

## Small Grants Awards (Round One)

No.	Organisation Name	Project Name	Summary of Request	Comments	Grant
<b>Innovation</b>					
1	Phoenix Academie	Tower Hamlets Robotics & Coding Youth Project	A programme of free robotics and coding workshops delivered each weekend for six months. 10 local young people will be targeted, and 50 hours of training will be delivered. The project will culminate in individual presentations and participants will be given advice on future pathways as well as CV writing and how to job search.	The organisation is new and makes the case that an extended course on this subject is not currently available for disadvantaged young people. Shorter projects have highlighted the demand for such skills amongst young people and there is a robust monitoring plan in place to measure the progress of participants.	5,000
<b>Prevention</b>					
7	CoCreate Tower Hamlets	CoCreate After Hours	An arts and mindfulness group for people who are employed but are struggling with their mental health and wellbeing. Sessions will be held in the evening to be accessible to those working during the day. 36 sessions of two hours long will be provided, and the group will meet once a week.	The organisation has evidenced a clear need for the project amongst, people with mental health issues who are currently working. The timing of the sessions has been adapted to attract this group and the project will result in the improved health and wellbeing of participants and, by helping to keep people in employment, reduce the demand for statutory services.	5,000
8	Bangladeshi Mental Health Forum	Community Mental Health Awareness Campaign	Taking place over four months, the proposal is to deliver two mental health workshops per month in different locations, two mental health awareness events, a session to train community mental health champions and to establish drop-in advice sessions for the community.	The organisation has evidenced that the proposed activities will provide multiple engagement opportunities for local residents and raise awareness of mental health issues in the Bangladeshi community.	3,900
<b>Neighbourhood Action</b>					
21	Seeds for Growth	Samuda Community Engagement	A community gardening and food growing project at Samuda Community Garden. The project will involve a range of workshops on food growing and gardening for children as well as focus groups and parties. A garden enhancement plan will be produced by a community steering group which will be implemented to open in June 2020.	The application makes a clear case of meeting the Neighbourhood Action theme and will improve the local environmental and create social space. As a result of the project local citizens will also become more active in the community. The proposed grant offer is less than requested as the organisation will be encouraged to seek additional funding from the social housing provider who owns the land.	4,000

No.	Organisation Name	Project Name	Summary of Request	Comments	Grant
22	Limehouse Welfare Association	Knife Crime Workshops	The grant will cover the running of a Knife Crime Awareness Workshop at Hardford Street Multi-Centre for St Dunstan's Ward residents. The 3-hour workshop will provide information on the dangers of carrying a weapon and the organisation will bring in a professional speaker. Information booklets will be created and distributed	The organisation has demonstrated a clear need to raise awareness amongst local residents about the dangers of knife crime and increasing their knowledge around safety. The outcomes of the workshop align well with the neighbourhood action priorities	1,000
<b>Community Cohesion</b>					
25	Lincoln Area Regeneration Group	Black History Month at Poplar Union 2019	The grant will cover performance fees, event staff and publicity costs of 4 events for Black History Month at Poplar Union. The organisation will be working with Purple Moon Drama and Grand Union Orchestra to deliver 2 of the 4 events.	The proposed activities address the priorities and outcomes of the theme by bringing the community together and increasing cultural opportunities through relevant partnerships.	1,000
26	Tarling West TRA	TRA Social & Games Club	The grant will be used to purchase items to establish a weekly games and social club at the Tarling Residents Hall. This will be accessible for all ages and will include a pool table, table tennis table, football table, bats, balls, cues, wall rack, storage, publicity posters to advertise the club and refreshments.	The organisation has demonstrated community consultation and engagement to develop the project and the equipment will give residents the opportunity to socialise in a community space. There is a connection to building cohesion by enabling residents to socialise together and take more ownership of the space	984
27	Udichi Shilpi Gosthi	Bangladesh Book Fair Literary & Cultural Festival	A two-day festival celebrating Bangladeshi literature and culture. The event will showcase Bengali writers, artists and performers with 30 arts organisations and 100 performers involved. There will also be free workshops covering areas such as painting, creative writing and music.	The organisation has previously delivered the event eight times and has evidenced an ongoing demand. As well as celebrating Bangladeshi culture there will also be music, dance and arts from other cultures. Volunteers will be asked about the impact the project has had on their development of skills, their understanding of each other and social connections. The proposed grant is in line with previous event grants awarded by Tower Hamlets Council	3,500

No.	Organisation Name	Project Name	Summary of Request	Comments	Grant
28	Praxis Community Projects	Praxis Human Rights Festival	20 local residents and community organisers from migrant and refugee backgrounds will design and produce a festival celebrating the diversity of Tower Hamlets through food, art and music. 300 members of the community will attend, and two co-production workshops will be held earlier in the year to develop the programme and recruit volunteers	The organisation has delivered the event for the past four years and a variety of different communities will be involved in the planning and delivery to showcase a wide range of cultures. A monitoring plan is in place to measure connections to the local community, support networks and awareness of human rights. The proposed grant is in line with previous event grants awarded by Tower Hamlets Council.	3,500
29	Kayd Somali Arts and Culture	Somali Day Festival	Somali Day is an event celebrating Somali culture through art, music, food and comedy. It will be preceded by 12 separately funded workshops which will assist local people in developing their talents, to be showcased at the event. 200 people are expected to attend with 40% from a non-Somali background	The organisation has a track record of delivering the event and has evidenced that they have been able to engage large numbers of people from different communities in the past. The application has made a clear link to the theme outcomes of increasing social connections and building a better understanding of each other. The proposed grant is in line with previous event grants awarded by Tower Hamlets Council.	3,500
30	Dorset Community Association	Get Involved	A programme of 11 monthly community forums and holiday celebrations for residents in the Weavers and Bethnal Green wards. The forums will engage residents to discuss local issues, build understanding and develop leadership. Community celebrations will mark Christmas, Easter and Eid	The organisation has demonstrated that the project will engage diverse groups and will increase participation in the local community, in line with the theme outcomes. As the activities are largely events based the proposed grant is in line with previous event grants awarded by Tower Hamlets Council.	3,500
31	Bubble Club CIC	Bubble Club Inclusive & Immersive Events Programme	A programme of 46 workshops in which people with learning disabilities will collaborate with industry professionals to create interactive and accessible 'club nights'. Six Bubble Club's will take place bringing together those with and without learning disabilities and 200 people are expected to attend each event by next Summer.	The application has clearly demonstrated how the project will target isolated individuals and facilitate social connections both amongst adults with learning disabilities and with the wider community. The project will lead to a better understanding of learning disability amongst attendees at the events. Both of these outcomes are in line with the Community Cohesion theme.	5,000

No.	Organisation Name	Project Name	Summary of Request	Comments	Grant
32	Leaders in Community	Be Heard: Events	A group of 20 young people will lead the project and meet bi-weekly to plan and deliver four events, one each quarter, at which a panel of local decision makers will be assembled and asked questions by those in attendance. Each event will have a different theme, for example knife crime, and the panel will be chosen accordingly.	The application has demonstrated a definite need for a project that connects local residents to local decision makers and has made a clear case for the project increasing the participation of local people, in line with the theme outcomes. The proposed grant will be match funded with #iwill funds supporting youth social action to award the full amount requested.	2,425
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42,309</b>

## LB Tower Hamlets VCS Small Grants Programme

# Access and Participation Theme

### Establishing access and participation schemes to provide referral gateways for people from BAME communities

Public services are constantly seeking ways of ensuring services reach those who are most vulnerable and 'unreached' in society. Trust is a significant barrier for many. The purpose of this funding theme is to support voluntary and community sector (VCS) groups which are trusted by their communities to provide referral, support and informal advocacy services, connecting residents to the services that might be best to meet their needs and providing wider intelligence on the needs of their community.

This small grants theme is to support VCS groups run for and led by smaller and isolated BME communities. We are seeking to fund activities that will enable community groups to act as a source of information and signposting – a gateway for local residents to gain access to specialist services that will meet their needs – and also activities that will help small organisations act as informed advocates on behalf of the communities they represent.

While this theme will support information and signposting, it will not fund advice services which should be delivered by organisations with an appropriate quality standard or accreditation.

Funding can be used flexibly but is primarily intended to cover revenue costs. Funds can be used to fund a whole project or to pay for elements of a wider project there must be a quantifiable contribution to the proposed activity either in cash (other funding) or in kind (volunteer time, rent free premises etc). However, we do not require match funding

The total budget for this theme is £50,000 per annum. We anticipate that this theme will fund 10 to 15 projects with a range of annual funding levels up to a maximum of £5,000 per annum.

### Tower Hamlets Plan and Strategic Plan Priorities

C1	Strong, resilient and safe communities	
C2	Better health and wellbeing	
C3	Good jobs and employment	
C4	A better deal for young people	
S1	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities	
S2	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in	
S3	A dynamic outcomes-based Council using digital innovation and partnership working to respond to the changing needs of our borough	

### Theme priorities (Links to TH Plan and Strategic Plan Priorities listed above)

1. Developing pathways for residents from smaller minority communities to gain access to public services to meet their needs (All TH Plan priorities, S1 and S2)

2. Developing trusting relationships between public service providers and local residents (C1, S1 and S3)

### Theme outcomes

1. **Greater access to public services.** By providing support within the community vulnerable and 'hard to reach' residents have pathways to gain access to public services that meet their needs.
2. **Increased community resilience.** Community organisations are better able to support local residents and represent their needs.

### Examples of projects and activities

- Volunteer based information, signposting and advocacy services
- A programme of community forum meetings
- Partnership work with a service provider to deliver targeted outreach activities or sessions

### Eligibility

#### 1. Size of organisation

Organisations with an annual turnover in excess of £250,000 are not eligible to apply to the Small Grants Programme.

This theme will give priority to organisations with a turnover of less than £50,000 per annum

#### 2. Not for Profit

The grants programme will only support activities run by groups which can demonstrate they are set up as not for profit groups. The types of organisation which the Council considers to be not for profit is set out in the VCS Strategy and included in the policy framework at appendix B.

Individuals are not eligible.

#### 3. Locally based

The grants programme is intended to support the local VCS and community activity. The eligibility criteria for all grant themes reflect this principle. Organisations based outside the borough are not excluded from eligibility but they must show very clear connections to Tower Hamlets either through existing activity or local leadership of the proposed project. Applications will be encouraged from organisations based across the borough.

#### 4. Good governance

Organisations will be expected to achieve an acceptable level of governance with appropriate policies for the activities they propose to undertake. The acceptable level will be proportionate to the size of organisation and type of activity. The Council will accept applications from organisations in the process of developing appropriate policies but funding will not be paid until they are in place.

Proposals from un-constituted groups will be accepted but these should be supported by an organisation with appropriate levels of governance which will act as the 'accountable body' for any funds awarded.

### **5. Other criteria**

This theme will only support organisations which can show that at least 50% of their trustees/committee/board members are from BME communities.

### **Levels of Funding Available**

1. Up to £5,000 for one year with potential extension for a second year. Extension funding will be awarded following a submission of monitoring and evaluation information and positive assessment of the project

The total budget for this theme is £50,000 per annum. We anticipate that this theme will fund 10 to 15 projects with a range of annual funding levels

### **Monitoring arrangements**

1. Six monthly progress report and annual/end of project report and visit.

## LB Tower Hamlets VCS Small Grants Programme

# Community Support Services for Older People Theme

### Combatting social isolation of older people through the provision of community based support services

The benefits of providing community support services for older people are well documented in helping to promote wellbeing and a longer healthy life through reducing social isolation, increasing physical activity and maintaining independence in older age. The Equality Analysis of the change from the council's Mainstream Grants programme to the Local Community Fund highlighted a potential negative impact on services for older people, particularly those from smaller minority communities who use services provided by organisations led by members of their own community.

This small grant theme therefore focusses on supporting community based services run by BME led community groups. We are seeking to fund activities that bring older people together and provide activities that will increase independence and wellbeing and reduce social Isolation.

In this theme priority will be given to services for older people provided by BME community led organisations.

Applications may be made for projects that include the provision of a meal or other refreshment. The cost of premises, staff, volunteers and other costs for the project may be included but the Small Grants Programme will not pay for the cost of meals (ingredients, preparation etc).

Funding can be used flexibly but is primarily intended to cover revenue costs. Funds can be used to fund a whole project or to pay for elements of a wider project there must be a quantifiable contribution to the proposed activity either in cash (other funding) or in kind (volunteer time, rent free premises etc). However, we do not require match funding

The total budget for this theme is £100,000 per annum. We anticipate that this theme will fund eight to ten projects with a range of annual funding levels.

### Tower Hamlets Plan and Strategic Plan Priorities

C1	Strong, resilient and safe communities	
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working to respond to the changing needs of our borough
<b>Theme priorities (Links to TH Plan and Strategic Plan Priorities listed above)</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supporting older people from BME communities who would otherwise not access support services (C2)</li> <li>2. Reducing social isolation for older people (C2)</li> <li>3. Helping older people maintain physical health and mental wellbeing (C2)</li> <li>4. Maintaining independence and supporting older people to remain in their own homes (C2)</li> </ol>
<b>Theme outcomes</b>
<p><b>Relating specifically to older people from BME communities, projects must show they meet one or more of the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Reduced the demand for public services.</b> By providing support within the community and promoting independence and wellbeing in older age the demand for public services will be reduced.</li> <li>2. <b>Improved health and wellbeing.</b> Increase the proportion of older people from BME communities who feel their health and welfare needs can be met within the community.</li> <li>3. <b>Increased community resilience.</b> Community organisations are able to move towards more sustainable community based services with less reliance on public funding.</li> <li>4. <b>Increased knowledge relating to information and advice.</b> Increased access to quality advice and information for older residence and understanding where this is available.</li> </ol>
<b>Examples of projects and activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A service that provides physical and social activities for older people</li> <li>• An advice service working in partnership with an established community based service for older people</li> <li>• A befriending service that brings together older people for social and recreational activity</li> </ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Size of organisation</b> Organisations with an annual turnover in excess of £250,000 are not eligible to apply to the Small Grants Programme.  This theme will give priority to organisations with a turnover of less than £100,000 per annum</li> <li>2. <b>Not for Profit</b> The grants programme will only support activities run by groups which can demonstrate they are set up as not for profit groups. The types of organisation which the Council considers to be not for profit is set out in the VCS Strategy and included in this policy framework at appendix B.</li> </ol>

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