

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting

Tuesday 10 March 2026

7.30 pm

(or at the rise of the preceding Nunhead and Peckham Rye Community
Meeting)

Livesey Exchange, 567 Old Kent Rd, London SE1 5EW

Membership

Councillor David Parton (Chair)
Councillor Barrie Hargrove (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Michael Situ

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information

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Contact

Maria Lugangira: maria.lugnagira@southwark.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Althea Loderick

Chief Executive

Date: 2 March 2026



Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting

Tuesday 10 March 2026

7.30 pm

(or at the rise of the preceding Nunhead and Peckham Rye Community Meeting)
Livesey Exchange, 567 Old Kent Rd, London SE1 5EW

Order of Business

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2.	APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence.	
3.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT The chair to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.	
4.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS Members to declare any personal interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meetings.	
5.	DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS (IF ANY) The chair to advise on any deputations or petitions received at this meeting. These must relate to a subject matter on this agenda only.	
6.	CLEANER GREENER SAFER 2026-27: CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION (OLD KENT ROAD NEIGHBOURHOOD) Note: this is an executive function for decision by the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting. To approve a reallocation and the allocation of funds for the Cleaner Greener Safer capital programme.	1 - 10

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| 7. | DEVOLVED HIGHWAYS BUDGET 2026-27: CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION (OLD KENT ROAD NEIGHBOURHOOD) | 11 - 20 |
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Note: this is an executive function for decision by the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting.

To approve a reallocation and the allocation of funds for the Devolved Highways Budget Programme.

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| 8. | ALLOCATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD GRANTS 2026-27 (NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND) | 21 - 94 |
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Note: this is an executive function for decision by the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting.

To approve the allocation of funds for the 2026-27 Neighbourhoods Fund in the Old Kent Road neighbourhood area from the list of applications outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

Date: 2 March 2026

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following motion should be moved, seconded and approved if the sub-committee wishes to exclude the press and public to deal with reports revealing exempt information:

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1-7, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.”

Meeting Name:	Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting
Date:	10 March 2026
Report title:	Cleaner Greener Safer 2026-27: Capital Funding Allocation (Old Kent Road Neighbourhood)
Ward(s) or groups affected:	Old Kent Road
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	Not applicable
From:	Head of Highways & Sustainable Transport Policy

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting:

1. Approves the reallocation of £400 comprising underspent funds carried forward from previous years, current-year programme underspend and project cancellations within the current programme to the 2026-27 Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) budget for Old Kent Road Neighbourhood;
2. Approves the allocation of £63,900 for the 2026-27 CGS programme from the programmed capital expenditure for the ten-year period 2019-20 - 2028-29, together with the funds reallocated under (1), to the list of applications set out in Appendix 1 to this report within the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood ("Funded Projects");
3. Notes the total available funds for allocation by the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood in the 2026-27 financial year is £64,300

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4. Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting has the authority to approve the allocation of funds for the CGS programme to projects within the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area using the resources and criteria identified by Cabinet, pursuant to Part 3H of the council's constitution.
5. The Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area is made up of Old Kent Road ward.
6. The council's CGS programme funds project ideas from local organisations and individuals who live or work in Southwark, which improve their local area and has been running since 2003.¹

¹ [The Cleaner, Greener, Safer Capital Programme report dated 20 May 2003.](#)

7. Funding is allocated to Neighbourhood areas based on a per councillor calculation.²
8. In 2019, the total programmed capital expenditure over the ten-year period 2019-20 to 2028-29 was updated leading to a capital budget variation of £9.4m (£1.88m per annum) and this was approved at the Cabinet meeting on 17 September 2019.³ The CGS programme allocates £1.88 million every year for capital projects within the borough so this amount is available for allocation in the 2026-27 financial year.
9. Funding for the CGS programme can only be spent on capital improvements, which means permanent, physical changes and projects. Examples of the types of projects that have been funded include:
 - Parks, community gardens, landscaping, tree planting, and wildlife areas;
 - Children's playgrounds, youth facilities, ball courts, and cycle tracks;
 - Lighting, security measures, pavements, streets, and tackling 'grot spots;' and Grants to local groups to self-deliver projects.
10. The CGS programme is one of three programmes where funding is allocated through the Neighbourhood Community Meetings.
11. The additional programmes are the Neighbourhoods Fund which supports revenue-funded community activity and the Devolved Highways Budget which can only be used to deliver projects on the adopted highway.
12. The application process for funding was revised this year so that a single application form for was used for all three programmes. Once applications were received, officers reviewed and allocated them to the appropriate programme.
13. This combined process is known as the Neighbourhood Grants.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

14. There is £ 63,900 available for the 2026-27 CGS programme for new projects in the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area.
15. There is £400 in additional funding from previous years' underspend, current programme underspend and current programme project cancellations.
16. Eligible proposals must bring about permanent improvement and make an area cleaner, greener or safer. Proposals with revenue costs, including salaries, costs for events, festivals, workshops or other one-off events are not eligible for CGS programme funding. CCTV proposals and internal improvements to housing, property and works on schools where there is no access to the public are also not eligible. Works on private property are not eligible unless there is a long-term guarantee of public access or a demonstrable public benefit.

² [IDM report – 20 December 2018 Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport Management and Air Quality](#)

³ [Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019-20 \(month 4\) dated 17 September 2019](#)

17. The application form for CGS programme funding invited expressions of interest for the applicants to deliver projects themselves. Officers have undertaken a due diligence exercise to ensure that this is both practical and realistic as part of the feasibility process. Where an applicant is approved to deliver the project directly, the council will give the funding allocation to the applicant as a capital grant, issued with appropriate conditions attached.

Policy framework implications

18. The CGS programme is fully aligned with the council's policies around sustainability, regeneration and community engagement as detailed in "Fairer Greener Safer – Southwark Council Delivery Plan 2022-2026 and the Streets for People Strategy 2023-2030 which further outlines the council's ongoing commitment to, and ambition for, healthier neighbourhoods, cleaner air, thriving town centres and safer roads.
19. Specific examples where the projects funded through the CGS programme support the commitments made by the Delivery Plan and Streets for People Strategy include the provision of new and improved playgrounds, increasing the number of secure cycle parking spaces, creating new and improving existing green spaces, improving estate lighting and providing access to food growing and gardening opportunities.
20. The CGS programme also enables community engagement as part of the application process, including pitching meetings where applicants can advise why their proposal should be considered.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

Community impact statement

21. The roles and functions of the Neighbourhood Community areas include the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process to take decisions about local matters. The application process supports this because the local community can propose project ideas to be funded by the CGS programme.
22. An explicit objective within Neighbourhood Community areas is that they are used to actively engage as widely as possible with, and bring together, Southwark's diverse local communities on issues of shared or mutual interest. The CGS programme is an important tool in achieving community participation.
23. The programme is promoted widely across the borough to as many residents and community groups as possible using the council's main marketing team and via other teams across the council, including Resident Services, Community Engagement and Parks and Leisure services.
24. Officers also try to use external resources such as Community Southwark to increase the outreach of the programme across the borough

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

25. The Public Sector Equality Duty ("PSED") is set out at section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and requires the council to have due regard, in the exercise of its functions (including decision making), to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct;
 - b. Advance of equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristics and those who do not share it;
 - c. Foster good relations between those who share a relevant characteristic and those that do not share it.
26. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
27. Ideas for CGS projects come from the local community, the majority via a simple project nomination form available in electronic format. This simple process enables individuals and groups to nominate projects that have a direct impact on their community and meet the needs of those that make up that community.
28. Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps which need to be addressed by specific targeted outreach.
29. Decisions on funding are agreed by ward councillors with specific consideration given to the needs of individual wards and feedback from the community. Funding for CGS projects is equal across all wards ensuring that the opportunity is the same for all parts of the borough.
30. At this stage, no specific projects have been funded so the allocation of funds for the CGS Programme is not considered to have any adverse effects, including socio-economic or health impacts, on those with protected characteristics. Officers will consider the equalities impacts and the council's PSED for each of the Funded Projects as they progress through the detailed design and decision-making stages.
31. Officers will also look at the range of areas where grants are allocated, gather information for analysis where possible and look at how the council can improve allocation in relation to specific needs across the borough.
32. A process of continuous improvement is in place to ensure that officers improve data collection and analysis in the future and use this to reach groups identified as missing or hard to reach.

Health impact statement

33. There are no direct health implications as a result of the allocation of funds for the CGS programme. However, the following health benefits are expected from the Funded Projects based on the types of projects normally funded via the CGS Programme.

34. An increase in community assets in the public realm – providing more places for people to spend time in their local community. This has the potential to have a positive impact on social and mental wellbeing, by creating connected and cohesive communities.
35. Increased ownership over community public realm – this helps people within the community join together around a project, supporting connected and cohesive communities.
36. Project examples such as parks, community gardens, landscaping, tree planting and wildlife areas may have the following impacts:
 - a. Improve mental wellbeing by increasing access to the outdoors and nature
 - b. Improved access to affordable healthy food, supporting people to be less food-insecure
 - c. Tree planting and green spaces may help to reduce or disperse air pollution, supporting people's physical health.
37. Projects such as children's playgrounds, youth facilities, ball courts and cycle tracks encourage physical activity that has a huge number of health benefits including supporting people to achieve a healthy weight.
38. Projects such as lighting, security measures, pavements, streets, and tackling "grot spots" support community safety.

Climate change implications

39. The allocation of funds for the CGS programme does not have any direct climate change implications. However, the Funded Projects will support the council's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030 and align with the themes set out within the Climate Action Plan which was adopted in September 2025.
40. Specific actions addressed by projects funded via the CGS programme include:
 - a. Action 11: Encourage sustainable transport options to reduce emissions from vehicles
 - b. Action 14: Plant and maintain more trees
 - c. Action 15: Enhance our streets and green spaces to increase biodiversity
 - d. Action 21: Work with residents, local groups and partners to support climate friendly behaviours.
 - e. Action 24: Collaborate with our communities and partners to take climate action and improve resilience
41. By allocating the funds to the Funded Projects, the council is investing in community-led projects that reduce carbon emissions and promote

biodiversity. For example, the development of community gardens, wildlife areas and additional tree planting all aid in the protection of local flora, fauna and wildlife.

42. Additionally, the projects involving lighting upgrades will look to improve energy efficiency and the development of cycle tracks through this scheme will help residents' transition towards active travel, reducing their reliance on motor vehicles.
43. These types of projects are common across all Neighbourhood areas.
44. With all CGS spending decisions, potential carbon impact is considered as part of the allocation process and where possible, officers will attempt to monitor and evaluate potential carbon emissions from individual schemes.

Resource implications

45. There are no additional staffing implications, as provision is made from the Highways Division to deliver the recommendations included in this report.

Financial implications

46. CGS projects must be completed within two years of award of funding. Projects that are unlikely to be completed within two years will be reported to the relevant Ward councillors and available budgets may be reallocated to other projects. Revenue costs not covered by maintenance or the contractual liability period will fall on the asset owner. The department will be notified of the likely costs before the schemes proceed, to secure permission to implement the scheme.
47. After the defects and liability period, or three-year maintenance period in the case of planting works, all future maintenance is assumed by the asset owner, for example Housing, Parks, Highways, or in some cases external asset owners. Therefore, there are no revenue implications for the Highways division as a result of approving the proposed allocation.
48. The total expenditure and sources of funding for the scheme will be monitored and reported on as part of the overall Capital Programme.
49. Value for money will be ensured when the contract is procured by following the council's contract standing orders.

Legal implications

50. See supplementary advice given by the Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance in paragraphs 52 to 55 of this report. .

Consultation

51. No consultation has taken place and will not take place in the future.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance (CM 02.02.2026)

52. The Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting is being asked to approve various allocation and reallocations of monies as recommended by officers in paragraphs 1 to 3 of this report. The decision maker has the authority to make these decisions in accordance with paragraph 2, Part 3H of the council's constitution.
53. Officers have had due regard to the PSED under section 149 of the 2010 Act at paragraphs 25 to 32 of this report and have concluded that, at this stage, the allocation of funds for the 2026-27 CGS programme including previous years underspend is not considered to have any adverse impacts on persons with protected characteristics.
54. The Human Rights Act 1998 imposes a duty on the council as a public authority to apply the European Convention on Human Rights; as a result the council must not act in a way which is incompatible with these rights. The relevant rights for highway and traffic purposes are Article 8 (respect for homes); and Article 1 of the First Protocol (peaceful enjoyment of property). The allocation of funds for the 2026-27 CGS programme including previous years underspend is not anticipated to engage or breach the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.
55. Council Assembly on 14 July 2021 approved a change to the council's Constitution to confirm that all decisions made by the council will consider the climate and equality (including socio-economic disadvantage and health inequality) consequences of taking that decision. This has been considered at paragraphs 39 to 44 above.

Strategic Director of Resources (ESL25/138)

56. This report seeks approval for the allocation of **£64,300** of funds (**£63,700 new allocation + £400 reallocated underspend**) for the 2026–27 Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) programme in the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area from the list of applications set out in Appendix 1.
57. The Strategic Director of Resources notes the resource implications set out in the report and confirms that the proposed allocations will be contained within the CGS element of the council's approved capital programme.
58. It is also noted that officers' time and any other costs associated with these recommendations will be managed within existing departmental revenue budgets.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
The Cleaner, Greener, Safer Capital Programme	Neighbourhoods and Growth / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Craig Dove Tel: 020 7525 0955
Link: https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/Data/Executive/20030520/Agenda/Item%20267%20-%20The%20Cleaner,Greener,%20Safer%20Capital%20Programme.pdf		
IDM report – 20 December 2018 Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport Management and Air Quality	Neighbourhoods and Growth / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Craig Dove Tel: 020 7525 0955
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=50018979&Opt=0		
Cabinet Meeting Minutes 17 September 2019	Neighbourhoods and Growth / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Craig Dove Tel: 020 7525 0955
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/g6415/Agenda%20frontsheet%20Tuesday%2017-Sep-2019%2016.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=0		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	All Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Applications 2026-27

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Polyvios Polyviou, Head of Highways & Sustainable Transport Policy		
Report Author	Craig Dove, Senior Project Manager		
Version	Final		
Dated	02 February 2026		
Key Decision?	Yes		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance		Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Resources		Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member		No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			26 February 2026

CGS 26-27 Appendix 1

Request ID	Ward	Request Title
2047	Old Kent Road	Upgrade of Common Area Lighting continuation (Caroline Gardens Estate)
2067	Old Kent Road	The Big Clean Up of Old Kent Road
2130	Old Kent Road	Safe Back allies on Caroline Gardens
2319	Old Kent Road	Neighbourhood Nature and Safety Project
2539	Old Kent Road	Football cage revamped
2541	Old Kent Road	Improvement of the Links Community centre
2579	Old Kent Road	Picnic tables
2580	Old Kent Road	Community equipment
2617	Old Kent Road	Naming Our Paths: Re-rooting Identity in Friary Estate
2853	Old Kent Road	Friary estate community garden
2994	Old Kent Road	Phoenix Fun and Fit
2997	Old Kent Road	Living in Harmony
3041	Old Kent Road	Mains Electrical Connection for Glengall Wharf Community Garden
3259	Old Kent Road	Pat Hickson Garden Improvements Additional funding
3295	Old Kent Road	Alley to Northfield House Spruce Up
3409	Old Kent Road	Winderemere Point Security - Tustin Estate

Meeting Name:	Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting
Date:	10 March 2026
Report title:	Devolved Highways Budget 2026-27: Capital Funding Allocation (Old Kent Road Neighbourhood)
Ward(s) or groups affected:	Old Kent Road
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	Not applicable
From:	Head of Highways & Sustainable Transport Policy

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting:

1. Approves the allocation of £38,095 for the 2026-27 Devolved Highways Budget (“DHB”) programme from the programmed capital expenditure over the ten-year period 2019-20 to 2028-29, as well as the funds reallocated under (1), to the list of applications set out in Appendix 1 of this report within the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood (“Funded Projects”);
2. Notes the total available funds for allocation by the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood in the 2026-27 financial year is £38,095.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting has the authority to approve the allocation of funds for the DHB programme to projects within the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area using the resources and criteria identified by Cabinet, pursuant to Part 3H of the council’s constitution.
4. The Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area is made up of Old Kent Road ward.
5. The council’s non-principal road investment programme prioritises works on non-principal roads on a borough-wide basis and this investment forms the largest part of the annual investment programme.
6. Funding is allocated to Neighbourhood areas based on a per councillor calculation.¹

¹ [In accordance with the decision dated 7 January 2019 for the Allocation of funds to wards via Cleaner Greener Safer and Devolved Highways programmes](#)

7. The DHB programme is allocated £800,000 each year from the total annual non-principal road investment programme to be spent by Neighbourhood areas on their priorities for highway renewal and maintenance that may not be prioritised as part of the borough-wide programme.
8. The scope of the DHB programme permits the full range of minor traffic and highway capital schemes rather than solely like-for-like repair and replacement. Examples of the types of works which can now be funded include:
 - Footway and carriageway resurfacing.
 - Traffic calming.
 - Localised repairs.
 - Accessibility improvements.
 - Footway buildouts.
 - Cycle hangars.
9. The DHB programme is one of three programmes where funding is allocated by the Neighbourhood Community Meetings.
10. The additional programmes are the Neighbourhoods Fund which funds revenue activity and the Cleaner, Greener, Safer programme which funds project ideas from local organisations and individuals who live or work in Southwark, which improve their local area.
11. The application process for funding was revised this year so that a single application form was used for all three programmes. Once applications were received, officers reviewed and allocated them to the appropriate programme
12. This combined process is known as the Neighbourhood Grants.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

13. There is £38,095 available for the 2026-27 DHB programme for new projects in the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area.
14. There is £0 in additional funding from previous years' underspend, current programme underspend and current programme project cancellations.

Policy framework implications

15. The DHB programme is fully aligned with the council's policies around sustainability, regeneration and community engagement as detailed in "Fairer Greener Safer – Southwark Council Delivery Plan 2022-2026" because the Funded Projects support active modes of transport and will provide improvements to road safety so all road users are prioritised. The programme also enables community engagement as part of the application process including pitching meetings where applicants are able to advise why their proposal should be considered.

16. The council's Streets for People strategy outlines the council's ongoing commitment to, and ambition for, healthier neighbourhoods, cleaner air, thriving town centres and safer roads as part of the "Our Pledges" listed on page 7 of the strategy. The Funded Projects include the introduction of cycle parking, traffic calming, and footway and junction improvements at the relevant areas which will create a more pleasant environment for pedestrians and cyclists by reducing motor vehicle dominance, and will create a safer road network for all road users.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

Community impact statement

17. As part of the application process the local community is able to propose ideas for projects to be funded by the DHB programme. This has a positive impact in terms of the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process.
18. An explicit objective within Neighbourhood Community areas is that they are used to actively engage as widely as possible with, and bring together, Southwark's diverse local communities on issues of shared or mutual interest. The DHB programme is an important tool in achieving community participation.
19. The programme is promoted widely across the borough to as many residents and community groups as possible using the council's main marketing team and via other teams across the council, including Resident Services, Community Engagement and Parks and Leisure services.
20. Officers also try to use external resources such as Community Southwark to increase the outreach of the programme across the borough

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

21. The Public Sector Equality Duty ("PSED") is set out at section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and requires the council to have due regard, in the exercise of its functions (including decision making), to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct;
 - b. Advance of equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristics and those who do not share it;
 - c. Foster good relations between those who share a relevant characteristic and those that do not share it.
22. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
23. Ideas for DHB projects come from the local community, the majority via a simple project nomination form available in electronic format. This simple process enables individuals and groups to nominate projects that have a direct impact on their community and meet the needs of those that make up that

community.

24. Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps which need to be addressed by specific targeted outreach.
25. Decisions on funding are agreed by ward councillors with specific consideration given to the needs of individual wards and feedback from the community. Funding for DHB projects is equal across all wards ensuring that the opportunity is the same for all parts of the borough.
26. At this stage, no specific projects have been funded so the allocation of funds for the DHB Programme is not considered to have any adverse effects, including socio-economic or health impacts, on those with protected characteristics. Officers will consider the equalities impacts and the council's PSED for each of the Funded Projects as they progress through the detailed design and decision-making stages.
27. Officers will also look at the range of areas where grants are allocated, gather information for analysis where possible and look at how the council can improve allocation in relation to specific needs across the borough.
28. A process of continuous improvement is in place to ensure that officers improve data collection and analysis in the future and use this to reach groups identified as missing or hard to reach.

Health impact statement

29. There are no direct health implications as a result of the allocation of funds for the DHB programme. However, the following health benefits are expected from the Funded Projects based on the types of projects normally funded via the DHB Programme.
30. An increase in community assets in the public realm – providing more places for people to spend time in their local community. This has the potential to have a positive impact on social and mental wellbeing, by creating connected and cohesive communities.
31. Increased ownership over community public realm – this helps people within the community join together around a project, supporting connected and cohesive communities.
32. Project examples such as tree planting, street lighting, landscaping, traffic calming, junction improvements, pedestrian crossings, cycle parking and cycling infrastructure may have the following impacts:
 1. improve mental wellbeing by increasing access to the outdoors and nature, improve mental and physical wellbeing by improving street space and encouraging active travel;
 2. improved access to affordable and secure cycle parking which should contribute to less congestion and air pollution locally;

3. tree planting and green spaces may help to reduce or disperse air pollution, supporting people's physical health; and
4. improved street lighting can improve safety and reduce the chances of crime or anti-social behaviour.

Climate change implications

33. The allocation of funds for the DHB programme does not have any direct climate change implications. However, the Funded Projects will support the council's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030 and align with the themes set out within the Climate Action Plan which was adopted in September 2025.
34. Specific actions addressed by projects funded via the DHB programme include:
 - Action 11: Encourage sustainable transport options to reduce emissions from vehicles
 - Action 14: Plant and maintain more trees
 - Action 15: Enhance our streets and green spaces to increase biodiversity
 - Action 21: Work with residents, local groups and partners to support climate friendly behaviours.
 - Action 24: Collaborate with our communities and partners to take climate action and improve resilience
35. By allocating the funds to the Funded Projects, the council is investing in community-led projects that reduce carbon emissions and promote biodiversity. For example, the development of community gardens, wildlife areas and additional tree planting all aid in the protection of local flora, fauna and wildlife.
36. Additionally, the projects involving lighting upgrades will look to improve energy efficiency and the development of cycle facilities through this scheme will help residents' transition towards active travel, reducing their reliance on motor vehicles.
37. These types of projects are common across all Neighbourhood areas.
38. With all DHB spending decisions, potential carbon impact is considered as part of the allocation process and where possible, officers will attempt to monitor and evaluate potential carbon emissions from individual schemes.

Resource implications

39. There are no additional staffing implications, as provision is made from the Highways Division to deliver the recommendations included in this report.

Financial implications

40. On 7 April 2020, Cabinet approved the capital bid of £12.6 million to allow current spend on highway planned maintenance for the following 10 years thereby approving the funding for the 2026-27 DHB programme.²
41. All professional fees related to the project are also treated as the capital costs of the project.
42. The total expenditure and sources of funding for the scheme will be monitored and reported as part of the overall Capital Programme.

Consultation

43. No consultation has taken place and will not take place in the future.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance (CM 24.02.26)

44. Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting has the delegated authority to approve the allocation of funds for the DHB programme to projects within the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood under Part 3H of the council's constitution.
45. The Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting will need to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between people with protected characteristics and others in accordance with the public sector equality duty in section 149 Equality Act 2010. Reference is made to this in the "Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts" section above. At this stage, no specific projects are being funded so the allocation of funds for the DHB Programme is not considered by the report author to have any adverse effects.
46. Council Assembly on 14 July 2021 approved a change to the council's Constitution to confirm that all decisions made by the council will consider the climate and equality (including socio-economic disadvantage and health inequality) consequences of taking that decision. This has been considered at climate change implications section above.

Strategic Director of Resources (CAP25/099)

47. The Strategic Director of Resources (SDR) notes the recommendation to the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting to approve the allocation of £38,095 for the 2026–27 Devolved Highways Budget, funded from the

² [Policy and Resource Strategy Capital Monitoring Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019- 20 \(month 9\)](#)

programmed capital expenditure within the council's approved ten-year capital programme.

48. The SDR further notes that there is no additional funding available from previous years' underspends, current programme underspend, or project cancellations for reallocation in 2026–27.
49. The SDR also notes the resource and financial implications set out in the report, and confirms that the proposed allocation will be managed within the existing capital programme envelope already approved by Cabinet.
50. Officers' time and any associated costs required to implement these recommendations will be contained within existing departmental budgets.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Policy and Resource Strategy Capital Monitoring Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019-20 (month 9)	Environment, Sustainability and Leisure / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Tobias Allen 020 7525 3197
Link: Issue details - Policy and Resources Strategy: capital monitoring report, including capital programme update 2019-20 - Southwark Council		
Allocation of funds to wards via Cleaner Greener Safer and Devolved Highways Programmes 2018	Environment, Sustainability and Leisure / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Tobias Allen 020 7525 3197
Link: Issue details - Allocation of funds to wards via Cleaner Greener Safer and Devolved Highways programmes - Southwark Council		
Streets for People strategy 2023	Environment, Sustainability and Leisure / Highways 160 Tooley Street	Tobias Allen 020 7525 3197
Link: Streets for People strategy 2023-30 by Southwark Council - Issue		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	All Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Applications 2026-27
Appendix 2	Old Kent Road Neighbourhood funding

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Dr Polyvios Polyviou, Head of Highways and Sustainable Transport Policy		
Report Author	Tobias Allen, Transport Projects Engineer		
Version	Final		
Dated	25 February 2026		
Key Decision?	Yes		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance		Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Resources		Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member		No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			26 February 2026

APPENDIX 1

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Area

Devolved Highways Capital Investment programme 2026/27: Applications

Reference	Proposal Name	Ward	Programme
2472	Rolls Rd Pollinator Pathway SE1 5HA/HB	Old Kent Road	Highways
2762	Ledbury Street Cycle Hanger	Old Kent Road	Highways

APPENDIX 2**Unallocated 2026/27 Devolved Highways Funding****Old Kent Road Neighbourhood**

Ward	Unallocated Funding
Old Kent	£0
Total	£0

Meeting Name:	Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting
Date:	10 March 2026
Report title:	Allocation of Neighbourhood Grants 2026-27 (Neighbourhoods Fund)
Ward(s) or groups affected:	Old Kent Road ward
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	Not applicable
From:	Director of Stronger Neighbourhoods

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting allocates a total of £30,000 of the Neighbourhoods Fund 2026-27 to the list of applications outlined in Appendix 1, subject to this funding being approved in the 2026-27 budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The Neighbourhoods Grant is now part of Southwark Council's new Neighbourhoods Programme, which aims to give local communities more direct influence over funding and local decision-making. Neighbourhoods Fund (NsF) is the revenue element of the grant.
3. The NsF has a borough-wide funding budget of £630,000 with an allocation of £10,000 per Councillor, for each ward. This is subject to annual budget setting process.
4. The purpose of introducing the Neighbourhoods Grant was to give local areas decision making powers over significant amounts of funding, that they could allocate to meet locally determined priorities.
5. Under Part 3H of the Council's Constitution, Neighbourhoods have delegated authority to allocate funding to eligible projects within their areas.
6. The Old Kent Road Neighbourhood comprises the Old Kent Road ward.
7. The Neighbourhoods Fund is a revenue fund designed to support small-scale, community-led activities, including events, workshops, training, outreach, community development, and other non-capital project delivery.

8. The programme supports activities that directly benefit local communities, strengthen neighbourhood identity, and encourage participation and cohesion across Southwark.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

9. Each ward will have £10,000 per Councillor of revenue grants to allocate and it is proposed that any unallocated funds from the previous rounds (years) are to be carried forward and added to the financial year commencing 1 April 2026.
10. The Neighbourhood Community Meeting will use the criteria set out by cabinet below for the allocation of this funding:
 - a. Creating opportunities for people from different backgrounds to get on well together; (e.g. community cohesion)
 - b. Establishing projects which treat each other with respect and consideration (e.g. being a good neighbour, inter-generational contacts)
 - c. Encouraging residents to be responsible for their own neighbourhood (e.g. community clean-ups; volunteering initiatives)
 - d. Specific measures to enhance a neighbourhood's environment (e.g. increased cleaning).
11. A Neighbourhood may choose to allocate some of their revenue resources to their capital allocations.
12. Subject to the availability of resources, the revenue fund may be used to 'buy' services from the council.
13. As with any executive decision taken by Neighbourhood meetings, this is subject to the council's existing scrutiny arrangements.

Policy framework implications

14. The Neighbourhoods Fund contributes to delivery of the Fairer, Greener, Safer Southwark Council Delivery Plan 2022–2026, particularly commitments relating to community wellbeing, equality, participation and strengthening neighbourhoods.
15. It also supports the aims of the Neighbourhoods Programme to build more empowered, connected and active communities.

16. The programme enhances local democratic participation through community-informed decision making.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

Community impact statement

17. The roles and functions of Neighbourhoods programme include the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process. Neighbourhood Community Meetings take decisions on local matters including environmental improvement and community safety as well as consultation on a wide range of policies and strategies that affect the area.
18. The Neighbourhoods Fund enables residents and community groups to shape local priorities, strengthening civic participation.
19. The allocation of the 2026-27 Old Kent Road Neighbourhood NsF budget will in the main, affect the people living in the Old Kent Road Area. However, in making the area a better place to live and improving life chances for local people, the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood area NsF activities will have an impact on the whole of Southwark.
20. The NsF is an important tool in achieving community participation and cohesion. Having a strong, vibrant and engaged community is a key part of creating a fairer and just society through enabling volunteering, participation, inclusion and well-being at a borough wide and neighbourhood level.
21. The application process encourages involvement from both established and emerging community organisations, including those historically underrepresented.

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

22. In fulfilling the above objectives that Neighbourhood Community Meetings have of bringing together and involving Southwark's diverse local communities, consideration has also been given to the council's duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 which requires the council to have due regard when taking decisions to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct
 - b. Advance of equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it
 - c. Foster good relations between those who share a relevant characteristic and those that do not share it.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

23. Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant characteristic and those who do not share it is further defined in s.149 as having due regard to the need to:
 - Remove or minimise disadvantages connected with a relevant protected characteristic.
 - Take steps to meet the different needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic. Applications for NSF projects come from the local community via a simple online form. This simple process enables individuals and groups to apply for projects that have a direct impact on their community and meet the needs of those that make up that community.
 - Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or any other activity in which they are under-represented. The programme is promoted widely across the borough to as many residents and community groups as possible using the council's main marketing team and via other teams across the council including Resident Services, Community Engagement and via Community Southwark and other community networks.
 - Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps that need to be addressed by specific targeted outreach.
24. When undertaking the duties under section 149 the council must ensure:
 - The duty must be fulfilled before the decision in question is enacted;
25. The duty must be exercised in substance with 'rigour and an open mind'; it is not a matter of 'ticking boxes'; and the duty is continuing; it does not end with the completion of any equality impact assessment and due regard must be had as policy evolves and is implemented.
26. Equalities data is collected at this time so that an analysis can show where applications have come from and where there are gaps that need to be addressed by specific targeted outreach. The open application process enables residents with protected characteristics to facilitate events that are relevant to them, and equality monitoring is required which will assist the council in continuous compliance with the public sector equality duty.
27. At this stage, the allocation of revenue funding is not anticipated to have any

negative impacts on persons with protected characteristics.

Health impact statement

28. While the allocation itself has no direct health implications, funded activities commonly:
- Improve mental wellbeing through social connection
 - Support physical activity through community sports and workshops
 - Enhance community safety through positive local engagement
 - Build skills and confidence through training and volunteer opportunities

Climate change implications

29. The Neighbourhoods Fund is a revenue programme and does not directly support capital infrastructure.
30. However, many community activities funded may deliver indirect environmental benefits, including environmental education, community gardening activities, or low-carbon local events.
31. Applicants are encouraged to consider environmentally sustainable approaches to project delivery.

Resource implications

32. There are no resource implications.

Legal implications

33. All approved applicants will need to comply with all relevant council grant approval requirements.

Financial implications

34. The Old Kent Road Neighbourhood NsF has been allocated a total of £30,000 for 2026-27.
35. It is recommended that Old Kent Road Neighbourhood set aside some unallocated funds in order to prevent an over allocation of funds, as well as to act as a contingency from which urgent or incidental requests can be funded throughout the year.

Consultation

36. The NSF projects may require consultation with stakeholders, including the project applicant, local residents and tenants and residents associations where applicable.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Assurance) (NBC/20260210)

37. This report is recommending that the Neighbourhood Meeting approve the allocation of monies from the NSF 2026-27 for the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood as specified at Appendix 1.
38. The Local Government Act 2000 ("the 2000 Act") gives the Leader the power to delegate any executive function to area committees. The Neighbourhood Community Meetings are 'area committees' within the meaning of the 2000 Act. The allocation of the neighbourhood fund is an executive function.
39. The delegation can be found in Part 3H of the Constitution, which enables Neighbourhood Community Meetings to approve "the allocation of neighbourhood funds, using the resources and criteria identified by the cabinet". This is therefore a decision that the Neighbourhood Community Meetings is empowered to take. The neighbourhood fund was established in December 2014 by amalgamating the Area Committee Fund and the Cleaner Greener Safer revenue scheme
40. The Localism Act 2011 gives councils a general power of competence whereby they have power to do anything that individuals generally may do. This power can be used even if legislation already exists that allows a local authority to do the same thing. However, the general power of competence does not enable a local authority to do anything which it was restricted or prevented from doing under the previous legislation.
41. The general power of competence includes the power to:
 - (a) incur expenditure
 - (b) give financial assistance to any person
 - (c) enter into arrangements or agreements with any person
 - (d) co-operate with or facilitate or co-ordinate the activities of any person
 - (e) exercise on behalf of any person any functions of that person; and
 - (f) provide staff, goods, services or accommodation to any person.
42. The provision of funding under the NSF falls within the scope of the kind of activities the council can undertake under the general power of competence as this includes the power to give financial assistance to any person.

43. In allocating funding under the NsF Neighbourhood Community Meetings must have regard to the council's equality duties set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The report author has demonstrated how those duties have been considered in the body of the report.

Strategic Director of Resources (ESL25/162)

37. The 2026-27 budget allocation for the Neighbourhoods Fund will be agreed by council assembly as part of the budget setting process. The report notes the allocation is £10,000 per councillor by ward and thus £30,000 should be awarded to the Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Community Meeting.
38. Paragraph 35 notes the need to maintain a contingency element from the funding available for urgent or incidental requests. This is a prudent measure to assist in the effective running of the Neighbourhoods Fund.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Allocation of Neighbourhoods Fund 2025-26	Environment, Sustainability & Leisure. 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Shireen Raymond, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator 0207 525 3690
Report - Neighbourhoods Fund 2025-26 East Central Area.pdf		
Neighbourhoods Fund 2026/27 – Funding information	Environment, Sustainability & Leisure, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH (attach web link)	Danielle Simpson, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator 0207 525 1876
Neighbourhood Grants Southwark Council		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Old Kent Road Neighbourhood NsF Applications 2026-27

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Forid Ahmed, Neighbourhoods Manager		
Report Author	Danielle Simpson, Old Kent Road Neighbourhood Co-ordinator		
Version	Final		
Dated	3 rd February 2026		
Key Decision	Yes		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included	
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	Yes	Yes	
Strategic Director of Resources	Yes	Yes	
Strategic Director of Environment, Sustainability & Leisure	No	No	
Cabinet member	No	No	
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		24 February 2025	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Old Kent Road

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
2148	Miss Kathryn McGuinness	The Arts Yard	About Us & Our Vision The Arts Yard is a new creative health hub, rooted in our local community on the Old Kent Road. We are a team of professional artists, an experienced art teacher, and a long-term Bermondsey resident who cares deeply about the wellbeing and creativity of our neighbourhood. We want to create The Arts Yard at Livesey Exchange 2 (567 Old Kent Road) — a welcoming, inclusive space where Southwark residents of all ages can explore art, build confidence, and connect with one another. Why We're Doing This We know our area faces real challenges. According to the Southwark JSNA Annual Report 2025: • 41% of children in Old Kent Road live in poverty after housing costs — among the highest in London • Many families struggle with food insecurity and low income • Southwark has high rates of rough sleeping and crime above the London average Young people in local consultations have told us they want safe spaces to express themselves creatively, gain skills, and stay engaged. Meanwhile, redevelopment along Old Kent Road is changing the community, creating the risk of divides between long-term residents and new arrivals. The Arts Yard will be a place where everyone can come together through creativity. Bringing the Community Together: Our Graffiti Workshop Example We recently hosted a graffiti workshop for 140 local primary school children from	32390

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Bermondsey, including several SEND participants. The day was full of laughter, colour, and creative energy. Children learned spray-paint techniques, experimented with stencils, and designed their own murals. What people said: • “I loved using the spray paint — I felt like a real street artist!” – child age 10yrs • “My child with additional needs really engaged and was proud of what they created for the first time.” – Parent • “The children were focused, happy, and working together — it was incredible to see.” – Local Teacher The workshop had an immediate impact: • Children built confidence and teamwork skills • SEND participants were fully engaged and supported • Parents noticed improvements in focus, collaboration, motivation and behaviour Since hosting the workshop, we have received an influx of enquiries from local families asking for more graffiti workshops — showing the real demand for safe, creative activities in the area. What We'll Do The Community Graffiti Wall & Graffiti Club Graffiti is often perceived as vandalism, yet within the art world it is recognised as a skilled, expressive art form. Building on our workshop experience, The Arts Yard will establish Southwark's first legal graffiti wall, supported by a structured Graffiti Club. This will: • Divert young and old people from illegal tagging and anti-social behaviour • Build technical skills in spray-painting, design, colour theory, and mural planning • Foster cultural pride through an ever-evolving community-owned gallery	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			• Create pathways into professional creative careers The Artist's Edible Garden A green space for mindfulness, learning, and artistic inspiration: • Grow fruits, vegetables, herbs and edible flowers while learning sustainable gardening practices • Use the changing seasons as subjects for drawing, painting, and printmaking • Create a welcoming space where residents of all ages can work together Creative Health Workshops & Clubs Inclusive workshops (20 participants per session) we aim to host one of each group per month will engage: • 10–14 year olds • 15–18 year olds • Adults 18+ • Families (cross-generational) Activities include graffiti, mindful drawing, painting, printing, sculpture, eco-art, and observational drawing. All sessions will be SEND-friendly, with adapted teaching and materials. What Our Community Will Gain The Arts Yard will deliver tangible, lasting benefits: • Reduce anti-social behaviour by offering young people structured, creative outlets • Improve mental health and wellbeing through art and gardening • Promote inclusion and equality through SEND-adapted sessions and multi-generational	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			activities • Strengthen community cohesion by bridging divides between long-term residents and newcomers • Develop transferable skills in art, design, teamwork, and project planning • Celebrate Southwark's diverse culture and creativity Sustainability & Legacy The Arts Yard will not stop after 12 months. Long-term, we will: • Maintain the Community Graffiti / Street Art Wall as a permanent creative asset • Sustain the Artist's Garden through ongoing community involvement • Continue inclusive workshops, providing skills and wellbeing opportunities • Embed Creative Health in Southwark's cultural and wellbeing strategies • Inspire further training, creative careers, and community engagement In Closing The Arts Yard is a project that comes from and for our community. The excitement and engagement we witnessed in our graffiti workshop for 140 children shows just how much potential exists when we provide safe, inspiring, and inclusive creative spaces. With Southwark Council's support, we can make The Arts Yard a place where: • Safe, friendly, fun and inclusive creative environment • Young people and adults explore creativity • Mental health and wellbeing are supported • Skills and confidence grow • Community pride and cohesion are strengthened The Arts Yard will leave a lasting legacy for creative health practices, creativity, inclusion, connection and a united community on Old Kent Road and across Southwark.	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
2174	Nexus Education Schools Trust	The John Keats Whole-School Wellbeing Days	Who we are: Our vision is for John Keats Primary to act at a positive catalyst for change and improvement within the community. We want to be an outstanding, all-through school for children in the Bermondsey area that will fulfil their educational aspirations and dreams and meet complex pastoral needs. Of the school's 351 pupils, 63% are entitled to Pupil Premium, 29% speak English as an additional language and 83% are Londoners from minority ethnic backgrounds. We have an extremely high percentage of pupils with Special Educational Needs - 34% vs the national average of 18%. Some of our pupils have no access to public funds and/or are at risk of homelessness. Every single pupil will benefit from this project. The Challenge: The aim of our wellbeing project is to support pupils through the current nationwide mental health epidemic and, in particular, to help pupils process any trauma/anxieties suffered following the Covid-19 pandemic and to support those with special educational needs. With funding limited, we cannot offer the 1-2-1 mental health support on the unprecedented scale that it is currently needed. We started this programme following the pandemic and, after a successful pilot, have been aiming to run whole-school well-being days annually ever since, despite budget challenges. The Project: We plan to offer inclusive termly "Well-being Days" where children can step back from the stresses of daily life and focus on their own friendships, connections and emotional well-being. The activities will be planned centrally and some will be run by external providers. These days will generally be run on-site and children will be involved in their planning. The well-being days will be themed. This year, the themes are: - Black Culture and History:	10250

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			We will run a wealth of creative and cultural activities based around and celebrating Black History Month, such as drumming workshops, creative arts, dance and drama. We will also sample African foods and children will be encouraged to wear traditional or modern African dress. We will chose external providers with care to ensure activities are culturally rich and accurate. - Farm Life and Animal Care: We will invite a mobile city farm to visit our school and turn our premises into an animal sanctuary for the day! Pupils will have the chance to meet, pet, feed and learn about chickens, rabbits, guinea pigs, sheep and goats. They will also take part in animal themed games, art and music activities. Children will learn about animal behaviour and safety and we will introduce our egg hatchery, which will remain on-site until our very own chicks appear a few weeks later! We plan to break down barriers, introducing our more fearful children to gentle animals in a safe environment. - The Seaside: At the end of the school year, the beach themed well-being day will see half the school take part in a trip to a real beach while half the school takes part in water and sand based fun activities at school. We have chosen to split the school in half for this day so that the travel is more affordable and the trip is more manageable and less overwhelming for both staff and pupils. We will switch the beach trip groups bi-annually - e.g. this year Reception and years 1, 3 and 5 will go and next year will see years 2, 4 and 6 attending. For many, this will be their first experience of a beach and for some it will be their first opportunity to leave London. In school, we will create a "school beach", bringing in paddling pools, sprinklers and other water-based fun alongside sand play for all. The school will have some 'pool party' areas and some neuro-inclusive quieter sensory spaces created with our SEN pupils and those with higher sensory needs in mind. The themed days have been chosen with our community's needs in mind, being culturally aware and providing opportunities that our pupils may not otherwise have access to. We plan to break down barriers and allow all pupils to access these incredible opportunities once per term throughout their primary school life, regardless of their background, economic status or	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			educational or care needs. The goals of the project are: 1. To enable the children to gain experiences that they may not usually be able to enjoy, due to their background, personal circumstances or financial limitations. 2. To teach the pupils about what the world has to offer outside of Southwark and outside of their home lives, such as cultural, natural and sensory experiences. 3. To improve and nurture the mental health of our pupils, particularly following the coronavirus pandemic, after which many have shown signs of trauma and/or anxiety. 4. To offer inclusive activities that every pupil can take part in, regardless of their limitations. The Benefits: The anticipated benefits of the wellbeing programme include: - Enhanced physical activity: The chance to get outside into new environments, get moving and apply themselves to physical tasks for a sustained period. - Improved social interactions: The chance to build relationships with peers, teachers, and staff, communicating and connecting with each other. - Increased awareness of nature: The chance to immerse themselves in all aspects of the natural world, understanding how nature works and what it gives us. - Increased cultural awareness: The chance to immerse themselves in their own and unfamiliar cultures. - Enhanced noticing skills and empathy: The chance to take a moment to intensely observe the world around them without distractions and experience an emotional response to what they see and feel. - Improved grit and growth mindset: The chance to complete tasks that require resilience and perseverance, overcoming fear and lack of understanding to try something new and feel brave. - Increased service and active citizenship: The chance to take responsibility for tasks, for each other, for animals and for nature to understand that they can make a difference to the world by caring for all that is around them.	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			The Cost: The school has budgeted £2,000 per term for the well-being days in school and a further £4,250 for the transport for the end of year beach trip, totalling £10,250. Any contribution towards any element of this budget will be gratefully accepted. We have included some photos from previous wellbeing days from the pilot programme. Sadly, the school can no longer run these days from its own budget, despite the incredible outcomes and benefits experienced during the pilot.	
2216	FAITHS WOMEN COMMUNITY UK	Sewing Academy Technique	The Free Sewing Academy is a community-based skills development initiative designed to empower individuals especially women and youth by providing practical training in tailoring, garment making, and related entrepreneurial skills. The program combines hands-on workshops with business guidance to enable participants to create quality clothing and generate sustainable income including reducing the isolation and loneliness Benefits to the Community Economic Empowerment: Equips participants with employable skills to start their own tailoring businesses or secure jobs in the textile sector. Poverty Reduction: Provides pathways to financial independence, especially for low-income families. Skill Development: Builds technical capacity in sewing, design, and small-scale production. Youth & Women Empowerment: Creates opportunities for marginalized groups to gain confidence, purpose, and self-reliance. Community Growth: Promotes local production, reduces dependency on imports, and fosters a culture of creativity and self-sufficiency	1500
2303	Glengall Warf Garden	Growing Together	Growing Together: Edible and Inclusive Community Beds is a year-long programme led by Glengall Wharf Garden (GWG) in Peckham, designed to help Southwark residents create and care for shared edible and ornamental growing spaces. The project focuses on housing estates, communal gardens, and public green spaces, providing a replicable model for local people to collaborate around a single, shared bed.	8350

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			The demonstration bed will act as a living classroom — a beautiful, multi-functional space combining vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers that are both edible and biodiverse. Residents of all ages, cultures, and abilities will co-design, plant, and maintain the beds while learning practical skills in soil health, composting, seed saving, and sustainable growing. Over 12 months, biweekly workshops and planting days will combine practical food-growing training with community-building activities, empowering participants to replicate the approach in other neighbourhoods. *The project supports the aims of the Cleaner Greener Safer and Neighbourhoods Funds by: *Transforming underused areas into vibrant, productive green spaces. *Building stronger, safer, and more connected communities through shared activity. *Enhancing biodiversity and environmental awareness. *Promoting healthy, active lifestyles through hands-on growing. By investing in both people and place, Growing Together will leave a legacy of edible, inclusive, and community-managed gardens across Southwark, maintained by skilled and confident residents who continue to grow together long after the project concludes. For a more detailed overview of the project and a full budget breakdown, please see attached (2.5) *Growing Together Proposal for Southwark Neighbourhood Grants	
2390	St Philip's Church	Seasoned Souls	At St Philip's, we have piloted a community based new initiative, aimed at older adults and those in our midst with mobility issues. This initiative offers gentle chair exercises, getting in tune with our bodies, and stilling our minds. The exercise class provides a safe, accessible, engaging and professional fitness programme - a low impact workout concentrating on upper body, shoulders, neck and being grounded. Research shows that community fitness programmes are a great way to contribute to a healthier, active and closer-knit community. It offers a feeling of solidarity, cohesion and care, whilst helping to raise self-esteem, building body confidence, combatting loneliness and social isolation. The exercise class is followed by a time of discussion related to mental health and general well-being. During this discussion time, we share toast and eggs and sometimes use our hands to create something beautiful. We are striving to look after the physical and mental health of older people in our community.	1800

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			This falls in line with South Council's strategy to promote positive aging and provides opportunities for better health outcomes. Our parish is one of the most deprived areas in the UK, scoring all too highly on the national deprivation index. The largest percentage of residents in our parish are living on estates, and are at risk of crime and social isolation. Many of the people who attend this group live alone, have long term health conditions, are at risk of falling, and suffer health and social inequalities. Adjacent to the church is a 46 bed sheltered housing scheme, Harman Close, and we are currently working in partnership with the management there to provide strong community connections whilst promoting health and well-being through this initiative. We as a church community are seeking to provide opportunities for both residents and those with no fixed abode to find companionship, food, warmth and a sense of belonging. St Philip's cares for all people; but this initiative seeks to care for the older generation; their bodies and souls. We encourage mindfulness and creative thinking as we believe that a sense of peace and contentment is at the core of good living. Practically, we encourage healthy and communal eating and looking after ourselves through regular health checks and talking about our life experiences etc. We care deeply about people's mental, spiritual and physical well-being and we strive to deal holistically with each person we meet. In so doing we are seeking to intentionally mirror what you as a local authority are doing. We wish to work in partnership with you, inviting speakers and complementary organisations to come along to address our guests. We believe that this initiative falls in line with your strategy to promote positive aging and providing opportunities for better health outcomes. These priorities also align with the broader Southwark 2030 Vision to build and green safe community where everyone can live a good life. *Love to Move British Gymnastics Foundation *SMW Stronger my way, let's talk about strength Connecting communities Sport England *Cockrane reviews, group exercise reduces falls in older adults *BMJ 2004 exercise reduces depressive symptoms	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			*UK pilots (age UK NHS) shows chair exercise improves mobility and social connections *Old Kent Road Area Action Plan pages and policy documents (Southwark Council AAP / supporting datasets). ([Southwark Council) *OldKentRoad.org (regeneration hub / consultation documents). (oldkentroad.org.uk) *Local policing priorities (Met / police.uk pages for Old Kent Road). (Metropolitan Police) *Southwark Community Safety Partnership strategic assessment (crime trends & deprivation indicators). (Southwark Council) We have found and we are currently working with a very talented and highly qualified yoga instructor, who delivers these classes with kindness and care. This is the main financial commitment we need to meet - £45 per session. We have been running since the beginning of October and the project is proving extremely popular. We welcome approximately 20 people to each session currently, but we hope this number will grow as word gets around. Those who attend have found that the sessions are enriching and enlivening.	
2569	FAITHS WOMEN COMMUNITY UK	Dancing Therapy Keeping fitness	Brief Description: The Dancing Therapy Keep Fitness project aims to promote physical health, mental well-being, and social connection through guided dance sessions for people of all ages and fitness levels. The program combines fun, music, and movement to encourage an active lifestyle while reducing stress and isolation in the community. This Benefits to the Community will: *encourages regular physical activity and improves cardiovascular health. *It provides a safe, inclusive space for social interaction and emotional expression. *It Helps participants relieve stress and boost self-confidence. *This Strengthens community bonds through group activities and shared goals. *Supports mental health by promoting joy and mindfulness through movement. We Need for More Exercise Equipment: 3 bicycles , exercise,	8500

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			To expand participation and improve the quality of sessions, additional exercise equipment such as mats, speakers, mirrors, resistance bands, and hydration stations are needed. These resources will ensure a safer, more engaging, and accessible fitness experience for everyone involved. For 11 sessions	
2577	Ta' Nights	Ta' Nights	• What: Ta' Nights is a cultural wellbeing project in Peckham that combines Semba and Kizomba dances, African percussion, storytelling, African language learning and social events. • For: Residents of all ages, but mainly the elderly and the young, from African and PALOP (Países Africanos de Língua Oficial Portuguesa) backgrounds in Southwark, as well as the wider local community. • Who (delivers): Professional dance and music facilitators of African heritage, supported by a project coordinator, volunteers, and cultural practitioners. • How: Through weekly classes, monthly social gatherings, heritage talks, and an annual gala. • When: Year-round, with classes starting within 3 months of securing funding; gala at the end of each year. Key Objectives: 1. Improve physical & mental wellbeing of the local community through music and movement. 2. Preserve and promote African cultural heritage through storytelling, performance and language. 3. Strengthen local community ties in Peckham and its surroundings. 4. Empower participants with creative skills and confidence. 5. Provide sustainable cultural opportunities for future generations.	23000
2702	Caroline Gardens TRA	Caroline Gardens 200th Years Anniversary	Many residents on our estate are elderly-isolated-disadvantage-vulnerable. The aim is to get residents out of their houses to socialise with each other and to have a good time. Many residents live alone on a low fixed-income. Living alone without the benefit of regular social interaction carries with it isolation and with that comes increased alienation and a decline in overall well-being. The environment is warm, friendly and inviting so you do not feel left out.	8750

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			The estate 200th year anniversary will bring residents together to enjoy themselves and to celebrate the estate heritage. The celebration will encourage friendships, overall neighbourliness and a positive sense of belonging to a community where you can chat and have a laugh.	
2841	Nexus Education Schools Trust	The John Keats Primary School Diversity Reading Drive	Who we are: Our vision is for John Keats Primary to act at a positive catalyst for change and improvement within the community. We plan to be an outstanding, all-through school for children in the Bermondsey area that will fulfil their educational aspirations and dreams and meet complex pastoral needs. Of the school's 351 pupils, 63% are entitled to Pupil Premium, 29% speak English as an additional language and 83% are Londoners from minority ethnic backgrounds. We have an extremely high percentage of pupils with Special Educational Needs - 34% vs the national average of 14%. Some of our pupils have no access to public funds and/or are at risk of homelessness. The Challenge: John Keats Primary opened its doors to its first cohort in 2018 and has since grown to a full-sized primary school. Since the school was established, alongside the first cohort growing and changing, the school's demographic has too, including its pupil's backgrounds, ethnicities and special educational needs. In addition, the school has faced the covid-19 pandemic and is dealing with mental health and SEND crises and funding cuts. Many of the school's reading books have been in the school since it was first established and these are now worn and out of date. Many of the original texts have of course now gone missing and, despite some updates and restocks, the school does not feel like it is keeping on top of its reading corners and providing a reliable selection of high-quality, diverse texts for children to enjoy. In particular, with its extremely diverse demographic, the school is keen to stock texts that represent a diverse mix of communities, traditions, cultures and people. We want our children to feel represented by the texts they read for pleasure at school and to see a vast	2250

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			array of cultures celebrated and shared. We also want our SEND pupils to see representation of their needs and challenges in books and to have reading made more accessible to them. We want to stock a vast selection of texts so that children can take home books to share with families alongside enjoying reading books in school. The Project: We plan to have a Diversity Reading Drive, updating our Early Years, KS1 and KS2 book corners with up-to-date books chosen specifically for their diverse credentials. These will include books representing multiple races and cultures, books in dual languages, books for dyslexic readers, books representing disabled characters, large format and audio books. Alongside the book restock, we also wish to refresh the soft-furnishings within our reading corners and include some sensory furnishings and items to help neurodivergent pupils thrive and feel comfortable. Finally, we also wish to bring reading for pleasure outside by introducing a reading shed into our playground. The reading shed is a purpose built instant library that will stock a variety of books and water-resistant cushions in a weatherproof outdoor unit. Pupils will have the ability to enjoy these books during playtimes, introducing the concept of reading for pleasure during school breaks and providing a quieter activity for pupils who need respite from the more noisy play activities. The goals of the project are: 1. To bring our reading corners up to date with a diverse mix of high quality books to read for pleasure. 2. To improve the reading experience for neurodivergent, dyslexic and disabled readers. 3. For all pupils in our school to feel equally represented in the books they enjoy. 4. For pupils to have the opportunity to read for pleasure in the classroom and outside during playtime. 5. To stock enough books to enable pupils to take books home to enjoy there as well as in school.	

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			The Benefits: By improving the 'reading for pleasure' experience for all pupils, we will improve their: - Reading skills and attainment; - Vocabulary and comprehension; - Cognitive performance; - Empathy and cultural understanding; - Mental well-being; - Relationships; - Creativity.	
2898	COVO CONNECTING VOICES	Rhythm in Motion	Rhythm in Motion is a creative wellbeing initiative that offers engaging music-making and gentle movement workshops for elderly and vulnerable individuals. The programme is designed to foster connection, stimulate cognitive and physical activity, and enhance overall wellbeing through accessible, joyful experiences. We recently ran a small pilot at Harry Lamborn House, a sheltered housing facility in Southwark, which was met with great enthusiasm by residents and staff alike (see attached photos). The sessions sparked curiosity, laughter, and a sense of shared purpose demonstrating the powerful impact of combining sound and movement in a supportive, inclusive environment. Overall, the project seeks to address social isolation and promote emotional and physical wellbeing by offering accessible, inclusive, and joyful creative experiences. Using iPads and specialised music applications, participants—many with little or no prior musical experience—will be empowered to compose, improvise, and collaborate in a supportive environment. These digital tools remove traditional barriers to music-making, allowing residents to explore sound and rhythm intuitively and expressively. From January to July 2026, we will deliver 20 weekly sessions, each carefully structured to include: • A gentle movement activity to encourage physical engagement and mobility • A music-making component using digital instruments and apps	5000

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			• A shared lunch to foster connection, conversation, and community To further enrich the experience and strengthen community ties, selected sessions will include visits from the local toddler club. These intergenerational encounters will offer mutual benefits: older residents will experience renewed joy, energy, and emotional connection through playful interaction, while toddlers will gain exposure to new sounds, rhythms, and relationships in a safe and nurturing environment. These shared moments of music and movement will help bridge generational divides, spark spontaneous creativity, and foster a deeper sense of belonging across age groups. By combining technology, creativity, and care, Rhythm in Motion creates a space where residents can reconnect with themselves and others, rediscover joy, and experience a renewed sense of purpose. The programme is grounded in principles of accessibility, dignity, and co-creation—ensuring that every participant feels seen, heard, and valued.	
2915	London Bubble Theatre Company	Speech Bubbles in Haymerle School	Speech Bubbles is a drama-based speech, language and communication intervention for students who struggle to express themselves, engage with classroom learning and form and maintain positive relationships. Funding would support project delivery at Haymerle School, a special school supporting children with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorders and social communication difficulties, alongside additional needs. By encouraging receptive, expressive language, turn taking and turn giving, Speech Bubbles activities help children to master the art of building stories. In turn this leads to: • Improved academic attainment • Improved communication • Improved personal and social wellbeing • Leading to long-term improved life chances. Due to the complex needs of students at Haymerle, we will work with 10 students who teaching staff and SENCOs feel need the most support. Pupils are selected based on a referral criteria and staffs' professional judgement, specifically targeting those children who: • Lack confidence in communicating	3088

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			• Have difficulty organising thoughts and communicating them • Have poor attention • Show poor listening skills 'Speech Bubbles is an innovative approach in helping children with speech and language difficulties. Our children in year 1 and 2 look forward to these sessions and are thriving in this programme, which boosts their confidence.' SENCO Weekly Speech Bubbles story-drama sessions are led by an experienced drama practitioner and the classroom Teaching Assistant who both receive specialist training. Each session is structured to support the students with their understanding and develops their communication skills and emotional literacy. Our unique, story-led process hands agency back to the children. Students explore body language, gestures and facial expressions. Activities like the Speech Bubbles chant, songs and 'story square' form a simple, familiar structure, enabling the children to feel safe. This safety enables the opportunity to explore their creativity and imagination. Our specialist facilitator is responsive to the students, providing a person-centred flexibility from week to week. Each week one child dictates a story to an adult which forms the basis of the next session. Together the children animate it as it is read out – entering the 'story square' to create characters, places and environments. Seeing their self-authored story acted out gives the children a sense of empowerment and autonomy which supports confidence-building. Our evaluation data for the 2024-25 academic year demonstrated: • 81% of children showed improvements in learning, speaking, and listening • 74% showed improvements in emotional and conduct behaviour • Teacher comments showed they noticed improvements back in class in 96% of Speech Bubbles children Speech Bubbles builds communication skills by encouraging students to reflect on feelings and emotions and conveying these through words. It also employs the 'I Wonder' model, which encourages students to think more broadly about a scenario, and encourages a multiplicity of "correct" answers, helping to reduce the anxiety students may feel surrounding answering questions in class.	

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			Teachers speak about the impact of the project on the children they work with: • “J is now able to communicate more effectively and doesn't get so frustrated when he can't find the words to say.” • “N came to school not able to read or write a sentence nor create a group of friends. Now the end of year 1, and he is above year 1 expectations in reading, writing and maths.” 2026 will be our eleventh year delivering Speech Bubbles at Haymerle, and the intervention is seen as an integral project to best support their most vulnerable student's communication skills and overall attainment. The students' complex needs require the specialist approach developed by our consistent delivery team at London Bubble. This learning is now being shared nationally across the Speech Bubbles programme. “It is difficult to explain the joy I see, when the children have made progress with their language, communication and social skills. I think the routine and consistency of the programme makes the children to feel comfortable, as they know what is going to happen in each session.” Headteacher This neighbourhood grant would allow us to deliver Speech Bubbles in the 26-27 academic year for a much-subsidised cost, making it feasible for schools at a time of real financial difficulty.	
3042	LINK AGE SOUTHWARK	Gentle Exercise, Harry Lamborn House	The gentle exercise group runs weekly and will be attended by around 20 people aged over 60 across the year. We run 48 sessions a year. It is an opportunity for people to come together in a social and trusted environment to exercise in a safe and enjoyable way. This dementia-inclusive group is led by an experienced exercise tutor who offers a mix of seated and standing exercises, working on core strength, flexibility, functional mobility and balance. The tutor specialises in working with older adults who have complex health and mobility needs. For some group participants, this is the only reason they leave their home each week or to leave their room for communal activities, and is their main form of exercise. It helps to create routine and purpose. People love coming to the group because of the social aspect, the upbeat environment and the way that the exercise makes them feel. They also report feeling stronger and more motivated to do other things. The group is welcoming, and people often make friends through attending regularly. The group is mixed gender and the majority	3200

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			of participants are Black/Black British. The benefits to the community include: reducing loneliness and isolation in older people, improving physical health and reducing frailty, lifting mood and improving mental health, improving access to services (as many group participants ask us for help with a range of issues including mobility, financial concerns, care questions, and are then supported by our Information & Support service). The group is held in sheltered housing provision in one of the most deprived neighbourhoods in Southwark, and brings together residents of the accommodation as well as people living locally in the neighbourhood. Local volunteers support the group and ensure that everybody can fully participate. The group delivers our core mission, to prevent loneliness and isolation in older people by bringing communities together. We recognise that older people who are frail are more likely to be isolated socially and have additional barriers to accessing services. Our aim is to help our group participants to improve strength, delay or reverse the progression of frailty and have fun while doing it! The Neighbourhood Grant fund would be spent on the group tutor and refreshments for the participants.	
3049	Studio 94 Limited	Verney Road Voices: Community Co-Design for Linear Park Regeneration	At a time when Old Kent Road regeneration has raised legitimate concerns about displacement, gentrification, and whether development will benefit existing residents, this project ensures that community members, not just developers or planners, define what Verney Road's transformation should achieve. Southwark's Regeneration team has identified Verney Road as a priority site for community-led co-design within their Old Kent Road Area Action Plan and invited us to lead this work. Working with 50 local participants aged 11-18 from six schools, plus adult residents, we will create a design brief that holds professionals accountable to local needs and aligns with Southwark's Social Regeneration Charter promise that residents are the main beneficiaries of change. Three Core Objectives: **1. Give young people a genuine voice in what happens in their community.** Young people	12500

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			aged 11-18 will experience Verney Road for the next 50+ years, yet they're systematically excluded from planning decisions. Through intensive co-design workshops, they will identify community needs, develop design requirements, and create a design brief that shapes professional architectural plans. This is not tokenistic consultation, participants will hold decision-making power over how their neighbourhood evolves. **2. Provide hands-on skills in design and the built environment.** Participants will learn architectural model-making, urban design principles, spatial thinking, and how to translate community needs into design language. Through walking tours, they'll develop skills in site analysis and understanding how public realm shapes daily life. These are transferable skills applicable to architecture, urban planning, landscape design, and community development careers. **3. Open routes into careers in architecture, engineering, construction (AEC), arts, and design.** Through mentoring from established architects, sculptors, designers, and construction professionals, many from BAME backgrounds and working-class roots, participants will see creative careers as accessible. We're actively arranging apprenticeships and work experience placements with our network. Drop-in sessions with architecture students provide ongoing guidance, while the project itself demonstrates that young people from Southwark can shape the built environment professionally. Project Context: Verney Road presents unique challenges as an industrial street transitioning to high-density residential. Planning permission has been granted for 338 new homes in three towers (up to 24 storeys), and heritage buildings including the 1950s Kaymet factory have already been demolished. With the site connecting to the future Bakerloo line station, it's critical that the linear park design preserves community memory, serves both existing and future residents, and reflects local character rather than generic development patterns. This project directly addresses community concerns that consultation on Old Kent Road regeneration has been inadequate, with residents feeling 'overwhelmed' and that their voices aren't genuinely heard. Who We'll Work With: Primary participants include 50 young people aged 11-18 in the Old Kent Road area, adult	

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			residents (all ages) through open workshops and walking tours, and local business owners with knowledge of Verney Road's industrial heritage. Our approach specifically addresses barriers in planning consultations through: providing refreshments; sessions scheduled at multiple times (after school, evenings, weekends) to accommodate shift workers; venue at Livesey Exchange ensuring culturally safe space. This is a black-led, community-controlled organization that local people already trust; creative, hands-on format (model-making) rather than formal meetings. Methodology: Phase 1: Understanding Place (Weeks 1-3) Walking tours of Verney Road identify hidden spaces, challenges, and opportunities. Storytelling workshops use a past/present/future framework: Past: how would people they admire (family members, local heroes) have envisioned his space? We explore local history and hear stories from elders. Present: how do they experience Verney Road today? Where do they skateboard? Where do they sit for a snack after school? Who uses the space and who avoids it? Future: imagining their future selves in 2045 when the Bakerloo Line extension is mature and they're adults living, working, or raising families in the area. Community brainstorming sessions identify needs: green space requirements, seating areas, play provision, accessibility, climate adaptation features. Phase 2: Creative Brief-Building (Weeks 4-8) Hands-on model-making workshops where participants build their visions for the linear park. Skills training in architectural model-making, urban design concepts, and creative expression. Mentoring sessions with diverse local architects, artists, sculptors, and construction professionals. Participants develop specific design requirements: biodiversity features, sustainable drainage, community growing spaces, cultural programming areas, wayfinding that honors industrial heritage. Phase 3: Design Brief Development (Weeks 9-10) Synthesis of community input into a comprehensive design brief for Verney Road. Public	

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			exhibition of the community-built model at LEX2 (free access). Documentation in a community publication distributed to participants, local archives, and sold locally. Formal presentation to Southwark's Regeneration team with accountability mechanism: which community needs are adopted and which aren't, with justifications. Throughout the process, documentary photography will capture the journey, creating a permanent record. Community Benefits: Immediate benefits include 50 young people gaining hands-on experience in urban design and civic engagement; local residents developing new skills in model-making and understanding planning processes; community voices authentically captured with influence on regeneration plans; and strengthened connections between residents, council, and local organizations. Long-term regeneration impact: community-identified needs directly inform the emerging masterplan for Verney Road linear park; design brief becomes reference document for professional architects developing the site; model establishes community-led best practice for other Old Kent Road sites; young people learn their voices can shape the built environment; and creates accountability mechanism, if future plans ignore community brief, residents have documented evidence to challenge them. Addressing displacement and climate priorities: by ensuring current residents define design requirements before professional planning begins, we prevent the common pattern where regeneration displaces existing communities. The brief will include requirements for community spaces that serve existing cultural and social patterns; green infrastructure supporting Southwark's carbon neutrality by 2030 goals (sustainable drainage, urban cooling, biodiversity corridors); recognition of industrial heritage honoring the area's working-class history; and accessibility features ensuring the space serves elderly residents, disabled users, and young families from day one. Success Metrics: We will measure success through specific, verifiable outcomes: minimum 45 participants complete 80% of workshops (90% retention rate); design brief documents at least 15 distinct community-identified needs; 80% of participants report feeling 'heard' in the regeneration	

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			process (post-survey); at least 5 participants secure mentoring relationships or work experience placements; 100% of community-identified needs formally presented to Regeneration team with written response; public exhibition attracts minimum 200 community visitors; and community publication distributed to all 6 participating schools and 100+ local residents. Team and Community Credentials: Studio 94, a queer-led design studio based on the Old Kent Road, partners with PemPeople and The Livesey Exchange, bringing deep community roots and proven co-design expertise. Our team includes Sarah Osei, a spatial practitioner, writer, and researcher who grew up in Southwark. As part of the Home Grown Plus network, Sarah was inspired to study architecture through her desire to design homes for working-class and underrepresented communities. Nicholas Okwulu founded The Livesey Exchange, creating vital social infrastructure on Old Kent Road, and PemPeople bridges the gap between grassroots residents and institutions. Nadine Peters is a creative consultant and member of Southwark Council's steering committee for the 'Black Culture Conversation' project, bringing expertise in community-engaged placemaking with focus on equity. Our diverse mentors and speakers represent various races, ages, classes, and genders, including sculptors (Christy Symington), architects (Giles Nartey), local artists (Isac Leung), designers (Sonia Magdziarz, Karen Ko), and documentary photographers (Beresford Hodge). This diversity shows participants that creative careers are accessible to everyone. We conduct all sessions at The Livesey Exchange, a venue that local people already trust. Strategic Alignment: This project aligns with Southwark's Social Regeneration Charter for Old Kent Road, which promises that residents are the main beneficiaries of change. Our approach ensures this promise is realized through genuine co-design, not just stated in policy documents. The project directly supports Southwark's commitment to carbon neutrality by 2030, with participants encouraged to integrate green infrastructure, biodiversity, and climate adaptation into their vision. Southwark's Regeneration team has designated Verney Road (alongside Bricklayers Arms) as one of two initial sites where they want to test a new model of genuine	

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			community engagement before professional design begins, reflecting the council's recognition that traditional consultation approaches have been inadequate. Why This Matters: The Old Kent Road Opportunity Area represents one of London's largest regeneration projects. With 20,000 new homes planned, 10,000 new jobs targeted, and the Bakerloo Line extension coming, the character of this neighbourhood will fundamentally change. If we don't capture community voices now, before professional design begins, we risk creating spaces that look good on plans but don't serve the people who actually live here. History shows that regeneration without genuine community power leads to displacement, loss of local character, and public spaces that sit empty because they weren't designed for their actual users. This project ensures that regeneration is done WITH the community, not TO the community. It operationalises Southwark's Social Regeneration Charter commitment that residents are the main beneficiaries of change. It sets a precedent for how Southwark can engage residents as genuine partners in shaping their neighbourhood's future, not just as consultees who respond to pre-determined plans. By funding this work, you're not just supporting workshops and model-making. You're investing in a democratic process that puts power in the hands of residents, creates public spaces that truly serve their community, and demonstrates that Southwark's regeneration can be equitable, inclusive, and genuinely community-led. Risk Mitigation: We have identified potential challenges and mitigation strategies. If school participation is lower than expected, we will increase adult community workshops and extend outreach through PemPeople's established networks. Weather affecting walking tours: indoor alternatives prepared using archival materials, historic maps, and photographic documentation at Livesey Exchange. Community skepticism about process being genuine: we have written commitment from Southwark Regeneration team to formally integrate community brief into masterplan, with accountability mechanism documenting which needs are adopted. If the Regeneration team ignores the community brief, it becomes a public	

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			document, residents have evidence to challenge planning applications and hold council accountable to Social Regeneration Charter promises. Deliverables: Over 10 weeks (April-June 2026), we will deliver: • A large-scale community-built 3D model of Verney Road future linear park • Comprehensive design brief documenting 15+ community-identified needs, priorities, and design requirements • Public exhibition at The Livesey Exchange with free community access (target: 200+ visitors) • Photographic documentation and community publication distributed to participants, schools, and local archives; • Formal presentation to Southwark's Regeneration team with accountability document • Final report documenting success metrics, lessons learned, and toolkit for replication at other OKR sites; and archive materials for Southwark's local history collection. Partnership and Support: Southwark Council's Strategic Development and Regeneration teams identified Verney Road as a priority site and invited us to lead community co-design as part of their Old Kent Road Area Action Plan. They have provided a base model to support the project. PemPeople provides grassroots community connections and bridges residents with the council. The Livesey Exchange provides venue space and embedded community trust. Peckham Settlement provides financial support for materials and workshops. Six local schools have confirmed participation with approximately 50 young people aged 11-18 (Years 7-13), and adult community members will join through open workshops at Livesey Exchange. Budget Justification: The £12,500 requested covers the essential community engagement components that make this project community-led rather than expert-led. Without these participation costs, covering materials, documentation and facilitation, we cannot deliver the workshops that shift power to	

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			residents. This represents £250 per participant for a comprehensive 10-week programme. Secured funding from Peckham Settlement, the donation of the space by Livesey Exchange and the base model from Southwark brings the total project investment to approximately £25,000. We anticipate this methodology will be adopted for Bricklayers Arms and other sites across the Old Kent Road Opportunity Area, demonstrating scalable impact beyond this initial project.	
3074	492 Korna Klub	A CLIMATE STORY: Creative Climate Action through Participatory Theatre and Game-Based Learning	A CLIMATE STORY is an innovative, interactive theatre project that merges storytelling, gaming, and climate education to engage young people in Southwark in meaningful conversations and action around climate change, community resilience, and sustainability. Through a four-day participatory workshop at the LEX2 Centre, the project will bring together young people aged 13–19, local artists, educators, and community activists to co-create and perform an interactive theatre experience set in a virtual "game world." This immersive approach uses role play, performance, and digital storytelling to help participants understand how everyday actions influence the environment, and to empower them to become climate-conscious changemakers in their communities. The workshop will adapt the original model, successfully piloted in Kenya in 202/2025 and supported by the British Council, for a UK urban context, amplifying local youth voices while linking them to a wider, international network of young environmental storytellers. Southwark is one of London's most diverse boroughs, with a vibrant youth population and growing community initiatives around sustainability. However, many young people remain disconnected from the global climate movement, often viewing climate change as an abstract or distant issue. Conventional climate education often relies on scientific explanations that can feel overwhelming or inaccessible. A CLIMATE STORY transforms this challenge into an opportunity: by embedding climate concepts within storytelling, play, and performance, it translates complex issues into relatable, lived experiences. The project aims engage and educate at least 30 Southwark young people (aged 13–19) on the themes of climate justice, sustainability, and community resilience. Build creative through immersive theatre, storytelling, and collaborative design, and strengthen community participation in environmental action through an open showcase and dialogue event at the	6000

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			end of the workshop. Our project fits perfectly with Southwark 2030 Strategy Goals: “together we will build a fair, green and safe Southwark where everyone can live a good life as part of a strong community.” The workshop uses participatory theatre and game-based learning to engage youth in climate awareness and community resilience, directly supporting the goal for “a green and healthy environment”; it promotes a healthy environment and provides “a good start in Life”, ensuring good health and wellbeing across communities as well as “investing in prevention”. BENEFITS for Youth Participants: • Increased knowledge and awareness of climate change and environmental sustainability. • Improved creative expression, teamwork, and critical thinking skills. • A greater sense of confidence that they have contributed to local climate action. • Exposure to career pathways in the creative industries and environmental advocacy. BENEFITS to. the wider community: • Strengthened community awareness and engagement in environmental issues. • A model for ‘inclusive, creative education’ that can be adopted by schools, youth centres, and NGOs. • Contribution to Southwark Council’s objectives around youth empowerment, sustainability, and community cohesion. The project will be facilitated by Tony Cealy and the team at 492 Korna Klub.	
3100	ESTEEM FOUNDATION	Cultural Foodbank in Southwark	Funding Application: Southwark Neighbourhood Grant Applicant: Esteem Foundation Project: Continuation of the Cultural Foodbank in Southwark Request: £2,500 for six months 1. Project Summary Esteem Foundation seeks £2,500 to continue its Cultural Foodbank project for six months in the London Borough of Southwark. Building on the achievements of our previous six-month phase (December 2024–May 2025), this extension will enable us to maintain monthly	2500

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			foodbank sessions delivering culturally appropriate food parcels and essentials to approximately 500 local beneficiaries, many of whom are African and Caribbean families facing severe cost-of-living pressures. Our goals are to alleviate food insecurity, promote healthy eating, sustain community dignity, and support inclusion through culture, identity and social cohesion. 2. Need & Context a) Cost of Living & Poverty in Southwark • Southwark is one of London's most deprived boroughs. According to the Southwark Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (Factsheet, 2025), more than 55% of postcodes in Southwark fall in the most disadvantaged 30% of neighbourhoods nationally. Southwark Council • Almost 8,900 households in Southwark experience relative poverty, and the depth of poverty is increasing. Southwark Council • Rising housing costs intensify pressure: average private rents in Southwark rose to £2,347 per month in August 2025, up 4.1% year-on-year. Such high housing costs leave less disposable income for essentials like food. Office for National Statistics b) Disproportionate Impact on BAME Communities • Nationally, Black/African/Caribbean/Black British households have among the lowest food security rates. In the three years to end 2023, about 79% of such households were classified as "food secure" (i.e. ~21% were marginal, low or very low), compared with ~93% among White households. GOV.UK • In UK data for 2022/23, 26.6% of Black and Minoritised Ethnic households reported food insecurity, compared to 18.5% of white households. People's Health Trust • Londoners are also hit harder by inflation than many elsewhere in the UK, particularly for local prices of food and rent. People on low incomes—overrepresented among BAME communities—are especially vulnerable because food and essentials form a larger share of their spending. London City Hall+1 c) Local Evidence from Southwark • A survey of Southwark residents (JSNA 2024) found adult food insecurity to be 16% in	

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			2021/22—about 41,000 adults aged 16+. Southwark Council • About 2% of residents used a foodbank in the past year, and 1% for other support services such as counselling, showing that while formal foodbank usage is lower, many are under stress and may not yet have accessed support. Southwark Council • Local cost-of-living support: in winter 2023/24, Southwark Council's Cost of Living Fund supported 13,141 residents via local groups to receive £100 payments towards essentials including food and bills. Community Southwark 3. Why Cultural Food Matters • Cultural identity & dignity: For many African and Caribbean families, being able to prepare familiar foods (spices, staples, culturally specific vegetables, pulses) is not a luxury—it is essential to cultural identity, family traditions, health, and dignity. When mainstream foodbanks cannot provide such items, families may go without what is nutritious and familiar, harming both physical and mental wellbeing. • Nutrition & health: Traditional diets often include nutrient-rich foods; cultural dietary patterns are linked to better psychological outcomes. Lack of access to these foods forces households either to skip meals or rely on less healthy substitutes. In BAME communities, where higher burdens of certain health conditions (e.g. hypertension, diabetes) already exist, poor diet choice exacerbated by food poverty has serious long-term consequences. • Reduced stigma & increased uptake: Food support that recognises culture increases feelings of respect, reduces shame, and encourages participation. Knowing that “what we eat” is understood to impact our ability to using services. • Community cohesion & inclusion: Sharing culturally meaningful food strengthens networks, supports social interaction, helps newcomers feel included, helps multigenerational households maintain link to heritage, and promotes mutual understanding. 4. Project Description Over the six-month funding period, Esteem Foundation will: • Continue monthly foodbank sessions offering culturally familiar food parcels (including staple grains, beans, culturally important vegetables and spices, halal and other dietary requirements) and basic essentials.	

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			• Serve approximately 500 beneficiaries, predominantly from African, Caribbean and other minority ethnic backgrounds. • Provide not only food, but information/support on healthy eating using familiar cookery ideas, nutrition advice contextualised to cultural diets. • Maintain publicity and outreach via local cultural hubs, faith groups, schools, community centres, and social media (Facebook, Instagram). • Work with volunteers and partner organisations from the community to ensure equitable, accessible distribution. 5. Evaluation & Outcomes We will monitor and report on: • Food security indicators: surveys to assess reduction in hunger, missed meals, or reliance on emergency support among beneficiaries. • Wellbeing & dignity: beneficiary feedback via interviews or anonymous survey on how the project affects self-esteem, stress, and burden. • Cultural satisfaction: whether people receive familiar/culturally relevant foods, and the extent this improves their ability to cook their traditional meals. • Community cohesion: participation levels, volunteers' reflections, whether beneficiaries report feeling more connected or supported. Results from the previous phase showed strong satisfaction: recipients consistently reported that cultural items made a difference to their family's wellbeing, and that they felt respected and less 'othered' by the system. 6. Budget & Use of Funds (£2,500) 7. Impact & Justification • This is a continuation of a model already operating successfully, so we have established systems and good community trust. • The project responds to increased and persistent demand driven by rising food prices, inflation, unemployment, and housing cost pressures, especially in Southwark and especially	

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			among BAME households. • Supporting cultural food access has multiplier benefits, better health, reduced brand social isolation, improved mental health, stronger communities. • Economically, investing in prevention (food insecurity, health issues) reduces later demand for health, social care, emergency services. 8. Alignment with Southwark Neighbourhood Grant Objectives • Tackles inequalities and supports vulnerable residents in Southwark. • Promotes community cohesion and inclusion, especially for minority ethnic groups. • Supports residents' wellbeing, mental health, and dignity. • Builds local capacity by involving volunteers, community hubs, faith groups. 9. Risk Management & Sustainability • Risk: difficulty obtaining culturally specific foods due to supply or cost fluctuations. Mitigation: we have already built strong supplier relationships, bulk buying, partner with other local food providers. • Risk: stigma / under-take up. Mitigation: outreach via trusted community organisations, ensure anonymity or respectful service. All our outreach are currently oversubscribed due popularity being the only provider of cultural foodbank in Southwark and in the Southeast London. • Sustainability: Use this six-month extension to develop long-term partnerships, explore additional funding (National Lottery Community Fund, local businesses, trusts). 10. Conclusion Esteem Foundation's Cultural Foodbank is not a novel idea, it is a proven, deeply needed service in Southwark that addresses both materials need and maintains cultural dignity. The rising cost-of-living crisis is disproportionately affecting Black, African, Caribbean, and other minority ethnic families, with many unable to access culturally familiar foods. With £2,500 over six months, we can ensure that around 500 residents have access to nutritious, culturally appropriate food, improve wellbeing, reduce stigma, and strengthen bonds across our diverse community.	

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			We ask Southwark Neighbourhood Grant panel to invest in this essential continuation, to build on success and provide real, dignified support where it is most needed. Thank you for your consideration.	
3118	Maintaining Health Partners Limited	Spring into Summer Wellbeing	Maintaining Health Partners provides free and donation-based holistic therapies; activities and healthy gatherings in welcoming and accessible indoor and outdoor community spaces in Southwark. These include Glengall Wharf Community Garden, Peckham Befrienders/Sojourner Truth Centre, Copleston Centre and Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers. From April 2026, the Spring into Summer Wellbeing project will will provide 80 sessions over 20 weeks of one-to-one Massage and Reflexology sessions from the community yurt in Glengall Wharf Garden. The project will: provide access to opportunities that improve physical and mental wellbeing and quality of life for groups of people on low or no income, including people experiencing mental health difficulties; refugees and asylum seekers; older people and people from global majority communities; *promote a preventative approach to individual and community health and well-being - enabling people to become more proactive and take positive action to improve their physical and mental health; *reduce isolation and stress; *build meaningful connections with other people and activities at Glengall Wharf Garden including: food-growing and community meals. We will publicise our project through flyers; MHP and partner social media platforms; e-bulletins and Whatsapp. Feedback from Southwark residents in recent projects includes: "I felt relieved of a lot of	6000

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			pressure that I didn't know I had. I had never had a head massage before...It also relaxed my mind and I started thinking about positive things and things that make me happy."	
3129	Peckham and Nunhead Free Film Festival	Peckham & Nunhead Free Film Festival	Please note: This is a multi-ward application (across Old Kent Road, Peckham, Nunhead & Queens Road, Rye Lane, Peckham Rye), the Peckham & Nunhead Free Film Festival takes place in a range of venues to benefit residents throughout the SE15 area. Free community events like the Peckham & Nunhead Free Film Festival (PNFFF) are more important than ever. Many Southwark residents attending our 2025 screenings shared their concerns about the rising cost of living and expressed gratitude that they can enjoy a night out without eating into already tight budgets. Many are finding it difficult to maintain a social life, with leisure activities the first things to go. All PNFFF events are completely free to attend – the festival's inclusive ethos is that cost should never be a barrier to discovering new films or revisiting old favourites alongside friends, family and your local community. We aim to show that it's still possible to connect with others to enjoy entertainment and culture, without spending money. Our volunteer-run events take place across all SE15 wards, and are open to everyone. The festival helps address issues such as isolation, loneliness, and lack of communication, especially among younger people under 25 and older residents over 60. By creating inclusive spaces for shared experiences, we help bridge generational gaps and foster a sense of belonging. The festival also gives a wide range of people the chance to volunteer for something worthwhile in their local community, with all the recognised health and skill-building benefits that entails. The programme includes a wide range of films, from feature-length screenings to amateur	11600

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			short film submissions. It's a celebration of community cinema and a platform for local creatives, filmmakers, and actors. The festival also benefits local businesses, venues, TRA groups, and outdoor spaces. It offers opportunities for skill-sharing among those already in the film industry and those hoping to break into it. People discover shared interests and communal spaces. Many find volunteering or work opportunities that help them build their portfolios. We collect feedback and ideas through questionnaires and online polls both before and during the festival. Comments are encouraged via SurveyMonkey and through links on our website and social media platforms. We monitor audience demographics, count attendance, and gather quotes to help shape future festivals and ensure they reflect the diversity of our area. Attendees often tell us how much they value the sense of community our events create. One said: "It makes you see the whole area in a new light, thanks!". We're expecting around 3,000 people to attend the 10-day festival, which is due to run from late August 2026.	
3135	FAITHS WOMEN COMMUNITY UK	FWCUK Education Empower System for Talking Therapy and Mental Health Awareness	The FWCUK Education Empower System is a community-based initiative designed to promote mental health awareness and emotional well-being through accessible talking therapy workshops. The project aims to educate, empower, and support individuals from diverse backgrounds by creating safe spaces for open dialogue, self-expression, and peer connection. Through structured workshops, participants will learn about the importance of mental health, develop practical coping strategies, and gain confidence in supporting themselves and others. The sessions will combine education, group discussions, and reflective exercises to build resilience and reduce stigma around mental health challenges. The community will benefits to: Improved Mental Health Awareness: Increases understanding of emotional well-being and encourages early help-seeking.	5000

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3169	Proud To Be Me	Digital Future Makers – Young Women’s Tech Hub	Proud To Be Me CIC is requesting £17,000 from the Southwark Neighbourhoods Grant to establish and run the Digital Inclusion & Innovation Hub for Young Women, an innovative project empowering young women aged 16–25 in Southwark’s most deprived wards (Peckham, Old Kent Road, Elephant & Castle, Camberwell, and Walworth) with the skills, resources, and confidence to use digital technology for creative learning, career development, and community building. The project will empower young women across Southwark to gain vital digital and creative skills, boosting confidence, employability, and economic independence. By addressing digital exclusion, it will open access to education, jobs, and online services for those most at risk of being left behind. Through peer mentoring, participants will become Digital Champions, sharing skills within their communities and helping others get connected. This ripple effect will strengthen local resilience, reduce isolation, and promote inclusion. This project will address the digital divide by offering accessible digital skills training, internet access, technology support, and mentoring, as well as pathways into employment, for young women who are often overlooked and left behind in the digital age. It will also provide a safe, inclusive, and creative space for participants to innovate, collaborate, and lead their own peer-generated digital projects that have value and impact for themselves and their communities. This proposal directly responds to Southwark’s digital inclusion strategy and “Closing the Gap” priorities, by increasing access to devices, skills, and opportunities, and by addressing barriers to employment and the inclusion of underrepresented residents. Need and Urgency Southwark is a diverse and vibrant borough, but inequalities still exist. Despite regeneration and digital investment, approximately 16,000 residents are estimated to be digitally excluded (Southwark Council, Digital Inclusion Strategy). In particular, young women in Southwark from Black, Asian, and minority ethnic backgrounds face intersecting disadvantages, including gender bias in the tech industry, poverty, lack of access to devices or connectivity, care responsibilities, and long-term impacts of the pandemic on mental health and confidence.	17000

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			Local Context Southwark has a high youth unemployment rate compared to the London average, especially among young women aged 18–25. Nationally, women are underrepresented in the tech workforce at 26%, and Black women account for less than 1% of IT professionals (Tech Nation, 2023). Southwark estimates that over 35% of households in the borough experience digital poverty, a lack of reliable access to digital devices or connectivity at home. Closing the Gap, Southwark Council's plan to tackle inequality, identifies digital inclusion as one of the five key pillars to empowering all residents to fully participate in civic, educational, and economic life. Digital exclusion is both a symptom and a cause of broader inequality for many young women in Southwark, impacting their access to learning, employment, and social participation. If left unaddressed, the gap will only widen between digitally empowered young people and those who are digitally excluded, leading to long-term cycles of low income, unemployment, and lower wellbeing. We have spoken to 42 young women across Peckham, Walworth, and Old Kent Road who shared that: *73% do not have a personal laptop or tablet. *64% lack the confidence to use digital tools for purposes beyond social media. *58% were not aware of any local free digital training or mentoring opportunities. *Our consultation confirms the urgent need for a community-rooted, gender-responsive model of digital inclusion that goes beyond skills, and supports young women to build self-worth, employability, and a sense of belonging. 2. Project Description and Activities The Digital Inclusion & Innovation Hub for Young Women will be a hybrid programme offering both in-person and online access to digital resources, creative learning, and real-world pathways into the digital economy.	

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			Core Components: 1. Digital Skills Training (Introductory and Advanced Levels) *Coding, digital marketing, content creation, artificial intelligence literacy, graphic design, data literacy. *Offered through a weekly skills workshop in community venues across the target areas. *Participants will be supported to move from beginner to advanced levels, creating their own digital projects or portfolios at the end of the training. 2. Device and Connectivity Support *Loan of laptops/tablets and subsidised data access for young women from low-income households. *Drop-in sessions to support participants to troubleshoot devices and access online services. 3. Tech Mentorship and Peer Leadership *Women mentors from the tech, media, and creative industries will offer role models and industry insights. *Participants will be selected to become Digital Champions, who will support their peers, run workshops, and co-design community resources. 4. Career Pathways and Industry Links *Career days to connect participants with local employers, apprenticeship providers, and social enterprises in digital fields. *Workshops on CV building, LinkedIn, mock interviews, and portfolio development. *Discussions with local tech firms, community organisations, and Southwark Works. *Wellbeing and Empowerment Strand *Embedded wellbeing support, mindfulness, and confidence-building workshops. *Trauma-informed facilitation to create a psychologically safe and empowering space. *Intended Outcomes and Impact The Hub will seek to create measurable impact for individual participants and the wider Southwark community.	

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			Short-term Outcomes (within 12 months): *60 young women trained in basic digital skills. *40 young women progress to intermediate or advanced training. *20 young women complete Digital Champion training. *100% of participants gain devices or improved digital connectivity. *80% report increased confidence and employability. *70% re-engage in education, training, or employment. Medium-term Outcomes : *Employability is strengthened, with pathways into tech and digital industries. *Peer support networks for young women have been established and sustained. *Women and young people in digital and creative industries are more visible. *Reduced social isolation and improved wellbeing among participant. *Local employers have access to a more diverse and digitally skilled talent pool. Long-term Impact: *The gender and inclusion gap is reduced in Southwark's digital economy. *Community resilience has been built through technology, creativity, and collaboration. *A sustainable model for digital inclusion which can be replicated and scaled. Monitoring and Evaluation Impact will be tracked through a range of quantitative and qualitative measures, including: *Baseline and exit surveys to capture changes in skills, confidence, and aspirations. *Attendance and progression data across modules and levels of training. *Focus groups and storytelling to capture personal journeys and case studies. *Metrics for the final digital showcase, including online engagement, reach, and community feedback. *Feedback from mentors and partners to refine delivery and ensure ongoing relevance. *We will produce a community impact report at the end of the project, summarising learning, participant achievements, and recommendations for scaling digital inclusion in Southwark.	

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			The project has been co-designed with young women in Southwark, based on listening sessions, focus groups, and surveys with young women from target areas who had the opportunity to shape the core components and approach of the Hub, including: *Fear of failure or judgement in digital spaces. *Lack of relatable female role models and mentors in tech. *Unawareness of digital career paths and opportunities. *Desire for a creative, female-led, and empowering space that combines digital skills with real-world impact. *Ongoing feedback loops and young women will shape every stage, including curriculum design, career days, and showcase themes. The Hub's participatory model ensures sustainability, relevance, and ownership. Legacy, Sustainability and Future Growth The £17,000 request will act as seed funding to develop and run the Hub, with a scalable and high-impact model. It will be sustained through a combination of: *Partnerships with Southwark Works, local schools, digital employers, and community organisations. *Grant diversification: UKSPF, National Lottery Awards for All, tech-sector CSR funding, and more. *Social enterprise income generation through paid-for workshops and creative commissions. *Digital Champions Network sustaining the peer-to-peer learning and outreach.	
3171	Miss Kathryn Mcguinness	Science, Creative Health & Menopause Support Workshop and Lunch	This is a scientific-based holistic Creative Health approach to menopause, designed by women for women. I am a local resident and art teacher who experienced surgically induced menopause in 2024 and found a lack of holistic and creative health support—especially the mental and emotional support I needed. These workshops were created to fill that gap. Each session is a 5-hour experience combining science-based education, yoga, art for wellbeing, reiki, and nutrition, including a healthy lunch tailored specifically to women's health needs. This program empowers women to understand and embrace menopause as a natural transition, supported through creativity, evidence-based learning, and shared experience.	7960

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			About the Project This scientific Creative Health approach to Menopause delivers a series of three 5-hour creative health workshops designed exclusively for women, addressing menopause through a holistic blend of education, yoga, art expression, reiki, and nutrition. The workshops empower women to understand, manage, and embrace menopause confidently — recognising it not as an end, but as a natural life transition supported through creativity, connection, and science. Each session combines: • Evidence-based education about hormonal and biological changes. • Yoga and breathing techniques for balance and stress relief. • Creative art practices using colour as emotional expression. • Reiki for relaxation and energy balance. • Nutritional education and a light, healthy lunch tailored to women's health needs. The program supports women of all ages and cultural backgrounds, including those experiencing early or surgical menopause (as young as 30). Why This Project Is Needed Menopause affects all women in the UK, yet remains under-discussed and under-supported. • Over half of women aged 45–64 in England report menopause-related symptoms that impact their wellbeing. • Research from King's College London (2023) found that 68% of women felt there was insufficient support or information about menopause. • National health strategies highlight mental health, inclusion, and resilience as priorities — all directly supported by this project. Many women, particularly those from minority or low-income backgrounds, face menopause in isolation. Creative Health and Menopause aims to bridge that gap through education, creative expression, and connection. Project Objectives	

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			1. Educate participants about the biological and emotional processes of menopause. 2. Introduce yoga and breathing practices to support physical and hormonal balance. 3. Facilitate creative self-expression through art for wellbeing. 4. Promote nutritional awareness through an educational, health-focused lunch. 5. Build lasting networks of peer support among women. Target Audience Women aged 30 and above experiencing perimenopause, menopause, or surgical menopause. Women from diverse cultural and social backgrounds seeking holistic health support. Workshops are inclusive and accessible, ensuring all women feel welcome and represented. Facilitators Jennifer Lyston, BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science, LIBMS, MBSBM, MCMA — Qualified alternative medicine practitioner with over 15 years' experience integrating biomedical science with traditional healing practices such as nutrition, herbal medicine, acupuncture, and lifestyle balance. • Member of: Institute of Biomedical Science, British Society of Bioregulatory Medicine, Complementary Medical Association, and Royal Society of Medicine. Her evidence-based approach empowers women to understand their bodies and manage menopause symptoms holistically. Kathryn McGuinness BA(Hons) Art and Creative Printing, PGCE Secondary Art and Design — Bermondsey-based art teacher with over 25 years' experience, Level 2 reiki healer, and co-founder of The Arts Yard Creative Health hub. Her personal experience with surgical menopause inspired her to champion creative wellbeing approaches. Together, they form a strong team connecting science, creativity, and lived experience. Workshop Structure (5 hours each) 1. Understanding Menopause – biological and hormonal changes explained simply. 2. Yoga for Menopause – breathing and stretching to reduce anxiety, insomnia, and hot	

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			flushes. 3. Creative Art for Wellbeing – guided painting and colour exercises for emotional release. 4. Diet & Nutrition + Healthy Lunch – foods that balance hormones and energy. 5. Integration & Peer Support – reiki relaxation, self-care discussion, and confidence building. Expected Outcomes • Increased knowledge and confidence in managing menopause. • Improved physical and emotional wellbeing. • Greater understanding of nutrition and exercise for hormonal health. • Creation of lasting peer connections among women. • Reduction in menopause-related isolation and stigma. Budget £7960 Includes facilitator fees, venue hire, materials, educational packs, catering, insurance, and promotion (see attached Excel budget). Conclusion Creative Health and Menopause provides women with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to navigate menopause positively. Through science, creativity, and connection, this project fosters empowerment, wellbeing, and resilience among women who are too often overlooked.	
3213	Miss Kathryn McGuinness	Live Positive, Life Safe - Youth anti- knife Graffiti Workshop	As a lifelong Southwark resident, I've seen both the pride and the pain within our community. Southwark is full of creativity, resilience and potential — but too many of our young people still face the devastating consequences of knife crime. The “Live Positive, Live Safe” project will deliver three one-day (5-hour) educational graffiti workshops designed to educate, empower, and deter young people from involvement in knife crime. Each session will bring together local youth, residents, artists, and community mentors at LEX2 on Old Kent Road — a venue that, sadly, was the site of a recent fatal stabbing. By transforming that space into one of colour, creativity, and connection, this project will reclaim	7350

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			the narrative — turning a location marked by tragedy into a symbol of healing, unity, and hope. Through street art, shared meals, and motivational talks, participants will learn how creativity builds confidence, resilience, and belonging. The workshops will culminate in a collaborative public mural at LEX2 and individual graffiti boards that will go on display across Southwark. 2. The Need for the Project Knife crime continues to be a serious issue across Southwark. According to the Metropolitan Police (2025), there were 538 knife-enabled offences recorded in Southwark between April 2024 and March 2025 — one of the highest rates in London. Over half of the victims were under 25 years old, with many incidents concentrated around Old Kent Road, Walworth, and Peckham. Beyond the statistics are the stories — of young people feeling unsafe, families losing loved ones, and communities struggling to rebuild trust. The area around Old Kent Road, where LEX2 is based, reflects this challenge. It sits between two sides of a rapidly changing borough — new developments on one side, long-established estates on the other. The road can feel like both a physical and social divide. The “Live Positive, Live Safe” graffiti workshops aim to bridge that gap, uniting people from both sides through a shared, creative experience that is fun, exciting, informative, and inspiring. 3. Why Creative Workshops — and Why Graffiti? The Benefits of Participating in Creative Activities National and local research consistently shows that engaging in creative activities: • Improves mental wellbeing — lowering anxiety and increasing confidence. • Encourages social connection — helping participants form new friendships and build trust. • Builds transferable skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. • Reduces antisocial behaviour and increases positive self-expression (DCMS Creative Health Report, 2024). For young people in Southwark, these benefits are essential. In an area where opportunities can feel limited, creative outlets offer a sense of purpose, pride, and identity.	

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			Why Graffiti? Graffiti is one of the most accessible, democratic, and expressive art forms — it speaks directly to urban youth culture and gives young people an authentic voice. Unlike traditional art, graffiti thrives in public spaces, where everyone can see and relate to it. For this reason, graffiti is the perfect activity for this project. It allows participants to: • Express powerful anti-violence messages through colour, text, and imagery. • Work side by side with others — forging friendships across postcode and cultural boundaries. • Create visible, lasting artwork that reminds the wider community of unity, hope, and respect. By combining creativity, community, and education, these workshops will make anti-knife messaging tangible and inspiring — not preachy or distant. 4. Project Description The project will run three one-day workshops (approx. 5 hours each) between March and July 2025, hosted at LEX2, The Old Kent Road. Each day will involve up to 20 participants (aged 10–18) plus local residents, parents, and mentors. Workshop Structure 1. Welcome & Awareness Session (30 mins) • Speakers include reformed offenders, local police, and public figures sharing real experiences of knife crime's impact. • Group reflection on how art, communication, and community can prevent violence and build safer futures. 2. Graffiti Workshop: “My Voice Against Violence” (2 hours) • Led by experienced local street artists, the session introduces participants to the creative	

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			world of graffiti and urban art. • Young people will design and paint individual boards exploring anti-knife crime messages and themes of unity, respect, and hope. • Participants will learn new technical skills, including how to safely use spray cans, create stencils, layer colours, and plan designs. • The workshop will emphasise collaboration, teamwork, and friendship-building across diverse groups, encouraging participants from both sides of Old Kent Road to connect through creativity. • The environment will be fun, inclusive, and confidence-building, helping every participant discover their artistic voice while expressing powerful messages of peace and community pride. 3. Healthy Community Lunch (1 hour) • Shared nutritious lunch • Breakout conversations between youth, artists, mentors, and police in a relaxed setting. 4. Motivational Speakers & Dialogue (1 hour) • Short talks from reformed offenders, local public figures, and police about overcoming challenges, resilience, and positive choices. • Q&A and open conversation about how art, sport, and community can change lives. 5. Collaborative Mural Creation (45 mins) • All participants contribute to a large graffiti mural on the wall at LEX2. • Theme: "Live Positive, Live Safe – Southwark United." • The mural will remain visible to the public as a reminder of unity, friendship, and creativity. After completion, the individual graffiti boards will be exhibited in locations across Southwark — spreading awareness and pride borough-wide. 5. Purpose and Outcomes These workshops will educate, empower, and unite Southwark residents by transforming a	

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			sensitive local issue into a positive, creative conversation. Expected outcomes: • 60+ young participants directly involved, with 1000s more viewing final displays. • 100% of participants receive positive youth engagement and mentoring. • One large mural installed at LEX2 and 20+ individual boards displayed across Southwark. • Improved self-esteem, teamwork, and awareness among participants. • Stronger trust and understanding between young people, residents, and police. • Positive transformation of an area recently affected by violence. 6. Community Impact The workshops will: • Bridge both sides of Old Kent Road, fostering friendships between new and long-term residents. • Encourage youth voices to lead creative, hopeful change. • Reduce fear and stigma, making art a tool for connection and dialogue. By uniting people through creativity and compassion, this project promotes a Southwark that is safe, proud, and inclusive. 7. Partnerships • The Arts Yard @LEX2 (Old Kent Road) – host venue and creative partner. • Southwark Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team – community engagement and safety input. • Local Art teacher and graffiti artists – workshop delivery. 8. Safeguarding and Inclusion • All staff and volunteers DBS checked. • Dedicated Safeguarding Lead at every session. • Step-free venue and accessible facilities. • Safe, welcoming environment for all genders, identities, and backgrounds. 9. Budget Summary £7350 for 3 x 5hr workshops	

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			10. Evaluation Success will be measured through: • Attendance and participant feedback forms. • Pre- and post-workshop confidence surveys. • Feedback from parents, police, and youth workers. • Observation of collaboration and engagement levels. • Community exhibition reach and attendance figures. • Final impact report submitted to Southwark Council. 11. Sustainability and Legacy • Individual graffiti boards will continue to share anti-knife messages across Southwark. • Plans to expand the workshops into an annual youth-led creative safety programme. • Recycled and non-toxic paint materials will ensure environmental sustainability. 12. Alignment with Southwark Council Priorities The project supports Southwark's Neighbourhoods Fund and Community Safety Strategy (2025–27) by: • Reducing violence through creative early intervention. • Promoting youth empowerment and education. • Strengthening relationships between residents, police, and public services. • Revitalising local spaces and promoting mental health through creativity. 13. Personal Statement Growing up in Southwark, I've witnessed both its challenges and its strength. The recent fatal stabbing outside LEX2 deeply shook many of us — but it also made clear how much we need to reclaim our community spaces and remind young people that their lives and voices matter. These graffiti workshops are about more than art — they're about healing, unity, and identity. They'll give young people the chance to express hope, build friendships, and bridge the divide between the two sides of the Old Kent Road.	

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			By turning walls into messages of peace and connection, we can show that Southwark stands together — creative, proud, and free from violence. With Southwark Council's support, "Live Positive, Live Safe" will help our young people paint not just art, but a new future for their borough.	
3242	Ignite the community cic	The Culture Project	The Culture Project is a Cultural Enrichment Agency focused on promoting arts, culture, heritage and community building. We co-design curated schedules to spotlight and attend cultural events, workshops, exhibitions, and programs that help young people experience and engage with diverse cultures, traditions, and creative expressions. The goal is to enrich our community's cultural life, promote understanding, and support in their intellectual, physical, mental, creative and social development. This project was born out of an identified dislocation within our (young, black and british) community. We have found that young people aged between 18-25 especially do not feel comfortable attending events alone, or they do not feel like they belong in certain spaces (e.g jazz clubs, theatre, museums). We understand that these places are intellectually and culturally stimulating, and so we have created an agency that widens the doors through community based trips and experiences that make sure everyone is welcome. We are here to build a community, confidence and creativity by connecting in real life, and in real time. The Culture Project aims to widen access to the arts, heritage and culture as a preventative measure against forms of violence and harm. We would like to partner with local institutions to spotlight local spaces and host a series of workshops and activities with local facilitators to offer learning opportunities for our community members. This series of sponsored spaces will widen access and fill an identified gap within our community. These include hosting: 1. Cooking Classes 2. Art Classes 3. Creative Writing Classes 4. Poetry Classes 5. Music Nights/Share the Aux - Album and Playlist listening gatherings, Jazz Nights	15470

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			6. Drama Class 7. Hiking trips 8. Fundays - a one day event in summer in a local park that celebrates our boroughs cultural diversity, talent and heritage. This will include stalls for community showcases, local food and drink, entertainment, a sustainable show/swap Our partnerships will include: 1. Theatres 2. Jazz clubs 3. Exhibitions/Art Galleries 4. Libraries 5. Leisure Centres 6. Parks/Open Spaces We would like to: 1. create spaces where individuals can explore their personal and collective potential within their communities; 2. Foster shared responsibility by building collectives that are intellectually engaged, emotionally aware, and people-focused; 3. Provide inclusive environments for those who feel marginalised from traditional community spaces, encouraging expression, connection, and participation; 4. Promote holistic well-being by delivering activities that support the mind, body, and soul, helping individuals to navigate care in a complex world; 5. Establish intergenerational and interdisciplinary spaces that restore agency, promote collaboration, and strengthen community and individual identities; 6. Facilitate intergenerational conversations to promote mutual understanding, cultural learning, and the exchange of experiences and perspectives; 7. Promote education and learning through workshops, talks, creative programmes, and cultural events aimed at intellectual, emotional, and social development; 8. Address the root causes of violence by creating reflective spaces that challenge harmful	

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			social norms and support community-led responses to safety and care; 9. Amplify youth and vulnerable voices through anonymised surveys, participatory research, and co-designed programmes that reflect their experiences and needs; 10. Enrich cultural understanding and participation by increasing access to the arts, heritage, and creative expression, particularly for underrepresented groups; 11. Organise and facilitate national and international trips, cultural exchanges, and educational residencies to broaden horizons and build global awareness; 12. Expand the CIC's impact through partnerships and collaborations at local, national, and international levels; 13. Support the educational, intellectual, emotional, physical, creative, and social development of community members, particularly those aged 18–25, but open to all through inclusive and accessible community-based programmes Through these workshops and events, we hope to empower our community members to connect and find a skills they can hone in one. Potential Local Partnerships: *Livesy Exchange *Peckham Levels *Southbank Centre *Walworth Town Centre *Applebee Blue Armshouse *John Harvard Library Throughout this project we will also build on the creation of a digital community where we will engage with our residents and community members through newsletters, group chats and bulletin boards.	

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3301	Parent Skills 2go	Young Creative and empowered Activities	To deliver and provide Physical and digital and creative activities for young people aged 8 - 16 that will : -develop, improve and enhance their skills -improve self confidence - reduce isolation and criminal activities -provide volunteering opportunities The focus will be to develop skills in storytelling of personal , school and community experiences and produce digital copies using modern technology . The process will be take place through every holiday season February , May, Easter and summer ; young people will be supported to work together in fun ways to produce a digital publication which will be launched in the October half term. The process will also involve visits to sites where they can discover and learn the art of storytelling. This is a follow on of the work the young people have done over the past 5 years where they have been engaged in creative writing to produce 5 publications. The physical activities will focus on sports and games in order to provide : *Mentorship *coaching *skill development and fun This will also take place during the school holidays using the Leyton square facilities and experienced sport coaches. This is a follow up on a pilot sports programme (More than sports) done in the summer term of 2025	8000
3370	Sandra Stephenson	From me to you	Arts and craft workshops to show how we can use household items by up cycling them for the home or to sell	5000
2083	Family Space	Learning Space: reading circle & Homework Support	Many Latin American children and other children that their parents do not speak English in Southwark face persistent barriers to academic engagement and success. Challenges in English and Maths—often compounded by limited support at home—make it difficult for these children to settle into school, keep up with their studies, and feel confident in the	4025

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			classroom. For families where English is not the first language, even basic homework tasks can become overwhelming, leaving children isolated and discouraged. These academic disengagement and lack of accessing weekend activities can contribute to negative behaviours and low self-esteem, and a sense of being overlooked; increasing their vulnerability to being involved in gangs, including involvement in County Lines drug trafficking at very early years - which continues to take the lives of young children every year, leaving families and communities devastated. In addition to the language barrier, most of these families live on low incomes and cannot afford extracurricular activities or private tutoring. This lack of access to academic support outside school further widens the gap, leaving children without the tools they need to thrive. Without early intervention, this disengagement can begin as early as primary school, leading to poor attendance, low motivation, and a lack of clarity about future academic pathways. The consequences are serious: diminished self-esteem, increased risk of early school dropout, and reduced opportunities for further education and employment. Emotional wellbeing also suffers, as children struggle with frustration and a sense of exclusion. Learning Space are free, weekly programmes designed to address these challenges head-on. Open to children aged 5 to 13, the sessions will take place every Tuesday afternoon for 2 hours in a safe during 28 weeks, welcoming space where children receive tailored support with reading, phonics, comprehension, and homework. Through engaging with literature and receiving one-to-one guidance in English and Maths, children will build essential skills, boost their confidence, and rediscover joy in learning. The programme also fosters curiosity, resilience, and a sense of belonging—especially for those from multilingual and minority backgrounds. The benefits of the Reading circle and homework support project extend far beyond academic improvement. For children, it offers a space where learning becomes joyful rather than intimidating—a place where they can ask questions freely, receive patient guidance, and begin to see themselves as capable learners. As their reading and maths skills grow, so does their confidence. The aim of the Learning Space is that children might start participating more actively in class, completing homework with pride, and imagining futures that once felt out of reach. This early engagement lays the groundwork for long-term success, helping them stay on track academically and emotionally.	

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			For parents, especially those facing language barriers or financial hardship, the programme brings relief and reassurance. Knowing their children are receiving the support they need lifts a heavy burden and strengthens the bond between home and school. Families who may have felt disconnected from the education system begin to feel included and empowered. Over time, this connection fosters healthier relationships, reduces stress at home, and encourages parents to engage more confidently with their children's learning journey. Most importantly, the project acts as a protective factor against deeper social risks. When children feel supported and valued, they are less likely to disengage from school or seek belonging in unsafe environments. Instead of spending unsupervised time on the streets or being vulnerable to negative influences, they are surrounded by mentors, peers, and a community that believes in them. This sense of belonging is empowering children to be success academy despite of the barriers. The sooner we can encourage children to continue studying and provide them with habits that support their health and development, the harder it will be for them to become involved in harmful behaviours. By fostering an early interest in learning, self-care, and positive engagement with their environment, we are giving them the tools to build a more stable, safe, and opportunity-filled future.	
2211	Astley and Cooper TRA	FAMILY FUN DAY	Aims to facilitate in making the Fun day a shared event encouraging people of all ages, faiths (and non-faith), gender, etc. to come together. It gives an opportunity for our resident's people to understand as well as celebrate with those they may not normally interact with therefore creating better community cohesion. We know that coming together will promote a more just and compassionate world for all. We believe that this event bringing people together in our community will help to shape meaningful relationship, among men, women including young people from all age groups in different ethnic backgrounds This group aims to promote the exercise of tenants and residents right and the maintenance and improvement of their housing condition, amenities and environment. Also to promote facilities for recreation and amenities and to encourage a community spirit.	3350

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2397	Bonamy and Bramcote TRA	Rotating Mini Pocket events	The Bramcote Park is closing for a refurbishment later this year which is the most popular used park for the children on the estate we would like to do some Mini Pocket Events with crafts, story-telling, gardening, sports, Picnics, playday, Games, Upcycled Crafts Corner: Use recycled materials to make joyful decorations, badges, or planters. memory sharing for the older people wellness. these events will pop around the estate and at the community centre create interaction with the local community. Yoga & Stretch Sessions: Gentle movement classes for all ages, held in quiet corners of the estate rotating the location around the estate Crafts Corner: Use recycled materials to make joyful decorations, badges, or planters. Tea & Talk tables vintage-style tea setups were older residents. Fix-It Booths: Local handypersons help with small repairs or teach basic DIY Mini Film Nights: Outdoor or indoor screenings of short films or nostalgic clips with popcorn. These events aim to foster interaction, inclusion, and well-being among residents of all ages. By rotating locations, the initiative ensures accessibility and visibility across the estate, especially during the park's closure.	1800
2409	Bonamy and Bramcote TRA	summer away day for the families	Classic seaside trip for families and all age groups who can't afford regular transport could be a transformative experience—bringing joy, connection, and a breath of fresh sea air from all the traffic and construction noise in and around our estate. 2 coaches are needed due to the demand from the residents on the estate.	1000
2410	Bonamy and Bramcote TRA	spring steps & scones	a tea dance for over 55s an joyful afternoon event will bring together residents aged 55+ for a nostalgic tea dance featuring easy music, gentle movement, and refreshments. It will foster social connection, reduce isolation, after a cold winter and promote physical wellbeing in a fun, inclusive setting. The event will be held at [insert venue name and postcode], with transport support for those with mobility or financial barriers.	1800
2900	The CSHEN Project CIC	LevelUP - E-Lish Pathway	Too many young people in Southwark are being left behind by the education system. They are smart, creative, full of potential, but the system has labelled them as failures. Exclusion, poverty, neurodiversity, trauma, and the criminal justice system mean a lot of them never get their GCSE English. Without that qualification, doors stay locked. No college, no	1800

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			apprenticeships, no proper jobs. Just more barriers, more frustration, and the cycle continues. That is why we built E-LISH. It is not just another English class. It is a whole experience, expert teaching, one to one mentoring, small group support, hot meals, and guidance into next steps. It is about creating the environment we wish we had at school, where young people feel seen, understood, and pushed to their full potential. This project comes straight from us, Ekta and Cee. Two women who have walked different journeys but share the same fire. Ekta had run a similar programme in John Ruskin college and out of the 13 young people she had, 70% of them passed their GCSE English with her support and the other 4 student were not far off at all. This programme was discontinued when John Ruskin became an academy. Ekta has always had the passion of fast tracking young people to get their GCSES . She has been a big part of The CSHEN Project for the last year and she came to Cee the founder asking if there was a way we could do some extra English classes for young people as she wants to get back into teaching GCSE and within 7 days Cee had created LevelUP a full programme that was more than just English, it was a full 6 month programme that will equip young people with their GCSEs, more confidence, personal plans, pastoral care, 1-2-1 coaching and opportunity to progress onto our ProPrep pathway which supports young people who have got their GCSEs through the LevelUP programme into their next steps whether that's work, training, apprenticeships, college or further programmes and educations through support with finding courses, applications, interview and CV Prep and more. Ekta has been teaching English for over 25 years, including more than 20 years in PRUs. She has ADHD and dyslexia, and she uses that as her superpower. She knows exactly how to reach the hardest young people, the ones everyone else gives up on, and get them through their exams. She has fast tracked countless learners to GCSE passes in as little as four to six months. Ekta has an amazing way of engaging some of the hardest to engage students making her lessons interactive, interesting and fun and I think this is a big part of how she's able to get the young people to pass their GCSES within 4-6months of hardcore and targeted work.	

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			Then there is me, Cee. I have lived it. Also Neurodivergent with ADHD and Dyslexia, who wasn't diagnosed till I was an adult. I struggled through school and just scraped my GCSEs because of one amazing teacher who gave me time and patience. I dropped out of college three times, I did not go to uni, and I spent years figuring out who I was. My outlet became entrepreneurship and working hands-on in prisons, probation, SEN units and PRUs. That is where I found my purpose. I later on qualified as a life, personal development, emotional intelligence, CBT and entrepreneurship coach who is currently doing her educator and trainer qualification (PTLLS) . I built a life I love, not because it was handed to me, but because I carved it out myself. Now I want to give young people the same chance, to see that their story is not over, that they can build a life that works for them. Me and Ekta show up every day as the adults we needed when we were young. We do this because we love it, because we are these young people, and because we know exactly what it feels like to be overlooked, written off, or left behind. A typical E-LISH session runs on a weekday, 5 to 8pm, term time. We start with an open circle where everyone checks in, shares how their week has been, one good thing, one struggle. Then we dive into English with Ekta's proven methods, breaking things down in a way that makes sense to our learners. I am there as support, guiding, mentoring, stepping in when someone needs encouragement or just someone to listen. Midway through, we share a hot meal, because learning on an empty stomach does not work, and for some of our young people, it is the only proper dinner they will get that day. Then we get back into the work, making it practical, relevant, and focused on exam prep. We finish with another circle, reflecting on what they enjoyed, what was tough, and what they overcame. Every week, their confidence grows. But E-LISH does not stop when the session ends. Every learner gets a support plan and one-to-one coaching. By the end of the six months, they are not just ready to pass their GCSE, they are ready to take their next step. Whether that is college, training, an apprenticeship, or work, we are there through our LevelUP programme to guide them into what comes next. This pilot in Southwark is not just about running one group. It is about building proof,	

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			collecting feedback and testimonials, showing the impact, and using that evidence to grow. With the right support, we will expand into Maths, Science, and even more wraparound services, so no young person gets left behind. Every penny of grant funding we ask for goes straight into the young people, exam fees, meals, resources, and delivery. None of it is wasted. By investing in E-LISH, you are not just funding lessons. You are giving young people a shot at rewriting their story, breaking cycles, and unlocking their future. E-LISH is not just about qualifications. It is about community, confidence, and change. It is about creating a safe space where young people finally feel seen. And it is about us, Ekta and Cee, showing up every day as proof that no matter your background, your struggles, or your setbacks, you can level up, and you can win.	
2999	ASRA	Picnic on the Green	This project is aimed at bringing the diverse community of Avondale Estate and surrounding estates together. We will share food and laughter as a common ground. We will ask the community to bring food to share with others in the community giving everyone the chance to try food from each others cultures, share recipes and learn more about each other. Intergenerational activities will be available allowing those of different ages to enjoy one another's company and help to bridge the generation gap. We feel it is important to come together as a community at every given opportunity as this enables us take away the mystery/fear that often is created through the lack of knowledge of each other's backgrounds. For all of the reasons given this type of event can only benefit the community we live in and share and will be of great benefit to the community as a whole as we get to know each other and our neighbours.	1800
3260	Michael Orey	Educating our community	The idea is to reestablish our after-school tutoring club for primary school children of year 2 to year 6. We had the programme before and it was very successfully. We did our research and found that children in year 2 to year 6 need additional support in our area. We also noted that there has been a slight increase in the number of SEND children that needs help. This program will fill this gap.	1800

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3347	Bizzie Bodies CIC	STEAM CLUB	TECH CLUB WEEKLY SESSIONS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN STEAM Project Summary The Tech Club Weekly Sessions for Young People will provide a year-long, after-school programme of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) learning for 15 young participants aged 7 TO 16. Through engaging weekly sessions in coding, robotics, food technology, green technology, and practical science, the club will inspire creativity, develop digital and scientific literacy, and build essential life skills such as teamwork and problem-solving. This community-based project directly supports the ambitions of Southwark 2030, which envisions a fairer, greener and more connected borough where everyone can live a good life*. It also embodies the values of Southwark Stands Together, the borough's pledge to embed equality, inclusion, and anti-racism into community life. The club will provide a safe, inclusive and encouraging environment that opens access to modern technologies for all young people, particularly those who face social or financial barriers to participation. Sessions will be hands-on, practical and creative, helping participants build both technical skills and confidence. By the end of the year, young people will have designed real projects—games, robots, eco-devices, and food-science experiments—while also learning teamwork, communication, and resilience. The programme culminates in a community showcase celebrating their achievements and inspiring others to get involved. Background and Evidence of Need Across Southwark, young people grow up in a rapidly changing world shaped by technology and innovation. However, access to high-quality, hands-on STEAM learning remains uneven. Many families cannot afford extracurricular clubs or the digital equipment needed for creative experimentation. Teachers report that while pupils show strong interest in science and computing, they lack the opportunities to apply these skills practically. The Southwark 2030 Strategy identifies the need for a fair, green, and thriving borough	1800

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			where every child has the chance to succeed*. It calls for investment in young people's skills, creativity and wellbeing—particularly through digital inclusion and sustainable innovation. The Tech Club responds directly to this call by giving children and teenagers from all backgrounds a place to explore technology, science and creativity after school. Moreover, the **Southwark Stands Together** framework highlights persistent inequalities and under-representation in education and employment. The Tech Club addresses these gaps by **actively recruiting girls and young people from minority and disadvantaged communities**, ensuring equal access to future-focused learning. Representation among mentors and facilitators will reflect Southwark's diversity, modelling inclusion and equity in practice. Beyond educational need, there is a pressing social one. Many young people lack structured, positive activities after school. The club provides a constructive, engaging environment that reduces isolation, builds friendships, and fosters a sense of belonging—values that echo Southwark 2030's commitment to stronger communities. By offering free or low-cost participation, the programme ensures that every child, regardless of background can access opportunity and hope for the future. It meets both local and borough-wide priorities for equality, inclusion, and sustainable skills development. Project Aims and Objectives Overall Aim: To empower young people aged 10–16 with essential digital, scientific and creative skills through weekly, community-based STEAM sessions, fostering confidence, inclusion and sustainable innovation in line with Southwark 2030 and Southwark Stands Together. Specific Objectives: 1. Develop digital and scientific literacy through coding, robotics, and practical experimentation. 2. Promote sustainability and innovation*aligning with Southwark 2030's "green" priority, by exploring renewable energy and eco-tech solutions. 3. Encourage creativity and problem-solving by integrating art, design and science into every activity.	

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			4. Foster inclusion and representation supporting Southwark Stands Together's vision of equity and opportunity for all. 5. Build teamwork, leadership and confidence through collaborative challenges. 6. Inspire future pathways in education, apprenticeships and creative industries. Expected Outcomes: *Increased confidence and competence using technology. *Positive attitudes toward sustainability and community problem-solving. *Visible participation of under-represented groups in STEAM. *Stronger community links through family engagement and public showcases. Project Description and Delivery Plan The Tech Club Weekly Sessions will run throughout the academic year, offering 36 sessions of 90 minutes each. Every session combines short lessons with practical, team-based projects. Session format: 10 min – Welcome and recap 15 min – Mini-lesson or demonstration 50 min – Hands-on creation and teamwork 10 min – Reflection and feedback 5 min – Next steps and tidy-up The year is organised into six thematic 6-week blocks. Coding and Game Design Participants will learn fundamental coding through Scratch and MakeCode, creating mini-games and interactive stories. They will understand loops, logic and debugging, building confidence in computational thinking. Robotics and Engineering	

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			Using microcontrollers such as micro:bit, young people will design and build simple robots or control systems. Projects will include line-following vehicles and automated sensors, linking digital logic to physical design. Green Technology and Sustainability This block directly supports **Southwark 2030's "green" objective**, encouraging participants to use technology for environmental good—designing solar cookers, moisture monitors, or small energy-saving devices. Discussions will connect local sustainability issues with global challenges. Food Technology and the Science of Cooking Participants explore the chemistry and creativity of food: emulsions, fermentation, nutrition and innovation. Activities teach measurement, observation and safety while highlighting health and environmental awareness. Science and Maker Innovation This module nurtures creativity across engineering and science. Projects like paper circuits, rubber-band cars and egg-drop experiments teach design thinking and resilience. Community Showcase Participants form small teams to design a final project in their favourite strand. The year concludes with a community showcase attended by families, volunteers and local partners, celebrating achievement and building civic pride—echoing Southwark 2030's vision of stronger neighbourhoods. Delivery Model Sessions will be led by a qualified STEAM educator supported by volunteers. The approach will be experiential, inclusive and flexible to different learning styles. All facilitators will be DBS-checked and trained in safeguarding and equality, in line with **Southwark Stands Together's inclusive standards.	

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			Accessibility and Inclusion The club will: *Welcome young people of all abilities. *Offer low or no-cost participation to ensure fairness. *Represent Southwark's diverse community in staffing and role models. *Provide adapted materials for different learning needs. *Encourage girls and under-represented groups in STEAM. *This inclusive approach mirrors the borough's **anti-racism and equality objectives**, ensuring every participant feels seen, valued and supported. Expected Outcomes and Impact Educational Outcomes * Improved digital literacy, coding and scientific understanding. *Broader knowledge of sustainability and innovation. *Real-world problem-solving and design experience. *Skills transferable to schoolwork and future study. Personal and Social Outcomes *Greater self-confidence, communication and leadership. *Enhanced teamwork and empathy through collaboration. *A safe and positive space for young people to express creativity. *Increased motivation and aspirations for the future. Community Outcomes *Stronger local connections through shared activities and showcases. *Parents and residents engaged in celebrating youth achievement. *Local volunteers trained and empowered to deliver future sessions. *Contribution to Southwark 2030's vision of connected, inclusive communities.	

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			Long-Term Impact *Participants will leave the club as confident digital citizens who understand sustainability and community contribution. Over time, alumni will mentor new participants, creating a cycle of learning and leadership. *By embedding inclusion and fairness, the Tech Club helps realise the **Southwark Stands Together pledge**: breaking barriers, promoting opportunity and enabling every young person to fulfil their potential. Monitoring and Evaluation Monitoring and evaluation will ensure accountability, learning and improvement. Data and tools: *Baseline and end-of-programme surveys tracking changes in confidence, skills and aspirations. *Attendance and engagement records. *Facilitator observations and participant journals. *Parent and volunteer feedback. *Evidence from showcases (photos, videos, participant presentations). Indicators of success: *80% consistent attendance. *Measurable improvement in digital confidence. *Positive feedback from participants and families. *Visible representation of diverse groups in leadership and participation. *Clear alignment with borough outcomes on inclusion and opportunity. *Findings will be summarised in an end-of-year report shared with local stakeholders and Southwark Council partners. Learning will also be used to refine future programming and to demonstrate contribution to Southwark 2030 performance goals on youth empowerment and lifelong learning. Sustainability and Future Plans	

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			The Tech Club is built for long-term community benefit. Its design reflects **Southwark 2030's call for local, community-led initiatives** that give residents ownership and voice. Volunteer Development: By training local volunteers and alumni, the club ensures skills and knowledge remain in the community. Over time, young leaders will co-facilitate sessions, fostering peer mentoring and leadership. Partnerships: Collaboration with schools, colleges and local organisations will sustain momentum, share resources and open pathways for participants into further learning. Partnerships with local businesses and creative industries will provide mentoring and real-world links to employment—fulfilling the 2030 goal of building a fair and thriving economy. Community Ownership: Annual showcases will celebrate success, attract new members, and strengthen community pride. Families will be encouraged to volunteer, building multi-generational engagement and a sense of belonging that aligns with Southwark Stands Together's commitment to unity and shared purpose. Resource Re-use: Equipment purchased for robotics, coding and science will be reused annually, reducing waste and promoting sustainability. Each cohort will inherit tools and materials, creating continuity and stewardship. Legacy Within three years, the Tech Club aims to expand to multiple age groups and neighbourhood hubs, offering advanced pathways in coding, design and innovation. All learning materials and session plans will be made open-source, enabling replication across Southwark and contributing to borough-wide youth development.	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

2026/27 Neighbourhoods Grants (Neighbourhoods Fund - Revenue) Ward Application Summary Tables

Ref.	Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Amount Requested [£]
			Safeguarding and Inclusion The wellbeing and safety of all participants will remain paramount. All facilitators and volunteers will complete DBS checks and safeguarding training, and clear policies will be in place for risk assessment, data protection, and incident reporting. The club will embody Southwark Stands Together's inclusive ethos by: *Ensuring activities reflect cultural diversity and equality of opportunity. *Celebrating difference through inclusive examples, imagery and role models. *Establishing ground rules of respect, kindness and collaboration. *Providing a safe environment where all voices are heard. Regular parental communication will include updates, consent for photographs, and invitations to participate in club activities. Through its inclusive structure and positive culture, the Tech Club will become a beacon for anti-racist, inclusive community learning** within the borough. The Tech Club Weekly Sessions for Young People** embodies the spirit of Southwark 2030 and *Southwark Stands Together. It is fair, green, inclusive and community-driven. By providing accessible, engaging after-school STEAM training, the project equips 15 young people each year with vital skills for the future—coding, creativity, critical thinking and collaboration. It offers a pathway from curiosity to capability and from participation to leadership. In doing so, it contributes to a fairer Southwark where opportunity is shared; a greener Southwark where sustainability is understood; and a stronger Southwark, where community connection thrives.	

Old Kent Road Neighbourhood
Appendix 1

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			It also strengthens the borough's anti-racism and equality commitments ensuring that every child can participate fully in shaping tomorrow's world. The Tech Club turns aspiration into action. It gives our young people the space, support and inspiration to build, explore and innovate—together.	

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**OLD KENT ROAD COMMUNITY MEETING
AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025-26**

NOTE: Original held by Constitutional Team all amendments/queries to
Maria.Lugangira@southwark.gov.uk

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		Dated: March 2026	
Officers			
Tobias Allen, Transport Projects Engineer (Devolved Highways Budget 2026-27)			
Craig Dove, Senior Project Manager (Cleaner Greener Safer 2026-27)			
Shireen Raymond, Neighbourhood Coordinator (Allocation of Neighbourhood Grants 2026-27)			