previous programmes with the new and will detail potential mitigations that may be implemented to address such gaps.

2.2 Funding Structure:

The programme will provide £3.5 million of annual funding for the VCS over the next three and five months between November 2023 and March 2027.

In addition to this programme, a separate *Small Grants Programme* will also be launched in December 2023 providing an additional £800,000 per annum over five separate themes and the Emergency Fund, which will provide £100,000 per year for voluntary and community sector organisations in financial difficulties or facing an emergency.

2.3 Programme Themes:

The MCGP funding has been allocated across five themes (see below) aligned to the overall [Tower Hamlets Council Strategic Plan 2022-2026](#).

In April 2023, local VCS organisations were invited to apply for funding to deliver local programmes, initiatives and projects under the following five key themes:

- *Tackling the Cost-of-Living Crisis*
- *Accelerating Education*
- *Boosting Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills*
- *Investing in Public Services*
- *Empowering Communities and Fighting Crime*

The LBTHC application process and award criteria can be viewed by clicking this link [MCGP Prospectus](#).

Relevant extracts from this document are included within the following section of this EqlA for reference purposes.

2.4 Equality Considerations – Award Criteria:

As part of the application process, applicants were required to provide demonstrable evidence of a comprehensive *Equal Opportunities / Equality and Diversity* policy and additionally evidence that this policy was actively used in respect of:

- Recruitment
- Planning and provision of services
- In the overall management of their organisation.

Applicants were also required to indicate (as part of the specified *Community Cohesion / Equality and Diversity* award criteria) how their proposed service would **aim to promote community cohesion and address inequalities** impacting those with 'Protected Characteristics' living in the Borough.

Only VCS organisations who are registered in Tower Hamlets, are based in the borough, or have delivered services in the borough for at least the last two years were eligible to apply.

In the project assessment applicants were required to provide evidence of (as part of the *Demonstrates Good Local Connections* award criteria) good knowledge of the local neighbourhoods, needs, services and demographics. This requirement included:

- Previous experience of delivering services to Tower Hamlets residents.
- Evidence of operating from a local base or location.
- Working links and connections with other organisations within Tower Hamlets or potential partnership arrangements (from all sectors).

The Prospectus for the MCGP was made available on the Council’s website, and was promoted through social media and a press release ensuring that information was publicly available. This included how to apply, assessment criteria used and an email address for FAQ’s. Information sessions were held to further disseminate key information. All related web material was also accessibility checked.

Extensive engagement and consultation were undertaken in the development of the grant’s programme. With 309 individuals and 144 VCS organisations participating in events at different times, various location across the borough, and using different methods of engagement. These included an on-line and two hybrid (physical and on-line) workshops, a weekend and evening events especially for organisations run by volunteers. Further, all venues were checked for accessibility.

Finally, to support organisations to be able to develop high quality applications and maximise applications from a diverse range of organisations and particularly those which are smaller or have less in-house bid writing skills, training and support was offered through the Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services through training sessions, group support, 1-1 sessions and provisions of written resources.

2.5 Summary: Potential Positive Equality Impacts – Programme Themes:

The equality impacts the programme is aiming to achieve were detailed within the grant prospectus. A summary of the key potential positive equality considerations are summarised below:

Programme Theme:	Key Positive Equality Considerations: (Extracted from the stated MCGP programme outcomes.)
Tackling the Cost of Living Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of information, advice and support for vulnerable, marginalised and hard to reach groups – including Disabled people. • Improved resident health and enhanced wellbeing. • Support for residents in crisis.

Accelerating Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting community language provision. • Improving support for children and young people with Special Educational Needs. • Increasing opportunities for young people in the borough to progress within education. • Enabling community based support to help children and young people recover from schooling lost during the <i>Covid 19</i> lockdowns. • Tackling Digital Exclusion.
Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of jobs and training for local residents including targeted support for young / older people, Black Asian and Muti Ethnic communities and people with Disabilities.
Investing in Public Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the physical and mental wellbeing of older residents. • Promoting health and wellbeing for all residents by tackling inequality and reducing social isolation.
Empower Communities and Fight Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce inequalities faced by groups with different 'Protected Characteristics'. • Protection of children / young people and combating domestic violence.

2.6 Summary: Potential Adverse Equality Related Impacts and Mitigation:

The new grants programme is responsible for the distribution of a large sum of money to the voluntary and community sector with many explicit equality related aims. As part of this assessment, we have also identified a number of high-level risks of potential adverse equality implications. These are:

- Replacing the LCF scheme with the MCGP may result in gaps in service provision which could have an adverse impact on those with a shared 'Protected Characteristic'. The Council will aim to identify these gaps as part of this assessment and identify potential mitigating actions.
- The MCGP does not lead to the effective targeting of interventions which support all groups and in particular, those facing the most acute challenges or discrimination. This again may be mitigated through final design of the grants programme ensuring all sections of the community are supported.

- The funded projects may not necessarily appear to meet our responsibility to ‘Foster Good Relations’ between different groups if we are for example, perceived to favour particular VCS organisations or certain community groups.

However, The Council recognises the importance of implementing *Positive Action* initiatives to reach certain sections of society. Whilst there is a risk that this could be perceived as being discriminatory, the Council can justify focusing on certain particular disadvantaged communities as part of this programme.

2.7 Grant Programme Themes and Budgets:

The following themes, schemes and budgets were approved by Cabinet in March 23.

Schemes	Priorities	Indicative Annual Budget
Theme: Tackling the Cost-of-living crisis		
1A Advice and Information	Information, advice and representation concerning individuals' legal rights,	£900,000
	Immigration/asylum advice and casework	
	Debt advice and support with budgeting and financial stability, particularly for vulnerable, marginalised and hard to reach groups	
	Support with welfare benefits	
	Housing/homelessness advice and casework	
	Employment advice	
	Income maximisation	
	Support for residents in crisis needing immediate support	
Theme: Accelerate Education		
2A – Education attainment and development of children and young people	Community-based study support	£700,000
	Community language development	
	Community-based provision for children with Special Educational Needs	
	Extracurricular activities and after school provision	
2B – Lifelong Learning	Skills for life and lifelong learning	£700,000
	English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL)	
	Digital Inclusion	
Theme: Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills		
3A - Employment and skills	Supporting people not in education, employment or training (NEET)	£650,000

opportunities for socially excluded residents	Targeted youth outreach	
	Access to Youth Provision	
	Enterprise and innovation, particularly the greening of the borough	
	Job brokerage	
3B Sports and local culture and heritage	Local culture and heritage	
	Sports activity	
Theme: Invest in public services		
4A – Physical and mental wellbeing of older people	Supporting older and vulnerable people, including luncheon clubs, meals delivered to homes and pensioner projects	£800,000
	Developing community activities aimed at tackling loneliness and active lifestyle	
4B - Physical and mental health of residents	Promoting health and wellbeing through tackling inequality	
Theme: Empower communities and fight crime		
5A – Inequalities experienced by people and communities reflecting different equality groups and social economic backgrounds	Addressing inequality for Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities and women	£450,000
	Creating opportunities for people from different backgrounds to come together	
5B – Community safety	Tackling drug and alcohol issues	
	Promoting safer communities	
	Supporting ex-offenders	
	Gang intervention and prevention	
	Victim support	
	Violence against women and girls	
		Total £3,500,000

2.8 Tower Hamlets Equality Objectives

The Council's Strategic Plan includes five Equality Objectives, in line with our duty under the *Public Sector Equality Duty*. The Objectives for 2023-27 are:

1. Work with communities across the borough to bring people together from different backgrounds and promote understanding.
2. Uphold and protect Equality and Diversity in all circumstances.
3. Address inequalities particularly those faced by Bangladeshi and Somali communities.
4. Improve safety and opportunities for women.

5. Ensure our workforce reflects the community.

These Equality Objectives are based on both the analysis of data and the lived experiences / key inequalities experienced by groups of residents who share one or more 'Protected Characteristic'. For example, women, Bangladeshi and Somali residents.

The MCGP ultimately aims to address objectives 1-4 above alongside delivering priorities aligned to our Strategic Plan.

Section 3: Evidence (consideration of data and information)

What evidence do we have which may help us think about the impacts or likely impacts on residents, service users and wider community?

3.1 Summary :High Level Needs Assessment

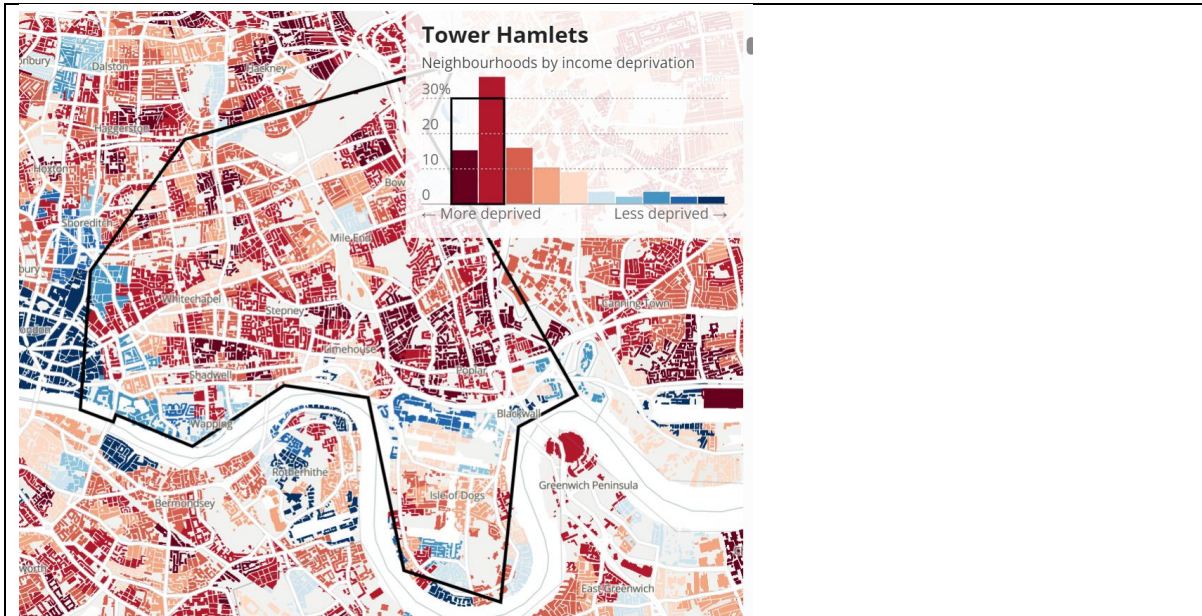
The Council's strategic documents highlight key challenges and equalities considerations for Tower Hamlets, as does the [Equality Policy](#) which contains data profiling some of the key issues facing those with a 'Protected Characteristic' in the borough. The development of the MCGP also included a high level priority needs assessment which can be found [here](#). This assessment will use both 'Protected Characteristics' and a geographical overview to consider the relationship between the recommended projects and the actual needs within the Borough.

Tower Hamlets is a borough of contrasts. High levels of inequality and extremes of both poverty and affluence co-exist within the area. The Borough has higher-than-average proportions of senior managers and higher than average long term unemployment. 20.9% of people living in the Borough are in higher managerial, administrative and professional occupations compared to London (17.6%) and England & Wales (13.1%). Conversely, 13.7% of borough residents have never worked or are long term unemployed compared to 10.3% and 8.5% for London & England and Wales respectively)

3.2 Geographical assessment

There is some correlation between inequality and geography in Tower Hamlets, the index of multiple deprivation shows that certain neighbourhoods have higher levels of deprivation than others. Tower Hamlets has a relatively low [Moran 1](#), this means relative to other London Boroughs, deprivation is less spatially clustered. **The majority of neighbourhoods in [Tower Hamlets](#) fall into the two most income deprived deciles.** Therefore, it is important for projects to have a wide spread across the majority of the borough.

There may be some groups of people requiring less focus in the wealthier neighbourhoods (highlighted in blue overleaf) adjoining the City of London, around Wapping and just to the North of Isle of the Dogs. Certain challenges or inequalities may not be aligned to this geography, for example older people in poverty may be distributed differently across the borough.



The above aligns to wards as below:

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD2019)

A methodology to measure deprivation at a localised geographic level. A higher value means less deprivation.

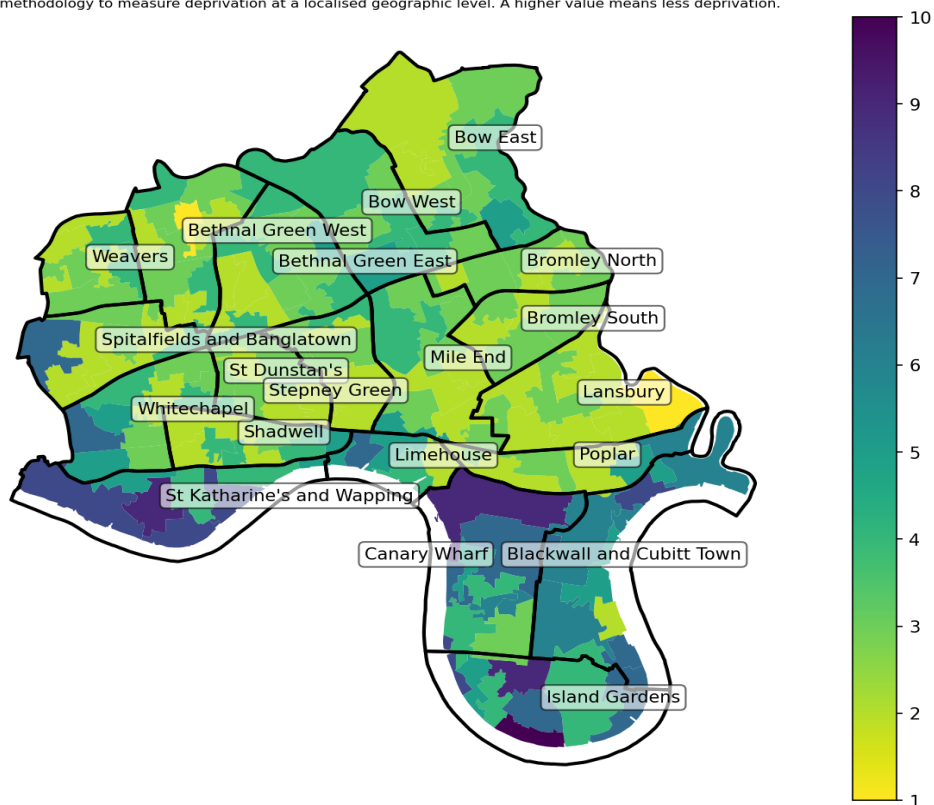


Figure 1: Indices of Multiple deprivation (IMD2019), ONS 2019

3.3 Delivery of Projects Evenly Across the Borough

The ultimate delivery of fewer projects in the four southern-most wards in the borough may therefore be justified, although there are neighbourhoods within these areas which still show high levels of deprivation and are more in need of support.

3.4 Protected characteristics

Data also provides an overview of the specific challenges facing those who share a protected characteristic in Tower Hamlets. The next section of this document will provide a brief overview. The complementing data can be found in Appendix A.

Age

Tower Hamlets has a young population with the lowest proportion of older people in the country (less than 6% are over 65). These groups are disproportionately living in poverty. 44% of older people live in income deprived households - higher than the average in England. 25% of children lived in relative low-income families in March 2020, the joint highest figure in London and within the highest fifth of areas nationally³.

Disability

A quarter of households have at least one disabled resident (25.7%) and 12.9% of all Borough residents have a disability. Residents with a disability are much more likely to have no qualifications than those without a disability. Similarly, residents with a disability are much less likely, for example, to have a level 4 qualification. Disabled residents were also slightly less likely to be in managerial / professional roles and more likely to be in all other types of job. Disabled people are particularly overrepresented in the caring and leisure sectors and other service occupations.

There is a correlation between age and disability. The proportion of residents with a disability increases with every age group. For all age groups above 15 years old, women were more likely than men to have a disability. Certain multi-ethnic groups have higher levels of disability than White British residents, 26.8% of Gypsy and Irish traveller residents report a disability and 22.7% of Black Caribbean residents, compared to White Irish and British residents both having a reported rate of 18.4%.

Sex

Women are more likely than males to have no qualifications and less likely to have level 4 qualifications. Females in London were 1.6% more likely than males to have level 4 qualifications. Females in employment were slightly more likely than males to be working in managerial / professional roles (64.0% compared with 61.7%). Females were much more likely to be working in administrative and secretarial occupations and in caring, leisure and other service occupations.

By contrast, males were much more likely to be working in skilled trades and in process, plant and machine occupations.

Religion or Philosophical Belief

According to the latest 2021 census, the largest religious group within Tower Hamlets is Muslims, accounting for 40% of the Brough population. Across England as a country, this figure is just 2%. Tower Hamlets also has the third largest population of Muslims in England (behind Birmingham and Bradford).

Muslim residents were the least likely to be in employment (both males and females) with female Muslims, by far, being the least likely residents to be in employment. Muslims were also under-represented in managerial / professional jobs at only (33.7%) compared to 62.7% overall. Buddhist males had the highest rate of male unemployment at 8.1% followed by Muslim males at 7.0%. Residents who identified their religion as Muslim are also the most likely group of people overall to have ill health. Older Muslims (aged 50+) were much more likely than any other religious group of that age to have ill health.

Race

Ethnic group that Tower Hamlets residents identify with: Census 2021

Ethnic group (main census categories)	Asian/Asian British	Black/Black British, Caribbean or African	Mixed or multiple	White	Other
Number of residents	137,856	22,693	15,409	122,266	12,082
Percentage of residents	44.4%	7.3%	5.0%	39.4%	3.9%

According to the 2021 Census, 61% of the borough's population belong to Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic groups, comprising mostly of Bangladeshi residents (35%). Tower Hamlets still has the largest Bangladeshi population in England as a whole. The other populous ethnic groups include White British (23%), White Other (16%), and Black African (5%). Tower Hamlets also has the third highest proportion of Chinese residents.

Data from the 2021 Census shows that not all people identifying Somali or Somalilander identified their ethnicity as Black and some identified their ethnicity as Somali with Black Caribbean background. As a combined group, anyone identifying their ethnicity as Somali or Somalilander comprised of 6180 residents (2% of all residents), which is the 8th highest proportion in England. Further analysis of this community will be undertaken with release of more data.

There are significant variations in the employment rate between ethnic groups within Tower Hamlets - particularly for females. The male group with the lowest employment rate is Bangladeshi at 52.9%, the lowest female group was also Bangladeshi at 28.6%. Seven female ethnic groups had an employment rate below 50% while no male ethnic groups did.

Males were more likely than females to be unemployed (economically active or actively seeking work) for most, but not all ethnic groups. Females from 'Other White' ethnic backgrounds, Roma, Pakistani and Indian backgrounds were all more likely than males of the same ethnic group to be unemployed.

Households reference persons from a *Black Caribbean, Black African or Black Other* background were by far, the least likely to own their own home or a share in their own home. They were also the most likely to be renting through the Council or a social landlord. The next lowest level of home ownership was among Household Reference persons from *Other Ethnic* groups, followed by those from an Asian ethnic group.

There is a very significant variation in the level of overcrowding based on the ethnicity of a household. This ranged from 4.9% for households where the household reference person was *White British* to 30.8% where the household reference person was *Asian*. Households in which the household reference person was *Black African, Black Caribbean, or Black Other* were also above the borough average for overcrowding and significantly above the proportion for households where the household reference person were from White backgrounds.

The group that was most likely to be renting privately were from a *White Other* background (including Gypsy or Irish Traveller and Roma). This was also the group that by far the least likely to be in a social rented tenure.

The proportion of residents who are not in good health varies somewhat across ethnic group. It is particularly low amongst the *White Other* group and is highest amongst the *White British* group. However, when examined by age, it can be seen that the Asian ethnic group has substantially higher levels of poor health amongst those aged 50 and above than any other ethnic group.

Sexual Orientation

Tower Hamlets has a higher proportion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or 'Other Sexual Orientations' at 7.2% compared to 4.2% and 3.1% for London and England & Wales.

Socio-Economic

Tower Hamlets has become significantly less deprived in recent years. Between 2015 and 2019 it moved from being 10th to 50th on the *Indices of Multiple Deprivation*. However, 60% of the borough is still within the 30% of the most deprived parts of the UK.

Deprivation among children and older people is much higher than deprivation as a whole. As with other parts of the country, 'in-work poverty' appears to be an increasing issue with a high proportion of means-tested financial support now issued to people in work.

The *Covid-19* pandemic has also had a significant impact on the job market in Tower Hamlets, which may have a long term impact on the extent and nature of poverty and deprivation within the borough.

There is a direct correlation between *Race* and *Socio-Economic* challenges in Tower Hamlets. The income inequality previously referenced appears to disproportionately effects certain minority racial groups.

Overall, 62.7% of residents were in managerial / professional roles but this was lower for Black, Caribbean / African / Other residents, 46.6% and Asian residents, 48.8%. It was highest among White Irish, 83.6%, White British, 73.7% and White other residents, 71%. Residents from *Black African*, *Black Caribbean* and *Black Other* backgrounds were more likely to working in elementary occupations and caring, leisure / other service occupations than other broad ethnic groups. Residents from Asian backgrounds were more likely to be working in sales and customer service occupations, administrative and secretarial occupations and process, plant and machine occupations.

Parents/ Carers

In the UK in general, poverty is particularly high within families where there are adults being cared for, with more than one-third living in poverty. The inability to work is the key driver for much poverty amongst carers. In 2017/18, some 36% of working-age carers were not in work, compared with 23% of non-carers¹²

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

As previously stated, census 2021 figures show Tower Hamlets as being among the top ten local authorities for people aged over 16 identifying as LGBT+, at 7.2pc. With:

- 4% of those aged 16+ identifying as gay or lesbian
- 2.5% identifying as bisexual
- 0.7% identifying as having another sexual orientation

Furthermore, 1% of residents had a gender identity that was different to their sex registered at birth. This was the same proportion as London but twice the proportion in England and Wales (0.5%).

Further Information

The MCGP prospectus included a range of strategies and data that are relevant to the grant's themes.

Statistics

- [Census 2021 data](#)
- [Residents Survey](#)
- [Joint strategic needs analysis](#)
- [Borough profile](#)
- [Ward profile](#)

- [Income, poverty and welfare](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Economy, business and labour market](#)
- [Health and social care](#)
- [Health and Wellbeing Board – Annual Report](#)

Strategies

- [Strategic Plan 2022-2026](#)
- [Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)
- [Tower Hamlets Adult Mental Health Strategy](#)
- [Tower Hamlets Sport and Physical Activity Strategy](#)
- [Tower Hamlets Children and Young People's Strategy](#)
- [Tower Hamlets SEND Strategy](#)
- [Tower Hamlets Growth and Economic Development Plan](#)
- [Community Safety Partnership Plan](#)
- [Tower Hamlets Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy](#)
- [Tower Hamlets Cohesion Plan](#)

3.4 Programme Awards - Analysis of Impact

Summary of Projects recommended for grant award

Overall, a total of 308 bids were received. Following assessment 110 have been recommended to be funded. The organisations recommended for funding fall in the following categories:

- 63 large organisations – 58 %
- 17 medium organisations – 16%
- 28 small organisations - 26%

This compares to the previous *Local Community Fund* (LCF) funding where a total of 50 projects were funded:

- 40 delivered by Large (£250k+) organisations – 80%
- 7 delivered by Medium (£150k-£250k) organisations = 14%
- 3 delivered by Small (less than £150k) organisations – 6%

This shows that the Council has succeeded in achieving its principle of supporting a wider range of services and groups with smaller and medium size organisations making up 42% of those recommended for funding for MCGP compared to 20% in the LCF programme.

Previous LCF Funding

In July 2019, the council agreed a programme of LCF funding for 39 voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations delivering 50 projects from 1 October 2019 to March 2023.

In March 2022 the council extended the funding until September 2023 for the programme's remaining 49 projects, with one project having closed its service in January 2022 after a review of the provider's wider services¹. The LCF programme was further extended until 31st October 2023 to allow sufficient time to complete work on the replacement MCGP. Further details of the LCF can be found [here](#).

The projects previously funded by the LCF programme were across five themes:

- Inclusion, health and wellbeing
- Digital inclusion and awareness
- Advice and information
- Employment and skills
- Community safety

To understand the risks to residents from protected characteristic groups from the ending of the LCF funding and replacement with MCGP, it is important to understand the key aims of LCF projects and the 'Protected Characteristic' groups that were targeted. A detail overview can be found in [Appendix B](#).

3.5 MCGP Awarded Projects - Breakdown by Theme:

The assessment will now provide an overview of the projects recommended to be funded through the MCGP. Some of the themes make reference to specific protected characteristics or geographical areas.

Theme 1, Tackling Cost of Living Crisis, Scheme 1 – Advice, information and crisis support:

Priority: Information, advice and support on legal rights, immigration, welfare benefits, housing, employment, income and crisis support. **Targeted at vulnerable and marginalised groups including disabled people, migrants and hard-to-reach groups.**

Outcomes: For residents: Increased access to social welfare, improved personal finance, budgeting and reduced debt, increase in skills and capability, better health and housing, improved quality of advice service in the borough.

Analysis of Recommended Projects: Five projects have been recommended for funding under this scheme – the analysis below considers the geographic, thematic and 'Protected Characteristic' 'reach' for these five projects.

The cost-of-living theme aligns to a key equalities issue as Tower Hamlets has a statistical disproportionate wealth inequality.

Protected Characteristic and Geographical Area:

Four of the five recommended projects will operate borough-wide. With one operating in the southwest of the borough stretching from Whitechapel to Poplar and covering several neighbourhoods in the most deprived 20% as per the IMD map shown on page 13 of this document.

Three new projects focus on residents generally with two serving the borough, so the recommended projects offer provision for all residents to access advice services.

Another project provides nutritious meals to vulnerable and marginalised residents boroughwide.

Theme 1, Tackling Cost of Living Crisis, Scheme 1 – Advice, information and crisis support (continued):

Age and Race: Only one project explicitly targets a protected characteristic group focused on Chinese and Vietnamese older people.

The three other projects are targeted at residents generally. Once projects are commenced, funded organisations will collect equalities monitoring data to ensure that the services are being accessed proportionally by individuals across the borough. For example, Muslim Black, Asian and Multiethnic women who are much less likely to be in work are also likely to be accessing certain services in higher numbers.

Within the large consortium providing resident advice, there are organisations specifically focused on supporting people with ‘Protected Characteristics’ for example, Disability and certain Ethnicities.

This is consistent with the previous LCF. Once again, Equalities monitoring / beneficiary feedback should be used to ensure there are no specific barriers to disabled people accessing the general services.

Theme 2, Accelerate Education, Scheme 2A – Educational Attainment and Development of Children and Young People (CYP).

Priority: Community-based study support, language development, provision for children with Special Educational Needs and wide access to extra-curricular activities.

Outcomes: CYP have improved educational attainment, improved health and well-being, increased leadership skills, confidence and aspiration, improved access to youth services, are enabled to secure good jobs and reduce ASB, radicalisation and substance misuse.

Analysis of Recommended Projects: Seventeen projects have been recommended for funding under this theme, providing arts, community languages and personal development for CYP.

Protected characteristic and Geographical Area

Age, Disability, Gender and Race:

Eight of the projects target children and young people generally, one operates boroughwide. One focuses on families and babies providing toy libraries & sessions for pre-schoolers.

Five projects target multi-ethnic children and young people – two specifically referencing Bangladeshi groups and two Somali, one specifically for Somali and other families with SEND.

The projects aimed at supporting Somali CYP operate boroughwide.

Of the two focused on Bangladeshi and other multi-ethnic groups, one operates boroughwide and one serves only St Katherine's and Wapping.

One proposed project focuses on girls and young women. These projects both operate boroughwide and offer music provision to empower children and bridge educational gaps and another offering a programme of activities to stimulate children and create peer support networks.

Two other projects are focused specially on disability – aiming to support children and young people with special educational needs. These projects both operate boroughwide.

Theme 2, Accelerate Education, Scheme 2B – Lifelong Learning

Priority: Skills for life and lifelong learning, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Digital Inclusion.

Outcomes: Reduce digital exclusion amongst residents from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, older people, low-income families and those with a disability. Improve the confidence of residents, building resilience and self-esteem, developing relationships and aspirations. Residents are able to learn in their first language to improve their overall learning outcomes.

Needs Analysis: Tower Hamlets has a significant gender employment gap.

Analysis of Recommended Projects:

Thirteen projects have been recommended for funding against this priority, two focus on residents generally with one supporting adults, all three of these projects operate boroughwide.

Age: One project focuses on improving digital skills for older people and operates boroughwide.

Disability: One project focuses on adult learning for those with a learning disability. One project focuses on learning for those who are deaf or hard of hearing. Both projects operate boroughwide.

Race: Six projects focus on multi-ethnic groups, two on Black, Asian and multiethnic women, one on Bangladeshi women, one on Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, one on migrants and one on both Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities and migrants.

Sex: As mentioned in the above section on Race, three projects focus specifically on women, two on Black Asian and Multi-Ethnic women with one on Bangladeshi women. There is no specific provision for women who are not multi-ethnic, monitoring data should be used to ensure there are no barriers to women accessing the general services.

High level analysis – we have one project focused on digital inclusion skills for residents operating boroughwide and one project focused on ESOL (*English for Speakers of Other Languages*) targeting Black, Asian and multi-ethnic people operating boroughwide.

Theme 3, Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills – Scheme 3A – Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents:

Priority: Supporting people not in education, employment or training (NEET), Targeted youth outreach and youth provision, promoting enterprise and innovation, particularly the greening of the borough, Job brokerage by supporting people into work.

Outcomes: Increased employment and progression especially for groups with low employment levels including Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities, disabled people, women, and young people – including by addressing barriers. Enabling

residents to benefit from cultural and sporting opportunities that improve their mental and physical well-being.

Analysis of Recommended Projects:

Thirteen projects have been recommended for funding under this theme, all projects are focused on increasing employment for different groups in the borough. With the ultimate aim of reducing the income inequality highlighted in a previous section of this document.

Age: One project targets older people aged 50+, five projects focus on young people one of these five specifically on NEET young people, one on Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic YP. Of these age-related projects four operate borough wide. One focused on young people generally operates specifically in Lansbury and Poplar.

Disability: Two projects specifically target groups of residents who may have a disability, one focused on disability and mental health, and one on mental health. Both are boroughwide in scope.

Race: Seven projects explicitly focus on *Race*, supporting Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic residents of Somali and African/Caribbean descent, Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic women and Migrants, refugees and migrants, Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities (x3) and Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic Young people.

Sex: Three projects focus on all women, and a further project focuses on unemployed women. One final project focuses on Black, Asian and Multiethnic women. Projects focused on unemployed and Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic women operate boroughwide.

Socio-economic: One project focuses on supporting homeless people into work boroughwide.

Theme 3, Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills – Scheme 3B – Sports, Local Culture and Heritage

Priority: Promoting local culture and heritage, Promoting sports activity.

Outcome: Increased engagement in physical activities and sport, particularly by young girls, women and people from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities - enabling residents to take part in arts and culture activities for the first time. The aim being to improve health outcomes - both physical and mental - and confidence through participation in physical activities, sport and cultural activities.

Analysis of recommended projects:

14 projects have been recommended for funding under this theme, focused on both culture and sports.

Culture:

Six recommended projects focus on culture.

One project focuses on film making and targets all residents, boroughwide. One project operates borough wide, and it aimed at “marginalised groups” teaching drama and writing skills.

Age:

Two projects focus on older and younger people – one targets a set area of Bethnal Green East and West and one operates boroughwide, both focus on access to the arts. One project focuses on young people, children and families (focusing on theatre and drama) and operates boroughwide.

Race: One project focuses on Somali arts culture and heritage it is aimed at families and operates boroughwide. One focuses on the Bangladeshi community and culture and also works boroughwide.

Sports: In total, eight recommended projects focus specifically on sport.

Gender:

- One project focuses on sports provision for women & girls and operates boroughwide.
- Another project operates boroughwide and focuses on increasing girls access to outdoor adventure.
- A further project targets Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic men with cycling address social exclusion, the same project targets taekwondo for girls in St Dunstan’s.

Age:

- Two sporting project’s focus on children – one operating boroughwide, teaching cricket, the other providing free supervised play for 5-13’s in Limehouse and Poplar.
- A further project promotes sport among young people and older people and again, operates boroughwide.
- Finally, two projects focus on improving youth wellbeing through sport - one operates across 11 wards and the other in Bromley South.

Disability:

- One project looks at sports participation for SEND adults boroughwide.

Race:

- One project focuses on boroughwide sports provision for Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic communities including specific focus on young women, women, young people and men over 45 – meeting cultural and religious needs.

Theme 4, Investing in Public Services – Scheme 4A – Physical and Mental Health Wellbeing of Older People

Priority:

Supporting older and vulnerable people, including luncheon clubs, meals delivery services and pensioner projects. Developing community activities aimed at tackling loneliness and inactive lifestyles.

Outcome:

Older people with improved physical and mental health outcomes, improved management of health conditions and making healthy choices, and increased physical activity. Older residents supported by neighbourhood initiatives feeling more connected to community and less socially isolated.

Analysis of recommended projects: In total, fifteen projects have been recommended to be funded under this theme.

Age: All projects recommended under this theme support older people. For example, one supports to reduce isolation through a boroughwide “activity buddy” scheme, one runs a programme of health and social activities boroughwide.

Race: One project focuses on Vietnamese and Chinese communities running a lunch club boroughwide, one focuses on the Bangladeshi community and operates a community-based day club in Shadwell, St Katherines and Wapping. One focuses on Bangladeshi women in "Blackwall and Cubitt Town, Canary Wharf, Island Gardens, Lansbury, Limehouse, Poplar" with a further focused on Black, Asian and multi-ethnic women with disabilities in Bethnal Green East and West, Spitalfields and Banglatown, and Weavers. A further project focuses particularly but not exclusively on Somali residents running a senior club for residents boroughwide.

Gender: One project focuses on Bengali women in "Blackwall and Cubitt Town, Canary Wharf, Island Gardens, Lansbury, Limehouse, Poplar" with a further focused on Black, Asian and multi-ethnic women with disabilities in Bethnal Green East and West, Spitalfields and Banglatown, and Weavers.

Theme 4, Investing in Public Services – Scheme 4B – Physical and Mental Health of Residents

Priority: Promoting health and well-being through tackling inequality.

Outcome: Residents with improved physical and mental health outcomes including improved management of health conditions and making health choices, socially excluded residents are supported by neighbourhood initiatives feeling more connected to community and less socially isolated. Reduced health inequalities.

Analysis of recommended projects: Fourteen projects have been recommended to be funded under this theme:

The Bromley-by-Bow centre supports residents generally in three wards of the borough but also particularly works with Black, Asian and multi-ethnic groups

Age: One project supports disadvantaged children in Spitalfields and Banglatown improving wellbeing and tackling food poverty by connecting children to nature. One supports younger people borough wide to prevent suicide, with its mental health focus this can also be seen to support those with a **disability**. One supports young women with mentoring in "Blackwall and Cubitt Town, Canary Wharf, Island Gardens and Mile End". One project supports SEND young people with weekly sports and social activities.

Disability: One project dedicated to supporting the deaf community boroughwide improving their health and wellbeing. One provides dedicated mental health support to residents boroughwide. One to one counselling will also be offered for residents living with HIV who are at increased risk of poor mental health. One project supports SEND young people with weekly sports and social activities.

Theme 4, Investing in Public Services – Scheme 4B – Physical and Mental Health of Residents (continued)

Carers: One project supports unpaid carers boroughwide, building resilience through therapies and learning opportunities.

Gender:

- Providing disadvantaged women who are survivors of gender-based violence and may have complex needs with culturally competent counselling.
- Women's health matters will support women in 6 wards with fitness and nutrition activities

Race:

- One health living project is specifically targeted at Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic communities focusing on health advice for conditions commonly/ disproportionately impacting residents, operating borough wide.
- A more local project also mentions multi-ethnic groups alongside others, with sessions designed to improve health and connection across five wards

Religion / Belief: One project focuses on health & wellbeing targeted at Muslim women, operating boroughwide.

Sexual Orientation / Gender identity:

One project focuses on supporting LGBTQIA+ residents often with intersectional protected characteristics enhancing peer networks to reduce isolation and provide mental health crisis support.

Theme 5, Empower Communities and Fight Crime – Scheme 5A – Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality groups and Socio-economic Backgrounds

Priority: Addressing inequality for Black Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities and women, Creating opportunities for people from different backgrounds to come together.

Outcome: Reduced inequalities for groups with protected characteristics and reduced structural racism. Increased opportunities for women and multiethnic groups, improved community cohesion incl. different ages. Protection of children and young people reduced domestic violence, crime and anti-social behaviour.

Analysis of recommended projects: Eight projects have been recommended to be funded under this theme

Age: Empowering communities targets different age groups older people, parents and children bringing them together to share culture and food across 7 wards.

Disability: Two projects work boroughwide in order to support people with a disability – one focused on mental health for Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic Communities to overcome barriers to accessing support. One “All-inclusive advice” focused on holistic advice.

Gender: Stay Safe Stay Smart focuses on girls and women in Shadwell St Katherine’s and Wapping and Whitechapel empowering them to make positive choices.

Race: Three projects focus on Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, two serving the whole borough. One recruiting 60% women to become charity trustees, supporting residents into leadership roles and ensuring diversity is reflected.

Theme 5, Empower Communities and Fight Crime – Scheme 5A – Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality groups and Socio-economic Backgrounds (continued)

Religion: Council of Mosques, empowerment project will focus on addressing racism and faith-based abuse targeting particularly but not exclusively the boroughs Muslim Community.

Theme 5, Empower Communities and Fight Crime – Scheme 5B – Community Safety

Priority: Promoting safer communities, through drug and alcohol interventions, victim support, gang intervention and prevention, supporting ex-offenders, victim support and tackling violence against women and girls.

Outcomes: Residents feel safer including the LGBTQIA+ Community and those with a disability, improved relationships, confidence and trust in the police especially for children, young people and women. Men and boys educated, aware and active against domestic violence. Safe spaces for women, children and young people. Reduction in crime, ASB and drug use. Ex-offenders have better opportunities. Residents actively engage with statutory services to identify and implement solutions to local problems.

Analysis of recommended projects: Seven projects have been recommended to be funded under this theme

The “Safer Parks Campaign” supports all residents across five wards to tackle key issues making residents unsafe in parks.

Age: Two projects engage with young people across the borough, one educating and mentoring school children to prevent them from being involved in crime. One focused on preventative and early intervention activities. A further project targets a specific group of young people, ex-offenders providing pathways to employment across the borough. A further project supports children and families who have experienced domestic violence and are staying in a refuge.

Gender: One project provides self-defence classes for women and girls across four wards. One project provides female sex workers with 121 support including advocacy and works boroughwide. Another provides boroughwide advice and support targeted at Somali and Multi-ethnic women who are affected by domestic abuse.

Race: Two projects focus on Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic residents, one providing support for Somali and other multi-ethnic women affected by domestic abuse across the borough, and another running self-defence classes for multi-ethnic young people across five wards.

3.6 Overall Geographical Scope of Awards

58 projects operate boroughwide just under 53% of the total 110 projects, ensuring that residents across the borough can access projects funded under every theme:

Number of Boroughwide projects by theme as a **total** and broken down by (A & B):

- Theme 1 – **3**
- Theme 2 – **15**
- Theme 3 – **16**
- Theme 4 – **14**
- Theme 5 – **10**

Across all themes, the projects which do not operate boroughwide, operate in the wards shown below – one cross is marked for one project. This is the area served by the project not the area in which the project is based.

Ward	Theme 1	Theme 2 (A & B)	Theme 3 (A & B)	Theme 4 (A & B)	Theme 5 (A & B)	Total
Bethnal Green (Bethnal Green East)	X	XX		XXX	X	7
Blackwall & Cubitt Town		X	X	XX		4
Bow East		X		XX		3
Bow West		X		X	X	3
Bromley North		X		X	X	3
Bromley South		X	X	X	X	4
Canary Wharf		X		XX		3
Island Gardens		X	X	X		3
Lansbury		XX	XX	XX		6
Limehouse	X	XX	XXX	XX	XX	10
Mile End	X	XXXX	X	X	XX	9
Poplar	X	XXXX	XXXXX	XX	X	13
St Dunstan's	X	XXXXXXXX	XXXX	X	XX	14
St Katharine's & Wapping	XX	XXXX	X	XXXX	XXX	14
St Peters (Bethnal Green West)	X	XXXX	X	X	X	8
Shadwell	XX	XXXX	XX	XXXXX	XXXXX	18
Spitalfields & Banglatown	X	XXXX	X	XXX	X	10
Stepney Green	X	XXXXXXXX	XXX	XX	XXXX	16
Weavers	X	XXXX	XX	XX	X	10
Whitechapel	XX	XXXXXXXX	XX	XXXXX	XXXX	20

On top of boroughwide provision there is a good range of projects targeting specific areas of the borough. However, four areas may be slightly under-served based on IMD:

- Bow East
- Bow West
- Bromley North
- Bromley South

This risk is minimal as most projects operate boroughwide. However, provision for these areas will be considered through mobilisation and on-going monitoring of service delivery.

3.7 Key potential differences LCF v MCGP

Difference:

- Family mentoring to support early help for children and young people.
- Parenting course for parents struggling with children under 5, and a parenting course with lunch and activities for under 5s.

Mitigation:

This is partially met by the boroughwide toy, library, and play sessions for young children funded under scheme 2A and multi generation project n 5A. The Council is also launching family hubs in Tower Hamlets which will offer early help and support for parents and families by bringing together a network of services in one place. More information on Family Hubs can be found [here](#).

Difference:

- Mindfulness pain management programme targeting residents with chronic pain or illness
- A project co-producing support with people with lived experience of disability.

Mitigation:

This is partially met by boroughwide projects in this case, funded under theme 5A focused on holistic support and increasing access to services for residents with a Disability. A number of projects in theme 4 focus on wellbeing of older people and all residents.

Difference :

- Project enabling blind and partially sighted young people to participate in physical activities.

Mitigation:

The MCGP does provide a variety of different sports provision but does not provide services specifically targeted at blind or partially sighted young people. The recommended project in theme 4B focused on SEND and disabled young people can meet this.

Difference:

- Project training women to become e-safety champions for the community, sharing knowledge to benefit young people parents/ carers, and another building digital resilience of children and young people

Mitigation:

There are number of digital inclusion projects under theme 2B which focus on supporting women who are digitally excluded which will include safe use of internet.

Difference:

- Working with employers in Tower Hamlets through co-production to support companies to be excellent employers of disabled people

Mitigation:

Partially met through projects focused on supporting disabled people into employment.

Difference:

- Reducing barriers to employment for carers and single parents of Bangladeshi, Somali and multi-ethnic heritage with limited English.

Mitigation:

Funded projects under Scheme's 3A and 5A which focus on supporting women into employment have experience of working with single parents and carers.

Difference :

- Advice and guidance support for young carers

Mitigation:

Project funded under 4B building resilience and resourceful-ness for all unpaid carers. The Council's youth service provides a range of support to young carers [Young carers: support and advice \(towerhamlets.gov.uk\)](http://towerhamlets.gov.uk). Further work will be undertaken with service to understand if need for additional VCS provision.



TOWER HAMLETS

Section 4: Assessing the impacts on different groups and service delivery

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme One: – Tackling cost of living crisis				
Age (All age groups)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The pensioner poverty rate in Tower Hamlets (44%) is nearly double that of London (23%) and is currently the highest rate in England. The levels of child poverty in the Borough (32.5%) are also nearly double that of London (19%). A recent review (<i>Tower Hamlets Poverty review 2021</i>) reported that the borough had the highest levels, nationally of child poverty.</p> <p>One of the overarching aims of this service is to mitigate and reduce levels of poverty by supporting vulnerable residents and low-income households to access their rights, understand their obligations and maximise their incomes. Whilst this service is not specifically targeted at a specific age group, we conclude that on balance, residents of certain ages who are currently disproportionately affected by the cost of living crisis will ultimately benefit from the delivery of this service in the Borough.</p> <p>For example under the LCF Theme 3 – Advice and Support 11% of beneficiaries were 65+. Compared to 5.6% of the population in the 2021 Census, demonstrating the impact an advice theme can have on pensioner poverty.</p>

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Two: – Accelerating Education:				
Age (All age groups)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The percentage of the Tower Hamlets population who have poor (or no) fluency in spoken English is eight per cent (around one in 12 residents) which is the second highest proportion nationally (after Newham at 9 per cent). This compares with just 4 per cent across London and 2 per cent in England. (Source ONS.)</p> <p>Whilst we do not have statistical data to indicate the age profile of residents who do not speak English, the proposed <i>English for Speakers of Other Languages</i> programme is likely to benefit residents of all ages across the borough.</p> <p>Age UK analysis indicates there are still 2.7 million people in the UK aged 65+ who have not used the internet in the last three months – most of who say they have never used it. Digital exclusion in the UK is particularly high among the oldest age groups – around a third (34%) of those aged 75+ and one in ten (10%) of those aged 65-74 do not use the internet whereas virtually all in groups aged under 55 do. The proposed <i>Digital Exclusion</i> initiative planned to be delivered as part of this theme is likely to have a positive impact on older residents who are currently digitally excluded. One of the planned projects is also specifically designed to support older people in respect of digital exclusion and will operate boroughwide.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Three: – Culture, Business, Jobs & Skills				
Age (All age groups)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>One of the primary aims of this strand of projects is to provide support for people who are currently not in education, employment or training (NEET).</p>

				<p>Whilst many of these projects are available to people of all ages, specific support for young people is planned. A total of five projects are designed for young people who are NEET with four of these operating borough wide.</p> <p>Taking into account the current trend of entrenched unemployment in Tower Hamlets - 13.7% of people who have never worked/long term unemployed (10.3% and 8.5% for London & England and Wales)¹, a focus on youth and early intervention is considered to be a proportionate response.</p> <p>Additionally, one of the planned projects has been designed to provide specific support to residents who are both NEET and aged 50+</p>
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Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme 3: – Culture, Business, Jobs & Skills (continued)				
Age (All age groups)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Two cultural programmes have age considerations and are likely to have a positive impact on age groups by bringing together older and younger people in order to build understanding and cohesion.</p> <p>The key age focus of sporting programmes is on improving the health of children and young people. This responds to the need identified through data for example, children in year 6 in Tower Hamlets are more likely to be obese, 45% compared to London (41%) and England (38%).⁷</p> <p>A pupil survey also found that only 22% of both primary and secondary pupils had participated in a sports club or class outside of school. Targeting sporting activity at young people should positively impact on youth participation in sports, which is linked to healthy lifestyles.</p> <p>Examples of related projects in this theme include:</p>

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free supervised play for 5-13's in Limehouse and Poplar. 2. Teaching cricket to all children but especially those under-represented e.g. girls, multi-ethnic and low income <p>Focus on young people and health also consistent with the LCF, as is the focus on community cohesion through culture.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Four – Investing in Public Services				
Age (All age groups)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Scheme 4A – Physical and Mental Health Wellbeing of Older People. The title of this programme is somewhat self-explanatory and is designed to have a positive impact on older residents. Planned activities include meals delivery, luncheon clubs and developing projects aimed at tackling loneliness and inactive lifestyles,</p> <p>This scheme explicitly focuses on health of older people as there is a correlation between health, age and loneliness. Projects funded under the theme aim to have a positive impact on older people for example, by reducing isolation through buddy schemes and increasing healthy outcomes by running a programme of health and social events.</p> <p>4B – Physical and Mental Health of Residents:</p> <p>Some programmes within this theme will have a positive impact on certain age groups for example a further sporting project targeting young people with SEND (responding to the high level of children with SEND in Tower Hamlets – the 4th highest rate in London)⁵.</p>

				<p>One project focuses on tackling food poverty creating edible gardens to increase access to nature for disadvantaged children, responding to the high levels of child poverty in the borough.</p> <p>Projects funded under 4A and 4B have thematic consistency with projects funded through the LCF and mitigation funding.</p>
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Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Five – Empower Communities and Fight Crime:				
Age (All age groups)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Scheme 5A - Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality groups and Socio-economic Backgrounds – Positive</p> <p>One project funded aims to improve community cohesion between different age groups empowering communities by bringing people together to share culture and food across seven different wards and meeting the public sector equality duty to foster good relations.</p> <p>Scheme 5B – Community Safety – Positive Projects under the theme target young people at risk of crime, and young people who are ex-offenders, this is consistent with an early intervention / preventative approach to community safety.</p> <p>Similar projects, with similar aims to the LCF, but which deliver projects in schools and wider settings rather than in pupil referral units</p> <p>A further project funded under this theme supports children and families who have experienced trauma due to domestic violence. Supporting children and young people through early intervention.</p>

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
All Planned Activities under the <i>Mayors Community Grant Programme</i> versus the previous <i>Local Community Fund</i>. (LCF)				
Age (All age groups)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>One possible impact recorded.</p> <p>1: Previous LCF funding included a project enabling blind and partially sighted young people to participate in physical activities. It is recommended that mitigating action will include SEN and disabled young people sports project to to meet the needs of this group.</p>

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme One: – Tackling cost of living crisis:				
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Disabled Londoners or families with a disabled member have a higher risk than average of being in poverty³, therefore of needing support with cost-of-living crisis. Theme 1 should therefore have a positive impact by offering disabled residents who are experiencing poverty, access to advice for all residents boroughwide and nutritious food to vulnerable residents.</p> <p>In LCF Theme 3 – Advice and Information saw 47% of beneficiaries state they had a disability from Set 2021 – Oct 2022. This included residents with Sensory Impairment, Physical Impairment, Learning Disability, Mental Health Conditions, and Long-standing illness or health condition. We can expect that this theme will have a similar positive impact for residents with disabilities.</p> <p>Within the consortium providing advice, there are organisations specifically focused on supporting disabled residents. This is consistent with the LCF. Equalities monitoring / beneficiary feedback should be used to ensure there are no specific barriers to disabled people accessing the general services.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Two: Accelerating Education				
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>2A Educational Attainment and Development of Children and Young People- Positive</p> <p>Residents with a disability were much more likely to have no qualifications than those without a disability. Similarly, residents with a disability were much less likely to have a level 4 qualification. ¹ Tower Hamlets also has a relatively high proportion of children with special educational needs and disabilities ⁵</p>

				<p>Two planned projects focus on supporting children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and operate boroughwide – using music and a programme of activities to empower children with SEN and their families to support peer support and improved outcomes.</p> <p>2B Lifelong Learning – positive Two projects also focus on adult learning for residents with a disability, specifically for those with a learning disability and those who are deaf or hard of hearing. This is a positive impact. However, there are gaps in provision for those with other physical disabilities and all mental health conditions.</p> <p>Residents with these disabilities would have the opportunity to access general services teaching basic digital skills and money management, equalities monitoring / beneficiary feedback should be used to ensure there are no specific barriers to disabled people accessing the general services. Especially considering those with visual and audio impairments and digital inclusivity.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Three: Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills				
Disability:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>3A - Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents – Positive Disabled residents in work were slightly less likely to be in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations (57.2%) than residents without a disability (63.2%) and were therefore slightly more likely to be working in most other occupation types, in particular caring, leisure and other service occupations. ¹ Less than half (42%) of all disabled people aged 16-64 years were in employment, compared with nearly three quarters (72%) of the non-disabled population. ⁴</p>

				<p>Two recommended projects specifically target disabled residents. Both are focused on improving employability, skills and experience and considering the needs of those with all disabilities - specifically mental health. The programmes aim to tackle the key inequality issues described above by residents with a disability who are less likely to be in work and in senior roles.</p> <p>Previous LCF funding focused on making the work environments for companies in Tower Hamlets more accessible for disabled employers. The MCGP projects focus more on supporting disabled people but do show recognition that removing barriers is key so there is a change in focus but not a gap. Project implementation should ensure projects are sensitive to the need to ensure employers understand their responsibilities.</p>
Disability:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>3B - Sports, Local Culture and Heritage – Positive Culture In continuity from the LCF there is an accessible theatre and drama programme open to young people with disabilities under the age of 25.</p> <p>Sport One programme focuses on increasing sports participation for adults with disability and SEND boroughwide. The offer expands on the LCF projects which previously provided sport for blind and partially sighted young people, though this specific target group is no longer catered for. Mobilisation and equality monitoring should be used to ensure blind and partially sighted residents are able to access this project.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Four: Investing in Public Services -Physical and Mental Health				
Disability:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>While the projects funded under this theme do not specifically reference disability, the similar LCF Scheme D – Healthy living and healthy choices equalities data shows that between Oct 21 – Sept 22 42% of beneficiaries were residents with a disability.</p>

				This demonstrates the likely positive impact this theme will have for residents with a disability.
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Five – Empower Communities and Fight Crime				
Disability:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>5A – Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality groups and Socio-economic Backgrounds - Positive</p> <p>One project focuses on holistic assistance for all residents with a disability across the borough to support independence and ensure they can access services. This may go some way to supplement the specific disabilities which do not have support under 5B. A further project specifically works with Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic communities with mental health challenges to ensure they are able to access support.</p> <p>This corresponds to a need identified using data showing that certain multi-ethnic groups have higher levels of disability and resident feedback that mainstream services struggle to meet certain cultural needs.</p> <p>5B – Community Safety - Neutral</p> <p>While the theme makes explicit reference to residents with a disability, none of the funded projects are explicitly focused on residents with a disability. One project does target all residents but only in five wards, so disabled residents may benefit from safer parks if they live in this select area.</p> <p>The project under theme 5A will support residents with a range of service to support their independence including ensuring they can remain safe. The Council also commissions a Disabled Peoples Network with aim of ensuring disabled peoples voice reflect local service provision. As part of service monitoring it will be important to ensure projects support residents with disability.</p>

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme One: Tackling cost of living crisis				
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The overarching aims of this theme is to mitigate and reduce levels of poverty by supporting vulnerable residents and low-income households to access their rights, understand their obligations and maximise their incomes.</p> <p>None of projects are targeted to a particular Sex (e.g. Men or Women.) and there is little national data to indicate if a particular Sex is more or less likely to access certain support services. It is however recommended that all funded organisations capture the Sex of people accessing their services to identify if any trends exist e.g. a disproportionate number of women are accessing the service compared to men (or vice versa) which may indicate further targeted marketing or awareness of the service is required by the Council.</p> <p>The previous advice scheme funded under the LCF was accessed by mainly women who made up 60% of service users between Oct 2021 – Sep 2022. This may be explained by women being more likely to be unemployed (in the borough) and lone parents (across the UK). Monitoring data should consider if this gender split changes under MCGP.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Two: Accelerate Education				
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>2A Educational Attainment and Development of Children and Young People – Adverse</p> <p>One project funded under the theme focuses on Sex having a positive impact on girls by supporting them with extracurricular activities. There is however a gap, as data shows that boys have lower attainment levels than girls at all stages. There is currently no specific provision for boys. Negative impact recorded.</p>

				<p>Scheme 2B – Lifelong Learning – Positive Provision is focused on Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic women. This is likely to have a positive impact and responds to the identified ethnic gender employment gap in the borough with seven female ethnic groups having an employment rate below 50% while no corresponding male ethnic groups did ¹.</p> <p>There is no specific provision for white women. Through mobilisation and equality monitoring, the team can check there are no barriers to women accessing general residents services.</p> <p>Online safety training is planned for specific groups including women only sessions. The above themes expand on the previous provisions available via the LCF.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Three – Culture, Business, Jobs and Skills				
Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>3A - Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents: The gender employment gap in the Borough is a key concern. Only 59% of working age women are employed compared to 82% of men. The ethnic employment (White vs Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic) gap amongst women is twice as wide in the borough (36%) compared to London (15%) ⁹. Women of specific ethnicities are much less likely to be employed. For example, only 28.6% for Bangladeshi women are currently employed ¹ Programmes funded under this theme respond directly to this need targeting women, unemployed women and Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic women. The funded organisations have experience supporting women and single parents.</p> <p>3B - Sports, Local Culture and Heritage – Positive Three projects target women and girls positively impacting on the disparity in women taking part in sports. A further planned project targets multi-ethnic men to tackle social exclusion.</p>

				LCF projects previously focused on sports provision for Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic women. Equalities monitoring data and beneficiary feedback will be collected to ensure the services aimed at women and girls are accessible to both multi-ethnic women and girls.
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Four – Investing in Public Services:				
Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>4A - Physical and Mental Health Wellbeing of Older People: Two projects aim to support groups of older women. Specifically, support for Bangladeshi women across 6 wards and Black, Asian and Multiethnic women with disabilities across 4 wards. These intersectional groups are likely to be experiencing complex challenges in the borough. Using outreach, day care and social activities to improve health. These projects expand on LCF offering, but the target group is very specific. This focus is justified by the large Bangladeshi population with a proportion (34.6%) and numerical size (107,333) size – the largest in the country.</p> <p>4B - Physical and Mental Health of Residents – Positive Violence against women has been identified as key challenge in the borough. One planned project focuses on providing disadvantaged women who are survivors of gender-based violence and may have complex needs with culturally competent counselling, positively impacting on survivors the majority of whom are women. ¹⁰ A further project specifically targets women’s health and wellbeing. With another focused on health and wellbeing for Muslim women. Counselling for survivors of domestic abuse is consistent with a previous LCF project.</p>

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Five: Empower Communities and Fight Crime:				
Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Scheme 5A – Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality groups and Socio-economic Backgrounds – Positive One project focuses on girls and women in Shadwell St Katherines and Wapping and Whitechapel empowering them to make positive choices.</p> <p>Scheme 5B – Community Safety – Positive One project provides self-defence classes for women and girls across four wards, another boroughwide advice and support targeted at Somali and Multi-ethnic women who are affected by domestic abuse. A further project provides 121 supports to women sex workers boroughwide.</p> <p>These projects under both 5A and 5B focus on women’s safety and preventing violence against women and are again aligned to key equalities priorities outlined in the Tower Hamlets Equality Objectives.</p> <p>This is a thematic continuation of projects funded by the LCF, self-defence classes are a new offering.</p>

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Themes One to Five Inclusive:				
Transgender:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Most themes do not specifically reference LGBTQIA+ The exception being <i>Theme 4 Scheme 4B – Physical and Mental Health of Residents</i> where one</p>

<p>(Including Gender Identity e.g. non binary, gender fluid etc.)</p>				<p>project focuses on supporting LGBTQIA+ residents often with intersectional protected characteristics enhancing peer networks to reduce isolation and provide mental health crisis support.</p> <p>A recent study undertaken by Stonewall found that over the previous year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half of LGBTIQ+ people had experienced depression and three in five had experienced anxiety. • One in eight LGBTIQ+ people aged 18 to 24 had attempted to end their life. • Almost half of trans people had thought about taking their life. <p>As previously stated, census 2021 figures show Tower Hamlets as among the top ten local authorities in England for people aged over 16 identifying as LGBTQIA+. Projects in Theme 4B will focused on marginalised young people at risk of suicide and people with mental health issue focused on the LGBTQIA+ community.</p> <p>Further under Theme 5B there is recognition that LGBTQIA+ people may be at greater risk of hate crime in the borough however no projects funded under the scheme address this issue. The council's commissions an LGBT community Forum to ensure LGBT community voice heard in policy and service design. Through our No Place for Hate campaign and work with partners on the hate incident panel we are able to review and address hate incidents impacting the LGBTQIA+ community.</p>
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Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Themes One to Five Inclusive:				
Marriage / Civil Partnership:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no specific impacts on <i>Marriage and Civil Partnership</i> through the MCGP.
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Themes One to Five Inclusive:				
Pregnancy and Maternity:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no specific impacts in respect of <i>Pregnancy and Maternity</i> through the MCGP.
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Themes One to Five Inclusive:				
Religion or philosophical belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Theme 5 – 5A Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality groups and Socio-economic Backgrounds – Positive</p> <p>One project is funded with explicit focus on challenging discrimination for those of a shared belief. The <i>Empowerment Project</i> will focus on addressing racism and faith-based abuse targeting particularly, but not exclusively, the boroughs Muslim Community.</p> <p>Muslim residents are also at increased risk of poor outcomes for example, being less likely to be employment, less likely to be in managerial professional roles and more likely not to be in good health. Similarly another project will focus on health and wellbeing targeted as Muslim women who disproportionately face the above challenges.</p>



Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme One: – Tackling cost of living crisis				
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Tower Hamlets Poverty Review (2021) highlighted the links between inequality and poverty. Across London, some families have a much greater risk of being in poverty, including families with a disabled family member, families from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities, lone parents with children and larger families.</p> <p>As previously stated, the aims of this theme is to mitigate and reduce levels of poverty by supporting vulnerable residents and low-income households to access their rights, understand their obligations and maximise their incomes. Whilst this theme is not specifically targeted at any specific Race/ Ethnicity, we conclude that on balance, residents of all ethnicities (minority and majority) who are currently disproportionately affected by the cost of living crisis will ultimately benefit from the delivery of this service in the Borough.</p> <p>Previous advice services funded by the LCF were accessed by a range of ethnicities between Oct 2021 – Sep 2022, Bangladeshi (41%), White British (19%), Other White residents (8%) Black British African (8%), Somali (5%), Carribean (5%) and Other Black British (4%) Non Bangladeshi Asian residents (4%), and Mixed White and Black (4%). Meaning that 81% of beneficiaries were Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic.</p> <p>One specific project under this theme targets specific ethnic communities who are Vietnamese and Chinese older adults. Census 2021 showed 3.3% residents identified as Asian Chinese, Vietnamese was not listed as a category however “Other” Asian groups were 2.2% in total. A lower proportion of Chinese residents accessed advice services than 3.3% so this may increase access to services for this group.</p>

				Trust for London data shows that at a London level Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic residents are more likely to be living in poverty. ³ Within the consortium providing advice there are organisations specifically focused on supporting Multi-ethnic women, for example a Bangladeshi organisation – this is appropriate as approximately 1/3 residents are Bangladeshi. Through mobilisation specific attention should be paid to racial profile of service users, and whether it matches the borough through equalities monitoring / beneficiary feedback to ensure there are no specific barriers to certain groups accessing services.
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Two: Accelerate Education				
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>2A Educational Attainment and Development of Children and Young People – Positive Four planned projects specifically target multi-ethnic children and young people, supporting Bangladeshi, Somali and multi-ethnic young people.</p> <p>Scheme 2B – Lifelong Learning – Positive A total of six projects focus on Multi-ethnic groups, two on Black, Asian and multiethnic women, one on Bangladeshi women, one on Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic communities, one on migrants and one on both Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic communities and migrants. The <i>English for Speakers of Other Languages</i> will also benefit people who are on balance, likely to be minority ethnicity.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Three: Culture, Business, Jobs & Skills:				
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>3A - Employment & Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents Seven planned projects explicitly focus on <i>Race</i>, supporting Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic residents of Somali and African/Caribbean descent, Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic women and Migrants, refugees and migrants, Black, Asian</p>

and Multi-Ethnic communities (x3) and Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic Young people.

3B - Sports, Local Culture and Heritage

There are two key priorities under this theme, which are culture and sport:

There are two culturally related programmes planned:

1: A project focusing on Bangladeshi culture

2: A project focusing one on Somali culture

(This is consistent with the demographic of the borough 10 and with the Tower Hamlets Equality Objectives 11)

In respect of sport, one project focuses on boroughwide sports provision for Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic communities including specific focus on young women, young people and men over 45 – meeting both cultural and religious needs.

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
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Theme Four: Investing in Public Services:

Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Theme 4 - 4A - Physical and Mental Health Wellbeing of Older People – Positive</p> <p>Four projects support older people boroughwide with befriending schemes and activity clubs to prevent loneliness, isolation and support health. Older people of all races are provided for in this service offer. There are additional specific service offerings for Vietnamese and Chinese communities (boroughwide lunch club), Bangladeshi residents (day centre, Shadwell), two offerings for Bangladeshi women and a senior club tailored to but not exclusively for Somali residents, boroughwide.</p>
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				Once again, this representation is broadly reflective of the ethnic make-up of the borough and on balance, will have a positive impact on different groups by providing culturally specific services.
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Four: Investing in Public Services				
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Theme 4 Scheme 4B – Physical and Mental Health of Residents – Positive</p> <p>There is boroughwide provision specifically targeted at Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic communities focusing on health advice for conditions commonly disproportionately impacting multi-ethnic residents, operating borough wide. A more local project also references multi-ethnic groups alongside others, with sessions designed to improve health and connection across five wards.</p> <p>This is particularly important as the Asian ethnic group has substantially higher levels of poor health amongst those aged 50 and above than any other ethnic group. The boroughwide project is run by a group with links to local mosques which is significant because residents who identified their religion as Muslim were the most likely overall to not be in good health. Older Muslims (aged 50+) were much more likely than any other religious group of that age to not be in good health.</p> <p>70% of those accessing health focused LCF funded projects between Oct 21-Sep 22 were Multi-Ethnic with 36% of those Asian / Asian British Bangladeshi.</p>

Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
Theme Five: Empower Communities and Fight Crime:				
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Scheme 5A – Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality groups and Socio-economic Backgrounds – Positive Three projects focus on Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, two serving the whole borough. One particular project meets the intersectional needs of the community and two of the equality objectives (3+4) by recruiting 60% women to become charity trustees, supporting residents into leadership roles and ensuring diversity is reflected.</p> <p>Scheme 5B – Community Safety – Positive Two projects focus on Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic residents, one providing support for Somali and other multi-ethnic women affected by domestic abuse across the borough, and another running self-defence classes for multi-ethnic young people across five wards. This aligns well to the Councils’ equalities priorities focusing on addressing inequalities faced by the Somali community and improving overall safety for women.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
All themes:				
Sexual Orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><i>Sexual Orientation</i> is a specific priority in Theme 4 Scheme 4B – <i>Physical and Mental Health of Residents</i> where one project focuses on supporting LGBTQIA+ residents often with intersectional protected characteristics enhancing peer networks to reduce isolation and provide mental health crisis support.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
All themes:				
Socio and Economic Status:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Positive Impact: Many of the planned projects are designed to provide support for vulnerable and hard to reach adults who on balance, are likely to be of a lower socio and economic status.</p>

				<p>For example, the <i>Cost of Living Crisis</i> programme potentially has a positive impact on residents of a lower <i>Socio and Economic Status</i> who are more likely to be facing complex challenges as a result of the current increase in the cost of living.</p> <p>Further under Theme 3A one project specifically focuses on support homeless people to be closer to or move into employment, impacting positively this group at higher socio-economic risk.</p>
Groups	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Considering the above information and evidence, describe the impact this proposal will have on the following groups?
All themes:				
Parents/Carers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Theme 4 – 4B Positive</p> <p>A project under this theme supports unpaid carers boroughwide, building resilience through therapies and learning opportunities.</p> <p>Neutral – While there are no particular project for young carers, the Council’s youth service provides a range of support to young carers Young carers: support and advice (towerhamlets.gov.uk). Further work will be undertaken with service to understand if need for additional VCS provision.</p>

Section 5: Impact analysis and action plan

Recommendation	Key activity	Progress milestones including target dates for either completion or progress	Officer responsible	Update on progress
Existing provision which may not be recommended for funding in MCGP ensure users signposted to alternative provision	As part of mobilisation identify user groups that maybe impacted and discuss with providers ensuring transition to alternative providers	Oct – Dec 2023	VCS Grants Lead	
Equalities Monitoring and reporting framework	Develop a standard Equalities monitoring template for all projects, collect and monitor data	Oct – Nov 23 Annual report throughout life time of the project	VCS Grants Lead	
Show additional consideration for wards under-served in ward specific projects, through: -Short term mobilisation - Long-term VCS capacity building	Ensure boroughwide projects meet the needs of: ❖ Bow East ❖ Bow West ❖ Bromley North ❖ Bromley South Review in quarterly monitoring returns to identify gaps	Oct – Nov 23 Quarterly throughout lifetime of project	VCS Grants Lead	
Respond to any gaps in project funding by protected characteristic following the below stages. 1. Checking existing service provision across the Council 2. Checking if recommended projects can accommodate 3. Commissioning an alternative 4. Monitoring chosen provision	Support for young carers	Stage 1: Sept 2023 Stage 2: Oct-Nov 2023 Stage 3: Dec 2023 Stage 4 - ongoing	VCS Grants Lead	

<p>Respond to any gaps in project funding by protected characteristic following the below stages.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As part of mobilisation discuss with provider of SEND and disabled young peoples projects to accommodate this provision 2. Monitoring quarterly basis to ensure provision meets needs 	<p>Sports provision for blind partially sighted young people under theme 3B</p>	<p>Stage 1: October 2023</p> <p>Stage 2: Quarterly monitoring through project lifetime</p>	<p>VCS Grants Lead</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss with Disabled Peoples Network provider how provision supports the groups needs on community safety 2. As part of mobilisation discuss with recommended projects how needs of disabled residents will be met. 3. Monitoring quarterly basis to ensure provision meets needs 	<p>Under theme 5B- Ensure disabled residents are able to access Community Safety provision.</p>	<p>Stage 1: Oct- Nov 2023</p> <p>Stage 2: Oct – Nov 2023</p> <p>Stage 3: Quarterly monitoring through project lifetime</p>	<p>VCS Grants Lead</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss with LGBT Community Forum how provision supports the groups need on community safety 4. As part of mobilisation discuss with recommended projects how needs of LGBT residents will be met. 2. Monitoring quarterly basis to ensure provision meets needs 	<p>Under theme 5B- Ensure LGBTQIA+ residents are able to access Community Safety provision.</p>	<p>Stage 1: Oct- Nov 2023</p> <p>Stage 2: Oct – Nov 2023</p> <p>Stage 3: Quarterly monitoring through project lifetime</p>	<p>VCS Grants Lead</p>	

<p>1. As part of mobilisation discuss with providers how recommended projects will accommodate boys</p> <p>2. Monitor equalities data</p>	<p>Under Theme 2A ensure that boys are accessing the gender-neutral educational offering as there is no Specific provision for boys in the borough despite their lower attainment</p>	<p>Stage 1: Sept-Oct 2023</p> <p>Stage 2: Quarterly monitoring through project lifetime</p>	<p>VCS Grants Lead</p>	
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Section 6: Monitoring

What monitoring processes have been put in place to check the delivery of the above action plan and impact on equality groups?





Quarterly performance monitoring reports on projects will be provided to the Grants Determination Sub Committee along with an Annual Report which will set out how groups are supporting protected characteristics.

The below processes are also recommended to support the above actions:

- 1: Develop a standard Equalities monitoring template to be used by providers to capture equalities data as set in the Council's equality monitoring approach.
- 2: Report on the above data annually.
- 3: Develop a one page *Accessibility and Equality Impact* template to be completed by all providers to ensure all services delivered are both inclusive and accessible.
- 4: Deliver events which bring together providers and set out the Council's commitment to equality and the obligations of grant funded organisations in respect of the *Public Sector Equality Duty*.

Appendix A

EIA decision rating

Decision	Action	Risk
As a result of performing the EIA, it is evident that a disproportionately negative impact (direct, indirect, unintentional or otherwise) exists to one or more of the nine groups of people who share a Protected Characteristic under the Equality Act and appropriate mitigations cannot be put in place to mitigate against negative impact. It is recommended that this proposal be suspended until further work is undertaken.	Suspend – Further Work Required	Red 
As a result of performing the EIA, it is evident that there is a risk that a disproportionately negative impact (direct, indirect, unintentional or otherwise) exists to one or more of the nine groups of people who share a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. However, there is a genuine determining reason that could legitimise or justify the use of this policy.	Further (specialist) advice should be taken	Red Amber 
As a result of performing the EIA, it is evident that there is a risk that a disproportionately negatively impact (as described above) exists to one or more of the nine groups of people who share a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. However, this risk may be removed or reduced by implementing the actions detailed within the <i>Impact analysis and action plan</i> section of this document.	Proceed pending agreement of mitigating action	Amber 
Green: As a result of performing this analysis, the policy or activity does not appear to have any adverse effects on people who share <i>Protected Characteristics</i> and no further actions are recommended at this stage.	Proceed	Green 

Appendix B – Previous LCF Funding and Projects (Detailed Overview)

Previous LCF Funding and Projects:

Within the five themes projects focused on:

Theme 1 – Scheme A: Children, Young People and Families:

- Providing activities, enhancing core skills and increasing uptake of youth services for girls and young women.
- Culture and theatre for children and young people including young adults with disabilities.
- Specialist support for children who have experienced domestic abuse.
- Family mentoring to support early help for children and young people.
- Workshops for teens focused on leadership and drama.

Age, Gender and Disability: A range of activities to improve life outcomes for children and young people, a number of projects specifically targeting girls and young women with one focused on disabled young people.

Theme 1 – Scheme B: Older People:

- Older people were supported through this scheme with two buddy scheme's supporting them at home, the provision of an activity centre, a lunch club with integrated activities, a holistic wellbeing centre and a Vietnamese and Chinese lunch and social club.

Age, Race: Targeted support was provided for older people, in and outside the home improving health – with one project specifically focused on Vietnamese and Chinese residents.

Theme 1 - Scheme C: Access, Information and Self-Management:

- Mindfulness pain management programme targeting residents with chronic pain or illness and a project co-producing support with people with lived experience of disability.

Previous LCF Funding and Projects (continued)

Disability: Projects aimed at improving health outcomes and services for disabled residents included:

Theme 1 – Scheme D: Healthy living and healthy choices

- Projects aimed at increasing exercise for residents, targeting Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic women, children and young people, inactive young people, with a further project enabling 60 blind and partially sighted young people to participate in physical activities.
- One project focused on providing a free membership health club to all residents.

Age, Disability, Gender, Race: Projects under Scheme 1D targeted young people, multi-ethnic women and disabled residents.

Theme 1 – Scheme E: Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues.

- Projects focused on improving health and wellbeing for deaf and hard of hearing residents, partnership working with residents with disabilities to create an accessible newspaper promoting health.
- Project supporting disabled young people with educational and recreational opportunities.
- Project offering therapeutic support for women affected by domestic abuse.
- Improving wellbeing of those with lived experience of mental health.

Disability, Age, Gender: Projects focus on supporting residents with specific disabilities and mental health to improve health. Including specifically targeting young people and women who experienced domestic abuse.

Theme 2 – Scheme A: ICT skills and digital careers

- Three projects focused on digital inclusion for older adults to prevent isolation, including one specifically targeting Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic adults.

Age, Race: Minimising digital exclusion for older adults and multi ethnic older adults.

Previous LCF Funding and Projects (continued)

Theme 2 – Scheme B: Online Safety:

- Project training women to become e-safety champions for the community, sharing knowledge to benefit young people parents/ carers, and another building digital resilience of children and young people

Age, Gender: Project improving women's skills and concentrating on safety for children and young people.

Theme 3 – Scheme A: Advice and Information:

- Provision of advice services for residents including benefits, housing and employment.
- Project focused on improving capacity training quality and access to the borough's advice services through coordination and cooperation between internal services.

While these projects did not have explicit commitments to support residents with 'Protected Characteristics', some groups with shared characteristics were more likely to use these services based on historic inequalities within the Borough.

Theme 4 – Scheme A: Developing and embedding good practice in the work place for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work

- Working with employers in Tower Hamlets through co-production to support companies to be excellent employers of disabled people.

Disability: Impacts positively for disabled people by making work environments more accessible.

Theme 4 - Scheme B: Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups

- Supporting women into training and work. One project focused on employment support generally, another worked with people who are 'NEET' (not in education, employment or training). Separate projects were delivered to young people to increase employability and support for long term unemployed Black, Asian and Multi-ethnic women - particularly focused on meeting the needs of carers and single parents of Bengali, Somali and multi-ethnic heritage with limited English.

Age, Gender and Race, including carers and parents: The funded projects focused on increasing employment for women and specifically multi-ethnic women

with caring responsibilities. Finally schemes target increasing employment among young people.

Theme 4 – Scheme C: Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries:

- Projects focus on increasing higher education among young people in the borough to improve access to arts and cultural industries. A separate scheme focused on increasing representation from under-represented communities within the creative industry.
- Further schemes focus on working with disadvantaged residents particularly Black, Asian and multi-ethnic residents' women and those with disabilities to increase participation in creative industry. A further scheme similarly focused on multi-ethnic and working-class residents.

Age, Disability, Gender, Race, Socio-economic: The work funded under this theme aimed to increase the job prospects of young people, those with a disability, women, multi-ethnic residents, working-class residents and specifically multi-ethnic women.

Theme 5 – Scheme A: Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups:

- Creative programme to support pupils in pupil referral units to prevent exploitation.
- Two programmes promoting resilience among young people to support community cohesion and safety.

Age: Young people supported to feel more empowered and active in their communities.

Theme 5 – Scheme B: Improving the perception of young people in the community:

- Photography project using the arts to support intergenerational cohesion between young people (14-25 yrs) and older people (over 50). A further project with similar aims focused on co-production between age groups of programme of activities and celebrations. **Age:** Projects seek to increase community cohesion between older and younger people.

Theme 5 – Scheme C: Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances:

- Project supporting families living in refuges to address trauma they have faced and raising awareness of domestic violence and how to report across the community. **Gender:** Women are disproportionately survivors of domestic violence therefore the project was likely to have a direct positive impact on women in the borough.

Previous LCF Funding and Projects (continued)

LCF Mitigation Funding

Four mitigation projects were additionally funded as a result of the equality impact analysis conducted after the first set of funding decisions. These covered the following areas:

- *Vallance Sports Association: Sports Disability*
Summary: Increase participation in sports for disabled young people aged 12-25 to improve their wellbeing and life outcomes.
- *Toyhouse – Mellow Parenting Course Project*
Summary: For parents struggling with children under 5, a parenting course with lunch and activities for under 5s.
- *Streets of Growth: Caring and Coping Project*
Summary: Advice and guidance support for young carers, vulnerable young people who have experienced abuse/poverty/bereavement/gender identity challenges etc.
- *Step Forward: Reach Me Project - Early intervention, mental health programme for young people, tailored to their individual needs.*

Appendix B – Census 2021 – Key Data

Housing:

Housing is a key concern in Tower Hamlets with the lowest proportion of owner occupiers in England and Wales 23.1%, and the 5th highest proportion of households renting privately at 38.2%. 15.8% of households were overcrowded.

Inequality:

Inequality and specifically income inequality is also a key challenge in the borough with both higher-than-average proportions of senior managers and higher than average long term unemployment. 20.9% in higher managerial, administrative and professional occupations compared to London (17.6%) and England & Wales (13.1%) and 13.7% who have never worked/long term unemployed (10.3% and 8.5% for London & England and Wales).

Age:

Age – Tower Hamlets has a relatively young population; we have the lowest proportion of older people in the country with less than 6% of the population aged 65+ (5.6%) [Census 2021] but these groups are disproportionately living in poverty. Pensioner poverty is also a key challenge in the borough. Although the number of older people is small, 44% of our older people live in income deprived households, which is higher than in England and more than double the average¹.

Disability:

Disability – A quarter of households have at least one disabled resident (25.7%), 12.9% of residents have a disability
Disabled residents in work were slightly less likely to be in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations (57.2%) than residents without a disability (63.2%) and were therefore slightly more likely to be working in most other occupation types, in particular caring, leisure and other service occupations.
Age is unsurprisingly a significant factor in disability with the proportion of residents with a disability increasing with every age group. Amongst children aged 0-14 males were more likely to have a disability than females. For all age groups aged 15 and above, females were more likely than males to have a disability. The difference between males and females was greatest among those aged between 40 to 84, with a gap of 7.7% between 50-54 year old females and 50-54 year old males.

¹ Index Multiple Deprivation 2019

Certain ethnic groups had higher rates of disability with 26.8% of Gypsy and Irish traveller residents reporting a disability and 22.7% of Black Caribbean residents, White Irish and British residents both had a rate of 18.4%. The lowest rate was 3.6% for Roma groups.

There are some significant differences in the rate of disability among residents of different religions. Hindu residents had the lowest rate of disability at 5.5% while 'Other religion' had the highest rate (21.5%) followed by Jewish (18.7%)

Residents with a disability were much more likely to have no qualifications than those without a disability. Similarly, residents with a disability were much less likely to have a level 4 qualification.

Sex:

Sex – Females in employment were slightly more likely than males to be working in managerial, professional and associate professional occupations (64.0% compared with 61.7%). Females were much more likely to be working in administrative and secretarial occupations and in caring, leisure and other service occupations. Males were much more likely to be working in skilled trades and in process, plant and machine occupations.

Females were more likely than males to have no qualifications. They were also less likely to have level 4 qualifications. The difference is fairly small but this compares to London as a whole where females were 1.6% more likely than males to have level 4 qualifications.

Religion:

Adults aged 16+ with no religion were more likely to be in employment than residents of any major religion. This was true of both males and females. Muslim residents were the least likely to be in employment (both males and females) with Female Muslims by far the least likely to be in employment.

In terms of unemployment, males of most religious groups (and none) were more likely than females from the same religion to be unemployed (the exceptions to this being Hindu, Sikh and other religion). Buddhist males had the highest rate of unemployment at 8.1% followed by Muslim males at 7.0%.

Working residents who identified as Hindu were the most likely to be in managerial, professional and associate professional occupations (86.5%), followed by Jewish (83.1%), No religion (78.2%) and Sikh (76.3%). 62.6% of residents who identified as Christian were in such occupations which was almost identical to the average for all working residents of 62.7%. Residents who identified as Muslim were much less likely to be in these occupations (33.7%) whereas they are over-represented in every other occupation group.

Residents who identified their religion as Muslim were the most likely overall to not be in good health. Older Muslims (aged 50+) were much more likely than any other religious group of that age to not be in good health. Hindu residents were the least likely to not be in good health overall. Those of no religion were the least likely to not be in good health amongst those aged 50+.

Race:

Tower Hamlets has the largest Bangladeshi population in England and Wales at 34.6%, and the third highest proportion of Chinese residents. 14.6% of residents are White Other and similar to London but double England and Wales and 5% are Black African again double E& W but below London (7.9%).

There are significant variations in employment rate between ethnic groups in Tower Hamlets, particularly for females. The male group with the lowest employment rate is Bangladeshi at 52.9%, the lowest female group was also Bangladeshi at 28.6%. Seven female ethnic groups had an employment rate below 50% while no male ethnic groups did.

Males were more likely than Females to be unemployed (economically active and actively seeking work) for most but not all ethnic groups. Females from Other White ethnic backgrounds, Roma, Pakistani and Indian backgrounds were all more likely than males of the same ethnic group to be unemployed.

Household reference persons from a Black Caribbean, Black African or Black Other background were by far the least likely to own their own home or a share in their own home. They were the most likely to be renting through the Council or a social landlord. The next lowest level of home ownership was among Household Reference persons from Other Ethnic groups, followed by those from an Asian ethnic group.

There was a very significant variation in the level of overcrowding based on the ethnicity of the household reference person. This ranged from 4.9% for households where the household reference person was White British to 30.8% where the household reference person was Asian. Households in which the household reference person was Black African, Black Caribbean, or Black Other were also above the borough average for overcrowding and significantly above the proportion for households where the household reference person were from White backgrounds.

The group that was most likely to be renting privately were from a White Other background (including Gypsy or Irish Traveller and Roma). This was also the group that by far the least likely to be in a social rented tenure.

The proportion of residents who are not in good health varies somewhat across ethnic group. It is particularly low amongst the White Other group and is highest amongst the White British group. However, when examined by age, it can be seen that the Asian ethnic group has substantially higher levels of poor health amongst those aged 50 and above than any other ethnic group.

Sexual Orientation:

Higher proportion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Other sexual orientations at 7.2% compared to 4.2% and 3.1% for London and England & Wales

Socio-Economic:

Of those residents in current work, 62.7% were in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations. When analysed by broad ethnic group, this was much lower among Black Caribbean and Black African and Black Other residents (46.6%) and Asian residents (48.8%). It was highest among White Irish residents (83.6%) followed by White British residents (73.7%) and White Other residents

(71.0%). Residents from Black African, Black Caribbean and Black Other backgrounds were more likely to working in elementary occupations and caring, leisure and other service occupations than other broad ethnic groups. Residents from Asian backgrounds were more likely to be working in sales and customer service occupations, administrative and secretarial occupations and process, plant and machine occupations.

Appendix C: References:

- 1, Office for National Statistics, Census 2021
- 2, Index Multiple Deprivation 2019
- 3, Trust for London, London Poverty Profile 2022
- 4, ONS, Annual Population Survey 2016-19 (3-year average)
- 5 Department for Education, Special educational needs in England 2021/22
- 6 Department for Education, Early years foundation stage profile results 2021/22
- 7 Public health England, National Child Measurement Programme, England, 2021/22
- 8, Education Policy Institute, Education in England: Annual Report 2020
- 9, ¹ [Borough Profile 2020](#)
- 10, [Tower Hamlets, Equality Policy](#)
- 11, [Tower Hamlets, Strategic Plan](#)
- 12, [UK Poverty 2019/20 | JRF](#)
- 13, [Families and households in the UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)

Training and Support

Raising awareness of the programme

The Mayor's Community Grants Programme was launched on 24th April 2023 and was open for applications for 6 weeks, closing on 5th June 2023 at midday.

All the information about the new programme and how to apply was available on the council website at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/mcgp.

To launch the new programme, we worked in partnership with the Communications Service to put in place an extensive communications and marketing plan. This included:

- A press release
- Articles in the council's VCS newsletter
- Email bulletin to internal teams who work with the VCS
- Email bulletin to partners who work with the VCS
- Information on Tower Hamlets CVS Website and Newsletters
- An article in Tower Hamlets resident's newsletter
- Article in internal staff newsletter THNow
- Article on Members Bulletin
- Articles in the Bengali press
- Social media campaign
- Short video from Cabinet Member for Resources and Cost of Living

Information events

The council organised 3 information events. The purpose of these events was to share information about the new programme and provide information and advice on how to apply to MCGP.

Below are more details about the events:

Event 1

Date: Wednesday 26th April

Time: 1.30-3.00pm

Venue: Tower Hamlets Town Hall, Council Chamber, 160 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BJ.

Attendees: 27

Event 2

Date: Friday 5th May

Time: 10-11.30am

Venue: Online

Attendees: 59

Event 3

Date: Thursday 11th May

Time: 6-7.30pm

Venue: The Reach Community Hub, 11 Oliphant St, London E14 0GB

Attendees: 29

Information and support from the Council

The council ensured that the organisations who wanted to apply had access to all the information they required.

On the webpage we provided access to our prospectus, which provided general guidance, assessment criteria and information on the theme and schemes.

We also provided written guidance on how to use the council's online grants system, Blackbaud, to make applications.

We provided an email address for applicants to get in touch with the council if they had any questions and we uploaded all relevant questions onto an FAQ document on the webpage.

Training support from Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services

The council wanted to ensure applicants were equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to put in high quality applications. In support of this we commissioned THCVS to provide a package of support to the voluntary and community sector.

This included 21 training sessions focused on preparing for applications and finalising bids. These were designed to be accessible and took place in different areas of the borough, online and at different times. In total they were attended by 96 applicants.

They also provided 20 online and in-person drop-in sessions where applicants could get access to extra advice, guidance, and support. Finally, they provided 1-1 support for applicants to develop their bids which were attended by 52 of organisations.

Assessment Process

Funding Criteria

The funding criteria was split into two sections: organisational criteria which relate to the organisation, its governance and management and project criteria which relates to the activities applicants were seeking funding for.

The tables below set out the criteria and summarises the information we expected organisations to provide to meet the criteria.

Organisation Assessment

The organisational assessment was to see whether organisations meet the standards of governance, management and financial competence the Council expects of organisations it supports with public funds. The Council has a standard organisation assessment for all its funding and other support to VCS organisations.

The organisation assessment is based on an examination of the documents we asked organisations to provide and questions we asked on the application form.

Applicants were asked on the application form to upload these documents in an electronic format (preferably PDF). If any required documents were not available, we provided a text box to let us know why and whether organisations were able to send them to us later.

The assessment was proportionate to the size of the organisation. For some of the criteria the Council expected larger organisations to meet higher standards than small ones. We defined organisations size by annual income (by which we normally mean as set out in the organisations last approved accounts), as follows:

- small VCS organisations as ones with gross annual income up to £150,000
- medium size VCS organisations as ones with a gross annual income of between £150,001 to £250,000
- large VCS organisations have income over £250,000.

Details of the criteria we used to assess the organisation, the standards expected, the evidence we look for and how the Council scored the assessment are set out in the table below.

If organisations did not pass the three essential pass/fail criteria (Governance, Managing Money and Borough Connection), none of the projects went forward to the next stage of assessment. Other criteria were assessed as pass/partial pass/fail.

Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
<p>Governance</p> <p><i>This is pass/fail.</i></p> <p><i>If you do not meet the required standard, your projects will not be assessed.</i></p>	<p>You must have a Constitution, Memorandum and Articles of Association or other recognised governance document that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • membership details, • committee structure • not for profit clause • dissolution clause. 	<p>You should submit a copy of your constitution or other governance document.</p>	<p>Membership must be open or, if not, restriction must be justified and not based on ability to pay fees.</p> <p>Large organisations should have a committee structure to facilitate good governance.</p> <p>Not-for-profit clause must ensure surpluses and/or profits are not distributed to members but are reinvested in the organisation. Dissolution clause must prevent assets from being distributed to members if the organisation ceases to operate and dissolves.</p>
	<p>You will also need to be able to show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you have a governing board or committee which meets regularly 	<p>Provide on the application form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a list of the board/committee dates for the past 12 months • a list of board/manage 	<p>Management committee meetings should be as set out in the governing document or more frequent.</p> <p>List of management committee/board members may also</p>

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Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your last annual general meeting (AGM) took place within the last 18 months, and • (If you are a larger organisation) you have sub committees to deal with areas such as finance or personnel. 	<p style="text-align: center;">ment committee members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • date of the last AGM • for large organisations, a list of sub-committees, meeting dates and their membership. 	<p>be included in annual report and/or accounts.</p> <p>AGM date should be within 18 months prior to application unless there's reasonable cause for a longer period is explained in the application form.</p> <p>Sub Committees (large organisations only) should conform to governance document requirements.</p>
<p>Borough Connection</p> <p><i>This is pass/fail.</i></p> <p><i>If you do not meet the required standard, your projects will not be assessed.</i></p>	<p>Your organisation must be registered in Tower Hamlets, have a base in Tower Hamlets or be able to demonstrate a track record of successful service delivery within the borough</p>	<p>Please provide your registered address, provide a copy of your rental agreement where you deliver activities (this should cover a period of at least two years) or provide other evidence that you have successfully delivered services in Tower Hamlets for at least two years.</p>	<p>If your organisation is based in the borough you can share your address</p> <p>If you are not based in the borough you will need to show a rental agreement for where you deliver your activities that covers a duration of at least 2 years.</p> <p>Evidence that you have worked with a partner organisation or have had other arrangements to provide services in</p>

Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
			Tower Hamlets for two years.
<p>Quality assurance</p> <p><i>If you only score a partial pass or fail, your projects may still be assessed.</i></p> <p><i>If a grant is then awarded, funding will not be paid until we have agreed an action plan with you to achieve the required standards over a period of time.</i></p> <p><i>If you do not achieve the required standards within the agreed timescale, the Council may withdraw its support.</i></p>	<p>You must show that you have achieved a relevant quality assurance (QA) standard or some other evidence which shows that your organisation actively tries to improve both the quality of your management and the services your organisation provides.</p> <p>Examples of standards include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trusted Charity Mark (formally known as PQASSO) • EFQM Excellence Model • ISO 9000/1 • Matrix Standard • accredited sports related accreditations which have a strong element of assessing governance • London Youth Quality Mark (bronze will be accepted but with a clear plan in place on how 	<p>You should submit QA certificate/accreditation if you have it.</p> <p>If you do not have this, you should submit evidence that shows your organisation actively tries to improve quality.</p> <p>This may include,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • confirmation from a QA accreditation body that your organisation is seeking accreditation • a letter from THCVS or similar body that your organisation is engaged on a QA programme • evidence of a self-assessment such as Social Value Self Assessment Tool - Social Value Calculator for measurement (socialvalueuk.org). 	<p>Pass Relevant QA accreditation must be in place with evidence of action to maintain standards.</p> <p>Partial Pass If no QA accreditation is in place, you must show evidence of working towards QA and/or evidence that a quality standard framework or appropriate processes are in place.</p> <p>Fail No QA or other quality measures in place or proposed.</p>

Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
	<p>silver/gold can be achieved).</p> <p>Other QA standards appropriate to your services may be accepted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> evidence of the processes your organisation has in place to ensure the delivery of quality services. 	
<p>Business planning</p> <p><i>If you only score a partial pass or fail, your projects may still be assessed.</i></p> <p><i>If a grant is then awarded, funding will not be paid until we have agreed an action plan with you to achieve the required standards over a period of up to twelve months.</i></p> <p><i>If you do not achieve the required standards within the agreed timescale, the Council may withdraw its support.</i></p>	<p>Your organisation should have a business plan or strategic plan. If you are a small/medium organisation, it does not need to be very sophisticated, but enough to show you have thought about and planned how you will provide your services.</p> <p>Large organisations</p> <p>You should have a full three-to-five-year plan which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> organisational purpose, aims & objectives client need strategic context, i.e. policy environment, issues affecting clients, how needs may change over time (could be PEST - (political, 	<p>You should submit a copy of your business plan</p>	<p>Pass</p> <p>A business or strategic plan that includes all seven key issues listed on the left.</p> <p>Consideration will be given to the level of detail, coherence and overall quality of the plan proportionate to the standard required for the size of the organisation.</p> <p>Partial Pass</p> <p>Large organisation</p> <p>Business plan which covers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> some but not all the key issues, or all the issues but not in detail <p>Medium and small organisations</p>

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Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
	<p>economic social and technological analysis)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessment of organisational capacity (ie. SWOT – strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats analysis) • plans for next 3-5 years (year 1 in detail) • resources required to fulfil plans • risk assessment and contingency planning. <p>Medium or small organisation</p> <p>A document which demonstrates the organisation has considered the seven key issues in detail. Level of detail will be proportionate to the size of the organisation.</p>		<p>A document which demonstrates the organisation has considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) some but not all the key issues, or b) all the issues but not in detail. <p>Consideration will be given to the level of detail, coherence and overall quality of the plan proportionate to the standard required for the size of the organisation.</p> <p>Fail Large Organisations – no business plan or business plan which does not cover any or only one of the key issues listed above. Medium and small organisations – no indication that the organisation has considered any or only one of the key issues.</p>
Managing people	If you employ staff, your management must include:	Submit policy and procedures	Pass Comprehensive policies and

Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
<p><i>If you only score a partial pass or fail, your projects may still be assessed.</i></p> <p><i>If a grant is then awarded, funding will not be paid until we have agreed an action plan with you to achieve the required standards over a period of up to twelve months.</i></p> <p><i>If you do not achieve the required standards within the agreed timescale, the Council may withdraw its support.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an effective and fair way of recruiting staff, using a job description and person specification • written contracts of employment, which meet legal requirements • clear written discipline and grievance procedures in line with ACAS codes of practice; and • adequate training for the duties they have to perform. • equal opportunities procedures which relate and apply to recruitment and management of staff. <p>If you work with volunteers, your management should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a recruitment process to ensure volunteers are 	<p>document if available.</p> <p>If this not available, submit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sample JD and person specification • sample contract of employment • written discipline and grievance procedures • details of recent training provided. <p>And for volunteers, your volunteer policy and procedure document if available, or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sample volunteer description • sample volunteer agreement • written volunteer policy and procedures • details of recent training provided to volunteers. 	<p>procedures in place, or adequate alternative documentation</p> <p>Partial Pass Policy and procedures and/or other documents do not meet ACAS standards and remedial action planned.</p> <p>Fail No policy and procedures or other documentation.</p>

Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
	<p>appropriately placed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a clear description of volunteers' roles, and • adequate training for the duties they have to perform • clear procedures for reimbursing volunteer expenses • equal opportunities procedures which relate and apply to recruitment and management of volunteers. 		
<p>Managing money</p> <p><i>This is pass/fail.</i></p> <p><i>If you do not meet the required standards, your projects will not be assessed.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must keep to all financial and accounting requirements of charity and company law, where appropriate • You must be able to provide accounts appropriate to the size of your organisation. • You must follow good practice in 	<p>Submit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • latest annual accounts • budget for the current year (this should be part of your business plan) • confirmation of your bank details • for large and medium size organisations, written finance procedures. 	<p>Pass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accounts meet charity commission or other regulator's standards • balanced income and expenditure budget for the organisation • latest annual accounts show that the organisation does not have creditors/debts

Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
	<p>relation to your organisations financial controls. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Annual accounts ➤ Balanced budget ➤ Sustainable funding ➤ Reserves policy ➤ Bank accounts in the organisation's name ➤ (for large organisations) written financial procedures document. 		<p>which appear unserviceable over the coming year(s) given their average income of unrestricted or designated funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the organisation can demonstrate income from a diversity of funding sources. • the organisation has a clear reserves policy which is appropriate for its size. <p>NB New organisations will not have accounts. Assessment should therefore exclude reference to accounts but include all other points.</p>
<p>Equality and Diversity</p> <p><i>If you only score a partial pass or fail, your projects may still be assessed.</i></p> <p><i>If a grant is then awarded, funding will</i></p>	<p>You must have an equal opportunities or equality and diversity policy and be able to show that you actively use it in these key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in recruitment (to board and staffing) 	<p>Submit Equality and Diversity Policy</p>	<p>Pass An equal opportunities or equality and diversity statement or policy in place which addresses all three of the key areas.</p> <p>Partial pass</p>

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Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
<p><i>not be paid until we have agreed an action plan with you to achieve the required standards over a period of up to twelve months.</i></p> <p><i>If you do not achieve the required standards within the agreed timescale, the Council may withdraw its support.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in planning and provision of services • in the management of your organisation. 		<p>At least two of the three key areas are addressed.</p> <p>Fail Only one or none of the key areas are addressed.</p>
<p>Safeguarding children and adults at risk of abuse</p> <p><i>If you only score a partial pass or fail, your projects may still be assessed.</i></p> <p><i>If a grant is then awarded, funding will not be paid until you achieve the required standards.</i></p>	<p>If your organisation works with children and adults at risk of abuse, you must have an appropriate policy. Guidance on safeguarding policies and procedures specifically for VCS organisations can be found here Policies and procedures - NCVO.</p> <p>You can also find information about adults and children safeguarding on our website. Use the search function for relevant section.</p> <p>You also need to demonstrate that</p>	<p>Submit safeguarding policy.</p> <p>Training plan for board, staff, and volunteers.</p>	<p>All organisations must have safeguarding policies and procedures in place appropriate to their activities.</p> <p>Pass A policy and procedures document that addresses the five key areas set out in the NCVO guidance,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safeguarding policy • reporting procedure • code of conduct • a risk policy and register • trustees' annual report.

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Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
	staff and volunteers are appropriately trained.		<p>And a training plan in place.</p> <p>Partial pass Some, but not all the key areas are addressed.</p> <p>Fail None of the key areas are addressed.</p>
<p>Insurance</p> <p><i>If you only score a partial pass or fail, your projects may still be assessed.</i></p> <p><i>If a grant is then awarded, funding will not be paid until you achieve the required standards.</i></p>	<p>Your organisation must have enough insurance cover for your activities, events, staff, premises, equipment, and vehicles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public liability (£5m) • employer’s liability cover if you employ staff (£10m) • property and equipment insurance against fire, theft, loss and damage • vehicle and driver insurance if vehicles are owned or driven and 	<p>Submit copies of insurance certificates</p>	<p>Documents should be current and for appropriate amounts.</p> <p>Not all insurance will be required for all activities.</p> <p>New organisations will not have insurance in place but must demonstrate that they have adequate cover before the agreement with the Council is signed.</p> <p>Pass Appropriate policies in place.</p> <p>Partial</p>

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Criteria	Standard required	Evidence	Scoring guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> professional indemnity if you give advice or training to members of the public (£5m). 		<p>Policies in place, but cover is not adequate.</p> <p>Fail Appropriate policies are not in place</p>

Project Assessment

This section sets out the criteria we used to assess project proposals. **The Council did not consider funding any project which scores less than half the available score in any section. This was set out in the prospectus.** Some grant themes specific requirements (set out in the prospectus) - for example:

- quality mark standards
- registration with a regulatory body
- food hygiene standards.

The total number of scores available for each question were as follows:

Criteria	Max Score
Service delivery	20
Track record	10
Demonstrates local connections	15
Service co-design	5
Quality assurance	10
Community cohesion and Equality and Diversity	15
Value for money	10
Outcomes	15
TOTAL	100

Appendix C

Criteria	Evidence	Assessed	Scoring Guidance	Max Score
Service delivery	<p>Your bid must show that the arrangements you are proposing can deliver the service effectively. You will need to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A description of the project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What the activities/ services are ○ Plans for delivery – where, how, how frequently, numbers of beneficiaries (these may be used to set your key performance indicators (KPIs) if your bid is successful) ○ Project governance and measurement arrangements ○ How you will reach your target beneficiaries ○ Any specific protected characteristic group(s) that your project would support ○ Geographic area targeted. • Details of any partnership arrangements. These may be informal links to other services or more formal consortium arrangements • Details of why you think your project is needed, such as local research and user feedback 	Question	<p>Project description (10 points max)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear description of your project’s activities, including when, where and how they will be delivered • Geographical area and rationale, • Target residents and rationale, including any protected characteristic group(s) that your project would specifically support. <p>Partnership arrangements (5 points max)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is a formal partnership or consortium, a clear outline of who will deliver the project (including details of partnership working if appropriate), information on each partner and their role in the project • Evidence of informal partnership links • Added value of partnership 	20

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Criteria	Evidence	Assessed	Scoring Guidance	Max Score
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of how your proposal will achieve the priority set out in the prospectus • Evidence that appropriate standards, checks and training will be in place (e.g., food hygiene, DBS checks). 		<p>arrangements articulated.</p> <p>Demonstration of need (5 points max)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local research/user feedback • Local published data (Census, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment etc) • National data • Link to MCGP priority, with clear link between activity and priority. 	
Track record	<p>You must be able to show that your organisation has a track record of effective delivery of the type of service you want us to fund. If your organisation is new, you must be able to show that the individuals involved in it have a successful track record in other organisations and your organisation has clear ability to demonstrate capacity and skills to deliver services successfully</p>	Question	<p>Experience (with examples as evidence) should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering projects similar to the proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ activity ○ complexity ○ size ○ value ○ funder of previous projects. • Staff have the necessary knowledge and skills to deliver the project effectively • The organisation has the skills and capacity to deliver 	10

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Criteria	Evidence	Assessed	Scoring Guidance	Max Score
			<p>the project successfully</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting monitoring and reporting requirements • Achievement of outcomes and outputs, in relation to agreed service targets, or evidence of impact of previous work • Managing project budgets similar to that of the proposed service. 	
Demonstrates local connections	<p>How will your proposal demonstrate local connections? You will need to demonstrate your ability to reach residents and communities in Tower Hamlets and that you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good knowledge of the neighbourhoods, needs, services and demographics where you work (or are planning to work) • experience of delivering services to Tower Hamlets residents • have a local base or location from where you will deliver the proposed project • working links and connections with other 	Question	<p>Evidence of local connections through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local presence • track record of local delivery • impact locally (outcomes of previous work) • beneficiary feedback • research of local needs • partnerships with local organisations (VCS or public) • engagement with local structures such as appropriate forum or network membership. 	15

Appendix C

Criteria	Evidence	Assessed	Scoring Guidance	Max Score
	organisations in Tower Hamlets or potential partnership arrangements (from all sectors).			
Service co-design	<p>How will your proposal include co-design with residents? We expect organisations to work with residents and other stakeholders towards improving the service over the period of funding. This may include revising the outcomes to be achieved and changing the way the service is delivered.</p> <p>You will need to describe how you will engage with residents and other stakeholders to co-design improvements to your service.</p>	Question	<p>Plan should include a process for meaningful engagement of residents and other stakeholders in service improvement through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • user involvement including feedback, focus groups etc • working with non-beneficiaries and partners • needs and trends analysis <p>They should refer to basic principles of co-design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inclusion • respect • participation. • outcomes focused. 	5
Quality assurance	You must show that you have the appropriate quality standards in place, including appropriate certification to deliver your proposed service/project. You will need to provide evidence of how you will assess the quality of the project	Question	<p>Appropriate Quality Assurance standards that are specific and appropriate to the project you wish to deliver.</p> <p>Evidence of the quality assurance framework/processes</p>	10

Appendix C

Criteria	Evidence	Assessed	Scoring Guidance	Max Score
	to ensure it is achieving its outcomes.		that will be in place for your organisation to assess the quality of the specific project being delivered.	

Appendix C

Criteria	Evidence	Assessed	Scoring Guidance	Max Score
Community Cohesion and Equality and Diversity	<p>You will need to be able to show how your service promotes community cohesion and addresses inequalities impacting those with protected characteristics. This will be in relation to both recruitment of beneficiaries and delivery of effective services to beneficiaries.</p> <p>The borough has a commitment to be an anti-racist place, and you can find more info here. How will your project address race inequality in the borough? If your project is specifically targeting people with one or more protected equalities characteristics, you should explain why there is a particular need to do this.</p> <p>How will your project contribute towards community cohesion?</p>	Question	<p>Evidence of consultation with people with protected characteristics.</p> <p>Proposals to minimise barriers to potential users of services, including recruitment and referral methods.</p> <p>Proposals to monitor equalities impact, including in relation to beneficiary outcomes and project contribution to making Tower Hamlets an anti-racist borough.</p> <p>If appropriate, sufficient information to justify or explain why the project will be targeting specific groups/sections of the local community.</p> <p>Clear evidence that your proposal will strengthen community cohesion and help reduce poverty and support residents during the cost-of-living crisis.</p>	15
Value for money	How do you know that the service you are proposing offers good value for money? Have you compared it with similar	Question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ adequate funding for proposed activity 	10

Appendix C

Criteria	Evidence	Assessed	Scoring Guidance	Max Score
	services? Does your service bring something extra which other services would not be able to provide?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ all project staff paid at least London Living Wage ○ cost comparisons. ● clear explanation of how costs have been assessed ● leverage of other resources such as volunteers and in-kind support. 	
Outcomes	There must be evidence in your bid that you will be able to demonstrate change using outcomes and indicators which are SMART – specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-related.	Question	Outcomes must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● relevant to the specification ● achievable from the proposed activities ● have relevant indicators and measures 	15

Assessment Process

The organisational assessment and project assessment were carried out by Council officers.

They involved the following process:

Stage 1

Council officers assessed the organisation's submission against the organisational criteria outlined above. If a submission:

- secured a pass score then the organisation's applications for projects moved on to Stage 2 where a project assessment was carried out.
- if the organisation assessment received a 'fail' in the three mandatory areas then it was moderated by a senior manager in the Council. This is to ensure that the assessment is accurate and fair.

- if the moderator agrees with the 'fail' score then the organisation did not move to the project assessment stage
- if the moderator changes the assessment to a 'pass' than the organisation application will progress to stage 2.

Stage 2

- Two Council officers assessed and scored the project application
- the applications were scored against the scoring criteria outlined above
- If there was a difference in the scores of the two Council officers of more than 10% then a senior manager moderated the two scores to reach an agreed score.

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

Appendix D

Theme 1 – Scheme A: Advice, Information and Crisis Support							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8705 9605804	East End Citizens Advice Bureau (Account3 Ltd, Age UK East London, Bromley By Bow Centre deafPLUS, Breakthrough Deaf Hearing Integration, Island Advice Centre, Legal Advice Centre (University House) Limehouse Project, Praxis Community Projects, St Hilda’s East, St Peter’s Bengali Association, Tower Hamlets Law Centre, Toynbee Hall, Women’s Inclusion Team)	Large (£250k+)	Advice Tower Hamlets	Advice Tower Hamlets provides free, confidential, independent, quality assured-advice to help Tower Hamlets residents resolve their cost-of-living issues relating to welfare benefits, housing, money/debt, employment, immigration, consumer, education, community care, family and personal issues at a generalist/specialist level. Citizens Advice Tower Hamlets leads the partnership with 13 local advice agencies.	Boroughwide	720,000	2,460,000

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

Appendix D

Theme 1 – Scheme A: Advice, Information and Crisis Support							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8854 9605953	First Love Foundation	Large (£250k+)	First Love Foundation Advice and Advocacy Service	Tower Hamlets residents will have access to our AQS-accredited welfare rights advice and advocacy service in person, by telephone and through community outreach. We will explore why each individual and their household is in financial difficulty, what other challenges or crisis they face, and work with them to effect solutions.	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500
8662 9605761	The Felix Project	Large (£250k+)	Supporting residents of Tower Hamlets who are in Crisis to get access to nutritious food	Providing nutritious food and meals for 40,000 people in Tower Hamlets – each year – who are currently facing food insecurity and hunger. Working with 80 community partners in the borough to help people in crisis.	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500
8998 9606097	Stifford Centre Limited	Large (£250k+)	Advice and Crisis Support Project	The Stifford Centre will deliver a comprehensive 'Advice and Crisis Support Project', offering welfare benefit, debt, housing, employment & financial advice, emotional support, and peer-mentoring to local	Limehouse Mile End Poplar Shadwell St Dunstan's St Katherine's and Wapping	30,000	102,500

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

Appendix D

Theme 1 – Scheme A: Advice, Information and Crisis Support							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				residents. Additionally, the project will manage a 'Crisis Support Fund' for emergency assistance, actively addressing the cost-of-living crisis.	Stepney Green Whitechapel		
9072 9606171	Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Support and Advice for Older People in Vietnamese and Chinese Communities	The "Older People Vietnamese and Chinese Project" offers crucial support and guidance to the Vietnamese and Chinese communities in Tower Hamlets. We provide comprehensive assistance to individuals aged over 50, delivering valuable advice and information. Our services are available five days a week at Old Poplar Library, London E14 6RN.	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Blackwall and Cubitt Town Boroughwide Bow East Bow West Bromley North Bromley South Island Gardens Lansbury Limehouse Mile End Poplar Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Whitechapel	20,000	68,333

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

Appendix D

Theme 1 – Scheme A: Advice, Information and Crisis Support							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
9054 9606153	Wapping Bangladesh Association (Bangladesh Youth Movement, Tower Hamlets Parents Centre, Boundary Community School, Wapping Noorani Masjid & Community Centre)	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Tower Hamlets Bangladeshi & BAME-Led Advice Forum	Tower Hamlets Bangladeshi & BAME-Led Advice Forum is a consortium of trusted and embedded local charities, led by Wapping Bangladesh Association, working together to bring quality information, advice, guidance and support to people at risk during the Cost-of-Living Crisis. Our work focuses in the south-west locality of Tower Hamlets.	Shadwell Spitalfields and Banglatown St Katherine's and Wapping Weavers Whitechapel	70,000	239,167
						900,000	3,075,000

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8866 9605965	St Hilda's East Community Centre	Large (£250k+)	Young People's Development Programme	St Hilda's East Young People's Programme is an inspirational initiative designed to support children and young people to reach their full potential. Through weekly activities including sports, arts, and reflective sessions; the programme focuses on improving young people's mental health, resilience and steering them away from anti-social behaviour and crime.	Whitechapel Spitalfields and Banglatown Weavers Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green)	33,180	113,365
9024 9606123	Limehouse Welfare Association	Small (less than £150k)	LWA Community Language Bengali and Arabic Support Programme	The aim of this project is to provide Community Language, Bengali and Arabic classes, 4 days a week (8 hours), 40 weeks each year, enhancing the achievement of 75 disadvantaged students in Key Stages 1,2 and 3. These classes will improve students' self-confidence, cognitive development, educational attainment and Community cohesion.	Poplar Limehouse Lansbury Mile End Shadwell Stepney Green St Dunstan's	22,400	76,533

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8862 9605961	St Margaret's House	Large (£250k+)	The Children's Making Tree	The project empowers Tower Hamlets children to take part in enriching holiday activities in a variety of arts disciplines (circus, art, drama, spoken word). Sessions improve children's confidence in their abilities and increase their cultural capital to help them pursue diverse activities outside of school to support their academic achievement.	Boroughwide	5,156	17,616
9063 9606162	Udichi Shilpi Gosthi	Small (less than £150k)	UDICHI Bengali Mother Tongue Project	Project provides mother tongue study support and community education for 300 disadvantaged Bengali children and young people in Tower Hamlets who will learn to read, write and speak Bengali and achieve Tower Hamlets Community Language Certificate. Boosts community cohesion via arts and cultural activities broadcast on Bengali media (TV, radio)	Boroughwide	18,768	64,124
8807 9605906	Conductive Music	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Music Beyond Imagination	Music Beyond Imagination (MBI), is a cutting-edge music-technology-led	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				educational project for 1475 Y4-Y8 SEN students across 8 Special, Mainstream and Alternative Provision schools and in Tower Hamlets. MBI supports music creation by empowering children, bridging educational gaps, showcasing career pathways, and enabling growth for Tower Hamlets' youth.			
9028 9606127	SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets	Large (£250k+)	Rainbow Links	A SEND focused programme of activities providing stimulating activities for children and young people, support and peer network for parents and carers, speech and language training and family trips to enhance the opportunities available for SEND children.	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500
9056 9606155	Wapping Bangladesh Association	Medium (£150k-£250k)	A Bright Future - Wapping After-School Children Education Project	WBA's After School Children's Education Project is aimed at raising the educational achievements of academically underachieving Bangladeshi children from poorer and disadvantaged backgrounds. We will achieve	St Katherine's and Wapping	25,000	85,417

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				our project aim by delivering the following programme of activities using the following learning interventions that includes Mother Tongue Education and Study Support Learning.			
9013 9606112	Young and Talented	Small (less than £150k)	Triple Talent Enrichment Programme	Weekly, high-quality, performing-arts training for 6-16-year-olds. The free sessions will enable children from marginalised backgrounds to have long-term engagement with activities which support good mental health and wellbeing; develop personal and practical skills; enrich curriculum learning; and provide access to the infrastructure required to progress into arts/culture-related education and employment.	Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's)	25,000	85,417
8990 9606089	Newark Youth London	Large (£250k+)	Girls in Action	Our project aims to widen access to extracurricular activities for girls and young women so they develop their confidence and lifeskills;	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				make them resilient and enable them to participate in social action projects and other learning opportunities so they develop their leadership, communication and organisational skills.			
8896 9605995	Four Corners	Large (£250k+)	Cameraworks: Young People’s Photography Workshops	“Cameraworks” will provide 168 young Tower Hamlets residents with the opportunity to take part in photography workshops and creative projects, improving their educational attainment and also supporting their wider personal development.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333
9044 9606143	Weavers Community Forum (WCF)	Small (less than £150k)	Active Youth Project	Active Youth Project is to help inspire, activate & motivate young people to learn about themselves, others, and Society, through non-formal education activities which combine enjoyment, challenge and learning.	Weavers Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green)	21,903	74,835
9035 9606134	Hornafrik Integration Projects Ltd	Small (less than £150k)	E14 BAME Children and Young People Educational	E14 BAME Children and Young People Educational Attainment Project will support Children and Young people from disadvantaged	Island Gardens Blackwall and Cubitt Town Poplar Lansbury	13,250	45,271

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
			Attainment Project	households for timely intervention in access to extracurricular activities and after school provision.			
8937 9606036	Tower Hamlets Parents Centre	Small (less than £150k)	THPC Saturday Study Support Programme	This Project will deliver a 3-hour weekly Study Support Session on a Saturday morning for 40 weeks each year that help improve the attainment of 75 disadvantaged local young people at Key Stages 1 and 2.	St Katherine's and Wapping Whitechapel Stepney Green St Dunstan's Spitalfields and Banglatown Weavers	10,369	35,427
9009 9606108	Toyhouse Libraries Association of Tower Hamlets - Toyhouse	Small (less than £150k)	Accelerating Education for Pre-School aged children via Community Toy Library involvement.	By supporting a network of community based Toy Libraries facilitated by a mix of parent volunteers and staff, Toyhouse will enable parents & pre-schoolers to benefit from weekly Play & Learn sessions, enabling children to develop speech, communication, social interaction and Early Learning skills before they enter formal educational settings.	Boroughwide	14,992	51,223
8913 9606012	Women's Inclusive Team	Large (£250k+)	Maangaar (Young People - SEN Support)	This project will target children aged 6 to 10 with Special Educational Needs	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				and Disabilities (SEND) in LBTH boroughwide, who have limited after-school provisions. Maangaar (meaning 'unique child' in Somali) will create positive learning opportunities to enrich their development and their parents, ultimately improving their education and mental well-being.			
9020 9606119	Ashaadibi Education and Cultural Centre	Small (less than £150k)	Aim Higher ~ Edify	The Aim-Higher Edify project aims to promote community-based study support and language development for children and young people in Tower Hamlets, delivering boroughwide. This project will accelerate education and growth through after-school clubs, language classes, and youth-work opportunities, leading to improved academic achievement and future success for participants in LBTH.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333
8758 9605857	Westferry Community Organisation	Small (less than £150k)	Education Matters	Education Matters is a community-based initiative, which will deliver	Canary Wharf	20,000	68,333

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Theme 2 – Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				educational/learning activities to children and young people in the Canary Wharf area. This will consist of after-school/evening and/or weekend clubs for children, to assist in reading/writing, maths/arithmetic, and other curriculum/extra-curriculum-based learning. Also, weekend sessions for young adults providing life skills.			
						350,018	1,195,893

Theme 2 – Scheme B: Lifelong Learning							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8967 9606066	Age UK East London	Large (£250k+)	Digital Buddy	Digital Buddies will build the skills, confidence and motivation of digitally excluded older people, using a proven model, enabling them to get to grips with new technologies and use them safely and skilfully. It represents the best opportunity to build their confidence, skills and ultimately resilience in a digital-first world.	Boroughwide	39,997	136,656
8700 9605799	East London Advanced Technology Training	Large (£250k+)	BOOST (Building On Our Skills Together) South West	BOOST South West provides accessible, entry-level ESOL classes to develop English language skills, digital inclusion, and preparation for lifelong learning for 300 migrants and refugees in SW Tower Hamlets, 2023-2027. Courses will be tailored to learners’ lives and include classroom activities, visits to places of interest and community engagement activities.	Shadwell St Dunstan's Stepney Green Whitechapel	40,000	136,667

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Theme 2 – Scheme B: Lifelong Learning							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8934 9606033	ICM Foundation CIC	Small (less than £150k)	CORE News Community Newspaper	Adults with learning disabilities will develop skills and work towards a qualification to design and produce a tri-annual community newspaper, informing people of and reviewing activities to be distributed to community groups in London with the focus on reducing social isolation and increased participation through low cost or free activities.	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500
8996 9606095	Stifford Centre Limited	Large (£250k+)	BAME Women's Empowerment Programme	Stifford Centre's BAME Women's Empowerment Programme empowers BAME women in Tower Hamlets through comprehensive ESOL classes, employability work and digital skills training. Our goal is to bridge socio-economic gaps and boost integration, confidence, and participation in the local economy.	Shadwell St Dunstan's St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Whitechapel	29,000	99,083
8929 9606028	deafPLUS	Large (£250k+)	Improving deaf and hard	A borough wide life long learning project that will	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500

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Theme 2 – Scheme B: Lifelong Learning							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
			of hearing residents English, Maths and digital skills	improve deaf and hard of hearing residents English and Maths and digital skills, reducing socio-economic deprivation in Tower Hamlets.			
8803 9605902	Social Action For Health	Large (£250k+)	Bengali Women's ESOL Walking Group	This project brings together Bengali women for a weekly walking group to enjoy some gentle movement, and practice conversational English, thus reducing isolation, improving physical and mental wellbeing and enabling more positive interaction with the wider community and services such as GPs and other health professionals.	Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Spitalfields and Banglatown Whitechapel	24,945	85,229
8974 9606073	Island House Community Centre	Medium (£150k-£250k)	DIGITAL DAY	Digital Day will develop the existing SKILLS project, providing 3 levels of support to digitally-excluded clients. Teaching basic digital skills and providing computer/internet access for necessary for life tasks	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

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Theme 2 – Scheme B: Lifelong Learning							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				that have moved online, supporting the digitally excluded, improving skills, reducing digital exclusion, and enabling access to health and social care.			
8715 9605814	Limehouse Project	Large (£250k+)	ESOL & Digital Training	Limehouse Project’s ESOL & Digital Training programme is a supportive coaching initiative funded by the Council which helps residents improve their command of the English language and basic digital skills. We hope to empower residents to improve their lives by learning new skills for life and life-long learning.	Limehouse Mile End Poplar St Dunstan's Stepney Green	25,000	85,417
8652 9605751	Quaker Social Action (BIA) (Carers Centre Tower Hamlets)	Large (£250k+)	Made of Money - helping carers to increase their resilience to online financial scams.	Quaker Social Action’s ‘Made of Money’ financial education and financial wellbeing team, partnering with Carers Centre, Tower Hamlets, will devise and deliver digital inclusion sessions for local people, predominantly carers, focussing specifically on	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

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Theme 2 – Scheme B: Lifelong Learning							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				helping people be aware of and have a much reduced risk of falling victim to online scams/fraud.			
8906 9606005	Bromley By Bow Centre	Large (£250k+)	BOOST North East	Through Boost North East, the Bromley by Bow Centre is providing non-accredited English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), and digital inclusion classes alongside social mixing activities. The project will support people to become confident engaging with the local community, and services using English. 280 learners will be supported.	Bow East Bow West Bromley North Bromley South Mile End	25,000	85,417
8677 9605776	LifeLine Community Projects	Large (£250k+)	Creative English	Creative English is a volunteer-led English language programme that teaches everyday English speaking to people from marginalised and minority groups who do not speak English as a first/main language. Delivered by faith and community groups,	Mile End Poplar Shadwell Whitechapel	25,000	85,417

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Theme 2 – Scheme B: Lifelong Learning							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				Creative English uses applied drama techniques to engage learners in a fun and welcoming environment.			
8936 9606035	Tower Hamlets Parents Centre	Small (less than £150k)	THPC Digital Inclusion Programme for BAME Women	This Project will deliver a 36-hour Computer Training Programme that will improve the Skills, Employment Readiness and Inclusion of 140 local disadvantaged women from BAME Communities.	Spitalfields and Banglatown St Dunstan's St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Weavers Whitechapel	12,000	41,000
9021 9606120	Ashaadibi Education and Cultural Centre	Small (less than £150k)	Aim Higher e~Adult Lifelong Learning	The e-Adult Lifelong Learning project aims to promote digital inclusion, language skills, and lifelong learning in Tower Hamlets to the BAME community. Through English language classes and digital skills training, it will reduce digital exclusion and improve the confidence and aspirations of marginalized and underrepresented residents of LBTH.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333
						350,942	1,199,053

Theme 3 – Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
9036 9606135	Hornafrik Integration Projects Ltd	Small (less than £150k)	E14 BAME Skills Development and Employment Project	Our project aims to work with the hard-to reach, excluded BAME, mainly Somali and other African communities who live in 3 wards in Tower Hamlets, who are long-term unemployed and/or economically inactive, including individuals with no formal or limited educational qualifications.	Blackwall and Cubitt Town Island Gardens Lansbury Poplar	20,670	70,623
9047 9606146	Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Improving Employability Through Volunteering	Our project will support socially excluded residents from across the borough, including those who are further away from the labour market, to volunteer in local voluntary, community and statutory organisations, where they will gain workplace experience, training, references and improve their employability, skills and confidence.	Boroughwide	39,250	134,104
8701 9605800	East London Advanced	Large (£250k+)	Tower Hamlets Community Works	TH Community Works is an innovative, holistic programme of employability	Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's)	30,000	102,500

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Theme 3 – Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
	Technology Training			skills training, personal development, one-to-one support, volunteering and work experience to support unemployed refugees and migrant residents of Tower Hamlets into work. It will empower participants to build a career and navigate the UK job market independently.	Limehouse Poplar Shadwell St Dunstan's Stepney Green Weavers Whitechapel		
8671 9605770	Providence Row	Large (£250k+)	Employability & Progression (E&P) programme helping homeless people get closer to, or into, employment	Our Employability & Progression (E&P) project will support 110 extremely vulnerable, disadvantaged and excluded homeless people in Tower Hamlets, annually. Through our numerous tried-and-tested learning, training, peer mentoring, work-placement and employment opportunities we will help people get off, and stay off, the streets and begin leading more independent, self-sustaining lives.	Boroughwide Spitalfields and Banglatown	25,000	85,417

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Theme 3 – Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8952 9606051	Stepney Community Trust (SCT)	Small (less than £150k)	“Employment Pathways”	“Employment Pathways” will develop training and support programmes for local people, farthest away from the job market, to improve employability and become better able to compete for jobs; the programme will comprise skills training, 1-1 mentoring, practical job search activities and work experience to progress along ‘employment pathways’.	Boroughwide Spitalfields and Banglatown St Dunstan's Stepney Green Whitechapel	25,000	85,417
8964 9606063	Working Well Trust	Large (£250k+)	Upskill Works	We will support people with lived experience of mental health, learning disabilities and/or neurodiversity to address the barriers to progressing towards employment, to improve their employment prospects, to achieve and sustain their employment goals.	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
8716 9605815	Limehouse Project	Large (£250k+)	More New Horizons	Limehouse Project’s ‘More New Horizons’ project seeks to support local women to gain the skills to get into work and/or to begin to run their own online businesses which	Limehouse Mile End Poplar St Dunstan's Stepney Green	25,000	85,417

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Theme 3 – Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				can be managed around a work-life balance and household responsibilities.			
8816 9605915	Circle Community	Large (£250k+)	Circle Community's Back Your Future @ Canary Wharf employability programme for young people	Back Your Future @ Canary Wharf will provide holistic employability support to 495 NEET young people. Access to work experience, job-seeking skills, sector knowledge, wellbeing support and entry level jobs with Canary Wharf employers will provide them with the knowledge, networks and confidence to find, sustain, and progress in work.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333
9080 9606179	Account3 Ltd	Large (£250k+)	Jobs for the Girls - Employability for Marginalised Women of Tower Hamlets	This project will provide unemployed women including returners with multi lingual support to plan their futures through offer of MATRIX accredited career guidance, training and support to better understand the jobs market and make the right decisions to get into paid work that offers career progression and stable employment.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333

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Theme 3 – Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8885 9605984	Osmani Trust	Large (£250k+)	Pathway to Employment	We are seeking to deliver an education, employment and training-focused project to reduce barriers to employment for NEET young people in Tower Hamlets. We will develop their confidence and employability skills, help them gain qualifications and work experience and support them with progressing into education, employment or training.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333
8742 9605841	Leaders in Community	Large (£250k+)	Youth and Community Social Action Hub	The project will create a safe and inclusive hub for youth and community social action work placements, which will help develop campaigns on equity and employment by addressing barriers to progress, and raising aspirations for young people and older community members, particularly for people from Black, Asian, and Multi-Ethnicity backgrounds.	Lansbury Poplar	20,000	68,333
9077 9606176	Streets of Growth	Large (£250k+)	Inspire Talent: Youth	We will support 16-25s Young adults who face complex barriers to work – showcasing	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333

Theme 3 – Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
			employability programme	their abilities and ensuring successful employment/training transitions. Engaging participants through outreach, we will develop their skills through strategic employer partnerships and a vibrant programme of life skills/work training, career mentoring, work experience and viable career pathways.			
8957 9606056	The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM)	Medium (£150k-£250k)	“Opening Doors” [The Ethnically Diverse Women’s Engagement Initiative]	“Opening Doors” is an initiative customised to support those residents furthest from the labour market i.e. females from Bangladeshi and ethnically diverse communities who are regularly excluded from development opportunities; they will build confidence, work-related skills and experience through employment-driven training and work development activities to become ready for work.	Shadwell Spitalfields and Banglatown St Dunstan's St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Weavers Whitechapel	20,000	68,333

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Theme 3 – Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
9017 9606116	Mind in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Redbridge	Large (£250k+)	Mindful Barista Project	The Mindful Barista Project will support people living with mental health to access employment training and experience to become a Barista and gain work experience in local cafes. We will support up to 20 people per year to gain experience of working in a cafe and becoming a Barista.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333
						329,920	1,127,226

Theme 3 – Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8983 9606082	Magic Me	Large (£250k+)	CREATIVE MIX	CREATIVE MIX: a year round programme of relationship building, arts workshops and creative events in and around Bethnal Green that will bring older and younger residents together, increasing individuals' confidence and wellbeing, building connections across different faiths, cultures and backgrounds, through creativity and the arts.	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Weavers	39,958	136,523
8882 9605981	Osmani Trust	Large (£250k+)	OC Active – Community Sports & Health Project	Our project will provide access to regular sports provision for BAME communities including young girls, women, young adults and men over 45; meeting their family, cultural and religious needs and enabling them to participate fully. The programme will support local people to become Volunteer Champions promoting sports and healthy living.	Boroughwide	40,000	136,667

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Theme 3 – Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8673 9605772	Vallance Community Sports Association	Medium (£150k-£250k)	SEND Health & Wellbeing Project (Adults)	A programme of weekly sports and physical activities and a social club for Adults (18 years and above) with special educational needs and disabilities for the purpose of increasing sports participation, improving health and wellbeing (including mental health), and reducing loneliness, isolation and exclusion.	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
8644 9605743	Platform Cricket (Tower Hamlets Youth Sport Foundation)	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Platform Cricket Hubs: Bethnal Green, Bow, Isle of Dogs, Poplar, Stepney, Wapping & Whitechapel	Establish "pop up" cricket clubs at 7 locations across the borough, providing access for all children but particularly under-represented groups such as girls, ethnic minorities, and those from low-income backgrounds. Sessions will utilise cricket to support personal and social development outcomes.	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
9050 9606149	Half Moon Young People's Theatre	Large (£250k+)	Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People	Professional theatre shows and inclusive participatory drama opportunities in an accessible venue and in Children and Family Centres around the borough. Activity	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

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Theme 3 – Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				is for ages 0-18 (or 25 for disabled young people) from all backgrounds and abilities from across Tower Hamlets, with free access support for anyone with needs/disabilities.			
9016 9606115	Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activity Centre (Also Known as ELMV Shadwell Basin Project)	Large (£250k+)	Discover Adventure Sport Project	The 'Discover Adventure Sports Project' will use outdoor and adventure activities as a vehicle to, both increase the engagement of girls in sports and improve health outcomes for inactive young people. It will target under-represented communities to address the inequalities that exist in the access to adventure sports.	Boroughwide	9,294	31,755
8875 9605974	Outside Edge Theatre Company	Medium (£150k-£250k)	East London Drop-in Drama and Write Now	East London Drop-in Drama and East London Write Now will provide free, accessible arts-based activities for vulnerable Tower Hamlets residents affected by addiction that will help improve their health and wellbeing and prevent relapse.	Boroughwide Spitalfields and Banglatown	25,000	85,417

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Theme 3 – Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8752 9605851	Wapping Youth Services	Small (less than £150k)	FitLife: Wellness Through Sports	FitLife: Wellness Through Sports initiative is a project that promotes improved health and well-being of residents. Through targeted activities, the project aims to foster engagement, physical and mental wellness, and a sense of pride in the diverse cultural community for all the residents of Tower Hamlets.	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Limehouse Mile End Shadwell Spitalfields and Banglatown St Dunstan's St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Weavers Whitechapel	25000	85,417
8897 9605996	Four Corners	Large (£250k+)	East End Stories	“East End Stories” will provide seventy-two Tower Hamlets residents with the opportunity to participate in a programme of training and cultural activities which will culminate in them making films about their local community’s history and culture.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333
9064 9606163	Udichi Shilpi Gosthi	Small (less than £150k)	Udichi Performing	UDICHI Performing Arts/Festival Project works	Bethnal Green East (formerly	19,000	64,917

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Theme 3 – Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
			Arts and Festival Project	with Tower Hamlets Bangladeshi community increasing access and participation in cultural events focusing on Bengali & other cultures/heritages. Project provides quality teaching in music, dance, literature to 420 children/young people over 3.5 years and also delivers X 18 Festivals for 7,000 Tower Hamlets residents.	Bethnal Green) Boroughwide Bow East Bromley North Island Gardens Limehouse Mile End Poplar Shadwell Spitalfields and Banglatown Stepney Green Weavers Whitechapel		
9086 9606185	Bromley By Bow Community Organisation	Small (less than £150k)	BBBCO Sporting Community	BBBCO Sporting Community will provide sporting sessions to young people to improve their physical and mental health; develop their personal skills and social connections; act as a diversionary hook away from negative activities.	Bromley South	15,000	51,250
8860 9605959	Kayd Somali Arts & Culture	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Tower Hamlets in Focus: Somali Arts Project	Celebrate and showcasing Somali arts and culture in Tower Hamlets through a series of engaging events during the Somali Week Festival. Featuring a family	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's)	20,000	68,333

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

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Theme 3 – Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				weekend, a captivating documentary highlighting the historical significance of Somalis in East London, and a commissioned British-Somali play. Preserving cultural heritage & promoting artistic expression and storytelling.	Blackwall and Cubitt Town Boroughwide Bow East Bow West Bromley North Bromley South Canary Wharf Limehouse Mile End Poplar Shadwell Spitalfields and Banglatown St Dunstan's St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Whitechapel		
9087 9606186	Ocean Youth Connexions	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Physical Health and fitness programmes	We want to continue deliver a Taekwondo Session for young girls from the BAME communities, a BAME men's cycling activity and a weekend football programme that addresses social exclusions	St Dunstan's	20,000	68,333
8703 9605802	South Poplar and Limehouse	Small (less than £150k)	SPLASH Sports and Play clubs	In England's most densely populated borough, where	Limehouse Poplar	20,000	68,333

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Theme 3 – Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
	Action for Secure Housing (SPLASH)			41.8% of kids face weight challenges, and 88% live in flats. SPLASH Play offers free supervised play and sport provisions for children aged 5-13. Our dedicated playworkers nurture creativity, empowering kids to explore their imagination, learn, and flourish in a safe, friendly space.			
						328,252	1,121,529

Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
9032 9606131	SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets	Large (£250k+)	Growing Together	A health and mental wellbeing improvement programme targeting older people through tackling loneliness, inactivity and isolation. The project will reduce digital isolation to give older people greater access to services and convenience and imbed strategies to improve intergenerational relations through a volunteering scheme with local young students.	Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping Whitechapel	40,000	136,667
8942 9606041	Globe Community Project	Small (less than £150k)	Wellbeing for Elders	A powerful mindfulness-based programme serving over-60s at risk of severe loneliness and isolation in Tower Hamlets supporting them to increase connection with others and themselves and lead richer, more active and fulfilling lives. Participants improve their	Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's)	39,903	136,335

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Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				resilience using proven tools to improve awareness and agency over thoughts, emotions and behaviour.			
8969 9606068	Age UK East London	Large (£250k+)	Activity Buddy	Our tried and tested, volunteer-led Activity Buddy scheme uses both 1:1 and group sessions to support older people to build the trust and confidence to get out into the community, connect with others and become more active and informed.	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
8868 9605967	English National Ballet	Large (£250k+)	Dancing East	Dancing East is English National Ballet’s programme of creative ballet classes for participants aged over 50 living in Tower Hamlets, and is designed to improve physical and mental wellbeing through dance in community centres across the borough.	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Blackwall and Cubitt Town Canary Wharf Lansbury Limehouse Poplar Shadwell Spitalfields and Banglatown Weavers Whitechapel	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
9073 9606172	Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	The Vietnamese & Chinese Lunch Club (VCLC) provides healthy food, a lunch club, a range of social activities and promotes healthy living in all forms for older people in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Blackwall and Cubitt Town Boroughwide Bow East Bow West Bromley North Bromley South Island Gardens Lansbury Limehouse Mile End Poplar Shadwell Stepney Green Whitechapel	25,000	85,417
8973 9606072	Island House Community Centre	Medium (£150k-£250k)	SENIORS	The Seniors Project addresses loneliness and isolation in older people within Tower Hamlets through regular initiatives covering physical and mental health, social needs, and practical skills. Extending our existing	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

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Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				programme will increase the range of social and health activities available to improve mental and physical health amongst the over-fifties.			
9002 9606101	Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Befriending for Isolated Older People	A free befriending and advocacy service for older people experiencing loneliness and social isolation in Tower Hamlets through one-to-one befriending visits in people’s homes, group outings enabling people to meet others in a similar situation, and telephone befriending for additional support particularly at times of crisis	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
9052 9606151	Wapping Bangladesh Association	Medium (£150k-£250k)	Active Plus - Wapping BME Older Person's Day Club	WBA’s Older Person’s Healthy Living Club is a community-based day club run at the Wapping’s Youth Club that will a Lunch Club Programme and a variety of social and cultural socialisation activities that bringing improvements to the physical and emotional	Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				well-being to vulnerable Bangladeshi and BME older people.			
9004 9606103	East London Mosque Trust	Large (£250k+)	The Senior Citizens Project	The Senior Citizens Project at East London Mosque supports elderly men and women over 50 to tackle loneliness and isolation and improve their health and well-being through social activity, exercise, and awareness sessions in a culturally sensitive space and gives access to a healthy meal through a health cafe	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Whitechapel	25,000	85,417
8979 9606078	Methodist Church Tower Hamlets	Large (£250k+)	Zacchaeus Health and Wellbeing for Older People	Zacchaeus aims to provide a range of wrap around/holistic offers of advice, information, access to benefits, support groups and health, social and therapeutic sessions to reduce isolation for older people. Aiming to promote healthy lifestyles, increase opportunities for physical activity participation, working towards a better mutual	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bow East	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				understanding of different cultures.			
8864 9605963	St Hilda's East Community Centre	Large (£250k+)	Over 50's Feeling Good	The aim of Over 50s Feeling Good is to provide a programme of activity for older people which allows them to experience joy through taking part in exciting and challenging activity, fostering social connections, and improving their physical and mental health in an environment that is comfortable, safe and inclusive.	Boroughwide Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping Weavers	25,000	85,417
8632 9605731	Shadwell Trust	Small (less than £150k)	Bridging the Gap	Bridging the Gap will provide access to physical activity and mobility sessions to older people. The activities will be delivered from Tarling East Community Centre in partnership with Sonali Gardens, Linkage Plus and Tower Hamlets Community Housing. We also plan to run social club and activity classes for older people.	Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Whitechapel	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8956 9606055	Somali Senior Citizens Club	Small (less than £150k)	“Granby Hall Seniors’ Club”	Granby Hall Seniors’ Club will promote health and well-being of vulnerable local elders, particularly, but not exclusively, from the Somali community living in Tower Hamlets experiencing social isolation, economic deprivation and reduced independence by providing a programme of health and developmental activities at our Granby Hall Centre.	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
8903 9606002	Neighbours In Poplar	Large (£250k+)	Bengali Womens Holistic Project	Following extensive research by NIP, we have discovered that there is a lack of community provision for local elderly Bengali women. We therefore, propose to outreach to local elderly Bengali women residing in the E14 area to attend and take full advantage of the many services and activities from NIP.	Blackwall and Cubitt Town Canary Wharf Island Gardens Lansbury Limehouse Poplar	25,000	85,417
8826 9605925	Asian People's Disability Alliance	Large (£250k+)	Can you See Us - Standing	This is a Daycare & Development Project for Older women with	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green)	20,000	68,333

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Theme 4 – Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
			Up for Older People	Disabilities and long term Health Conditions. By supporting their physical, emotional, social, and environmental needs, we may improve the quality of life for older persons with impairments and health issues.	Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Spitalfields and Banglatown Weavers		
						399,903	1,366,339

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Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8843 9605942	Sister Circle	Large (£250k+)	Healing Conversations	Healing Conversations will provide 85 minoritised mums of pre-school children/survivors of gender-based violence with complex needs with specialist, culturally competent, trauma-informed counselling delivered in community settings, in multiple languages. The project will: improve mental health, connect women to wider sources of support essential to health and wellbeing, reduce health inequalities.	Boroughwide	36,403	124,377
8932 9606031	deafPLUS	Large (£250k+)	Improving the Health and Wellbeing of the deaf and hard of hearing community	A borough wide health and wellbeing project that will address health inequalities for deaf and hard of hearing residents, address their mental health issues and enable them to make healthy lifestyle choices.	Boroughwide	40,000	136,667
8857 9605956	Body & Soul	Large (£250k+)	You Are Not Alone	We will expand delivery of	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				our You Are Not Alone (YANA) suicide-prevention programme for young people (aged 16-30) most at risk of suicide in Tower Hamlets, addressing increasing demand and complex needs, particularly among marginalised communities that have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic and rising cost of living.			
8858 9605957	Carers Centre Tower Hamlets (London Buddhist Centre)	Large (£250k+)	Building Resilience and Resourcefulness for Unpaid Carers	Carers will have access to a full range of therapies, respite, and learning opportunities including, wellness days; art and creative activities; practical workshops on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle; and courses delivered by professionals to develop the skills required to effectively manage their caring role; and look after themselves.	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
8905 9606004	Bromley By Bow Centre	Large (£250k+)	Connect for Health	The Bromley by Bow Centre alongside local self-	Bow East Bow West Bromley North	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				employed sessional leads (physical activity coaches, artists, and facilitators) are supporting 80 people each year to participate in 160 activity sessions. Sessions are designed to improve health and connection, and include both broad open access activities and those targeted at specific audiences.	Bromley South Mile End		
8947 9606046	Canaan Project	Small (less than £150k)	Canaan Project: Young Women's Mentoring	Canaan Project's mission is to provide high quality youth work for young women where there is currently none. Our mentoring programme offers ongoing 1:1 support for young women with the aim of seeing them flourish, have broadened horizons and raised aspirations.	Blackwall and Cubitt Town Canary Wharf Island Gardens Mile End	25,000	85,417
8966 9606065	Mind in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Redbridge	Large (£250k+)	Our Voices Sakinah	Our Voices Sakinah is a co-produced, community-based project for diverse Muslim women to come	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

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Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				together to support each others mental health and wellbeing through creating a network of safe spaces. The project support women to have a greater voice and access services that promote positive mental health.			
8667 9605766	Toynbee Hall	Large (£250k+)	Playful Tower Hamlets - Nurturing Bodies and Minds	By creating edible gardens in underused areas of East London, Toynbee Hall aims to connect children to nature, tackle food poverty, and improve physical and mental wellbeing. We will provide outdoor play activities, forest school and weekend gardening sessions for 300 disadvantaged children and their families per year.	Spitalfields and Banglatown	25,000	85,417
8962 9606061	Working Well Trust	Large (£250k+)	Upskill Choices	The service will ensure people who have lived experience of mental health are able to access community opportunities to	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

MCGP 2023-27 Recommended Projects

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Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				support their health and wellbeing by supporting to identify the issues affecting them taking up opportunities, to address them and to support them to take that next step.			
8939 9606038	Tower Hamlets Parents Centre	Small (less than £150k)	Women’s Health Matters	The Women’s Health Matters Project in Tower Hamlets will improve the Physical and Mental Health of over 1050 disadvantaged Women in Tower Hamlets, by developing their knowledge, providing Fitness and Nutrition Activities and enhancing their Access to Services.	Spitalfields and Banglatown St Dunstan's St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Weavers Whitechapel	25,000	85,417
8940 9606039	elop (East London Out Project)	Large (£250k+)	Tower Hamlets LGBT+ Support	LGBT+ Community Support to enhance peer networks, lessen isolation and provide mental health crisis prevention support. Two facilitated social support groups targeting older people, people with mental health needs or other	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				disabilities, and LGBT asylum seekers and one to one mental health support providing individual mental health crisis prevention support.			
8663 9605762	Positive East	Large (£250k+)	One-to-one counselling for residents living with HIV and poor mental health	People living with HIV in the UK are at increased risk of anxiety and depression compared to the general public. Poor mental health can lead to non-adherence to antiretroviral therapy and reduced retention in HIV care. We will provide one-to-one counselling supporting people living with HIV in Tower Hamlets.	Boroughwide Whitechapel	16,222	55,425
8747 9605846	The Shadwell Community Project	Small (less than £150k)	Grow, Eat, Cook! Children's Café Project	We will provide access to free healthy meals for children especially from low income and ethnic minority backgrounds in Tower Hamlets. We will provide weekly sessions where children grow, cook and eat	Shadwell	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				meals together in a supportive, active environment and increase their health, fitness and wellbeing.			
8850 9605949	Vallance Community Sports Association	Medium (£150k-£250k)	SEND Health & Wellbeing Project (Young People)	A programme of weekly sports and physical activities and a social club for young people (8-25 years) with special educational needs and disabilities for the purpose of increasing sports participation, improving health and wellbeing (including mental health), and reducing loneliness, isolation and exclusion.	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
8736 9605835	Council Of Mosques - Tower Hamlets	Small (less than £150k)	Council of Mosque Healthy Mind, Healthy Lifestyle Reach	This healthy living project aims to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of BAME residents through a programme of community events, practical workshops and one-to-one health support, advice and information that will raise awareness of health risks,	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

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Theme 4 – Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				illnesses and diseases most profound amongst the borough’s BAME communities.			
						392,625	1,341,473

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Theme 5 – Scheme A: Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality Groups and Social Economic Backgrounds							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
9048 9606147	Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets	Medium (£150k-£250k)	BAME Trustee Training and Matching (known as The METs Programme)	The programme will recruit, train and support residents from BAME communities (60% women) to become charity trustees. It will address inequality by empowering BAME residents to fulfil their potential and progress into leadership roles. Trained volunteers will be matched with local charities, creating trustee boards that better reflect our community.	Boroughwide	39,989	136,629
8961 9606060	Working Well Trust	Large (£250k+)	Upskill Reach	Opening up referral pathways and increasing access to opportunities for people with lived experience of mental health from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic Communities. We will support people to overcome barriers by addressing inequalities of access to support and resources.	Boroughwide	39,740	135,778

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Theme 5 – Scheme A: Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality Groups and Social Economic Backgrounds							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8908 9606007	Real DPO Ltd	Large (£250k+)	All Inclusive Advice	Tailored and evidence-based advice and support for disabled individuals in Tower Hamlets. Offering holistic assistance, including guidance on independent travel, financial independence, community engagement, and access to local services. It will cater to clients from diverse ethnic, cultural, and faith backgrounds and collaborate with other organizations for referrals.	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500
8994 9606093	East London Advanced Technology Training	Large (£250k+)	Tower Hamlets Voices	Tower Hamlets Voices will foster community cohesion by bringing together people from diverse backgrounds in six local West Tower Hamlets hubs. The project aims to improve inclusion, access to support, and overall equality and will support 220 participants, mostly from Black, Asian, and multi-ethnic backgrounds and other marginalised groups annually.	Bethnal Green East (formerly Bethnal Green) Bethnal Green West (formerly St Peter's) Limehouse Mile End Shadwell Spitalfields and Banglatown St Dunstan's Stepney Green	25,000	85,417

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Theme 5 – Scheme A: Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality Groups and Social Economic Backgrounds							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
					Weavers Whitechapel		
8722 9605821	Account3 Ltd	Large (£250k+)	Dare to Lead - leadership development for Minoritized women of Tower Hamlets	Dare to Lead is a customised and approved BAME Women focused leadership programme, which is accredited and externally verified and validated by the national examination board OCN, London. The leadership programme is designed to support BAME women who are in or aspire to leadership roles through a development programme	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417
8631 9605730	Council Of Mosques - Tower Hamlets	Small (less than £150k)	CoM Community Empowerment Project	CoM's Community Empowerment Project is new structured service designed and developed by CoM to address racism, faith-based abuse such as Islamophobia and discrimination faced by particularly by the borough's Muslim Communities areas of health, the criminal justice system, education, employment, immigration and politics experienced by	Boroughwide	25,000	85,417

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Theme 5 – Scheme A: Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality Groups and Social Economic Backgrounds							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				the borough's BAME communities.			
9029 9606128	SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets	Large (£250k+)	Stay Smart Stay Safe	The Stay Smart, Stay Safe project focuses on empowering girls and women to make positive choices in their personal lives that allow them to prosper and lead fulfilling lives.	Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping Whitechapel	25,000	85,417
9008 9606107	TOYHOUSE LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION OF TOWER HAMLETS	Small (less than £150k)	Empowering Communities:- Coming together, sharing their cultures, food and experiences	Toyhouse will facilitate a series of short courses for people from diverse backgrounds and 3 generations across equalities strands. 5 parents & pre-schoolers, plus older people, drawn together to discover and discuss, aiming to increase understanding and appreciation of different cultures - via food; games; traditions; clothing; beliefs; celebrations.	Bow West Bromley North Bromley South Mile End Poplar St Dunstan's Stepney Green	14,983	51,192
						224,712	767,767

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Theme 5 – Scheme B: Community Safety							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8883 9605982	Osmani Trust	Large (£250k+)	Schools Resilience Programme (SRP)	The Schools Resilience Programme (SRP) aims to educate and mentor vulnerable and at risk secondary school children on community safety and prevent them from becoming involved in crime, gangs and criminal exploitation. The project will develop their resilience, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence so they make informed choices.	Boroughwide	40,000	136,667
8696 9605795	Step Forward (Tower Hamlets)	Large (£250k+)	Being Heard	Our Being Heard project offers a programme of preventative, early intervention activities to help keep vulnerable young people aged 11-25 safe, free from harm and prevent them being exploited. It also provides specialist support to young people affected by sexual violence to help them feel safe, cope and recover.	Boroughwide	40,000	136,667
8900 9605999	Beyond the Streets	Large (£250k+)	Door of Hope	Funding our Door of Hope Coordinator, overseeing our project working with women	Boroughwide	23,399	79,947

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Theme 5 – Scheme B: Community Safety							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				selling sex in Tower Hamlets through street outreach, drop ins and long term, trauma informed, 1:1 support that includes advocating for and enabling positive outcomes within themes of homelessness, income and food poverty, substance misuse, and physical/mental health			
8914 9606013	Women’s Inclusive Team	Large (£250k+)	Haawa Project (Community Safety)	The Hawaa Project is a tailored advice and guidance service for BAME women affected by domestic abuse. WIT provides a safe and confidential environment, where cultural and linguistic needs of minority women are catered for. Hawaa is set to help tackle a culturally sensitive issue that is often overlooked.	Boroughwide	30,000	102,500
8678 9605777	D'awatul Islam UK & Eire Ltd	Large (£250k+)	"Our Park" - 'Safer Parks Campaign'	The "Safer Parks Campaign" empowers local communities to tackle issues like anti-social behaviour, drug abuse, mugging, sexual exploitation, and violence in parks. A	Limehouse Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Whitechapel	30,000	102,500

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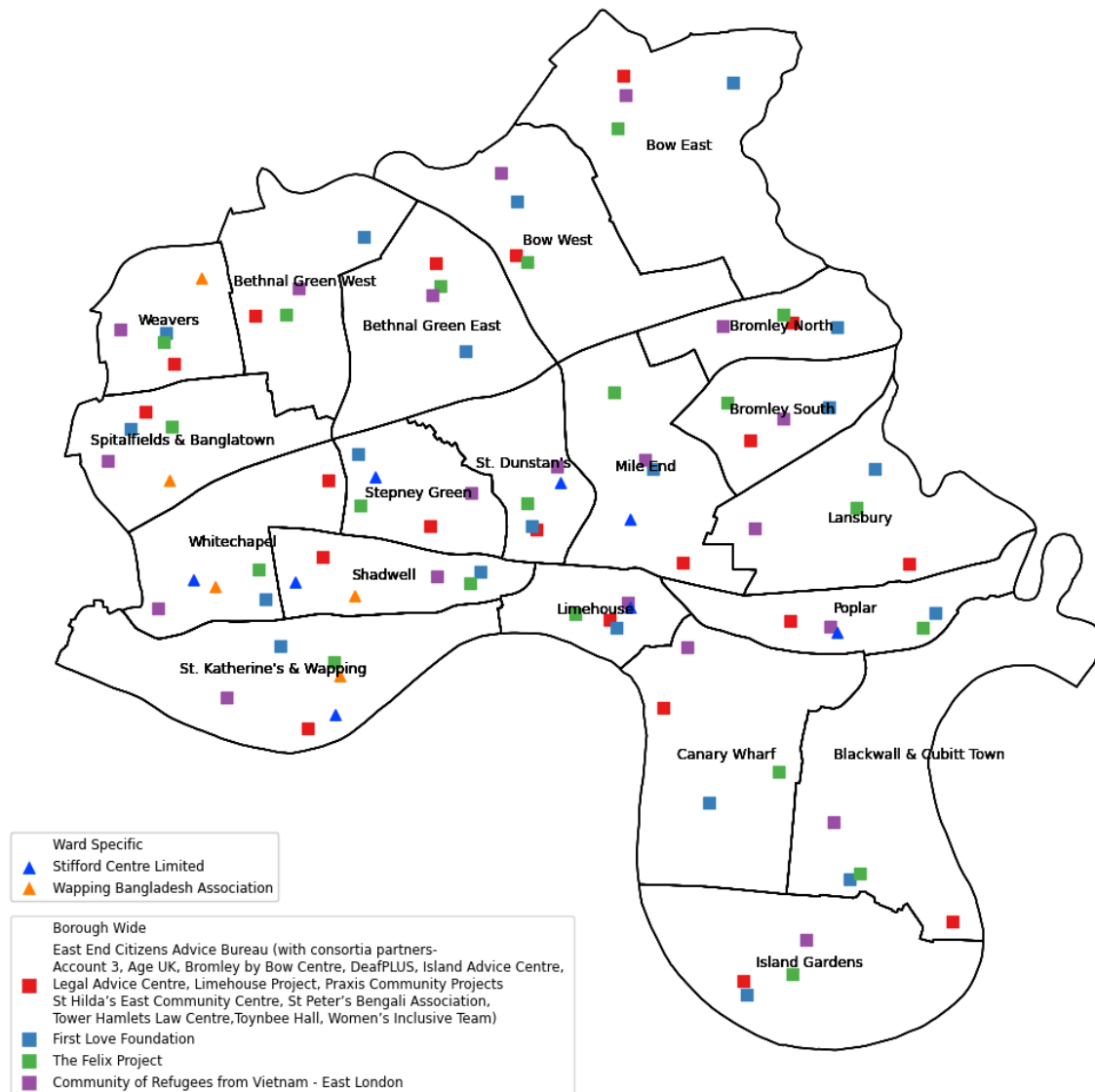
Theme 5 – Scheme B: Community Safety							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
				diverse team of 20 individuals, will work together to make parks safer through community organising, community listening, social action, and negotiations with authorities.			
8738 9605837	Shadwell Trust	Small (less than £150k)	Self Defence Classes and Creative Arts	Self Defence Classes and Creative Arts for Girls, Women and BAME Young People	Shadwell St Katherine's and Wapping Stepney Green Whitechapel	20,000	68,333
8821 9605920	City Gateway 14-19 Provision	Large (£250k+)	ReBuild - Pathways to Employment for Ex-Offenders	Our programme, ReBuild, focuses on enhancing the life opportunities and employment opportunities of ex-offenders aged 16-24. We provide dedicated assistance to this group through our education and training pathways, underpinned by one-to-one coaching, supporting them into sustainable education, employment and training (EET) outcomes with partner employers.	Boroughwide	20,000	68,333

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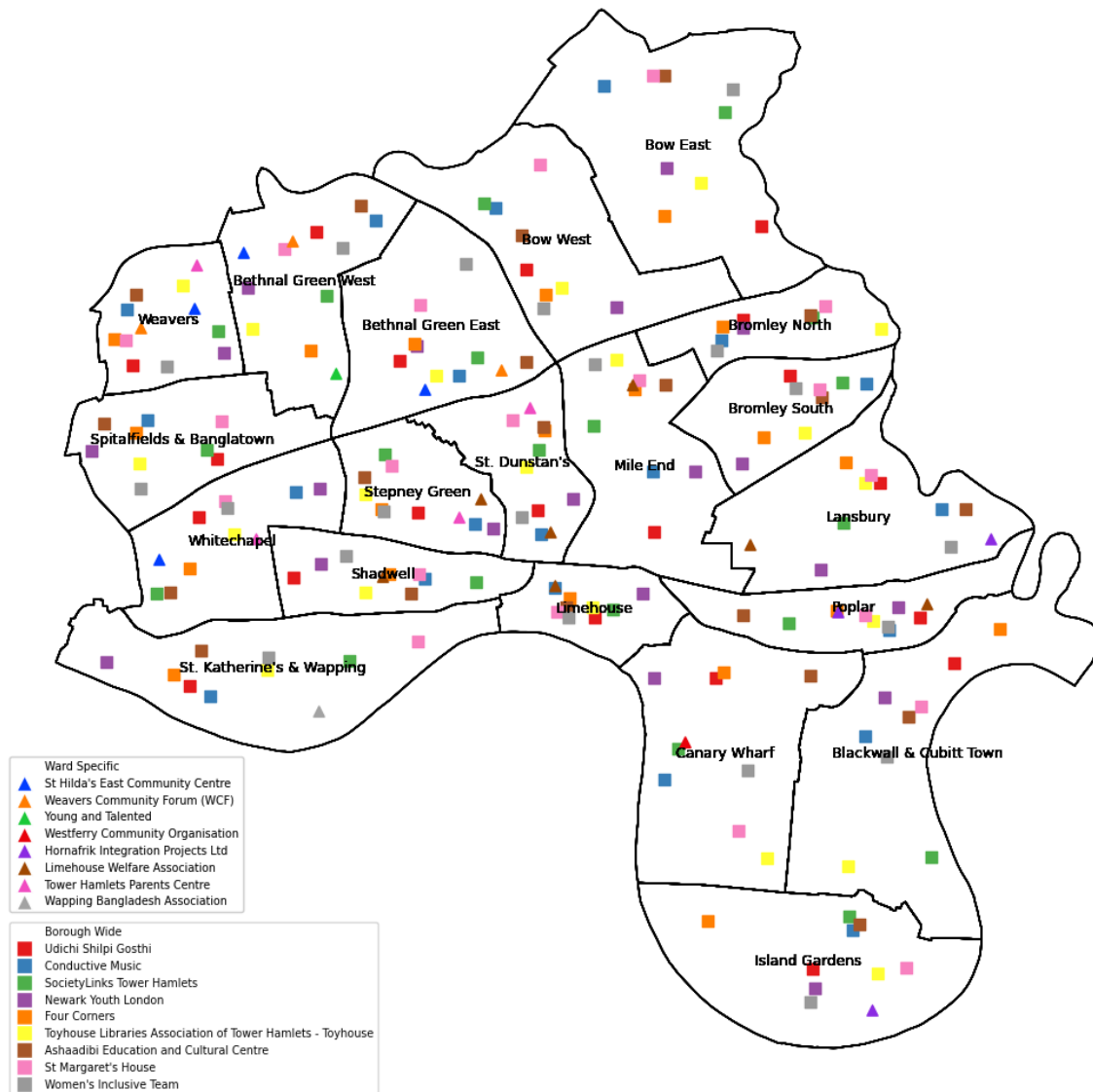
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Theme 5 – Scheme B: Community Safety							
ID	Organisation	Size of Organisation	Project Title	Short Project Description	Geographical Area Served	Recommended (Annual Amount)	Recommended (Total 41 Months)
8792 9605891	Look Ahead Care and Support	Large (£250k+)	Children's Domestic Violence Support Worker	A specialist Children’s Domestic Violence Support Worker to support children living at the refuge who have experienced trauma due to early exposure to domestic abuse. The post will be embedded in the Tower Hamlets Domestic Abuse Service and support children while they stay in the refuge.	Shadwell	20,000	68,333
						223,399	763,280

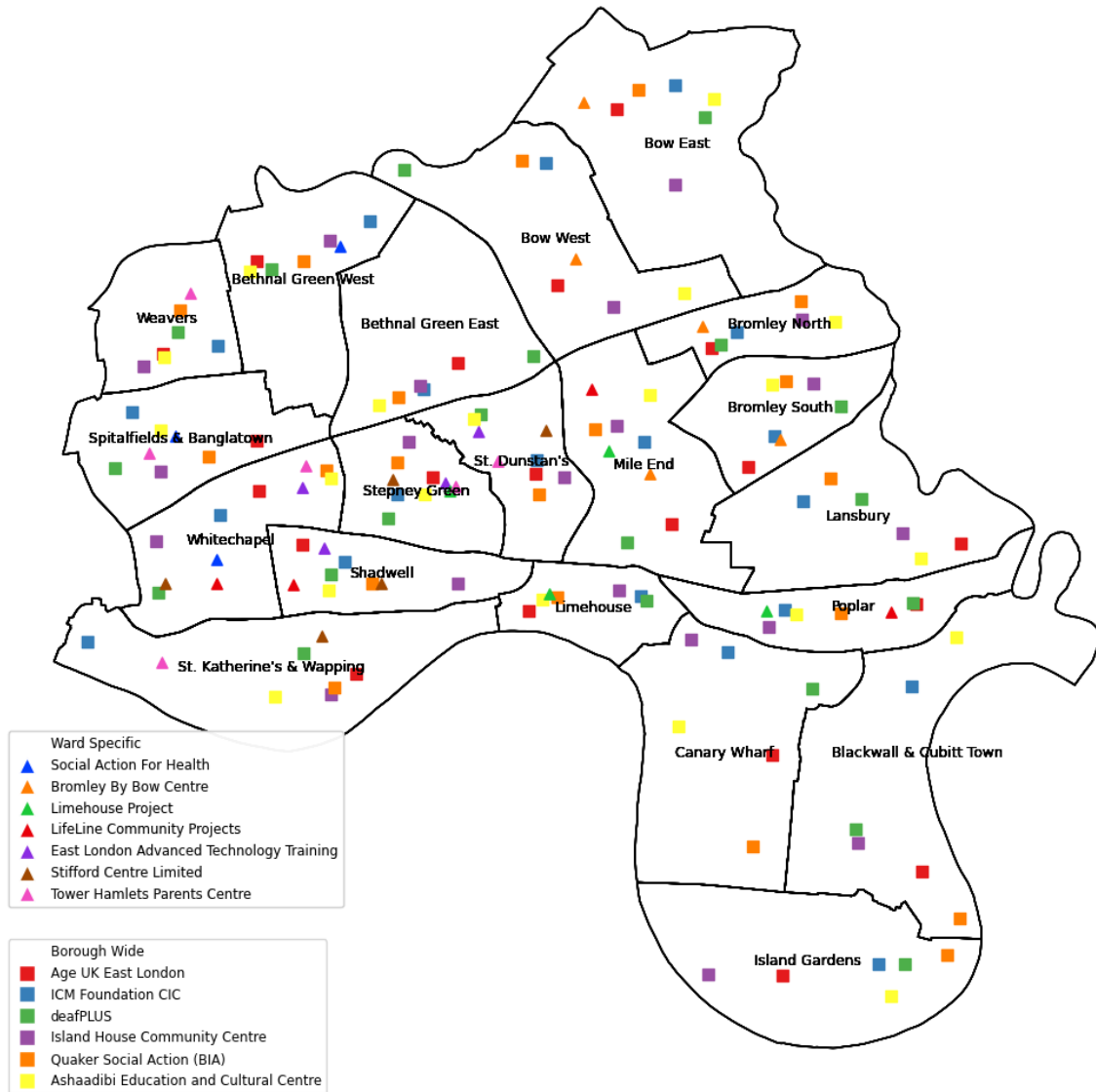
Theme 1 - Scheme A: Advice, Information and Crisis Support



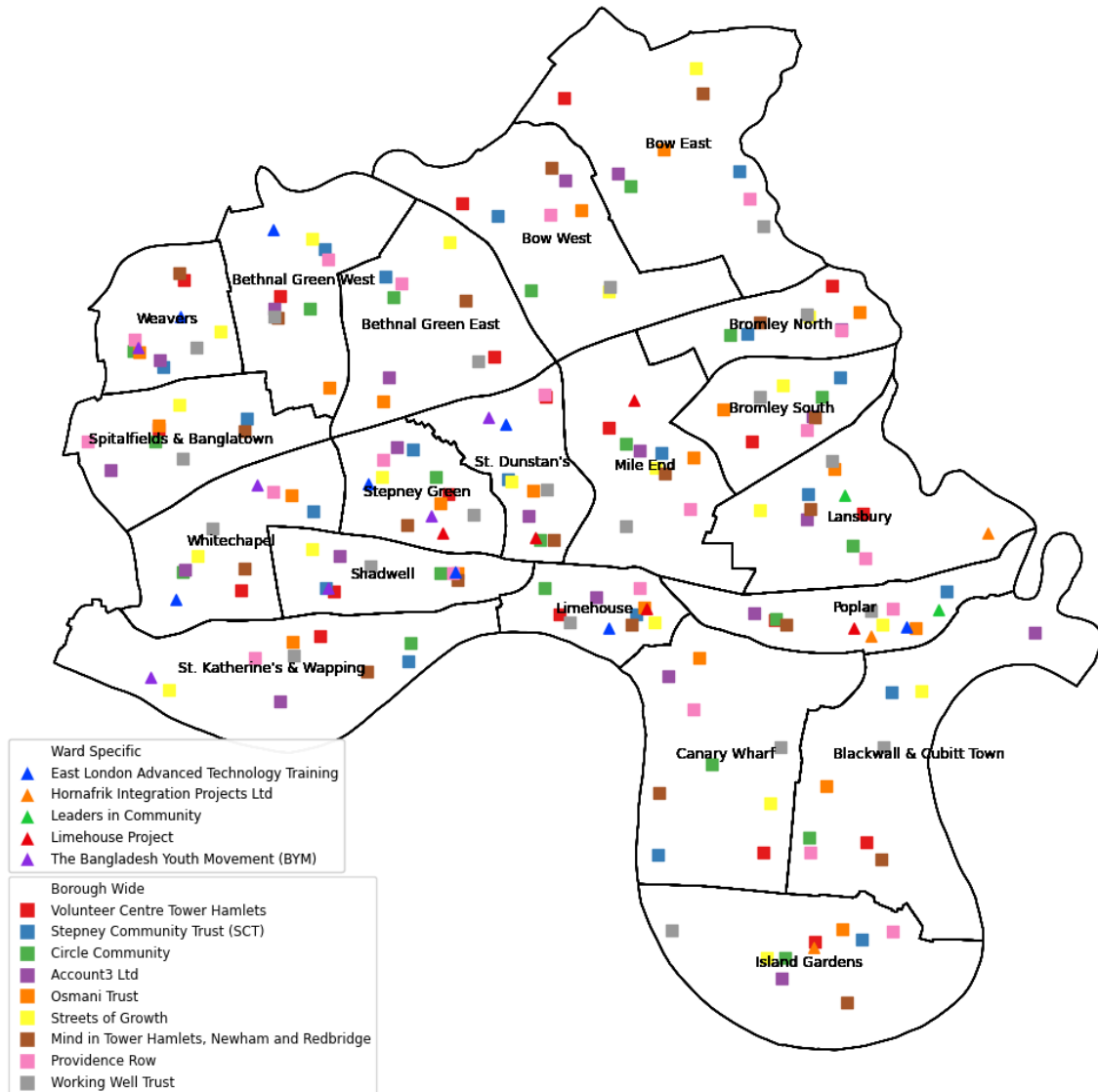
Theme 2 - Scheme A: Education Attainment and Development of Children and Young People



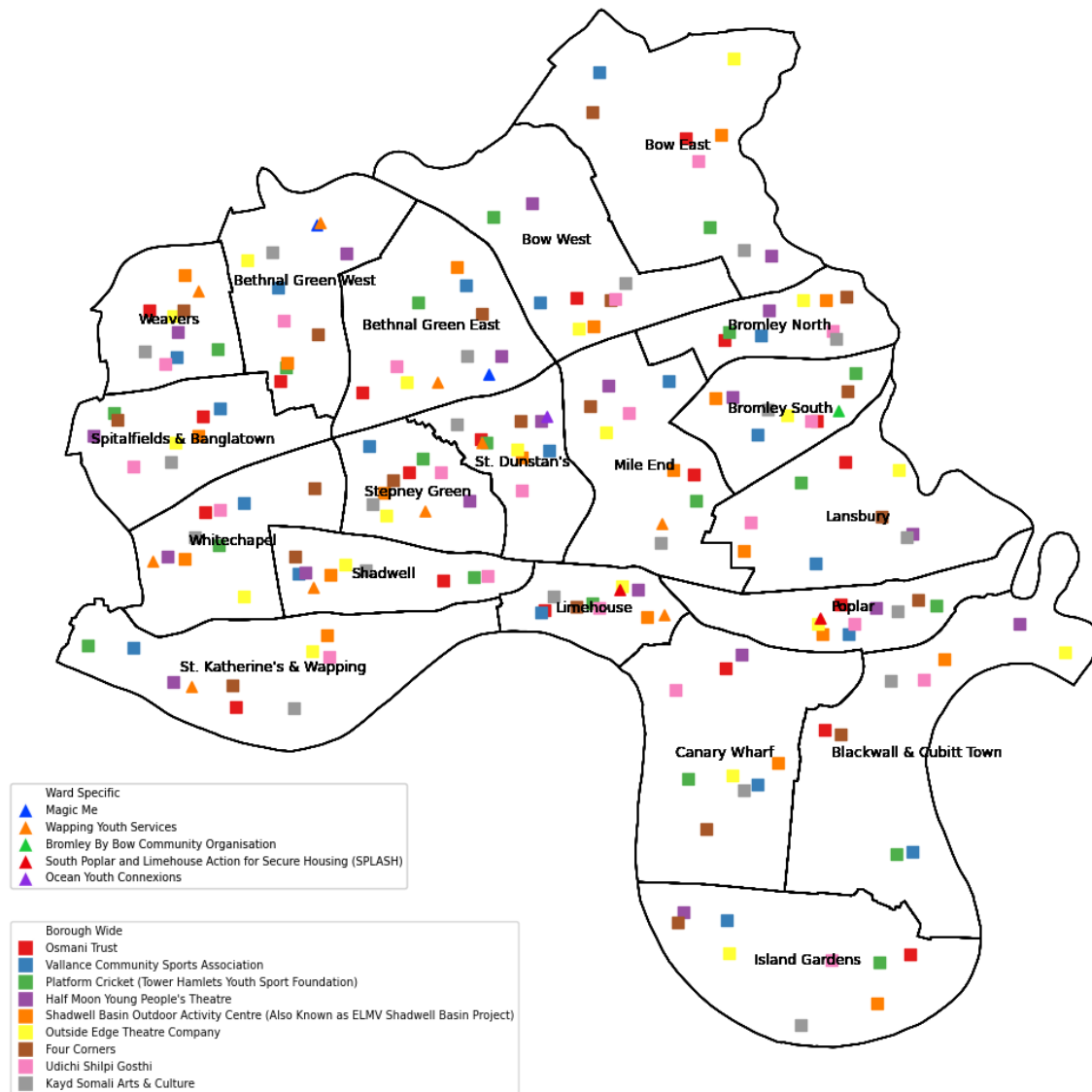
Theme 2 - Scheme B: Lifelong Learning



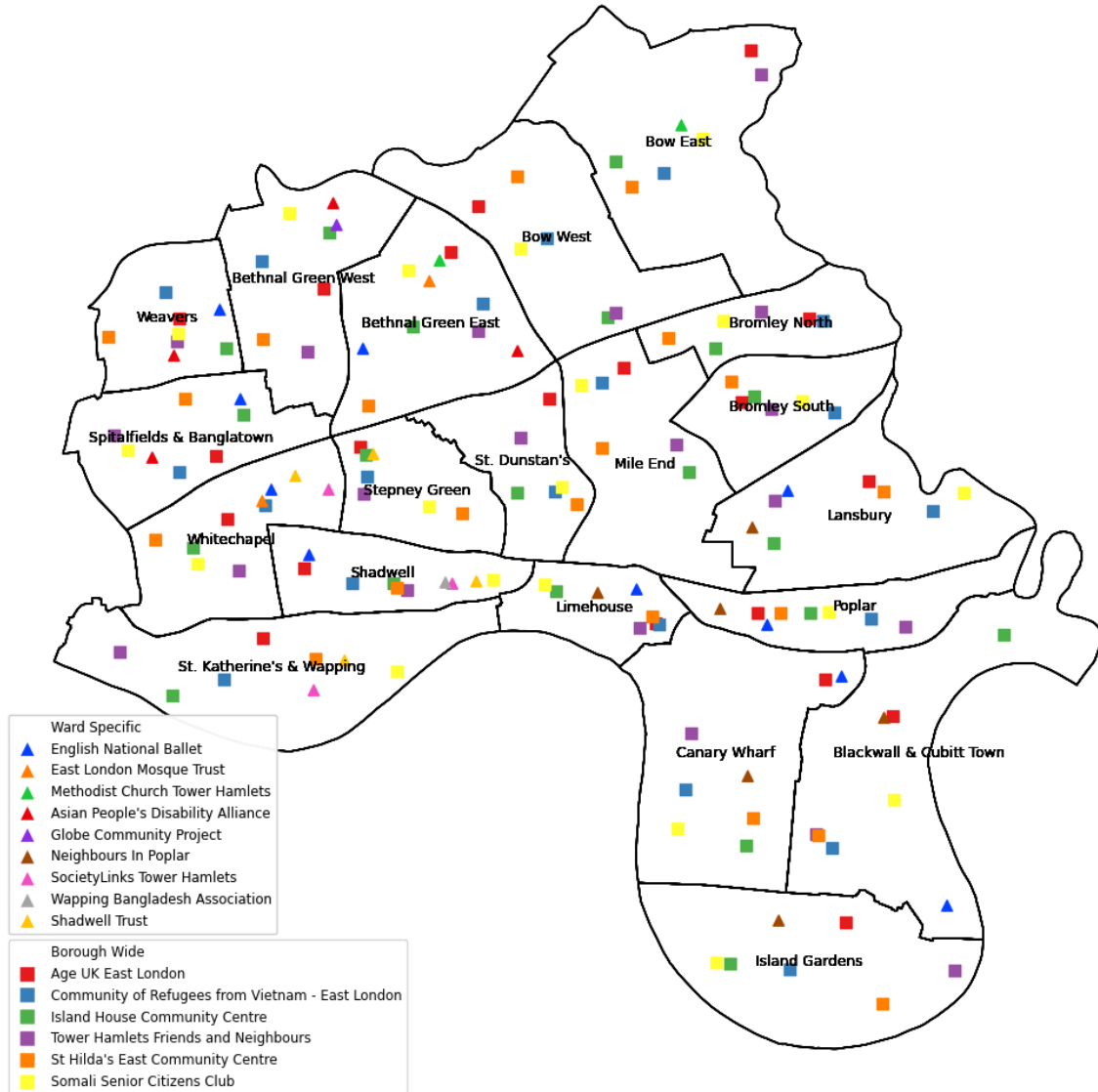
Theme 3 - Scheme A: Employment and Skills Opportunities for Socially Excluded Residents



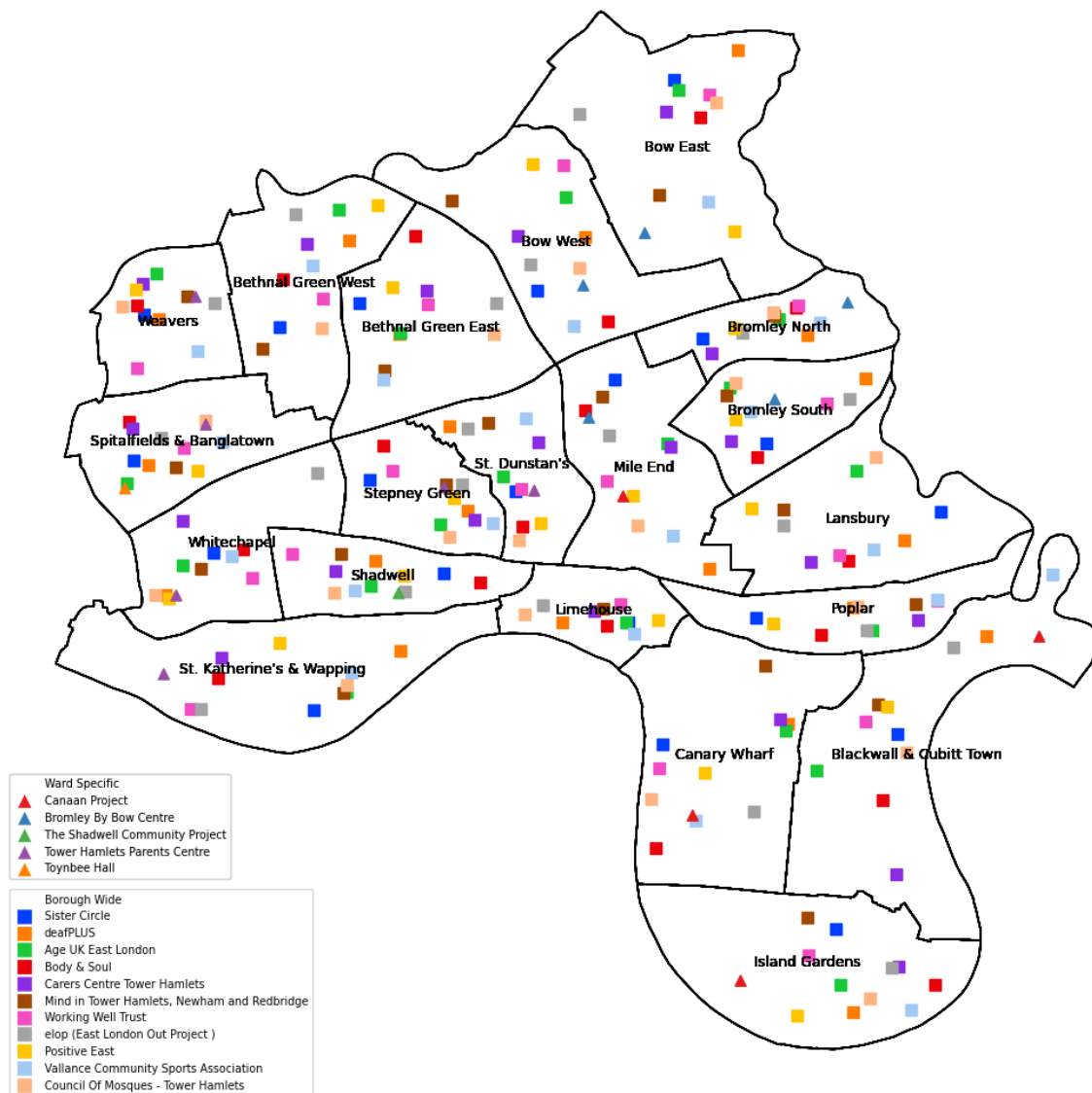
Theme 3 - Scheme B: Sports and Local Culture and Heritage



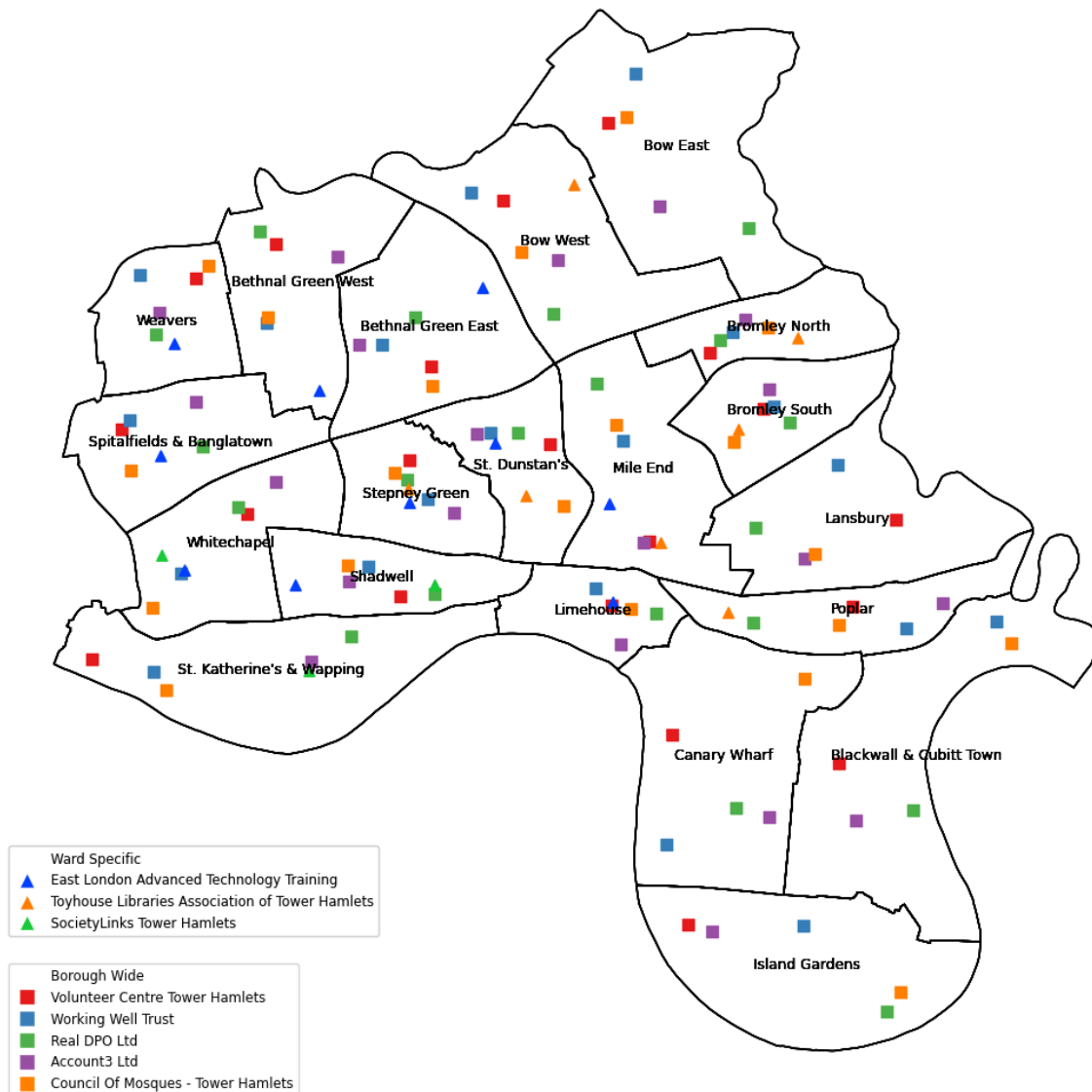
Theme 4 - Scheme A: Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Older People



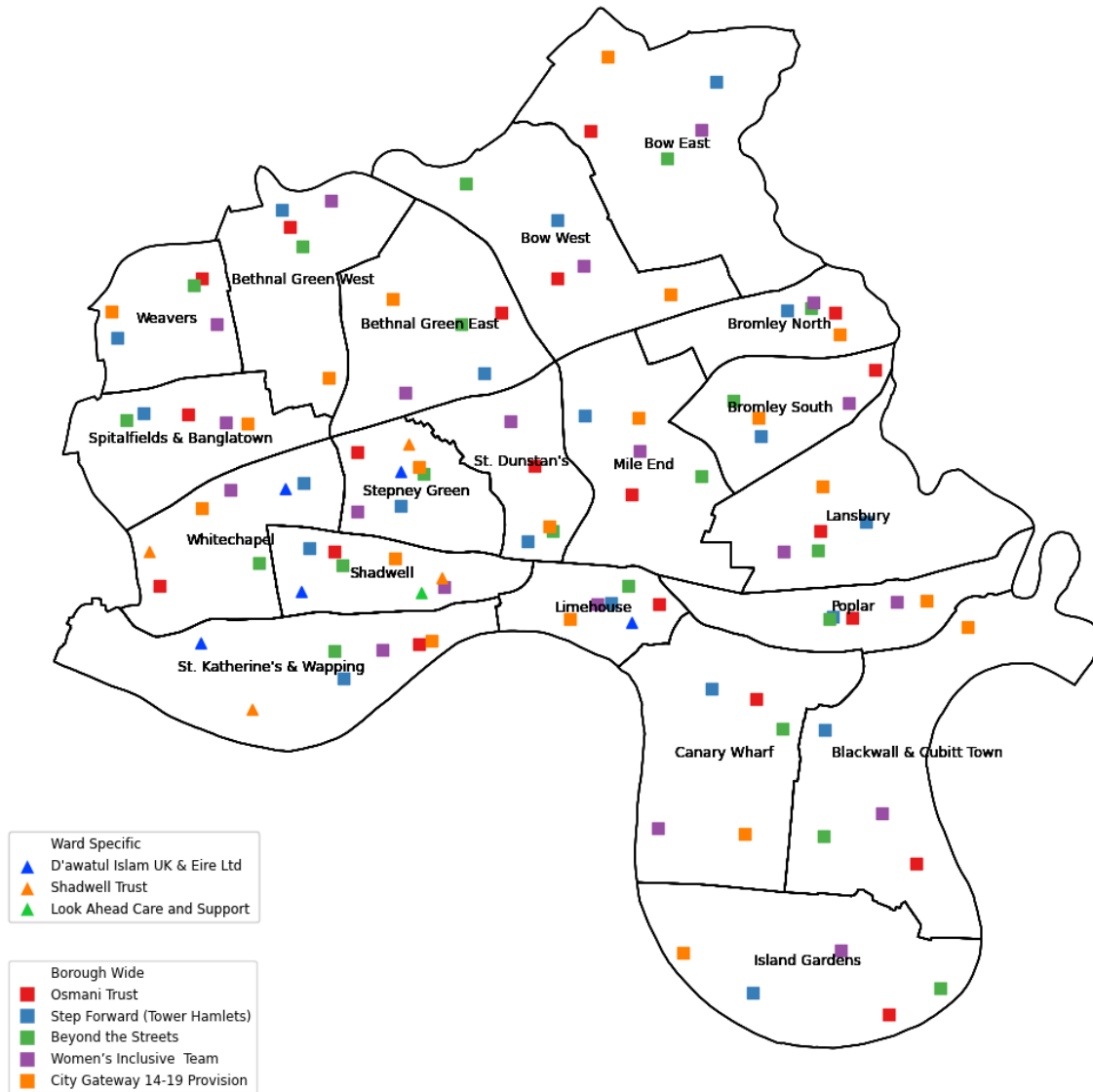
Theme 4 - Scheme B: Physical and Mental Health of Residents



Theme 5 - Scheme A: Inequalities Experienced by People and Communities Reflecting Different Equality Groups and Social Economic Backgrounds



Theme 5 - Scheme B: Community Safety



SUBSIDY CONTROL ACT PRINCIPLES

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Remedy to be Delivered by Subsidy	Anticipated Outcomes
Specific policy objective	Must remedy an identified market failure or address an equity rationale such as social difficulties or distributional concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of specific policy objective • Establish the existence and significance of market failure/inequality addressed by subsidy • Identify how subsidy would address market failure or equality objective (reduce an inequality) • State the desired outcome(s) <p>Tower Hamlets Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCGP prospectus and its links with priorities of Tower Hamlets Council Strategic Plan 2022-2026 • High level of inequality and needs in the borough • Demographics • Research, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>2021 Census</i> - <i>Tower Hamlets Poverty Review</i> - <i>Tower Hamlets BAME Inequalities Commission</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of community based services, by VCS organisations best placed to respond to local needs, to deliver outcomes not being met by other services • Promoting equality by supporting delivery of services by VCS organisations embedded in and representing local communities, who have extensive insights into these communities’ needs • Delivery of essential services by VCS organisations to socially excluded groups who may have had negative experiences of statutory sector services or have difficulties in accessing these services. 	Outcomes outlined in MCGP prospectus for each of the Themes. Information can be supplied for recommended new MCGP projects, if required.

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Remedy to be Delivered by Subsidy	Anticipated Outcomes
		<p><i>Report and Recommendations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Understanding the Impact of COVID-19 in Tower Hamlets</i> - EQIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence to confirm need for specialised VCS programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - data on previous VCS programmes extensive level of support for specific socially excluded communities - highlighting cases of successful VCS programme interventions – - information on socially excluded communities’ reliance on VCS services - evidence on unmet need - - highlighting of vital role of VCS during pandemic and recovery process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific remedies could be listed for particular MCGP Schemes and Themes. 	

Appendix F

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Remedy to be Delivered by Subsidy	Anticipated Outcomes

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Evidence
Proportionality	Subsidies should be proportionate and limited to what is necessary to achieve the objective	Demonstrate how the subsidy is proportionate and designed to minimise negative effects on competition and investment within the UK, whilst still allowing it to meet the policy objective. This should include details on how we have considered following subsidy characteristics:	
		Nature of subsidiary	Grants to charitable organisation to deliver essential services to local residents
		Breadth of beneficiaries and the selection process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary and community organisations • registered charities, including charitable incorporated organisations • registered not-for-profit companies • registered community interest companies • faith-based groups, where the funding is for inclusive activity that is open to all. <p>Organisations are required to have a registered office in Tower Hamlets, have a base within Tower Hamlets,</p>

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Evidence
			<p>or can demonstrate a track record of successful service delivery within the borough for at least two years. Selection through grant application process.</p> <p>Organisation’s submissions are assessed by Council officers, with the Chief Executive of the Council making the decision on which organisations are funded to deliver specific projects.</p>
		Subsidy size	<p>Maximum grant of £40,000 a year, with grants available from November 2023 to March 2027. Possible maximum grant of £140,000 over this time-scale.</p> <p>Exception to above is Theme 1 Cost of Living, for which consortium applications – involving a number of organisations - can apply for all of the funds available for this theme: £900,000 in one year. Potential maximum grant of £3,150,000 from November 2023 to March 2027.</p>
		Nature of costs being covered	<p>Costs of delivering a project relating to MCGP prospectus schemes. Any proposed costs to be funded by MCGP - including organisation’s core costs, such as management time and premises - must relate to the MCGP project.</p>

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Evidence
		Performance criteria	<p>Organisations' performance will be monitored against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key performance indicators • outcomes • progress on supporting residents from different council wards in the borough and residents from different protected characteristic groups.
		Ringfencing	<p>Grant allocations were allocated against specific themes, and schemes within these themes, in relation to Tower Hamlets Council Strategic Plan priorities.</p>
		Monitoring and evaluation	<p>Quarterly on-line monitoring returns from organisations to the Council, outlining progress on achieving quarterly KPIs and general project progress.</p> <p>Annual monitoring returns from organisations to the Council outlining year's performance for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general progress of project • achievement of outcomes • supporting residents from different council wards in the borough and residents from different protected characteristic groups • use of project funds.

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Without Subsidy	Tower Hamlets With Subsidy
<p>Change in economic behaviour</p>	<p>Subsidies should be designed to bring about a change of economic behaviour of the beneficiary that is conducive to achieving the objective and that would not be achieved in the absence of subsidies being provided.</p>	<p>Future short-term and long-term scenario in the absence of the subsidy and with. Will the subsidy bring about the hoped for change of behaviour?</p>	<p>Short-Term</p> <p>Absence of MCGP would mean that charitable organisations would not have sufficient levels of funding to deliver vital community-based services targeted at priority needs in the borough. The services funded by MCGP reflect its prospectus’ direct links to the priorities of Tower Hamlets Council Strategic Plan 2022-2026. MCGP-funded services are focusing on the most high-level and urgent needs in Tower Hamlets. There is no other organisation providing funding for provision to respond to such a wide range of priority needs in the borough.</p> <p>Community-based charitable organisations in Tower Hamlets, like their counterparts in other boroughs in the UK, are facing significant challenges in securing funding to deliver services – please see section on Appropriate Instrument below. They would not be able to obtain</p>	<p>Short-Term</p> <p>MCGP awards would provide funding to charitable community-based organisations, based in or working in Tower Hamlets, to deliver vital services for the local community that would not be delivered – at the same level and with a targeted focus on local needs – if MCGP funding is not in place.</p> <p>Long-Term</p> <p>MCGP’s provision of sustainable funding to charitable organisations in Tower Hamlets would provide long-term security and financial strength to these organisations. This would enable them to continue to deliver vital services for local residents, preventing community needs from increasing and placing unmanageable burdens on these organisations, with resultant decreases in the quality of service and potential threats to the organisations’ existence.</p>

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Without Subsidy	Tower Hamlets With Subsidy
			<p>alternative funding, at the same level and time-scale, as MCGP, for new community-based services for local residents.</p> <p>Long-Term</p> <p>No MCGP funding would mean that there would be no Tower Hamlets-focused programme offering sustainable funding to charitable organisations in the borough. The absence of this funding would threaten these organisations' existence, which could lead to the termination of the vital services that they offer to local residents.</p> <p>The removal of a programme offering sustainable funding to local charitable organisations would reduce their potential to obtain additional funding from external sources to help them deliver services to local residents. Council funding for charitable organisations provides them with credibility to external funders, thus enhancing their prospects of</p>	<p>MCGP's offer of sustainable funding to charitable organisations in Tower Hamlets would increase these organisations' potential to obtain additional funding from external sources to help them deliver services to local residents. The receipt of Council funding would enable these organisations to build credibility with external funders and increase their potential to secure external funding from them.</p>

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Without Subsidy	Tower Hamlets With Subsidy
			<p>securing funding from these organisations.</p> <p>Absence of funding for community-based charitable organisations through MCGP to respond to the needs of local communities in Tower Hamlets would lead to an increase in the level of need from residents who would depend on these services. Many of these residents are from socially excluded communities and protected characteristic groups. This increase in the level of needs would place additional pressures on community-based charitable organisations in the borough, undermining their ability to deliver services effectively and possibly threatening their existence.</p>	

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Situation
<p>Costs would otherwise not be funded</p>	<p>Subsidies should not normally compensate for the costs the beneficiary would have funded in the absence of any subsidy.</p>	<p>How would the subsidy lead to a change in the economic behaviour of the beneficiary and assists with achieving the policy objective?</p>	<p>MCGP would fund beneficiaries (charitable organisations) to deliver services that are vital to local resident of Tower Hamlets and would not exist without this programme. The charitable organisations funded by MCGP to deliver above services with specialist policy objectives would not be delivering these services if the programme did not exist.</p>
		<p>Appropriate justification should be provided if subsidy will compensate for the costs the beneficiary would have likely funded in the absence of any subsidy such as business as usual (BAU) costs.</p>	<p>MCGP would only fund costs related to MCGP-funded projects, including core costs for organisations that can be apportioned to MCGP projects, such as management and premises costs.</p>
		<p>Schemes should show how any BAU customers will not benefit from the subsidy as compared with those who will benefit as “extra customers”.</p> <p>Need to demonstrate how the subsidy will bring new benefits and beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Focus of MCGP is on funding as wide and diverse a range of organisations as possible in order to ensure that innovative projects which improve outcomes for local people are being delivered. MCGP would provide Council funding for a number of organisations for the first time, to enable them to deliver community-based services for local residents. The services that MCGP would fund would be comprehensive and innovative, ensuring that all communities in the borough are supported, including those not currently benefitting from local services.</p>

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Situation
<p>Appropriate instrument through other less distortive means.</p>	<p>Subsidies should be an appropriate policy instrument to achieve a public policy objective and that objective cannot be achieved through other less distortive means.</p>	<p>Justify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • why a subsidy is the most appropriate instrument for addressing the identified policy objective • why other instruments have been set aside such as regulation, direct provision of the good or service by the authority or loans or equity investment on commercial terms. Consideration of whether this is something the Council could do itself and if not, why not. 	<p>MCGP would fund beneficiaries to deliver services that are vital to local resident of Tower Hamlets and would not exist without this programme. Grant-funding, like MCGP, is best placed to respond to community needs as it is dependent on the community bringing forward ideas and proposals for activities to achieve positive outcomes. It thus results in the provision of services that are more responsive to community needs than a more prescriptive tendering process, which could potentially lead to contracts for provision being secured by larger organisations, external to the borough, who do not have the community roots and links that local VCS organisations have.</p> <p>Charitable organisations funded by MCGP to deliver above services with specialist policy objectives would not be delivering these services if the programme did not exist. These organisations are facing significant challenges in securing funding for new services. There have been significant reductions in external funding available to charitable organisations in the post-pandemic world, with many external grants now being short-term in nature. The suspension of physically-based activities during lockdown has had a long-term effect, with many charitable organisations reducing such activities, including events that they would have charged beneficiaries to use and fundraising events, such as social events or hiring out their premises for external use. This has had a negative impact on the financial strength of charitable organisations.</p>

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Situation
			<p>The cost of living crisis has placed significant pressures on charitable organisations’ management of their finances, including ability to pay satisfactory salaries to retain experienced and trained staff. The crisis has also resulted in less donations from the general public to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • charitable making trusts, which ensures that these trusts have less funds to allocate to local charitable organisations. • local charitable organisations themselves <p>The cost of living crisis and the long-term impacts of the pandemic, with their negative effects on local residents, have also led to increased demand on charitable organisations’ services, thus exacerbating the financial challenges that they face.</p> <p>As outlined above, charitable VCS organisations are uniquely placed to respond to the needs of local communities, including socially excluded residents. In particular, charitable organisations who represent or support particular protected characteristic groups have the links, knowledge and experience to deliver responsive and sensitive services. The Council and other local statutory sector services do not have the same relationships with local communities. Moreover, many communities in the borough have had negative experiences with the Council and other statutory sector providers in terms of service provision, including in terms of responsiveness, equitable</p>

Appendix F

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Situation
			treatment and accessibility. Local charitable organisations are best placed to address these communities' needs.

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Evidence
Minimal adverse effects on competition	Subsidies should be designed to achieve their specific policy objective while minimising any negative effects on competition or investment within the UK.	Demonstrate how the subsidy is proportionate and designed to minimise negative effects on competition and investment within the UK, whilst still allowing it to meet the policy objective. This should include details on how we have considered following subsidy characteristics:	
		Nature of subsidiary	Grants to charitable organisation to deliver essential services to local residents
		Breadth of beneficiaries and the selection process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary and community organisations • registered charities, including charitable incorporated organisations • registered not-for-profit companies • registered community interest companies • faith-based groups, where the funding is for inclusive activity that is open to all <p>Organisations are required to have a registered office in Tower Hamlets, have a base within Tower Hamlets, or can demonstrate a track record of successful service delivery within the borough for at least two years.</p>

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Evidence
			<p>Selection through grant application process. Organisation’s submissions are assessed by Council officers, with the Chief Executive of the Council making the decision on which organisations are funded to deliver specific projects.</p>
		Subsidy size	<p>Maximum grant of £40,000 a year, with grants available from November 2023 to March 2027. Possible maximum grant of £140,000 over this time-scale.</p> <p>Exception to above is Theme 1 Cost of Living for which consortium applications can apply for all of the funds available for this theme: £900,000 in one year. Potential maximum grant of £3,150,000 from November 2023 to March 2027.</p>
		Nature of costs being covered	<p>Costs of delivering a project relating to MCGP prospectus. Any proposed costs to be funded by MCGP, including organisation’s core costs such as management time and premises, must relate to the MCGP project.</p>
		Performance criteria	<p>Organisations’ performance will be monitored against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key performance indicators • outcomes

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Evidence
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • progress on supporting residents from different council wards in the borough and residents from different protected characteristic groups • use of project funds.
		Ringfencing	Grant allocations were allocated against specific themes, and schemes within these themes, in relation to Tower Hamlets Council Strategic Plan priorities.
		Monitoring and evaluation	<p>Quarterly on-line monitoring returns from organisations to the Council outlining progress on achieving quarterly KPIs and general project progress.</p> <p>Annual monitoring returns from organisations to the Council outlining on year's performance for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general progress of project • achievement of outcomes • supporting residents from different council wards in the borough and residents from different protected characteristic groups • use of project funds.

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Situation
<p>Benefits outweigh negative impacts</p>	<p>Subsidies' positive contributions to achieving the objective should outweigh any negative effects, in particular the negative effects on trade or investment between the Parties.</p>	<p>Details of the expected benefits of the subsidy (as they relate to the specified public policy objective) and its anticipated negative effects, including in particular any negative effects on competition and investment within the UK. This should also include any geographical and distributional impacts. Justify why the negative effects are outweighed.</p> <p>It will not always be possible to quantify every element of the assessment, and therefore the balancing exercise may need to include both quantitative and qualitative elements.</p>	<p>Outline positive outcomes to be delivered by each MCGP Scheme, as set out in the prospectus, or projects recommended for funding, if required.</p> <p>In terms of potential negative effects on competition of MCGP award process, focus on the competitive process to determine award allocations and the anticipated wider community benefits of approved MCGP projects.</p> <p>In regard to geographical impact focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pan-borough nature of the programme • requirement for MCGP applicants to define proposed project catchment area and how this question was addressed in MCGP assessment process. <p>For distributional impacts need to focus on fact that MCGP would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • awarded to as wide a range of organisations as possible • expected to be the first LBTH programme funding that some organisations would receive • supporting VCS organisations representing and supporting a wide range of communities and protected characteristic groups, many of which experience social exclusion and require specialist services.

Appendix F

Subsidy Principles	Clarification	Evidence	Tower Hamlets Situation


GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR USE OF NCIL

CIL legislation allows 15% of CIL to be spent on infrastructure or **'anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area'**.

The main guiding principle for the use of NCIL is that it must be linked to growth. This means it is either used in a way which supports existing growth such as providing amenities for increasing population or contributes to the well-being and enhancement of the community affected by development. Examples would include delivery of activities which create a sense of community belonging, improving overall well-being, and ensuring that the social fabric remains intact despite the changes brought about by development.

We considered whether the project meets at least one of the following deemed linked to growth.

- Builds community i.e improves how well people from different backgrounds get on together.
- Increases social cohesion i.e skills and interest groups focused on hobbies and interests providing opportunities for residents to come together based on shared passions.
- Increases community participation/inclusion and access to benefits presented by local growth.
- Support services like counselling, youth programmes and social care i.e. elderly and disabled to address the evolving needs of the community (supporting inclusivity).
- Supports the cultural and local traditions that can maintain the area's unique identity despite development. Anything that reflects the community's values and heritage sparking conversations and connections amongst residents.
- Increases safety, reducing ASB, improving levels of hate, crime, and domestic violence.
- Ensures that a particular community is not left out of the benefits of local growth and expansion i.e. skills development or overcoming barriers.
- Platforms that facilitate communication and information sharing amongst residents.
- Other community benefits justifiably linked to the impacts of growth.

<p style="text-align: center;">Grants Determination Sub Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 November 2023</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Robin Beattie, Interim Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation</p>	<p>Classification: [Unrestricted or Exempt]</p>
<p>Emergency Grant review</p>	

Executive Summary

The Emergency Grant Fund provides grant funding to local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations who are facing a significant loss of council funding or unforeseen emergencies. Under this grant organisations can apply for a one-off grant of up to £10,000.

However, despite evidence that VCS organisations are facing significant challenges including increased wages and energy costs, which have been made worse by the impact of Covid-19 and the cost-of-living crisis, the funding has been underspent every year since it was created.

Following Cabinet decision in March 23 to review the current Emergency Grant a review was conducted, and new refreshed programme will be launched from 1st November 2023.

This report provides an update on outcomes of the review and for GDSC to delegate authority to Director Strategy, Improvement & Transformation in consultation with the Mayor to approve Emergency Grant fund applications.

Recommendations:

The GDSC is recommended to:

1. Note the Emergency Grant Fund prospectus.
2. Authorise the Corporate Director of Resources, in consultation with the Mayor, to award Emergency Grant to organisations as and when they arise.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 In March 23 Cabinet agreed to review the current Emergency Grant to ensure that VCS organisations who require emergency support can access the funding and continue to deliver services to Tower Hamlets residents.

- 1.2 A review of the Emergency Grant Fund has now been concluded. The review included engagement with internal officers, VCS organisations and looking at good practices from other Boroughs.

A new prospectus has been produced based on the findings from the review and approved by the Chief Executive under delegated authority as per March 2023 Cabinet decision.

- 1.3 To make the decision-making process more efficient, we are recommending GDSC to authorise the Corporate Director of Resources in consultation with the Mayor, to award Emergency Grant to organisations as and when they arise. This will ensure organisations are able to access the funding quickly and are able to deal with the emergency they are facing in a timely manner. GDSC will be provided with updates on the funding on a regular basis.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Alternative option is not to delegate the authority to the Director Strategy, Improvement & Transformation to approve Emergency Grant fund applications. This is not recommended as it would delay the process for grants award process which will impact on the emergency facing organisations.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Council has a vision to support a thriving and diverse voluntary and community sector that improves outcomes for communities. Cabinet approved a new Grants Policy & Outcomes Framework in March 2023. This consist of three funds: Mayor’s Community Grants Programme, Small Grants Programme and Emergency Grants.
- 3.2 The purpose of Emergency Grant has previously been to provide support to VCS organisations who are facing a significant loss of Council funding or unforeseen emergencies. The total budget for the Emergency Grants Fund is £100,000 per year. Organisations can apply for a one-off grant of up to £10,000.
- 3.3 Below table shows Emergency Grant Fund award from financial year 2014/15 to 2023/24.

Financial year	Total Amount Awarded (£)
1st April 2014 - 31st March 2015	39,936
1st April 2015 - 31st March 2016	49,130

1st April 2016 - 31st March 2017	16,575
1st April 2017 - 31st March 2018	6,130.01
1st April 2018 - 31st March 2019	23,658
1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020	2,060
1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021	6,846
1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022	9,722
1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023	7,749

- 3.4 This funding helps organisations in need to survive, continue to deliver vital services for residents and take steps to become more sustainable in the future.
- 3.5 Despite VCS organisations facing numerous challenges such as increased wages and energy costs made worse by Covid-19 and the cost of living crisis, the funding has been underspent every year since it was created.
- 3.6 The Council has undertaken a review of the Emergency Grant which started in July 2023 which included reviewing the current process, why organisations are not applying for the fund, eligibility criteria, “what we will fund” section and the application form.
- 3.7 The review included:
- Interviews with VCS organisations who previously received Emergency Grant and Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service.
 - A workshop with internal officers who have experience of working with VCS organisations and Emergency Grant
 - Identifying best practice from other boroughs
- 3.8 The analysis of the above work has identified the following improvements:
- Eligibility Criteria: Expand the criteria so more organisations are eligible to apply
 - What we will fund: Expand the list of things we will fund to ensure it meets current VCS emergency needs
 - Application form: Make the application form easier to read and navigate.
 - Monitoring form: Developed a new monitoring form, which organisations will be expected to complete after 3 months of receiving the fund so we can demonstrate the impact of the fund.
- 3.9 The above findings have been used to produce a new grant prospectus, refreshed application form, and creation of a new monitoring form.

- 3.10 Another finding from the research is that many VCS organisations are not aware of its existence. Once the refreshed Emergency Grant fund has been agreed, we will be strengthening communications and promotion of the fund.
- 3.11 To make the decision-making process more efficient, we are recommending GDSC to authorise the Corporate Director of Resources, in consultation with the Mayor, to award Emergency Grant to organisations as and when they arise. This will ensure organisations are able to access the funding quickly and are able to deal with the emergency they are facing in a timely manner.
- 3.12 The council recently finished its assessment and awards process for the Mayor's Community Grants Programme. This included an external audit and internal review process. We have gathered the good practice and lessons learned from this process, which will be applied to the delivery of emergency grants and other small grants.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct equality implications arising from the report. Once the new grant is launched it will be important to ensure a diverse range of VCS organisations are accessing the fund. As part of the communication and promotion we will use a diverse range of mediums.
- 4.2 Please see appendix 2 Equalities Impact Analysis Screening Tool.

5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no statutory implications.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 There is a budget of £100k for the grants programme. Awards must not exceed this limit and historically the budget has been underspent.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The Council has the legal power to set up this grants scheme in the manner indicated in the prospectus and other associated documents.
- 7.2 The Council has the legal duty to obtain Best Value when delivering its functions in terms of economy efficiency and effectiveness. The Prospectus highlights the areas which the Council considers important when evaluating applications and this will assist the Council to demonstrate that the grant funds align with the Council's view of what represents Best Value. These criteria will be used when judging which applications should receive funding and this will contribute to the Council's demonstration of Best Value.

- 7.3 The Council will monitor the grants to ensure that the funds are used in line with the application and the purposes for which it is given. This will also contribute to the Best Value demonstration.
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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

1. NONE

Appendices

1. **Appendix 1: Prospectus**
2. **Appendix 2: Equalities Impact Analysis Screening Tool**

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

3. NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

Afazul Hoque, Head of Corporate Strategy & Communities • Strategy, Improvement & Transformation

Craig Morbey, Strategy & Policy Lead

Inlia Aziz, VCS Development Officer

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Prospectus

Emergency Grant Fund



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Introduction

Tower Hamlets Council provides grant funding to local Voluntary and Community Sector organisations (VCS), who are facing an emergency.

The purpose of this prospectus is to provide information to VCS organisations on the grants criteria and how to apply.

Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for funding, organisations must meet the eligibility criteria below:

1. Be a voluntary and community sector organisation
2. Have a Constitution, Memorandum and Articles of Association or other recognised governance documents
3. Have been in receipt of council funding in the past two years
4. Be able to show long-term financial viability
5. Be in danger of closing or unable to continue to provide funded services
6. Have already taken measures to address the emergency
7. Not owe the council a debt of over £1000
8. Be registered in Tower Hamlets, have a base in Tower Hamlets or be able to demonstrate a track record of successful service delivery within the borough

How much money is available

The total budget for the Emergency Grant Fund is £100,000 per year.

Organisations can apply for a one-off grant of up to £10,000 per year.

What will we fund

The Emergency Grant will fund:

1. Building repairs for essential emergency work or health and safety requirements
2. Legal costs
3. Redundancy costs
4. Staff salaries/wages (to cover unforeseen medium/long term absences)
5. Recovery from damage or accidents

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list. If you are unsure whether the issue you are seeking funding for is an emergency contact the Voluntary and Community Sector team at vcs@towerhamlets.gov.uk.

Bidding process

To apply for Emergency funding you need to submit an application form via the Council's grant management portal, Blackbaud. You can access the application form by clicking [here](#).

There is no deadline for submitting bids. Applications will be considered when they are received.

Assessment

The Council will assess your application against the grant criteria and aim to let you know if you have been successful within four weeks of receipt of your application.

The assessment is to see whether your organisation and emergency meets the standards the Council expects of organisations it supports with public funds. All the questions require a written response.

Criteria	Application question
About your organisation	<p>Describe the purpose of your organisation, how your activities benefit Tower Hamlets residents, and how they link to Council priorities You can find Council's priorities via this link Strategic Plan 2022-26 (towerhamlets.gov.uk)</p> <p>Your organisation must be registered in the borough, have a base in Tower Hamlets or be able to demonstrate a track record of successful service delivery within the borough. (if you are registered in the borough please provide your address, if you are based in the borough please attach your rental agreement, or if you deliver in the borough for at least two years please provide some other evidence to demonstrate this.</p>
About your emergency	<p>Please explain the emergency your organisation is facing and the impact it will have on your organisation and service users.</p> <p>Please provide details of any action you have taken so far to tackle the emergency.</p>
What you want funding for	<p>What do you want emergency funding for and how will it ensure your organisation is financially sustainable in the future.</p> <p>Please set out how you would spend the emergency grant by filling in the budget table provided.</p>
Link to Council	Please detail all Council funding your organisation is currently receiving and how the emergency will affect this funding.

	Is your organisation based in a Tower Hamlets Council building. If so, do you have an appropriate property arrangement in place.
Your reserves	Does your organisation have a Reserves Policy? If so, please attached the copy with your application. Please explain how much reserves you have available and why these cannot be used to tackle the emergency.
Accounts	You may either provide us with your most recent year end management account or fill in the form provided.

Monitoring and Evaluation

All successful organisations will be required to complete a monitoring and evaluation form 3 months after the grant award.

This will ensure the grant has been spent correctly and the Council is able to continue to improve the fund.

This will need to be completed via Council's online grant management portal Blackbaud.

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Equality Impact Analysis Screening Tool

Section 1: Introduction

Name of proposal For the purpose of this document, 'proposal' refers to a policy, function, strategy or project
Emergency Grant Fund Review
Service area and Directorate responsible
Corporate Strategy & Communities Strategy, Improvement & Transformation Directorate
Name of completing officer
Craig Morbey, Strategy and Policy Lead Inlia Aziz, VCS Development Officer
Head of Service
Afazul Hoque, Head of Corporate Strategy & Communities

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'due regard' to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them
- Foster good relations between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them

This Equality Impact Analysis provides evidence for meeting the Council's commitment to equality and the responsibilities outlined above. For more information about the Council's commitment to equality, please visit the Council's [website](#).

Section 2: Summary of proposal being screened

Describe the proposal including the relevance of proposal to the general equality duties and protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010
<p>The proposal includes Grants Determination sub-committee delegating decision making authority to the Director Strategy, Improvement & Transformation to approve Emergency Grant fund applications.</p> <p>The proposal is also for Grants Determination Sub-Committee to note the changes to the Emergency Grants Fund, and the creation of new prospectus, refreshed application form and monitoring form which has been approved by CEO under delegated authority.</p> <p>The proposal will not have any direct impact on protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. However, it the funding could ensure that organisations who are supporting groups with protected characteristics are able to continue to do so.</p>

Section 3: Equality Impact Analysis screening

Is there a risk that the policy, proposal or activity being screened disproportionately adversely impacts (directly or indirectly) on any of the groups of people listed below? Please consider the impact on overall communities, residents, service users and Council employees. This should include people of different:	Yes	No	Comments
▪ Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
▪ Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
▪ Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
▪ Religion or Philosophical belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
▪ Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender re-assignment status 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People who have a Disability (physical, learning difficulties, mental health and medical conditions) 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marriage and Civil Partnerships status 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People who are Pregnant and on Maternity 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<p>You should also consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parents and Carers ▪ Socio-economic status ▪ People with different Gender Identities e.g. Gender fluid, Non-binary etc. ▪ Other 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

If you have answered **Yes** to one or more of the groups of people listed above, **a full Equality Impact Analysis is required**. The only exception to this is if you can 'justify' the discrimination (Section 4).

Section 4: Justifying discrimination

Are all risks of inequalities identified capable of being justified because there is a:	
(i) <i>Genuine Reason</i> for implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) The activity represents a <i>Proportionate Means</i> of achieving a <i>Legitimate Council Aim</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) There is a <i>Genuine Occupational Requirement</i> for the council to implement this activity	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 5: Conclusion

Before answering the next question, please note that there are generally only two reasons a full Equality Impact Analysis is not required. These are:

- The policy, activity or proposal is likely to have **no or minimal impact** on the groups listed in section three of this document.
- Any discrimination or disadvantage identified is **capable of being justified** for one or more of the reasons detailed in the previous section of this document.

Conclusion details

Based on your screening does a full Equality Impact Analysis need to be performed?

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>


If you have answered **YES** to this question, please complete a full Equality Impact Analysis for the proposal

If you have answered **NO** to this question, please detail your reasons in the 'Comments' box below

Comments

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<p style="text-align: center;">Grants Determination Sub-Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">08 November 2023</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Robin Beattie, Acting Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report - October 2021 – September 2022</p>	

Executive Summary

This performance report provides the Committee with an update on the council-funded Local Community Fund (LCF) programme for the voluntary and community sector for the period October 2021 to September 2022, including an overview of activities and performance for the five themes of the programme, and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project. The Project Summary (Appendix 3) gives an update by each project. The Annual Report (Appendix 4) gives a programme overview with highlights of its impact.

Recommendations:

The Grants Determination Sub Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the performance of the Local Community Fund (LCF) programme for October 2021 – September 2022, as set out in 3.3 to 3.8 and Appendices 3 and 4.
2. Note the performance of the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project as set out in 3.10.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Grants Determination Sub Committee (GDSC) Terms of Reference sets out the need to provide performance reporting 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

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.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 Background

In July 2019 the Council agreed 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.

At GDSC meeting on 9th 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 £1,329,616. The delivery of the LCF Programme has been supported by the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme. At GDSC meeting on 3rd July 2019 it was agreed that funding of £780,000 from this programme would be allocated between October 2019 to September 2022 to Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS) to deliver infrastructure support for local VCS organisations and support the VCS in strategic partnership working. It was agreed at GDSC meeting on 25th January 2023 that funding for THCVS to deliver this programme would be extended from October 2022 to September 2023, on the basis of a £260,000 grant.

- 3.2 **Appendix 4 Annual Report** presents a programme report, highlighting the work done by programme Theme, including case studies. The Report also includes equalities and geographical breakdowns of programme beneficiaries, using the aggregated information from the individual project reports.

- 3.3 **Overview of October 2021 – September 2022**

- (a) In the October 2021-September 2022 funding year LCF providers had to respond to the cost of living crisis, which led to increased demands on their services, particularly for those focused on tackling poverty and social exclusion. VCS organisations found it more difficult to retain staff due to challenges or inability to offer wage increases in line with inflation. There was also the challenge of responding to increased demand for physically-based services.
- (b) LCF providers demonstrated significant resilience in responding to the above demands. Projects continued to be successfully delivered although one project had to suspend its services permanently following an organisation's review of its services: please see 3.3 (d).
- (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. Of the 49 remaining LCF projects all were classed as Green in relation to the October 2021-September 2022 funding year, as was Infrastructure & Capacity Building Project, enabling all project payments to be made for that year. Two LCF projects are currently classified as Red, from the January-March 2023 quarter, due to premises issues – please see report of LCF programme in the October-December 2022 quarter.
- (d) As previously reported to GDSC, one project's services were permanently suspended during the October 2021-September 2022 funding year - St Hilda's East Community Centre's Surjamuki Disabled Youth Project in January 2022, following a review of the organisation's services. St Hilda's ensured that project beneficiaries, with their co-operation and that of their parents, were satisfactorily transitioned to other appropriate services to receive required support. The Council has not made any LCF project payments to St Hilda's for the above project for any activity post-December 2021.

3.4 Theme 1 Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing (27 projects)

(a) Scheme A Children, Young People and Families (Eight projects)

Projects in this scheme are focused on developing the confidence and life opportunities of young people. Significant areas of progress in past year included:

- Canaan Project's Isle of Dogs project, which offers a range of activities to young girls aged 11-19 in the Isle of Dogs, set up a new after school club at Canary Wharf youth hub.
- 86% of the 192 beneficiaries of Half Moon Young People's Theatre's Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People project reported at the end of year that they were feeling definitely confident about being in youth theatre.

- Newark Youth London's Girls in Action project supported 25 girls and young women to deliver social action projects for others, enabling them to increase their leadership skills and establish their own initiatives.

(b) Scheme B – Older People (Seven projects)

Projects are concerned with improving the health and wellbeing of older residents. Notable areas of success have included:

- 94% of the isolated, housebound older people supported by Age UK East London's Friend at Home project reported an increase or stabilisation of their well-being via the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale.
- the Lunch and Social Club provided by Community of Refugees from Vietnam – East London supported 60 people aged 50+ from the Vietnamese and Chinese community in Tower Hamlets through lunches, delivery service, and a range of social activities.
- 105 beneficiaries of St Hilda's East Community Centre's Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project reported to be feeling less socially isolated and lonely.

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

Projects enable older and physically disabled residents to be better informed and equipped to manage health and social care conditions. Progress has included:

- Globe Community Project's Take Back Your Life project provided a mindfulness-based pain management programme to 69 people that addressed chronic pain/illness and related social isolation and inactivity.
- Real DPO's Taking Control of Your Life project supported 47% of its 69 disabled beneficiaries to maximise their income through accessing benefits, grants and support to access services, for which there would usually be a charge.

(d) Scheme D – Healthy Living and Healthy Choices (Six projects)

Projects are concerned with making residents better informed, to enable them to make healthier choices, and increasing engagement in physical activity. Successes have included:

- London Tigers' Exercise for Health (BAME Women, Children and Young People) engaged 193 children and 182 women in a series of sports, physical activities and health-related workshops.
- Stifford Centre-led consortium's Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme delivered a free health club to 444 people, with 92% of members reporting that participation in club activities had led to improvements in their health.
- The Bangladesh Youth Movement's Live Healthy Enjoy Life project increased awareness of health issues for 130 women from Bangladeshi and other Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities.

(e) Scheme E – Improved Inclusion, Health and Well-being Outcomes for Disabled People and People Experiencing Mental Health Issues (Four projects)

Projects are focused on improving health outcomes for disabled people and ensuring that people experiencing mental health issues are better supported. Areas of success have included:

- deafPlus' Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People in Tower Hamlets project supported improvements in health and well-being of 40 deaf and hard of hearing adults through a range of events and well-being sessions.
- Woman's Trust's Therapeutic Support Groups for Women Affected by Domestic Abuse project's support for its beneficiaries resulted in 86% of them reporting that their stress and anxiety levels had either improved or not worsened, whilst 72% reported improved self-esteem.
- Working Well Trust's Upskill project supported 125 beneficiaries with lived experience of mental health to access well-being and training opportunities.

3.5 Theme 2 Digital Inclusion and Awareness

(a) Scheme A: ICT Skills and Digital Careers (Three projects)

Theme's projects provide digital ICT skills and knowledge to residents:

- Limehouse Project's DigITIES project enabled 192 older people to learn to use three ICT platforms.
- Newham New Deal Partnership's @online club Network Tower Hamlets project supported 17 older residents to do more activities on-line.
- Wapping Bangladesh Association's Digital First project enabled eight older adults to develop a better understanding and appreciation of learning how to use computers and the internet.

(b) Scheme B: Online Safety (Two projects)

Projects focus on children and young people's online safety. Progress has included:

- SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets E-Safety Champions project trained local women to be champions for e-safety in the community to enable 45 local residents to be more knowledgeable about the potential dangers of on-line activities, including abuse of social media and on-line fraud.
- Sporting Foundation's Building Digital Resilience project enabled 215 parents and young people to be more aware of the relationship between social media and on-line grooming and other risks.

3.6 Theme 3 Advice and Information (Two projects)

- (a)** There has been an increased demand on the services of East End Citizens Advice Bureaux-led Advice Tower Hamlets Consortium with the cost of living crisis, including demands for fuel and food vouchers. It assisted 21,402 clients with social welfare advice and supported 4,543 beneficiaries to increase or

maximise their income. Project secured £22,062,653 for clients through either increase in income or backdated payment and £4,081,597 in reduction or write off of personal debt for beneficiaries.

- (b) Island Advice Centre's Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project delivered 39 Advice Workshops on benefits issues to 508 people working in the borough's advice sector.

3.7 Theme 4 Employment and Skills

- (a) Areas of this theme's projects' success in delivering employment and training support in last year are outlined below.

- (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 engaged 50 organisations on a range of activities, including one-to-one advice service and 2-hour shared learning and development workshops.

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

- Limehouse Project's Developing Potential project supported 16 women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities to complete and gain accredited qualifications.
- SocietyLinks' Tower Hamlet's Job Club enabled 15 beneficiaries to access employment and provided employment support to 127 people who were not in employment, education or training (NEET) and from workless households.
- Stifford Centre Limited's BAME Women's Employment Support Programme delivered accredited training, including in child care and digital learning to 16 women to enable them to progress towards employment.

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

- Auto Italia South East's Learning Live! project supported 233 young people from socially excluded groups through portfolio review and mentoring workshops to explore creative careers and university courses.
- 13 trainees on Four Corners Ltd's ZOOM Film School successfully completed their training in a camera, production and editing programme accredited by the Open College Network.
- The Bromley by Bow Centre's Creative Communities project supported 12 beneficiaries to obtain sustainable paid employment of over 26 weeks in the arts sector and 58 beneficiaries to progress onto art-related training.

3.8 Theme 5 Community Safety

- (a) Project achievements for this theme in promoting community safety in the funding year are outlined below.
- (b) **Scheme A- Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups (Three projects)**
- Osmani Trust's Schools and Community Resilience Programme secured improvements in attitude and outlook on life with 93 pupils, with 36 pupils benefitting from mentoring support.
 - 28 young people fully completed Streets of Growth's Resilient Young Leaders Programme, which now has a Young People's leadership network of 79 young people.
- (c) **Scheme B - Improving the perception of young people in the community (Two projects)**
- Four Corners Ltd's Into Focus Photography project supported 43 children, aged between 14-25, and 11 people over 50, to take part in 55 experimental photography workshops.
 - Leaders in Community's Mind the Gap project hosted a quiz event at the Teviot Centre involving young people, who ran the event, and elders, with the young people using their digital skills to support the older people.
- (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 promoted awareness amongst children and families of domestic violence and sexual assault, supporting 31 families within a Tower Hamlets domestic abuse refuge - 31 mothers and 47 children.

3.9 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. No payments to LCF projects for October 2021-September 2022 are currently outstanding due to premises issues.

3.10 Infrastructure & Capacity Building

- (a) Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS) is the lead organisation in a partnership with Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH) to deliver the Infrastructure and Capacity Building project, focusing 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. Achievements in the funding year included:
- supported 119 VCS organisations on 307 interactions, with positive feedback received from 99 organisations (83%)
 - secured £1.1 million in external funding to support partnership work between local VCS organisations

- delivered training to 53 volunteer managers (target of 36), with 96% of trainees completing feedback survey reporting positive outcomes
- 82 VCS organisations advertised their volunteering roles through the project's Volunteering Hub (target of 75) with 175 roles advertised
- 664 new volunteer registrations with the Hub (annual target of 500 registrations)
- training and matching borough residents from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities to serve as trustees, matching 17 of them to serve on the boards of 10 local VCS organisations in this role.

3.11 A summary of the progress of individual LCF programme projects and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project is outlined in **Appendix 3 LCF Project Summary October 2021 – September 2022**.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The programme has made good progress in October 2021-September 2022 in supporting protected characteristic groups and residents from different areas of the borough. This progress is outlined in **Appendix 2 LCF Programme Annual Report October 2021-September 2022 - Profile Of Beneficiaries**

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. Appendix 3 details the projects and programmes allocated within the overall grant budget of £11.67M.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The terms of reference of the Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee require regular reporting where grants have been given based upon a general delegation. This report complies with that requirement.
- 7.2 The Council is required to ensure it achieves statutory Best Value in the delivery of its functions. Grants form part of that statutory framework and the monitoring of the use of the grant and achieved outcomes assists in compliance with the Best Value duty.
-

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Local Community Fund Programme Management Arrangements
- Appendix 2 LCF Programme Annual Report October 2021-September 2022 - Profile Of Beneficiaries
- Appendix 3 – LCF Project Summary October 2021 – September 2022
- Appendix 4 Annual Report

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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Appendix 2

Local Community Fund Programme October 2021-September 2022 Profile Of Beneficiaries

1. Protected Characteristics

- 71.9% of the beneficiaries (18,542 people) were from Black, Asian & Multi-ethnic communities. Bangladeshi was the ethnic group with the highest percentage of beneficiaries, with 39.8% (10,245 people), followed by White British, with 21.9% (5,632 people).¹
- 59.1% of beneficiaries were women (15,780 people) and 40.6% were men (10,828 people)
- The projects supported 12,604 individuals who reported they had a disability. This included:
 - ❖ 4,858 beneficiaries reporting having a long-standing illness or health condition
 - ❖ 2,866 beneficiaries reporting having a mental health condition
 - ❖ 2,391 beneficiaries reporting having a physical impairment
 - ❖ 782 beneficiaries reporting having a learning disability
 - ❖ 630 beneficiaries reporting having a sensory impairment
- 11.9% of beneficiaries were 65+ (3,076 people)
- The percentage of beneficiaries from LGBT groups was 1.1%.

2. Council Ward of Residence

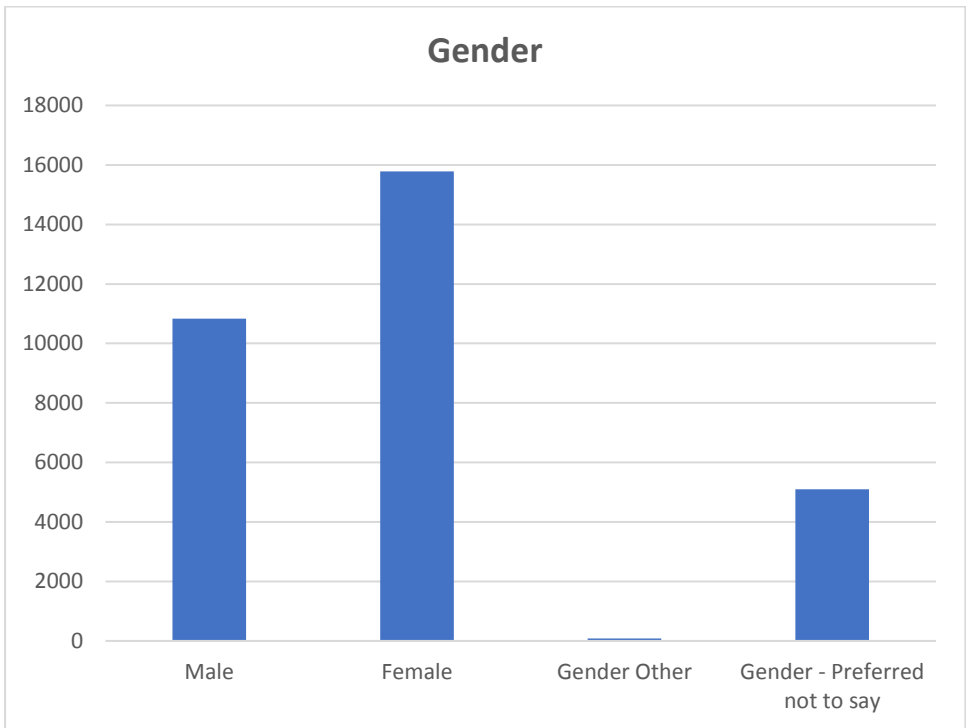
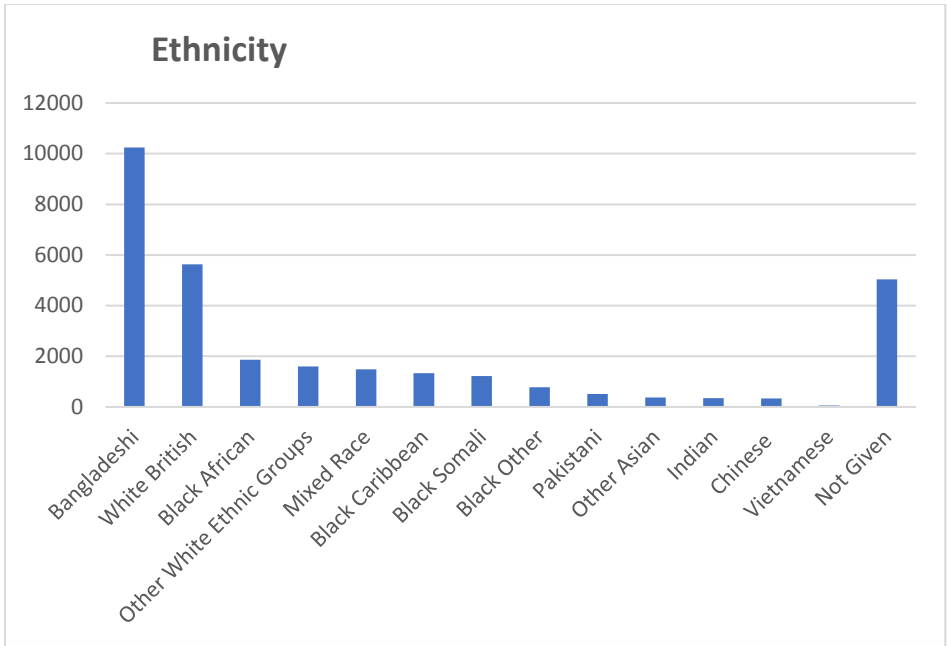
(a) The ward of beneficiaries with the highest percentage of programme beneficiaries were:

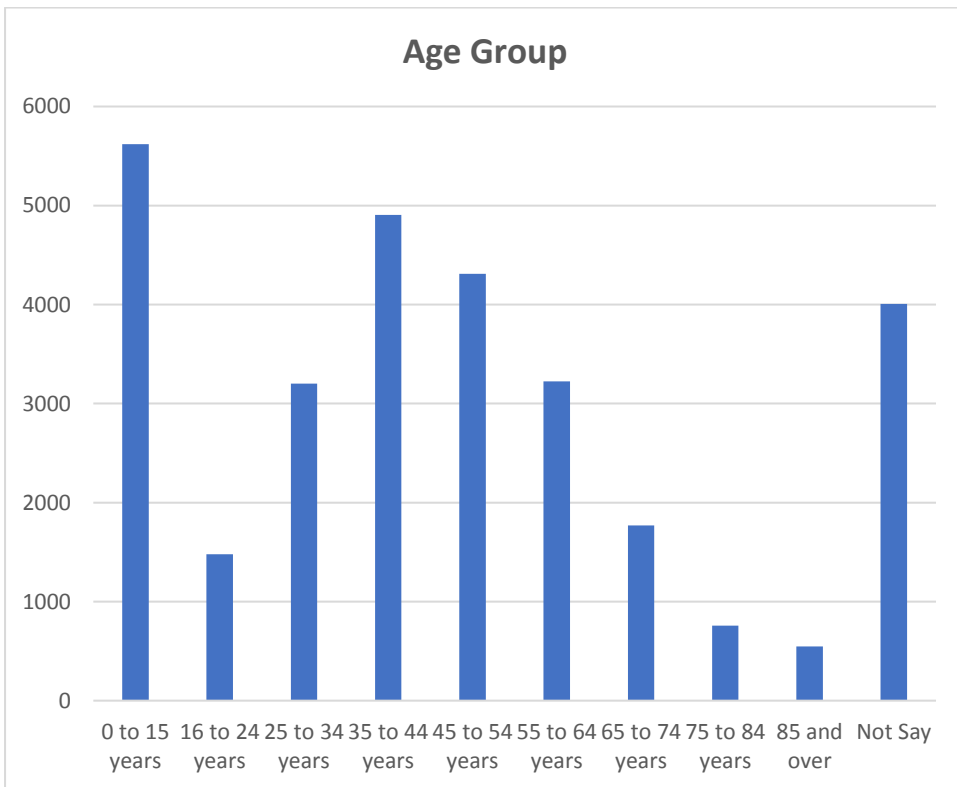
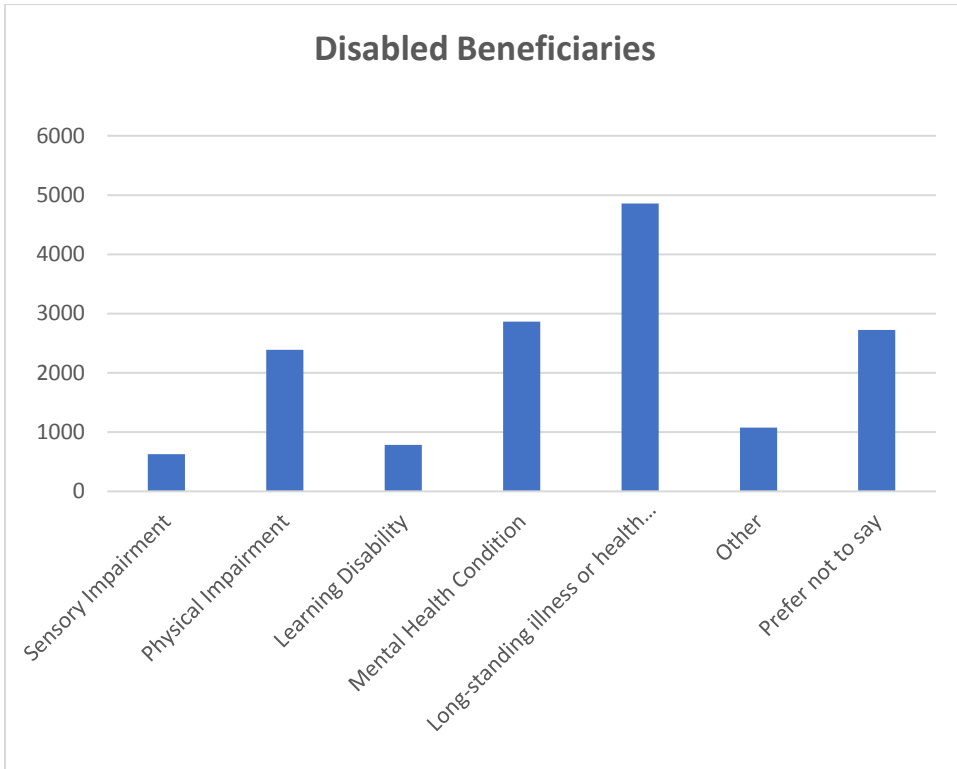
- | | |
|-----------------|------|
| • Bethnal Green | 8.8% |
| • Poplar | 8.3% |
| • Mile End | 7% |
| • Whitechapel | 7% |
| • Bow East | 6.7% |

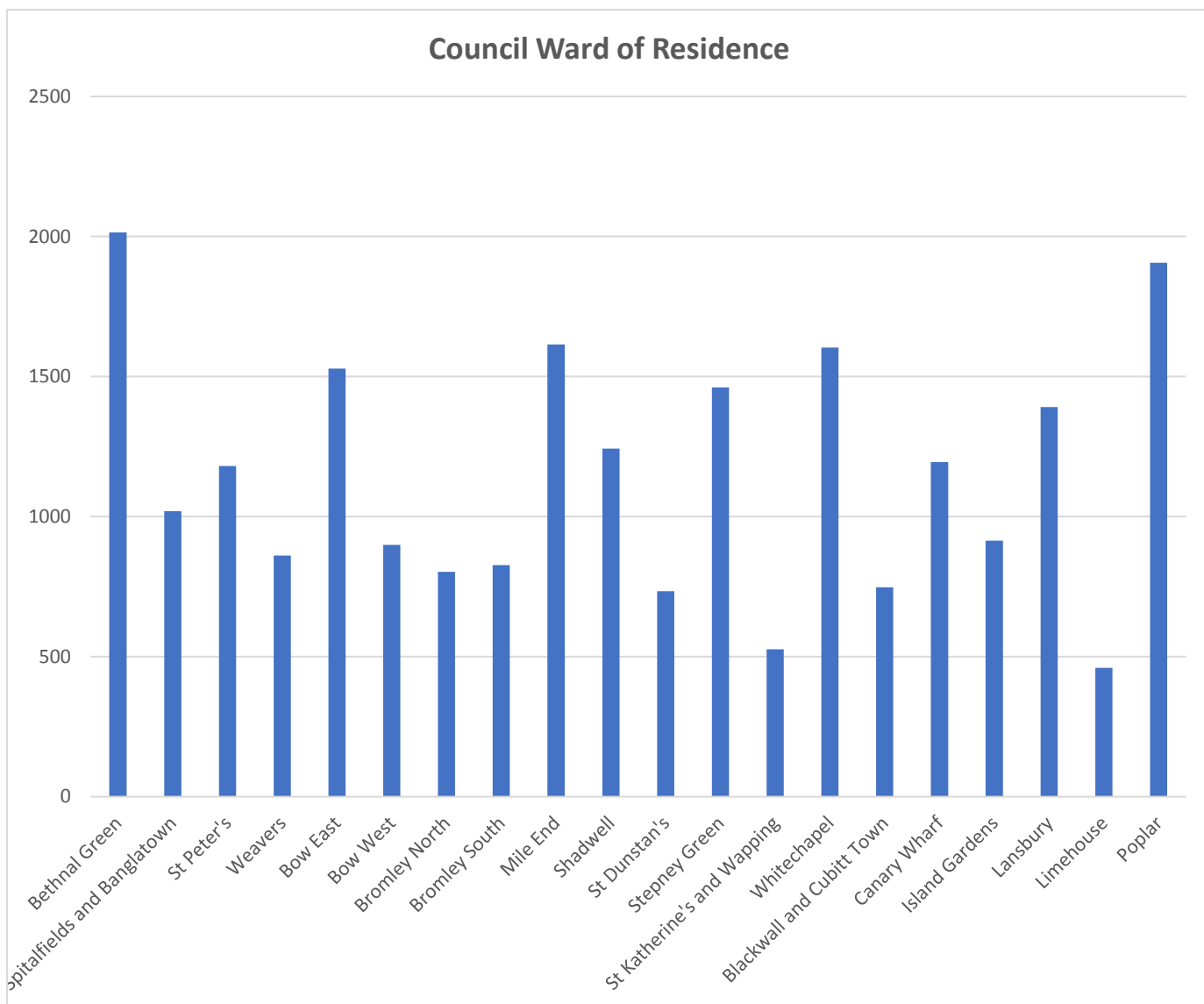
(b) The wards with the lowest percentage of programme beneficiaries were:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| • Limehouse | 2% |
| • St Katherine's & Wapping | 2.3% |
| • St Dunstan's | 3.2% |
| • Blackwall & Cubitt Town | 3.3% |
| • Bromley North | 3.5% |

¹ All calculation of percentages in paragraph 3.2 (e) to (f) excludes beneficiaries who preferred not to provide a response to a question on their protected characteristic.







Theme / Scheme	1- Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing 1A - Children, Young People & Families				
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to Youth Services 2. Provision of Early Help support to families 3. Support for young carer 				
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children and young people, in particularly girls and young women: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. have more confidence in themselves; b. are more resilient, and c. are able to, and do, access a range of spaces, activities and social opportunities across Tower Hamlets. 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. 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. 4. Children, young people and their families are listened to and their input is considered and included in decision making. 5. Young carers are supported and included; their needs and concerns are understood and are taken into account at local and strategic levels. 6. Children under 5 grow up in positive family environments and are supported to thrive. 				
Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Canaan Project/ Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£ 115,240	Canaan Project provides activities for young women aged 11-19 on the Isle of Dogs. Working with George Green’s school and Café Forever it offers activities including cooking, craft, sports, and inspirational workshops at weekly lunch and after school clubs as well as opportunities to participate in regular trips.	Feedback demonstrated the young women participants felt more included, could participate in services, and were more likely to train to become youth leaders or develop their own initiatives with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% demonstrating increased confidence. • 90% showing improved ability to build and maintain positive relationships. • 60% have increased aspirations for their futures. 	GREEN The project made good progress against its KPIs. It established a strong presence on the Isle of Dogs, working with over 240 young women across two schools. A new after school club at Canary Wharf youth hub started in the funding year. The project was able to run its first residential since 2020 and held a summer party attended by 30 young women in July 2022.

P 2022/2475

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Half Moon Young People's Theatre /Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£ 152,853	Professional theatre shows and inclusive participatory drama opportunities in an accessible and welcoming venues. 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 to anyone who needs it.	<p>192 young people, including those from marginalised groups, participated in the project’s cultural activities, enabling them to improve their health and well-being.</p> <p>At the start of the year, 67% of young people were ‘definitely’ feeling confident about being in Youth Theatre. This rose to 86% at the end of the year.</p> <p>At the start of the year, 15% of young people felt ‘not at all’ confident talking to people they didn’t know, by the end of the year only 9% didn’t feel completely confident.</p> <p>At the start of Youth Theatre, 85% of young people felt like they would make new friends and 89% felt they had made new friends at Youth Theatre by the year end.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project progressed well against its KPIs. Over the year 192 young people from all wards in Tower Hamlets participated in Youth Theatre sessions at Half Moon. 81% of them attended at least 80% of sessions a term.</p> <p>The project also delivered 60 Creative Play sessions at six different Children and Family Centres around the borough, working with 265 participants from 125 families. This work supported parents to spend more time talking to and singing with their children.</p> <p>Over the year 5,936 people attended shows at the Theatre, with an estimated 3.540 of these people being new to the theatre.</p>
Look Ahead Care and Support / Domestic Abuse Children's Worker	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£ 162,086	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 children supported regarding their psychological wellbeing. • 24 new adult beneficiaries supported by the project. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Children were supported to access education and nurseries and families were helped to register with GPs.</p>

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			engagement to address challenges faced by children living at organisation’s LBTH Domestic Abuse Service and in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 mothers and children who report improved communication with their child. 	The project did not make progress in the funding year against its intended outcome of supporting local statutory and voluntary agencies, working with children who have been exposed to domestic abuse, to increase their awareness of the associated risks of abuse and be able to better support the children that they look after. It took steps to address this.
Newark Youth London / Girls in Action	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£ 80,725	This project provides access to regular youth services for girls and young women, so that they can develop their leadership, communication and organisational skills, increase confidence and life skills and become more resilient. The project provides six-month social action projects and other learning opportunities.	<p>Increase in girls and young women accessing youth services and activities, with 39 registering in youth activities during the year and 78% of those attending 5 or more sessions.</p> <p>Of these participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 delivered social action projects for others, increasing their leadership skills and setting up their own initiatives. 4 increased their accredited qualifications by achieving an Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN) Leadership course. 13 achieved a First Aid at Work qualification. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project under-performed against some of its KPIs. It recruited 39 girls and young women during the 12-month period and was able to bring them together, providing a platform, space and resources to develop themselves and the communities they belong to.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Osmani Trust / Family Mentoring Project (FMP) Early Help	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£ 144,000	This project provides, 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, enabling them to thrive in healthy and safe families.	31 families were supported through the Early Help project. Outcomes of interventions included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 families’ reporting increased confidence and Improvement in parenting skills. • 8 young people accessing a range of spaces, activities and social opportunities across the borough. • Increase in resilience in young people and families - 8 • Improvements in family relationship/environments for children and young people – 20 	GREEN The project made good progress against its KPIs. The parenting programmes and workshops helped parents to explore their parenting skills. It resulted in parents feeling less overwhelmed and enabled access to relevant services, including mental health and well-being support, disability support, debt support and volunteering. The project also enabled young people to gain more confidence, improved their engagement with schools and supported them to develop more positive attitudes and relationships with parent and peers.
St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£ 65,856	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. It enhances core skills, confidence, grit, motivation, equality and leadership by building on current and long heritage of successful girls work.	Over the funding year the project worked with 19 girls and young women from a range of backgrounds, supporting them to develop their confidence. It delivered sessions focused on positive mental health and boosting self-esteem and confidence through various activities, including sports, arts and crafts, music, self-care sessions and trips. The project delivered mental health awareness	GREEN The project progressed well against its KPIs. It improved the inclusion of girls and young women, enabling them to access a range of youth related services in the borough. The girls took part in a trip to Canary Wharf ice skating, Epping Forest and a weekend residential, helping them to improve their self-development and resilience, broadening their experiences. Project sessions enabled

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>in several formats, such as art workshops.</p> <p>During the year, the girls took part in two intergenerational activities. For Women’s History Month the girls worked with other projects from across St Hildas, bringing together over 50 younger and older members to honour and celebrate the women of St Hilda’s through a photographic exhibition. They also hosted Food for Thought Talkaoke with The People Speak, interacting with the local community in discussions around current topics.</p>	<p>participants to have open discussions and share problems or concerns with their peers, whereby they received advice, solutions and support from each other. Existing members of the project begun to serve in leadership roles, supporting new cohorts of girls who were joining the project.</p>
Stifford Centre Limited / Stifford Young Girl's Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£ 58,256	The Project runs a Young Girl’s Club offering 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 46 participants benefitted from physical, leisure, health and creative activities and workshops promoting learning opportunities for personal and professional development • 96% of participants reported that the quality of the project’s services were very good and felt that they had contributed towards improving their well-being. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project progressed well against its KPIs. It succeeded in engaging its beneficiaries in on-line training activities. This included training activities on cardio exercises and yoga from a trained instructor. Services were also delivered in person, including 1:1 support for those who needed help on job applications and general well-being support. Young people supported by the project led on a few of its sessions in which they discussed</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>Project has delivered training for 18 beneficiaries (40% of all beneficiaries) that have enhanced their employability skills. This included CV building sessions and a business start-up course.</p>	<p>issues relating to their area, including gang crimes and anti-social behaviour. Project beneficiaries also took a lead in organising the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee event.</p>
<p>The Yard Theatre Ltd / Tower Hamlets Teens</p>	<p>01/10/2019 30/09/2023</p>	<p>£147,653</p>	<p>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, the project increases access to youth services, improves participants’ health and wellbeing through cultural activities, and supports community cohesion through public events.</p>	<p>144 Tower Hamlets teenager took part in project activities, alongside 327 teenagers from neighbouring boroughs, helping to forge new cross-borough friendships.</p> <p>74% of the above Tower Hamlets participants were young women. Amongst Yard Youth beneficiaries, young women reported improvements in well-being, skills and confidence that ranged from 70% to over 100%.</p> <p>100% of regular, surveyed participants reported an improvement in their sense of health, happiness and wellbeing as a result of project activities.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project made good progress against its KPIs. The return of in-person events gave teenagers more opportunities to have an impact on their local community. A year-round theatre programme provided them with more material to engage with and be inspired by.</p> <p>100% of regular project participants felt more confident around employment. The project directly supported five people to access higher education and employment opportunities.</p>

Scheme:	1B – Older People
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ageing well and reducing social isolation 2. Provision of physical and health-promotion activities for older people
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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); 2. Older people are able to continue making a positive contribution to their communities; 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; 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.

PARAGRAPHS

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 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 30/09/2023	£294,960	Caxton Hall is a dynamic activity centre led by older people. It involves a café, opportunities to meet neighbours and connect to other people, both young and old, in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new older people accessing services at Caxton Hall each year – 53 • Number of older people contributing to running the Hub Café – 25 • Number of older people feel more included and integrated as a result of participating in a community cohesion project - 86 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project delivered various activities throughout the year including craft sessions, storytelling, wellbeing and mindfulness sessions and indoor bowls. This was complemented by the Caxton On-line; the site offers a range of resources and access to a variety of information, including details of support organisations and IT tutorials.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Age UK East London / Friend at Home	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£252,418	Project matches housebound older people who would like a bit more company at home with volunteers who would like to share an	Isolated, housebound older people were matched with a Friend at Home and receive weekly one-hour visits:	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project went back to delivering in-person services; volunteers that provided the befriending services</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			enjoyable hour or two of conversation and company with them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44 newly matched older people with a Friend at Home • 82 active beneficiaries • 94% of isolated, housebound older people reported an increase or stabilisation of their well-being, as measured by the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale. 	<p>undertook prevention control training.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London / Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£130,912	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older people supported by provision of appropriate health and social care information, safe access to nutritious food, basic supplies, money and medicine - 60 • Number of people supported to reduce isolation who live on their own or are housebound - 16 • Number of social and wellbeing activities held at the centre & online – 173. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project delivered on-line support and in-person services - including tai chi classes, computer class activities, table tennis and ballroom dance classes - as well as delivering food, prescription and shopping services to vulnerable older clients. Some of the key achievements in this funding year included celebrating the Lunar New Year on 13/02/22 and trips to seaside and elderly care home in Cambridge.</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 Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
East London Out Project / Tower Hamlets LGBT Support	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£110,470	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of LGBT people over 50 accessing new social activity per year and reporting on increased social connections and social activity and feeling less lonely – 18 • 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 better quality of life 3 months after start of service – 87 • Number of training sessions delivered to organisations – 10 training sessions over the year to 6 different organisations. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project continued to provide support, mainly online for the majority of this funding year. Project did some outdoor activities and in August 2022 the groups returned to in person support. The project was able to provide some individual mental health support in person, as well. The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
St Hilda's East Community Centre / Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£120,000	'Feeling Good!' wellbeing project is based in Weavers Ward and open to older people from throughout the Borough, Monday-Friday. It provides nutritious lunches, invigorating opportunities from indoor sport, IT learning, singing, art, intergenerational activities with schoolchildren, outings and quizzes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older people attending the varied 'Feeling Good!' activities programme report feeling less isolated and lonely – 105 • Number of people reported improved physical & mental health- 102 • Number of people surveyed said they felt more confident going out and living independently in their community - 63 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project had to adapt the service again by starting to encourage users to return to face-to-face sessions. It built strong partnerships with Sadlers Wells, Victoria & Albert Museum, British Museum, Mind, NHS Talking Therapies, Rich Mix and Magic Me.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours (THFN) / Older Peoples Befriending Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£200,000	THFN provides befriending and advocacy services to older people in the borough. Its team of befriender advocates provides regular one to one support to people in their own homes and assist with making appointments and helps in accessing services, as well as organising small group outings locally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of isolated older adults are visited by a befriender advocate on a fortnightly basis per year – 50 • Number of older people with dementia are visited on a regular basis by a Befriender Advocate to undertake a range of activities - 15 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Over the course of the year THFN returned to face-to-face visiting for those clients that were happy to meet on this basis. Whilst there were a number of people happy to receive a visit, there were still many that were very anxious and requested a telephone call instead.</p> <p>Since April 2022, the Project found a huge surge in the number of new</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 isolated older adults are called and visited by a befriender advocate on a weekly basis. 85% of adults called, report improved outcomes, reduced isolation. 	<p>clients being referred, which had a huge impact on service levels.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Toynbee Hall / The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£165,656	This project offers holistic relational support to older people aged 50+ in Tower Hamlets. It aims to make Toynbee Hall’s existing provision at the 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of individuals attending health promotion sessions per year held at the Wellbeing Centre – 65 Number of health promotion sessions held at the Centre per year – 143 Number of social activity sessions held at the Wellbeing Centre per year - 246 sessions with 1,955 attendances 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project progressed well and became increasingly user led over the course of the year. People were supported in the funding year through in-person health promotion and wellbeing activities. The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

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Scheme:		1C – Access, Information and Self-Management			
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 Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Globe Community Project / Take Back Your Life	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£112,189	A mindfulness-based pain management programme, addressing chronic pain/illness, related social isolation and inactivity delivered by experienced, fully accredited Breathworks trainers.	<p>The project supported 69 people through Take Back Your Life (TBYL) in the funding year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people per year with chronic pain and illness have increased knowledge, tools and skills to manage their health condition and live independent lives – 45 Number of people per year with chronic pain and illness experience reduced pain experience and pain discomfort and increased ability to manage pain through development of mindfulness practise – 34 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project provided a mix of online, in-person and one to one telephone sessions, helping people manage chronic pain and illness.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people per year with chronic pain and illness report feeling less socially isolated as a result of meeting others with similar health conditions during the programme – 36. 	
Real DPO Ltd / Taking Control of Your Life	01/04/2020 30/09/2023	£249,959	The Taking Control of Your Life project delivers creative support planning 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”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People in the borough with lived experience of disability are recruited and trained to form a co-production steering group to look at barriers to access for disabled people and solutions to those issues – 26 47% of clients were supported to maximise their income through accessing benefits, grants and support to access services for which there would usually be a charge 90% of those supported to develop a support plan reported feeling they have more choice and control over their lives. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project provided high-level support to clients with complex needs.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PARTNER

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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
London Tigers / Exercise for health: BAME women, children and young people	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£170,960	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 provides pathways to stay involved, excel in sports, and develop healthier habits for life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 193 Children were engaged in positive activities- 84% children and young people (actual of 147 children) reported an improvement in their health and wellbeing • 182 women were engaged in positive activities during year 3 • 91% of women reported feeling less lonely • 91% of women reported feeling more connected to the community • 99% women (actual of 156 women) reported improved health and wellbeing. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The third year of this project concluded exceptionally well. The project started off the year very strongly with confidence and enthusiasm. It was the first time the project was able to deliver all the sessions in all four quarters of the year physically, yet it continued to have an online session every week, on top of the in-person sessions.</p> <p>The project is on track to meet the desired outcomes.</p>

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
MUDCHUTE ASSOCIATION / Playing out at Mudchute	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£80,000	Mudchute’s unique natural facilities provide a range of freely chosen play opportunities in a safe, stimulating environment. Project enables children to have access to participation in freely chosen, innovative leisure and sporting activities to promote exercise, healthy eating, social and life skills through the process of ‘Learning through Play’	In the project year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2000 residents have been engaged in regular physical activity, leading to improved health; 75% were children and young people. • 90 children who do not usually interact in social events took part • 400 disabled children and young people participated • 800 Bangladeshi children (including girls) engaged 	GREEN The project was successful in delivering play opportunities that catered for the whole family, particularly during the school holidays and festive periods. The project continued to use social media to promote its activities and stay connected with supporters online. The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
Newark Youth London / Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£112,456	The Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT) project offers a wide range of sports and physical activities across the borough with the objective of engaging 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of previously inactive children, young people and adults participating in sports and physical activity regularly – 242 • Number of new participants who have reported that they have benefitted from improved fitness and mental wellbeing – 133 	GREEN The project successfully delivered 234 sessions of varied activities, totalling 448 hours of delivery. The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new participants who have reported reduced isolation and loneliness, improved confidence to exercise/walk and developed an interest in health and wellbeing -133 	
Stifford Centre Limited / Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£320,109	A free membership health club with over 20 different classes and groups per week, delivered by a consortium of VCS organisations. The Health Club is suitable for all ages and participants design the activity program alongside providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of registered users of health club per annum – 444 92% of members reported higher levels of well-being after six weeks of membership. 92% of members reported that they have experienced improved symptoms of health. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Stifford Centre (Lead partner) and delivery Partners: Stepney City Farm, Shadwell Basin Activity Centre and Dorset Community Association (DCA) work together as a consortium to deliver the Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme.</p> <p>In the funding year the consortium organised two big events: celebration of Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and Festival of Communities, which brought together the wider community and residents to participate in cohesion and sports events. All the sessions were delivered face-to-face that year.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM) / Live Healthy Enjoy Life [the Female Health & Development Project]	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£86,168	‘Live Healthy, Enjoy Life’ operates from BYM’s Women’s Centre, providing proactive and responsive health development activities which ensure excluded women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities develop healthy lives and manage their own physical and mental health; peer volunteer befriending and development of social networks to alleviate isolation and facilitate inclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities accessing health support activities – 130 • Number of women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities/Bangladeshi women raising their awareness on a range of health issues appropriate to leading healthier lives – 130 • Numbers accessing the women’s forum – 25 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project supported 130 women over the funding year who participated in a range of health and wellbeing activities. The beneficiaries provided positive feedback about their engagement with the project.</p> <p>The project is on track to meet the desired outcomes.</p>
The Royal Society for Blind Children / Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£72,529	Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets enables 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65% of young people have reported an increase in their physical activity levels. • 79% reported that their health had improved. By attending wellbeing sessions young people have reported the impact this has had on their lifestyle • 75% have reported improvements in their self-confidence and resilience. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In the funding year the project recruited 11 new people onto the programme and supported 22 existing young people.</p> <p>The Health and Well Being sessions were delivered mainly through face-to-face option and some through virtual platforms. The project worked with participants to get them involved in leading and helping develop the sessions.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
					The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.

Scheme:	1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved health outcomes for disabled people 2. People experiencing mental health issues are better supported
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Adults with complex needs (i.e who have multiple issues affecting their lives) have better health outcomes 3. Disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) are more independent b) are more aware of and more likely to participate in local services c) have a better quality of life 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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
deafPLUS / Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£180,856	A borough wide health and wellbeing project that addresses 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 42 service users reported an improvement in their feelings of isolation when accessing events over the past year • 6 families accessed the various half term and school holiday activities • 40 clients reported a positive increase in their health and wellbeing • 7 clients participated in sports and physical activities. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>30 events and five courses were delivered to deaf and hard of hearing people in Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>In addition, the project delivered a pilot project to the Royal London Hospital Public Health Team on improving access for deaf people using outpatient services.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

P 2025082508

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
ICM Foundation CIC / CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£52,517	People with learning disabilities aged 18+ from Tower Hamlets work in partnership with ICM Foundation. Three times each year they design and deliver 5,000 accessible newspapers, on the theme of health and wellbeing, distributed to communities that reflects the borough's diversity.	100% of participants indicated that they had made new friendships, increased in confidence, and felt included in the project and events that they had organised and run. 63 individuals participated in these events. Participants' contribution towards the creation of each newspaper edition increased, as well as their confidence. Their computer skills improved significantly, especially in regard to using the internet for research, and there was a significant improvement in their typing skills.	GREEN The group produced content for three editions of the newspaper in the funding year. Feedback was positive from other groups and individuals who accessed it. The project organised four events in the funding year, all of which were well attended. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Surjamuki Disabled Youth Project	01/10/2019 31/12/2021	£29,077	Surjamuki Disabled youth project supported young people with learning and physical disabilities across Tower Hamlets, offering a range of educational and recreational opportunities and free wheelchair accessible minibus transport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of disabled young people report an increase in confidence – 9 	GREEN As reported at July GDSC meeting, St Hilda's suspended the project in January 2022 – please see main report for more information.
Woman's Trust / Therapeutic Support Groups for women	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£77,118	Therapeutic Support Groups providing a safe, moderated space for female survivors of domestic abuse to share experiences and	For those that completed end of project feedback forms:	GREEN The project supported 59 Tower Hamlets women in the funding

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
affected by Domestic Abuse			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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% of women had improved isolation or had not become (more) isolated. • 75% of women had either improved interpersonal relationships or their relationships had stayed similar (not worsened). 	year. Support has been through local and national groups.
Working Well Trust / Upskill	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£433,941	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of residents with mental health support needs registering and completing short and long term goal setting with peer support – 190 • Number of residents with mental health support needs accessing one to one support towards achieving short term goals – 165 • Number of residents accessing wellbeing and training opportunities – 125 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project was able to meet most of its KPIs in the funding year and exceeded some targets, especially in relation to referrals and one to one support. Project made significant progress in meeting its targets for over 55s. The project continued to be oversubscribed.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

P 20220915

Theme / Scheme:	2 – Digital Inclusion and Awareness 2A – ICT Skills and Digital Careers				
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to ICT support and training for older people 2. Digital skill development for children and young people <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase awareness of careers in the digital sector, and b) Provide children and young people with the opportunity to develop the skills for the digital sector. 				
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> a) Have increased confidence in using ICT, especially around security; b) Are able to use digital methods to access services, find information, and communicate with others, and do so more regularly; c) Have increased digital skills. 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 				
Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / DigiTIES	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£71,197	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older people have learned to use at least 3 ICT platforms – 192 • Number of older people have learned to use a search engine to find health information on NHS websites - 128 • Number of older people report greater confidence using ICT – 96. 	GREEN The project was successful in securing additional support for beneficiaries by providing them with Lenovo tablets with data and Google pixel phones with data to help the most vulnerable beneficiaries get online. It is on track to achieve its lifetime target and has overachieved in some areas.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Newham New Deal Partnership / @online club network Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£78,080	@online club network to 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older residents’ report increased confidence going on-line- 17 • Number of older residents report able to go online to do more things – 17 • Number of local residents’ have increased skills due to engagement in the project as volunteers – 3. 	GREEN The project resumed face to face group sessions in the funding year with local partners - Sundial, Carers Centre Tower Hamlets, Mind in Tower Hamlets and St Hilda's. An additional seven activities were delivered that year to catch up with the previous year’s reduced group sessions. The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.
Wapping Bangladesh Association / Digital First	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£18,861	Digital First will engage socially isolated older adults from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities 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>More than 75% participants successfully acquired the basic level of digital and ICT skills.</p> <p>By the end of the year 75% of the older adults on the project reported an increase in the quality of life, with increased levels of greater social integration and engagement being reported, with increased social contacts and community involvement, by getting out and about more.</p> <p>8 out of 10 participants reported making more friends and improving their social contacts by</p>	GREEN Eight older adults developed a better understanding and appreciation of the potential benefits of learning to use computers and how to navigate around the internet. The project delivered successfully to all required KPIs. It delivered a total of 25 sessions, recruited new participants onto the programme and achieved a 98% success rate in increasing the digital knowledge of beneficiaries. The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>attending more social events throughout the year.</p> <p>More than 40% of the older adults on the project reported being able to use online services to manage daily life tasks, whilst 6 out of 10 participants reported that they could manage day to day activities using digital skills.</p>	

Scheme:	2B – Online Safety
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

Partners

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / E-Safety Champions	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£23,192	The E-Safety Champions project trains local women to become ‘champions’ for e-safety in the community. Weekly workshops cover all areas of online safety. Once trained, the project champions go into schools and community groups to spread their knowledge to young people and parents/carers through presentations and workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Project Champions reported feeling confident enough to make a change and tell others to do so too – 15 Residents are more knowledgeable about the potential dangers of online activities including social media, banking and transactions - 43 100% 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. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project continued delivering its E-safety project, with an increased number of new participants, partnerships and initiatives taking place in the funding year.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Sporting Foundation / Building Digital Resilience	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£35,213	Sporting Foundation 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 and manage digital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of parents and young people report being more confident in understanding the relationship between social media and online grooming – 215 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project continued to deliver effectively, securing engagement from young people and their parents. It is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

			resources effectively and reduces harm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of parents and young people report increased awareness of risks pertaining to on-line activity- 215 • Number of parents report being more confident of safeguarding procedures and can communicate safety messages to young people – 83. 	
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P 0266

Theme / Scheme:	3 - Advice and Information				
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"> 1. Increased access to social welfare advice and income from benefits 2. Improved personal budgeting, financial stability and reduction in personal debt 3. Reduction in the number of people negatively impacted by welfare reforms and housing repossessions 4. Individuals are more informed about their legal rights 5. Individuals are more informed about their housing rights 6. Increased employment security 7. Increased access to immigration/asylum advice and casework 8. Increased engagement of older people with social welfare advice services <p>Capacity building and training within the sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved coordination and cooperation between advice providers 2. Increased integration of service both within the VCS advice sector and with services in other sectors 3. Increased number of local volunteers achieving a recognised advice training accreditation 4. Improved liaison and co-ordination with public sector agencies 5. Improved access to information for providers 				
Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
East End Citizens Advice Bureaux / Advice Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£3,696,408	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 Tower Hamlets, in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21,402 clients have been assisted with social welfare advice • 4,543 clients have been supported to increase/maximise incomes • £22,062,653 clients' income has increased/or backdated 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Overall, the partnership evolved, with partners working remotely, adopting a hybrid working system of digital and face-to-face services. Most agencies in the partnership started to see face to face clients again as the need grew for this type of advice over the funding year.</p>

PDR0026701

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			partnership with twelve local advice agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £4,081,597 debt reduction/write offs resulting in reduction in amounts of personal debt. 	The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.
Island Advice Centre / Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£200,000	The project improves capacity, training, quality and access to the borough’s advice services. It develops coordination and cooperation between advice and other sectors, providing recruitment and training for volunteers, facilitation of the Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network, updated website of advice provision and information / factsheets, coordination of meetings, delivering formal training.	<p>The project delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 39 Advice Workshops to 508 participants on benefits issues 16 Learning to Advise certificates (7 to volunteers) 5 volunteers found paid work. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project supported Tower Hamlets’ advice sector with provision of training, facilitating advice networks, distributing social welfare rights advice information in the borough, and facilitating volunteering placements for advice centres.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR0000268

Theme / Scheme:	4 – Employment and Skills 4A - Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work
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:	1. More disabled people and people with mental health issues access work experience placements and employment opportunities 2. Disabled employees feel more comfortable and better supported in sustainable roles in the workplace 3. Disabled people have access to meaningful, relevant training and skills development 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.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
REAL DPO / THEN & NOW	01/04/2020 30/09/2023	£463,690	A holistic package of services, underpinned by co-production, 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 organisations received one-to-one support and the satisfaction rate was 100% • 85 participants agreed that the two hour shared learning and development workshops were valuable in assisting them to improve their accessibility and attain their inclusion goals. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Over the funding year the project extended its reach to an even greater number of local employers than before. Across all activities, including their one-to-one advice service and 2-hour shared learning and development workshops, 50 different organisations meaningfully engaged with THEN & NOW.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR0026903

Scheme:	4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups 2. Employment and volunteering opportunities for older people 3. Employment skills for vulnerable young people and those who are NEET(not in education, employment or training) 4. Employment and skills for young people at risk of achieving poor outcomes
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Older people gain life skills and secure employment and/or voluntary roles 3. Potential entrepreneurs/business founders have access to independent support and advice and increased knowledge of business and financial planning 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.

PDR0000270

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / Developing Potential	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£201,181	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 links with existing provision and act as a progression route forwards new opportunities for women in Tower Hamlets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women self-report an improvement in personal and/or professional skill – 40 • Number of women who have completed and gained accredited certifications– 16 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project engaged with 93 women over the funding year. It continued to adapt and review its programme of delivery to ensure remote and priority face-to-face support was provided to engage, motivate, and increase the confidence and qualification levels of women in and around the borough.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
SocietyLinks Tower / Job Club	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£61,184	This project delivers two weekly job club sessions run by its experienced employment support worker. The sessions include access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of people who are NEETs and/or from workless households) access employment 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In the funding year the project developed its digital communication with attendees to</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			to computers and tailored employment support, including creating a CV, accessing emails, job searching, applications and using Universal Job Match.	support to assist their employment prospects - 127 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people that access employment after attending the job club – 15. 	increase engagement and ensure that service users were kept updated with new vacancies and opportunities. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
St Giles Trust / Choices Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£227,200	The project supports NEET Young people who are facing multiple disadvantages to access education, skills development and employment. The project delivers 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of young people engaged on a consistent voluntary basis, minimum of one face to face intervention per week - 30 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 – 29 	GREEN The project’s caseworker had to adapt services to address the shift from young people wanting training and employment to becoming a mentor and covering Mental Health and Money Management. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
Stifford Centre Limited / BAME Women's Employment Support Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£121,512	This project runs a training programme to help long-term unemployed and economically inactive, isolated and disenfranchised women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities and improve their job prospects. The focus is on carers and single	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of socially and economically disenfranchised women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities complete ESOL training and feel able to communicate in English – 12 	GREEN The project consistently reached participants from its targeted groups and managed to serve people whose personal circumstances have prevented them to reach their full potential.

PDR0027105

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			parents of Bengali, Somali and Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities heritage with limited English language, confidence and secondary education for community learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities with limited educational experiences and certification gain accreditation and skills to move towards employment – 16. 	The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.

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Scheme:	4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Priorities:	1. Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Outcomes:	1. Increased opportunities in the arts and cultural industries for BAME people, women, disabled people, working class people, older people 2. Increased access to industry relevant training 3. Increase in people participating in arts projects for the first time

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Auto Italia South East / Learning Live!	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£44,000	Learning Live! is a training and mentoring programme designed to support young people in Tower Hamlets progress into higher education courses, with the aim to increase access into the art and cultural industries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology workshops at Auto Italia are attended by young people from Tower Hamlets - 96 Tours of local galleries and arts organisations are attended by young people from Tower Hamlets – 72 Young people in Tower Hamlets, in particular those from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities and working class young people, attend and benefit from portfolio review and mentoring workshops per annum, exploring creative careers and university courses, feedback on coursework and sketchbooks, university portfolio workshops and practice interviews for GCSE students enrolling onto A Level courses– 233 	GREEN The project in 2021-22 demonstrated a well-attended return to in-person delivery. 2. In the funding year all strands were delivered in full in person at Auto Italia and at schools across Tower Hamlets.

PDR002707

PDR00000874

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / ZOOM Film School	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£325,493	ZOOM Film School works with 90 disadvantaged residents - particularly people from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities, women and disabled people - 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participants successfully complete the accredited training programme - 13 • Number of participants state that they feel more confident about, and prepared for, seeking work in the creative media after completing the accredited training programme - 6 • Number of trainees gained paid employment – 9 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The trainees worked individually on their edits and created a total of 13 films promoting two local organisations (Island House Community Ccentre and The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park). The trainees presented their films to representatives from the organisations, tutors, fellow trainees and Four Corners staff and the response to the finished films was overwhelmingly positive.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
Magic Me / Artworks	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£110,385	Artworks is a new traineeship delivered by arts charity Magic Me, identifying and supporting talented Tower Hamlets Residents from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic community and working-class backgrounds to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to access careers in community arts coordination and producing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of community partners identified/contacted for recruitment pathways - 11 • Number of trainees recruited/selected for work placement– 6. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project redesigned the programme to work with a cohort of trainees at one time and focussed on recruitment of young people aged 18–30 years old.</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 Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
The Bromley by Bow Centre / Creative Communities	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£231,128	The project will equip at least 180 people from under-represented communities to increase their participation and readiness for employment in the creative sector. It 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participants from target groups are enrolled and assessed – 90 • Number of participants identified as having not previously engaged in an arts/culture activity, state they have now participated in such an activity. – 85 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Overall, participants made good progress throughout the funding year, including having gained sustainable job outcomes, sector specific arts training, arts placements, engaging in arts, reporting decreasing barriers and an increase in arts job readiness, with a positive impact felt by family and friends.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR002709

Theme / Scheme:	5 – Community Safety 5A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups
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"> a) Have increased confidence and critical thinking skills; b) Have an increased understanding of what a safe relationship is, what exploitation is, and how to spot the signs of abuse and exploitation; c) Have an emotional and actual vocabulary to articulate what is happening to them; d) Are better able to challenge and support each other around relationships.

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Annual Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Kazzum Arts / Build	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£72,631	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 young people increased in confidence. • 28 young people displayed knowledge around healthy and safe relationships. <p>“[The sessions] made me feel more aware of myself, helped with problem solving, and helped understand myself better” (Inclusion Group Participant)</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project had a successful year, exceeding the engagement targets. It ran 67 workshops in the Pupils Referral Unit, across three groups reaching 31 young people, with 28 attending 50% or more sessions each term.</p> <p>The project achieved positive outcomes for the young people in the funding year; meeting all the KPIs and other indicators.</p>
Osmani Trust / Schools and Community Resilience Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£143,821	This project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. transforms and changes the attitudes and behaviour of secondary school children; improving their confidence, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 93 out of 103 of school participants showed improvement in attitudes and outlook on life at secondary school. • 42 peer workers were recruited from three peer groups. Peer 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project exceeded the number of young people it was planning to deliver the school resilience project to, whilst in the community it worked with three new peer groups.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Annual Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			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.	workers delivered two community open days with 167 attendances. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of peer workers refrained from getting into serious violence whilst on the programme. • 12 individuals were helped into employment. 	The project made good progress against its KPIs and is in line to achieve the funded outcomes.
Streets of Growth / Resilient Young Leaders Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£103,264	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.	The Youth Intervention Team delivered 192 crisis intensive interventions with highest risk young people in crisis/harmful situations. Interventions included support work with families, focus on parents and schools, liaising with police and social services, intensive coaching with young persons, harm reduction plans implemented with parents and young person/siblings. <p>100% of high-risk young people worked with reported improved confidence in moving away from harmful situations.</p> <p>Two participants completed AQA or ASDAN accredited training, with a further 15 registering.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>118 participants engaged in the project with 28 completing Young Influencers training and social action initiatives. Five beneficiaries co-produced and hosted a Home Office Serious Violence Reduction Unit conference.</p> <p>Five participants trained in podcasting and presentation skills resulting in five podcast community events.</p> <p>The project addressed/delivered well against the KPIs and consequently achieved positive outcomes for the young people.</p>

PDR002711

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Annual Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				20 participants co-designed and delivered two community safety events with over 200 residents involved, plus other key stakeholders.	

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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / Into Focus photography project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£66,336	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of gallery visitors identified how young people make a positive contribution to community life. • 100% of older participants reported improved perceptions of young people in their neighbourhood and that they felt more confident about interacting with younger people. • 100% of younger participants felt more confident about interacting with older people. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project achieved positive outcomes for young and older participants and demonstrated meeting its KPIs.</p> <p>In the funding year the project supported 54 participants and delivered 55 experimental photography workshops.</p> <p>Participants co-designed three public exhibitions at Four Corners. 44 visitors completed gallery visitor questionnaires.</p>
Leaders in Community (LiC)/ Mind the Gap	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£78,161	A group of young people recruited by LiC collaborate with older people to design a programme of activities and celebrations, which enables long-term social connections to be made, and ideas and points of view to be exchanged. The outcomes of the activities are shared with the wider community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,348 attendees in 76 activities. • 100% of older participants have a more positive view of younger people. • 100% of younger participants report they have formed more positive social connections with 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project launched a weekly coffee morning session, giving the elders an opportunity to socialise with each other, young people, and the community. In addition, they ran one-off events. The young people undertook successful outreach work, bringing new members on board.</p>

PDR0027013

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21 – Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				other people across their local area. • The elders and young people helped co-design a Queens Jubilee event, which successfully saw over 200 attendees.	The project achieved positive outcomes for young and older participants and demonstrated meeting KPIs.

Scheme:	5C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances
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 Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (DVSA) are supported to recognise and report it.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Hestia Housing and Support / Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£92,400	This project supports families who have experienced DVSA and who are living in a local refuge to address the trauma they have 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of women attending awareness raising events said their understanding of domestic abuse has improved. 80% of children who responded to the provider’s Children and Family Work survey had increased feelings of safety. Approximately 140 Tower Hamlets residents visited a Safe Space location in a bank or pharmacy during the year. All of those who accessed a Safe Space were guided to access specialist DVSA support. In partnership with HSBC the project campaigned to increase awareness of the scheme within the borough, including a live poster in Spitalfields market, which received wide publicity. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The dedicated Project Worker worked with 31 families within the Tower Hamlets domestic abuse refuge (31 mothers and 47 children). In addition, the project delivered awareness raising events within schools and groups in Tower Hamlets, with over 116 attendees,</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its KPIs.</p>

P 2022081115

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

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS) / Tower Hamlets Voluntary and Community Sector (THVCS) Infrastructure Partnership	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£1,040,000	<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>Partner: Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 119 VCS organisations supported. • 53 volunteer managers trained. • 33 VCS organisation staff attending training/peer learning workshops. • 18 VCS organisations with improved volunteering practices • 82 VCS organisations supported to advertise their volunteering roles through the Volunteering Hub 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The partnership project progressed well, surpassing most of its KPIs. It continued to deliver Volunteer Hub activity to support the recovery process in the borough. It included a new pilot which trained local residents from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities in the role of trustee and matched them up with local VCS organisations to serve as board members. The project also secured £1.2 million of external funding to support VCS partnership work in the borough.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary Oct 21– Sep 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of VCS volunteering roles supported to be advertised through the Hub: 175 • Number of VCS organisations supported to strengthen their governance and diversify their boards by having suitably skilled and trained trustees from Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic communities: 10. 	

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Appendix 4 – Annual Report

Local Community Fund

and

Infrastructure

& Capacity Building Fund

Annual Report – October 2021– September 2022

Originating officers: Abu Sufian, Awo Ahmed, Hilary Hughes, Mark Waterman, Sajibur Chowdhury



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Thank you to all the all Voluntary and Community Sector organisations for the use of their photos, videos and images used in this report.

Clicking on pictures in this report will take you to a link for further information.

Programme Overview

Welcome to the third annual report for the **Local Community Fund (LCF)** and Infrastructure and Capacity Building Fund, which covers the funding year October 2021-September 2022.

Background

In July 2019 the council agreed a programme of LCF funding for 39 voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations delivering 50 projects from 1 October 2019 to March 2023.

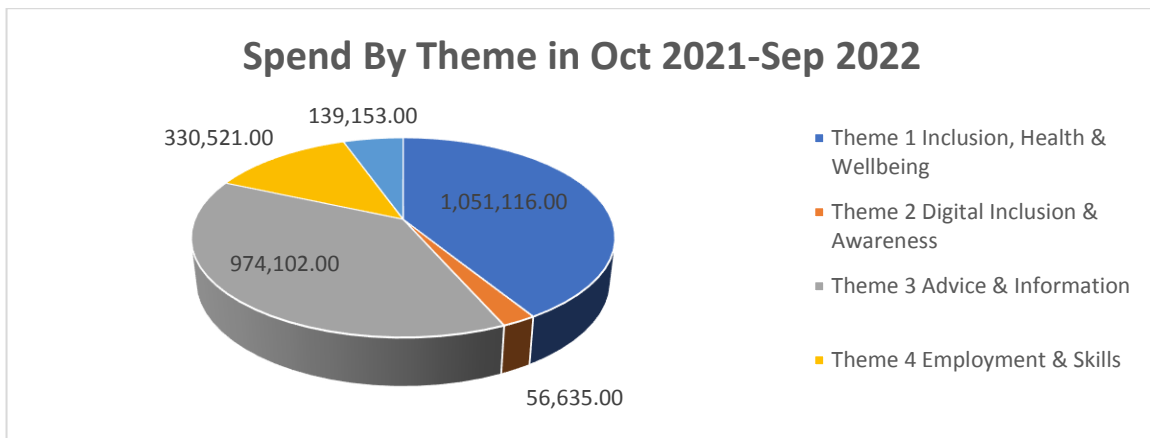
In March 2022 the council extended the funding until September 2023 for the programme's remaining 49 projects, with one project having closed its service in January 2022 after a review of the provider's wider services¹.

Level of Funding

In total the LCF programme will provide voluntary and community sectors organisations with £10.64 million of funding between October 2019 to September 2023. The level of funding in October 2021-September 2022 amounted to £2,551,527.

The projects funded by the LCF programme are across five themes:

- Inclusion, health and wellbeing
- Digital inclusion and awareness
- Advice and information
- Employment and skills
- Community safety



¹ St Hilda's East Community Centre's Surjamuki Disabled Youth project, after a review of the organisation's services. LCF funding for the project concluded in December 2021.

Infrastructure & Capacity Building Project

During this period the council also funded Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services £260,000 a year to deliver the **Infrastructure and Capacity Building Project** to support not-for-profit organisations across the borough. In January 2023 the council approved extended funding for this project between October 2022 to September 2023.

Challenges Facing Our Communities and the Voluntary and Community Sector

This year the cost of living crisis presented challenges to both local residents and VCS organisations, with increased demands for services and costs for LCF providers.

This was particularly the case for projects focusing on addressing poverty and supporting socially excluded residents.

Some organisations delivering LCF projects are struggling to retain staff, with the prospect of them leaving for higher salaries, and to recruit new appropriately qualified, experienced and trained staff.

Programme Support For Socially Excluded Groups

The LCF funded projects continued to demonstrate the importance of our local VCS in providing services that improve the quality of life for residents, address inequality and respond to the needs of marginalised groups.

During this year, the LCF programme has supported over 30,811 residents from across the Borough.²

We've also had a lot of success in supporting residents from socially excluded groups. During this year:

- 71.9% of beneficiaries were from Black, Asian & Multi-ethnic communities
- 59.1% of beneficiaries were women
- 11.9% of beneficiaries were 65+
- 12,604 individuals had a disability.

² Based on data on beneficiaries' ethnicity obtained from LCF projects' annual reports for October 2021-September 2022.

LCF Programme Achievements

This report provides information on the achievements of LCF projects during the October 2021-September funding year, with the programme's projects making successful progress against their key performance indicators (KPIs). Information includes:

- feedback from individuals participating in these projects
- information collated through the organisations' measurement of outcomes
- data and findings from the council's monitoring processes
- updates on progress against projects' key performance indicators in the year.

Theme 1 – Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing



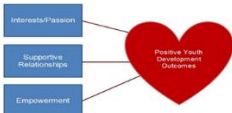





Theme 1 has five schemes. We funded 28 projects that have an empowering person-centred approach, making a positive difference to participants lives.

The table below provides a breakdown of this theme.

Theme	Scheme	Priority	Number of Projects
Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing	Scheme 1A – Children, young people and families	Increase access to Youth Services	8
		Provision of early Help support to families	
		Support for young carers	
	Scheme 1B – Older people	Ageing well and reducing social isolation	7
		Provision of physical and health-promotion activities for older people	
	Scheme 1C – Access, information, and self-management	Residents better informed/equipped to manage health conditions	2
	Scheme 1D - Healthy living and healthy choices	Residents better informed to make healthier choices	6
		Increased engagement in physical activity	
	Scheme 1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues	Improved health outcomes for disabled people	5

Scheme A - Children, Young People & Families.

There are eight projects within this scheme.

<p>Isle of Dogs</p> <p>Canaan Project</p> 	 <p>Tower Hamlets Teens</p> <p>The Yard Theatre Ltd</p>	<p>Family Mentoring Project Osmani Trust</p> 	 <p>Girls Driven</p> <p>St. Hilda's East</p>	<p>Girls in Action Newark Youth</p> 
 <p>Young Girl's Project</p> <p>Stifford Centre Limited</p>	<p>Domestic Abuse Children's Worker</p> <p>Look Ahead Care and Support</p> 	<p>Theatre and Drama for Young People</p> <p>Half Moon Young People's Theatre</p> 		

Scheme A annual achievements included:

1,939 beneficiaries supported by all Scheme A projects	349 participants accessed girls and young women projects	41 families received intensive support	5,936 people attended Half Moon shows and 125 residents attended events organised by teenagers in Yard Youth
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Youth projects have enabled an increase in the number of girls and young women accessing youth facilities. They have empowered these participants to have higher life aspirations by providing opportunities for development, resulting in increased confidence, skills and interests.

Project example:

Girls in Action - Newark Youth London

Annual highlights included:

- Provided positive activities for 39 girls and young women, helping them improve their confidence and build their resilience.
- 25 of the participants delivered their own social action initiatives for the benefit of others in the community, increasing their leadership skills.
- A community environmental programmes challenging the wider community to adopt lifestyles which contribute to a better environment.



Click on picture to access project video.

Outcomes included:

- 13 participants achieved a first aid qualification and four an ASDAN Leadership award.
- 64% of participants stated they can cope with life challenges better.
- Post baseline assessment demonstrates 100% are more content and confident when with peers.

X was very excited about taking part in the Mouth That Roars film making project. But she was also anxious about having to talk in front of others and being in front of the camera. By standing in front of others and the camera, it has greatly developed her self-belief and her confidence. She has commented on how she feels much more able to speak with others.

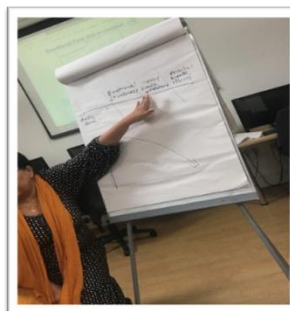
Opportunities provided in our support-based projects, working with families, have helped young people to thrive in more positive family environments.

Project example:

Family Mentoring Project - Osmani Trust

Annual highlights included:

The project worked with 31 families through delivering parenting programmes and workshops. This enabled the parents to explore their parenting skills, and how better to approach their children, and not react.



Families have accessed support for mental wellbeing.

Outcomes included:

- 20 families reported better environment at home and relationships have improved.
- 25 parents reported that their parenting skills have been enhanced.
- 18 young people/families reported better awareness of local services and how to access them.
- 8 young people reported that they feel more able to deal with their problems.

Young people gained more confidence. Their school engagement has improved and become more positive. They have developed a more positive attitude and relationship with parent and peers.

Arts based projects have provided fun experiences, bringing opportunities for participants to believe in their ideas and abilities and increase confidence. Participants have taken part in discussions, feedback, rehearsals, and performances, resulting in increased concentration, greater language and communication skills, and improved cooperation.

Project example

Yard Theatre Yard Youth



Annual highlights included:

- 144 teenagers from Tower Hamlets took part.
- 74% of the above Tower Hamlets participants were young women.
- Five Tower Hamlets schools engaged in activities.

Outcomes included:

- 100% of regular, surveyed participants reported an improvement in their sense of health, happiness and wellbeing.
- Young women participants reported improvements in well-being, skills and confidence that ranged from 70% to over 100%

“It’s helped a lot with my confidence, I would feel very nervous if I had to be on stage before joining the group, now it feels easy, and I can see that it’s actually really fun ... I also feel more creative with my thoughts, like I have more ideas of different stories and characters”. Participant.

Other scheme A projects:

Isle of Dogs Canaan Project



Worked with over 240 different young women across two schools and launched a new after school club at St Andrews Wharf Youth Hub attended by 39 different young women.

K's Mum has fed back to the project how grateful she has been that K has people to talk to, that her daughter looks forward to school the days Canaan is in and that she's getting to do lots of new fun things and build friendships with other young women

Theatre and Drama for Young People - Half Moon Young People's Theatre



192 Tower Hamlets Youth Theatre participants.

Delivered 60 Creative Play sessions at six different Children and Family Centres
“A brilliant interactive and fun session for both child and parent to learn together with lots of fun activities and support”. Participant

Girls Driven Project St. Hilda's East

The girls took part in a residential at Avon Tyrell activity centre. They had an amazing weekend, building team working skills, confidence, resilience and being a great support system to each other.



Domestic Abuse Children's Worker

A specialist supporting children who are vulnerable due to exposure to domestic abuse. Children were assisted to access education and nurseries and families have been helped to access services as well as trauma recovery.

- 29 children in the refuge supported regarding their psychological wellbeing.
- 24 new adult beneficiaries supported.



Young Girl's Project - Stifford Centre Limited

“Initially, when B joined Stifford Girl’s project, she was very quiet, shy, and struggled in large groups. She lacked confidence, and although was keen to join in games with others, she was unlikely to share opinions. As sessions continued, her confidence, self-esteem, and ability to communicate has grown more and more which has been noticed by her parents and staff. She became more confident, talking more with other girls and the staff” Youth Worker

Scheme B – Older People

There are 7 projects within this scheme.

<p>Caxton Hall Age UK East London</p> 	<p>Friend at Home Age UK East London</p> 	<p>The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall</p> 	<p>Tower Hamlets LGBT Support East London Out Project</p> 
<p>Older Peoples Befriending Project Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours</p> 	<p>Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project St Hilda's East Community Centre</p> 	<p>Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club Community of Refugees from Vietnam East London</p>  <p>Click on picture to access project video.</p>	

Scheme B annual achievements included:

1,119 beneficiaries supported by all scheme B projects	132 older people supported by befriending services	88% of older people engaged feel closer to other people
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Responding to loneliness experienced by elders, befriending projects have delivered companionship for isolated people. They have resulted in new relationships developing and, in many instances, have resulted in service users participating in wider social activities.

Project example:

Older Peoples Befriending Project - Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours



- Liaised with food banks and other organisations to provide food for the participants.
- Four people escorted to events for people living with dementia, including the dementia cafe and Singing for the Brain.

Outcomes included:

- 50 people visited weekly.
- Volunteers supported at least 25 clients out of office hours or at weekends.
- Six new volunteers recruited.

Annual highlights included:

- Five group outings, including trips to Kew Gardens, Southend on Sea, and picnics at local parks.

“Her befriender would play music to her and reminisce which she enjoyed, and as she grew more open, her befriender learnt more about her, the things she liked to talk about, such as her cat and a friend she had in Australia”. Extract from case study.

The projects have supported older people to maintain independence through community-based services and befriending projects. Activities promoted wellbeing and a longer healthy life, by reducing social isolation, increasing physical activity, and providing opportunities for participants to make a positive contribution to their communities.

Project example:

Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project - St Hilda's East Community Centre

A place to meet new people, enjoy a cup of tea and a chat with friends, take part in a variety of interesting activities, learn new skills, keep fit, get help with letters and forms.



Outcomes included:

- 105 beneficiaries reported feeling less socially isolated and lonely.
- 72 people reported an improvement in their health and wellbeing because of attending exercise activities.
- 27 people surveyed said they felt more confident in going out and living independently.

“St Hilda’s is my family. Without it I would just be stuck indoors with just my TV for company.”

Other Scheme B projects:

Caxton Hall - Age UK East London

The Centre provides a full range of activities for people 50+ to maximise social opportunities for building links and social interaction. 25 older people contributed to running the Café at Caxton Hall.

What is liked about the activities?

- **Keeps me active.**
- **Creates a routine.**
- **IT training is very good.**
- **Gets you out of the house.**
- **Good way to socialise.**
- **Meeting people.**
- **Rigorous work out.**
- **Strengthens community.**
- **Welcoming and friendly.**



Event at Caxton held by Age UK East London

The Wellbeing Centre at Toynebee Hall

126 people have been supported through health promotion and wellbeing activities. 143 Health promotion sessions and 246 social activities sessions delivered over the year.

Amongst service users who had more than one wellbeing scale undertaken during the period there has been an increase in average score from 3.6 to 4.0 out of 5 for the question 'I feel physically well' and an increase in average score from 3.96 to 4.23 out of 5 for the question 'I feel good about myself'.



Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club - Community of Refugees from Vietnam East London

Over 100 people from the Vietnamese and Chinese community in Tower Hamlets aged 50+ supported by the project this year, which included people that attended the lunch club activities at the centre, residents that are housebound and those that attended the special festival and trips to the seaside.



Click on picture to access project video.

Friend at Home - Age UK East London

“It’s a great way to reach out beyond my immediate circle, I like the idea of connecting with someone in East London from a different group in society. Older people that live on their own don’t have much interaction with people like me, she likes to hear what I’ve been up to, she’s interested and excited to hear about my life”
Volunteer.

Tower Hamlets LGBT Support – ELOP



Monitoring demonstrated increased social connections, feeling less isolated and better mental health and wellbeing.

Scheme C – Access, Information and Self-Management.

There are two projects within this scheme. The projects support residents with complex needs to be better able to manage health conditions. Both projects have improved the quality of life of service users.

Take Back Your Life

Globe Community Project



Taking control of your life

Real



Scheme C annual achievements included:

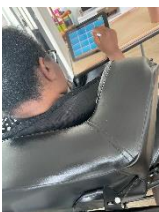
118 beneficiaries supported by all Scheme B projects

49 action plans that provided high-level support to clients with complex needs

65% agreed that they were able to do more activities despite their pain or poor health

Project example:

Taking control of your life – Real



Annual highlights included:

- A diverse variety of 69 clients from across the borough, many with multiple disabilities, created two resources, a guide on Direct Payments and guide to grants.
- Steering group members more involved in making borough services more accessible and co-produced.
- Four members shared their lived experience of adult social care services at a select committee event at the House of Lords.

Outcomes included:

- 90% reported that action plans improved their health and wellbeing outcomes and 91% feeling more independent.
- 94% of those who accessed new services report a positive effect on their life.
- 90% report feeling they have more choice and control over their lives.

“The Advisor was brilliant and not met anyone like her and captured everything. She got right to the point to everything that needed to be said.” Participant

Take Back Your Life - Globe Community Project









45 beneficiaries reported that the project had increased their knowledge, tools and skills to manage their health conditions and helped them to live independent lives.

“The breathing - when I had the panics I couldn't control it - but now since the course it helped me. In the beginning it was awful but every time when I do it now, it's improving my breathing technique and it's really good. Same time my pins and needles in my leg and sleeping improve a lot. Lying down and meditating really helps me. 6 months ago, I had panic attacks 20 or 30 times - since the course I only have panic attacks once a week.” Participant.

“Meditation takes my mind off [the pain]. It's helped with my anxiety for sure.” men's course participant

Scheme D – Healthy living and healthy choices.

There are six projects within this scheme. The focus is for residents to be better informed so they can make healthier choices, as well as increasing their engagement in physical activity.

<p>Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)</p> <p>Newark Youth London</p> 	<p>Exercise for Health</p> <p>London Tigers</p> 	<p>Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets</p> <p>The Royal Society for Blind Children</p> 
<p>Live Healthy Enjoy Life</p> <p>Bangladesh Youth Movement</p> 	<p>Playing out at Mudchute</p> <p>Mudchute Association</p> 	<p>Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme</p> <p>Stifford Centre Limited</p> 


Scheme D annual achievements included:

<p>3,396 beneficiaries supported by all Scheme D projects</p>	<p>1,295 participants reported improved fitness and mental wellbeing, reduced isolation and loneliness.</p>	<p>3,185 participants reported increased physical activity</p>
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Projects in this scheme have made a positive impact on health and wellbeing of residents by increasing participation from marginalised groups in sports, exercise, and leisure activities. They have resulted in less social inclusion and improved mental and physical health.

Project examples:

Playing out at Mudchute - Mudchute Association




Annual highlights included:

- Additional funding secured enabled the project to provide 560 hours of free and accessible varied play provision this year.
- Regular attendances from a group of deaf children.

Outcomes included:

- 2,000 residents in regular physical activity, leading to health improvements, through play opportunities for the whole family.
- Actual beneficiary count one Saturday 450.




“His parents were delighted to witness how enthusiastic he was and the enjoyment he gained from attending.” Extract from project case study about engaging a 7-year-old autistic child.

Live Healthy Enjoy Life - Bangladesh Youth Movement

Annual highlights included:

- The project recruited, trained and engaged 20 women as volunteers who became active in the community.
- Monthly Women’s Forum providing a platform for women to discuss issues, identify their own needs.



Outcomes included:

- Increased awareness of health issues for 130 women, enabling them to lead healthier lives.
- Beneficiaries provided positive feedback about their engagement with the project.
- Women assisted with access to financial advice because of the increasing rising cost of living pressures on family budgets.

Other Scheme D projects:

Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme - Stifford Centre-led consortium with delivery partners: Stepney City Farm, Shadwell Basin Activity Centre and Dorset Community Association

This year the consortium organised two big events: celebration of Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and Festival of Communities, which brought together the wider community and residents to participate in cohesion and sports events.



444 people participated, with 92% of members reporting that participation in club activities had led to improvements in their health.



Exercise for Health - London Tigers

The project is aimed at women, children and young people. It engaged 193 children and 182 women in a series of sports, physical activities and health-related workshops, resulting in:

- 84% of participating children reporting an improvement in their health and well-being
- 91% of participating women reporting feeling less lonely.



Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets - The Royal Society for Blind Children



Adapted archery is proving to be a lot of fun and very competitive!

This year the project recruited 11 new people onto the programme and supported 22 existing young people. After attending wellbeing sessions young people have reported the impact this has had on their lifestyle:

- 65% of young people reported an increase in their physical activity levels.
- 79% reported that their health had improved.
- 75% reported improvements in their self-confidence and resilience.



Young people loved the game of Phizzco table!





Healthy-Active-Together - Newark Youth London

The project engaged 242 previously inactive children, young people and adults to participate in sports and physical activities on a regular basis. They delivered 234 in-person sessions, totalling 448 hours of delivery. 133 beneficiaries reported improved fitness and mental wellbeing.



Scheme E - Improved inclusion, health and wellbeing outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues.

There are four projects within this scheme.


<p>CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles ICM Foundation CIC</p>		<p>Therapeutic Support Groups for women affected by Domestic Abuse Woman's Trust</p> <p>Click on picture to access project video.</p>	
<p>Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets Deafplus</p>		<p>Upskill Working Well Trust</p>	

Scheme E annual achievements included:

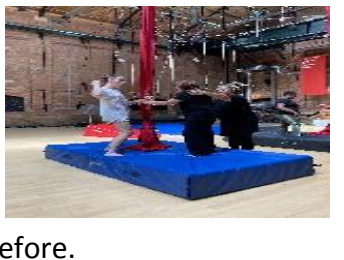
<p>400 beneficiaries supported by all Scheme E projects</p>	<p>95.5% of women evaluating therapeutic support reported improved knowledge of their rights</p>	<p>40 deaf and hard of hearing participants reported a positive increase in their wellbeing</p>
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Projects work with adults with complex needs, resulting in better health outcomes and improved life expectancy. As well as providing activities and support for users, projects funded under this scheme have enabled participants to access relevant support services.

Project example

Upskill - Working Well Trust		
	<p>Client feedback included:</p> <p>"Upskill has allowed me to gain experience in areas that I never knew I was interested in and help me build my CV and confidence in myself and my skills." Participant feedback.</p>	<p>Outcomes included:</p> <p>190 people affected by mental health challenges completed short- and long-term goal setting with peer support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 165 of them achieved short term goals. • 125 accessed wellbeing and training • 65 accessed volunteering opportunities

Other projects in Scheme E:

Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets - Deafplus	
<p>Supported improvements in health and well-being of 42 deaf and hard of hearing adults through a range of 30 events and well-being sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of service users reported an improvement in their feelings of isolation when accessing events over the past year. • 20 beneficiaries reported improvements in their mental health and 10 beneficiaries participated in exercises that they had not been involved in before. 	




CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles ICM Foundation	
<p>Working with people with learning disabilities, enabling them to design and produce an accessible newspaper and putting on health events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project evaluation shows 100% of participants had made new friendships, increased confidence, and feel included in the project and events they organised. • Participants' contribution towards the creation of each newspaper edition has increased, as well as their skills to take on project tasks. 	

Theme 2 – Digital Inclusion and Awareness

Theme 2 has two schemes supporting five projects.

Scheme A: ICT skills and digital careers.

There are three projects within this scheme.

<p>DigiTIES Limehouse Project</p> 	<p>@online club network Tower Hamlets Newham New Deal Partnership</p> 	<p>Digital First Wapping Bangladesh Association</p> 
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Residents gained ICT skills and knowledge, giving them the confidence to use digital devices to access online activities, secure employment and move on to further education.

Older people were able to do more things online, from making GP appointments to accessing online employment support. Using digital services for personal and professional purposes has improved participants' wellbeing and sense of connection.


Scheme A annual achievements included:

<p>The three projects funded under this scheme have supported a total of 111 beneficiaries</p>	<p>57 older people reported being more confident in using basic ICT skills</p>	<p>25 older people report being able to access health information online</p>
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Project example:

DigiTIES - Limehouse Project		
	<p>Annual highlights included:</p> <p>The project was successful in securing additional support for beneficiaries by providing them with tablets and phones to help the most vulnerable participants get online.</p>	<p>Outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 192 older people have learned to use at least three ICT platforms. • 128 older people have learned to use a search engine to find health information on NHS websites. • 96 older people report greater confidence using ICT.
<p>“AB reported feeling more confident and motivated to get online and use the internet. She felt encouraged by her peers in the mixed group and engaged well.” Extract from case study.</p>		


Other projects:

<p>@online club network Tower Hamlets Newham New Deal Partnership</p> <p>Resumed face to face sessions with local partners, delivering an additional seven activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 older residents reported increased confidence and ability to go online to do more things. • 3 residents increased skills due to engagement in the project as volunteers. 	<p>Digital First Wapping Bangladesh Association</p> <p>Reported outcomes include increased levels of greater social integration and engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 out of 10 participants reported making more friends and improving their social contacts by attending more social events throughout the year. • 75% of older adults on the project reported an increase in the quality of life because of engaging in the Digital First project.
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Scheme B – Online Safety

The scheme's priority is children and young peoples' online safety. Activities raised awareness of potential dangers online with children and supported parents and carers to implement suitable prevention measures. We fund two projects under this scheme.


**E-Safety Champions
SocietyLinks**



Tower Hamlets

Building Digital Resilience

Sporting Foundation



Scheme B annual achievements included:

The 2 projects funded under this scheme have supported a total of 951 beneficiaries

64 project beneficiaries reported making a specific change at home to improve e-safety

83 parents reported being more confident of safeguarding procedures

Scheme B has empowered children to recognise and deal with the impact of online abuse, resulting in young people speaking out and getting the help they need, including from their families. Parents have gained skills and knowledge to keep their children safer online.

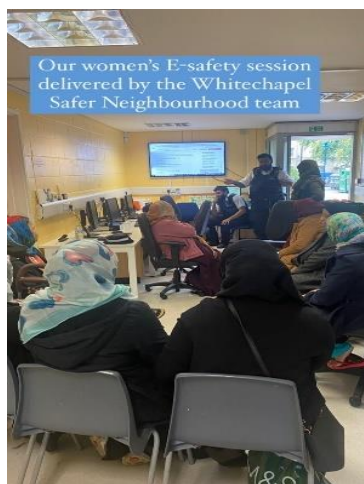
Project example:

E-Safety Champions - SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets

Annual highlights included:

Continues delivering its E-safety project, with an increased number of new participants, partnerships and initiatives taking place this year.

Assisted digitally excluded residents to use IT to access advice and obtain information on how to save money.



Outcomes included:

- 15 Project Champions reported feeling confident enough to make a change and tell others to do so too.
- 45 Residents are more knowledgeable about the potential dangers of online activities, including social media, banking transactions.
- 100% of adults and young people attending workshops were able to relay the information learnt back to the staff and group confirming that they understood how to report and identify cyber bullying.

Building Digital Resilience - Sporting Foundation

The project continues to deliver effectively, securing engagement from young people and their parents.

- Enabled 215 parents and young people to be more aware of the relationship between social media and on-line grooming and of other risks relating to on-line safety.
- 100% of participants reported increased awareness of risks pertaining to on-line activity.
- 83 parents reported being more confident of safeguarding procedures and can communicate safety messages to young people.

Theme 3 – Advice and Information

Theme 3 funds local advice and information services. East End Citizens Advice leads a consortium of advice organisations to deliver a borough-wide integrated service for residents, providing advice on welfare benefits, housing, debt, money management, employment, immigration, consumer, family, personal, education and community care. The advice centres supported by this LCF project are not-for-profit organisations offering free advice. All the centres meet the requirements of Advice Quality Standard (AQS) and are independently audited.

Most of the advice centres make use of volunteers in some capacity. Within this theme we also fund Island Advice Centre to support the development of the capacity and quality of the borough's advice services. The Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project recruits volunteers who it then trains to become advice workers. Services also includes facilitation of the advice network, advice website updates, factsheets, and staff training.

Scheme Highlights Year 3



12,379 clients supported via phone and Skype

4,106 clients supported via online provisions



21,402 clients assisted through **22,693** hours of advice services

4,543 clients supported to increase / maximise incomes.

£4,081,597 debt reduction/write offs resulting in reduction in amounts of personal debt

£22,062,653 client's income increased and/or backdated.

5 advice volunteers found paid work

27 advice workshops delivered to **508** participants on benefits issues.

16 Learning to Advise certificates were awarded (5 to volunteers and 11 for staff)

Advice consortium partners



Theme 4 – Employment and Skills

Theme 4 has three schemes supporting nine projects.

Scheme A: Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work.

The project funded under this scheme has supported a total of 165 beneficiaries

47 cases directly led to a disabled resident accessing or retaining employment

Supported 98 cases relating to employment matters raised by a disabled Tower Hamlets resident

There is only one project funded under this theme.

THEN & NOW - Real



Annual highlights included:

The project extended its reach to a greater number of local employers. Across all activities, including project's one-to-one advice service and two-hour shared learning and development workshops, 50 different organisations meaningfully engaged with THEN & NOW.

Outcomes included:

- 22 organisations received one-to-one support and the satisfaction rate has been 100%
- 85 participants agreed that learning and development workshops assisted them to attain their inclusion goals

“Incredibly helpful in enabling us to make concrete actions for removing barriers in our organisation... it meant a lot for the communities we work with and for”. Participant

Scheme B – Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups.

There are four projects within this scheme.

BAME Women's Employment Support Programme
Stifford Centre Limited



Choices Tower Hamlets
St Giles Trust



Developing Potential
Limehouse Project



Job Club
SocietyLinks



Scheme B annual outcomes and achievements included:

304 beneficiaries supported by all Scheme B projects

25 women reported an increase in their personal and professional skills

20 young people progressed into employment, apprenticeships or traineeships

17 women gained accredited qualifications

Projects in Scheme B have increased opportunities for women and young people by addressing the barriers to employment they face. Projects have provided work experience, information, advice and guidance and access to training that addressed individual needs. They have resulted in participants gaining work-based accreditation and securing employment.

Project example:

Choices Tower Hamlets St Giles Trust



Annual highlights included:

This year, many referrals received showed mental health being the top priority, instead of education, training and employment. This led to the caseworker adapting and becoming a mentor, social worker and benefits advisor in order to address needs.

Outcomes included:

- 29 young people showed improved levels of wellbeing and mental health and/or accessing appropriate specialist support.
- 10 young people progressed into and completed training and education courses.

“I feel like I can move forward, with support and really change my life...” Participant

Other Scheme B projects:

BAME Women's Employment Support Programme - Stifford Centre Limited



Annual highlights included:

Delivered ESOL training to 12 unemployed women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities and accredited training, in areas such as childcare and digital learning to 16 women from the above communities to enable them to progress towards employment.

Outcomes included:

- 28 participants reported that they have gained digital skills.
- 32 participants felt able to communicate in English.
- 29 participants reported a boost in their confidence levels
- 30 participants felt they have increased employability skills.

“I have enjoyed the course immensely. My English is getting better, and I am confident to speak to my GP and nurses. To enhance my English skills, I communicate in the English language with my children at home. I am confident to ask questions and give answers openly”. Participant

Job Club - SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets

127 individuals accessed job club services this year, 75% of which were women. 15 participants secured an employment offer and 48 achieved an accredited outcome, including First Aid at Work, Health and Safety and IT skills.

12 participants were young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs). Three of these participants achieved apprenticeships and one gained employment.

Developing Potential – Limehouse Project





Supported 93 women from Black, Asian, and Multi-Ethnic communities, who are furthest from the labour market, on personal skills development to support them to progress into training, employment and work. 16 beneficiaries gain accredited qualifications.



Scheme C – Support focused on increasing access to arts and cultural industries

This scheme aims to increase numbers of people participating in arts activities and initiatives that lead to training and employment in the creative sectors. Projects in Scheme C have provided opportunities for residents to access a career in the creative sector. Activities have resulted in participants accessing industry level training and employment.

There are four projects within this scheme.

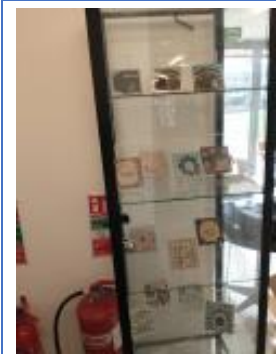
<p>Artworks Magic Me</p> 	<p>Creative Communities The Bromley by Bow Centre</p> 
<p>Learning Live! Auto Italia South East</p> 	<p>ZOOM Film School Four Corners Ltd</p> 

Scheme C annual outcomes and achievements included:

191 beneficiaries supported by all Scheme C projects	94 people participated in arts projects for the first time	19 individuals secured employment	71 people increased access to industry level training
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Project example

Creative Communities - The Bromley by Bow Centre







Annual highlights included:
Participants made good progress throughout the year, including sustainable job outcomes, sector specific arts training, arts placements, engagement in arts, reporting decreasing barriers and an increase in arts job readiness, with a positive impact felt by family and friends.

Outcomes included:

- 35 participants felt they can make a positive contribution in their local communities through volunteering.
- 53 participants holistic needs and wider barriers to employment have been addressed.


"I feel as if someone has put new batteries into me". Participant

Other Scheme C projects:

<p>ZOOM Film School - Four Corners Ltd</p> <p>13 trainees on Four Corners' ZOOM Film School successfully completed their training in a camera, production and editing programme accredited by the Open College Network.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Click on picture to access project video.</p>	<p>Artworks - Magic Me</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">    <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>Hamida, Jan and Shaz are taking part in Artworks, a Community Arts Training programme supporting talented young people from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic community and working-class backgrounds living in Tower Hamlets to gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to access careers in the arts sector.</p> </div> </div>
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Learning Live! - Auto Italia South East

96 young people from Tower Hamlets attended Technology workshops at Auto Italia. 72 of those attended tours of local galleries and arts organisations. 89% of surveyed participants from Year 3 of Learning Live! applied for places at leading higher education providers including:



- University of Arts London - Central Saint Martins
- Chelsea College of Art
- Slade School of Fine Art - University College London




Theme 5 – Community Safety

Theme 5 has three schemes supporting six projects.

Scheme A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups.

Projects in Scheme A work in schools, including the Pupils Referral Unit for young people excluded from mainstream school, and within the community. Participants' have been provided with positive opportunities resulting in them having the increased confidence, skills, and vocabulary to understand what is happening to them and make positive life choices.

There are three projects within this scheme.

<p>Build Kazzum Arts</p> 	<p>Young Influencers Streets of Growth</p> 	<p>Schools and Community Resilience Programme Osmani Trust</p> 
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Scheme annual outcomes and achievements included:

<p>340 beneficiaries supported by all scheme A projects</p>	<p>88% of participants from the Pupils Referral Unit attained increased confidence</p>	<p>39 participants gained ASDAN leadership accreditation</p>
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Project example

<h4>Young Influencers - Streets of Growth</h4>		
<p>Annual highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 118 participants engaged. • 28 completed Young Influencers training and completed social action initiatives. • 5 participants co-produced and hosted a Home Office Serious Violence Reduction Unit conference. • 5 participants trained in podcasting and presentation skills, resulting in 5 podcast community events. 		<p>Outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 participants co-designed and delivered two community safety events, with over 200 residents and other key stakeholders involved. • 100% of high-risk young people worked with reported improved confidence in moving away from harmful situations.

Other projects:

<p>Build Kazzum Arts</p> <p>Ran 67 workshops in the Pupils Referral Unit, across three groups reaching 31 young people, with 28 attending 50% or more sessions each term.</p> <p>“[The sessions] made me feel more aware of myself, helped with problem solving, and helped understand myself better” (Inclusion Group Participant)</p>	<p>Schools and Community Resilience Programme Osmani Trust</p> <p>“I am more aware of my surroundings, triggers and my actions. I stay out of trouble and become more reasonable. I have learnt in life you need to be more aware and always think positive. It taught me if you fail to prepare you prepare to fail. I stay out of a lot of trouble. I try keep family and friends out of trouble. I would like to see more debates.” – Student from Morpeth</p>
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Scheme B – Improving the perception of young people in the community.

Providing activities that enable young people and older people to work together, projects funded through scheme B have increased meaningful inter-generational contact. Older participants clearly demonstrate they see the younger participants in a more positive way and are less wary.

Two inter-generational projects are funded under this scheme, enabling young people to be seen to be a positive part of the community.

Into Focus photography project
Four Corners



Mind the Gap
Leaders in Community



Scheme annual outcomes and achievements included:

193 beneficiaries supported by all Scheme B projects

100% of older people engaged in the projects have a more positive view of young people.

Project example

Four Corners - Into Focus Photography Project



Annual highlights included:

- Project activities were co-designed by participants, resulting in a diverse range of photography techniques learnt and holding of three bespoke exhibitions.
- School students engaging with the project which supported their educational attainment.

Outcomes included:

- 100% of gallery visitors identified how young people make a positive contribution to community life.
- Both the older and the younger beneficiary age groups reported feeling more confident of working with people from the other age group after participating in the project.

“Being part of this project was an invaluable experience for me. A course like this helps you build practical skills but also puts you within a creative community where different generations can learn from each other.” Participant

Other project:

Mind the Gap - Leaders in Community



76 activities with 1,348 attendances. The elders and young people helped co-design a Queens Jubilee event, which successfully saw over 200 attendees.



Scheme C – Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances.

The priority of this scheme is services for people affected by domestic abuse and to increase understanding of it in the wider community. It aims to increase the extent to which young people and families, affected by domestic abuse, feel safe.


The project funded under this scheme is provided by Hestia.

Educational work takes place within a refuge designed to help women spot the signs of abuse and prevent re-victimisation. Sessions also take place with children on keeping safe as well as supporting trauma recovery.

Within the community the project provides domestic violence awareness raising events and initiates campaigns that enable wider understanding of domestic abuse. It also provides safe spaces for reporting.

Project annual outcomes and achievements included:

The project supported 382 beneficiaries.	Delivered awareness raising events within schools and groups, with over 116 residents attending	Worked with 31 families within the domestic abuse refuge (31 mothers and 47 children).	Since its launch in September 2020 Online Safe Spaces have received 1,134,614 visitors
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Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets		
	<p>Annual highlights included:</p> <p>Launched a partnership with HSBC, who now provide Safe Spaces in 425 branches, including in Tower Hamlets; bringing total Safe Spaces in banks and pharmacies to over 7,400.</p>	<p>Outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of women attending awareness raising events said their understanding of domestic abuse has increased. 80% of children who responded to Hestia's Children and Family Work survey had increased feelings of safety.
<p>'I have a right to raise my children safely', 'I have a right to leave abuse' and 'I have a right to be me.'</p>		

Part of this funding supports Bright Sky. This is a safe, easy to use app and website that provides practical support and information on how to respond to domestic abuse. Bright Sky helps its users to spot the signs of abuse, know how to respond, and help someone find a safe route to support. Click on the picture below to access the app.




Infrastructure & Capacity Building Fund

Tower Hamlets Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Partnership

THVCS Infrastructure Partnership brings together Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) infrastructure support agencies – Tower Hamlets Voluntary and Community Sector (THCVS) and Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH) - to increase the range and number of VCS organisations that are well-run, resilient, and sustainable and to strengthen the VCS as key public sector strategic delivery partners.

Overall, the Infrastructure Partnership has achieved the following outcomes:

- Increased proportion of organisations are well run and better managed
- Broader pool of VCS organisations accessing public service funding
- Increased resources in terms of funding, volunteers or in-kind support
- VCS organisations have better planning and resilience arrangements



THCVS supports the VCS to have a greater impact for residents of the Borough. It achieves this by building the capacity of local VCS organisations.

Annual achievements included:

Secured £1.1 million in external funding to support partnership work between local VCS organisations.	Supported 119 VCS organisations on 307 interactions, with 83% giving positive feedback	Published a fortnightly bulletin with funding information, with an average of 2,000 recipients each issue.	In Development Funding surgeries THCVS supported five organisations to win small pots of funding totalling £24,500.
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Provides a comprehensive and responsive volunteering infrastructure service to all volunteer-involving organisations in Tower Hamlets.

Annual achievements included:

Delivered training to 53 volunteer managers with 98% of participants committed to making a change within their organisation or taking an action because of the training	Delivered quarterly Peer Learning sessions attended by 33 unique Volunteer Managers	18 organisations were supported by 31 best practice sessions	Registered 22 organisations with the Volunteering Hub
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VCTH continued to manage and deliver the Volunteering Hub through the project, assisting in the recovery process in the borough, linking volunteers to local education, employment and training opportunities. Key achievements for the Hub in the year included:

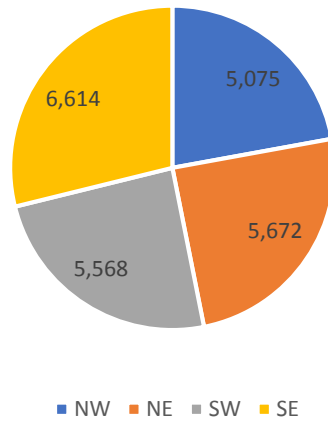
- 82 VCS organisations advertised their volunteering roles through the Hub
- 175 VCS volunteering roles advertised through the Hub
- 664 new volunteer registrations with the Hub

VCTH also delivered a pilot through the project that trained residents of the borough from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities in the role of a trustee for VCS organisations. The pilot matched trainees to local VCS organisations looking for new trustees. 22 people were trained in the role of trustee, with 17 of them being offered and accepting the role of trustee with a local VCS organisation. Ten VCS organisations have recruited trustees through the pilot, with five trustees joining more than one VCS organisation board.

Geographical and Equalities Data

The graphs and tables below provide information on the protected characteristics of Local Community Fund programme beneficiaries in October 2021-September 2022.

Residents Supported By Ward Cluster



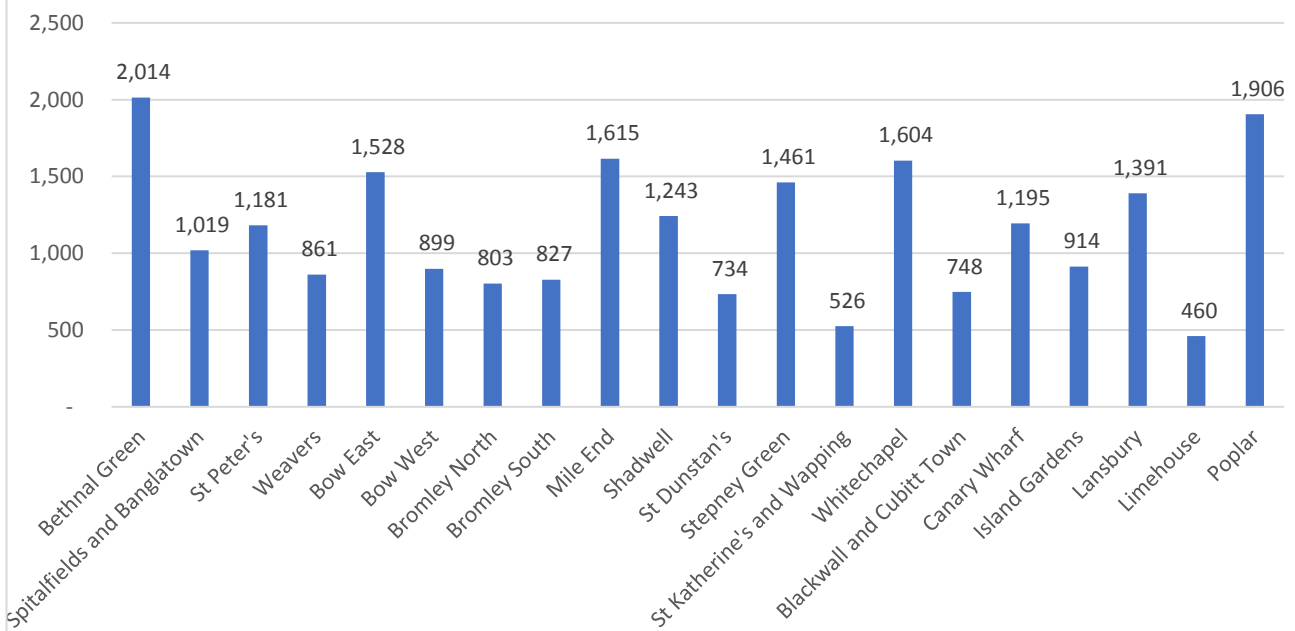
5,075 in the **NW cluster (22.13%)**
(Bethnal Green, Spitalfields & Banglatown, St Peter's, Weavers)

5,672 in the **NE cluster (24.74%)**
(Bow East / West, Bromley North / South, Mile End)

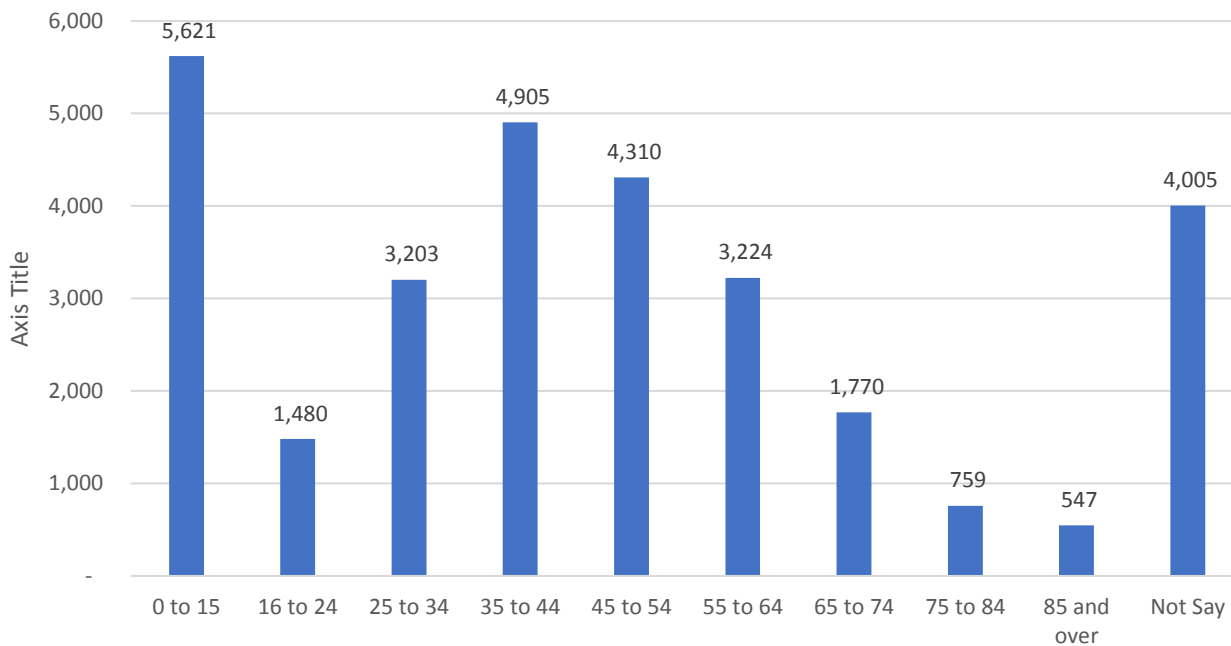
5,568 in the **SW cluster (24.28%)**
(Shadwell, St Dunstan's, Stepney, St Katharine & Wapping, Whitechapel)

6,614 in the **SE cluster (28.85%)**
(Blackwall & Cubitt Town, Canary Wharf, Island Gardens, Lansbury, Limehouse, Poplar)

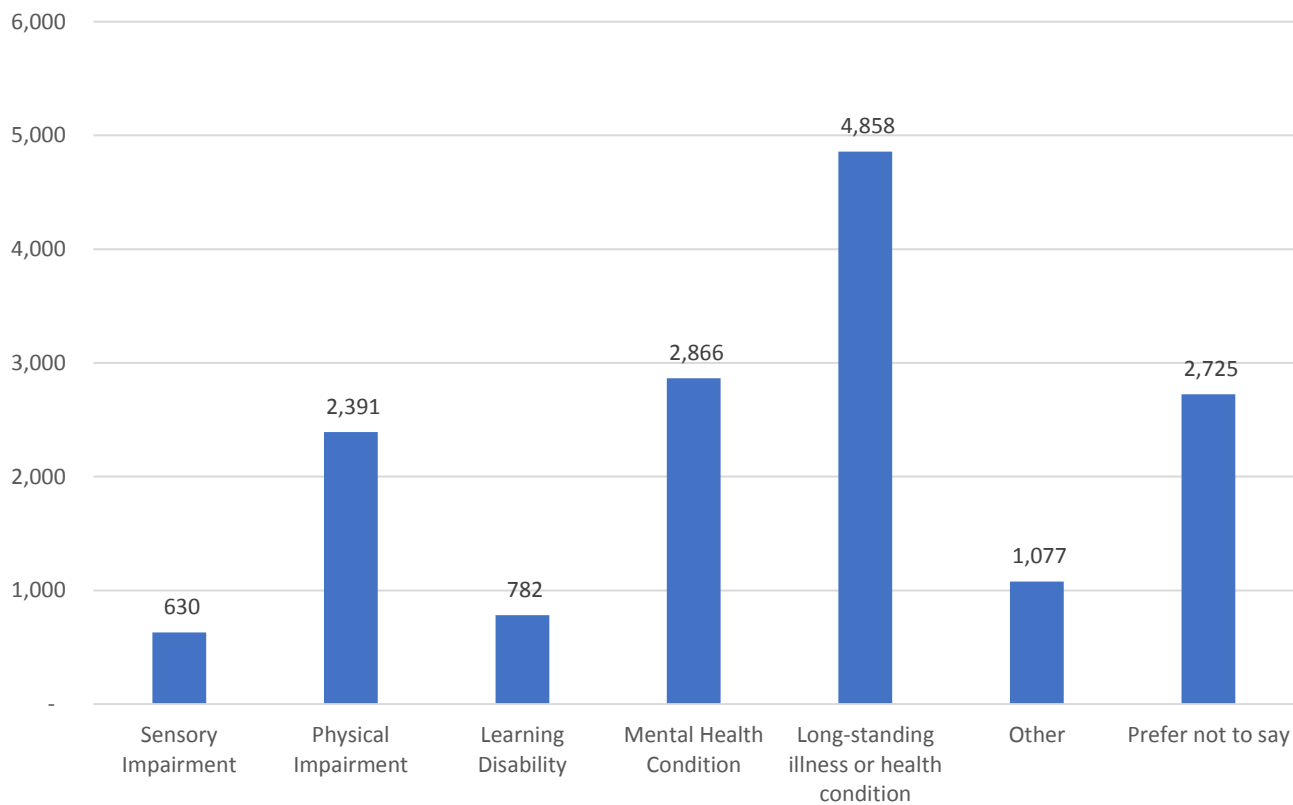
Council Ward of Residence



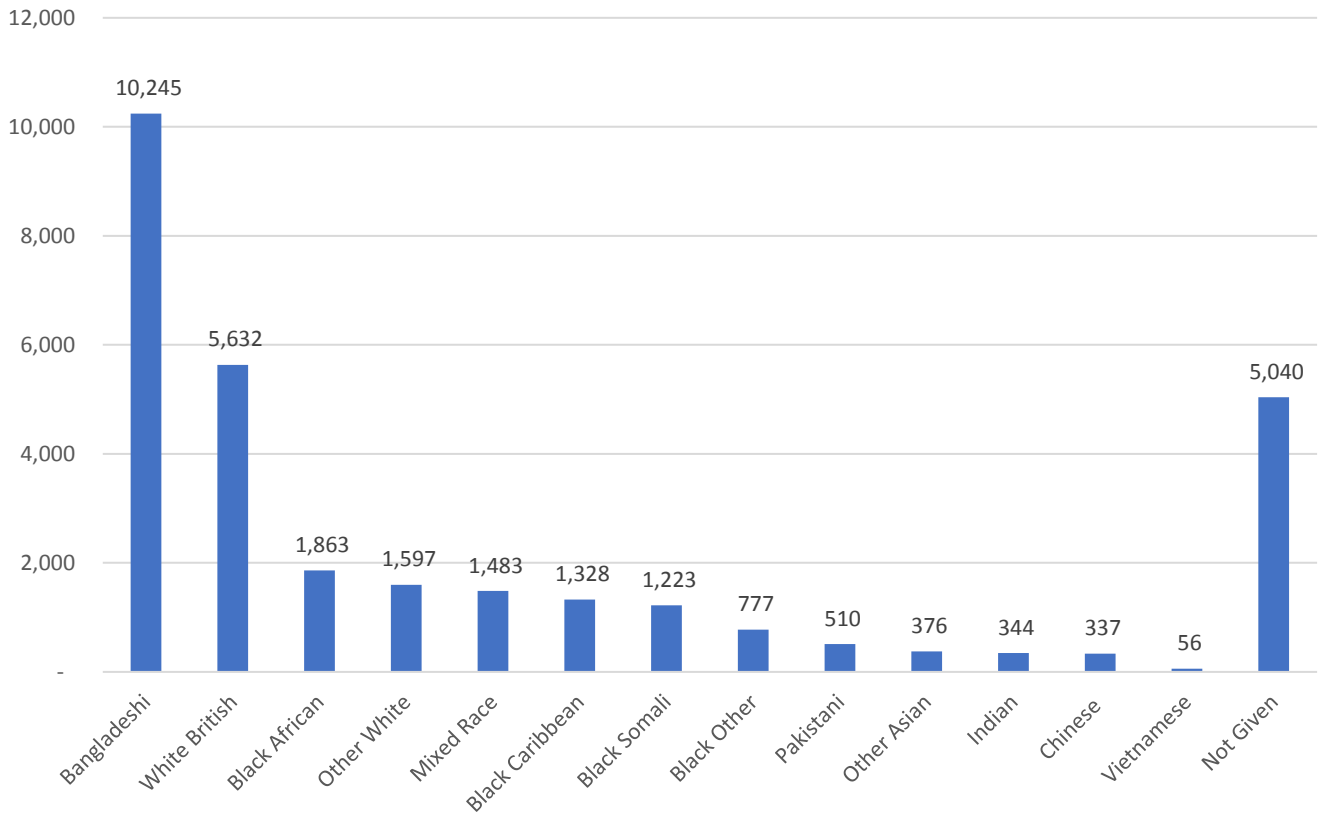
Age Group



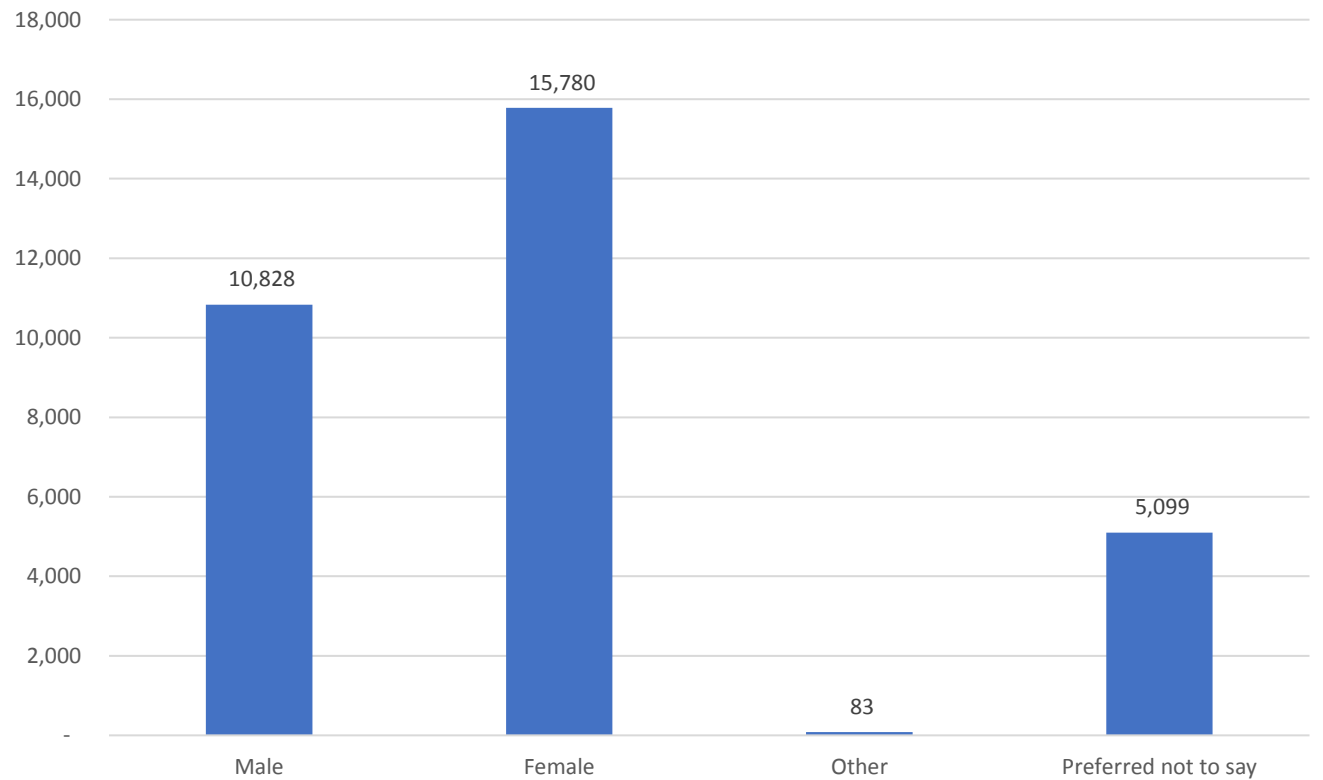
Disabled Beneficiaries



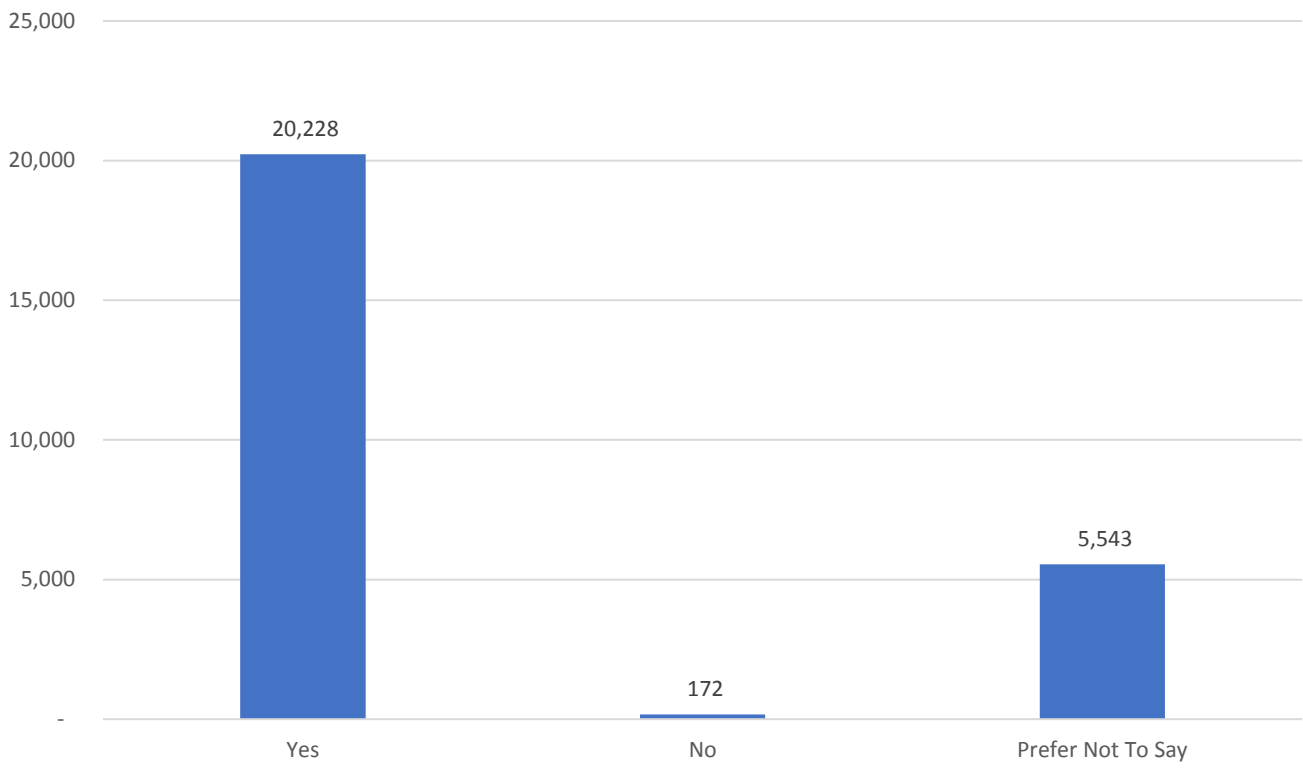
Ethnicity



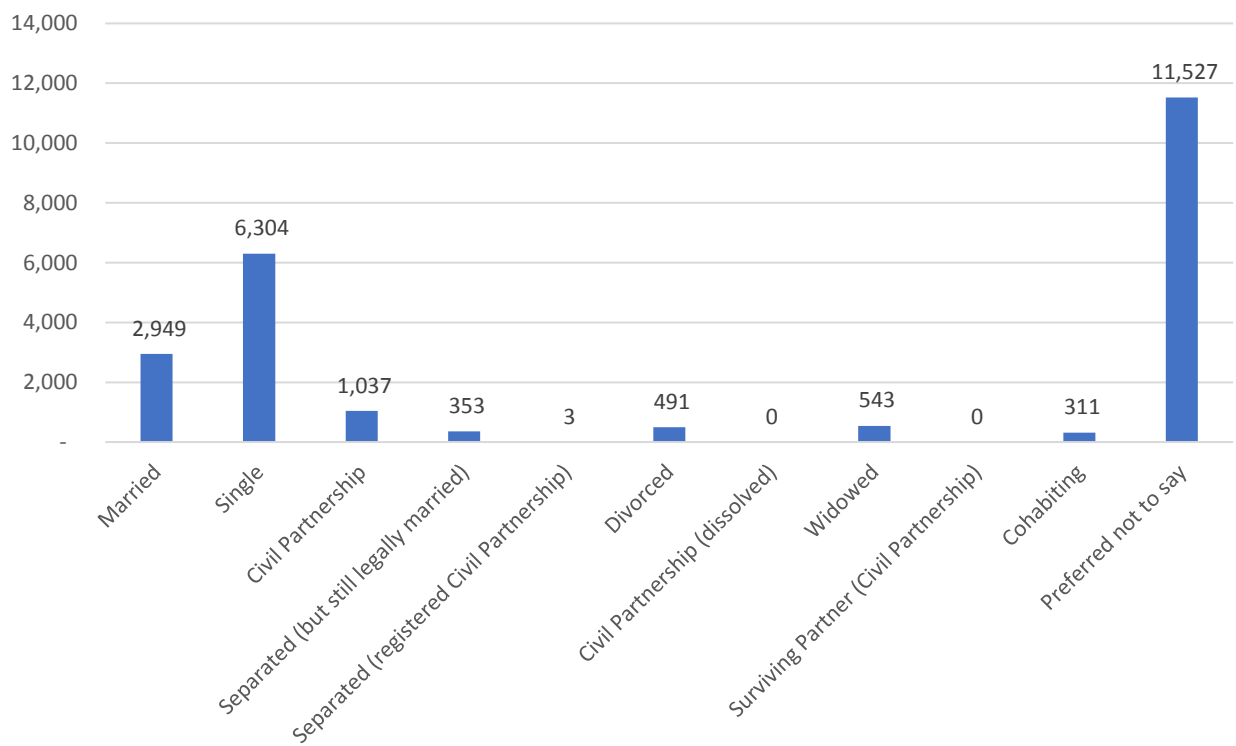
Gender



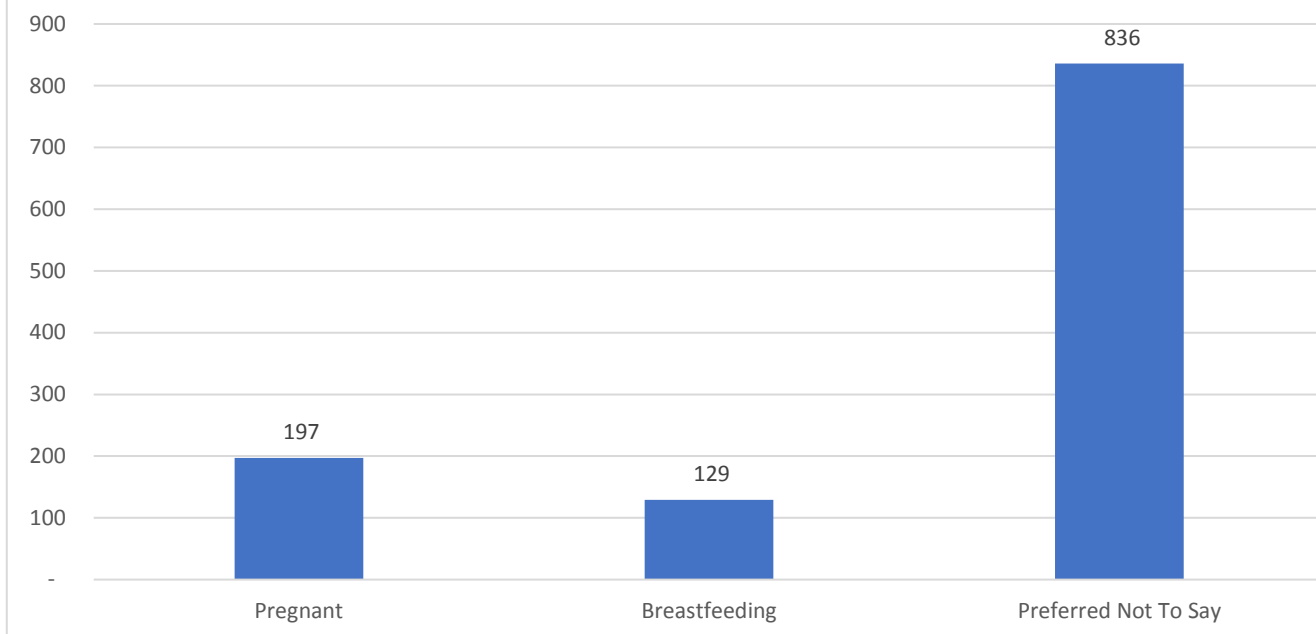
Gender Identity The Same As Assigned At Birth



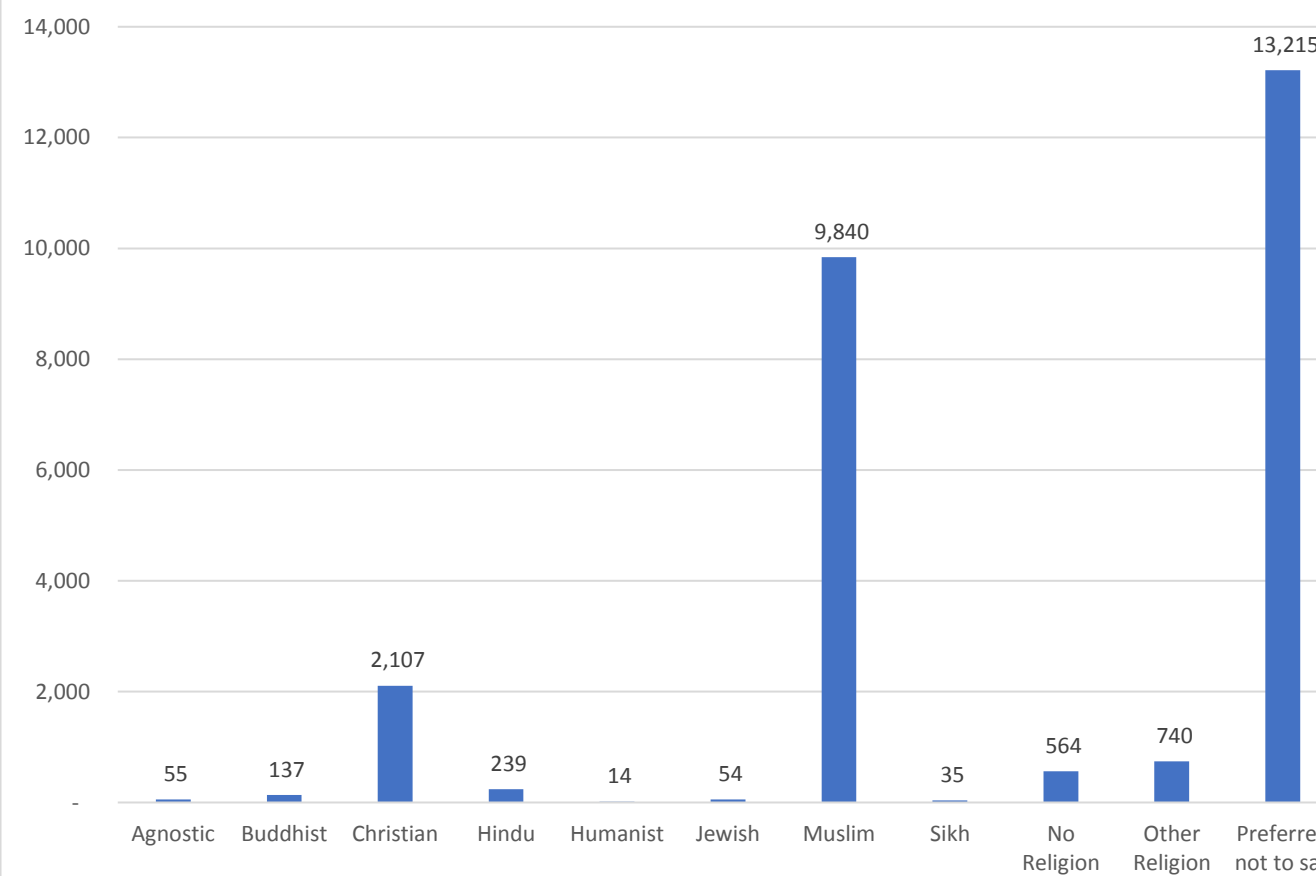
Marriage & Civil Partnership Status

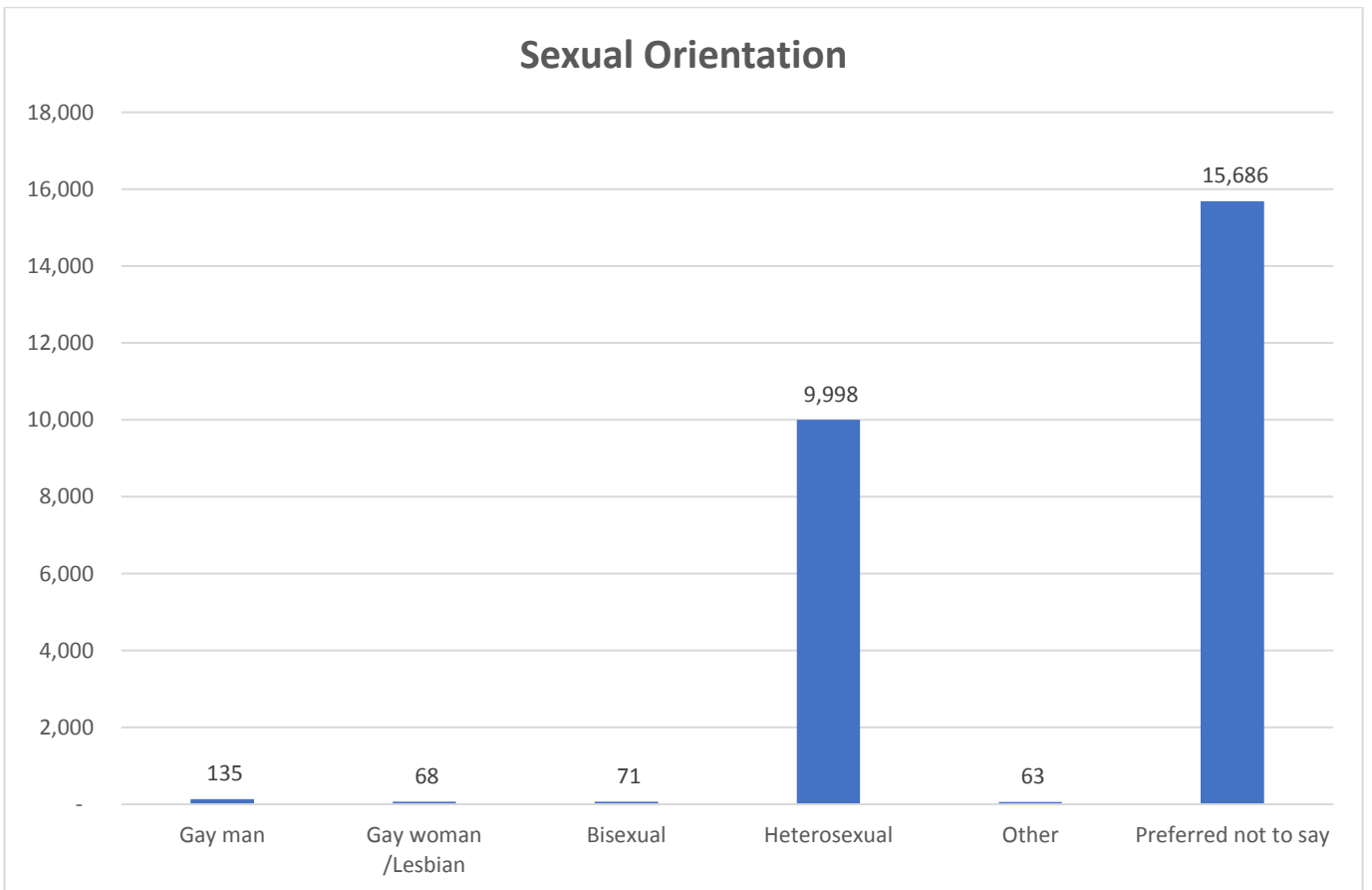
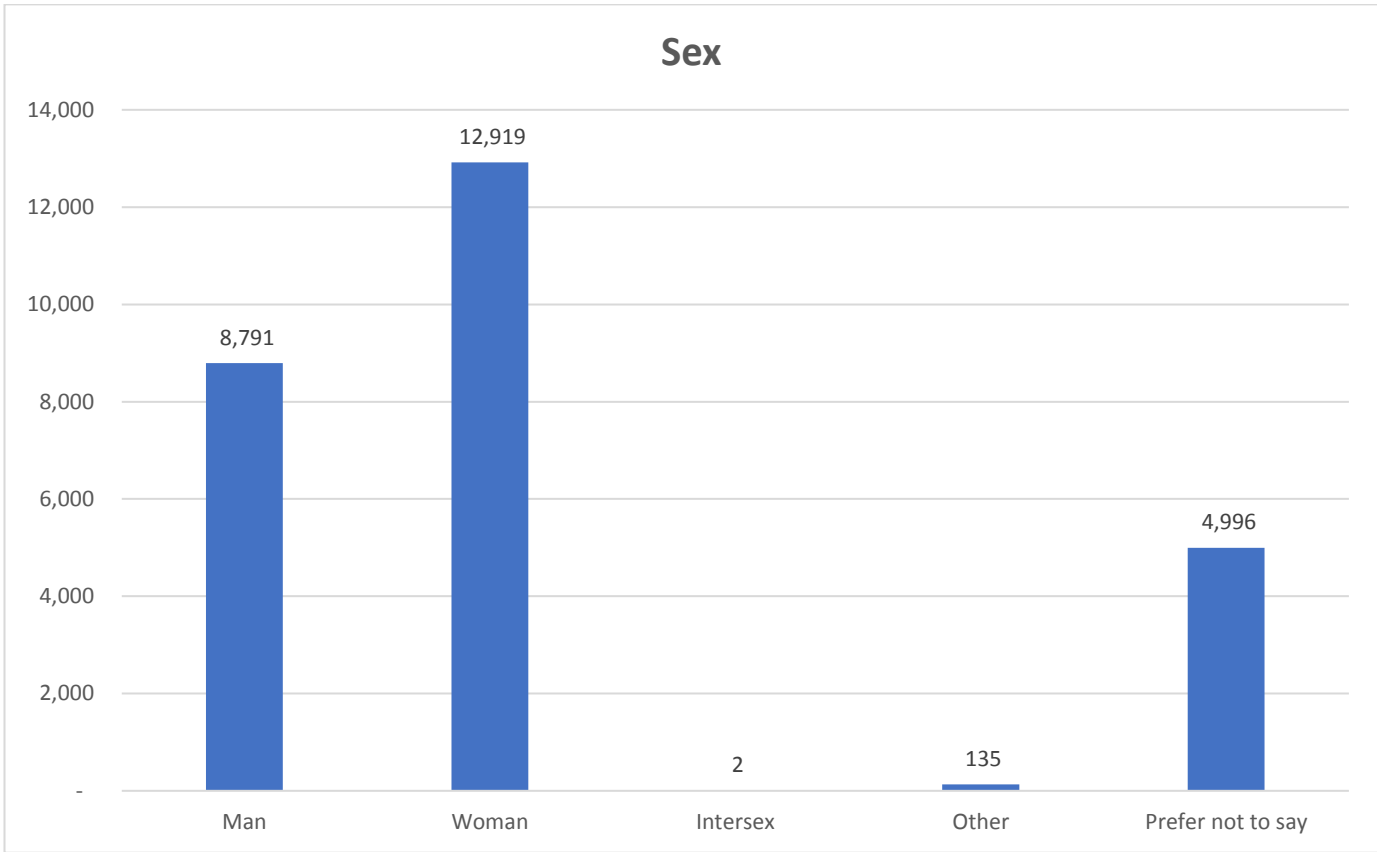


Pregnancy & Maternity



Religion or Belief





<p style="text-align: center;">Grants Determination Sub-Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">08 November 2023</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Robin Beattie, Acting Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report - October 2022 – December 2022</p>	

Executive Summary

The performance report for the Local Community Fund programme for the voluntary and community sector covers the period October 2022 to December 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 October 2022 – December 2022
2. Note the performance of the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project as set out in 3.9.
3. Note the current Red RAG rating for Real DPO's two LCF projects due to premises issues, as outlined in paragraph 3.2 (b).

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.

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.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 Background

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.

At GDSC meeting on 9th 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 £1,329,616. The delivery of the LCF Programme has been supported by the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme. At GDSC meeting on 3rd July 2019 it was agreed that funding of £780,000 from this programme would be allocated between October 2019 to September 2022 to Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS) to deliver infrastructure support for local VCS organisations and support the VCS in strategic partnership working. It was agreed at GDSC meeting on 25th January 2023 that funding for THCVS to deliver this programme would be extended from October 2022 to September 2023, on the basis of a £260,000 grant.

3.2 Overview of October-December 2022

- (a) LCF providers are responding to the cost of living crisis' impact on its beneficiaries. Funded organisations provided a range of responses:
 - provision of advice on welfare benefits, money and fuel
 - donations of food, clothes, toys and essentials to families

- liaison with food banks and other food providers to support food donations to older beneficiaries
 - establishing links between projects and warm spaces initiatives
 - presentations on the cost of living crisis
 - linking residents to web links offering advice in the crisis.
- (b) 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. Of the 49 remaining LCF projects all were classed as Green for the October 2022-December 2022 quarter, as was Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service's (THCVS) Infrastructure & Capacity Building Project, enabling all project payments to be made for that quarter. Two LCF projects, managed by Real DPO, are now classified as Red, post-October to December 2022 quarter, due to premises issues – the NOW and THEN project and Taking Control of Your Life project. A satisfactory agreement is not yet in place between the council and Real DPO for its premises at Jack Dash House on the Isle of Dogs. The council is liaising with Real DPO to reach a satisfactory agreement.

3.3 Theme 1 Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing (27 projects)

(a) Scheme A Children, Young People and Families (Eight projects)

This theme is focused on developing the confidence and life opportunities of young people. Significant areas of progress included:

- Canaan Project's Isle of Dogs project provided a range of activities to 125 young girls aged 11-19, across 70 sessions, in the Isle of Dogs, to develop their confidence.
- 172 of the 192 beneficiaries (including 58 disabled young people) of Half Moon Young People's Theatre's Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People project were involved in drama performances at the end of term.
- The Yard Theatre's Black Excellence at Night-time initiative worked with the Theatre's Tower Hamlets Teens LCF project to design a new drama-based creative project for young people to develop a drama company. The aim is to launch this company in 2023.

(b) Scheme B – Older People (Seven projects)

Theme focuses on improving the health and wellbeing of older residents and the quality of the care services they receive. Achievements included:

- 145 volunteers in Age UK East London's Friend at Home project continued to provide companionship and support to individual isolated, housebound older people in the borough.
- 20 people from the borough's LGBT community, who are disabled and/or have mental health support needs, reported better life satisfaction and better quality of life three months after starting the project.
- 40 beneficiaries of St Hilda's East Community Centre's Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project attended Black History month events in October 2022.

(c) Scheme C – Access, Information and Self-Management (Two projects)
Projects enable older and physically disabled residents to be better informed and equipped to manage health and social care conditions. Examples of successful project activity included:

- 17 beneficiaries of Globe Community Project's Take Back Your Life project reported a decrease in levels of pain catastrophising after participation in five week mindfulness-based pain management course.
- 90% of the beneficiaries of Real DPO's Taking Control of Your Life project, who are disabled people, reported that they felt more independent, with a better quality of life.

(d) Scheme D – Healthy Living and Healthy Choices (Six projects)
Projects are concerned with making residents better informed, to enable them to make healthier choices, and increasing engagement in physical activity. Success has included:

- London Tigers' Exercise for Health (BAME Women, Children and Young People) organised multi-sport and physical activities during the October 2022 half-term holiday.
- Newark Youth London's Healthy-Active-Together project supported 226 children, young people and adults with a range of sports and physical activities.
- The Bangladesh Youth Movement's Live Healthy Enjoy Life project increased awareness of health issues for 42 women from Bangladeshi and other Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities.

(e) Scheme E – Improved Inclusion, Health and Well-being Outcomes for Disabled People and People Experiencing Mental Health Issues (Four projects)

Theme is focused on improving health and care outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues. Achievements included:

- DeafPlus' Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People in Tower Hamlets project delivered 11 activities to address health inequalities and social isolation for its beneficiaries.
- Working Well Trust's Upskill project delivered one-to-one support to 92 borough residents with mental health support needs.

3.4 Theme 2 Digital Inclusion and Awareness

(a) Scheme A: ICT Skills and Digital Careers (Three projects)

- Limehouse Project's DigITIES project's co production partnership with Royal Foundation of St Katharines facilitated a new Thursday morning Tea and Coffee sessions, to provide a warm space bank, befriending and social activities to support project beneficiaries.
- Wapping Bangladesh Association's Digital First project enabled 11 older adults to develop a better understanding and appreciation of learning how to use computers and the internet.

(b) Scheme B: Online Safety (Two projects)

- SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets's E-Safety Champions project linked digitally excluded residents to IT resources to address the cost of living crisis.
- Sporting Foundation's Building Digital Resilience project enabled 18 parents and young people to be more confident in understanding the relationship between social media and on-line grooming.

3.5 Theme 3 Advice and Information (Two projects)

- (a) End Citizens Advice Bureaux-led Advice Tower Hamlets Consortium:
- assisted 5,086 clients with social welfare advice
 - supported 1,283 beneficiaries to increase or maximise their income.
 - enabled £4,747,723 of beneficiaries' income to be increased or backdated
 - secured £1,087,987 in reduction or write off of personal debt for beneficiaries.
- (b) Island Advice Centre's Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project delivered 12 Advice Workshops on benefits issues to 187 people working in the borough's advice sector on a range of issues.

3.6 Theme 4 Employment and Skills

- (a) Areas of significant project achievement in delivering training and employment support listed against each scheme below:
- (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 its highest quarterly level of 73 hours of advice work to seven employers in Tower Hamlets on how to be better employers of disabled people.
- (c) **Scheme 4B: Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups (Four projects)**
- SocietyLinks' Tower Hamlet's Job Club enabled 15 beneficiaries to access employment and provided employment support to 29 people who were not in employment, education or training (NEET) and from workless households.
 - Stifford Centre Limited's BAME Women's Employment Support Programme delivered to its beneficiaries ESOL classes, Health & Social Care and Teaching Assistant training, digital upskilling sessions and business start-up training.
- (d) **Scheme 4C: Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries (Four projects)**
- Auto Italia South East's Learning Live! project delivered creative technology workshops to 36 young people from working class backgrounds from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities.

- Six trainees on Four Corners Ltd's ZOOM Film School successfully completed their training in a camera, production and editing programme accredited by the Open College Network and one secured paid employment.

3.7 Theme 5 Community Safety

- (a) Areas of significant project progress in delivering community safety outlined below against each scheme.
- (b) **Scheme A- Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups (Three projects)**
- Osmani Trust's Schools and Community Resilience Programme continued to work with 29 young people identified as at risk of exclusion and violence through school sessions, youthwork, plus mentoring support for 32 young people.
 - Two of the Young Influencers on Streets of Growth's Resilient Young Leaders Programme won the category for the council's Youth Awards.
- (c) **Scheme B - Improving the perception of young people in the community (Two projects)**
- Eight beneficiaries on Four Corners Ltd's Into Focus Photography project worked together and co-designed a range of photographic activities.
 - Leaders in Community's Mind the Gap project hosted a Christmas event, which was planned by its young leaders and elderly community members, with over 100 attendees.
- (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 promoted awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault amongst children and families and also delivered four community sessions.

3.8 Premises update

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. No payments to LCF projects for October 2022-December 2022 are currently outstanding due to premises issues. As outlined in paragraph 3.2 (b) above, payments are currently suspended for Real DPO's two LCF projects, post-October to December 2022 quarter, due to the absence of an agreement between this organisation and the council for its premises at Jack Dash House.

3.9 Infrastructure & Capacity Building

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, focusing 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. Its main achievements in October-December 2022 included:

- supporting 59 VCS organisations, with 72% positive of these organisations providing positive feedback on this support.
- assisting the council to hold two engagement events in December 2022 with the VCS on the Mayor's Community Grants Programme that is scheduled to commence in October 2023.
- delivering training to 12 volunteer managers on a *Volunteers and the Law* course and a peer learning session, *Volunteers with Mental Health Issues*.
- advertising 33 volunteering roles for 21 VCS organisations on the Volunteer Hub and registering 173 volunteers on the Hub.

3.10 A summary of the progress of individual LCF programme projects and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project is outlined in **Appendix 2 LCF Project Summary October 2022 – December 2022**.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The programme continues to deliver against the themes developed to address identified equalities needs, successfully supporting people from a range of protected characteristic groups, both through projects specifically addressing the needs of these groups and projects with a generic beneficiary focus.

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. Appendix 2 details the projects and programmes allocated within the overall grant budget of £11.67M.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The terms of reference of the Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee require regular reporting where grants have been given based upon a general delegation. This report complies with that requirement.
- 7.2 The Council is required to ensure it achieves statutory Best Value in the delivery of its functions. Grants form part of that statutory framework and the monitoring of the use of the grant and achieved outcomes assists in compliance with the Best Value duty.
- 7.3 The Council was obliged by a previous Best Value review to ensure that use of Council buildings was subject to an appropriate property use agreement. Therefore, entering into such an agreement was made a mandatory part of the relevant grant agreements. It is therefore lawful for the Council to withhold payment until such time as the lease is concluded in accordance with the grant terms.
-

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Local Community Fund Programme Management Arrangements
- Appendix 2 – LCF Project Summary October 2022 – December 2022

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

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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InfraTheme / Scheme	1- Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing 1A - Children, Young People & Families				
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to Youth Services 2. Provision of Early Help support to families 3. Support for young carers 				
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children and young people, in particularly girls and young women: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. have more confidence in themselves; b. are more resilient, and c. are able to, and do, access a range of spaces, activities and social opportunities across Tower Hamlets. 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. 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. 4. Children, young people and their families are listened to and their input is considered and included in decision making. 5. Young carers are supported and included; their needs and concerns are understood and are taken into account at local and strategic levels. 6. Children under 5 grow up in positive family environments and are supported to thrive. 				
Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Canaan Project / Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£115,240	Canaan Project provides activities for young women aged 11-19 on the Isle of Dogs. Working with George Green’s school and Café Forever. Activities include cooking, craft, sports, and inspirational workshops at its weekly lunch and after school clubs, as well as opportunities to join its regular trips.	Monitoring demonstrates the following was reported by girls attending lunch club: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97% feel welcome. • 97% feel safe. • 95% have tried new things. • 82% have met new people. 58% of those asked said they do not attend any other out of school activities.	GREEN During this quarter the project worked with 125 different young women across 70 different sessions. Additional activities included two social events and three day trips: ice skating, trampolining, and climbing. Their lunch clubs are continuing to grow, involving 110 different young women across three weekly lunch clubs during this quarter. The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.

PAR/20259

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Half Moon Young People's Theatre / Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£152,853	Professional theatre shows and inclusive participatory drama opportunities for and with young people that informs, challenges, and shapes their artistic potential. 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 195 young people participated in Youth Theatre sessions, 58 of whom were disabled or have additional needs. 172 Youth Theatre members performed in their end of term sharings for friends, family and members of the wider community in December 2022. <p>The project also worked with families at Ocean and Collingwood Children and Family Centres. Sessions received positive feedback from the centres' staff, parents and carers.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>All eight Youth Theatre groups had a very successful autumn term and the end of term sharings attracted full houses.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Look Ahead Care and Support / Domestic Abuse Children's Worker	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£162,086	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 organisation's LBTH Domestic Abuse Service and in the community.	<p>Four new children moved into the refuge this quarter. This brings the number of children living there up to 11.</p> <p>100% of the children are more confident in expressing their needs whether verbally, or by gestures. Mums have been supported in nurturing their children, given the circumstances they endured before coming to the service. They report an increase in their children's wellbeing, behaviour and confidence.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>There has been a new starter in the Childcare Worker post supported by this funding. Outcomes for working with other organisations are not being reported on. A meeting has been set up with the council to address this.</p> <p>Families have been supported with the increase in their cost of living. This includes donations of food, clothes, toys and essentials. They are also supported to access emergency grants, vouchers and benefits.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				Families went to Christmas fair at Stepney Farm.	The project continues to be on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
Newark Youth London / Girls in Action	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£80,725	Project aims to increase access to regular youth services by girls and young women, so that 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 in order that they can develop their leadership, communication, and organisational skills.	In this quarter, the project started the recruitment of a new cohort of project beneficiaries. This was made difficult due to the main Project Officer leaving at the end of September 2022. Seven girls and young women registered onto the project. Seven weekly sessions were delivered. The girls worked on areas of personal development. They started planning their social action project, whose focus will be on supporting local people with the cost-of-living crisis.	GREEN This project has not had a main Project Officer in place for most of this quarter. The new worker has recruited beneficiaries to the project by promoting it in local schools and creating new partnerships. The organisation continues working with the girls from the previous cohort. However, the project is still progressing against its KPIs.
Osmani Trust / Family Mentoring Project (FMP) Early Help	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£144,000	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.	Seven new cases were taken on from October 2022 alongside five existing cases. Three of these were closed during the quarter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 families accessed services that they did not access before • 7 families stated that they have developed confidence as a result of engaging with the project 	GREEN A range of interventions were used to support families. Key issues included parent-child conflict, parental conflict, mental and physical health support needs and school refusal. One family was supported through terminal illness and bereavement of parents. The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.

PDR02161

PDR00063228

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Parents reported improved confidence in parental skills. 	
St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£65,856	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. It enhances project beneficiaries' core skills, confidence, grit, motivation and equality.	<p>Outcome measurements demonstrates five members have either agreed or strongly agreed that the project has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> helped their confidence improved their resilience. <p>Results included creating a social media post about bullying and an artwork which reflects project beneficiaries' favourite inspirational quotes from around the world, which was then put up in St Hilda's café.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Themed project activities included World Mental Health Day, Black History Month and Anti Bullying Week. Additionally, a Halloween event was held, and the girls participated in an intergenerational Christmas party hosted by St Hilda's.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Stifford Centre Limited / Stifford Young Girl's Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£58,256	The Project runs a Young Girl's Club that offers 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.	<p>This quarter the project worked with 12 participants, providing cooking sessions in which the young people cooked healthy Christmas dishes and explored different cultural Christmas celebration customs.</p> <p>Topic discussions included mental health and how to aid well-being with one another. Project beneficiaries also visited different places of faith, sharing experience and ideas.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This project continues to work towards outcomes and KPIs, empowering participants to have higher life aspirations by providing opportunities for development, resulting in increased confidence, life skills and interests.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
The Yard Theatre Ltd / Tower Hamlets Teens	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£147,653	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 activities, and supports community cohesion through public events.	<p>The five young people supported into employment last quarter remain employed. All Yard Youth members remain in full time education.</p> <p>Black Excellence at Nighttime (BEAN) have worked to design a new drama-based creative project for young people to develop a drama company. The aim is to launch this in 2023.</p> <p>When asked to respond to the prompt ‘I feel well’, the average score was 7.6/10 in agreement and in response to ‘I feel purposeful in everyday life’, an average score of 7.3/10.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The third round of Schools Programme visits took place. This included visits to Wapping High School and Central Foundation Girl’s School. Visits included interactive workshops and Question & Answer session about a play.</p> <p>There are 25 youth theatre participants this new academic year, with 80% being Tower Hamlets students or residents.</p> <p>Workshops enabled students to explore a play’s themes and symbolism.</p> <p>This project continues to make good progress against the KPIs.</p>

PDR02023

Scheme:	1B – Older People
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ageing well and reducing social isolation 2. Provision of physical and health-promotion activities for older people
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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); 2. Older people are able to continue making a positive contribution to their communities; 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; 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.

P 03/09/2023

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 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 30/09/2023	£294,960	Caxton Hall is a dynamic activity centre led by older people. It involves a café, opportunities to meet neighbours and connect to other people, both young and old, in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new older people accessing services at Caxton Hall - 25 • Number of older people contributing to running the Hub Café – 8 • Number of older people feel more included and integrated as a result of participating in a community cohesion project – 28. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p> <p>Progress was made 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> <p>In February 2023 Age UK and the council agreed a lease for its premises.</p>
Age UK East London / Friend at Home	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£252,418	Matching housebound older people who would like a bit more company at home with volunteers who would like to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of isolated, housebound older people are matched with a Friend at Home and receive weekly one-hour visits – 7 	<p>GREEN</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 – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			share an enjoyable hour or two of conversation and company with them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project maintaining 145 matches • 100% of isolated, housebound older people reported an increase or stabilisation of their well-being, as measured by the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale. 	Please see report on Caxton Hall project above for progress on premises agreement.
Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London / Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£130,912	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older people participating in diet & healthy cooking habits sessions - 15 • 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 – 46. 	GREEN The Project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. Some of the activities delivered this quarter included healthy eating sessions, Tai Chi exercise, indoor games and yoga classes.
East London Out Project / Tower Hamlets LGBT Support	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£110,470	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 – 10 • 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 	GREEN The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. The project has delivered one to work support both in person and remote. The project has supported 19 new people during this quarter.

PDR03165

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			appointments and helps in accessing services. It also organises small group outings locally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of older adults with dementia are visited on a regular basis by a Befriender Advocate who is a Dementia Champion – 5. 	with these concerns has meant that staff are spending more time with the beneficiaries. The cost of living crisis is having an impact and the project is liaising more with food banks and other organisations that can provide food for the people that it works with.
Toynbee Hall / The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£165,656	This project offers holistic relational support to older people aged 50+ in Tower Hamlets. It aims to make Toynbee Hall’s existing provision at its 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of health promotion sessions delivered – 20 (with 118 attendances) Number of social activities delivered – 52 sessions (with 465 attendances) Number of user-led activities held at the Wellbeing Centre – 42 (with 337 attendances). 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is on track to achieving the desired outcomes. It is progressing well and is exceeding the targets in the areas of health promotion activity, user led activity and social activity.</p>

PDR03367

Scheme:	1C – Access, Information and Self-Management
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 – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Globe Community Project / Take Back Your Life	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£112,189	A mindfulness-based pain management programme, addressing chronic pain/illness, related social isolation and inactivity delivered by experienced, fully accredited Breathworks trainers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people per quarter report increased knowledge, awareness and confidence to self-manage health condition (through mindfulness, nutrition and exercise) – 19 Number of people per quarter report increase in levels of pain self-efficacy after five week course - 17 Number of people per quarter report decrease in levels of pain catastrophising after five week course- 17. 	GREEN 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 30/09/2023	£249,959	The Taking Control of Your Life project delivers creative 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of action plans produced – 8 90% of clients reported they felt more independent and had a better quality of service 70% reported the new services accessed had a positive effect on their life. <p>The project supports clients through providing high level of support and in-depth time with them to make information accessible. It provides home visits and</p>	GREEN (for October-December 2022. Project is currently classified as Red due to premises issue) The project has received positive feedback from beneficiaries. It is on track to achieve the

PDR00006334

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			fulfil their ambitions and also help “change the system”.	follows up with hard-to-reach clients who have differing levels of engagement.	lifetime and project outcomes.

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

PARAG 7336

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
London Tigers / Exercise for health: BAME women, children and young people	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£170,960	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 provides pathways to stay involved, excel in sports, and develop healthier habits for life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ children and young people attending project’s sport and physical activities, including health workshops, report improved health and wellbeing - 84% • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ women attending project’s sport and physical activities report improved health and wellbeing – 94% • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ women per year attending the varied sports and physical activities through the project report feeling less isolated and less lonely – 100%. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has delivered in-person sessional activities on a weekly basis this quarter, with an additional online session for those who preferred this option. This quarter’s highlights included the October half term holiday where the Project organised multi-sports activity and exercise fun days during the week. The project also shared with members useful links and resources for warm spaces and foods for those who were affected by the current cost of living crisis.</p>

PDR03771

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
MUDCHUTE ASSOCIATION / Playing out at Mudchute	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£80,000	Mudchute’s unique natural facilities 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’.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent play leisure opportunities for children and young people – 70 hours of play provision delivered this quarter, attracting approximately 2,000 people • Number of older people become involved in a voluntary capacity, working with children to pass on life skills and experiences - 8 • Number of participants from those who do not usually take part in social events, Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic community groups, those with additional needs and girls / women – 15. 	GREEN The project has delivered on the KPIs and has been able to reach/engage with families and children. Activities during the October half term were well attended. Additional funding secured enabled the project to provide donkey rides and animal handling sessions free of charge. The project is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.
Newark Youth London / Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£112,456	The Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT) project offers a wide range of sports and physical activities across the borough with the objective of engaging 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project has worked with 226 children, young people and adults in this quarter, with 18 participants registering on the project for the first time • 18 participants who have taken part in the programme have reported significant improvement to their health and wellbeing. 	GREEN The project delivered six separate sessions from four different locations in the borough. In total it delivered 53 sports and fitness sessions Project is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 participants have stated that they are less isolated and excluded after enrolling onto the project. 	
Stifford Centre Limited / Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£320,109	A free membership health club with over 20 different classes and groups per week, delivered by a consortium of VCS organisations. The Health Club is suitable for all ages and participants design the activity program alongside providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people become members per annum – 118 this quarter 95% of members reported higher levels of wellbeing after six weeks of membership 95% of members have reported improved health and wellbeing through adopting a healthier diet 95% of members report having a better understanding of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The health partnership project has delivered a wide array of health and wellbeing activities including yoga, aerobics, speed climbing, kayaking, volunteering on the farm and health information workshops in the quarter. The project is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.</p>
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM) / Live Healthy Enjoy Life [the Female Health & Development Project]	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£86,168	‘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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community women to access health support activities – 42 Number of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community /Bangladeshi women raising their awareness to a range of health issues appropriate to leading healthier lives – 42 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is progressing well. It has delivered a wide variety of health and wellbeing sessions that are accessible and tailor made for women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities. Women have demonstrated increased personal and social development during this period of the project.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			physical and mental health; peer volunteer befriending and development of social networks alleviate isolation and facilitate inclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers of women accessing the women’s forum – 6. 	
The Royal Society for Blind Children / Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£72,529.00	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 project’s first three years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participants have shown an improvement in their physical activity levels this quarter – 5 • Number of participants reported improvements in their self-confidence and resilience – 4 • Number of sessions delivered in the borough – 3. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>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.</p>

PDR03973

Scheme	1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved health outcomes for disabled people 2. People experiencing mental health issues are better supported
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Adults with complex needs (i.e who have multiple issues affecting their lives) have better health outcomes 3. Disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) are more independent b) are more aware of and more likely to participate in local services c) have a better quality of life 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

PDR00007340

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
deafPLUS / Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£180,856	A borough wide health and wellbeing project that addresses 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>Deaf participant feedback has been positive, with ice skating and cinema trips. Participants reported feeling a strong sense of community and belonging by being able to engage in these activities with other deaf people, rather than be the only deaf person. Generally, this gave them a feeling of belonging and reduced feelings of isolation.</p> <p>Participants at Mile End Leisure Centre stated that they had learnt a lot of very useful information which would help them to make their workplace and sport/leisure session more accessible for any deaf attendees.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>During this quarter the project delivered 11 activities and events and reached and worked with 14 new clients and 25 participants overall. The project is working with the council’s communications team to improve access to the LBTH website.</p> <p>Activities included a talk on 'The Cost-of-Living Crisis' and deaf awareness training at Mile End Leisure Centre.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets, KPIs and outcomes.</p>

PDR00041175

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
ICM Foundation CIC / CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£52,517	People with learning disabilities aged 18+ from Tower Hamlets work in partnership with ICM Foundation. Three times each year they design and deliver 5,000 accessible newspapers on the theme of health and wellbeing, distributed to communities that reflects the borough's diversity.	<p>The project group’s members have recently been allocated job roles based on their strengths and each participant has excelled in their role. Every member of the group has demonstrated improvement in research and communication. They produced the last edition of the newsletter in October 2022 and copies were distributed. There continues to be positive feedback from readers regarding the content and how useful it is as a means of informing people about free and affordable activities.</p> <p>100% of participants report that the project continues to be beneficial in terms of meeting people and increasing their confidence levels and skills.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project continues to progress well, providing activities aimed at reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups.</p> <p>The focus of the next newspaper is to have less written content, with more images and articles embedded with a Quick Response code, which will take readers to a video of that newspaper content.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve outcomes and lifetime targets.</p>
Woman's Trust / Therapeutic Support Groups for Women Affected by Domestic Abuse	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£77,118	Therapeutic Support Groups providing a safe, moderated space for female survivors of domestic abuse to share experiences and support each other. Groups help women recover their mental health by reducing isolation, learning from shared experiences, being	<p>The projects first evening group completed this quarter and the second is underway. 14 women registered, 12 attended at least once and 7 regular attendees.</p> <p>Participants reported moderate-very significant improvements to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stress and anxiety • confidence and self-esteem, 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The ethnically diverse group of beneficiaries has explored racism and how that has been a factor in the abuse that members experienced. Another common theme of the group was the struggles some faced as single mothers.</p> <p>This therapeutic project continues to make good progress against KPIs, enabling survivors to thrive and recover.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			empowered by supporting others and thereby gaining confidence and independence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • isolation • improved relationships with children. 	
Working Well Trust / Upskill	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£433,941	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 peers, enabling to reconnect with the local community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of residents with mental health support needs accessing one to one support per quarter – 92 • Number of over 50s residents with mental health support needs had initial engagement with Upskill- 23 • Number of over 50s residents with mental health support needs to access one to one support towards achieving short term goals – 16. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter the project was very busy with community events and partnerships, as well as an increase in referrals.</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieve the lifetime targets and project outcomes.</p>

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Theme / Scheme:	2 – Digital Inclusion and Awareness 2A – ICT Skills and Digital Careers
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to ICT support and training for older people 2. Digital skill development for children and young people <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase awareness of careers in the digital sector, and b) Provide children and young people with the opportunity to develop the skills for the digital sector.
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> a) Have increased confidence in using ICT, especially around security; b) Are able to use digital methods to access services, find information, and communicate with others, and do so more regularly; c) Have increased digital skills. 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

PDR09041377

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / DigiTIES	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£71,197	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older people have learned to use at least three ICT platforms – 11 • Number of older people have learned to use a search engine to find health information on NHS websites - 11 • Number of older people report greater confidence using ICT – 9. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project continues to deliver sessions at the Royal Foundation of St Katherine community centre, where a warm space is also provided, with tea and coffee providing an opportunity for people to come together.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Newham New Deal Partnership / @online club	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£78,080	@online club network will build the confidence of older residents (over 50s) to go online using tablet devices, learning in small	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older residents’ report increased confidence going on-line - 7 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Feedback showed that participants have already increased their confidence and what they are able</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
network Tower Hamlets			friendly groups, through taster sessions and eight-week or longer programmes of practical activities based on the needs and interests of participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older residents report able to go online to do more things – 6 • Three feedback sessions with hosting/referral organisations per year– 3. 	<p>to do online. Case study supports the delivery of work for this period.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Wapping Bangladesh Association / Digital First	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£18,861	Digital First engages socially isolated older adults from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities aged 55+, but not exclusively, living in Wapping and Shadwell, who are not computer literate and are digitally excluded. The Project delivers ICT and internet training that will help older adults to cope with facing key life transitions or challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 – 11 • More than 75% of older adults report increase social contacts and community involvement as a result of accessing the project – 9 • Number of older adults on the project report able to use online services to manage daily life tasks – 7. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has delivered on-line and face-to-face group sessions.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

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Scheme:	2B – Online Safety
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 – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / E-Safety Champions	1/10/2019 30/09/2023	£23,192	The E-Safety Champions project trains local women to become ‘champions’ for e-safety in the community. Weekly workshops cover all areas of online safety. Once trained, the project’s champions go into schools and community groups to spread their knowledge to young people and parents/carers through presentations and workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of project Champions reported feeling confident enough to make a change and tell others to do so too – 15 • Number of project participants reported taking a specific action at home to improve online safety - 22 • 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 – 80%. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project delivered face to face group sessions during this period and continued recruiting new participants onto the sessions.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Sporting Foundation / Building Digital Resilience	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£35,213	Sporting Foundation 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,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of parents and young people report being more confident in understanding the relationship between social media and online grooming – 18 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Digital Resilience programme has been successful in meeting the needs of parents and young people who take part in it and the related project milestones.</p>

PDR0004579

			managing them effectively and reducing harm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of parents and young people report increased awareness of risks pertaining to on-line activity- 26. 	The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.
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Theme / Scheme:	3 - Advice and Information
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"> 1. Increased access to social welfare advice and income from benefits 2. Improved personal budgeting, financial stability and reduction in personal debt 3. Reduction in the number of people negatively impacted by welfare reforms and housing repossessions 4. Individuals are more informed about their legal rights 5. Individuals are more informed about their housing rights 6. Increased employment security 7. Increased access to immigration/asylum advice and casework 8. Increased engagement of older people with social welfare advice services <p>Capacity building and training within the sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved coordination and cooperation between advice providers 2. Increased integration of service both within the VCS advice sector and with services in other sectors 3. Increased number of local volunteers achieving a recognised advice training accreditation 4. Improved liaison and co-ordination with public sector agencies 5. Improved access to information for providers

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
East End Citizens Advice Bureaux / Advice Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£3,696,408	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 Tower Hamlets, in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,086 clients have been assisted with social welfare advice • 1,283 clients have been supported to increase/maximise incomes • £4,747,723 of clients’ income has increased/or backdated 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Most partners in this consortium are now providing face-to-face, phone, Skype and teams appointments and all partners are inundated with clients due to the very high demand and the cost of living crisis.</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 – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			partnership with twelve local advice agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £1,087,987 debt reduction/write offs resulting in reduction in amounts of personal debt. 	
Island Advice Centre / Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£200,000	The project improves capacity, training, quality and access to the borough’s advice services. It develops coordination and cooperation between advice and other sectors, providing recruitment and training for volunteers, facilitation of the Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network, updated website of advice provision and information / factsheets, coordination of meetings, delivering formal training.	12 Advice Workshops to 187 participants on a range of issues, such as benefits, housing, homelessness, employment, and immigration.	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project continues to support Tower Hamlets’ 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>

PDR00008218

Theme / Scheme:	4 – Employment and Skills 4A - Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work
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:	1. More disabled people and people with mental health issues access work experience placements and employment opportunities 2. Disabled employees feel more comfortable and better supported in sustainable roles in the workplace 3. Disabled people have access to meaningful, relevant training and skills development 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.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
REAL DPO / THEN & NOW	01/04/2020 30/09/2023	£463,690	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of organisations engaged in each quarter and the nature of the engagement – 17 The project has provided 73 hours of one-to-one support to seven employers and has achieved 100% satisfaction rate from them. 	<p>GREEN (for October-December 2022. Project is currently classified as Red due to premises issue)</p> <p>During this quarter, the project delivered 73 hours of advice work through its one-to-one service to employers, which surpasses any figure that it had previously reported on.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve their lifetime targets.</p>

PDR0094183

Scheme:	4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups 2. Employment and volunteering opportunities for older people 3. Employment skills for vulnerable young people and those who are NEET (not in education, employment or training) 4. Employment and skills for young people at risk of achieving poor outcomes
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Older people gain life skills and secure employment and/or voluntary roles 3. Potential entrepreneurs/business founders have access to independent support and advice and increased knowledge of business and financial planning 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.

P 08350

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / Developing Potential	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£201,181	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 links with existing provision and acts as a progression route forwards for new opportunities for women in Tower Hamlets.	Women who attend accredited course will complete and gain certifications- 6.	GREEN This quarter the project has built new partnerships to provide in-house ESOL/functional skills courses and additional supplementary courses to help participants progress onto the workforce and self-employment. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / Job Club	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£61,184	This project delivers two weekly job club sessions run by its experienced employment support worker. The sessions will include access to computers and tailored employment support, including	The number of people who are NEETs and/or from workless households) who access employment support to assist their employment prospects - 29	GREEN During this quarter the project worked with many individuals on a one to one basis over a period of time, as well as some who attended sporadically to update their CV,

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			creating a CV, accessing emails, job searching, applications and using Universal Job Match.	Beneficiaries obtain an accredited training outcome (Level 2) - 12	access the internet to complete applications and to get feedback on personal statements. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
St Giles Trust / Choices Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£227,200	Supporting NEET Young people who are facing multiple disadvantages to access education, skills development and employment. The project delivers 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.	Five young people showed improved levels of mental health and wellbeing due to reduction of barriers to employment, increased confidence in their future and access to specialist mental health support as required. Number of young people progress into and complete training and education courses – 5.	GREEN This quarter, overall, was quieter regarding referrals and outcomes, with five referrals, two employment outcomes and two training outcomes. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
Stifford Centre Limited / BAME Women's Employment Support Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£121,512	This project runs 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, Somali and Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community heritage with limited English language,	Women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities gain volunteering experience by the end of the year and report that they have gained confidence– 5 Project has supported learners to grow in confidence, resilience and self-awareness. It enables learners to engage with a range of professionals, gaining insights and	GREEN The project continued to support local, long-term unemployed and economically inactive women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support in creating and updating their CVs • mock interview sessions • job search support • ESOL classes

P 051185

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			confidence and secondary education for community learning.	practical advice and transferable skills to carry through their careers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Social Care and Teaching Assistant training • digital upskilling sessions • business start-up training. <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

P 0852

Scheme:	4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Priorities:	1. Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Outcomes:	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; 2. Increased access to industry relevant training; 3. Increase in people participating in arts projects for the first time

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Auto Italia South East / Learning Live!	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£44,000	Learning Live! is a training and mentoring programme designed to support young people in Tower Hamlets progress into higher education courses, with the aim to increase access into the art and cultural industries.	Workshops delivered this quarter – 8 Number of participants that attended workshops – 36.	GREEN This quarter the project continued its Creative Technologies activity with participants in order to upskill them in the creative sector. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
Four Corners Ltd / ZOOM Film School	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£325,493	ZOOM Film School works with 90 disadvantaged residents - particularly people from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, women and disabled people - 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.	Number of participants successfully completed their accredited training programme - 6 Number of trainees gained paid employment – 1.	GREEN This quarter, eight beneficiaries began their training in person at Four Corners, with the tutors and equipment, and began pre-production for their film shoot with the charity Stitches in Time. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.

PDR05187

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Magic Me / Artworks	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£110,385	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of community partners identified/contacted for recruitment pathways – 3 • Number of trainees recruited/selected for work placement – 7. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter, three trainees graduated from the Artworks Trainee scheme.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
The Bromley by Bow Centre / Creative Communities	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£231,128	The project will equip at least 180 people from under-represented communities to increase their participation and readiness for employment in the creative sector. It 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.	<p>Number of participants from target groups are enrolled and assessed – 10</p> <p>Number of participants identified as having not previously engaged in an arts/culture activity, state they have now participated in such an activity. – 10</p> <p>Number of local people from target groups secure an arts related work placement within 3 months of completion – 2.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project worked with participants to produce textile story cloths for eventual exhibition as well as holding a Cost of Living Crisis Talk at Bromley by Bow Centre.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

P 0854

Theme / Scheme:	5 – Community Safety 5A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups
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"> a) Have increased confidence and critical thinking skills; b) Have an increased understanding of what a safe relationship is, what exploitation is, and how to spot the signs of abuse and exploitation; c) Have an emotional and actual vocabulary to articulate what is happening to them; d) Are better able to challenge and support each other around relationships.

PAG05689

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Kazzum Arts / Build	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£72,631	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.	Face to face delivery was not due to take place this school term. Facilitators have begun developing induction activities and remote activities which will be used in the future.	GREEN In this final year it was expected the project would deliver 16 weekly sessions to two groups of young people between April 2022 and July 2023 at the London East Alternative Provision (LEAP). All expected KPI’s, targets and outcomes to date achieved.
Osmani Trust / Schools and Community Resilience Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£143,821	This project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. transforms and changes the attitudes and behaviour of secondary school children; improving their confidence, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence. 2. delivers a peer programme engaging young people as ambassadors to their peers, changes 	The school project continues to support 29 young people identified as at risk of exclusion and violence, through school sessions, youthwork and mentoring. Mentoring benefitted 32 young people. Measuring interventions demonstrates that they have had a	GREEN The project delivered to two cohorts of workshops in schools. (Langdon Park school and Oakland School). It also continued to provide a peer programme through group sessions, 1-2-1 mentoring and casework. Project is on track to meet its targets.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
			attitude, promotes understanding, increase community cohesion, and ultimately empowers young people.	positive impact on the young people. Project supported three peer workers into employment.	
Streets of Growth / Young Influencers Programme	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£103,264	The programme is an innovative, impactful initiative led by and for young people (15-19 years) to enable them 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.	Project’s Young People Award Ceremony recognised the achievements and progression of 30 young people who over the last year have made significant positive changes and contributed to social action initiatives. Two Young Influencers were put forward for the LBTH Youth Awards and won their category. Projects this quarter included eight young influencers co-producing and developing a short film for young people in relation to weapon carrying and anti-knife crime.	GREEN Six new young people in this quarter, joining 19 young leaders involved since July. 100% of the young people engaged have lived experience of harm and trauma. Project is on track to overachieve expected targets.

PDR0090856

Scheme:	5B – Improving the perception of young people in the community
Priorities:	1. Improving the perception of young people in the community
Outcomes:	1. Children and young people are, and are seen to be, a positive part of the community 2. Increased community cohesion and sense of belonging 3. Residents, especially older people, people feel less wary of children and young people

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / Into Focus photography project	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£66,336	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.	Eight participants worked together and co-designed activities throughout the project. They edited and selected prints for framing, co-designed their exhibition and learnt how to install their work in the gallery. They also held a participants' reception on Saturday 17 December 2022 and sixty-two guests completed gallery visitor questionnaires.	GREEN Participants attended 12 workshops, including photo-walks, portrait studio shoots, print workshops, photogram, collage and picture framing workshops. This intergenerational project continues to make good progress against KPIs.
Leaders in Community / Project Connect	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£78,161	A group of young people recruited by LiC 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 are shared with the wider community.	100% of project participants report feeling more positive about their community and an increased sense of belonging, compared to their views before participating in the project. They all report that they have formed more positive social connections with other people across their local area.	GREEN Young leaders and elderly community members worked together to put on a Christmas event for the community this quarter. Project is on schedule to meet its targets.

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Scheme:	5C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances
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 Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (DVSA) are supported to recognise and report it.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
Hestia Housing and Support / Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£92,400	This project supports families who have experienced DVSA and who are living in a local refuge to address the trauma they have 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>100% of adults who attended the projects ‘What is Domestic Abuse’ session reported that they understood the different types of domestic abuse and felt confident to use and share the organisation’s Brightsky app to report on domestic abuse.</p> <p>Two workshops targeting young people were attended by 25 participants. 100% of them reported being confident in their understanding of what a healthy relationship looked like and what was and was not acceptable. This was up from 0% at the start of the session.</p> <p>Project partner Nour has been promoting domestic abuse awareness on its social media accounts, with content reaching audiences between several hundred to several thousand.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Four sessions of the Freedom Programme were provided to the women living in the refuge.</p> <p>Hestia also delivered four community events, attended by 65 women, 25 young people, and 30 children.</p> <p>A session at the William Davies School entitled ‘Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse’ also took place.</p> <p>The project is on schedule to meet its KPIs.</p>

PDR00009258

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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
P 0 5 0 5 0 3	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£1,040,000	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. Partner: Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of VCS organisations supported – 59 • Number of volunteer managers being trained – 12 • Number of VCS organisations with improved volunteering practices – 4 • Number of VCS organisations advertised their volunteering roles through the Volunteering Hub: 21 • Number of volunteering roles advertised on behalf of VCS organisations on the Hub: 33 	GREEN The partnership project is making good progress against its KPIs.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Oct 22 – Dec 22	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new registrations on the Volunteering Hub: 173. 	

P 03/03/2023

<p style="text-align: center;">Grants Determination Sub-Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">08 November 2023</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Robin Beattie, Acting Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report – January 2023 – March 2023</p>	

Executive Summary

The performance report for the Local Community Fund programme covers the period January 2023 to March 2023 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 January 2023 – March 2023
2. Note the performance of the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project as set out in 3.9.
3. Note the current Red RAG rating for Real DPO's two LCF projects due to premises issues, as outlined in paragraph 3.2 (b).

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee (GDSC) 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.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 Information relating to various aspects of project and monitoring activity is contained within the report to provide 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.

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 9th 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 (now re-scheduled to commence in November 2023). The cost of this extension amounts to £1,329,616.

(c) The delivery of the LCF Programme has been supported by the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme. At GDSC meeting on 3rd July 2019 it was agreed that funding of £780,000 from this programme would be allocated between October 2019 to September 2022 to Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS) to deliver infrastructure support for local VCS organisations and support the VCS in strategic partnership working. It was agreed at GDSC meeting on 25th January 2023 that funding for THCVS to deliver this programme would be extended from October 2022 to September 2023, on the basis of a £260,000 grant.

(d) Cabinet agreed at its meeting on 29th March 2023 to authorise the Chief Executive to agree to an extension of four weeks for current core Council grant funded VCS services – the Local Community Fund (LCF) and the

Infrastructure & Capacity Building programmes - beyond their scheduled end date of 30th September 2023. This was agreed to enable these services to remain in operation until the new Mayor's Community Grant Programme starts in November 2023. This extension was subsequently confirmed by the Chief Executive for the whole month of October 2023 at a total cost of £241,304. The Council is expecting its VCS funded projects operating in October 2023 to be delivering on a basis which is proportionate to a standard month of activity for individual projects.

3.2 Overview of January-March 2023

- (a)** LCF providers are making good progress towards delivering their Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and project outcomes, enabling local residents to fulfil their potential and access required support. They have supported local residents in need during the cost of living crisis.
- (b)** 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. Of the 49 LCF projects 47 were classed as Green for the January 2023-March 2023 quarter, as was Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service's (THCVS) Infrastructure & Capacity Building Project, enabling payments to be made for these projects for that quarter. Two LCF projects, managed by Real DPO have, post October 2022-December 2022 quarter, been classified as Red due to premises issues – the NOW and THEN project and Taking Control of Your Life projects. A satisfactory agreement is not yet in place between the Council and Real DPO for its premises at Jack Dash House on the Isle of Dogs. The Council is liaising with Real DPO to reach a satisfactory agreement.

3.3 Theme 1 Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing

- (a)** This theme involves five schemes focusing on promoting wider health and well-being for local residents, including a range of services targeted at specific protected characteristic groups:
 - Scheme 1A - Children, Young People and Families (Eight projects)
 - Scheme 1B – Older People (Seven projects)
 - Scheme 1C – Access, Information and Self-Management (Two projects)
 - Scheme 1D – Healthy Living and Healthy Choices (Six projects)
 - Scheme 1E – Improved Inclusion, Health and Well-being Outcomes for Disabled People and People Experiencing Mental Health Issues (Four projects)
- (b)** Notable project achievements in January-March 2023 quarter included:
 - Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs project launched a new girl's lunch clubs in St Pauls Way Trust School in partnership with East London Tabernacle

- Newark Youth London's Girls in Action project organised two foodbank days with partners - one on the Isle of dogs and one on Stepney
- Age UK East London's Caxton Hall project enabled 31 older people to feel more included and integrated through participation in a community cohesion project
- Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours' Older People's Befriending Project distributed over 200 gift packs to beneficiaries, many of whom live alone and who spent Christmas without any company
- London Tigers / Exercise for health: BAME Women, Children and Young People project celebrated International Women's Day, where its female beneficiaries were recognised for their efforts to participate in workout classes and other events.

3.4 Theme 2 Digital Inclusion and Awareness

(a) This theme involves two schemes whose focus includes promoting access to IT training and support for older people, digital skills development for children and young people and promoting on-line safety for children and young people.

- Scheme 2A - ICT Skills and Digital Careers (Three projects)
- Scheme 2B - Online Safety (Two projects)

(b) Areas of project progress in January-March 2023 included:

- Limehouse Project's DigiTIES project enabled eight older people to make new friends and learn how to use communication platforms, such as Skype and WhatsApp
- 11 older people on Wapping Bangladesh Association's Digital First project developed a better understanding and appreciation of the benefits of learning how to use computers and navigate around the internet
- SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets's E-Safety Champions project trained eight women to become e-champions in the community.

3.5 Theme 3 Advice and Information (Two projects)

(a) This theme has two projects, one providing direct social welfare advice to residents and the other providing capacity building and training for VCS providers and volunteers in this sector.

(b) End Citizens Advice Bureaux-led Advice Tower Hamlets Consortium:

- assisted 5,351 clients with social welfare advice
- supported 1,514 beneficiaries to increase or maximise their income.

- enabled £4,543,298 of beneficiaries' income to be increased or backdated
 - secured £1,190,861 in reduction or write off of personal debt for beneficiaries.
- (c) Island Advice Centre's Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project delivered 11 Advice Workshops on benefits issues to 174 people working in the borough's advice sector on a range of issues.

3.6 Theme 4 Employment and Skills

- (a) This theme involves three schemes focusing on supporting people from socially excluded communities to access skills and employment opportunities:
- 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)
 - 4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups (Four projects)
 - 4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries (Four projects)
- (b) Project achievements in January-March 2023 included:
- Real DPO's Then and Now project delivered its highest quarter total of one-to-one support for employers (118 hours) to enable them to be more confident and competent in employing disabled people
 - five beneficiaries of SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets's Job Club obtained Level 2 qualifications
 - 14 socially and economically disenfranchised beneficiaries on Stifford Centre's BAME Women's Employment Support Programme completed ESOL training and felt able to communicate in English
 - seven trainees on Magic Me's Artworks project - which supports residents from black, Asian and multi-ethnic communities and working class backgrounds to gain knowledge, skills and confidence to access careers in the arts – were recruited or selected for relevant work placements
 - six beneficiaries on Four Corners Ltd's ZOOM Film School successfully completed their accredited training programme.

3.7 Theme 5 Community Safety

- (a) This theme involves three schemes whose work includes promoting community safety for children and young people, bringing young and old people together and supporting victims of domestic violence:
- 5A - Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups (Three projects)
 - 5B - Improving the perception of young people in the community (Two projects)
 - 5C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances (One project).
- (b) Significant areas of project progress in January-March 2023 included:
- 100% of the 26 young people who received education and support from Osmani Trust's Schools and Community Resilience Programme showed an improvement in attitudes and outlook on life
 - six of the young leaders on Streets of Growth's Young Influencers Programme planned and led on a leadership scholarship exchange trip to Belfast and the development of a young people led film to explore the issues and consequences of exploitation and harm
 - young people on the Leaders in Community's Project Connect responding to older beneficiaries' concerns about local littering by cleaning up the local area and improving the local environment
 - Hestia Housing and Support's Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets project delivering 11 community awareness events, attended by 184 adults and 26 children, on Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment.

3.8 Premises update

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. As outlined in paragraph 3.2 (b) above, payments are currently suspended for Real DPO's two LCF projects, post-October to December 2022 quarter, due to the absence of an agreement between this organisation and the Council for its premises at Jack Dash House.

3.9 Infrastructure & Capacity Building

Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS), in partnership with Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH), delivers an Infrastructure and Capacity Building project, focusing 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. Its main achievements in January-March 2023 included:

- supporting 43 VCS organisations, with 88% of these organisations providing positive feedback on this support.
- delivering training to 26 volunteer managers, courses covering volunteer management and recruitment
- advertising volunteering roles on behalf of 49 VCS organisations
- advertising 83 unique volunteering roles on behalf of VCS organisations

3.10 A summary of the progress of individual LCF programme projects and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project is outlined in **Appendix 2 LCF Project Summary January 2023 – March 2023**.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The programme continues to deliver against the themes developed to address identified equalities needs, successfully supporting people from a range of protected characteristic groups, both through projects specifically addressing the needs of these groups and projects with a generic beneficiary focus.

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. Appendix 2 details the projects and programmes allocated within the overall grant budget of £11.67M.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1** The terms of reference of the Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee require regular reporting where grants have been given based upon a general delegation. This report complies with that requirement.
- 7.2** The Council is required to ensure it achieves statutory Best Value in the delivery of its functions. Grants form part of that statutory framework and the monitoring of the use of the grant and achieved outcomes assists in compliance with the Best Value duty.
- 7.3** The Council was obliged by a previous Best Value review to ensure that use of Council buildings was subject to an appropriate property use agreement. Therefore, entering into such an agreement was made a mandatory part of the relevant grant agreements. It is therefore lawful for the Council to withhold payment until such time as the lease is concluded in accordance with the grant terms.
-

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Local Community Fund Programme Management Arrangements
- Appendix 2 – LCF Project Summary January 2023 – March 2023

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

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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Theme / Scheme	1- Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing 1A - Children, Young People & Families				
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to Youth Services 2. Provision of Early Help support to families 3. Support for young carers 				
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children and young people, in particularly girls and young women: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. have more confidence in themselves; b. are more resilient, and c. are able to, and do, access a range of spaces, activities and social opportunities across Tower Hamlets. 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. 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. 4. Children, young people and their families are listened to and their input is considered and included in decision making. 5. Young carers are supported and included; their needs and concerns are understood and are taken into account at local and strategic levels. 6. Children under 5 grow up in positive family environments and are supported to thrive. 				
Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Canaan Project / Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£117,641	Canaan Project provides activities for young women aged 11-19 on the Isle of Dogs. Working with George Green’s school and Café Forever. Activities include cooking, craft, sports, and inspirational workshops at its weekly lunch and after school clubs, as well as opportunities to join in regular trips.	Overall, in one or more dimension: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 young women demonstrated increased confidence, (self-talk, assertive decision-making, ability to vocalise strengths and weaknesses in a healthy way, self-care). • 15 young women demonstrated an increased knowledge of how to build and maintain positive relationships. • 32 young women demonstrated increased development of hopes and aspirations. 	GREEN The project worked with 186 different young women this quarter. In January the project launched a new girl’s lunch clubs in St Pauls Way Trust School in partnership with East London Tabernacle. It introduced girls’ football at Canary Wharf College. Alongside regular activities the project ran two trips for 30 young women during this quarter. The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs

P202307205

PDR0020072

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Half Moon Young People's Theatre / Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£156,037	Professional theatre shows and inclusive participatory drama opportunities for and with young people that informs, challenges, and shapes their artistic potential. 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>The three youngest groups do not return for the summer term, so they completed their impact measurement forms at the end of March.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To begin with 78% said they 'definitely' felt confident about starting Youth Theatre, but at the end 100% felt confident about being in Youth Theatre. Initially 15% participants said they felt unsure about making friends at Youth Theatre, and 21% felt unconfident about talking to people that didn't know, at the end 93% said they have made new friends at Youth Theatre. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter involved 190 Youth Theatres members, 59 of whom are disabled or have additional needs. 83% of them attended at least 80% of the sessions.</p> <p>From January to March, the project also worked with John Smith and Meath Gardens Children and Family Centres providing creative play. Sessions were well-attended and enjoyed by all, with positive feedback from families.</p> <p>The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>
Look Ahead Care and Support / Domestic Abuse Children's Worker	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£165,463	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 organisation's LBTH Domestic Abuse Service and in the community.	<p>In house Therapy is offered for the women supported by the project. Two Play Therapists support the children.</p> <p>Staff have observed the supported children look happier, engaged, and feel safe and comfortable in their surrounding with a routine in place. They are also interacting with different members of staff and forming a good bond and trust.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The worker supported families with school applications, school uniform applications and arranges a school visit before child starts school.</p> <p>A new family has been introduced. The project organised an event for International Women's Day that included activities for both the children and women.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
					The project demonstrates continued achievements in progress towards most expected KPIs and funded outcomes.
Newark Youth London / Girls in Action	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£82,406	Project aims to increase access to regular youth services by girls and young women, so that 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 in order that they can develop their leadership, communication, and organisational skills.	Increase in girls and young women accessing youth services and activities, with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 new participants registering for the project during the quarter and 65% of all participants attending each session. • 20 participants delivered social action projects for others, increasing their leadership skills and setting up their own initiatives. • 11 participants increased their accredited qualifications by achieving an Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN) Leadership course. 	GREEN Project delivered 13 weekly sessions from Hailebury Youth Hub to 20 active participants. During this quarter the focus was on delivery of social action projects focusing on the cost-of-living crisis. The project participants were involved in organising two foodbank days, one on the Isle of Dogs, in partnership with Docklands Community Initiative and Just Smiles, and the other in Stepney, in partnership with Redcoat Community Centre and Just Smiles. The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.
Osmani Trust / Family Mentoring Project (FMP) Early Help	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£147,000	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	Outcomes reported for the eight families actively engaging with the project included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of parents reporting a better understanding of their children/young person. 	GREEN In this period 11 families were referred to the project by social services, school social workers, clinical therapists. Out of the 11 families, eight of them actively engaged with the project.

PDR007207

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			them to thrive in healthy and safe families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four parents felt more confident with exploring different strategies for dealing with behaviour issues. • eight parents felt they were more confident in dealing with parenting issues as well as knowing where to go for further help. 	<p>Regular weekly mentoring sessions took place for both parents and young people. The total number of young people who had mentoring was 10.</p> <p>The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>
P & R 2023/4 St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£67,228	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. It enhances project beneficiaries' core skills, confidence, grit, motivation, and equality.	Staff report weekly sessions have enabled the girls to build confidence and resilience around each other and to build a healthy and strong relationship as a group. The girls feel safe enough to discuss issues and problems with their peers and provide support and help where needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • five participants reported an increase in confidence • five girls and young women have developed skills through activities and workshops to be a support system for others • Participants were involved in an intergenerational activity. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this period the project worked with St Margaret's House on a theatre project whereby the girls have been creating a play to showcase at St Hilda's. They took part in workshops led by expert facilitators that will result in a performance in May.</p> <p>Other activities included an intergenerational International Women's Day event resulting in over 80 participants, including older Tower Hamlets residents and young girls.</p> <p>The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Stifford Centre Limited / Stifford Young Girl's Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£59,470	The Project runs a Young Girl's Club that offers 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.	10 girls participated with 100% participants reporting they feel less isolated and happier because of accessing the activities.	GREEN This quarter the girls project ran healthy workshops. 10 girls participated. The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.
The Yard Theatre Ltd / Tower Hamlets Teens	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£150,729	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 activities, and supports community cohesion through public events.	In this second term of the academic year, the project began a second round of bench marking with participants. When asked to respond to the prompt 'I feel well', the average score was 7.9 in agreement (an increase of 4% from the last quarter) and in response to 'I feel purposeful in everyday life', an average score of 7.8 (an increase of 7% from the last quarter). The five young people supported with employment last year are still in work.	GREEN Yard Youth experimented with a new structure this quarter, working in three session modules exploring different forms of theatre-making, inviting a guest artist who specialises in the form for each module. Feedback has been positive from participants and facilitators. Co-production activities has resulted in drawing up plans for a new theatre programme for 15 - 19-year-olds called The Playground. The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.

PDR097209

Scheme:	1B – Older People
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ageing well and reducing social isolation 2. Provision of physical and health-promotion activities for older people
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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); 2. Older people are able to continue making a positive contribution to their communities; 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; 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.

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Age UK East London / Caxton Hall, a dynamic activity centre led by older people for the whole community.	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£301,105	Caxton Hall is a dynamic activity centre led by older people. It involves a café, opportunities to meet neighbours and connect to other people, both young and old, in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new older people accessing services at Caxton Hall - 25 • Number of older people contributing to running the Hub Café – 7 • Number of older people feel more included and integrated as a result of participating in a community cohesion project – 31. 	<p>GREEN In February 2023 Age UK and the council agreed a lease for its premises.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Age UK East London / Friend at Home	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£257,677	Matching housebound older people who would like a bit more company at home with volunteers who would like to share an enjoyable hour or two of conversation and company with them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of isolated, housebound older people are matched with a Friend at Home and receive weekly one-hour visits – 14 • Project maintaining 80 matches between beneficiaries and volunteers 	<p>GREEN The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of isolated, housebound older people reported an increase or stabilisation of their well-being, as measured by the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale. 	
Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London / Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£133,639	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of older people participating in diet & healthy cooking habits sessions - 15 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 – 49. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Activities delivered this quarter include healthy eating sessions, Tai Chi exercise, indoor games and meditation classes.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
East London Out Project / Tower Hamlets LGBT Support	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£112,771	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of LGBT people over 50 accessing new social activity per year and reporting on increased social connections, increased social activity and feeling less lonely – 10 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 better quality of life three months after start of service – 40 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Overall the project is progressing well. The project regularly promotes the groups and the opportunity for training. It has delivered one-to-one work support both in person and remotely.</p> <p>The project has supported 22 new people during this quarter.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			available to other organisations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of training sessions delivered to organisations – 3. 	
St Hilda's East Community Centre / Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£122,500	'Feeling Good!' wellbeing project is based in Weavers Ward and open to older people from throughout the borough, Monday-Friday. It provides nutritious lunches and invigorating opportunities - from indoor sport, IT learning, singing, art, intergenerational activities with schoolchildren, outings and quizzes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of older people attending the varied 'Feeling Good!' activities programme – 40 Number of people reported that they felt less isolated and lonely -34 Number of people reported an improvement in their health & wellbeing – 10. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Sadler's Wells partnership group performed at St Hilda's International Women's Day event, as well as at Sadler's Wells Theatre at their 'Get Into Dance' festival. Staff reported it was amazing to see how much the group have bonded and grown in confidence since starting the project, performing in front of a large audience.</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours (THFN)/ Older Peoples Befriending Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£204,167	THFN provides befriending and advocacy services to older people in the borough. Its team of befriender advocates provides regular one to one support to people in their own homes, assists with making appointments and helps in accessing services. It also organises small group outings locally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of isolated older adults are visited by a befriender advocate on a fortnightly basis – 15 Number of older adults with dementia are visited on a regular basis by a Befriender Advocate who is a Dementia Champion –15. Number of older people taking up volunteering opportunities to provide support to other older people - 2 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Progress towards all targets is going well. This is generally a quiet period as weather restrictions prevent outings. However, clients are still escorted to dementia related activities. The focus is thus on activities that can be undertaken at home with the client, that help stimulate the brain. During this period, THFN distributed over 200 gift packs as many clients live alone and spent Christmas without company.</p>

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
					<p>The project find this gives a boost to the beneficiaries’ mental health.</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Toynbee Hall / The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£169,107	This project offers holistic relational support to older people aged 50+ in Tower Hamlets. It aims to make Toynbee Hall’s existing provision at its 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals (older people) attending health promotion sessions at the Wellbeing Centre – 34 (with 274 attendances). • Number of social activities delivered – 54 sessions (with 487 attendances) • Number of user-led activities held at the Wellbeing Centre – 42 (with 299 attendances). 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is progressing well and is exceeding the targets in the areas of health promotion activity, user led activity and social activity.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

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Scheme:	1C – Access, Information and Self-Management
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

PDR021380

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Globe Community Project / Take Back Your Life	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£114,526	A mindfulness-based pain management programme, addressing chronic pain/illness, related social isolation and inactivity delivered by experienced, fully accredited Breathworks trainers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people per quarter report increased knowledge, awareness and confidence to self-manage health condition (through mindfulness, nutrition and exercise) – 8 Number of people per quarter report increase in levels of pain self-efficacy after five week course - 6 Number of people per quarter report decrease in levels of pain catastrophising after five week course - 8. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has delivered well against the KPIs for this quarter.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Real DPO Ltd / Taking Control of Your Life (TCOYL)	01/04/2020 31/10/2023	£255,166	The Taking Control of Your Life project delivers creative 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of action plans produced – 15 90% of clients reported they felt more independent and had a better quality of service 80% reported the new services accessed had a positive effect on their life. <p>The project supports clients through providing high level of support and in-depth time with them to make information accessible. It provides home visits and</p>	<p>RED</p> <p>(For Jan-Mar 2023. Project is currently classified as Red due to premises issue)</p> <p>The project has received positive feedback from beneficiaries.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			fulfil their ambitions and also help “change the system”.	follows up with hard-to-reach clients who have differing levels of engagement.	The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.

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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
London Tigers / Exercise for health: BAME women, children and young people	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£174,522	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 provides pathways to stay involved, excel in sports, and develop healthier habits for life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ children and young people attending project’s sport and physical activities, including health workshops, report improved health and wellbeing - 95% • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ women attending project’s sport and physical activities report improved health and wellbeing – 92% • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ women per year attending the varied sports and physical activities through the project report feeling less isolated and less lonely – 82%. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has delivered in-person activities on a weekly basis this quarter, with additional online sessions.</p> <p>The key highlight of this quarter was celebrating International Women's Day where the women participating in the project were recognised for the efforts they made to participate in the workout classes and other events.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

PDR0021002

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
MUDCHUTE ASSOCIATION / Playing out at Mudchute	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£81,667	Mudchute’s unique natural facilities 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’.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent play leisure opportunities for children and young people – 85 hours of play provision delivered this quarter, attracting approximately 1,900 people • Number of children who do not usually interact in social events outside of school or home will participate in the project each year - 25 • Number of participants from those who do not usually take part in social events, Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic community groups, those with additional needs and girls / women – 50. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has continued to be extremely popular and very well attended throughout the winter months, despite some very cold and often extremely wet weather. February was an extremely busy month as the project ran a half term play scheme that attracted hundreds of participants each day.</p> <p>Staff have noticed recently how very many neurodivergent children are attending and particularly at half term.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Newark Youth London / Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£114,799	The Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT) project offers a wide range of sports and physical activities across the borough with the objective of engaging inactive young people (10 to 25) and their families in regular sports and physical activities to improve health and wellbeing and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project has worked with 150 children, young people and adults this quarter, with 25 participants registering on the project for the first time • Number of participants report improved health and wellbeing - 25 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this quarter the project delivered eight separate sessions from five different locations in the borough. In total the project delivered 64 sports and fitness sessions. Due to exams taking place in St. Pauls Way School Sports Hall and Ramadan 2023, the project had to cancel some of the sessions towards the end of March as majority of the participants were</p>

PDR00908217

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			reduce isolation and exclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participants report less isolation after enrolling onto the project – 11. 	fasting and did not want to engage in sports and physical activities. The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
Stifford Centre Limited / Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£326,778	A free membership health club with over 20 different classes and groups per week, delivered by a consortium of VCS organisations. The Health Club is suitable for all ages and participants design the activity program alongside providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people become members per annum – 108 this quarter 90% of members reported higher levels of wellbeing after six weeks of membership 90% of members have reported improved health and wellbeing through adopting a healthier diet 88% of members report having a better understanding of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. 	GREEN The health partnership project has delivered a wide array of health and wellbeing activities, including yoga, aerobics, speed climbing, kayaking, volunteering on the farm and health information workshops in the quarter. The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM) / Live Healthy Enjoy Life [the Female Health & Development Project]	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£87,963	‘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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community women to access health support activities – 41 Number of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community /Bangladeshi women raising their awareness to a range of health issues appropriate to leading healthier lives – 41 	GREEN The project is progressing well. It has delivered a wide variety of health and wellbeing sessions that are accessible and tailored for women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities. Project participants’ have demonstrated increased personal and social development during this period.

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			and manage their own physical and mental health; peer volunteer befriending and development of social networks alleviate isolation and facilitate inclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers of women accessing the women’s forum – 6. 	The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
The Royal Society for Blind Children / Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£74,040	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participants report improvements in their self-confidence and resilience – 4 • Number of participants report that their health has improved - 3 • Number of sessions delivered in the borough – 3. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this quarter two new young people enrolled onto the project, which delivered three sessions in the borough. The project continued to carry out regular one-to-one calls with young people, ensuring they are receiving the support they need. It also built on its links within the borough through increased engagement work with Children and Family Centres as well as consultations with young people.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

PDR0908519

Scheme	1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved health outcomes for disabled people 2. People experiencing mental health issues are better supported
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Adults with complex needs (i.e who have multiple issues affecting their lives) have better health outcomes 3. Disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) are more independent b) are more aware of and more likely to participate in local services c) have a better quality of life 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

PDR0022086

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
deafPLUS / Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£184,624	A borough wide health and wellbeing project that addresses 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>Feedback from participants has been positive and demonstrated movement in line with funded outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 service users reported an improvement in their feelings of isolation when accessing events. • two families accessed the various half term and school holiday activities. • 10 clients reported a positive increase in their health and wellbeing. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>11 activities delivered to deaf and hard of hearing people in Tower Hamlets. This quarter the organisation provided its Face Yoga course, three events - one of which targeted families with younger children - and Thursday afternoon Wellbeing sessions that included “What is exercise?” “Breast Cancer Awareness”, “Heart Disease Prevention” and “Weight and Obesity”. The project also delivered a deaf awareness course to Better - a sport and leisure group.</p> <p>The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
ICM Foundation CIC / CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£53,611	People with learning disabilities aged 18+ from Tower Hamlets work in partnership with ICM Foundation. Three times each year they design and deliver 5,000 accessible newspapers on the theme of health and wellbeing, distributed to communities that reflects the borough's diversity.	<p>The spring edition of the newspaper was printed at the end of March and has been distributed. The group are currently working on the summer edition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of the newspaper group report they feel more confident and less socially isolated. • Overall, for all activities, 98% of participants report feeling more informed. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is continuing co-production activities, including reviewing feedback from other organisations about the videos included in the spring edition of the newspaper and whether people have found them useful, alongside the articles in the newspaper. It will use this information to develop the digital aspect of the newspaper.</p> <p>The project demonstrates continued achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>
Woman's Trust / Therapeutic Support Groups for Women Affected by Domestic Abuse	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£78,724	Therapeutic Support Groups providing a safe, moderated space for female survivors of domestic abuse to share experiences and support each other. Groups help women recover their mental health by reducing isolation, learning from shared experiences, being empowered by supporting others and thereby gaining confidence and independence.	<p>80% of the five participants completing questionnaires reported improvements in stress and anxiety levels.</p> <p>One woman said: "I feel more confident, less alone, more able to talk about things, not as sad." One woman said: "Having someone else to talk to and not feeling so alone was really positive for me." Another said: "Sharing my feelings and thoughts with others that are like me was so helpful."</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Three groups completed their sessions this quarter and a new group was started, helping existing women that would benefit from ongoing support. Other reported positive impacts of the provision include participants taking up new career pathways and significant increases in confidence levels</p> <p>The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>

PDR08221

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Working Well Trust / Upskill	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£442,981	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 peers, enabling to reconnect with the local community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of residents with mental health support needs accessing one to one support per quarter – 47 • Number of over 50s residents with mental health support needs offered access to peer support, following initial engagement with Upskill- 23 • Number of over 50s residents with mental health support needs to access one to one support towards achieving short term goals – 14. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter has seen continued increase in beneficiary engagements with Upskill. Upskill have also continued with partnerships in the community, including Age UK, supporting over 50s back into various opportunities and activities, including volunteering in their local area. Referrals have also continued across a range of organisations, both primary and secondary care organisations and other voluntary partners.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

PDR002288

Theme / Scheme:	2 – Digital Inclusion and Awareness 2A – ICT Skills and Digital Careers
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to ICT support and training for older people 2. Digital skill development for children and young people <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase awareness of careers in the digital sector, and b) Provide children and young people with the opportunity to develop the skills for the digital sector.
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> a) Have increased confidence in using ICT, especially around security; b) Are able to use digital methods to access services, find information, and communicate with others, and do so more regularly; c) Have increased digital skills. 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

PDR08223

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / DigiTIES	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£72,680	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older people have learned to use at least three ICT platforms – 8 • Number of older people made new friends and learned how to use communication platforms, such as Skype and WhatsApp - 8 • Number of older people have learned to use a search engine to find health information on NHS websites - 8 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project continues to develop co-production partnerships to provide supplementary support to its beneficiaries, enabling them to get on-line support during the cost of living crisis. In January 2023 it secured 16 refurbished smartphones from the Good Thing Foundation for socially excluded beneficiaries, including data bundles of 40GB data and free calls and texts for six months.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

PDR022390

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Newham New Deal Partnership / @online club network Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£79,707	@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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older residents’ report increased confidence going on-line – 5 • Number of older residents report able to go online to do more things – 6 • Feedback sessions with hosting/referral organisation – 1. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Project commenced a new programme at St Hilda’s East Community Centre on Thursday afternoons.</p> <p>Organisation has been successful in securing external funding for follow-up lifeskills training for residents who may have participated in the project.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Wapping Bangladesh Association / Digital First	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£19,254	Digital First engages socially isolated older adults from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities aged 55+, but not exclusively, living in Wapping and Shadwell, who are not computer literate and are digitally excluded. The Project delivers ICT and internet training that will help older adults to cope with facing key life transitions or challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 – 11 • Number of older adults report increase social contacts and community involvement as a result of accessing the project – 9 • Number of older adults on the project report being able to use 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has delivered seven sessions with 11 participants. There has been a 98% success rate in terms of beneficiaries gaining digital knowledge.</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 – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				online services to manage daily life tasks – 10.	

Scheme:	2B – Online Safety
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

PDR0022092

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / E-Safety Champions	1/10/2019 31/10/2023	£23,675	The E-Safety Champions project trains local women to become ‘champions’ for e-safety in the community. Weekly workshops cover all areas of online safety. Once trained, the project’s champions go into schools and community groups to spread their knowledge to young people and parents/carers through presentations and workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of women training to become e-safety champions, including completing test required for certificate - 8 • Number of project participants reported taking a specific action at home to improve online safety - 13 • 100% of adults and young people participating in project reported improved ability to report cyber bullying and on-line abuse. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project developed a new focus in the quarter on app security, enabling individual locks to be placed on apps on mobile phones. This enabled mothers on the project to prevent their children from accessing particular social media platforms.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Sporting Foundation / Building Digital Resilience	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£35,946	Sporting Foundation 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, managing them effectively and reducing harm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of parents have increased confidence in understanding the relationship between social media and online grooming – 22 • Number of children and young people have increased confidence in understanding the relationship 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Equality, diversity, safeguarding and mental health wellbeing is discussed in project sessions. The negative influence of “Youtube Influencers” on young people was discussed in project sessions this quarter.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

				between social media and online grooming – 31	
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PDR0022894

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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
East End Citizens Advice Bureaux / Advice Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£3,773,417	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 Tower Hamlets, in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,351 clients have been assisted with social welfare advice • 1,514 clients have been supported to increase/maximise incomes • £4,543,298 of clients’ income has been increased/or backdated 	GREEN Most project partners are now working from their main offices or from member of staffs’ home, as most have adopted a hybrid system of working. This has allowed most partners to now meet clients in the office on a face-to-face basis, as well as attending outreach projects. All partners are

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			partnership with twelve local advice agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £1,190,861 debt reduction/write offs resulting in reduction in amounts of personal debt. 	facing high demands due to the cost-of-living crisis. The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.
Island Advice Centre / Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£204,167	The project improves capacity, training, quality and access to the borough’s advice services. It develops coordination and cooperation between advice and other sectors, providing recruitment and training for volunteers, facilitation of the Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network, updated website of advice provision and information / factsheets, coordination of meetings, delivering formal training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 Advice work training workshops were delivered 174 participants attended the sessions. 	GREEN The project continues to successfully deliver Learning to Advise training and advice work training workshops, plus send monthly welfare rights information emails to over 500 professionals. The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.

PDR090929

Theme / Scheme:	4 – Employment and Skills 4A - Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work
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:	1. More disabled people and people with mental health issues access work experience placements and employment opportunities 2. Disabled employees feel more comfortable and better supported in sustainable roles in the workplace 3. Disabled people have access to meaningful, relevant training and skills development 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.

PDR0023006

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
REAL DPO / THEN & NOW	01/04/2020 31/10/2023	£473,351	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of organisations engaged by the project in the quarter – 23 The project has provided 118 hours of one-to-one support to eight employers and has achieved 100% satisfaction rate from them. 	<p>RED (For January-March 2023 project is currently classified as Red due to premises issue)</p> <p>During this quarter, the project delivered a record-breaking 118 hours of advice work through its one-to-one service to employers, which surpasses its previous highest figure of 78 hours.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

Scheme:	4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups 2. Employment and volunteering opportunities for older people 3. Employment skills for vulnerable young people and those who are NEET (not in education, employment or training) 4. Employment and skills for young people at risk of achieving poor outcomes
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Older people gain life skills and secure employment and/or voluntary roles 3. Potential entrepreneurs/business founders have access to independent support and advice and increased knowledge of business and financial planning 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.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / Developing Potential	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£205,372	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 links with existing provision and acts as a progression route forwards for new opportunities for women in Tower Hamlets.	<p>Women who attend the business start-up workshop/1:1 support session will go on to register as self-employed – 5.</p> <p>The project continued partnership working with East London Advanced Technology Training to provide in-house ESOL/functional skills courses. It delivered CPD-accredited course in Food Hygiene for six clients to support them to be job ready and to foster their aspirations to start up their own food/cooking business.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has continued to see many individuals further affected by the widening skills, social, employability, and digital skills gap. It has been flexible in supporting clients’ journeys for their own personal and professional development. The project has also ensured that health and well-being/safeguarding checks took place for clients and adapted support where necessary.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR0909731

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / Job Club	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£62,459	This project delivers two weekly job club sessions run by its experienced employment support worker. The sessions will include access to computers and tailored employment support, including creating a CV, accessing emails, job searching, applications and using Universal Job Match.	<p>The number of people that have gained accredited outcomes (Level 2) through training courses - 5</p> <p>The number of people that access employment after attending the job club - 2</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Job club has had a steady flow of service users this quarter, including a higher number of female beneficiaries. Many of these women have joined SocietyLinks’ pre-ESOL or childcare classes. Two of the beneficiaries on the second course have secured support work positions in schools and nurseries.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
St Giles Trust / Choices Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£231,933	Supporting NEET Young people who are facing multiple disadvantages to access education, skills development and employment. The project delivers 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.	<p>Five young people showed improved levels of mental health and wellbeing due to reduction of barriers to employment, increased confidence in their future and access to specialist mental health support as required.</p> <p>Number of young people progress into and complete training and education courses – 1</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has seen a drop in the number of referrals this quarter, in comparison to last quarter. The project caseworker has continued to advocate the service to potential referral partners, as well as reminding existing ones of the support available to their clients, as an offset for the lack of outcomes and decreased number of referrals.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR0023208

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Stifford Centre Limited / BAME Women's Employment Support Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£124,044	This project runs 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, Somali and Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community heritage with limited English language, confidence and secondary education for community learning.	Socially and economically disenfranchised BAME Women complete ESOL training and feel able to communicate in English - 14 BAME women gain volunteering experience by the end of the year and report that they have gained confidence - 4	GREEN This quarter the project has started with a new group of women. Following assessments and 1-2-1s, beneficiaries have shown an interest in Skills Development Training, in addition to their regular courses. The main aim of the programme is to facilitate the integration of BAME women into the community, whilst empowering them to identify their own needs, create their own solutions and make their own choices so that they have lasting improvements to the quality of their life. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.

PDR0909233

Scheme:	4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Priorities:	1. Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Outcomes:	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; 2. Increased access to industry relevant training; 3. Increase in people participating in arts projects for the first time

PDR0023100

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Auto Italia South East / Learning Live!	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£44,917	Learning Live! is a training and mentoring programme designed to support young people in Tower Hamlets progress into higher education courses, with the aim to increase access into the art and cultural industries.	Workshops/sessions delivered this quarter – 5	GREEN This quarter the project continued with its Creatives Futures sessions with students in order to upskill them in regard to the creative industries sector. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
Four Corners Ltd / ZOOM Film School	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£332,274	ZOOM Film School works with 90 disadvantaged residents - particularly people from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, women and disabled people - 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.	Number of participants successfully completed their accredited training programme - 6 Number of participants who can demonstrate knowledge of key entry-level jobs in the creative media industry - 4	GREEN This quarter seven beneficiaries began their training at Four Corners and started pre-production for their shoot with the charity Poplar Union. This training covered production, camera, composition, lighting editing and sound. Beneficiaries were assigned tasks to support the concepts and theory of the training and shot a promotional video for Poplar Union.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
					The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
Magic Me / Artworks	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£112,685	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.	<p>Number of trainees recruited/selected for work placements – 7</p> <p>Number of trainees have increased knowledge of community arts administration and coordination – 4</p> <p>Number of people report increased confidence and skills in applying for jobs in the arts and cultural industries - 5</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter, three trainees were recruited and onboarded. They will be completing their traineeship at the end of April 2023.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
The Bromley by Bow Centre / Creative Communities	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£235,943	The project will equip at least 180 people from under-represented communities to increase their participation and readiness for employment in the creative sector. It 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.	<p>Number of participants from target groups are enrolled and assessed – 22</p> <p>Number of participants identified as having not previously engaged in an arts/culture activity state they have now participated in such an activity. – 22</p> <p>Number of local people from target groups secure an arts related work</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this quarter, the project’s alumni were offered to deliver some creative taster sessions including bracelet making, botanical flowers water colour painting and block printing.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR0000235

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				placement within 3 months of completion – 1	

P 2302

Theme / Scheme:	5 – Community Safety 5A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups
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"> a) Have increased confidence and critical thinking skills; b) Have an increased understanding of what a safe relationship is, what exploitation is, and how to spot the signs of abuse and exploitation; c) Have an emotional and actual vocabulary to articulate what is happening to them; d) Are better able to challenge and support each other around relationships.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Kazzum Arts / Build	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£72,631	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.	There were no planned weekly sessions this quarter in line with application and project funding.	GREEN During this quarter co-production activities took place with students and other key stakeholders to develop sessions taking place up to the end the end of July. In addition, the project has worked with the head of the inclusion unit and facilitators to develop its offer in order to meet the needs of autistic young people and those identifying as non-binary. The project demonstrates continued progress on achievements towards expected KPIs.
Osmani Trust / Schools and Community Resilience Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£146,817	This project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. transforms and changes the attitudes and behaviour of secondary school children; improving their confidence, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 young people received education and mentoring support from the project • 100% show an improvement in attitudes and outlook on life 	GREEN The project worked in two secondary schools with two new cohorts and successfully completed the programme by providing workshops, 1-2-1 mentoring, supporting families and conducting detached work outside

PDRAG 0237

PDR023804

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 81% demonstrated they can make positive life choices when they leave the project 81% demonstrated they have a basic understanding on personal and legal consequences of violent crime / Anti-Social Behaviour when they leave project. 	<p>the school facilities during home times.</p> <p>Work also took place with the two peer groups from last quarter, providing youth activities, youth residential and community social action projects.</p> <p>The project demonstrates continued progress on achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>
Streets of Growth / Young Influencers Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£105,415	<p>The programme is an innovative, impactful initiative led by and for young people (15-19 years) to enable them 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 young people are actively involved in the programme, working on initiating social action projects, supporting each other to maintain positive lifestyles, including 25 new participants this quarter. 80 young people received leadership and life skills support and training, such as exploitation awareness, healthy relationships etc 100% of participants have made positive progression over the last 12 months of the leadership programme, with demonstrated 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Increased work with schools resulted in 80 referrals of new young people to the organisation. All the young people received coaching and assessment sessions and training. 25 progressed onto the project and completed intensive leadership skill training this quarter. Ten of the new young leaders are co-producing a social action project to take place in April.</p> <p>Six young leaders planned and led on a leadership scholarship exchange trip to Belfast and the development of a young people-led film to explore the issues and consequences of exploitation and harm.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				reduced harm and positive progression • 15 young people completed a Healthy Relationships training course, which they will be able to train/ facilitate with their peers.	The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.

Scheme:	5B – Improving the perception of young people in the community
Priorities:	1. Improving the perception of young people in the community
Outcomes:	1. Children and young people are, and are seen to be, a positive part of the community 2. Increased community cohesion and sense of belonging 3. Residents, especially older people, people feel less wary of children and young people

PDR024006

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / Into Focus photography project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£67,718	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.	Between 9 February and 30 March, all 12 participants attended eight Thursday afternoon workshops. They learnt camera skills and lighting techniques during two portrait studio workshops, plus photograms, picture editing and exhibition printing during six darkroom workshops. Tracking of outcomes is due to take place next quarter.	GREEN Project 7 started on 9 February 2023 and 13 workshops will run until 4 May, with an exhibition scheduled between 11-20 May 2023. 12 participants were selected with equal numbers of older and younger participants. The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.
Leaders in Community / Project Connect	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£79,790	A group of young people recruited by LiC 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 are shared with the wider community.	The project successfully promoted inter-generational connections and fostered a sense of community, with both older and young people benefitting from the joint experiences. One of the older people stated “We’re really enjoying using the new words the young people have been teaching us!” Younger participants fed back that they learned a lot from the elders and	GREEN 430 beneficiary attendances at project events and activities this quarter. Younger participants volunteered in elders’ group in exercise and coffee morning sessions. Overall, the project successfully promoted intergenerational connections and fostered a sense of community.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>appreciated the opportunity to connect with a different generation.</p> <p>In addition, the young people also heard that the elders were unhappy with some littering around the area. They acted and spent a few hours cleaning the area.</p>	<p>The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.</p>

P 2023/07/1

Scheme:	5C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances
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 Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (DVSA) are supported to recognise and report it.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Hestia Housing and Support / Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£94,325	This project supports families who have experienced DVSA and who are living in a local refuge to address the trauma they have 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.	The Freedom programme continues to be delivered to women living in the refuge. With former residents moving on from the refuge the project has enabled a new group of families to flee to the refuge and to safety. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 94% of the children participating in the project activities this quarter demonstrate improved levels of self-confidence. 100% of attendees at community awareness events reported greater understanding of domestic abuse. 	GREEN As well as the work in the refuge there were 11 community awareness events on Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment this quarter, attended by 184 adults and 26 children. The community element of the project has also been active at promoting the work on social media. The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.

PDR0024208

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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
P R O J E C T S Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS) / Infrastructure and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£1,040,000	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. Partner: Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of VCS organisations supported – 43 • Number of volunteer managers being trained – 26 • Number of VCS organisations with improved volunteering practices – 7 • Number of VCS organisations advertised their volunteering roles through the Volunteering Hub - 49 • Number of volunteering roles advertised on behalf of VCS organisations on the Hub - 83 	GREEN The partnership project is making good progress against its KPIs.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Jan 23 – Mar 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new registrations on the Volunteering Hub: 173. 	

Grants Determination Sub-Committee 08 November 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Robin Beattie, Acting Director of Strategy, Improvement & Transformation	Classification: Unrestricted
Local Community Fund (LCF) Performance Report April 2023 – June 2023	

Executive Summary

The performance report for the Local Community Fund programme covers the period April 2023 to June 2023 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 2023 – June 2023
2. Note the performance of the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project as set out in 3.9.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee's (GDSC) 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.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1** Information relating to various aspects of project and monitoring activity is contained within the report to provide 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.

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 9th 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 (now re-scheduled to commence in November 2023). The cost of this extension amounts to £1,329,616.
- (c)** The delivery of the LCF Programme has been supported by the Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme. At GDSC meeting on 3rd July 2019 it was agreed that funding of £780,000 from this programme would be allocated between October 2019 to September 2022 to Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS) to deliver infrastructure support for local VCS organisations and support the VCS in strategic partnership working. It was agreed at GDSC meeting on 25th January 2023 that funding for THCVS to deliver this programme would be extended from October 2022 to September 2023, on the basis of a £260,000 grant.
- (d)** Cabinet agreed at its meeting on 29th March 2023 to authorise the Chief Executive to agree to an extension of four weeks for current core Council grant funded VCS services – the Local Community Fund (LCF) and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building programmes - beyond their scheduled end date of 30th September 2023. This was agreed to enable these services to remain in operation until the new Mayor’s Community Grant Programme starts in November 2023. This extension was subsequently confirmed by the Chief Executive for the whole month of October 2023 at a total cost of £241,304.

3.2 Overview of April-June 2023

- (a)** LCF providers are making good progress towards delivering their Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and project outcomes, enabling local residents to fulfil their potential and access required support.
- (b)** 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. All 49 LCF projects were classed as Green for the April 2023-June 2023 quarter, as was Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service's (THCVS) Infrastructure & Capacity Building Project, enabling payments to be made for these projects for that quarter.

3.3 Theme 1 Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing

- (a)** This theme involves five schemes focusing on promoting wider health and well-being for local residents, including a range of services targeted at specific protected characteristic groups:

- Scheme 1A - Children, Young People and Families (Eight projects)
- Scheme 1B – Older People (Seven projects)
- Scheme 1C – Access, Information and Self-Management (Two projects)
- Scheme 1D – Healthy Living and Healthy Choices (Six projects)
- Scheme 1E – Improved Inclusion, Health and Well-being Outcomes for Disabled People and People Experiencing Mental Health Issues (Four projects)

- (b)** Notable project achievements in April-June 2023 quarter included:

- 10 parents participating on Osmani Trust's Family Mentoring Project Early Help project were supported to be more confident in dealing with parenting problems, whilst eight young beneficiaries were supported to feel more confident due to project's mentoring support
- Half Moon Young People's Theatre's Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People project held creative play sessions in Meath Gardens and Wapping Children and Families Centre that were attended by 41 families
- Mudchute Association's Playing Out at Mudchute project delivered 160 hours of play provision for children and young people, attracting approximately 4,400 people
- Newark Youth London's Health Active Together project participated in the Queen Mary University Festival of Communities event in Stepney Green Park by providing taster sports sessions for local residents

- deafPLUS' Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People in Tower Hamlets project supported 22 people through a variety of activities, including trampolining, a historical walk, visit to café, bowling and a signed CPR training event with the British Heart Foundation.

3.4 Theme 2 Digital Inclusion and Awareness

(a) This theme involves two schemes whose focus includes promoting access to IT training and support for older people, digital skills development for children and young people and promoting on-line safety for children and young people.

- Scheme 2A - ICT Skills and Digital Careers (Three projects)
- Scheme 2B - Online Safety (Two projects)

(b) Areas of project progress in April-June 2023 included:

- Limehouse Project's DigiTIES project enabled eleven older people to use a search engine to find health information on NHS websites
- SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets's E-Safety Champions project enabled 16 beneficiaries to feel more confident to implement changes and check their children's IT devices
- Sporting Foundation's Building Digital Resilience project supported 36 young people and 23 parents to increase their awareness and ability to spot grooming on social media.

3.5 Theme 3 Advice and Information (Two projects)

(a) This theme has two projects, one providing direct social welfare advice to residents and the other providing capacity building and training for VCS providers and volunteers in this sector.

(b) East End Citizens Advice Bureaux-led Advice Tower Hamlets Consortium:

- assisted 5,738 clients with social welfare advice
- supported 557 beneficiaries to increase or maximise their income.
- enabled £5,690,057 of beneficiaries' income to be increased or backdated
- secured £1,090,719 in reduction or write off of personal debt for beneficiaries.

(c) Island Advice Centre's Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project delivered nine Advice Workshops on benefits issues to 133 people working in the borough's advice sector on a range of issues.

3.6 Theme 4 Employment and Skills

- (a) This theme involves three schemes focusing on supporting people from socially excluded communities to access skills and employment opportunities:
- 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)
 - 4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups (Four projects)
 - 4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries (Four projects)

(b) Project achievements in April-June 2023 included:

- 17 women who attended an accredited courses through Limehouse Project's Developing Potential project will complete and gain certifications
- 10 socially and economically disenfranchised beneficiaries on the Stifford Centre's BAME Women's Employment Support Programme completed ESOL training and felt able to communicate in English
- New trainees on Four Corners' ZOOM Film School project participated in a one day in-person masterclass on the ethics of documentary making delivered by a documentary filmmaker.
- The Bromley by Bow Centre's Creative Communities project arranged a walk in the Olympic Park to enable beneficiaries to take photographs, resulting in an exhibition of their work in June 2023.

3.7 Theme 5 Community Safety

(a) This theme involves three schemes whose work includes promoting community safety for children and young people, bringing young and old people together and supporting victims of domestic violence:

- 5A - Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups (Three projects)
- 5B - Improving the perception of young people in the community (Two projects)
- 5C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances (One project).

(b) Significant areas of project progress in April-June 2023 included:

- Kazzum Arts' Build project sessions worked with 17 young people excluded from mainstream education, including a significant proportion of neuro-diverse students, to develop their communication skills and help them appreciate other people's thoughts and ideas

- 49 beneficiaries on Streets of Growth's Young Influencers Programme participated in the delivery of social action initiatives, such as the painting of a community mural
- 85% of both older and young people involved in the Leaders in Community's Project Connect reported that they have formed more positive social connections with other people across their local area, through taking part in project activities such as weekly exercise sessions and coffee mornings
- Hestia Housing and Support's Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets project delivered nine community awareness events on Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment, including six educational coffee morning sessions. The project also organised a range of activities for children in a local refuge, including drama, gardening workshops, guided science experiments and arts and crafts.

3.8 Premises update

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. As outlined in the Local Community Fund Programme Report for January-March 2023, there is currently no agreement between Real DPO, the provider of two LCF projects, and the Council for this provider's premises at Jack Dash House. However, the Council has approved outstanding payments to Real DPO for these two LCF projects - for January-March 2023 and April-June 2023 quarters - plus payment for July-October 2023 quarter, as above organisation has been engaging with the Council to secure a satisfactory premises agreement.

3.9 Infrastructure & Capacity Building

Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS), in partnership with Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets (VCTH), delivers an Infrastructure and Capacity Building project, focusing 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. Its main achievements in April-June 2023 included:

- supporting 62 VCS organisations, with 95% of these organisations providing positive feedback on this support.
- delivering training to 23 volunteer managers
- advertising volunteering roles on behalf of 42 VCS organisations
- advertising 81 unique volunteering roles on behalf of VCS organisations

3.10 A summary of the progress of individual LCF programme projects and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project is outlined in **Appendix 2 LCF Project Summary April 2023 – June 2023**.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The programme continues to deliver against the themes developed to address identified equalities needs, successfully supporting people from a range of protected characteristic groups, both through projects specifically addressing the needs of these groups and projects with a generic beneficiary focus.

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 The overall grant budget was £11.67m. Details of the projects and programmes allocated to this budget are at Appendix 2.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The terms of reference of the Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee require regular reporting where grants have been given based upon a general delegation. This report complies with that requirement.

7.2 The Council is required to ensure it achieves statutory Best Value in the delivery of its functions. Grants form part of that statutory framework and the monitoring of the use of the grant and achieved outcomes assists in compliance with the Best Value duty.

- 7.3** The Council was obliged by a previous Best Value review to ensure that use of Council buildings was subject to an appropriate property use agreement. Therefore, entering into such an agreement was made a mandatory part of the relevant grant agreements.
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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 April 2023 – June 2023

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

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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Theme / Scheme	1- Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing 1A - Children, Young People & Families				
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to Youth Services 2. Provision of Early Help support to families 3. Support for young carers 				
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children and young people, in particularly girls and young women: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. have more confidence in themselves; b. are more resilient, and c. are able to, and do, access a range of spaces, activities and social opportunities across Tower Hamlets. 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. 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. 4. Children, young people and their families are listened to and their input is considered and included in decision making. 5. Young carers are supported and included; their needs and concerns are understood and are taken into account at local and strategic levels. 6. Children under 5 grow up in positive family environments and are supported to thrive. 				
Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Canaan Project / Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£117,641	Canaan Project provides activities for young women aged 11-19 on the Isle of Dogs. Working with George Green’s school and Café Forever. Activities include cooking, craft, sports, and inspirational workshops at its weekly lunch and after school clubs, as well as opportunities to join in regular trips.	Evaluation of participant outcomes demonstrated in one or more dimension: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 79 young women increased their confidence. • 40 young women strengthened their ability to maintain positive relationships. • 79 young women increased development of hopes and 	GREEN Worked with 195 individual young women this quarter, across the range of project activities. Activities included visit to a film making workshop. Annual residential started, taking 25 young women to Calshot Activity Centre in Southampton. The project continues to perform well against grant expectations and the organisation continues to add value to project.

PDR022107

PDR00200822

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				aspirations in one or more dimensions.	
Half Moon Young People's Theatre / Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£156,037	Professional theatre shows and inclusive participatory drama opportunities for and with young people that informs, challenges, and shapes their artistic potential. 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.	97% of participants attended at least 80% of project’s drama sessions which they were scheduled to attend. A beneficiary reported: “I think it’s helpful for my confidence. I was really bad at speaking in front of people, but now I find it easier and have volunteered for Solar (drama group), which was a good experience”. Organisation created additional value to project work by providing ‘at home activity plans’, to support creative play outside of project sessions, and free tickets to a performance of <i>By the Light of the Moon</i> to the families involved with the project.	GREEN Currently 110 Youth Theatre members, of whom 43 are disabled or have additional needs. The focus has been on preparing for summer performances. Creative Play sessions were held in Meath Gardens and Wapping Children and Family Centres, involving a total of 41 families. The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.
Look Ahead Care and Support / Domestic Abuse Children's Worker	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£165,463	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	In house Therapy is offered for the women supported by the project. Two Play Therapists support the children. Staff have observed the supported children look happier, engaged, and feel safe and comfortable in their surrounding with a routine in place.	GREEN The worker supported families with school applications, school uniform applications and school visits. A new family has been introduced to the project

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			address challenges faced by children living at organisation’s LBTH Domestic Abuse Service and in the community.	They are also interacting with different members of staff and forming a good bond and trust.	The project continues to outperform its agreed targets.
Newark Youth London / Girls in Action	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£82,406	Project aims to increase access to regular youth services by girls and young women, so that 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 in order that they can develop their leadership, communication, and organisational skills.	<p>Increase in girls and young women accessing youth services and activities, with eight new participants registering for the project during the quarter and all of them attended each session.</p> <p>Beneficiaries explored ideas for their social action project, which they hope to implement in the next quarter.</p> <p>Project has developed beneficiaries’ employability skills, supported them to create CVs and improved their interview techniques.</p>	<p>GREEN Alongside weekly sessions the project provided a workshop on Mental Health First Aid with seven attendees.</p> <p>The project develops and evolves to meet client needs and interests whilst working towards funded outcomes.</p>
Osmani Trust / Family Mentoring Project (FMP) Early Help	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£147,000	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.	<p>Reported outcomes included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> two parents felt reassured that support was available, both emotionally and being able to access services. four young people had no local knowledge at the start of mentoring and felt more aware of 	<p>GREEN 12 families actively engaged with the project this quarter.</p> <p>In addition to mentoring sessions, the project provided several activities for the participants and enabled them to access relevant services and support.</p>

PDR09/2209

PDR0021024

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>services in local area, after receiving project support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 parents felt they were more confident in dealing with problems. • eight young people felt they were more confident because of mentoring. 	The project demonstrates continued progress in achievements towards expected KPIs.
St Hilda's East Community Centre / St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£67,228	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. It enhances project beneficiaries' core skills, confidence, grit, motivation, and equality.	<p>In this period the girls put on their final Mendoza performance which was hosted in May at St Hilda's East. There were 80 visitors in the audience, including partners, family and friends and staff members. It was the first time most of the girls had done a performance in front of an audience.</p> <p>Five participants reported an increase in confidence. In feedback they voiced how the project has helped them gain confidence in speaking and taking part in activities.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In addition, participants travelled to Cheltenham Ladies College (CLC) to see the up-cycled fashion show. They are currently busy planning and preparing their own "Trashion" show to take place at St Hilda's East on the 27th of July.</p> <p>The project continues to demonstrate movement of participants towards funded outcomes.</p>
Stifford Centre Limited / Stifford Young Girl's Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£59,470	The Project runs a Young Girl's Club that offers disadvantaged young girls a safe space in which they can socialise, participate in a range of activities that encourage their wellbeing,	<p>This quarter, 15 girls participated in project activities and 12 attended at least five sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight girls reported increased levels of self-esteem. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>As well as recreation opportunities, project activities included group study sessions/peer education/peer revision, conflict management, effective communication and health and wellbeing workshops. In addition,</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			improve confidence and learn skills that are useful for their future development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% reported that project increased levels of opportunities. 	<p>some participants engaged in planning the organisation’s summer community festival event and six volunteered at the organisation’s community event in June.</p> <p>This project continues to support girls’ progress towards funded outcomes.</p>
The Yard Theatre Ltd / Tower Hamlets Teens	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£150,729	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 activities, and supports community cohesion through public events.	<p>Reflections from parents of changes they have noticed from their child, after taking part in Yard Youth this year, included:</p> <p>“I can see my daughter’s confidence. I am so happy to see her on stage”</p> <p>“Only positive changes since my child started attending The Yard”</p> <p>“I’ve seen better confidence, communication and social skills since joining”</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Highlights this quarter included Yard Youth’s premiere of their end-of-year sharing on The Yard stage. The group created a piece that explores the idea of school detentions, their reflections on their education and what life will be like once they have left school.</p> <p>No school workshops this quarter, but project continues to work with residents in groups and demonstrates progress towards outcomes, as planned.</p>

PDR 2023/1

Scheme:	1B – Older People
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ageing well and reducing social isolation 2. Provision of physical and health-promotion activities for older people
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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); 2. Older people are able to continue making a positive contribution to their communities; 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; 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.

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Age UK East London / Caxton Hall, a dynamic activity centre led by older people for the whole community.	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£301,105	Caxton Hall is a dynamic activity centre led by older people. It involves a café, opportunities to meet neighbours and connect to other people, both young and old, in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new older people accessing services at Caxton Hall - 29 • Number of older people contributing to running the Hub Café – 21 • Number of older people feel more included and integrated as a result of participating in a community cohesion project – 22 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Activities include Craft class, Light Exercise, IT class and Chi Kong as well as one-off special trips/events including: Easter celebration event, Coronation games, Mental health awareness week and trip to Kew Gardens.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Age UK East London / Friend at Home	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£257,677	Matching housebound older people who would like a bit more company at home with volunteers who would like to share an enjoyable hour or two of conversation and company with them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of isolated, housebound older people are matched with a Friend at Home and receive weekly one-hour visits – 10 (new) 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

PDR00002213

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project maintaining 86 matches between beneficiaries and volunteers 100% of isolated, housebound older people reported an increase or stabilisation of their well-being, as measured by the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale. 	
Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London / Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£133,639	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of older people participating in diet & healthy cooking habits sessions - 15 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 – 50 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Activities delivered this quarter include healthy eating sessions, Tai Chi exercise, indoor games, meditation and yoga classes.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
East London Out Project / Tower Hamlets LGBT Support	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£112,771	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,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of LGBT people over 50 accessing new social activity per year and reporting on increased social connections, increased social activity and feeling less lonely – 6 Number of disabled LGBT people or those experiencing mental health concerns attend either group or 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Overall the Project has supported 28 new people this quarter, across the group and individual support, and 57 people overall.</p> <p>The Project is going well; it regularly promotes the groups and the opportunity for training.</p>

PDR0021428

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			Individual mental health crisis prevention support provided. LGBT training available to other organisations.	individual support per year and report better life satisfaction and better quality of life three months after start of service – 28 • Number of training sessions delivered to organisations – 2	The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
St Hilda's East Community Centre / Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£122,500	'Feeling Good!' wellbeing project is based in Weavers Ward and open to older people from throughout the borough, Monday-Friday. It provides nutritious lunches and invigorating opportunities - from indoor sport, IT learning, singing, art, intergenerational activities with schoolchildren, outings and quizzes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of older people who feel more involved and included in their communities – 31 • Number of people reported that they felt less isolated and lonely -26 • Number of people reported an improvement in their health & wellbeing – 15 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Project delivers a variety of exercise classes, including seated exercise, strength training, dancercise and dance classes - these sessions support older people with increased mobility.</p> <p>Many participants feel happier after attending the different social activities, such as crafts, jewellery making and bingo. Participation enables increased wellbeing and happiness.</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours (THFN)/ Older Peoples	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£204,167	THFN provides befriending and advocacy services to older people in the borough. Its team of befriender advocates provides regular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of isolated older adults are visited by a befriender advocate on a fortnightly basis – 15 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Progress towards all targets is going well. Clients are being visited on a regular basis and those with dementia are being escorted to dementia related</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Befriending Project			one to one support to people in their own homes, assists with making appointments and helps in accessing services. It also organises small group outings locally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of older adults with dementia are visited on a regular basis by a Befriender Advocate who is a Dementia Champion –15. Number of older people attending group outing - 5 people per outing. 	<p>activities. At home activities are undertaken with clients as many are housebound. Consultation on outings has been completed and a timetable and plan are in development.</p> <p>The Project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Toynbee Hall / The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£169,107	This project offers holistic relational support to older people aged 50+ in Tower Hamlets. It aims to make Toynbee Hall’s existing provision at its 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of individuals (older people) attending health promotion sessions at the Wellbeing Centre – 40. Number of social activities delivered – 64. Number of user-led activities held at the Wellbeing Centre – 28. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project is progressing well and is exceeding its targets in the areas of health promotion activity, user led activity and social activity. Sessions include talking therapies, freestyle dance, yoga, seated exercise, bingo club, film club, reading and craft club.</p> <p>The Project delivered two large intergenerational events this quarter and a user-organised Eid celebration event.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

PDR 2023

Scheme:	1C – Access, Information and Self-Management
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

PDR0021630

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Globe Community Project / Take Back Your Life	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£114,526	A mindfulness-based pain management programme, addressing chronic pain/illness, related social isolation and inactivity delivered by experienced, fully accredited Breathworks trainers.	Weekly drop-in follow-on group is in operation. Mixed group sessions - with regular attendance of 11-13 participants per week. Women-only group sessions - with regular attendance of 3-5 women. Number of people per quarter report increased knowledge, awareness and confidence to self-manage health condition (through mindfulness, nutrition and exercise) – 10	GREEN No courses were offered during this quarter. This is part of the planned arc of the programme. Participants were offered follow-on support to embed and sustain their learning. The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
Real DPO Ltd / Taking Control of Your Life (TCOYL)	01/04/2020 31/10/2023	£255,166	TCOYL project delivers creative 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”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of action plans produced – 12 • 90% of clients reported they felt more independent and had a better quality of life • 80% reported the new services accessed had a positive effect on their life. • 90% of clients report feeling they have more choice and control over their lives. 	GREEN Asset Management have confirmed REAL’s recent engagement with LBTH vis-a vie premises issue and approve grant money being released to the organisation.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
					The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.

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

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Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
London Tigers / Exercise for health: BAME women, children and young people	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£174,522	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 provides pathways to stay involved, excel in sports, and develop healthier habits for life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ children and young people attending project’s sport and physical activities, including health workshops, report improved health and wellbeing - 93% • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ women attending project’s sport and physical activities report improved health and wellbeing – 99% • % of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities’ women per year attending the varied sports and physical activities through the project report feeling less isolated and less lonely – 93%. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The Project continued with outreach work to engage with more people and deliver different activities to improve participants’ physical and mental wellbeing. The sessions delivered this quarter included Aerobics, Badminton, Boxing, Self Defence, Boxercise and Chair-based exercise sessions.</p> <p>This quarter’s highlights included Eid celebration and Kings Coronation activity funday. Over 150 people attended across both events.</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 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
MUDCHUTE ASSOCIATION / Playing out at Mudchute	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£81,667	Mudchute’s unique natural facilities 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’.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent play leisure opportunities for children and young people – 160 hours of play provision delivered this quarter, attracting approximately 4,400 people • Number of children who do not usually interact in social events outside of school or home will participate in the project each year - 20 • Number of participants from those who do not usually take part in social events (Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic community groups, those with additional needs and girls / women) – 50. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project attracted an average of 200 attendees each session. During Easter holidays, the Project ran free play sessions and provided additional sessions such as donkey rides, animal petting, Easter egg hunt and pancake races.</p> <p>Many friendships between children and between adults have been made through the project and these have been retained outside of the sessions.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Newark Youth London / Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£114,799	The Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT) project offers a wide range of sports and physical activities across the borough with the objective of engaging inactive young people (10 to 25) and their families in regular sports and physical activities to improve health and wellbeing and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project has worked with 100 children, young people and adults this quarter, with 26 participants registering on the project for the first time • Number of participants report improved health and wellbeing - 26 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this quarter, the Project delivered 54 sports and fitness sessions, enabling access and participation in community sport provision and improving peoples’ health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The Project participated in the Queen Mary University Festival of Communities event in Stepney</p>

PDR 03219

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			reduce isolation and exclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participants report less isolation after enrolling onto the project – 14 	<p>Green Park by providing taster sports sessions for local residents.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
Stifford Centre Limited / Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£326,778	A free membership health club with over 20 different classes and groups per week, delivered by a consortium of VCS organisations. The Health Club is suitable for all ages and participants design the activity program alongside providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people become members per annum – 116 this quarter 90% of members reported higher levels of wellbeing after six weeks of membership 90% of members have reported improved health and wellbeing through adopting a healthier diet 95% of members report having a better understanding of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The health partnership project has delivered a wide range of health and wellbeing activities, including yoga, aerobics, speed climbing, kayaking, volunteering on the farm, walking groups and health information workshops in the quarter.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM) / Live Healthy Enjoy Life [the Female Health & Development Project]	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£87,963	‘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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community women to access health support activities – 41 Number of Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community /Bangladeshi women raising their awareness of a range of health issues appropriate to leading healthier lives – 41 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this quarter the Project has delivered a wide variety of health and wellbeing sessions, including yoga and keep fit classes. These sessions are accessible and tailored for women from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities.</p>

PDR0022034

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			women develop healthy lives and manage their own physical and mental health; peer volunteer befriending and development of social networks alleviate isolation and facilitate inclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numbers of women accessing the women’s forum – 5. 	The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.
The Royal Society for Blind Children / Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£74,040	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participants the project worked with this quarter– 20 Number of participants that regularly engaged with the project - 13 Number of sessions delivered in the borough – 3. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter the Project delivered three sessions in the borough. The Project carried out one-to-one sessions with young people, looking at how they are progressing on the project and against their goal-based outcomes.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

PDR00003521

Scheme	1E – Improved inclusion, health and well-being outcomes for disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved health outcomes for disabled people 2. People experiencing mental health issues are better supported
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Adults with complex needs (i.e who have multiple issues affecting their lives) have better health outcomes 3. Disabled people and people experiencing mental health issues; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) are more independent b) are more aware of and more likely to participate in local services c) have a better quality of life 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

PDR0022236

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
deafPLUS / Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£184,624	A borough wide health and wellbeing project that addresses 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>Feedback from participants has been positive and demonstrated movement in line with funded outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60% of participants attending events reported feeling more involved and engaged (less isolated). • 91% of participants overall reported feeling more involved and engaged (less isolated). • 64% of participants reported improved health and wellbeing. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter the project supported 22 people (6 families and 8 individuals) through a variety of activities include Zoom events and talks and face to face activities. These included trampolining, a historical walk, visit to café, bowling and a signed CPR training event with the British Heart Foundation. Ten new beneficiaries this quarter.</p> <p>Project continues to demonstrate movement towards outcomes and meeting targets.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
ICM Foundation CIC / CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£53,611	People with learning disabilities aged 18+ from Tower Hamlets work in partnership with ICM Foundation. Three times each year they design and deliver 5,000 accessible newspapers on the theme of health and wellbeing, distributed to communities that reflects the borough's diversity.	<p>The project continues to reach other disabled people through workshops, events, and joint collaborations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 79% of people receiving the newspaper reported feeling more informed. 10 participants who contribute to the production of the newspaper reported feeling more confident and less socially isolated. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has been working on improving the overall skill sets of participants who contribute to the production of the newspaper, resulting in the group facilitating more of the process of article writing and starting to do more of the leading through teamwork.</p> <p>The project has surpassed initial targets.</p>
Woman's Trust / Therapeutic Support Groups for Women Affected by Domestic Abuse	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£78,724	Therapeutic Support Groups providing a safe, moderated space for female survivors of domestic abuse to share experiences and support each other. Groups help women recover their mental health by reducing isolation, learning from shared experiences, being empowered by supporting others and thereby gaining confidence and independence.	<p>Of women completing the exit questionnaire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% reported minor – moderate improvements to their stress and anxiety levels 67% reported moderate – very significant improvements to their confidence and self-esteem. 100% reported minor- significant improvements in isolation levels. <p>One project beneficiary reported:</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>12 women finished project support groups this quarter, four in person groups and eight in online groups. Online evening provision continues to provide access to women with children. The project continues to work with a further eight women residents.</p> <p>The project will meet the targets for extension period as a further eight Tower Hamlets residents are attending current groups which will finish in either July or September 2023.</p>

PDR00003723

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				<p>“It's been a very positive experience. I felt understood, heard and accepted. I felt like my emotions and thoughts are valid. I have been supported to explore painful events with an open heart that has allowed healing to take place.”</p>	
Working Well Trust / Upskill	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£442,981	<p>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 peers, enabling to reconnect with the local community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial engagements with Upskill offered, plus access to peer support per quarter- 156 initial engagements, 60 registrations and 51 one to one support. • Over 50s residents with mental health issues have initial engagement with Upskill, plus offered access to peer support – 26 • Over 50s Tower Hamlet residents with mental health to access one to one support towards achieving short term goals – 16. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter has seen the Upskill service referrals significantly increase to 80% over target. The Project has continued offering clients a flexible way to access support, able to offer both remote support and face to face appointments, as well as a number of community initiatives.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the desired outcomes.</p>

PDR092438

Theme / Scheme:	2 – Digital Inclusion and Awareness 2A – ICT Skills and Digital Careers
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to ICT support and training for older people 2. Digital skill development for children and young people <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase awareness of careers in the digital sector, and b) Provide children and young people with the opportunity to develop the skills for the digital sector.
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> a) Have increased confidence in using ICT, especially around security; b) Are able to use digital methods to access services, find information, and communicate with others, and do so more regularly; c) Have increased digital skills. 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

PDR00903225

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / DigiTIES	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£72,680	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>This quarter the project has held Thursday Digital sessions for 20 new older participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 older people made new friends and learned how to use communication platforms. • 11 older people learned to use a search engine to find health information on NHS websites. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Sessions provided opportunities to learn to use communication platforms and enabled project participants to make new friends.</p> <p>The project continues to meet grant requirements and expectations.</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Newham New Deal Partnership / @online club network Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£79,707	@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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six people attended, with 55% reporting increased confidence. • Four older residents report they can go online to do more things. • One volunteer went into employment. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project commenced a new programme at St Hilda’s on Tuesdays, starting with a taster session on 9th May 2023, which concluded on 4 July 2023.</p> <p>The project continues to progress in line with expectations.</p>
Wapping Bangladesh Association / Digital First	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£19,254	Digital First engages socially isolated older adults from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities aged 55+, but not exclusively, living in Wapping and Shadwell, who are not computer literate and are digitally excluded. The Project delivers ICT and internet training that will help older adults to cope with facing key life transitions or challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of beneficiaries reported increased social contacts and community involvement because of accessing the project. • 83% of beneficiaries demonstrated increased confidence and ability in using online services to manage daily life tasks. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this period the project delivered eight sessions (three Zoom sessions and five centre-based sessions) for 12 participants, including one newly recruited in this quarter. To support individuals one to one sessions were provided with mentors.</p> <p>The organisation continues to demonstrate progress towards planned outcomes and KPIs.</p>

PDR0022610

Scheme:	2B – Online Safety
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 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / E-Safety Champions	1/10/2019 31/10/2023	£23,675	The E-Safety Champions project trains local women to become ‘champions’ for e-safety in the community. Weekly workshops cover all areas of online safety. Once trained, the project’s champions go into schools and community groups to spread their knowledge to young people and parents/carers through presentations and workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 project participants feeling more confident to implement changes and check their children's devices. 18 project participants reported a specific action that they have taken at home to improve online safety. 100% of project participants reported increased confidence about reporting any behaviours online that they or family members experience. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter’s activities included storytelling, where older members of the community shared stories about how life was before digital communication. A specialist from Rainbow Links gave a talk about how children and young people with Special Educational Needs or disabilities are more at risk when online.</p> <p>Project reporting demonstrates that it is meeting targets.</p>
Sporting Foundation / Building Digital Resilience	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£35,946	Sporting Foundation 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, managing them effectively and reducing harm.	<p>Sporting Foundation engaged 36 young people, and 23 parents this quarter, all of whom reported, via feedback and survey, progress on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increased understanding and awareness of grooming on social media 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter project discussions included the media, in relation to issues surrounding individual privacy and stories related to young people.</p> <p>The project is exceeding its targets.</p>

PDR0000227

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

PDR0904229

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
East End Citizens Advice Bureaux / Advice Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£3,773,417	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 Tower Hamlets, in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,738 clients have been assisted with social welfare advice • 577 clients have been supported to increase/maximise incomes • £5,690,057 of clients’ income has been increased/or backdated 	GREEN Housing challenges have surged, with steep rent hikes in private properties surpassing local housing allowances. Private tenants face eviction due to financial struggles. Demand for housing advice is high, especially for homelessness, accommodation suitability and disrepair in social and private sectors.

PDR0023014

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			partnership with twelve local advice agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £1,090,719 debt reduction/write offs resulting in reduction in amounts of personal debt. 	<p>Universal Credit enquiries focus on additional entitlements and the financial impact of missing out, often due to reconsideration and appeals. Residents seek help for reviewing appeal decisions on Universal Credit claims.</p> <p>Support requests for disability benefits applications (Personal Independence Payments, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Limited Capability for Work) have risen, often handled by trained volunteers and law students. Soaring living costs drive debt concerns, spanning priority and non-priority debts.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>
Island Advice Centre / Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£204,167	The project improves capacity, training, quality and access to the borough’s advice services. It develops coordination and cooperation between advice and other sectors, providing recruitment and training for volunteers, facilitation of the Tower Hamlets Community Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 Advice work training workshops were delivered 133 participants attended the sessions. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter the project delivered nine advice work training workshops, with 133 participants attending the sessions. The project currently has eight candidates registered for National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) - one at Level 4 and seven at Level 3. Project</p>

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			Network, updated website of advice provision and information / factsheets, coordination of meetings, delivering formal training.		<p>delivered three workshops for NVQ candidates. Two candidates gained their Level 3 qualification in this quarter.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve the funded outcomes.</p>

Theme / Scheme:	4 – Employment and Skills 4A - Developing and embedding good practice in the workplace for people with disabilities, learning difficulties and physical and mental health barriers to work
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:	1. More disabled people and people with mental health issues access work experience placements and employment opportunities 2. Disabled employees feel more comfortable and better supported in sustainable roles in the workplace 3. Disabled people have access to meaningful, relevant training and skills development 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.

PDR0023216

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
REAL DPO / THEN & NOW	01/04/2020 31/10/2023	£473,351	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of organisations engaged by the project in the quarter – 17 The project has provided 119 hours of one-to-one support to eight employers and has achieved 100% satisfaction rate from them. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>In this quarter, the project team has continued to provide its expertise in the recruitment and retention of D/deaf and Disabled staff to several local employers. Notably, the project has again delivered more hours of support through their one-to-one advice service than previously reported on – with this quarter’s total being 119 hours.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

Scheme:	4B - Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups
Priorities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups 2. Employment and volunteering opportunities for older people 3. Employment skills for vulnerable young people and those who are NEET (not in education, employment or training) 4. Employment and skills for young people at risk of achieving poor outcomes
Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Older people gain life skills and secure employment and/or voluntary roles 3. Potential entrepreneurs/business founders have access to independent support and advice and increased knowledge of business and financial planning 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.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Limehouse Project / Developing Potential	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£205,372	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 links with existing provision and acts as a progression route forwards for new opportunities for women in Tower Hamlets.	<p>Women who attend the business start-up workshop/1:1 support session will go on to register as self-employed – 4</p> <p>Women who attend accredited course will complete and gain certifications - 17</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project's collaborations with partners - including Account3, Women's Inclusion Team, Somali Parents & Children's Play Association and Tower Hamlets Homes - continues to flourish. These partnerships help refer and support women from diverse backgrounds and community groups to the project. Co-production efforts, such as organizing job fairs, offer additional support and opportunities.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR004/233

PDR002348

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets / Job Club	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£62,459	This project delivers two weekly job club sessions run by its experienced employment support worker. The sessions will include access to computers and tailored employment support, including creating a CV, accessing emails, job searching, applications and using Universal Job Match.	The number of people that have gained accredited outcomes (Level 2) through training courses - 2 The number of people that access employment after attending the job club - 2	GREEN The quarter’s activity focused on aiding job-ready women with interviews and applications. Beneficiaries secured summer programme and nursery roles. Job Club aids youth seeking summer and general employment, while IT training flourishes, aiding employability. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
St Giles Trust / Choices Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£231,933	Supporting NEET Young people who are facing multiple disadvantages to access education, skills development and employment. The project delivers 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.	Young people showed improved levels of mental health and wellbeing, due to reduction of barriers to employment, increased confidence in their future and access to specialist mental health support, as required - 2 Number of young people progress into and complete training and education courses – 1	GREEN This quarter, there has only been one outcome, which was a training outcome. However, the project has seen an increase in the number of referrals this quarter, in comparison to last quarter. Referral partnership meetings have been had with the East London Alternative Provision, so moving into the last quarter the project hopes that there will be an increase in the number referrals, resulting in delivery of outcomes. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Stifford Centre Limited / BAME Women's Employment Support Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£124,044	This project runs 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, Somali and Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic community heritage with limited English language, confidence and secondary education for community learning.	<p>Socially and economically disenfranchised BAME Women complete ESOL training and feel able to communicate in English - 10</p> <p>BAME women gain volunteering experience by the end of the year and report that they have gained confidence - 6</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project organised Eid celebration and four women actively volunteered in the programme. Along with their regular courses, the project has delivered business start-up training. Sessions have boosted beneficiaries' confidence, networking and social skills, general awareness and understanding, encouraging integration.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR 04/2025

Scheme:	4C - Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Priorities:	1. Support focused on increasing access to art and cultural industries
Outcomes:	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; 2. Increased access to industry relevant training; 3. Increase in people participating in arts projects for the first time

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Auto Italia South East / Learning Live!	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£44,917	Learning Live! is a training and mentoring programme designed to support young people in Tower Hamlets progress into higher education courses, with the aim to increase access into the art and cultural industries.	<p>Workshops/sessions delivered this quarter – 1</p> <p>The project delivered a Creative Technology workshop to a year 10 class of 21 pupils at Stepney All Saints school. The workshop explored augmented and virtual reality technologies and taught pupils skills in 3D scanning, 3D modelling, virtual game design and sculpting that are not usually available within the secondary Art & Design curriculum.</p> <p>The project also delivered a Creative Futures session at Tower Hamlets Careers Live at University of East London, engaging with 204 pupils, and at the Employability Skills Fair at Idea Store Whitechapel, engaging 120 Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils from the Whitechapel ward.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project participated in the Tower Hamlets Arts Music Education Hub (THAMES) cultural partners meeting, which brought together 44 education organisations from across the borough.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>

PDR0023650

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / ZOOM Film School	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£332,274	ZOOM Film School works with 90 disadvantaged residents - particularly people from Black, Asian and Multi-Ethnic communities, women and disabled people - 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 - 7</p> <p>Number of participants who can demonstrate knowledge of key entry-level jobs in the creative media industry - 5</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>This quarter, eight trainees were recruited through interviews for the Zoom film school. Their initial training included a one day in-person masterclass on the ethics of documentary making with London based documentary filmmaker, Samuel Liebmann.</p> <p>All trainees past and present were also invited to attend a ‘Career day’ on May 23rd presented by Tower Hamlets based film producer Fozia Khaliq, which looked at an overview of the industry, key entry level roles and ways into the Film and TV industry. Six additional participants attended this masterclass.</p> <p>The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.</p>
Magic Me / Artworks	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£112,685	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	<p>Number of trainees recruited/selected for work placements – 1</p> <p>Number of trainees have increased knowledge of community arts administration and</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The latest cohort of beneficiaries completed their traineeship with Magic Me in April 2023. All three beneficiaries reported and showed increases in confidence and skills. One beneficiary has been returning to Magic Me weekly as a freelance</p>

P 0200005237

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			community arts coordination and producing.	coordination – 3 Number of people report increased confidence and skills in applying for jobs in the arts and cultural industries - 3	Administrator. Two of the three trainees have been matched with industry mentors and will receive four hours of mentoring over the coming months. The project is on track to achieve its lifetime targets.
The Bromley by Bow Centre / Creative Communities	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£235,943	The project will equip at least 180 people from under-represented communities to increase their participation and readiness for employment in the creative sector. It 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 – 26 Number of participants identified as having not previously engaged in an arts/culture activity state they have now participated in such an activity. – 25 Number of local people from target groups secure an arts related work placement within three months of completion – 3	GREEN In April the project recruited a new cohort of 26 people. To promote cohesiveness in this cohort the project actively recruited people from different backgrounds and abilities. During the half term the project organised a couple of family trips. They included a visit to ‘Frameless’ a multi-sensory immersive art experience, comprised of four galleries showcasing the world’s greatest artworks, including work by Dali, Van Gogh, Monet, Bosch and Ernst. In May the project offered four two hour sessions of mosaic. Participants created, designed and made their own tea coaster. The project offered

PDR0023852

Theme / Scheme:	5 – Community Safety 5A – Reduction in the exploitation of children, young people and other vulnerable groups
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"> a) Have increased confidence and critical thinking skills; b) Have an increased understanding of what a safe relationship is, what exploitation is, and how to spot the signs of abuse and exploitation; c) Have an emotional and actual vocabulary to articulate what is happening to them; d) Are better able to challenge and support each other around relationships.

PDR0024054

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Kazzum Arts / Build	01/10/2019 30/09/2023	£72,631	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.	Girls' group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% felt the sessions helped them to support their communication skills [OB] • 100% felt more comfortable to talk about their emotions as a result of the sessions • 100% strongly agreed or agreed that the sessions helped them appreciate other people's thoughts and ideas. Inclusion Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% felt the sessions helped them to support their communication skills [OB] • 40% felt more comfortable to talk about their emotions as a result of the sessions • 100% strongly agreed or agreed that the sessions helped them appreciate other people's thoughts and ideas. 	GREEN This quarter the project delivered 16 sessions with two groups (Girls and Inclusion), reaching 17 young people. Co-production took place with both groups to ensure the sessions were responsive to the needs and interests of the groups and to support engagement. Feedback included: "Kazzum has helped with group cohesion and social skills. Particularly among neurodiverse students. It was a really nice end of week experience for the students to go into the weekend." Head of the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) inclusion unit" The project continues to over-perform against its targets.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Osmani Trust / Schools and Community Resilience Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£146,817	This project: 1. transforms and changes the attitudes and behaviour of secondary school children; improving their confidence, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence. 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.	No outcome measurements provided this quarter. However, the project has delivered sufficient lifetime outcomes to date. The project concluded group workshops at Langdon Park and Oaklands School. It is currently working with young people aged 14 to 16 at Harpley PRU.	GREEN The project delivered a three day away weekend for the community action participants to reflect on some of their memories together and the work done to rebuild trust and cohesiveness in the community. Monitoring demonstrates work completed to meet funded outcomes.
Streets of Growth / Young Influencers Programme	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£105,415	The programme is an innovative, impactful initiative led by and for young people (15-19 years) to enable them 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 115 young people by March 2023 have remained engaged with the project, sharing ideas, supporting each other to maintain positive lifestyles. 100% have made significant progression and made the move away from harm and unsafe relationships. 	GREEN The organisation continued to work with 80 vulnerable and at risk young people from Central Foundation and St Pauls Schools last quarter. 74 are engaged in the project and have had a needs assessment and 1:1 dedicated transitional coaching and mentoring support. 25 of them have become active as young influencers, with all became involved in the planning and implementation of four social action initiatives. The project continues to overachieve against project targets.

PDR00005541

Scheme:	5B – Improving the perception of young people in the community
Priorities:	1. Improving the perception of young people in the community
Outcomes:	1. Children and young people are, and are seen to be, a positive part of the community 2. Increased community cohesion and sense of belonging 3. Residents, especially older people, people feel less wary of children and young people

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Four Corners Ltd / Into Focus photography project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£67,718	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>Feedback from one beneficiary was as follows:</p> <p>“It was amazing to do this course. It was over 40 years since I’d done this as a student. I loved the fact that the group was made up of different age groups”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80% of participants and gallery exhibition attendees can name at least two issues commonly faced by young people today. 80% of participants and gallery exhibition attendees can name at least two issues commonly faced by older people today. 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>Eleven participants (five under 25’s and six over 50’s) continued to take part in Project 7, resulting in their exhibition in May 2023. Over 130 visitors attended, with 73 gallery visitors’ questionnaires completed. Project 8 started in June with seven under 25s and six over 50s taking part. Three workshops were held this quarter, including a local photo walk and two darkroom workshops.</p> <p>The project’s performance exceeds its targets.</p>
Leaders in Community / Project Connect	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£79,790	A group of young people recruited by LiC 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85% of project participants reported feeling more positive about their community and an increased sense of belonging. 85% of older and young participants report they have formed more positive social 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project has provided weekly exercise sessions and coffee mornings. Planned opportunities were provided for the two generations to exchange stories, experiences and perspectives, resulting in participants fostering more mutual respect and understanding.</p>

PDR00244256

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
			exchanged. The outcomes of the activities are shared with the wider community.	connections with other people across their local area through the project.	The project continues to achieve and work towards funded outcomes.

P 2023/05/24/3

Scheme:	5C - Services for people affected by domestic violence or other unsafe circumstances
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 Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (DVSA) are supported to recognise and report it.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
Hestia Housing and Support / Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£94,325	This project supports families who have experienced Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment (DVSA) and who are living in a local refuge to address the trauma they have 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 65 residents report improved awareness of the different forms that DVSA can take. 100% of attendees say that their understanding of DVSA has improved. 100% of attendees of coffee morning sessions accessed the freedom programme. 100% of children living in the refuge demonstrated improved levels of self-confidence, having participated in project activities 	<p>GREEN</p> <p>The project held nine community events this quarter, resulting in 144 attendances. These included six educational coffee morning sessions. Nour, a partner organisation for the project, also ran stalls at three community events.</p> <p>The children attended a range of activities, including drama, gardening workshops, guided science experiments, arts and crafts.</p> <p>The project continues to demonstrate additional value and positive outcomes, exceeding grant expectations.</p>


PDR0024458

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

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
P R O G R A M S 20215 Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services (THCVS) / Infrastructure and Capacity Building Project	01/10/2019 31/10/2023	£1,040,000	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. Partner: Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service Volunteer Centre Tower Hamlets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of VCS organisations supported – 62 • Number of volunteer managers being trained – 23 • Number of VCS organisations with improved volunteering practices – 10 • Number of VCS organisations advertised their volunteering roles through the Volunteering Hub - 42 • Number of volunteering roles advertised on behalf of VCS organisations on the Hub - 81 	GREEN Project hosted 32 events in the quarter, involving a total of 407 participants. These events included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor's Community Grant Programme support and co-production initiatives • Health and Wellbeing Forum meeting • dedicated engagement event with organisations from the culture, arts, nature, environment, and heritage sectors to discern their current needs.

Organisation / Project	Start / End Date	Grant Amount	Project Description	GDSC Progress Summary – Apr 23 – Jun 23	RAG Rating / Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new registrations on the Volunteering Hub - 209. 	<p>Volunteering training courses delivered included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Measuring the Difference your Volunteer Programme Makes</i> <i>Developing your Volunteer Policy</i> peer learning session on <i>The Vision for Volunteering</i> <p>The partnership project is making good progress against its KPIs.</p>

P 2023/24/660

<p>Grants Determination Sub Committee</p> <p>08 November 2023</p>	
<p>Report of: Robin Beattie, Acting Director of Strategy, Improvement and Transformation</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority</p>	

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Recommendations:

Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 There are several funding programmes to support VCS organisations in the borough where decisions are made under delegated authority by officers following evaluation of applications by Council officers or the East End Community Foundation on the Council's behalf. These decisions are presented to the Sub-Committee for noting in line with the Sub-committee's terms of reference.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Council could decide not to provide funding to VCS organisations through its various programmes. However, to do this would be contrary to the agreed policy to support VCS activities in the borough set out in the VCS Strategy 2020-2024.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 **Small Grants Programme and Older People's Services Fund**

- (a) The Small Grants Programme was established to ensure that local people and community groups will continue to be able to get funding to support community initiatives – people getting together to get things done. The programme is intended to make funds available to support grass roots activity in local communities that will help make life better in Tower Hamlets and achieve the changes set out in the Tower Hamlets Plan and the Strategic Plan. By establishing a single grants programme with different themes or activities to be funded, the Council is trying to make sure local groups seeking funds will have a one stop shop to get to the funds best suited to their needs.
- (b) The programme has five themes that constitute the main programme and four that are focused themes as detailed below:

Main themes

1. **Innovation** - to encourage innovation or pilot something new, especially where there is a gap;
2. **Prevention** - to promote grass roots activity to reduce the need for statutory services;
3. **Neighbourhood action** - to promote local neighbourhood initiatives
4. **Community cohesion** - to develop community resilience, promote cultural opportunities and reduce social isolation, and
5. **Partnership working** - making the sector more effective through closer partnership working within the sector and across sectors.

Focussed Themes

6. **Loneliness** - Reducing the impact of loneliness and isolation.
 7. **Access and Participation** – to establishing access and participation schemes to provide referral gateways for people from BAME communities.
 8. **Community Support Services for Older People** – to combat social isolation of older people through the provision of community-based support services. This theme is administered separately from the other Small Grants Programme themes as an **Older People's Services Fund**.
 9. **Cohesion Events** – to fund street parties and other events focusing on community cohesion and bringing communities together to address issues of loneliness and isolation – This is one off funded by the Covid Recovery Funding the Council established in 2021.
- (c) EECF conducted a grants application process for Round 3 of Small Grants Programme 2022-2023 between October 2022-January 2023. £10,000 of this round of the Programme was reserved for grants of £350 to £500 to support organisations to host events to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III – e.g., street parties and community celebrations. Funding has been approved for the following projects:

- Small Grants Fund Themes 1 to 5: 20 projects with total grant award of £94,126
 - Theme 6 Loneliness: four projects with total grant award of £16,500
 - Theme 7 Access and Participation: one project with total grant award of £5,000
 - Coronation Events: 19 projects with total grant award of £9,290.
- (d) Please see **Appendix A – Small Grants Programme Grants Awarded Round 3 2022-2023** for information on individual Small Grants Programme projects approved in Round 3 2022-2023.

3.3 Innovation Fund

- (a) The Council is keen to encourage and support innovation in the sector and acknowledged that this would require some funding to enable the sector to pilot new initiatives and approaches to service delivery and support.
- (b) The Innovation Fund supports VCS organisations to "test and learn" new ways of working, new initiatives and new delivery models that if successful could be scaled up and commissioned more formally.
- (c) Further details can be found on the [Spacehive Tower Hamlets](#) and the [Tower Hamlets Innovation Fund](#) web pages with more information available in the [factsheet](#).
- (d) Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee there have been no additional awards of funding from the Innovation Fund under delegated authority.

3.4 Emergency Funding

- (a) The Emergency Funding is grant support from the Council to local VCS organisations based in Tower Hamlets who are facing a significant loss of council funding. Organisations can apply for one-off grants up to £10,000. Applicants must clearly demonstrate the need for the funding and the fact that they are facing an unforeseen emergency.
- (b) Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee one organisation has been assessed and awarded funding from the Emergency Fund budget for April 2022-March 2023, under delegated authority.

Organisation	Total Emergency Funding Approved
Chisenhale Dance Space	£1,188

- (c) Further details of the organisations awarded are set out in Appendix B.

3.5 Community Benefit Rent Reduction

- (a) The Community Benefit Rent Reduction (CBRR) scheme was set up by the Council to acknowledge the value of the work carried out by voluntary and community organisations leasing its premises through a reduction in the rent payable. The council charges an appropriate 'market' level rent for its premises and organisations can apply for up to 80% of this as a rent reduction.
- (b) CBRR is only available for short leases of three to five years. To qualify, organisations need to meet several criteria relating to governance, management and quality standards. Full details of the scheme are set out on the council's website at the [CBRR page](#).
- (c) There have been no further leases agreed since the last Sub-Committee meeting.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 All grants awarded need to demonstrate how they meet the needs of our diverse communities and support the council's Public Sector Equality Duty. Equalities data is collected as part of the monitoring process, and this will be reported as part of the annual reporting process.

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.
 - Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 This report notes the update on funding awarded to voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority. The total of grants awarded and agreed rent reductions are contained within approved budgets.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The grants and information noted in this report are in line with approvals previously made and the terms of reference for this sub-committee. There are no other legal implications in this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix A – Small Grants Programme
- Appendix B – Emergency Funding

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

- NONE.

Officer contact details for documents:

Or state N/A

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Appendix A- Small Grants Programme - Grants Awarded Round 3 (2022-2023)

Themes 1 to 5					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
1	Babel Theatre	Prevention	<u>The Orpheus Project</u> - Between May-November 2023, the group will deliver workshops once a week over 12 weeks in creativity and connection with recruited young men aged 16-30. The project will also offer three subsidised trips to arts events at other Tower Hamlets venues.	25	£5,000
2	Bags of Taste	Prevention	<u>Bags of Taste Mentored home cooking courses</u> – This project is a mentored home cooking courses for 60 vulnerable households in Tower Hamlets. Sessions will take place in people's homes, supporting practical cookery skills and using utensils and facilities on hand, with low-cost ingredients to create healthy meals, alongside a peer support network on WhatsApp.	60	£5,000

Themes 1 to 5					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
7	Canary Wharf Football Academy	Innovation	Girls Safe Space through Basketball – This project is to deliver taster basketball sessions for girls only. The sessions will take place for two hours over a period of 26 weeks at a local girl’s school, the Central Foundation Girls School. Participants will be recruited from the school, as well as from the wider community.	40	£4,995
8	Emmott Close Senior Citizens Club	Community Cohesion	“Home is where the heart is” - project sessions would include beat making, writing a track, writing bars, singing, mixing tracks and performance skills. The final session will be a chance for the young people to perform their pieces, expressing their own experiences, as well as the history and culture of Tower Hamlets, by incorporating historical/cultural specifics of the area into their work throughout the sessions. The event will showcase the diverse range of cultures and identities found in Tower Hamlets.	25	£1,000
9	Island House Community Centre	Prevention	REFRESH – Body, Mind and Spirit - Island House Community Centre is applying to continue to provide a range of free classes to improve the mental, physical and spiritual health of local people. Classes have been running since July 2021 and currently include Mindfulness, two levels of Yoga and Boxercise. In the last six months of 2022, the applicant has	100	£5,000

Themes 1 to 5

No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
			provided 76 free classes to 479 attendees. Four hours of classes will be provided over a period of 21 weeks.		
10	Limehouse Girls Football Club	Prevention	<u>Female Player and Coach Development Programme</u> – This project is to support female student volunteers to train as FA coaches, achieving a Level 1 Coach Certification. Once qualified, the organisation can pay the students to coach the Foundation groups including Minis (ages 6-10) and the single parent volunteer can coach U12s for 90 mins/ per week and attend matches.	90	£5,000
11	Ocean Regeneration Trust (ORT)	Innovation	<u>Ocean Women's Peer Support Group</u> – This project will deliver a weekly peer support group. ORT will develop and train up to five to six women, to become peer supporters, and train another five to six women to become outdoor befrienders, who will provide a one-to-one befriending service to those in most need, followed by weekly walks.	25	£4,999

Themes 1 to 5					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
12	Roman Road Trust	Community Cohesion	Tread the Bow Heritage Trail - Roman Road Trust (RRT) will work with Applied Stories to produce two resident-inspired scripts for four walking tours of Bow Heritage Trail in Summer 2023. The project will recruit volunteers for script writing, recruit participants for walks by visits to organisations/groups and conduct four guided walks with mid-point and end evaluation.	120	£5,000
13	Sketch Appeal CIC	Prevention	The Art Club- The organisation would like to put on "Time Art Club" which will take place every other Wednesday as part of St Margaret's House Wellbeing Wednesdays. The club will be open to 15 people each session and main target audience will be for individuals who are out of work, retired or students.	120	£4,450
14	St Peter's Community Wellbeing Projects	Community Cohesion	Bangladeshi Women Intergeneration Club - St. Peter's Bangladeshi Women Intergeneration Club program will provide older Bangladeshi women with regular contact, emotional and social support, particularly for those who are vulnerable to or facing mental-health problems. The project will help to alleviate loneliness and isolation and increase social participation.	50	£5,000

Themes 1 to 5					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
15	The City & East London Bereavement Service (CELBS)	Prevention	Community Bereavement Support - The organisation would like to co-design a bereavement service for residents of Tower Hamlets that will lead to increased support to individuals from ethnic minority communities and individuals with complex mental health needs. The project would take place at St. Margaret's House, among other locations in the borough.	64	£4,615
16	The Oitij-jo Collective	Community Cohesion	Petticoat Lane Community Festival - The Oitij-jo Collective is planning ten workshops to contribute to a free, one-day multi-arts festival in Petticoat Lane in September 2023. The workshops are a way to connect cultures and develop intergenerational relationships, finding commonalities between lived and cultural experiences, as an accessible and approachable way of getting involved and feeling integrated in the festival.	100	£5,938
17	True You Today	Prevention	Workshops for Survivors - The organisation will work with a team of local freelance artists and teachers to support gendered abuse survivors. The project will consist of aerial classes, dance classes, photography classes.	126	£4,990

Themes 1 to 5					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
18	True Cadence	Innovation	Coast 2 Coast Masterclass - The organisation is proposing a user-led project for 20 young people (16-25) where they will develop and perform an EP (extended-play record) over 12-months at the Shadwell Centre in Tower Hamlets. They will write, produce and perform three songs which will be inspirational, but also address issues affecting young people such as love, mental health, knife crime and poverty.	20	£5,000
19	Udichi Shilpi Gosthi	Community Cohesion	London Bengali Book Fair 2023 - The organisation would like to host the 14th London Bengali Book Fair and Cultural Festival. A free event organised in partnership with Bangladesh Cultural Ministry, Tower Hamlets Council and the United Bengali Cultural Forum. It is open to all Tower Hamlet residents and will bring together Bengali poets, writers, artists, performers and cultural activists. 32 arts organisations will take part along with 110 artists.	2,300	£5,000
20	Will Crooks Tenants and Residents Association	Innovation	Sensory play club - Funding will be used to open a sensory play club for 10 children with autism aged 8-13 and their parents. The club will run on Saturdays and will be delivered by a play specialist.	10	£4,314

Themes 1 to 5					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
	Totals			7,624	£94,126

Themes 6- Loneliness					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
1	Beyond Sight Loss	Loneliness	<u>Relieving Loneliness Project</u> - The organisation is looking to recruit a project worker to establish and coordinate regular fortnightly activities for individuals who are visually impaired and partially sighted in Tower Hamlets. The activities will be established through consultation with services users.	70	£4,000
2	Christ Apostolic Church Vineyard of Comfort	Loneliness	<u>Christ Apostolic Church Vineyard of Comfort</u> The project will deliver three-months (April – June 2023) of activities and community counselling with mothers and toddlers and older people. Specifically, the project will offer mothers and toddlers 12 places per week for 12 weeks and offer older people 10 places per week over 12 weeks.	50	£4,500
3	Olive Tree Education (OTE)	Loneliness	<u>SUKOON LONELINESS PROJECT</u> - This project will continue the work of a previous grant, awarded in August 2022. The project reached 35 older women from the Bangladeshi	25	£4,000

Themes 6- Loneliness					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
			community, providing two sessions a week of a walking group, activities such as board games and provision of nutrition advice and food over three months. The project provides a range of activities to support health and address loneliness.		
4	SimpleGifts: Unitarian Centre for Social Action	Loneliness	<u>Bethnal Green All Together</u> - This project aims to bring diverse communities together who may not otherwise have a chance to meet and learn more about each other in social engagement and build positive relationships. It will provide weekly two hour chai and chat sessions for women who are lonely/isolated and from marginalised communities.	60	£4,000
	Totals			205	£16,500

Theme 7 Access & Participation					
No	Organisation	Theme	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
1	Olive Tree Education (OTE)	Access & Participation	<u>BME female A & E Project</u> - The aim of the project is to engage young women from Black, Asian & Multi-Ethnic communities in exercise sessions and social activities, whilst also providing a space for them to access information and guidance on a range of topics. The organisation will also refer the young women out to social activities, health services and training opportunities held by other local organisations. The organisation will also support the young	50	£5,000

			women by providing them with training on writing CVs and interview techniques.		
	Totals			50	£5,000

P 2023/07/20

King's Coronation Events Fund					
No	Organisation	Event Date(s)	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
1	Bromley by Bow Community Organisation (BBBCO)	07/05/2023	<u>BBBCO Coronation BBQ</u> The organisation will deliver a Community BBQ Day (5-6 hours) with free food and drinks for the local community. The event will be managed by volunteers and advertised to the local community,	200	£440.00

King's Coronation Events Fund					
No	Organisation	Event Date(s)	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
			using the applicant's marketing platforms and the marketing details of their members.		
2	Canary Wharf Football Academy	06/05/2023	Coronation Celebration Event - Canary Wharf Football Club will hold a community day event to promote community cohesion and re-connect local communities. The grant will be used to purchase multi-sports equipment, refreshments/food, face/Henna painting artists and decorations.	100	£500.00
3	Cyprus Area Project Panel (CAPP)	07/05/2023	Coronation Party - Cyprus Area Project Panel will organise a Party for residents of Southern Housing in Cyprus Street Estate, Cyprus Street and Royston Street to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.	200	£500.00
4	Friends of Columbia	07/05/2023	Coronation Back Garden Party - Friends of Columbia will create a community street party with opportunities for people of all ages, incomes, ethnicities and genders to contribute, take part and have fun.	200	£500.00
5	Jesuit Refugee Services UK	06/05/2023	Community Kitchen Coronation Celebration – The project will deliver a community kitchen programme for asylum seekers to bring refugees and local community members together through shared activities. The pilot will run for six weeks,	30	£500.00

King's Coronation Events Fund					
No	Organisation	Event Date(s)	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
			culminating in an event during the Coronation weekend for the local community and wider refugee community.		
6	Leaders in Community	08/05/2023	<u>Kings Coronation Picnic at Teviot</u> - The group will deliver a free communal picnic/fun day at Teviot Community Centre. The event will provide a platform for diverse communities and user groups to share a space and celebrate shared values of community spirit, togetherness, and inclusivity.	100	£500.00
7	Lincoln Area Regeneration Group	05/05/2023	<u>Tea and Tales - Coronation Family Tea Dance –</u> The Project will host the intergenerational tea dance for local residents, featuring live musicians, refreshments and an opportunity for residents to unite and break down barriers by caring and sharing their stories of the local community, how it has changed over the course of the late Queen's reign and why the King's Coronation is important to them.	60	£500.00
8	London Sportif	08/05/2023	<u>Coronation celebration for Mums and children</u> The organisation will deliver a 'Coronation celebration for Mums and children' in the open grass area at Weaver's Field. The key target group will be the adult females in particular mums	60	£500

King's Coronation Events Fund					
No	Organisation	Event Date(s)	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
			although open for others to reconnect with their local communities.		
9	Look Ahead Care, Support and Housing	06/5/23 - 08/5/23	<u>The King Charles III Coronation Celebrations-</u> The grant will be used to organise celebrations at two of Look Ahead's services in Tower Hamlets. One of the services is a complex needs service for individuals impacted by severe mental health challenges and the other is a day-care centre for people with learning and physical disabilities. Residents will help to plan the events, cook with staff and decorate, developing new skills and healthy eating habits.	60	£500
10	Neighbours In Poplar	05/05/2023	<u>King's Coronation-</u> 60 elderly clients from all communities will celebrate the King's coronation, involving dressing in regal attire and enjoying Hi-Tea with petite cakes and sandwiches (afternoon tiffin). Transport will be available for clients who need it.	60	£500
11	Ocean Regeneration Trust	05/05/2023	<u>Ocean Estate King's Commonwealth Coronation Party –</u> The project will invite members of the Ocean Estate and wider community to come along and eat together, whilst learning about different countries from around the world. People will be encouraged to bring dishes	30	£495

King's Coronation Events Fund					
No	Organisation	Event Date(s)	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
			from their own cultures and communities to share, but basic food and drink will also be provided.		
12	Osmani Trust	06/05/2023	<p><u>Kings Coronation Celebration Party (Blackwall Reach)</u> The organisation will deliver a party in the Blackwall Reach. The celebration day will include bouncy castle, kids' entertainment, arts, crafts, games, competitions, henna and face painting for children. There will also be a food festival and different communities will display their traditional food for everyone else to taste.</p>	100	£500
13	Patriot Square and Mayfield House Tenants Residents Association (TRA)	05/5/23 - 08/5/23	<p><u>Patriot Square and Mayfield House Coronation Street party</u> - The organisation will host a traditional East End Street party in the middle of Patriot Square. Residents will be asked to contribute in some way. The TRA can provide some food and drink for everyone, so that an ability to contribute is not a barrier to attendance and enjoyment, as well as contributing to some of the fixed costs.</p>	375	£500
14	St Dunstans & All Saints, Stepney PCC	08/05/2023	<p><u>Community Party for the King's Coronation</u> - This intergenerational event will again be open to the whole community in and around Stepney. The event will include a community picnic, children's</p>	450	£500.00

King's Coronation Events Fund					
No	Organisation	Event Date(s)	Project Summary	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Grant Award (£s)
			games and crafts, a dog show, live music provided by local music organisations including East London Community Band, community choir and church bell ringers.		
15	Swadhinata Trust	06/05/2023	<u>Coronation Party</u> The applicant will hold an event for residents of Weaver House to celebrate the King's coronation with each other as friends and neighbours. Funds will be used to pay for five musical band members to play live music.	100	£500.00
16	Vallance Community Sports Association	06/05/2023	<u>Old Montague Street Coronation Street Party</u> Provision of food, plates, cutlery etc for a street party held on and around Old Montague Street in Tower Hamlets	75	£500
17	Wapping Bangladesh Association	07/05/2023	<u>King Charles III Coronation Event Party –</u> The organisation will hold a Wapping Community get together event to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. The event will bring together people of different ages, social and racial backgrounds and will comprise of short talks on the Royal Family and monarchy, with opportunities for local people to express their views and understanding.	150	£500

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Emergency Funding Emergency Funding Award



Chisenhale Dance Space

Total award - £1,188.00

Organisation Details

Background

Chisenhale Dance Space (CDS) Charity no. 288149. Limited company no. 1740641 is a dance and performance organisation based in Tower Hamlets. It submitted an Emergency Funding application to the Council to support a number of interventions to help this organisation respond to the the cost of living crisis and a slower than anticipated recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The council approved an Emergency Funding award for CDS to support one of the above proposed interventions - £1,198 to enable CDS to purchase 12 electric heaters @ £99 per unit to reduce its use of gas and thus its future energy costs. The council judged that this element of the application was reasonable, particularly as the additional heating secured would allow CDS to hire out for use space at its premises and maximise the organisation's income.

The Council did not recommend Emergency Fund support for the other areas of CDS' application as it believed that they did not meet the criteria for support from the Fund.

Emergency Funding

Award:

£1,188.00

Date Applied:

16th December 2022

Date Awarded:

20th February 2023

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<p align="center">Grants Determination Sub Committee</p> <p align="center">08 November 2023</p>	
<p>Report of: Robin Beattie, Acting Director of Strategy, Improvement and Transformation</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p align="center">VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority</p>	

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Recommendations:

Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 There are several funding programmes to support VCS organisations where decisions are made under delegated authority by officers. These decisions are presented to the Sub-Committee for noting in line with the Ccommittee's terms of reference.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Council could decide not to provide funding to VCS organisations through its various programmes. However, to do this would be contrary to the agreed policy to support VCS activities in the borough set out in the VCS Strategy 2020-2024.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 Local Community Fund and Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programmes

- (a) Cabinet agreed at its meeting on 29th March 2023 to authorise the Chief Executive to agree to an extension of four weeks for current core Council grant funded VCS services – the Local Community Fund (LCF) and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building programmes - beyond their scheduled end date of 30th September 2023. This was agreed to enable these services to remain in operation until the new Mayor’s Community Grant Programme starts in November 2023. This extension was subsequently confirmed by the Chief Executive for the whole month of October 2023 at a total cost of £241,304. The Council is expecting its VCS funded projects operating in October 2023 to be delivering on a basis which is proportionate to a standard month of activity for individual projects.
- (b) Appendix A outlines the extension funding for 48 LCF projects and the Infrastructure & Capacity Building project for October 2023. One organisation did not take up this offer of extension funding for its LCF project.

3.2 Innovation Fund

- (a) The Council is keen to encourage and support innovation in the sector and acknowledged that this would require some funding to enable the sector to pilot new initiatives and approaches to service delivery and support.
- (b) The Innovation Fund supports VCS organisations to "test and learn" new ways of working, new initiatives and new delivery models that if successful could be scaled up and commissioned more formally.
- (c) Further details can be found on the [Spacehive Tower Hamlets](#) and the [Tower Hamlets Innovation Fund](#) web pages with more information available in the [factsheet](#).
- (d) Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee there have been no additional awards of funding from the Innovation Fund under delegated authority.

3.4 Emergency Funding

- (a) The Emergency Funding is grant support from the Council to local VCS organisations based in Tower Hamlets who are facing a significant loss of council funding. Organisations can apply for one-off grants up to £10,000. Applicants must clearly demonstrate the need for the funding and the fact that they are facing an unforeseen emergency.
- (b) Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee one organisation has been assessed and awarded funding from the Emergency Fund budget under delegated authority.

Organisation	Total Emergency Funding Approved
Globe Community Project	£7,749

(c) Further details of the organisation awarded is set out in Appendix B.

3.5 Community Benefit Rent Reduction

(a) The Community Benefit Rent Reduction (CBRR) scheme was set up by the Council to acknowledge the value of the work carried out by VCS organisations leasing its premises through a reduction in the rent payable. The council charges an appropriate 'market' level rent for its premises and organisations can apply for up to 80% of this as a rent reduction.

(b) CBRR is only available for short leases of three to five years. To qualify, organisations need to meet several criteria relating to governance, management and quality standards. Full details of the scheme are set out on the council's website at the [CBRR page](#).

(c) There have been no further leases agreed since the last Sub-Committee meeting.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 All grants awarded need to demonstrate how they meet the needs of our diverse communities and support the council's Public Sector Equality Duty. Equalities data is collected as part of the monitoring process, and this will be reported as part of the annual reporting process.

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.
- Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 This report notes the update on funding awarded to voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority. The total of grants awarded and agreed rent reductions are contained within approved budgets.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The grants and information noted in this report are in line with approvals previously made and the terms of reference for this sub-committee. There are no other legal implications in this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix A – VCS Organisation Receiving Extended Council Funding in October 2023
- Appendix B – Emergency Funding

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

- NONE.

Officer contact details for documents:

Or state N/A

Emergency Funding Emergency Funding Award



Globe Community Project Total award - £7,749.00

Organisation Details

Emergency Funding Award:
£7,749

Date Applied:
14th March 2023

Date Awarded:
24th May 2023

Background

Globe Community Project (GCP), Charity no. 1104770, Company no. 04992627, is an organisation based in Tower Hamlets that offers a range of educational, cultural and social services activities that benefit both individuals and the local community.

Defined Emergency

GCP submitted an Emergency Funding application to the Council to support a number of interventions to help it respond to the the cost of living crisis, the cumulative pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic and chronically underfunded core operations. The cost of living crisis has impacted on GCP's ability to pay energy bills and staff costs, with the inflationary increase exacerbating these issues. GCP's long-standing director, who had been instrumental in securing the financial viability and sustainability of the organisation, died during the pandemic.

Award

The Council approved an Emergency Funding award for GCP to support two of the above proposed interventions:

- £6,960 to support the salary for three months of a 0.6 full-time equivalent director, whose primary focus is to develop and implement a fundraising strategy for GCP and complete 2023-2026 business plan to support the organisation's continued and efficient delivery
- £789 to cover three months of office rent for the organisation.

The funding for the above interventions were approved:

- to give GCP time to carry out follow up work on funding bids that it had submitted, apply for further funding, keep the organisation running and delivering without exhausting its reserves
- on the condition that GCP develop financial risk management procedures and seek further advice from Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service in implementing this requirement.

The Council did not recommend Emergency Fund support for the other areas of GCPs' application as it believed that they did not meet the criteria for support from the Fund.

Appendix A – Appendix A – VCS Organisation Receiving Extended Council Funding in October 2023

Local Community Fund and Infrastructure and Capacity Building Fund extension for four weeks – 1st October - 31st October 2023

Local Community Fund Programme		
Organisation	Project	Funding for October 2023 (£s)
Age UK East London	Friend at Home	5,259
Age UK East London	Caxton Hall, a dynamic activity centre led by older people for the whole community.	6,145
Auto Italia South East	Learning Live!	917
Canaan Project	Canaan Project - Isle of Dogs	2,401
Community of Refugees from Vietnam - East London	Vietnamese and Chinese Lunch and Social Club	2,727
deafPLUS	Improving Health and Wellbeing for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Tower Hamlets	3,768
East End Citizens Advice Bureaux	Advice Tower Hamlets	77,009
East London Out Project	Tower Hamlets LGBT Support	2,301
Four Corners Ltd	ZOOM Film School	6,781
Four Corners Ltd	Into Focus photography project	1,382
Globe Community Project	Take Back Your Life	2,337
Half Moon Young People's Theatre	Professional Theatre and Inclusive Participatory Drama for Young People	3,184
Hestia Housing and Support	Families Safe and Secure in Tower Hamlets	1,925
ICM Foundation CIC	CORE Projects Get Active Newspaper - Promoting Healthy and Active Lifestyles	1,094
Island Advice Centre	Tower Hamlets Advice Training and Capacity Building Project	4,167
Kazzum Arts	Build	0 ¹
Leaders in Community	Project Connect	1,628
Limehouse Project	DigiTIES	1,483
Limehouse Project	Developing Potential	4,191
London Tigers	Exercise for health: BAME women, children and young people	3,562
Look Ahead Care and Support	Domestic Abuse Children's Worker	3,377
Magic Me	Artworks	2,300

¹ Organisation turned down extension to October 2023 as it did not make operational sense to continue project for one further month.

Organisation	Project	Funding for October 2023 (£s)
MUDCHUTE ASSOCIATION	Playing out at Mudchute	1,667
Newark Youth London	Girls in Action	1,682
Newark Youth London	Healthy-Active-Together (HeAT)	2,343
Newham New Deal Partnership	@online club network Tower Hamlets	1,627
Osmani Trust	Family Mentoring Project (FMP) Early Help	3,000
Osmani Trust	Schools and Community Resilience Programme	2,996
Real DPO Ltd	Taking control of your life	5,207
Real DPO Ltd	NOW and THEN	9,660
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets	E-Safety Champions	483
SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets	Job Club	1,275
Sporting Foundation	Building Digital Resilience	734
St Giles Trust	Choices Tower Hamlets	4,733
St Hilda's East Community Centre	St. Hilda's Girls Driven Project	1,372
St Hilda's East Community Centre	Older People's 'Feeling Good!' Wellbeing Project	2,500
Stifford Centre Limited	Stifford Young Girl's Project	1,214
Stifford Centre Limited	Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Programme	6,669
Stifford Centre Limited	BAME Women's Employment Support Programme	2,532
Streets of Growth	Resilient Young Leaders Programme	2,151
The Bangladesh Youth Movement (BYM)	Live Healthy Enjoy Life [the Female Health & Development Project]	1,795
The Bromley by Bow Centre	Creative Communities	4,815
The Royal Society for Blind Children	Live Active, Live Well Tower Hamlets	1,511
The Yard Theatre Ltd	Tower Hamlets Teens	3,076
Tower Hamlets Friends and Neighbours	Older Peoples Befriending Project	4,167
Toynbee Hall	The Wellbeing Centre at Toynbee Hall	3,451
Wapping Bangladesh Association	Digital First	393
Woman's Trust	Therapeutic Support Groups for women affected by Domestic Abuse	1,607
Working Well Trust	Upskill	9,040

Infrastructure & Capacity Building Programme		
Organisation	Project	Funding for October 2023 (£s)
Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service	Infrastructure & Capacity Building Project	21,667
Total value of extensions of projects for October 2023: £241,304		

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<p>Grants Determination Sub Committee</p> <p>8th November 2023</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Robin Beattie, Acting Director of Strategy, Improvement and Transformation</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>VCS Funding Awarded Under Delegated Authority (October)</p>	

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee.

VCS FUNDING AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY (OCTOBER)

Recommendations:

Grants Determination (Cabinet) Sub-Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the update on funding awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority since the last meeting.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 There are several funding programmes to support VCS organisations where decisions are made under delegated authority by officers. These decisions are presented to the Sub-Committee for noting in line with the Committee's terms of reference.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Council could decide not to provide funding to VCS organisations through its various programmes. However, to do this would be contrary to the agreed policy to support VCS activities in the borough set out in the VCS Strategy 2020-2024.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 Innovation Fund

- (a)** The Council's Innovation Fund terminated on 30th September 2023. It supported VCS organisations to "test and learn" new ways of working, new initiatives and new delivery models that if successful could be scaled up and commissioned more formally. The Council will review the Innovation Fund and seek to integrate lessons learned from the Fund in terms of future work with the VCS.
- (b)** Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee there have been no additional awards of funding from the Innovation Fund under delegated authority.

3.2 Emergency Funding

- (a)** The Emergency Funding is grant support from the Council to local VCS organisations based in Tower Hamlets who are facing a significant loss of council funding. Organisations can apply for one-off grants up to £10,000. Applicants must clearly demonstrate the need for the funding and the fact that they are facing an unforeseen emergency.
- (b)** Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee there have been no additional awards of funding from the Emergency Fund under delegated authority.

3.3 Community Benefit Rent Reduction

- (a)** The Community Benefit Rent Reduction (CBRR) scheme was set up by the Council to acknowledge the value of the work carried out by VCS organisations leasing its premises through a reduction in the rent payable. The Council charges an appropriate 'market' level rent for its premises and organisations can apply for up to 80% of this as a rent reduction.
- (b)** CBRR is only available for short leases of three to five years. To qualify, organisations need to meet several criteria relating to governance, management and quality standards. Full details of the scheme are set out on in the council's VCS Premises Policy ([VCS-premises-statement-of-policy-and-procedures.docx \(live.com\)](#)).
- (c)** Decisions are made by the CBRR Panel which consists of the following Council officers - Head of Revenues and Benefits (Chair), Head of Corporate Strategy and Policy, the Head of Asset Management - and the Chief Executive of Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service.
- (d)** There have been two CBRR awards made under delegated authority since the Sub-Committee's last meeting. These awards were agreed at CBRR panel meeting on 5th September 2023:

Organisation	Community Benefit Rent Reduction Funding Approved
Bow Foodbank	£20,664 (80% of £25,830)
South Poplar & Limehouse Action for Secure Housing (SPLASH)	£11,300 (100%)
Total	£31,964

- (e) Details of CBRR awards made by officers under delegated authority since the Sub-Committee's last meeting are set out at Appendix A.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 All grants awarded need to demonstrate how they meet the needs of our diverse communities and support the council's Public Sector Equality Duty. Equalities data is collected as part of the monitoring process, and this will be reported as part of the annual reporting process.

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.
- Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 This report notes the update on funding awarded to voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations under delegated authority. The total of grants awarded and agreed rent reductions are contained within approved budgets.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The grants and information noted in this report are in line with approvals previously made and the terms of reference for this sub-committee. There are no other legal implications in this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

Appendix A – Community Benefit Rent Reduction (CBRR) Awards agreed at the CBBR Panel Meeting on 5th September 2023

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

- NONE.

Officer contact details for documents:


Or state N/A

Appendix A

Community Benefit Rent Reduction (CBRR) Awards agreed at the CBBR Panel Meeting on 5th September 2023

No.	Organisation	Premises	Proposed rent per annum	Organisational assessment	Community Benefit assessment	Use of Premises	Decision
1.	Bow Foodbank	Bow Community Hall, 1 William Place, E3 5ED	£25,830 gross £5,166 net 80% CBRR CBRR value £20,664	Pass in all sections	74% CBRR exceeds £20k p.a. – the organisation completed and met required standard for the social value assessment.	Foodbank and associated activities	CBRR at 80%
2.	South Poplar & Limehouse Action for Secure Housing (SPLASH)	St Vincent's Portacabin, Limehouse Causeway, E14 8AD	£11,300 gross £0 net 100% CBRR CBRR value £11,300	N/A	N/A This proposal is to vary the level of CBRR already granted.	Community centre serving estates adjacent to Limehouse Causeway and base for Limehouse Causeway Tenants Residents Association (TRA). At its meeting on 3 rd July 2019 the CBRR Panel agreed 80% CBRR to SPLASH. The lease was completed on 8 th December 2020.	CBRR at 100%

No.	Organisation	Premises	Proposed rent per annum	Organisational assessment	Community Benefit assessment	Use of Premises	Decision
						<p>SPLASH is, in effect, the accountable body, and sees its role as supporting the Limehouse Causeway TRA to run activities, not managing them directly.</p> <p>If the Limehouse Causeway TRA had been in existence at the time the St. Vincent's portacabin lease was being negotiated, the Council would have included it in the discussions. While SPLASH might still have acted as the accountable body and held the lease, the TRA function would have been recognised and the additional 20% CBRR recommended.</p>	

<p>Briefing Note (Notification only)</p> <p>08 November 2023</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director of Place</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Community Gardens – Phase 2 Update & Termination of Grant Delivery Contract</p>	

Executive Summary

The Community Gardens Programme was adopted as one of the projects approved from the 2019 LIF consultation, with a budget of £437,500 capital funding to include food growing, allotments and other forms of green community infrastructure at locations across LIF Areas 1,2, 3 and 4.

The project aimed to deliver a number of community gardens which people value, enjoy and feel safe and comfortable in and which promote social interaction and inclusion.

A report was taken to the January 2022 Grants Determination Sub Committee to approve the phase 2 delivery plan to appoint a grant delivery organisation to distribute Local Infrastructure Funding via a grant to community groups and other organisations.

In late August we were instructed to pause on the launch of the grant whilst a review of the LIF Programme was carried out by the Mayor and Lead Cabinet Members.

After discussions with the Mayor, the recommendation was not to proceed with launching this grant, the mayor recognised the importance of growing spaces but would like to see a more carefully considered approach in terms

In view of the above we are notifying the committee of the termination of the Termination of Grant Delivery Contract and closure of the grant.

THIS SECTION TO BE DELETED BEFORE PUBLICATION

Decision Type

Key Decision?	Urgent Decision?	Exempt from Call-In?	Restricted Report or Partially Restricted (e.g. appendix)?
No	No	No	No

Recommendations:

The Mayor is recommended to:

1. To note the termination of the Community Gardens Phase 2 Grant Delivery contract.
2. To note the closure of this grant.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 In late August we were instructed to pause on the launch of the grant whilst a review of the LIF Programme was carried out by the Mayor and Lead Cabinet Members.
- 1.2 After discussions with the Mayor, the recommendation was not to proceed with launching this grant, the mayor recognised the importance of growing spaces but would like to see a more carefully considered approach in terms of where and how we spend money on grants- which will emerge from the review of LIF programme more generally.
- 1.3 In October 2022 we attended a LIF Working Group meeting to seek a steer on next steps for the programme, we were advised that a report will be taken to cabinet by the LIF team to ratify the decision to discontinue parts of the programme, however there is no clear timescale of when this will take place.
- 1.4 It was agreed at the working group meeting that the Regeneration Team would ensure all risks were managed with terminating the contract with grant delivery organisation and would notify them accordingly.

2 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 2.1 The Community Gardens Programme was adopted as one of the projects approved from the 2019 LIF consultation, with a budget of £437,500 capital funding to include food growing, allotments and other forms of green community infrastructure at locations across LIF Areas 1,2, 3 and 4.
- 2.2 The project aimed to deliver a number of community gardens which people value, enjoy and feel safe and comfortable in and which promote social interaction and inclusion.
- 2.3 The Community Gardens Programme PID was approved by the LIF Working Group at the July 2021 meeting, and sets out a phased delivery plan summarised in the table below.

Phase	1	2
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Delivery Method	Direct delivery/direct award of funding	Grant funding (working with a third-party grant giving organisation,)
Indicative Timing	August 2021 – December 2022	July 2022 – July 2023
Beneficiaries	LIF Responders only	LIF Responders + Open Application
Number of Sites	9 sites	Between 10 – 12
Typical Site Cost	Between £10k - £25k	Between £10k - £25k

2.4 Phase 1 delivery comprises of Direct delivery/ Award. An appraisal was carried out of the 2019 LIF consultation feedback which indicated 200 project suggestions for parks and green spaces of which 30 sites were specifically nominated as Community gardens, and of those 30 sites, 9 were shortlisted as being the most viable as they had an appropriate location, ownership status and an organisation with capacity and capability to take part in the programme who operate nearby.

2.5 The Phase 2 approach was to appoint a third party grant giving organisation to administer funding. A report was taken to the January 2022 Grants Determination Sub Committee to approve the delivery plan to distribute Local Infrastructure Funding via a grant to community groups and other organisations.

2.6 **Progress to Date**

Phase 1

From the nine sites identified for Phase 1 , four sites have been completed, one sites is in delivery, one site is in design and three sites will not proceed following feedback from the mayor.

Phase 2

Following approval of the delivery approach by the Committee in January 2022, a grant delivery organisation was commissioned to design and administer a grant for Phase 2 of the Community Grant Programme.

The contract was procured using the councils RFQ route in May 2022, and the development work had completed in August 2022.

Following the review of the LIF Programme in September 2023, it was recommended by the mayor not to proceed with launching this grant.

3 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Terminating the grant delivery contract may cause reputational damage with the grant delivery organisation, the council may also receive criticism for not proceeding with the launch of this grant.

4 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 4.1 Under clause 9 of the Terms and Conditions of the contract we can terminate the contract without any financial penalties, in view of this comments have not been sought from the chief financial officer.

'9. TERMINATION

9.1 The Council may terminate this Contract for whatever reason and without liability by giving not less than one month's written notice to the Contractor. In doing so, the Council shall not incur any liability and/or costs whatsoever, save in respect of any payment regarding correctly performed Services delivered at that date.'

5 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 5.1 Legal services have advised that Under D.9 of the corporate operating procedures early termination of a contract can be initiated by the Corporate Director, the person who reports to the corporate director and or one tier below that person.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- [Tower Hamlets Council - Agenda for Grants Determination \(Cabinet\) Sub-Committee on Wednesday, 12th January, 2022, 5.30 p.m.](#)

Appendices

- None

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

- [Tower Hamlets Council - Agenda for Grants Determination \(Cabinet\) Sub-Committee on Wednesday, 12th January, 2022, 5.30 p.m.](#)

Officer contact details for documents:

Eishrhat Islam, Assistant Project Manager