



AGENDA FOR THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE

Members of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee are summoned to a meeting which will be held in Committee Room 1 at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on **20 March 2023 at 6:30pm.**

Enquiries to : Ola Adeoye
Tel : (020) 7527 3044
E-mail : democracy@islington.gov.uk
Despatched : 10 March 2023

Membership

Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz
Councillor Una O'Halloran
Councillor Roulin Khondoker
Councillor Nurullah Turan

Substitute Members

Councillor Santiago Bell-Bradford
Councillor Rowena Champion
Councillor Michelline Ngongo
Councillor Diarmaid.Ward
Councillor John Woolf

Observers

Councillor Ilkay Conko-Oner
Councillor Jason Jackson
Councillor Anjna Khurana
Councillor Claire Zammit

Quorum: is 2 Councillors



1. Apologies for absence
2. Declaration of substitute members
3. Declarations of interest

If you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business:

- if it is not yet on the council's register, you must declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent;
- you may choose to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is already in the register in the interests of openness and transparency.

In both the above cases, you must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If you have a personal interest in an item of business and you intend to speak or vote on the item you must declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent but you may participate in the discussion and vote on the item.

***(a)** Employment, etc - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

(b) Sponsorship - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of your expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of your election; including from a trade union.

(c) Contracts - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between you or your partner (or a body in which one of you has a beneficial interest) and the council.

(d) Land - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.

(e) Licences- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.

(f) Corporate tenancies - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.

(g) Securities - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

This applies to **all** members present at the meeting.

4.	Minutes of the previous meeting	1 - 2
A.	Matters for decision	
1.	Local Initiatives Fund awards	3 - 28
2.	Islington Council Venues Community Free Hire Schemes Round 2	29 - 40
3.	London Borough Grants Scheme 2023/24	41 - 44

B. Matters for information

C. Urgent non-exempt matters

Any non-exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

D. Exclusion of press and public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the remaining items on the agenda, any of them are likely to involve the disclosure of exempt or confidential information within the terms of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and, if so, whether to exclude the press and public during discussion thereof.

E. Confidential/exempt items for information (if any)

F. Urgent Exempt Matters

Any exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting will be filmed by the Council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The whole of the meeting will be filmed, except where there are confidential or exempt items, and the footage will be on the website for 6 months. A copy of it will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy.

If you participate in the meeting you will be deemed by the Council to have consented to being filmed. By entering the Council Chamber you are also consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If you do not wish to have your image captured you should sit in the public gallery area, overlooking the Chamber.

In addition, the Council is obliged by law to allow members of the public to take photographs, film, audio-record, and report on the proceedings at public meetings. The Council will only seek to prevent this should it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

If you have any queries regarding webcasting or the recording of meetings by the public, please contact Democratic Services on democracy@islington.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

London Borough of Islington

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 21 November 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held in Committee Room 1 at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 21 November 2022 at 6.30 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Kaya Comer-Schwartz, Roulin Khondoker,
Una O'Halloran and Nurullah Turan

Observer: Councillor Jason Jackson

Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz in the Chair

6 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)**

Received from Councillor Anjna Khurana.

7 **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)**

None.

8 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)**

None.

9 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A4)**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2022 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

10 **LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND AWARDS (Item B1)**

The Chair proposed an amendment to recommendation 2.1 of the report as follows, which was agreed:

Delete the words in line 1 "Executive Member for Homes and Communities" and replace with "Director of Fairer Together"

RESOLVED:

(a) That authority be delegated to the Director of Fairer Together to approve funding for proposals arising as a result of the cost of living crisis and that those awards be reported to the next meeting of the Committee at which Local Initiatives Fund awards are considered.

(b) That the new proposals and changes to previous proposals submitted by Ward councillors and detailed in Appendix A of the report of the Executive Member for Homes and Communities be approved in principle, subject to the Director of Fairer

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 21 November 2022

Together being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any outstanding issues resolved.

(c) That the declarations of interest made by councillors having a connection with organisations that they are recommending funding for, as detailed in paragraph 4.3 of the report, be noted.

(d) That the Director of Fairer Together be authorised to make changes to the use of previously awarded funding, with new applications to be considered by the Committee.

Reasons for decision – The Local Initiatives Fund was an effective way of addressing local priorities and provided a mechanism for Ward councillors to support small projects. The approved proposals represented a wide range of activity and delivered significant benefits to local communities.

Other options considered – none

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted – none

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm

CHAIR

Community Engagement and Wellbeing
222 Upper Street, London N1 1XR

Report of Cllr O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities

Meeting of: Voluntary and Community Sector Committee

Date: 20 March 2023

Ward(s): All 17 wards

Subject: Local Initiatives Fund

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. The Local Initiatives Fund (LIF) is a flexible devolved budget for councillors to use to address issues and priorities in their wards. It is an important element of the council's community provision and helps to meet the needs of local residents. In 2022/23 each ward has an allocation of £13,000 to spend on local schemes. Councillors consider project ideas for their ward and make recommendations to the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee for formal approval.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To consider the new proposals and changes to previous proposals submitted by ward councillors as set out in Appendix A and to agree these proposals in principle subject to the Corporate Director of Community Engagement and Wellbeing being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.
- 2.2. To note the declarations of interest made by councillors due to having a connection with organisations that they are recommending funding for. These are detailed at paragraph 4.3.
- 2.3. To continue with delegated authority to the Corporate Director Community Engagement and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Executive Member for Homes and Communities, to make changes to the use of previously awarded funding.

- 2.4. To note that further applications received for projects addressing the cost of living crisis will be accepted until the end of March but will not be funded from the Local Initiatives Fund budget. These will be considered by the Cost of Living board and the Corporate Director Community Engagement and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Executive Member for Homes and Communities. This is detailed at paragraph 3.11.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Local Initiatives Fund enables councillors to respond directly to priorities in their ward that lie outside of current mainstream funding programmes and might not otherwise receive funding. It helps them to address the needs of local residents and suggest improvements to local services/facilities or new schemes that will enhance the area.
- 3.2. The Community Partnerships Team in the Community Engagement and Wellbeing Directorate is responsible for managing the Local Initiatives Fund in liaison with ward councillors and members of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Committee. The team ensures that funds are used appropriately and for the purpose for which they are allocated.
- 3.3. The VCS Committee's terms of reference include 'To be responsible for the allocation of the Islington Community Fund including...allocating the Local Initiatives Fund having regard to the recommendations of the relevant ward members/relevant ward partnership or neighbourhood group and on the basis that the funding will be allocated equally among the 16 wards making up the council's area'.
- 3.4. The VCS Committee in April 2011 agreed that each ward councillor should be given a notional allocation of the Local Initiatives Fund (i.e. divided equally between the councillors elected for each ward). In 2016/17, £15,000 was available to each ward; therefore the notional allocation for each councillor was £5,000.
- 3.5. In January 2017, the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee agreed that in order to address the issue of recruiting and retaining support for ward partnerships, an incentive payment of £1,000 per annum would be paid to each ward partnership co-ordinator and that £1,000 per annum be set aside from each ward partnership Local Initiatives Fund budget to fund this support.
- 3.6. In 2021/22, the annual Local Initiatives Fund budget was therefore £225,000. This was £14,000 per ward apart from the Bunhill and Clerkenwell ward budgets which were each £14,500.
- 3.7. In March 2022, it was agreed that two new ward partnership co-ordinator posts needed to be created. An additional ward partnership co-ordinator was recruited to the Finsbury ward partnership due to the additional workload involved in dealing with two wards. In May 2022, the number of wards in Islington increased from 16 to 17 which meant that a further ward partnership co-ordinator was recruited.
- 3.8. Due to the increased amount spent on honorariums/ incentive payments to co-ordinators and the larger number of wards, the amount of funding available in each

ward budget in 2022/23 for local schemes is £13,000. This means there is a reduction of the overall LIF budget from £240,000 to £238,000. Of this £238,000, £17,000 is spent on honorariums with £221,000 left to allocate to local schemes.

- 3.9. In November 2019, authority was delegated to the Head of Community Partnerships, to allocate funding, up to the value of £250, to activity to support Ward Partnership meetings. Awards approved under delegated authority should be reported to the next VCS Committee at which Local Initiatives Fund awards are considered. In September 2021, it was agreed that funding up to the value of £1,000 can be approved by the Head of Community Partnerships and Corporate Director Community Engagement and Wellbeing for activity to support Ward Partnership meetings.
- 3.10. Due to the challenges being faced by the cost of living crisis, the decision was made to open up LIF for applications during the winter period (Oct 2022-March 2023) to ensure that voluntary and community sector organisations were able to respond on the ground to the crisis, and that funding was awarded and processed promptly to support the sector during this difficult time. In addition, applications responding to the crisis were taken under delegated authority to the Corporate Director Community Engagement and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Executive Member for Homes and Communities, for formal approval to ensure that decisions were made swiftly. These awards have been reported to the VCS Committee retrospectively for information.
- 3.11. Due to limited funding being available in most wards, any further applications received for projects addressing the cost of living crisis will be accepted until the end of March but will not be funded from the Local Initiatives Fund budget. These will be considered by the Cost Of Living board and the Corporate Director Community Engagement and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Executive Member for Homes and Communities. The relevant ward councillors will be informed of any decisions made for projects related to their ward. These awards will be reported to the first VCS Committee in 2023/24 for information.

4. LIF Awards 2022/23

- 4.1. Occasionally projects do not proceed as planned and funding is returned to ward budgets or the use of a grant has to be changed.

Three very small underspends totalling £87 have been returned to the Bunhill, St Mary's and St James' and St Peter's and Canalside budgets for reallocation. The Bunhill and St Mary's and St James' amounts were due to underspends on ward partnership meetings. The St Peter's and Canalside amount was due to an underspend on a £440 grant awarded in November 2022 for signage for Canalside Gardens and Packington Square.

These amendments to the ward budgets are reflected in the budget summary on the last page of Appendix A. In total, £87 has been returned to the ward budgets in this round. This increases the amount available to allocate in 2022/23 from £260,817 to £260,904.

- 4.2. 48 applications for funding have been received since the last VCS Committee in November 2022.

Five applications were related to Ward Partnership activity, were recommended for funding and then formally agreed by the Head of Community Partnerships / Corporate Director of Community Engagement and Wellbeing under delegated authority. These five applications totalling £982 are listed at the end of Appendix A for information only.

Six applications for projects addressing the cost of living crisis were agreed under delegated authority between 9 November and 13 December 2022. A total of £11,326 was allocated to these 6 applications. A further seven applications for projects addressing the cost of living crisis were agreed under delegated authority on 20 February 2023. A total of £10,275 was allocated to these 7 applications. These 13 applications are listed in Appendix A for information only. This means the total amount allocated to cost of living crisis applications since the November VCS Committee is £21,601.

A further two cost of living applications were received for two wards who did not have enough remaining budget to fully fund them. In addition, two of the seven most recent applications addressing the cost of living crisis were not fully funded. The above 4 applications and any further cost of living applications received before the end of March will be considered by the Cost of Living board and the Corporate Director Community Engagement and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Executive Member for Homes and Communities.

Of the remaining 28 applications, two applications were deferred until the first round of 2023/24 and one application was not recommended for funding by ward councillors leaving a total of 25 applications recommended by ward councillors. As some wards were heavily oversubscribed for their remainder in this last round, they could not afford to fully fund all of the applications received so some applications were part funded and the councillors have asked that the balance of these applications be deferred to the next round in 2023/24.

If the remaining 25 councillor funding recommendations are formally agreed by this VCS Committee, there will be £7,885 left in the 2022/23 budget and would mean that 151 grants have been awarded in 2022/23. This £7,885 will be carried forward and added to the 2023/24 budget.

A list of the 25 applications recommended for funding and the recommended amount for each application is set out in Appendix A.

11 of the 48 applications received are from first time applicants to LIF and 9 of these have been recommended for funding. Four organisations are listed more than once in Appendix A (i.e. have submitted more than one application to this round).

4.3. Councillors must always declare their interest if they have a connection with an organisation that they are recommending funding for. Declarations of interest have been made for the following applications reported to this Committee:

- Cllr Phil Graham is employed at St Luke's Parochial Trust that has been allocated £1010 for a food hub.
- Cllr Valerie Bossman-Quarshie is a trustee of St Luke's Parochial Trust that has been allocated £1010 for a food hub.
- Cllr Ruth Hayes is a trustee of Marx Memorial Library that has been allocated £320 for two weekend sessions as part of their 90th anniversary programme.
- Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz is the daughter of the coordinator of Cooperation Girdlestone that has been allocated £1866 for a food share programme on and near the Girdlestone estate.
- Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz is the daughter of the chair of Girdlestone Gardening Group that has been allocated £1500 for garden furniture, equipment, materials, tools and a contractor.
- Cllr Tricia Clarke is a governor of Tufnell Park Primary School that has been allocated £1000 to make their reclaimed pond garden more accessible.

Awards were made to the following ward partnerships for costs associated with holding ward partnership meetings or events:

- Arsenal – meeting on 22 November - £278.76
- Arsenal – fun day on 25 March - £500
- Caledonian – meeting on 21 February - £49
- Canonbury – stakeholder meeting on 30 November - £104
- Holloway – community fun day on 28 January - £50

The councillors funding these costs are members of these ward partnerships and the main organisers of the meetings / events so have declared an interest in the above.

5. Implications

5.1. Financial Implications

The Local Initiatives Fund in Financial Year 2022/23 has a total of £260,904 to allocate. This is comprised of an annual budget of £221,000 and a carried forward underspend/unallocated amount of £39,904 from previous financial years. An additional £17,000 LIF budget is spent on honorarium/ incentive payments to ward partnership co-ordinators to a total of £1,000 per annum per ward. The core budget available for LIF will be £238,000.

Any recommendations for carry forwards of LIF underspends will be subject to yearly reviews of the wider financial needs of the Council. The current earmarked reserves as a consequence of previous financial year's carry forwards are sufficient to meet the funding requirements of this report.

Any loosening of monitoring procedures will need to ensure that suitable controls remain to ensure financial best practice in the Council's dealings with voluntary and community organisations.

The proposals referred to in this report can be met from budget and reserve allocations from the Local Initiatives Fund. Delays or alterations to LIF projects may increase ward underspends in Financial Year 2023/24.

Financial Year 2023/24 will start with a comprised annual budget of £221,000 and any additional carried forward underspend/unallocated. An additional £17,000 LIF budget will be spent on honorarium/ incentive payments to ward partnership co-ordinators to a total of £1,000 per annum per ward. The core budget available for LIF will be £238,000.

Any recommendations to revert to previously held carry forward capping will reduce the carry forward and the money available for the LIF programme, but will improve the financial position of the Council.

5.2. Legal Implications

The general power of competence pursuant to Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides the council with very broad powers 'to do anything that individuals generally may do'. This covers the power to give grants to voluntary and community sector organisations as proposed in this report and includes anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the whole or part of its area or all or any of the persons resident or present in that area. The provision of resources through the Local Initiatives Fund is likely to promote the social and economic well-being of Islington's residents.

The council is under a fiduciary duty to ensure that its resources are used appropriately. Where the money is allocated to outside bodies, the requirements of the procurement rules may apply. In any event it will be important to maintain current practice of ensuring that the money will be used for the purposes for which it is allocated and that individual members are made aware of the responsibility they bear in making recommendations in relation to specific groups.

5.3. Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

Some of the projects funded by the LIF grants have carbon and environmental impacts, including the use of energy, fuel, water, food & drink, materials, and printing, while events being funded may create waste or journeys that contribute to transport-related emissions if attendees drive. However, some projects also have positive environmental impacts, including planting, greening areas and local food growing. Overall, projects will be undertaken with regard with the council's goal of achieving a net zero Islington by 2030.

5.4. Equalities Impact Assessment

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

When considering proposals the VCS Committee will take relevant equalities implications into account. The Local Initiatives Fund provides resources for local projects which directly meet the needs of local residents, many of whom are from groups with protected characteristics. It enables some of Islington's poorest communities to access community-based services and activities and allows provision to be developed locally which can reach groups of residents that may not otherwise be supported.

6. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

The Local Initiatives Fund is an effective way of addressing local priorities and provides a mechanism for ward councillors to support small projects which might otherwise not be funded. Proposals submitted for approval represent a wide range of activity and will deliver significant benefit to local communities.

Agreeing to carry forward residual amounts of funding to next year's budget will help to ensure a more efficient allocation of resources.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Local Initiatives Fund Proposals

Background papers: none

Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Cllr Una O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities

Date: 9 March 2023

Report Author: Patricia Keating, Community Partnerships Investment Officer
Tel: 020 7527 8325
Email: Patricia.Keating@islington.gov.uk

Financial Implications Author: Ellena Smith, Deputy Finance Manager (Community Engagement and Wellbeing)
Tel: 020 7527 4257
Email: Ellena.Smith@islington.gov.uk

Legal Implications Author: Sonal Mistry, Interim Chief Lawyer (Governance)
Tel: 020 7527 3833
Email: Sonal.Mistry@islington.gov.uk

Environmental Implications Author: Gearoid Kennedy, Islington Sustainable Energy Partnership Manager
Tel: 07907 979 563
Email: Gearoid.Kennedy@islington.gov.uk

NEW COST OF LIVING CRISIS PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES BETWEEN 9 NOVEMBER AND 13 DECEMBER 2022 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Arsenal / Caledonian / Finsbury Park / Highbury / Junction / Laycock / Mildmay / St Peter's & Canalside / Tufnell Park	Streets Kitchen	Provision of a full festive Christmas dinner with entertainment and activities such as bingo, karaoke, board games, carol singing and special guest appearances. This event is targeted specifically at people experiencing homelessness so invites will be targeted through day centres, via homeless outreach and will be extended through partner organisations such as Help On Your Doorstep and Age UK. Funding to pay for food and beverages, transport, bingo/karaoke equipment hire and prizes, printing and take away containers and cutlery.	Islington Assembly Hall, Upper Street	Sunday 25 December 2022, event from 12pm to 5pm	Targeted specifically at people experiencing homelessness	100	2,790	2,790	Not applicable	
Page 11 Arsenal	Highbury Vale Blackstock Trust	Warm place at Elizabeth House (EH) with inclusive activities and support for community members. As well as a warm place where people can receive direct support from their community team, they will offer a range of inclusive activities to improve physical and mental wellbeing for all participants. These will include chair yoga (proven to enhance physical mobility and reduce anxiety), a weekly hot lunch and refreshments, talks and health information, arts & craft, advice and referrals, tech support and a vital warm space. Funding to pay for the costs of an activity facilitator and community chef for 16 weeks, supplies, resources, refreshments, food and contributions towards room usage and utilities, management and admin costs.	Elizabeth House, 2 Hurlock Street	Monday (11am to 3pm) and Wednesday (10.30am to 3pm) over 16 weeks (30 November 2022 to 29 March 2023), term time only	Those aged 65+, the most vulnerable and those living in Arsenal ward, other residents attending activities at EH	Up to 30 per session (100 people overall)	2,986	10,700	Information not requested	
Holloway	The Pleasance Theatre Trust	Provision of a Warm Space for the local community to sit or work remotely mid week if they cannot afford to turn their own heating on. They will look to open the foyer space in the theatre as a Warm Space from early January. The end date of the project is unknown at this stage, but they will treat the first few weeks of the project as a trial so that they can adapt the offer and be responsive to the needs of the community. They will provide hot drinks such as tea and coffee free of charge, as well as water and free wifi. Those using the space will also be welcome to read books from their small theatre library in the foyer and use their supply of toys and games. Toilets will also be available with free female hygiene products for those who may need them. Funding to pay for extra staffing to supervise for three weeks, feminine hygiene products, a local marketing campaign (leaflet printing and distribution) and refreshments (teas and coffees).	Foyer space of the Pleasance Theatre	11 am - 5pm, Tuesday to Thursday (which may be updated in line with needs of the community), starting in January (first few weeks are a trial)	Local residents	10 to 30 per session	1,000	1,000	Local marketing campaign (designer time), management time and contribution to heating and lighting - all gifted in kind	

NEW COST OF LIVING CRISIS PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES BETWEEN 9 NOVEMBER AND 13 DECEMBER 2022 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Laycock	Light Project Pro International (LPPI)	The food bank provides parcels to those in the neighbourhood who can't afford to buy food. The boxes feature healthy essentials, with fresh produce, wholefood ingredients and store cupboard ingredients. Bulk orders of essentials are combined with food donations from local partners. With the cost of living increasing food prices, they expect to see more people struggling to feed their families or provide a decent level of nutrition. In addition, the Ringcross food bank has recently been shut and they have taken on some deliveries and members from there but have not been able to take everyone due to limited supplies and diminishing supply chains/donations. Funding to pay for food items, non-food items (toiletries, nappies, sanitary products, cleaning products) and travel costs (for the collection and delivery of food/items).	Food bank at The Exchange, Watkinson Road, N7 (Ringcross Estate)	Dec 2022 to March 2023 but buying food items that last longer, open Wednesdays 12 to 2pm for walk-ins, delivery of food parcels on Wednesdays too	Local residents	70 to 150 (96 households registered currently)	1,000	1,000	Not applicable	
St Peter's & Canalside	St Clement's Church	Warm Winter Wednesdays, a warm space with hot snacks (initially) throughout the day so that people can spend the whole day in a warm space thereby saving themselves both heating and eating costs. There will be opportunities to socialise, to talk privately with someone or watch documentaries or a film (on their projector and screen). When needed, they will signpost people onto other warm places that are open on different days, e.g. libraries, other churches, community centres, CAB, etc. They have already spent several hundred pounds on printing leaflets and fliers and having them delivered to most of the homes in the parish and they aim to do another flier drop in the next week or two. Funding to contribute towards heating, food and drinks, publicity distribution and printing / copying.	St Clement's Church, King Square	Up to 6 months (5 October 2022 to 29 March 2023), every Wednesday from 9am to 5pm	Local residents	20-30 people per week	1000	2,430	Information not requested	
Tufnell Park	St George's Church	Wellbeing Lunch and Food Hub. The existing Wellbeing Café will be extended, so that there is a warm space for people to come to and relax on Wednesdays. There will be tea/coffee/pastries and activities, such as crafts. They will add in a hot lunch and food for people to take away. Food will partly be provided by waste food being collected from the local supermarket. This is already happening on an ad hoc basis, but they would be able to pay someone a sessional fee to investigate local food waste, collect food, store it safely in a community freezer space and cook it for the lunch. Waste food which cannot be made into a hot lunch will be put out the front of church for anyone to help themselves to, as a new food hub for the local area. Funding to pay for a sessional staff worker, a community freezer, heating and building costs, food (in addition to the waste food) and advertising.	St George's Church, Crayford Road	Wednesdays 10.30-1.30pm for twelve weeks, 9 January – 31 March as a trial period, but a view to continue if successful	Local residents struggling with heating and food bills	15+ per session	2,550	3,000	Information not requested	

NEW COST OF LIVING CRISIS PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES ON 20 FEBRUARY 2023 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Page 13 Arsenal	Highbury Vale Blackstock Trust	Warm place at Elizabeth House (EH) with inclusive activities and support for community members. This funding will go towards the expansion of their community services to support more residents through the cost of living crisis. With funding from the Islington Food Partnership, they plan to start another weekly community meal and will continue to run community activities, the Food Hub and a warm place offer throughout the winter and into early spring. Their mixed offer enables residents to meet others, access food, participate in wellbeing activities while being in a warm space. Their 'Warm Place' programme is simple: to have regular activities for everyone, in a multi-purpose space where there is no stigma and facilitate access to practical support (food parcels, signposting) and opportunities (volunteering, training, grants and more). Funding to pay for an activity facilitator for six weeks, a community chef for six weeks, supplies, resources, refreshments and food and a contribution to room usage and utilities.	Elizabeth House, 2 Hurlock Street	March to May 2023, Monday (11am to 3pm), Tuesday (11am to 1.30pm) and Wednesday (10.30am to 3pm) to May 2023 - term time only	Those aged 65+, the most vulnerable and those living in Arsenal ward, other residents attending activities at EH	Up to 35 per session (overall at least 100 people)	1,000	13,300	Co-funded by LIF (£2,986 awarded in Nov), The Raising Trust and individual donations	
		A free mentored cooking course which helps residents on low incomes save money and change to a healthier diet. Those most in need are found through referrals and outreach - liaising with community organisations, council services, charities, mental health services, health providers, foodbanks, schools, job centres, community centres, etc. Participants have 2 weeks to cook 3 recipes in their own time, guided by a mentor (in a small Whatsapp group, or by phone/email) who offers support and encouragement and posts videos and tips. At the end, participants are invited to join long term support groups through Facebook/Whats App. The Facebook group has over 1,500 other graduates. The mentored approach combined with long term support groups mean lasting changes to people's diets resulting in improved health and well-being, better finances and improved mental health. Funding to pay for staff costs, flyers, course materials, food purchase, bagging and transport, overheads, food ingredients, phone and insurance, knife sharpeners and specialist materials.	In the home with mentoring by Whatsapp, phone or email	6 courses (each lasting around 2 weeks) from March to December 2023	The most disadvantaged (with almost all being on benefits)	91 (7 per contributing ward)	4,666.63	15,000	£1250 Arsenal Foundation, £3,000 tbc Islington Giving Food Fund, £2,500 tbc Compass Well being	The amount requested from 13 wards is £7,280 (£560 per ward).
Arsenal / Barnsbury / Caledonian / Canonbury / Finsbury Park / Junction / Laycock / St Peter's & Canalside / Tufnell Park	Bags of Taste									

NEW COST OF LIVING CRISIS PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES ON 20 FEBRUARY 2023 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Arsenal	St Thomas the Apostle Church, Finsbury Park	Tea at St Thomas's, a weekly session which is open to all. It is a chance to come together for conversation, tea, cake and sandwiches, all of which are provided free of charge. It addresses loneliness and improves mental health for local residents. This warm space provision has been registered with the Warm Welcome campaign. They are planning a fresh advertising campaign with posters and leaflets in various places in the local area. They also advertise this via their website and social media. Funding to pay for heating, refreshments and advertising.	St Thomas's Church, Monsell Road, N4 2PQ	January to December 2023, Thursdays from 2pm to 4pm	Open to all	5 to 25 per session	500	500	Not applicable	
Bunhill	St Luke's Parochial Trust	St Luke's Food Hub provides disadvantaged households with healthy and good quality food for 8 weeks. Their main food donation suppliers are Felix Trust and City Harvest. In addition, the Hub purchases a small stock of produce each week to supplement these donations ensuring the offer is culturally diverse and includes fresh fruit/vegetables and toiletries. This funding application will enable St Luke's to purchase these additional items. Eligibility criteria ensures the project supports the most disadvantaged members of our community who are experiencing food insecurity and rising costs associated with the current cost of living crisis. Funding to pay for eight weeks of supplementary food, fruit, vegetables and toiletries.	St Luke's Community Centre, 90 Central Street, EC1V 8AJ	February to March 2023, every Tuesday and Wednesday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm for 8 weeks	The most disadvantaged residents who are experiencing food insecurity and rising costs	Up to 25 residents per session, 120+ residents each week	1,009.92	1,009.92	Not applicable	
Hillrise	Hanley Crouch Community Association	For the past two and a half years, they have been running a food bank and are also now providing a warm space to go to as the cost of living increases. The communal heating at Holly Park Estate will be turned off between the hours of 11am to 2pm which is the time for their warm spaces service so the warm spaces have been linked with the food bank. Their warm spaces will offer hot soup, teas and coffees including a take away meal. There will be additional support such as DV support, debt kiosk and signposting to relevant organisations. There will also be classes in Afrikan yoga and internet access and board games will be provided. Practical support such as hot water bottles, hats etc. will also be available. Funding to pay for disposable cutlery/bowls, hats and gloves and board games.	Brickworks Community Centre	November 2022 to March 2023	Local residents	50	500	2,434	£1934 Islington Council	

NEW COST OF LIVING CRISIS PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES ON 20 FEBRUARY 2023 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Junction	Cooperation Girdlestone	Girdlestone food outreach, to develop a programme to reach households who would benefit from a food share programme on and near the Girdlestone estate. As part of this, they aim to increase the number of local suppliers who offer reduced cost or donate food and household goods, to survey members to ensure they are providing goods that they need, to look at developing a social programme during the winter and spring months that would enable members to increase their social interaction and share basic recipes and a light snack or lunch and to purchase a range of fresh food and essentials / basic equipment that is not available currently. Funding to pay for tutor fees (for warm hub such as dance and singing), bulk and fresh foods, kitchen equipment, food hygiene equipment for volunteers, cleaning products and equipment, printing and publicity, floor covering and storage for food store, volunteers' expenses and signage and training costs for volunteers.	Girdlestone Community Centre, Under 151 Salisbury Walk	January to June 2023	Junction ward residents (Girdlestone Estate mostly)	100	1,866	1,866	Not applicable	
Mildmay	St Jude and St Paul's Church, Mildmay	Annual costs for a Tuesday Drop-in and The Living Room - weekly welcoming and warm spaces. For the Tuesday Drop In, they provide hot food, refreshments, a book bank and clothes bank. This runs alongside a food bank provided by the Newington Green Action Group in the same space. They ask for a £1 donation where possible. The Living Room provides a free after school drop in for primary aged children with their parents/carers where they can take part in craft and games. Snacks and drinks are provided. They hope to eventually include a light hot meal. Funding to pay for hot food, heating / lighting, takeaway containers and cups and games/crafts/activities.	St Jude and St Paul's Church Mildmay, London, N1 4PL.	March 2022 to March 2023, Drop In every Tuesday from 12pm to 3pm, Living Room is every Thursday from 3.30pm to 5pm (in term time)	Local residents (Drop In), primary aged children with their parents/carers (Living Room)	30-40 for Drop In per week, 30-35 for Living Room per week	732.35	5,500	Not applicable, small donations from Drop In attendees totalling £450 (last year)	The amount requested is £5,500.

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Arsenal / Finsbury Park / Tollington	Holloway Neighbourhood Group on behalf of Finsbury Park Women's Group Network	Summer Celebration for Women, a community event for BAMER and migrant women and their children on the Andover Estate to promote social cohesion and celebrate their achievements, talents and diversity. Members of the Finsbury Park Women's Group Network including One True Voice; Turkish, Kurdish and Cypriot Women's Welfare Group; Jannaty; Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation; Maa Shanti; Holloway Neighbourhood Group; Community Language Support Services; Middle Eastern Women and Society Organisation; and Stepping Stone4 will come together to organise an event to celebrate the achievements of local women. The groups will exhibit their cultures, music and dance and share traditional food. Funding to pay for food and refreshments, child care and face painting, sundry items, management, bouncy castle hire, hall hire, cleaning, a henna artist and a dance facilitator.	Finsbury Park Community Hub, Corker Walk	Event on a Saturday in early August 2023 (exact date tbc)	Mainly women from BAMER communities	120 (60 from Finsbury Park, 30 from Arsenal, 30 from Tollington)	2,000	2,300	£300 Holloway Neighbourhood Group (2 days salary for co-ordination)	
Arsenal	Al-Abrar Foundation	Al-Abrar Foundation runs various community empowerment programmes. This two month long project focusses on enabling members of the community (particularly young people) to get access to jobs, public services as well as provide personal development activities. This includes counselling and coaching services for 16-24 olds for 4 hours per week and online job search and CV writing sessions for 2 hours per week. Two community conversations will also be held for 40 older people and community leaders (one per month) focussing on issues like the cost of living crisis, sustainability, crime prevention and media inclusion. Funding to pay for staffing for 58 hours, refreshments for two Community Conversations, venue hire for 4 hours and stationery.	Al-Abrar Community Centre, 89/93 Fonhill Road	2 May to 30 June 2023 (two months long)	Islington residents, mainly from the Somali community	150 (30 young adults (16-24 yrs) and 80 to 100 community members)	1,023.10	1,023.10	Not applicable	
Arsenal	Rafiki Wema CIC	A six week digital inclusion programme for 15 adults from disadvantaged ethnic minority communities who have limited English and IT skills. This digital training will primarily cover popular computer applications (such as Word and Excel), how to use online search engines (particularly for job searches and filling applications) and online and social media safety. One four hour session will be delivered once per week over the six weeks. Funding to pay for workshop venue hire, transport costs for the tutor and stationery.	London Fashion Center, 89/93 Fonhill Road	15 May to 25 June 2023 (4 hours per week for 6 weeks)	Young adults from the most disadvantaged communities in the borough	15 young adults	960	960	Not applicable	

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Arsenal	Galbur Foundation	Let's Talk – Promoting young women and girls' mental health. Following the success of 'Girls Mind Matters' workshops in October 2022, two more three hour workshops will be held relating to Mental Health; the first workshop will be on key concepts for development of mental well-being and resilience and provide self-help tips for young girls. The second workshop will be focusing on the stigma and cultural sensitivity around mental health in BAME communities and providing information where they can get support. The workshops will be held in the summer half-term holiday and it will provide support to the young people during a very strenuous exam period. Funding to pay for a workshop consultant, refreshments, venue hire, volunteers, project management/overheads and printing / promotion.	Al-Abrar Community Hub, 89/93 Fonthill Road	Two-week period consecutively during the exam period, first workshop on 26 May 2023, second workshop on 2 June 2023 (each workshop is 3 hours long)	Young women and girls in Islington that are in the Somali and Arab speaking community	Up to 30 young women and girls	1,000	1,130	£130 Galbur Foundation (in kind)	
Arsenal	Jubba Youth Community Association	Take Another Chance. The objectives of this organisation are to build the capacity of young people by developing leadership skills and building confidence, to provide support, advice and guidance for young refugees and the wider Somali community through educative programmes and cultural projects and to provide a safe and open space for young people to talk about issues affecting them. Their overall aim is for young men not to join gangs but instead develop life skills and go into education, training or employment. By improving their skill in sport, the young people will gain a sense of achievement and great self-confidence. Football training will teach the participants courage and self-discipline. Funding to pay for football pitch hire, a football coach for 10 weeks, football equipment and volunteer expenses for 10 weeks.	Whittington Park	23 July to 24 September 2023 (2 hours per week for football)	Young people from BME backgrounds (most aged 14-21), who are demotivated, low achievers, or not accessing training, education and apprenticeship opportunities	20 to 30 but could grow to 60 by July 2023	1,000	1,650	Not applicable	The amount requested is £1650.
Arsenal / Barnsbury / Bunhill / Caledonian / Highbury / Hillrise / Junction / Laycock / Mildmay / St Peter's & Canalside / Tufnell Park	Islington Faiths Forum (Celebrate Islington - Community Festival)	Celebrate Islington - Community Festival, all aspects of which will be organised by community partners/networks, including all contributors (performers, volunteers and stall holders), food, drink and health and safety. The confirmed delivery partners are Octopus Community Network, Voluntary Action Islington, Forum+, Islington Refugee and Migrant Forum, Islington Hate Crime Forum and the LBI Community Partnerships Team. The event celebrates Islington's rich diversity thereby promoting community cohesion and safety and promotes joint working between community networks, other VCS groups and LBI departments/statutory organisations all with a view to serving the community optimally together in Islington. Funding to pay for food, festival planning and management, community partner/networks contributions and drinks and paper cups (hot and cold drinks).	Assembly Hall, Islington Town Hall	Planning by community partners/networks from 1 April 2023 onwards, event on 12 July 2023	Islington's diverse community	262 (based on 2019 figures)	3,180.14	8,796	£2,500 Gunners Fund, £2,694 worth of contributions secured under the LBI Free Hire Scheme	The amount requested is £3,602 from 14 wards (£257 per ward).

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Arsenal / Barnsbury / Bunhill / Caledonian / Finsbury Park / Highbury / Junction / Laycock / Mildmay / Tufnell Park	Muslim Welfare House (Eid in Highbury Fields Park 2023)	An EID Festival for Islington in June 2023 on the special Islamic day of Eid Ul Adha, a fun fair in Highbury Fields Park with food, activities and music which will be open to everyone. There will be cultural food, cultural music and traditional clothing exhibition/stalls for the public to view and try on. There will also be face painting for kids and henna tattoos for adults. The event aims to promote social inclusion, community cohesion and cultural diversity. This year they hope to invite all local mosques and churches as well as other faiths. Funding to contribute towards equipment hire (tables, game stalls, chairs, 10 fun fair rides), toilets, food, entertainment, stage and sound system, marketing, toys to give away and other associated costs.	Highbury Fields Park	Event on Wednesday 28 or Thursday 29 June 2023	Everyone who is interested, people of all faiths and no faiths	6,500 (250 per ward for most wards) with 2,500 from Finsbury Park	5,929.31	18,400	£3,400 Muslim Welfare House	The amount requested is £15,000 from 14 wards (£1071 per ward)
Page 18 Caledonian	LBI Community Partnerships (Cally Festival / Jean Stokes)	Jean Stoke Community Centre improvements and community engagement for the 2023 Cally Festival. The 2023 Cally Festival will be the 11th annual large-scale community event on Caledonian Road. The event will build on last year's event which featured music stages, performance areas, children's activities, sports areas, arts and crafts and a street market. Jean Stokes Community Centre will be central to the delivery of the festival with a number of activities taking place in the community centre. These costs are linked to the We are Cally Plan which aims to work with local people and organisations to create new opportunities, to improve local facilities and shape a brighter future for the Cally. Funding to pay for equipment for Jean Stokes Community Centre and community engagement for the Cally Festival.	A 400 metre section of Caledonian Road (from the junctions of Richmond Avenue to Offord Rd) for the festival and Jean Stokes Community Centre	31 January to 1 September 2023	Festival - Islington residents, with the majority from Caledonian and neighbouring wards	6,000	5,725.77	52,275	£45,500 tbc match funding (£20,000 tbc S106/CIL, £16,000 tbc sponsors, £4,500 tbc commercial (market) income	The amount requested is £6,775.
Canonbury	Isledon Arts CIC (Rose Bowl Summer Celebration 2023)	Rose Bowl is a Play and Youth provision located in Canonbury managed by Isledon Arts CIC. Rose Bowl delivers an annual one day community event called the Summer Celebration in St Paul's Open Space. This year's event will feature performances by young people as well as sports competitions, a bouncy castle, arts, crafts and a BBQ. Access to Sports will be delivering sporting activities. Help on Your Doorstep will be carrying out a community safety consultation to identify local residents' safety concerns and gather feedback on how these safety concerns can be addressed. Local PCSOs will also be attending the event. Soap Box youth hub will also be attending and will be demonstrating VR headsets as well as 3D printing. Funding to pay for rodeo bull, Disney slide, generator, PA hire equipment, catering, video filming and editing, a face painting tutor, arts and crafts resources, face paint and resources and other associated costs.	St Paul's Park, Ramsey Walk, N1 2PT	Saturday 1 July 2023 between 12pm and 5pm	All sections of the community, though mainly young people come, targeted at Canonbury residents, but residents from neighbouring wards also attend	200	1,280.47	4,155	£1115 2023-24 Canonbury LIF, £960 Rose Bowl / Isledon (staffing including DJ), £800 Rose Bowl / Isledon (posters, leaflets and banners)	The amount requested is £2,395. £1115 balance to be deferred to 2023/24.

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Canonbury	Islington Street Associations	A local organisation building and sustaining resident-led Street Associations to make their streets more friendly and supportive, build bridges between ages and races, and encourage residents to play a full part in their communities – social and civic. Funding is requested for ongoing support, engagement and outreach with residents across six Islington Street Associations (ISA) - Elmore St, Elizabeth Ave, Yeate St, Halliford Street, Almorah St as well as the Bentham Estate. They also wish to create three more street associations in 2023. Outreach is conducted across all streets and the estate through 'Door step visits' to introduce ISA and upcoming events and discover residents' needs, contact via social media, street events including street parties, jumble and Halloween trails, direct support to vulnerable residents, supporting residents to develop local solutions and ensuring outreach and connections to other support and community groups and Islington Council. Funding to pay for the annual staffing costs of the lead project worker and two assistant project workers, events, publicity, outreach and activities for three new street associations, training by the lead project worker, running costs/expenses and insurance.	Hopefully Almorah Road Community Centre soon alongside outdoor activities in LTN areas, other local venues in the meantime	April 2023 to March 2024	All sections of the Canonbury community	Up to 900 households and gradually increasing over time	1,280.47	3,000	£1720 2023-24 Canonbury LIF	The amount requested is £3,000. £1720 balance to be deferred to 2023/24.
Clerkenwell	Marx Memorial Library	MML at 90: Clerkenwell: Our Home; Our Radical History - as part of their 90th anniversary programme, and to coincide with work commencing on the redevelopment of Clerkenwell Green, the Marx Memorial Library will be hosting two weekend sessions aimed at local residents highlighting the radical history of Clerkenwell. There will be a feature tour of their historic building and a workshop drawing on their unique archives making connections between the history of the Marx Memorial Library in their anniversary year and the radical history of the area. This will include material on May Day and on the tolpuddle martyrs for example. This is an opportunity for attendees to feed back on what they would like to see from the MML in future and how they would like to engage with the radical history of the area. Funding to pay for design and printed publicity material, volunteer expenses (volunteer tour guides and workshop supervisors), office supplies and refreshments.	Marx Memorial Library, EC1R 0DU	1 March to 30 September 2023, possibly one session in the school summer holidays to engage young people	Seeking to engage a new younger, more diverse audience from the local community	60	320	320	Not applicable	

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Highbury	Highbury Vale Blackstock Trust (Greening Highbury Quadrant Estate – The Community Nature Gardens)	'Greening Highbury Quadrant Estate – The Community Nature Gardens' began in January 2020 as a partnership with Islington Council, Elizabeth House Community Centre, Octopus Community Network and local residents to transform 3 unused spaces in Highbury Quadrant Estate into thriving Nature Gardens (The Orchard, The Woodland Garden and the Meadow) and extended in 2022 to include new garden spaces on the estate. Elizabeth House and Octopus want to continue to deliver with estate residents and local people, community nature gardening opportunities, food growing skills and opportunities, composting activities and access to nature forest school activities for families and children, showcasing ways to work in partnership to transform, renovate and manage local green spaces for the benefit of the community. They will deliver weekly Saturday morning gardening workshops and a review of the current site-based community-led development plan for the Nature Gardens, as well as facilitate on-going responsive project management and coordination to meet the overall aims of the project throughout the period. Funding to pay for Octopus staff time for 10 weeks (project management / coordination and delivery of 3-hour weekly gardening and community food growing sessions on Highbury Quadrant Estate), publicity and marketing across the estate, resources, materials and equipment.	Highbury Quadrant Estate, N5 in the Community Nature Gardens	January to April 2023	Residents living on Highbury Quadrant Estate and people living nearby, including schools, nurseries and wider community groups (including Elizabeth House groups such as children attending the playscheme)	150 (100 from Highbury, 50 from Arsenal)	3,500	3,500	Not applicable	
Hillrise	Hanley Crouch Community Assoc (Knitworks at the Brickworks)	Knitworks at the Brickworks, a knit and crochet meet up to learn together, teach beginners and chat and socialise in a friendly and inclusive setting. They meet every Saturday morning at the Brickworks for two hours. Outside the meeting times they are connected by a What's App chat and informally help each other out and offer advice. Funding to pay for an annual group outing in October 2023 to the local Knit and Stitch Show at Alexandra Palace (15 entry tickets), knitting supplies and equipment and hot drinks, biscuits etc for the year.	Brickworks Community Centre, 42 Crouch Hill	April 2023 to April 2024, every Saturday morning for two hours	Open to all local residents, particularly older people, young people, BME and LGBTQ+ community members	30 members on list, average attendance is 9 to 14 per session	300	300	Not applicable	
Holloway	Healthy Generations	Continuing live face-to face keep fit classes for older people. Healthy Generations (HG) has been running a keep fit class at the Goodinge Community Centre since the Covid-19 restrictions were eased. These classes help older people to stay as active as possible. They are suitable for people with all health conditions and especially for those with Osteoporosis and Osteopenia. There is a core group who attend each week and numbers are likely to grow post Covid-19. Funding to pay for a keep fit instructor for a weekly keep fit class for an hour for 25 weeks.	Goodinge Community Centre, 2 Goodinge Road	June to December 2023	Open to all older people	30	1,000	1,000	In-kind room hire is provided by Goodinge Community Centre	

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Junction 21	Girdlestone Gardening Group	Preparing for Spring and Summer gardening, enabling the garden to get supplies to prepare and plant for their spring crops and providing a social outside space for residents. They aim to promote participation in gardening / food and plant growing, raise funds for the garden through fundraising events, enable people to learn about vegetable and herb growing so they could grow plants on their balcony and windowsills, enable residents to try the vegetables and herbs grown, link with the Food Co-operative to promote food security and participation in both projects and enable those who are not able to participate to engage with others in a outside space. Funding to pay for seating with a table and umbrella, timber for climbing plants and bed repairs, a contractor for heavy digging and bush pruning, compost and manure, secateurs, twine, gloves, loppers, insurance, soil improvers, liquid feed, seeds and plants.	Girdlestone Community Garden on the green, Girdlestone Estate	March to September 2023, 2 hour gardening sessions will take place twice weekly (weather permitting)	A diverse group of Junction residents whose background mirrors the local community	25	1,500	1,500	Not applicable	
Junction	The Garden Classroom	Little Explorers is The Garden Classroom's well-established and popular programme of high quality, outdoor, creative, nature workshops for under 5s and their carers. Free of charge sessions offer a unique combination of forest school and traditional playgroup delivered in urban green spaces. Each week adults and children will play together in equal partnership to share learning about nature. Activities will be age-appropriate and sensory: making artworks from natural objects, planting seeds, bug hunts, noticing and naming wildlife and trees, exploring the park, mud kitchens, water play and storytelling. All sessions will be guided by experienced TGC facilitators and supported by volunteers. Healthy, vegetarian snacks will be provided. Funding to pay for the delivery of six 2 hour drop in sessions (a senior facilitator, a junior facilitator, project management, equipment and resources including art/craft supplies, refreshments, a finance officer, a resources manager, a community officer for outreach/publicity, marketing and volunteer expenses).	Whittington Park	19 April to 24 May 2023, six drop in weekly sessions on Wednesday mornings, each lasting 2 hours.	Under 5s and their parents, carers and guardians with a focus on hard to reach families and families in need (including refugees)	50+ beneficiaries with 200 unique visits, some of whom will be from neighbouring wards	500	2,144	Not applicable	The amount requested is £2,144.

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Mildmay	Healthy Generations on behalf of Mildmay Extra Care	40 weekly one hour Music and Movement Classes for older people at 2 Mildmay Extra Care Units over a year. The project combines movement and mobility with singing. Most of the residents are frail and elderly living with dementia, many physically disabled, and some live with mental health and learning difficulties. These activities on a regular weekly basis provide social events, bringing everyone together as well as giving them the opportunity to exercise through singing, dancing and movement; facilitating community engagement on a regular weekly basis and maintaining and improving levels of balance, flexibility and core strength and hopefully reducing obesity. In the past few summers these sessions have been held outside in the garden. LIF will cover 40 sessions at one of the two care settings with Notting Hill Genesis funding 40 sessions at the other. Funding to pay for the musician / instructor leading the sessions.	73 Mildmay Street and 20-26 Mildmay Park, N1	April 2023 to April 2024 (weekly sessions for an hour, usually Wednesday mornings)	Older people and people with mental health issues	100	2,000	5,000	£2,000 Notting Hill Genesis, £1000 tbc (for increased musician's fees and to deliver another 10 sessions at each location)	
St Peter's & Canalside	Awesome Elm CIC (Waterside Adventure Playground - fun day for coronation)	To organise and host a family fun day for all local residents to celebrate the King's coronation which will have free food, drink and activities. Activities likely to be included are arts and crafts, a raffle, cardboard city, a lucky dip, crown making, a treasure hunt, ring toss and archery. Last year they hosted a Jubilee family fun day which saw over 600 people attend and an increase in registrations / attendance to the free play service they provide. Funding to pay for food and drinks, a bouncy castle and activities.	Waterside Adventure Playground, 50 Dame Street, N1 7FR	Monday 8 May 2023	Children aged between 6-13 and their extended families (their current user group)	400-600 children, young people and their families	450	450	Not applicable	
St Peter's & Canalside	Canal and River Trust (Angel Canal Festival 2023)	Angel Canal Festival 2023, an annual community focussed festival which has been running for over 30 years. The aims of the festival are to raise local awareness and use of local canals and towpaths to support the health and wellbeing of the local community. Activities that will be taking place on or near the canal include kayaking, canoeing and pedalling, or boat trips which may not be readily accessible. There is free entertainment throughout the day including performances from a theatre boat, bands, dancers, Punch & Judy, Morris dancers, and circus skills. A food market also offers food from around the world for sale. Funding to pay for 30 boat trips, 30 water activity taster sessions e.g. canoeing/kayaking/pedalling and a contribution towards theatre boat entertainment.	Along the Regent's Canal towpath (Colebrook Row to Wharf Road Bridge), Danbury Street Bridge, Graham Street, Graham Street Park and a short stretch of Vincent Terrace	One-day festival taking place on Sunday 3 September 2023	People of all ages, lots of activities for children and young people	5,000+ visitors	2,500	28,000	£25,500 Canal and River Trust	

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
St Peter's & Canalside	LBI Tree Service (St Peter's Street)	Tree planting on St Peter's Street in the 2023/24 planting season (November 2023 – March 2024). The tree replaces a fallen tree and will be a semi mature specimen, planted with double stakes, guard and watering bag. The tree/s will be purchased with a 3-year establishment guarantee and once established will be managed by the council. Funding to pay for the purchase of a semi-mature tree planted in Highways with a three years maintenance, watering and establishment guarantee.	St Peter's Street	Planting in November 2023 to March 2024	St Peter's Street residents and visitors	Unable to quantify	1,500	1,500	Not applicable	
Page 23 Tufnell Park	St George's Church (pancake party)	A free fun community event with bouncy castle, games, crafts and pancakes. The event would be after school, and involve hiring a bouncy castle in the church, setting up games and crafts, and a café area where people can help themselves to plenty of pancakes with savoury and sweet fillings. There would also be a quiet sensory space for children with additional needs. Funding to contribute towards food and drinks, a bouncy castle, resources for crafts and games, publicity (banners), volunteer expenses and heating, lighting and building wear and tear.	St George's Church, Crayford Road	21 February 2023	Open to all but aimed at families with young children	250	450	500	£50 church donations	
	St George's Church (sensory library)	Sensory Lending Library: to loan free sensory equipment to families with children with additional needs. The Sensory Library will run as a fortnightly drop-in at St George's, starting at Easter 2023. Children and families can come along and try out or borrow equipment such as therapy balls and weighted blankets for free. Last year their Autism Party and Egg Hunt brought together 40 children (of all disabilities and none) and their families to celebrate Autism Acceptance Week and Easter at a party in church where children could play on sensory equipment, have space alone in quiet areas, play with Lego, or blow bubbles in the garden. In the past six months they have gathered donations of equipment from individuals both inside and outside of church to create a 'seed' stock of 20 smaller pieces of equipment including ear defenders, wobble cushions, scooter boards and therapy balls. Funding to pay for a stock of larger items - 4 full size weighted blankets, 4 folding mini trampolines, 10 wobble cushions and 4 folding crash mats.	St George's Church, Crayford Road	1 April to 30 September 2023	Families with children with additional needs (both disabilities and special educational needs), half of whom are from Tufnell Park	20 families will benefit from the equipment in the first six months, another 20 to 40 families during the second six months.	1,185.36	2,885.36	£500 individual donations / in kind, £200 church donations (staff and overheads), £500 tbc Gunners Fund, £500 tbc Parochial Church Council	

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Tufnell Park	Pro Touch SA CIC	Pro Touch SA - Whittington Park Sports Active & Wellbeing Project, providing various multi sports including fitness exercise, fencing, tennis, ball games, mixed martial arts etc to local targeted BAME disadvantaged (single families, refugees, referral from Islington YOT, excluded from schools etc) children and young people aged between 6 - 16 years of age. Weekly one hour long sessions are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. They also want to offer 16+ young people or adults an opportunity to volunteer on the project, gain experiences and put them on NGB youth and sports courses which can and will lead to paid positions with Pro Touch SA as well as external partners and organisations. Funding to pay for 22 weeks of costs (venue hire, lead youth and sports, assistant youth and sports, volunteers courses, training, workshops, etc, project admin, sports equipments (balls, bibs, first aid, cones, skipping ropes, hurdles, boxercise gloves and pads, etc), refreshments, volunteer expenses, marketing materials and trophies and awards.	Whittington Park - Sports Pitch & Hall	18 April to 17 September 2023 (22 weeks), Tuesdays and Thursday evenings for an hour per session	Mainly children and young people aged 6 to 16, opportunity for 16+ young person or adult to volunteer too	50 to 60 members	1,000	4,359	£600 through sponsor (Quarters by Bravo), £400 All Seasons Foods, £359 Pro Touch SA fundraising, donations, subs etc	The amount requested is £3,000 from 3 wards (£1000 per ward).
Tufnell Park	Cut Moose	Walking Art Workshops which combine observation and exploration of the local environment, walking and the creation of art-works along the way. These art works will be created on the surrounding streets, inserted in unexpected places, as well as being created afterwards at Hilldrop Community Centre (Hilldrop CC). The group would be aimed at unemployed 50-60+ year olds recruited through their links at local job centres, mosques, churches, G.Ps and Community Centre food banks/social lunches. The workshops will take place on a weekday morning and be offered to 15 people. The principle of the walking art workshops is shifting each participant's perception of exercise and raising their personal goals. Funding to contribute towards artistic walks leader fees, hire of Hilldrop CC and storage space, fees for recruitment and organisation of families/individuals, general admin (registration etc) and social media and managing giving page online for donations to Hilldrop CC to sponsor the participants walking in aid of the Centre, publicity (printing, leaflet design, flying) and art equipment.	Hilldrop Community Centre and the surrounding area	May 2023 to April 2024, workshops will happen weekly during term time initially in the morning (3 terms of 10 weeks)	Aimed at unemployed 50-60+ year olds beginning their fitness journey	15 Tufnell Park residents	1,150	13,650	£12,350 tbc in match funding (£6,000 tbc Better Walkers (for physio/trainer), £2,850 tbc Gosling Foundation, £2,500 tbc Sporting Equals Fund, £1000 tbc Hollick Family Charitable Trust)	The amount requested is £2,300.

NEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2023

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Tufnell Park	Tufnell Park Primary School	Expanding outdoor and STEM learning at Tufnell Park Primary School by making a reclaimed pond garden more accessible as a teaching facility for a class of 28 students and staff. The requested funding would enable them to convert an on-site shed into a rudimentary field lab, clear an area adjacent to the pond for use as an "outdoor classroom", allowing assembly and seating of 28 children and provide basic pond dipping equipment for a class of 28. Funding to pay for 14 foldable stools, outdoor sink, counter top/shelves/work bench, 10 medium size trays for pond dipping, coat hangers and boxes for bags, 10 pond dipping nets, hose trolley and hose splitter, outdoor magnetic chalk board, 10 hand held magnifying glasses and 10 magnifying bug pots.	Tufnell Park Primary School, 31 Carleton Road	April 2023 to March 2024, when fully operational, the pond garden and garden classroom will be in use daily	Children and their families	430	1,000	1,000	Not applicable (all labour done by volunteers)	

WARD PARTNERSHIP MEETING COSTS APPROVED BY THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Arsenal	LBI Arsenal ward partnership	The Arsenal ward partnership meeting will be a chance for residents of Arsenal ward to hear from councillors and officers. Topics discussed will be the council's work on the cost of living crisis and its refugee response to the crises in Afghanistan and Ukraine. Funding to pay for security for the meeting.	Aubert Court Community Centre, Avenell Rd, Highbury Square	22 November 2022	Local residents	Up to 100 previously (when online)	278.76	278.76	Not applicable	
Arsenal	LBI Arsenal ward partnership	The Arsenal councillors are keen to move the ward partnership event away from a sit-down, formal meeting into a more collaborative, interactive event where Islington residents can engage with councillors, officers, and other local residents in a more flexible and less formal way. To achieve this, councillors are hoping to hold a 'fun day' event at Elizabeth House (dependent on availability) where there will be activities for families and opportunities to speak to relevant local figures. The exact format and type of activities is still being decided upon. Funding expected to pay for room hire, refreshments and activities.	Elizabeth House, 2 Hurlock Street (to be confirmed)	25 March 2023	Local residents	Up to 100 previously (when online), 5 at last in person meeting	500	500	Not applicable	

WARD PARTNERSHIP MEETING COSTS APPROVED BY THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Ward	Organisation	Project Summary	Location	Timescale	Areas / Residents to Benefit	Number of Residents to Benefit	Budget Proposal Amount (£)	Project Total (£)	Match Funding Details	Community Engagement and Wellbeing Comments
Caledonian	LBI Caledonian Ward Partnership	A ward partnership meeting on 21 February 2023 to discuss the Cost of Living Support, the We are Cally Plan and the Cally Liveable Neighbourhood. Funding to pay for light refreshments and projector hire.	Jean Stokes Community Centre	21 February 2023	Local residents	40 to 80	49	49	Not applicable	
Canonbury	LBI Canonbury ward partnership	Canonbury Ward Partnership stakeholder meeting, a closed meeting not open to the public. Funding to pay for 20 sandwiches and 20 cakes.	Dove Rooms, Threadgold House	30 November 2022, 7pm to 9pm	Local residents	20	104	104	Not applicable	
Holloway	LBI Holloway Ward Partnership	A fun day held at Williamson Street Community Centre, the theme being jobs, training and opportunities. There will be stalls with information on small business grants, apprenticeship and training opportunities, coaching services, local parks and free programmes for residents. As it is a fun day, there will also be children's activities including face painting, popcorn and candyfloss and there will be refreshments. Funding to pay for refreshments (water, juice, teabags, milk, sugar, coffee, biscuits, fruit and chocolate).	Williamson Street Community Centre, 68 Parkhurst Road, N7 0SX	Saturday 28 January 2023, 12pm to 4pm	Local residents	At least 80	50	850.58	£600 Peabody (venue hire, popcorn, candy floss cart, printing), £200 City of London (facepainting, printing)	

Total LIF funding requested and balance remaining

Total Local Initiatives Fund budget allocation 2022-23:	£221,000
Total carried forward from previous LIF budgets / allocations:	£39,904
Total amount available to allocate:	£260,904
Amount allocated to date:	£188,701
Balance remaining:	£72,202
Ward partnership proposals approved under delegated authority:	£982
Cost of living proposals approved under delegated authority	£21,601
New proposals for March VCS Committee:	£41,735
Total amount remaining to allocate in 2022-23:	£7,885

2022-23 Balance remaining by ward:	
Ward	Balance:
Arsenal	£825
Barnsbury	£505
Bunhill	£0
Caledonian	£635
Canonbury	£0
Clerkenwell	£635
Finsbury Park	£1,000
Highbury	£0
Hillrise	£1,000
Holloway	£201
Junction	£236
Laycock	£1,000
Mildmay	£0
St Mary's & St James'	£109
St Peter's & Canalside	£384
Tollington	£419
Tufnell Park	£937

Notes:

Includes £5,679 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £624 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £1400 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £5,689 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £2,386 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £3,864 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £400 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £68 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £1,608 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £4,921 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £2,852 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

Includes £10,412 from previous LIF allocations / budgets

£7,885

	2021/22	2022/23
Projects funded:	124	151

This page is intentionally left blank

Community Engagement and Wellbeing
222 Upper Street
N1 1XR

Report of: Executive Member for Community Development

Meeting of: Voluntary and Community Sector Committee

Date: 20 March 2023

Ward(s): All

Islington Council Venues Community Free Hires Scheme Round 2: Summer 2023

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. Each year, Islington Council is pleased to offer eight community groups, schools and colleges, arts and cultural organisations based in Islington the chance to have free use of Islington Assembly Hall and selected Town Hall meeting rooms for five hours
- 1.2. The scheme allows for free hire of civic space to community groups with no hidden costs/or minimal additional costs.
- 1.3. On 16 March 2020, Central Government stated that social distancing was advised to stop the spread of coronavirus Covid-19 and to protect older and vulnerable residents.
- 1.4. Therefore, at the Executive of 30 April 2020 it was agreed that the timescale for successful organisations for round 2 (2020) be changed to June to mid-September 2021.
- 1.5. On 16 March 2020, Central Government stated that social distancing was advised to stop the spread of coronavirus Covid-19 and to protect older and vulnerable residents.
- 1.6. Due to measures to deal with the Covid pandemic, Hall Hire was suspended in 2020. At the Executive of 30 April 2020, it was agreed that the timescale for

successful organisations for round 2 (2020) be changed to June to mid-September 2021 and these were again deferred until Summer 2023

- 1.7. These were:
- Islington Faith Forum
 - Yaram Arts CIC

Both organisations cancelled their arranged dates in as they found they were unable to proceed: Islington Faith Forum notified on 4 May of cancellation of 13 July booking due to Covid and funding uncertainty and received agreement to defer to summer 2023. Yaram Arts CIC cancelled 3 July for a 9 August booking due to sickness. It was agreed that due to the short notice of this cancellation, this should not be deferred and that the organisation would need to reapply.

- 1.8. The application window for Round 2 was offered over January and February 2023 for hall hires June to August.
- 1.9. As Islington Faith Forum deferred their free hire until Summer 2023, only three slots are available in this round (one for free hires of the Islington Assembly Hall and two for the use of Town Hall rooms).
- 1.10. Seven applications for free hire were received for the Assembly Hall and three for the Town Hall, Round 2 2023

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That this organisation be offered a free hire use of the Assembly Hall between June and September
- Britain's Got Reggae / Cally Connects
- 2.2. To hold the following applicant in reserve, in case of inability of the above applicants to negotiate appropriate dates and timings:
- Head Held High
- 2.3. That these two organisations be offered a free hire use of the Town Hall Committee Rooms between June and September
- Stonewall Housing
 - The Sapphire Community Group
- 2.4. To hold the following applicant in reserve, in case of inability of the above applicants to negotiate appropriate dates and timings:
- Eritrean Community in UK

Background

- 2.5. There are two different packages available to organizations depending on the nature of the event and/or number of guests and audiences. The Council reserves the right to decide on the option more suitable for events:
- 2.6. The Assembly Hall - for fairs, conferences and networking events with an audience of over 100 people, musical performances with a small number of performers, and other simple performances. The free hire scheme is offered on selected Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in January – February (1st round), and between June to Mid-September (2nd round).
- 2.7. The Town Hall rooms - for smaller conferences, workshops and collaborative networking events with an audience between 25 to 80 people - depending on layout of the room, and whether attendees are seated or standing up. The Town Hall free hire is offered on working days Monday – Friday, between 9am and 5pm from 2 January – 31 May (1st round); and 1 June to 21 December (2nd round) subject to availability.
- 2.8. The second round of the 2022-23 scheme was launched on 9 January 2023 and was promoted during 4 weeks through LBI Communications on the council external website, as well as through Voluntary Action Islington news group, to the 11 by 11 partnership of cultural organisations and the wider sector via LBI departments.
- 2.9. The scheme received 10 applications from organisations supporting a range of events (see Appendix 1).
- 2.10. Applications have been assessed against the published criteria (see Appendix 2) which requires applicants to demonstrate a commitment to provide events and activities that have a strategic value and, in particular, a focus on at least one of the following four areas:
 1. community cohesion
 2. children and young people
 3. diversity
 4. creative ways of engaging local residents and, in particular, those who might otherwise miss out on cultural opportunities.
 5. Have a borough-wide impact
 6. Demonstrate a commitment to good practice (events that are viable, of high quality, well managed and evaluated)
 7. Promote Islington Assembly Hall as a focus for high quality events, or demonstrating good use of the civic space at the Town Hall, making best use of the high quality facilities available in both venues

- Groups that are not based in the borough of Islington
- Events or activities from commercial organisation
- More than one usage per applicant per year
- Applications from organisations who have previously cancelled a slot once accepted
- Applications from departments of Islington Council

2.12. Wherever possible, unsuccessful applicants will be supported, to secure alternative premises for their work.

2.13. The following organisation and event most closely meet the criteria and are recommended for free use of the Assembly Hall.

Britain's Got Reggae / Cally Connects-US	A celebratory event for International Reggae Day and a Windrush Celebration. Events for the whole family, including a Reggae Choir and live band, African Drumming Workshop, Windrush Play, stalls and food. The event aims to bring community cohesion and understanding of culture in Islington.
--	--

2.14. The following two organisations and events most closely meet the criteria and are recommended for free use of the Town Hall rooms

Stonewall Housing	Our mission is ensure more LGBTQ+ people have safe places to live. Our first ever house for vulnerable LGBTQ+ service users was set up in Islington with the support of the local Council. We want to recognise and celebrate our rich history and strong meaningful ties with the borough of Islington by hosting our "40th Birthday Reception" in the Town Hall Committee Room.
The Sapphire Community Group	BIY(Believe in Yourself) is a summer school where we provide young people and children with skills education and food. We have been running for 4 years now. A programme where we challenge and support them to be the best version of themselves. The programme aims to bring young people together build relationships in the community and address social issues that young people face. The holiday programme is open to all school-age children and places will be prioritised for children eligible for free school meals.

2.15. The following organisation and event met the criteria and are recommended to be **held in reserve for the Assembly Hall**, in case of inability of organisations recommended for free hires listed in 3.9 to negotiate dates and timings with Assembly Hall management.

2.16.

Head Held High	Head Held High want to put on a highly motivational and interactive evening for young people and staff working with young people, particularly those at risk of exclusion and/or affiliated with knife crime and/or lacking in motivation. We will have motivational speakers, inspiring footage, music, live performers, "Shocka" the rapper, we will have speakers from partner organisations such as The Ben Kinsella Trust.
----------------	---

2.17. The following organisation and event met the criteria and are recommended to be **held in reserve for the Committee Rooms**, in case of inability of organisations recommended for free hires listed in 3.10 to negotiate dates and timings with Town Hall management.

Eritrean Community in UK	We aim to hold our AGM and community get to know us event, engaging with our members in the Eritrean community and discussing needs and improvements.
--------------------------	---

3. Implications

3.1. Financial Implications

3.1.1. There are no financial implications other than the loss of income as a result of waiving the fees for the four hires of the Assembly Hall which has been built into the business plan for the venue

3.2. Legal Implications

3.2.1. The Council can support voluntary and community sector organisations under the wellbeing power in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. This gives the Council the power to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the whole or part of its area or all or any of the persons resident or present in that area.

3.3. Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

3.3.1. There are no environmental implications.

3.4. Equalities Impact Assessment

- 3.4.1. The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.
- 3.4.2. An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required in relation to this report, because the proposed events serve a wide range of communities and support the Council, Voluntary Community Sector and Cultural Enrichment Team priorities. They target local residents from diverse communities and children and young people, particularly those from low-income households, to engage in range of creative and cultural activities that celebrate the diversity of Islington's communities, as well as giving residents an opportunity to feedback on provision.

4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 4.1. The scheme provides an opportunity for the council to support local organisations through free use of the Assembly Hall and civic space. Applications have been assessed through a clear and transparent process.

Appendices:

- Appendices:
 - Appendix 1 - Table of all applicants, 1st Round 22-23
 - Appendix 2 - Eligibility Criteria and Guidance Notes Round Two, 22-23
 - Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed it must be listed here and submitted alongside the report.

Background papers: None

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Executive Member for Homes and Communities

Date: 28/02/2023

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Una O'Halloran". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Signed by: Una O'Halloran

Report Author: Laura Worsley

Tel: 07812 491 760

Email: laura.worsley@islington.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

Islington Council Venues Free Community Use Scheme

All Applicants VCS Committee 20 March 2023

Organisation	Event Title	Event Description	Expected Audience	Recommended
Baluji Music Foundation Ltd registered chariy	Inner Vision Global Sounds	Inner Vision Orchestra of blind musicians perform a variety of music from India Iran Kosovo, Nigeria Sri Lanka, Japan, America, Lebanon and British Isles.	110	NO
Britain's Got Reggae / Cally Connects-US	International Reggae Day/ Windrush	A celebratory event for international Reggae Day and a Windrush Celebration. Events for the whole family, including a Reggae Choir and live band, African Drumming Workshop, Windrush Play, stalls and food. The event aims to bring community cohesion and understanding of culture in Islington.	500	YES (Assembly Hall)
Eritrean Community in UK	AGM	AGM and community get to know us event, engaging with our members in the Eritrean community and discussing needs and improvements.	100	RESERVE (Town Hall Rooms)
Freightliners City Farm	Freightliners 50th	A celebration of 50 years of Freightliners City Farm and its community. Event includes exhibition, story recording, entertainment, have a go creative activities, community plants and produce show and a party.	250	NO
Head Held High	"It's cool to be kind"	Motivational and interative event for for young people and staff working with young people, particularly those at risk of exclusion and/or affiliated with knife crime. Includes performances including "Shocka" the rapper.	150	RESERVE (Assembly Hall)

Wency Lam (Independent artist)	Dance Theatre Workshop with Wency	Dance workshop providing a safe and inclusive space for anyone to explore their creativity. Free and open for people from all educational or socioeconomic backgrounds.	30	NO
Islington Borough Ladies FC	IBLFC End of Season Presentation	Annual end of season presentation, to gather all players and staff together to celebrate their achievements of the 22/23 season.	200	NO
Islington Refugee & Migrant Forum (IRMF)	Refugee Week celebration	Celebratory event for Refugee week for 24-28 June, including performances, speeches and a art competition by primary school	200	NO
Stonewall Housing	Stonewall Housing's 40th Birthday Reception	Organisation who support LGBTQ+ people to have a safe place to live. Celebratory event for 40th Birthday, inviting key stakeholders, supporters, partners and volunteers	65	YES (Town Hall Rooms)
The Sapphire Community Group	BIY Summer School	Summer school to provide children and young people with skills, education and food. Prioritising CYP from low income households.	45	YES (Town Hall Rooms)

APPENDIX 2

Islington Council Venues Free Community Use Scheme

Eligibility Criteria and Guidance Notes - Round 2 2022-23

Each year, Islington Council is pleased to offer eight community groups, schools and colleges, arts and cultural organisations based in Islington the chance to have free use of Islington Assembly Hall and selected Town Hall meeting rooms for five hours.

There are two different packages available to organizations depending on the nature of the event and/or number of guests and audiences. The Council reserves the right to decide on the option more suitable for your event. Therefore, it is important that the information you provide is detailed and accurate. Please read carefully the information below before completing an application form.

Option 1 - Islington Assembly Hall

The Assembly Hall is suitable for fairs, conferences and networking events with an audience of over 100 people, musical performances with a small number of performers, and other simple performances. Please note that Islington Assembly Hall is not a theatre and if you're looking to put on a stage performance with multiple acts, props, sets or other complex lighting or audio-visual effects within a limited budget, then this scheme might not be suitable for your event and other venues might provide a better and cost-effective alternative.

Please email assemblyhall@islington.gov.uk if you would like to check if this is the right venue for you.

The free hire scheme will be offered on selected **Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays between January-mid-March 2023 (1st round) and June to mid-September 2023 (2nd round)**. Two free hires of Islington Assembly Hall will be offered in each round. Successful applicants will get free hire of the main hall **for a maximum of five consecutive hours**.

The five-hour hire of the Assembly Hall Free Hire will include:

- access to Islington Assembly Hall for you and/or your suppliers for your event
- Islington Assembly Hall set up to meet your requirements as agreed in pre-event discussions
- a named events coordinator leading up to the event
- at least one duty manager throughout your event
- a small PA system that can be used without additional support from an engineer
- a sound engineer (if required) for a period of five hours
- one member of Assembly Hall security team as a standard
- use of the kitchen for caterers

All other items and services – such as hire of the hall for additional hours, use of the venue's balcony, refreshments, extra security, equipment, table linen and specialized technical support – will incur additional costs, which your organisation will need to meet. Additional costs for the use of the Assembly Hall may include, but are not limited, to (costs below are inclusive of VAT):

- Hire of the hall for more than five consecutive hours: from £360 per hour
- Use of the balcony: £300 for a five-hour hire
- White tablecloths: £12 per tablecloth
- Additional security staff: from £156 per SIA for up to 5 hours, then £31.20 per hour thereafter
- Refreshments: costs available on request

Option 2 - Islington Town Hall rooms

The Town Hall rooms are suitable for events with an audience between 25 to 80 people depending on layout of the room, and whether attendees are seated or standing up.

The Town Hall can be booked for **workshops, collaborative working sessions, networking, and small get-togethers for residents and community groups**.

The Town Hall free hire will be offered on working days **Monday – Friday, between 9am and 5pm from 2 January – 30 May 2022 (1st Round) and 1 June to 21 December 2023 (2nd Round)** subject to availability*. Two free hires of Islington Town Hall rooms will be offered in

each round. Successful applicants will get free hire of the room **for a maximum of five consecutive hours**.

The five-hour Town Hall Free Hire will include:

- access to Islington civic spaces for you and/or your guests
- setting up the room to a layout of your preference
- at least one duty facility officer throughout your event
- use of in-house furniture, tables and chairs
- jars of drinking water
- use of large plasma LED monitor
- free Wi-Fi

Additional costs may include, but are not limited, to:

- hire of additional stationary such as flipcharts, flipchart paper, and pens
- hire of additional technical equipment such as projectors, etc.
- any additional services which fall outside the normal working hours will have to be charged
- refreshments: costs available on request

*Please note that the Council has a right to cancel or postpone your event at any time due to exceptional circumstances without incurring liabilities for any losses or damages incurred by the hirer as a result of cancellation. Should the Council cancel your booking for reasons other than force majeure within two weeks of the date of the event, the council will at its sole discretion endeavour to assist the hirer in finding alternative accommodation for the event.

Criteria

Organisations must demonstrate a commitment to provide events and activities that have a strategic value, and in particular a focus on at least one of the following four areas:

- community cohesion
- children and young people
- diversity
- creative ways of engaging local residents and, in particular, those who might otherwise miss out on cultural opportunities.

Applications should be able to demonstrate your event achieve the following:

- have a borough-wide impact
- demonstrate a commitment to good practice (events that are viable, of high quality, well managed and evaluated)
- promote Islington Assembly Hall as a focus for high quality events, or demonstrating good use of the civic space at the Town Hall, making best use of the high-quality facilities available in both venues

In addition, to be shortlisted for the scheme, your event you must be able to demonstrate how your organisation will cover any associated costs (if any), as the free hire scheme gives you use of the venue for free for up to five hours, but other additional costs must be covered by your organisation as indicated above.

The scheme will not support:

- groups that are not based in the borough of Islington
- events or activities from commercial organisations
- more than one usage per applicant per year
- applications from organisations who have previously cancelled a slot once accepted
- applications from departments of Islington Council

How to apply and additional support:

Please email your completed application for **Round 2 only** to culture@islington.gov.uk by **12pm on Friday 10 February 2023**. The Council will contact all applicants from week commencing Monday 27 March to offer available dates and issue terms and conditions of the booking, which must be completed to guarantee the free use of the venue.

If you would like more information about the scheme or if you need help completing an application, please email [culture @islington.gov.uk](mailto:culture@islington.gov.uk)

Report of: Corporate Director of Resources

Meeting of: Voluntary and Community Sector Committee

Dates: 20 March 2023

Ward(s): All

London Boroughs Grants Committee 2023/24

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. Approval of the London Borough Grants Committee budget comes under the Terms of Reference of Voluntary and Community Sector Committee. However, the London Boroughs Grants Committee budget and council contribution for 2023/24 was approved by the Executive on 12 January 2023 for reason of urgency, as London Councils had requested confirmation by 13 January 2023. Therefore, this is being notified to Voluntary and Community Sector Committee for information only.
- 1.2. The overall Grants Committee budget for 2023/24 is unchanged from 2022/23. Islington's contribution is also unchanged as the 2020 mid-year population estimate continues to be used to calculate this, pending confirmation of the 2021 mid-year population estimate that would be used otherwise.
- 1.3. The London Boroughs Grants Committee contributes towards the funding of many London-wide organisations providing a wide range of services. These services are accessible by Islington residents and contribute towards the council's priorities including tackling homelessness and violence against women and girls and supporting people with no recourse to public funds.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To note the 2023/24 London Boroughs Grants Committee budget (£6.668m) and the annual contribution from the council (£0.184m). (Paragraph 4.2)

3. Background

- 3.1. Islington benefits from being a member of the London Boroughs Grants Committee in two main ways:
- 3.2. It is estimated that approximately 23% of the current year funding approved by the London Boroughs Grants Committee is allocated to commissioning organisations based in the borough (such as Shelter, GALOP and Womens Resource Centre).
- 3.3. Most commissioning organisations provide services across London and in many cases benefit Islington residents. It is estimated that approximately £0.213m (3.45%) of the current year funding benefits Islington residents.

4. 2023/24 London Borough Grants Committee Budget

4.1. The London Councils Grants Committee considered proposals for expenditure in 2023/24 at its meeting on 30 November 2022. The London Councils Leaders' Committee considered the budget at its meeting on 13 December 2022 and the following recommendation is now made for constituent councils (including Islington) to agree an overall level of expenditure of £6,686,000 comprising:

- Payments to Commissions - £6,173,000
- Administrative Expenditure - £453,000
- London Funders Membership Fees - £60,000
- Borough contributions - £6,668,000 (Islington contribution £183,779)
- Use of reserves - £18,000

4.2. The annual contribution from Islington Council has been set at £0.184m for 2023/24. The Grants Committee budget requires the approval of two thirds of London boroughs for it to be approved. In the event of the budget not being approved, the budget will remain unchanged from 2022/23.

5. Implications

5.1. Financial Implications:

The council's 2023/24 contribution to the London Boroughs Grants Committee (£0.184m) has been factored into the council's 2023/24 budget proposals. The Grants Committee budget requires the approval of two thirds of London boroughs for it to be approved. In the event of the budget not being approved, the budget will remain unchanged from 2022/23.

5.2. Legal Implications:

The council is required to inform the Committee of its approval or otherwise of the London Borough Grants Committee budget. The Council has a general duty under the *Local Government Act 1999* to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

5.3. Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030:

The services funded by the London Boroughs Grants Committee, some of which are based in Islington, have environmental impacts related to building occupation and office use. Some may also involve travel, which could contribute to vehicular emissions and congestion. Organisations providing services actively work with local authorities to minimise their carbon footprint and promote sustainable practices in line with our net zero carbon policy

5.4. Equality Impact Assessment:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding. London Councils has confirmed in their grants programme

monitoring reports that funded services provide support to people within all the protected characteristics (Equality Act 2010), and in particular target groups highlighted as particularly hard to reach or more affected by the issues being tackled. Funded organisations are also required to submit equalities monitoring data, which can be collated across the grants scheme to provide data on the take up of services and gaps in provision to be addressed. The London Councils grants team reviews this annually.

6. Reason for Recommendations

6.1. The council was asked to notify London Councils by 13 January 2023 whether it approves the 2023/24 London Boroughs Grants Committee budget and the council’s contribution. For reason of urgency, this approval was gained by the Executive on 12 January 2023 and is being notified to Voluntary and Community Sector Committee for information only.

Appendices: None

Background papers: None

Signed by:		
	Corporate Director of Resources	Date 12 th January 2023

Responsible Officers:

Dave Hodgkinson, Corporate Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)

Report Authors:

Mark Badcock, Assistant Finance Manager - MTFs

Legal Implications:

Julian Walshaw, Acting Assistant Director of Law

This page is intentionally left blank