

Item No. 8	Classification: Open	Date: 3 March 2022	Meeting Name: North West Area Multi-Ward Forum Meeting
Report title:		Allocation of Neighbourhoods Fund for 2022-23	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		Borough and Bankside, Chaucer, London Bridge & West Bermondsey and St. Georges	
From:		Director of Communities	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the North West Multi-Ward Forum allocates a total of £110,000 of the Neighbourhoods Fund 2022-23 to the list of applications outlined in Appendix 1, subject to this funding being approved in the 2022-23 budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The Neighbourhoods Fund (NsF) was introduced in 2015 by merging two former revenue programmes known as Cleaner, Greener, Safer revenue (CGS) and Community Council Fund (CCF). The cabinet member for communities, employment and business authorised the amalgamation of the CGS revenue fund and community council fund, into a single funding programme to create a new Neighbourhoods Fund for the 2015-16 round and onwards. This decision was taken on 12 December 2014.
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 NsF was to give local areas decision making powers over significant amounts of revenue funding, that they could allocate to meet locally determined priorities.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. 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 2022.

6. The Multi-Ward forums will use the criteria set out 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).
7. A Multi-Ward forum may choose to allocate some of their NsF resources to their CGS capital allocations.
8. Subject to the availability of resources, the NsF may be used to 'buy' services from the council.
9. As with any executive decision taken by Multi-Ward forums, this is subject to the council's existing scrutiny arrangements.

Policy framework implications

10. 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. The fund can allow individuals and community groups to organise their own events /projects to enable communities to come together.

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

Community impact statement

11. The roles and functions of Multi-Ward forums include the promotion of involvement of local people in the democratic process. Multi-Ward forums 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.

12. An explicit objective within the Empowering Communities Programme (ward and multi-ward meetings) is that they be used to actively engage as widely as possible with, and bring together, Southwark's diverse local communities on issues of shared mutual interest.
13. The allocation of the 2022-23 NsF North West Multi-Ward forum budget will in the main, affect the people living in the North West Area. However, in making the area a better place to live and improving life chances for local people, the North West Multi-Ward area, NsF activities will have an impact on the whole of Southwark.
14. 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.

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

15. In fulfilling the above objectives that Multi-Ward forums 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.

16. 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.
- Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or any other activity in which they are under-represented.

Due consideration was given to equalities impact during the design of this awards process and no adverse impact was evident.

17. When undertaking the duties under section 149 the council must ensure:
- The duty must be fulfilled before the decision in question is enacted;
 - 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.
18. Due consideration was given to this duty during the process of identifying recipients of the NsF grants and no adverse impact on any group with a protected characteristic was evident. 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.

Health impact statement

19. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has disadvantaged many communities in the borough and highlighted health inequalities.
20. Improving access to council funding will enable organisations to better support the health and wellbeing of their communities. It will also increase their ability to support their communities and address key issues within their localities.

Climate change implications

21. There are projects listed in the Appendix that may have positive climate change implications in the North West Area (e.g. community gardening projects) if they are successful.

Resource implications

22. There are no resource implications.

Legal implications

23. There are no legal implications arising from this report

Financial implications

24. The North West multi-ward NsF has been allocated a total of £110,000, for 2022-23.

25. It is recommended that Multi-ward forums set aside some unallocated funds from previous years 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.

26. Due to the impact of COVID-19, there are some projects that will not be completed within the 2021-22 financial year. These projects have been reported to the North West multi-ward and any available funding will be allocated to other projects or carried over to the following financial year.

Consultation

27. 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

Director of Law and Democracy

28. The Local Government Act 2000 (“the 2000 Act”) gives the Leader the power to delegate any executive function to area committees. The allocation of the neighbourhoods fund is an executive function.

29. Multi-Ward Forums are ‘area committees’ within the meaning of the 2000 Act.

30. The delegation can be found in Part 3H of the Constitution, which enables Multi

Ward Forums to approve “the allocation of neighbourhood funds, using the resources and criteria identified by the cabinet”. This is therefore a decision that the Multi-Ward Forum is empowered to take.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. In allocating funding under the NsF multi-ward forums 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. .
35. This report is recommending that the multi-ward forum approve the allocation of monies from the NsF 2022-23 as specified at Appendix 1.

Strategic Director of Finance and Governance (FIN1300 – JB)

36. The 2022-23 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 £110,000 should be awarded to the North West Multi-Ward.

37. Paragraph 25 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 2021-22	Environment & Leisure 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Pauline Bonner 0207 525 1019

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	North West Multi Ward NsF Applications 2022-23

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Forid Ahmed, Empowering Communities Manager	
Report Author	Pauline Bonner - Empowering Communities Programme Officer	
Version	Draft	
Dated	15 February 2022	
Key Decision	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Director of Law and Governance	Yes	Yes

Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Environment and Leisure	No	No
Cabinet member		
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		15 March 2022

**Appendix 1 – North West Multi-Ward Area
2022/23 Neighbourhoods Fund Ward Application Summary Table**

Borough & Bankside Ward:

Ref:	Organisation/ Group:	Name of Project:	Project Description:	Amount Requested [£]:
1035	Bankside Open Spaces Trust	Volunteering Opportunities	<p>Our volunteering opportunities bring residents and volunteers from all backgrounds together to improve community greenspaces in Borough & Bankside.</p> <p>This will help improve the social and ethnic divide in Southwark by encouraging, engaging and bringing together a wider range of people from different cultures, different social economic status and different needs, to sign up to the opportunities.</p> <p>Volunteers can progress onto our Future Gardeners scheme which aims to get people into employment, thus tackling poverty in Southwark. The volunteer coordinator will advertise and recruit widely targeting those hard to reach and contacting local organisations. The Coordinator will keep volunteers updated with opportunities, offer ongoing support and mentoring throughout the programme and be a point of contact for any issues that may arise.</p> <p>Monthly picnic lunches will be provided to allow the volunteers to socialise and get to know each other from different back grounds, tackling social isolation and improving community cohesion. To make the volunteers feel valued, celebrate their achievements and thank them for their hard work and time given to the community, we will hold a Thank You Event and present them with certificates.</p>	£4,988.00

1012	Bankside Open Spaces Trust	Celebrating Banksides Green Spaces And The Community Who Loves Them	<p>Bankside Open Spaces Trust works to protect and care for green spaces across London SE1 and we encourage our community to get involved with these spaces through visiting, volunteering, sports activities and events. In 2022, we want to celebrate the green spaces in our community and the many ways people enjoy them through two events larger Bankside Open Spaces Festival (possibly as part of Queen's Jubilee Celebration) and a smaller festive event, the Merry Mingle.</p> <p>The free Bankside Open Spaces Festival will take place in our Red Cross Garden, Marlborough Sports Garden and Crossbones Graveyard. Our planned Festival activities are focused on boosting people's health and wellbeing, reflecting BOST work, and the benefits of access to green space and keeping active.</p> <p>We will focus on providing entertainment, activities and refreshments to suit all tastes last year our festival involved 41 different local groups and businesses and seven live bands with music ranging from jazz to punk folk and Americana. Performers ranged from young children to an older peoples choir, while sports activities included a display of walking football for the over 50s, football and cricket coaching for young people and Wall ball, table tennis, personal training and aerobics for all ages.</p> <p>Our Bankside Open Spaces Festival aims to reflect the community who use our spaces every day. It will bring our community together for a day of celebration and interaction, giving people the opportunity to try out activities that may benefit their health and wellbeing far beyond the day of the event itself.</p> <p>Our Merry Mingle is an annual free festive event held at Red Cross Garden aimed at families, volunteers, local residents and businesses. We will host a band and put on craft workshops festive craft for younger visitors and wreath making for all ages. The garden will be lit and decorated for the season and we will sell mulled wine, hot chocolate and other refreshments at low prices. The Merry Mingle gives an opportunity for our community to come together at a time of year when the dark and cold can prevent people from doing so.</p>	£8,900.00
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1193	Bankside Village	Reconnecting Bankside Village	Connecting residents	£2,500.00
1030	BE Empowerment CIC	Be Aware Project (Bap)	<p>Our 10 week programme primarily aimed at parents will cover the current issues of Youth violence such as knife crime, county lines, girls and gangs to name a few topics within the curriculum.</p> <p>Our aim is to use our experience within this field to educate parents about Gang culture & Serious youth crime. Presently most intervention is focused on young people and parents have a limited understanding of the pull/attraction, that this the lifestyle entails or how best to help young people avoid becoming involved.</p> <p>We are aware of the unique educational and social challenges today's youth and their family may face and are committed to reducing the amount of young people being caught up in a lifestyle which serves to destroy lives and the communities they live. We discuss and teach ways in which self-empowerment, self-discipline can be fostered & ways on how parents can support young people to make positive decisions and avoid gang involvement.</p> <p>Our curriculum helps parents to understand the intricate and systematic approach to grooming and how to help their children to avoid it. We provide parents with robust and child focus disciplinary strategies whilst supporting them to developing a strong parent and child relationship which prevents young people and children from being, isolated, unheard, targeted and exploited.</p> <p>The ten week curriculum is listed below: Session 1 County Lines / Power and Control Session 2 Girls and Gangs / Understanding Abuse Session 3 Gangs / Managing Anger and Conflict Session 4 Knife Crime / Empathy Session 5 Drugs and Young People / At What Age Session 7 Joint Enterprise / Rites of Passage Session 8 Stop and Search / Dealing with Confrontation</p>	£2,610.00

			<p>Session 9 Grooming and Radicalisation / Who am I what is culture?</p> <p>Session 10 Mental Health / Emotional Intelligence</p>	
868	Blackfriars Settlement	The Orb Space	<p>The Orb Space is a project tackling our divided communities in Borough & Bankside and surrounds, and stitching them together. In the current times when many local people have been isolated for many months, it aims to bring people together, celebrate diversity, overcome fear and build community. It will develop work undertaken this year, aimed at bringing people from different communities' together, providing opportunities for people to find what they have in common and build bridges between them. We will expand our programme of events, face to face where possible and online if not possible. Events will be suggested by current and new participants. We expect that they will include baby massage courses, conversation groups, music appreciation groups, film afternoons, Black History Month, International Women's Day, World Mental Health Day and other regular chances to meet and make friends.</p> <p>Specific aims are:</p> <p>1: Increase opportunities, and reduce barriers for meaningful social mixing between new and existing communities bringing together people who wouldn't otherwise meet/talk, providing opportunities to learn and socialise together, building understanding of other cultures and communities and helping develop mutual trust and respect.</p> <p>2: Increase opportunities for meaningful social mixing for those facing personal or cultural barriers (including older people, those with mental health issues and BAME communities).</p> <p>3: Greater recognition of BFS as a community hub by reaching out to new users (particularly local residents from different communities) through diverse events, signposting them to Settlement and other local services and opportunities.</p>	£4,830.00
1185	Living Bankside	Bankside Climate Action	To enable local people to take action themselves and also demand action from decision makers to address the climate emergency.	£10,000.00

1174	Living Bankside		Borough & Bankside Planning & Licensing	£10,000.00
1178	Living Bankside	Borough And Bankside Events	A number of different events integrals to the community calendar. Helps bring people together. Includes The Great Get Together Bankside, Bankside Pride, Bankside Iftar and others. More info to be provided.	£10,000.00
1179	Living Bankside	Marion's Legacy	To enable the work of the Late Marion Marples to continue, in particular as we recover out of COVID.	£6,000.00
1212	Living Bankside	Shakespeares Garden	Promote sense of belonging and history and heritage.	£1,650.00
1211	Living Bankside	Connecting Gaywood Estate	The project will seek to engage residents of the Gaywood estate with one another and explore a variety of ways for them to be involved in the maintenance and improvements of the estate including with the green and communal areas.	£1,100.00
1213	Living Bankside	Choral Performance - 5th Anniversary Of The London Bridge Attack	Create a choral performance and song as part of the healing process of the London Bridge Attack. Building on the testimony project. Promoting community cohesion and reducing isolation.	£ 5,000.00
1214	Living Bankside	Posh Club In Bankside	Bringing local residents together in particular older residents. Relocating the Posh Club from Elephant Castle to Bankside and Borough	£ 2,150.00
1047	Mint Street Music Festival CIC	Mint Street Music Festival 2022 Mint Street Moving Festival 2022	For six years, Mint Street Music Festival has taken place in July in Mint Street Park. In 2020, due to Covid-19 restrictions, this was impossible. So, with the support of Southwark Council and a string of local TRAs, we changed the event to Mint Street Moving Festival, taking a live band for a socially distanced tour of seven SE1 housing estates, performing three songs at each stop. In 2021 we worked hard to meet the licensing conditions for a COVID-safe Mint Street Music Festival in the park but although we did get licensing approval, the additional funding we needed to cover costs was not forthcoming. We are now planning for a Festive Moving Festival in December. We cannot predict to what extent mass gatherings will be permissible again in 2022 so this application is to apply for funding that can be used for either a the original free festival format, or another Moving Festival.	£ 4,130.00

			<p>Mint Street Music Festival is a much loved local event, praised for its community spirit, its support of grassroots music, dance and art and its work with local community groups. If it can be done safely, it would be wonderful to bring local people back together for a free festival in the park.</p> <p>If this can't be done, Mint Street Moving Festival can provide a desperately needed platform for live music and art projects and will boost the spirits of local residents. Because there the equipment for a Moving Festival has now been purchased, the funding just has to cover the live event costs.</p>	
1123	Mint Street Music Festival CIC	<p>Borough Mardi Gras 2023 Art And Music Events For Mental Health / Blind And Partially Sighted Groups.</p> <p>Re-Launch Mint Street Playgroup For 0-5's And Their Parents And Carers</p>	<p>The Blackfriars Settlement Mental Health Art Group will benefit from coming together for four art sessions to create colourful art for Mardi Gras. On the Mardi Gras celebration day they will enjoy a live acoustic music performance against a backdrop of the Mardi Gras display they have created.</p> <p>The Crusoe Club for blind and partially sighted people at Blackfriars Settlement will have two art sessions to create tactile and colour contrasting art. Their art will be displayed and the club will host an acoustic music performance.</p> <p>The groups will also exchange artwork and invite local school clubs and volunteer groups to get involved in an exchange of art, music and Mardi Gras food (pancakes!). This will raise awareness of the groups and strengthen community bonds.</p>	£790.00

1187	Mint Street Music Festival CIC	Re-Launch Mint Street Playgroup For 0-5'S And Their Parents And Carers	<p>The Playgroup is a vital service for the SE1 community, reaching out to parents, carers and children at a particularly sensitive and important stage in their lives. A free Playgroup has run at Mint Street Adventure Playground for at least 14 years and until 2017 it was twice weekly and had solid support, due to offering an unrivalled access to indoor and outdoor space and the capacity for messy art and messy play which children love but which most venues cannot accommodate.</p> <p>The Playgroup has had a difficult time since 2017, due to the closure and re-building of Mint Street Adventure Playground. We continued running the playgroup and re-housed its tried-and-tested selection of themed toys at Queensborough Community Centre, but the venue was less suited to our activities and numbers attending the group dropped. Since Mint Street Adventure Playground re-opened in 2019 we have been delighted to re-start the group there and have had strong support from local parents, with around 15 children attending sessions, more than 90% of whom are from SE1 and with strong indications that the group could grow. However, in 2019 the rent for Mint Street Adventure Playground was six times the price of the previous building so we cut the number of sessions from twice weekly to once monthly.</p> <p>To re-launch the Playgroup after two years during which the building has been closed due to the pandemic we want to run weekly sessions to re-establish the group in the SE1 community and provide a much needed service for local parents. We also need to recruit new volunteers and Trustees to support the Playgroup to ensure that it can continue.</p> <p>The last funding the Playgroup received was Â£995 from Better Bankside in June 2019. Of this we have enough funding left to cover six Playgroup sessions but it is clear that the demand is for more. Coin Street is no longer running free Playgroup sessions and local parents want a Playgroup that is weekly, not monthly. This application will make it possible to run 8 sessions and we hope it will be a springboard for more.</p>	£655.00
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**Appendix 1 – North West Multi-Ward Area
2022/23 Neighbourhoods Fund Ward Application Summary Table**

Chaucer Ward

Ref:	Organisation/ Group:	Name of Project:	Project Description:	Amount Requested [£]:
1200	Leathermarket JMB	Seaside Coach Trip For Residents	Family coach trip open to all of our 1,570 residents. The coach trip will be a celebration of our communities resilience during Covid-19	£3,000.00
1129	Bermondsey Street Community Interest Comopany	Bermondsey Street Festival 2022	We have built a fully engaging community festival over a number of years resulting in a unique street festival.	£1,500.00
1028	Jorge Goia	Capoeira Angola Community	This project will help to keep a safe and supportive Capoeira Angola Community in the Lawson TRA area. Adults and young people from the local area have been attending free weekly classes since 2013. In the past years, classes got very popular, and we have added an extra session, offering two Capoeira Angola classes per week. Capoeira Angola (CA) is a blend of game, dance, acrobatics, martial art and music. CA is a form of community education, physical exercise and personal development suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Our approach recognises the existing knowledge of participants, inviting active interaction in education and ownership of knowledge. CA is based in developing a conversation both in the musical and physical practices. This call and response interaction can include everyone, independent of ability. Based on the premise that the body, mind, and spirit are interconnected, CA can instigate change, strengthening emotional, cognitive, physical, and social integration creating a shared psychological safe space for self-expression. Local residents from the area and the TRA identify a need for fun and engaging activities through participants can use their energy positively, get fit, develop their confidence and learn how to get on with each other, their family and their neighbours. Evidence is that regular practise of this culturally rich art form develops: - confidence and positive thinking - physical coordination and fitness - musical rhythm, singing and playing percussion instruments - learning a new language (Portuguese) - the ability to work and play together respectfully.	£5,000.00

			A real sense of community is created by playing Capoeira together. All of this contributes to an improved well-being across the community.	
1191	Lawson Estate T & RA	Young Stars Pro Academy	For all young people aged 5-14 to be given the opportunity to play competitive and non-competitive football in a safe controlled encouraging environment	£7,030.00
994	Link Age Southwark	Gentle Exercise	We are seeking funds to support the continued delivery of our gentle exercise class at South London Mission Bermondsey Central Hall. We have been running the group for a number of years, and our specialist tutor is a professional who has significant expertise and experience in working with older people with mobility and health needs. The tutor has developed a friendly and supportive relationship with group members who, prior to the pandemic, attended a service at the Mission which was then followed by the Link Age Southwark exercise class. During the pandemic, the tutor initially kept in touch with group members by telephone with the group moving online in May 2020. In moving this group back to an in person offer, there were various logistical steps that we took including conducting a risk assessment of the building and ensuring that our initial offer was in line with COVID secure requirements. We also spoke individually to each group member to see how they felt about returning to a physical group setting. As a result of this preparatory work, from May 2021 have been running the group as a hybrid offer, incorporating service users attending in person as well as continuing to allow online access. This was done in response to certain group members telling us that they were too nervous or not yet ready to return to an in-person group. Alongside the physical benefits of this group, it also offers members an opportunity to interact and socialise with their peers within a safe environment. To support all of the logistics around moving all of our groups forward we now have a Groups and Events Assistant who supports all of the preparatory and planning work needed to encourage service users back to our physical groups.	£3,170.00

1188	Living Bankside	Southwark Climate Action	To enable local people to take action themselves and also demand action from decision makers to address the climate emergency.	£5,000.00
1217	Living Bankside	Recycling Southwark	Supporting local residents by educating them about recycling and providing accessible ways to recycle.	£2,750.00
1195	Living Bankside	Interfaith Tea	Interfaith tea at Harper Road Mosque, bringing together people of all faiths and no particular faith.	£1,000.00
995	Mental Fight Club	Celebrating 10 years of The Dragon Cafe Through Song and Dance	<p>This is an inclusive and co -production project - involving the attendees of the Dragon Cafe and local residents of Southwark. The Dragon Cafe supports those with mental ill health and has done so, over the last 10 years. We are looking to provide co- production workshops to develop a production which can be used by individuals in their own homes and also culminate in a celebratory event at St George the Martyr. It will be free and open to all and will celebrate the ongoing support for those with mental ill health and improving wellbeing for all over the last 10 years. We will be aiming to have over</p> <p>The Dragon Cafe singing lead Vivien Ellis with our dance lead Ariella Uliano will be working together over four workshops with attendees to develop their favourite sound bites and music which has supported them especially through COVID. The singing group will also compose a song and music which can be used as part of the event. Together with the music, song and dancing we plan to have a celebratory event held at St George The Marytr Church where The Dragon Cafe has had its home until lockdown.</p> <p>There is more support needed for those with mental ill health and to improve wellbeing in the community since COVID and lockdown where individuals have become increasingly isolated and lost their confidence. This project is aimed at those who are vulnerable, to support their wellbeing by becoming involved in singing, song writing and dancing - to become part of a community event where they can invite friends and neighbours.</p> <p>The plan is also to have a recording of the event and sound track so this is available for</p>	£5,000.00

			everyone to access and enjoy in their own space.	
1007	Sophie Singh	Creative Wednesday's @ Art Academy London	<p>As an arts education school and charity, we believe art can be a powerful force for community cohesion, social engagement, the development of skills and urban regeneration. We are committed to a programme of outreach and community art activities, primarily focused on our local boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth.</p> <p>Art Academy London proposes a number of free creative sessions at the new Arch on Redcross Street for our Summer term 2022, across 10 weeks from April. Each Wednesday afternoon the space will be dedicated to a number of free sessions for members of the local community.</p> <p>Session 1 - Drop-in Classes for the Elderly, 1.30 - 3.30 PM</p> <p>Sessions with the older generations of Southwark to foster socialisation amongst these groups and offer them the opportunity to build connections. Vulnerable to loneliness and social isolation, the access to high quality art teaching will help to rebuild confidence in a fun and creative setting. There are many benefits for art as therapy for the elderly, from improving cognitive function to relieving stress. Working with local residents we propose running a 10 week long series of drop-in sessions that would result in an exhibition of work. We propose working with local care homes to facilitate this.</p> <p>Session 2 - After School Arts, 4.00 - 5.30 PM</p> <p>Designed for young people from the community who wouldn't usually have access to high quality art tuition, working with local secondary schools. These five week programmes will provide regular art tuition for up to 40 students. Focused classes will create a supportive environment, strongly focused on personal outcomes to develop independent judgement. Access to specialist materials and facilities will improve technical skills, and discussion and presentation sessions will build confidence and critical understanding. Subjects such as street art,</p>	£5,005.00

			<p>drawing and manga would be covered. A completion certificate would be provided as well as an end of course exhibition uniting students across both five week courses to their share work.</p> <p>The aim of this is to spark creativity, in those that may not previously had access to fine art training, and to foster community cohesion.</p>	
1045	Southwark Playhouse	Southwark Playhouse Young Company	<p>Southwark Playhouse Young Company is a free, dynamic theatre company for young people aged 11 - 25 in Southwark and Lambeth. It is free to participate in, allowing young people to engage with our programme no matter their financial situation.</p> <p>Southwark Playhouse Young Company's core objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Run a free and inclusive workshop programme that enables participants to develop skills, increase their confidence and inspire enjoyment of the performing arts. - Stage professionally supported theatre productions every year. - Provide support and guidance for young people to make the next step into further training or employment in theatre and the arts. - Engage young people who might not otherwise participate in live theatre and support an increased diversity in the sector. <p>The three groups (aged 11 - 13, 14, 18 and 19 - 25) meet weekly at Southwark Playhouse to take part in workshops, masterclasses and rehearsals led by professional theatre makers, including established playwrights, directors, designers and choreographers.</p> <p>As Southwark Playhouse moves to a new home and expands its work in the community, we are looking to expand this area of our work in 2022 to incorporate a new group for 7 - 10 years olds from Southwark.</p> <p>Recent reports by The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation (Centre Stage, 2017) and the Labour Party (‘Acting Up’, 2017) highlight the huge disparity in opportunity offered to young people from lower-income and BAME backgrounds. Yet it has been proven that the</p>	£3,240.00

		<p>arts, when delivered effectively, have the power to facilitate social interaction and contribute to community cohesion, reducing social exclusion and isolation, and making communities feel safer and stronger. A report published in January 2017 by the Cultural Learning Alliance, Imagine: Nation, discovered that, amongst other things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in structured arts activities can increase cognitive abilities by 17%. - Students from low-income families who engage in the arts at school are 20% more likely to vote as young adults. - People who take part in the arts are 38% more likely to report good health. <p>A 2014 survey by A New Direction found that young people from low-income backgrounds still engage less in every category of arts and culture than their peers, suggesting that this has a profound impact on life chances and can contribute to poorer children doing less well at school. Barriers to engagement were found to be social (not engaging because their friends don't); physical (finding arts venues difficult to get to and in unfamiliar areas); and economic (perceptions of the cost of arts activities).</p> <p>This is who Southwark Playhouse Young Company aims to reach, and we achieve this in a number of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We engage Southwark's most challenged schools to engage young people who might not otherwise experience live theatre. - We only invite young people with little or no formal dramatic training or experience to join the Young Company. - We offer all of our projects, workshops and theatre tickets at no cost to the participants to ensure our activity is open to all. - In addition, we do not audition. Our ethos is inclusive and all young people are welcome irrespective of educational background or learning style. <p>The Young Company also has a track record of providing tangible employment and career growth for local residents. Successes of past members include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professional acting credits at the National Theatre, the Young Vic, Southwark Playhouse and the BBC. - Places at drama schools including the 	
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			<p>Guildhall School of Music and Drama, LAMDA, the Central School of Speech and Drama, East 15 Acting School and Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professional writing commissions from Southwark Playhouse, the Arcola Theatre and the Finborough Theatre, as well as publication. - Full-time employment at Battersea Arts Centre, the Young Vic and Lyric Hammersmith. - Professional representation by agents. - Professional opportunities as a drama facilitator on engagement projects at Southwark Playhouse, the Almeida, the Old Vic, the Young Vic and Islington Community Theatre. 	
1001	Walworth Community Garden Network	WCGN Community Garden Recovery	<p>Utilising what we have learnt from this year's funding and the previous year during COVID we would like to develop 4 seasonal events, and one membership meeting from June 2022 till March 2023 in the ward area.</p> <p>WCGN knows that the greatest interest in activities and get together is from February till June, then September till December. Events during the summer holidays can be popular with the general residents but the gardeners are very busy, and often feel overwhelmed during the height of the summer.</p> <p>This year we have supported gardens with their own activities and ideas through the 'Share & Learn' and 'On the Ground' events. These have proved popular with each garden involved developing a unique offering and we would like the opportunity to allow the same freedom with an emphasis on group learning and knowledge sharing activities.</p> <p>WCGN knows that supporting spaces to develop their own offering that is based on what their volunteers want and need is the best way to reach a broad demographic of local people, and it is important that we keep flexibility but also promote organic and biodiverse principles in all the training and learning we support.</p> <p>WCGN knows that these kinds of activity and learning sessions help with the recovery of the community around the green spaces in the ward area. We will also concentrate on</p>	£2,580.00

			utilising local talent to run and deliver training and activities to support growth amongst local people.	
861	South London Mission	Building Community Cohesion Through Weekly Warm Meals At The South London Mission	We wish to return to our pre pandemic provision whereby we provided cooked meals for families. We also have an elderly community who have returned and as a means to mitigate isolation we wish to extend this provision to them also.	£10,500.00

**Appendix 1 – North West Multi-Ward Area
2022/23 Neighbourhoods Fund Ward Application Summary Table**

London Bridge & West Bermondsey

Ref:	Organisation/ Group:	Name of Project:	Project Description:	Amount Requested [£]:
1076	At The Heart	At The Heart's Mentorship & Skills Development Project	<p>We aim to provide a mentorship programme alongside skill-development workshops to young adults (18-30) living in the aforementioned wards from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. This project aims to focus on providing life skills (i.e. networking, financial literacy, stress management, effective communication, problem solving etc.) to a group of society who have been especially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Two-thirds young people in Southwark are from a BME background. In Southwark, unemployment among young people is above the London average (and is 5 times that for BME communities).</p> <p>According to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (2018), by the time students complete their A Levels, BME students (especially those from black African or Caribbean backgrounds) struggle to attain grades similar to what they had received at GCSE (at least 3 A grades), highlighting disadvantages in accessibility to resources and support, rather than academic ability. Similarly, the same report shows that individuals from BME communities have consistently been less likely to be a part of apprenticeship programmes when compared to their white counterparts since 2002/2003.</p> <p>According to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (2018), of UK-domiciled students, (compared to their white counterparts) individuals from BME backgrounds are less likely to attend university for an undergraduate degree, with an even smaller percentage of blacks students attending Russell Group universities.</p> <p>The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (2015-2018) also highlights that rates of unemployment are highest for individuals that identify as Black, followed by other ethnic minorities.</p>	£1,495.00

			<p>To support these above findings, https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/ highlights that BME individuals are behind in various aspects of life such as work, education and housing in comparison to their white counterparts. https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/comment/black-and-ethnic-minority-workers-needs-a-bigger-living-standards-reward-for-their-astounding-progress-in-getting-degrees/ highlights that although there have been substantial rises over the past two decades in the proportion of BME people with a degree, rising educational attainment has not directly translated into an end to big disparities in employment outcomes: on average, BME graduates have lower employment rates and when in work are more likely to be in lower paid occupations than their white counterparts.</p> <p>https://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/jun/12/ethnic-minorities-social-mobility-employment also highlights the need for new routes to mobility as being crucial, given the over-exposure of ethnic minorities to deprivation and poverty in Britain.</p>	
1124	Bermondsey Street Festival Community Interest Company	Bermondsey Street Festival 2022	We will try and replicate the continued success of Festival. The Festival works hard to engage all members of the community across all ages in a one day unique street festival	£7,000.00
1053	Fair Community Housing Services	Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch 2022	The project is focused on senior members of FCHS's community. It aims to break the cycle of isolation by bringing residents together at a time of the year when families typically convene to celebrate the festive season. The TMO recognises that a healthy proportion of those who will attend are likely to have limited or no contact with family members and loved ones. By partnering with a high calibre hospitality provider, we aim to deliver a first class experience for all residents who attend the event.	£3,540.00
1061	Fair Community Housing Services TMO Ltd	FCHS Summer Fun Day 2022	The project aims to bring all residents and members of the TMO's community together. It will be an opportunity come together as one as well as learn about one another. This will be achieved through fun and all residents of all ages and background encouraged to attend the event. The theme of the day will focus on fun. There will be other providers in attendance with a number of stalls set up.	£3,850.00

1208	Living Bankside	BBQ at St Olaves Estate	Connecting people on the St Olaves Estate together.	£850.00
1058	LOKSFIELD HOSUE RESIDENTS COMMITTEE	Tenants Activity And Outing	<p>Before the pandemic tenants were enjoying weekly coffee afternoon and monthly social activity. As a result I have seen a lot of improvement on socialisation. Many tenants who never used to go out and mix with other people were attending the activities, socialising with each other and started to go out and have a good time. In addition to the scheme based activates, they also go to Weather spoon restaurant around Southwark in a monthly basis. So I would like to keep this momentum going, I don't want this activity to be interrupted because it has improved tenants social life so much. So I would like these tenants to have their usual weekly and monthly activities to continue. Social activities keep our elderly sharp and mentally engaged, and this is important to prevent the onset of dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Maintaining good emotional health, connecting with others helps to keep residents in a positive mood, which in return it will help them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving physical health, - Encourage tenants to socialise and discourage isolation and loneliness - Build and Maintain Relationships between tenants - Know each other and work together to organise their chosen activity - Decrease developing physical disability -Improve in their depressive symptoms. 	£3,000.00
857	Magdalen Tenants & Resident Association	Easter Party	I thought it would be nice to give the children a party has we have had such a bad 2years and it would be nice to put a smile on their face.	£775.00
1139	Nigeria National Community (NNC)	Youth Engagement, Care Of The Elderly, Cultural Day, Summer Bonding (including a seaside bonding group excursion)	We intend to continue to spread different ranges of awareness amongst the youths through activities teaching them about culture and how to be good citizenry in the community. Care of the elderly would bring our elders towards healthy diet and cooking. helping them through good hygiene, interacting, bonding day with showcase of cultural day where members showcase their rich cultural display. Bonding day and seaside is to bring all together yearly that promotes maximum relaxation for youths and elders in the community. Above would all be about sharing unique experiences that	£5,050.00

			strengthen relationships and improve self-esteem.	
852	Unity Music Arts Team (UMAT)	The Bermondsey Square Jazz Days 2022	The Bermondsey Square Jazz Days were established in May 2018. The Unity Music Arts team (UMAT) is a small grass roots non-profit CIC. I am very proud of the popularity and progress of Bermondsey Square Jazz. The primary aim of the jazz days is to promote both aspiring and seasoned creative music talent and share community enrichment. These are FREE public events (socially distanced outdoor events) presented on monthly basis between May - September. These events proudly bring the community together and also support the local businesses with greater footfall and customer retention. The costings listed below are around 50% of the true cost. I am endeavouring to get grant assistance from other sources and sponsor to support the summer jazz events in 2022.	£4,850.00

**Appendix 1 – North West Multi-Ward Area
2022/23 Neighbourhoods Fund Ward Application Summary Table**

North West Multi-Ward Area - St George's Ward

Ref:	Organisation/ Group:	Name of Project:	Project Description:	Amount Requested [£]:
1089	Bermondsey Community Kitchen	Bermondsey Community Kitchen	<p>Bermondsey Community Kitchen is a non for profit community organisation providing a variety of services to our local community, including running our training facility that offers Level 1 Food Preparation and Cookery courses and Level 2 Professional Cookery courses that helps people to gain a qualification and supports them into employment. Our group also provides Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Level 1, 2 and 3 Food Safety certificates. BCK runs free healthy nutritious cooking classes for isolated elderly residents, to bring them together with other similar members of the community and teach them how to cook a healthy meal for one on a budget. Our gardening project works on local social housing estates, building raised vegetable growing beds, flower beds and planting trees.</p> <p>BCK through the Covid 19 crisis used our large commercial kitchen to provide over 5000 healthy nutritious ready to eat meals to the local community who was in need including elderly isolate vulnerable individuals and families struggling financially to feed their children. During this time the demand for this service continued to increase and it was greatly appreciated by the local community.</p> <p>The Covid 19 crisis has led many local organisations to re-evaluate how they support their local community and how their needs are changing. It has become apparently clear to BCK that not only our immediate area of Bermondsey but across Southwark, the need of food provision services is not just growing but is essential. The local food banks are overwhelmed with their growing clients. Therefore, BCK has decided to open our kitchen as a food provision service in the long term, as we did during the Covid 19 lockdown. Our large commercial kitchen is an asset to the community and something that is rarely found in its size. It is capable of preparing and cooking meals for the local community on a regular basis, as we have previously done during lockdown. The</p>	£4,500.00

			<p>demand from the local community for healthy nutritious ready to eat meals and not just food parcels, is something that other groups are unable to meet, as they do not have the facilities or the procedural experience. During Covid 19, BCK worked with numerous local groups and TRAs to utilise the contacts they already had in the community to those most in need. This is something we would do again in the long term to ensure we are reaching those most hardest to help.</p> <p>This project, as our other services which we will continue to provide, are essential to the local community. Our immediate area is in the top 10% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country, with much of the same being shown across Southwark in areas of high social housing. This will only get worse with the cut backs and unemployment figures being predicted in the wake of Covid 19.</p> <p>BCK will continue to provide our other services as listed above, creating a kitchen schedule so that the time that the kitchen is used is optimal.</p>	
1165	Just giving	Bringing People Together	<p>It will be a free service funded by the people for the people of Southwark community to be able to use a sports centre and its facilities for free and to help promote a range of concerns during resident meetings once a week regarding homelessness, recycling, violence and most recently noise pollution etc. It will be exercise equipment to promote good health and a better standard of living.</p> <p>It will bring people together from all walks of life and create a better neighbourhood feel for people who would had otherwise remained strangers.</p>	£100,000.00
1215	Living Bankside	Posh Club	Bringing local residents together in particular older residents.	£2,150.00
1020	Platform Cricket (THYSF)	Elephant & Castle Jumbos Cricket Hub	<p>We will create a "Pop Up" Youth Cricket Club in Elephant & Castle that will address the current inequalities in access to cricket, whilst supporting personal and social development.</p> <p>The hub will be open to any child aged 7-11 living in the area, but will be grown from a schools coaching programme (NOT funded through this grant) that will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ark Globe - Charles Dickens - Charlotte Sharman 	£6,189.00

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Friars - Grange - St George's Cathedral - St Joseph's (Borough) - St Jude's - Snowfields - The Cathedral School of St Saviour & St Mary Overy - Tower Bridge <p>Children from introductory activities delivered at each school will be encouraged/supported to migrate to evening/weekend activity which features physical literacy, fitness, strength & conditioning, team-building, problem-solving, nutritional workshops and social events, alongside the cricket content.</p> <p>The activity will utilise the Sports Hall at The Castle Centre (Jan-Apr) and the outdoor space at Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park (May-Aug). The programme will also feature important competitive opportunities (leagues/cups/festivals) that provide a focus, support identity and allow opportunities for recognition/achievement. These events are also mechanism to get children travelling around Southwark, getting comfortable with new/different neighbourhoods and facilities, and forming new relationships with children from different backgrounds. It will also help to build a relationship with Burgess Park Cricket Club, where the project aims to signpost children to help the development of a thriving youth section.</p> <p>Activities will be led by highly qualified coaches with youth work/mentoring experience, alongside participants' family members, local residents and local Sixth Form students who will be trained/qualified as Coach Assistants through the project.</p> <p>We anticipate that community participants will feature 30%+ disadvantaged backgrounds and 50%+ BAME backgrounds.</p> <p>Elephant & Castle and Borough are densely-populated areas of Southwark with a number of social issues and inequalities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poverty is a recognised precursor to most personal/social issues and 39.64% of children in this area presently live in poverty. - 46.6% of children in the area are 	
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			<p>categorised as overweight/obese and 84.2% are falling short of the Chief Medical Officers guidance of an hour of physical activity per day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Immigration is also a factor: 42.09% of the local population have an ethnic minority background, and for a significant proportion who are asylum seekers/refugees, new to the UK and/or have a home language other than English, accessing voluntary recreation is less common. - Borough & Bankside, Chaucer, London Bridge & West Bermondsey, and St George's are areas of social and income inequality which can lead to division and cohesion issues. - Being cut adrift from recreation leaves children vulnerable to poor health and difficult childhood experiences that increase the chances of an involvement in crime. There are 73,471 offences annually in Southwark, with a high proportion of gang, drug-related and violent crime. <p>Cricket is not presently effective in supporting any of these issues in Borough & Bankside, Chaucer, London Bridge & West Bermondsey, and St George's. The cricket clubs that are present in Southwark are some distance away in Southwark's southernmost wards, they are already at capacity and available opportunities tend to be dominated by children from more affluent backgrounds.</p> <p>Our research with local children shows that 83% would like to take up cricket in their own time (after an experience at school) but it is deemed too far, too expensive, they lack family support or they do not feel confident enough to go to a club.</p> <p>This has all been exasperated by Covid-19 which disproportionately affected children and BAME communities.</p> <p>A third of all children experienced increased loneliness and stress during the period and Childline experienced a 37% rise in calls. Children from the poorest backgrounds were the worst affected as those from the lowest income families and BAME backgrounds were less likely to have access to outdoor space (Children's Commissioner).</p>
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1148	Walworth Community Garden Network	WCGN Community Garden Recovery	<p>Utilising what we have learnt from this year's funding and the previous year during Covid we would like to develop 4 seasonal events, and one membership meeting from June 2022 till March 2023 in the ward area.</p> <p>WCGN knows that the greatest interest in activities and get togethers is from February till June, then September till December. Events during the summer holidays can be popular with the general residents but the gardeners are very busy, and often feel overwhelmed during the height of the summer.</p> <p>This year we have supported gardens with their own activities and ideas through the 'Share & Learn' and 'On the Ground' events. These have proved popular with each garden involved developing a unique offering and we would like the opportunity to allow the same freedom with an emphasis on group learning and knowledge sharing activities.</p> <p>WCGN knows that supporting spaces to develop their own offering that is based on what their volunteers want and need is the best way to reach a broad demographic of local people, and it is important that we keep flexibility but also promote organic and biodiverse principles in all the training and learning we support.</p> <p>WCGN knows that these kinds of activity and learning sessions help with the recovery of the community around the green spaces in the ward area. We will also concentrate on utilising local talent to run and deliver training and activities to support growth amongst local people.</p>	£2,580.00
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