



Chief Executive
Andrew Travers

Wandsworth Borough Council
Chief Executive's Group
6th Floor, Town Hall Extension,
Wandsworth High Street, London, SW18 2PU

Date: 19th January 2026

For further information on this agenda, or to find out how you can have your say on the issues being discussed, please contact the Democratic Services Officer: Rebecca Hickey on 020 8871 6312 or rebecca.hickey@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

GRANTS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

**TUESDAY, 27TH JANUARY, 2026 AT 7.00 P.M.
ROOM 123 - THE TOWN HALL, WANDSWORTH HIGH
STREET, WANDSWORTH SW18 2PU**

Members of the Committee:

Councillor Annan (Chair); Councillor Worrall (Deputy Chair); Councillors Mrs. A. Graham, Hamilton, Hedges, Marshall, Mayorcas and Rigby.

AGENDA

1. Declaration of Interests

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registerable interests and any non-registerable interests relevant to any matters to be considered at the meeting.

2. Minutes - 6th November 2025

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th November 2025.

3. Wandsworth Grant Fund (Paper No. 26-18)

**(Pages 3 -
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Report by the Assistant Chief Executive on Round 31 of
the Wandsworth Grant Fund (attached)



PAPER NO. 26-18

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

GRANTS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE – 27TH JANUARY 2026

Report by the Assistant Chief Executive on Round 31 of the Wandsworth Grant Fund

SUMMARY

The Wandsworth Grant Fund (WGF) was established in Paper No. 14-523 by the integration of a number of the Council's small grant schemes. All applications are required to secure the endorsement of a Ward Councillor (or two if Borough-wide). Recommendations for grants awards are made by the Grants Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

The baseline amount of funding available to be allocated in 2025/26 is £319,500. In total, 39 eligible applications were received requesting a total of £315,556.52. This paper makes recommendations regarding applications received under Round 31 of the Wandsworth Grant Fund, based on officer assessments, for consideration by members of the Sub-Committee. These officer recommendations total £141,108 to 17 organisations.

GLOSSARY

VPT	-	Voluntary Sector Partnerships Team
CPSA	-	Community and Partnerships Service Area
VCOs	-	Voluntary and Community Organisations
WGF	-	Wandsworth Grant Fund

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Grants Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee is recommended to consider the applications appended to this report for funding under Round 31 of the Wandsworth Grant Fund and to make recommendations accordingly.
2. The Grants Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee is to note the decisions to award Wandsworth Grant Fund grants as may be recommended by the Grants Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee, will be delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive.

BACKGROUND

3. Paper No. 14-523 established the Wandsworth Grant Fund by the combining of all existing grant schemes (with the exception of Youth Opportunities Fund – YOF) from 1st April 2015, building on the processes in place for the Wandsworth Big Society Fund and funded from within existing budgets.
4. The Grants Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee has been set up “to consider applications for grant aid to voluntary and community organisations providing services to residents of the Borough, and to make recommendations on funding amounts and the terms and conditions of these grants.”

ROUND 31 ALLOCATION

4. The baseline amount available for distribution via the Wandsworth Grant Fund in the 2025/26 financial year is £319,500. Within this, £10,000 is designated for a single award Arts and Culture Capacity Grant and a further £20,000 is designated for the Wandsworth Arts Fringe which is held annually in June. Dispersed across the three rounds of the financial year, each round has an indicative budget of £96,500 (3 x £96,500 = £289,500 + £30,000 designated).
5. In total, 39 eligible applications were received requesting a total of £315,556.52. This paper makes recommendations regarding applications received under Round 31 of the Wandsworth Grant Fund, based on officer assessments, for consideration by members of the Sub-Committee. These officer recommendations total £141,108 to 17 organisations.
6. Funding of £159,427 has been awarded already this financial year, which leaves £65,073 available for grant award.
7. As agreed in January 2024 an SO83(A) (VSBE8-8) a variation to the Deed regarding permanent arrangements for the service delivery of the Wandsworth Community Fund (managed by the London Community Foundation) was made. £20,439 is available to be added to the current round of the Wandsworth Grant Fund.
8. Funding available for award this round including the remaining available funds and the Wandsworth Community Fund contribution totals £85,512.

9. SO83A number VSBE13 has approved £700,000 uplift to the Wandsworth Grant Fund budget, up to £300,000 to match fund money raised via a new crowdfunding initiative that will be set up and £180,000 on the appointment of a new Grants Officer over three years to manage the additional volume in grants, the crowdfunding initiative and ensure sufficient capacity is in place to support the allocation and continued robust monitoring of the programmes funded.
10. Given the high demand for grants in this round there is a proposed shortfall of funds available of £55,596 despite using the remaining grant budget and additional budget from the Wandsworth Community Fund. It is proposed to use £55,596 of the approved uplift to support projects within this round.
11. Using the funding streams outlined above (remaining fund balance, Wandsworth Community Fund and drawdown on the Cost of Living Funding), the proposed grant awards can be covered from existing funds.

PROGRESS OF PROJECTS

12. The progress of projects in each of the last three years of WGF rounds are reported as:

TABLE 1

Round	Date of award	Awards	Completed	Extended	On-track
22	02/2023	11	10	-	1
23	06/2023	13	12	-	1
24	10/2023	32	27	-	5
25	02/2024	11	8	1	2
26	06/2024	4	4	-	-
27	09/2024	10	6	-	4
28	01/2025	13	-	-	13
29	06/2025	8	-	-	8
30	09/2025	11	-	-	11

13. Officers continue to monitor the progress of active projects and follow up with awardees where a final report is outstanding. Projects that are showing as on-track include those that are active as well as those that are completed with the outcomes delivered, but we are awaiting a final report. Active projects from earlier rounds are usually due to a delay in the start of the project. Officers are regularly in touch with grantees who submit photos and informal reporting, but the projects are only deemed complete once the final monitoring report has been received.

WANDSWORTH GRANT FUND

14. The aim of the WGF is to support not for profit activities which benefit residents and communities of the London Borough of Wandsworth. As set out in Paper No. 15-106, seven themes have been defined to guide the kinds of activity the WGF will support: -



- Arts and Culture;
- Children and Young People;
- Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods;
- Citizenship and Civic Engagement;
- Health and Well Being; and
- Achieving Aspiration and Potential.

15. As agreed in Paper No. 14-523, all applications were required to secure the endorsement of a ward councillor (or two ward councillors if spanning the borough as a whole).

16. Grant applications were invited according to three size bands:

- Small grant - £500 - £1,000, limited to applicants with income of less than £100,000, no match funding required.
- Intermediate grant - £1,000 - £5,000 limited to applicants with income of less than £250,000, 10% match funding required.
- Main grant - £5,000 - £10,000, no income limit, 25% match funding required.

17. Round 31 of the WGF had a deadline of 6th November 2025. The guidance notes and website offered contact details of officers who could give thematic support to applicants.

18. In response to the latest round, 51 applications were received before the deadline. Twelve applications were deemed ineligible. The 39 eligible applications considered in this report are seeking total grants of £315,556.52.

ASSESSMENT OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

19. Council officers have undertaken eligibility checks and assessed grant applications against the following headings:

- Suitability of applicant.
- Strategic fit with the WGF themes.
- Impact – i.e., is it clear what the activity will achieve.
- Deliverability of the proposed activity.
- Value for money.
- Sustainability of activity once the grant has been spent.
- Safeguarding – applicants must provide evidence of policies and procedures being in place and no funds are released until compliance is satisfied.

20. Assessments for each application have been undertaken by two Council officers with the relevant knowledge and expertise relating to the thematic priorities. Officers from different teams have been involved where an application spans two or more different themes.

21. The VPT team in the CPSA have checked all assessments to ensure consistency as far as possible. The WGF Round 31 General Guidance is attached as **Appendix C** and Members are asked to note in particular the specific guidance for each theme in this document.

22. Officers were instructed to assess each project on its own terms and to make a recommendation as follows:
- Recommend.
 - Recommend, but propose a lower level of funding.
 - Not Recommended.
23. Following this assessment process, the total amount of funding recommended following officer assessment is £141,108 to 17 organisations.
24. A summary of recommendations for all applications is set out in **Appendix A**. Individual summary assessments for each application are attached as **Appendix B**. The summary assessment form contains:
- The amount requested, location of project and endorsing councillor(s).
 - A summary of the activity from the application form.
 - A summary assessment by the assessing officer(s).
 - A recommendation including any conditions.
 - Brief information about the applicant.
 - Brief information about past WGF awards and their performance.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

25. To measure the success of the delivery of grant projects, the Council needs to have information from each of the projects it supports. As stated in the Grant Offer Letter, all organisations that receive a grant from the Wandsworth Grant Fund are asked to complete and return a Project Outcome Report at the end of their project. Organisations can be asked for an interim report when staged award payments, linked to a satisfactory interim report is a condition of the grant, or on request.
26. Project reports are required to be submitted within 60 days of the end of the project. Failure to provide a satisfactory report could make any new application made to the Fund ineligible. Organisations are asked to provide advance warning of any serious or material concerns regarding the project as soon as the organisation becomes aware of such concerns.
27. The monitoring reports are reviewed by officers against the stated project outcomes, including confirmation that the grant has been spent in accordance with the terms and conditions of grant offer. Any variance on project outcomes is followed up with the grantee to determine if further action is required. Where grant funds have not been used in accordance with the terms and conditions the Council is able to request repayment of the grant in full or in-part.

COMMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

28. If approved, the grants awarded in this paper can be met from existing earmarked funding, including the recent uplift to the Wandsworth Grant Fund. It will be important to monitor that the grants are spent in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant offer.

CONCLUSION

29. The Grants Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee will make recommendations on each application for approval by subsequent delegated authority as a non-key decision to the Assistant Chief Executive.

The Town Hall
Wandsworth
SW18 2PU

Jon Evans
Assistant Chief Executive

19th January 2026

Background papers

There are no background papers to this report.

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Tuesday 27th January 2026
Wandsworth Grant Fund, Round 31 – Summary of Award Recommendations

WGF R31 Ref	Name of Organisation	Project Name	Brief Summary of project	Primary Ward of Activity	Primary Theme	Total Grant Sought	Officer Recommendation
1	Amplify Us CIC	Chestnut Grove Academy Podcast Project	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver podcasting sessions CYP from Chestnut Grove Academy. 18 students will be supported across two cohorts through the year comprising five sessions where they will work with experienced facilitators in a participatory approach - they will create a podcast that will then be shared with the group.	Balham, Furzedown Wards	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25% disabled)	£6,950.00	£0
2	Artburst CIC	Artburst Play in a Day for 5-12 year olds	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver ten high-quality, empowering 'Play in a Day' workshops between April and December 2026, benefitting 60 children. The project will take place at the Burridge Gardens Community Centre, St John's Hill in Clapham, SW11 1AR. Each session will run for five hours from 10.30am-3.30pm. The workshops will be spread over the Easter holidays, summer holidays and October half term.	Borough wide	Children and young people (0-11 years)	£9,845.00	£0
3	Battersea Befriending Network	Counteracting social isolation	The project aims to reduce social isolation for those living with mental health issues in two ways. They will run a recruitment drive and deliver two training courses for new volunteer befrienders in late April and early November. This will meet rising demand for their services at a time when volunteering nationwide is in decline. Newly recruited volunteers will then be matched with individuals referred by the Mental Health Trust, Wandsworth Social Services and other agencies. They aim to have at least 12 new befrienders by the end of the project.	Battersea Park, Roehampton, Tooting Bec, Tooting Broadway and Balham wards	Health and Wellbeing	£10,000.00	£0
4	Be Enriched	Tooting Community Canteen	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver a free weekly community canteen every Friday, at Tooting URC Church on Rookstone Road. The meal will consist of three-courses, will be entirely vegetarian and prepared by volunteers. The meals are made using surplus food donations in partnership with local grocery stores, Neighbourly and Fareshare.	Tooting Broadway	Health and Wellbeing	£8,580.00	£0
5	Community Drug and Alcohol Recovery Services (CDARS)	Voices of Resilience	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver a year-long performing arts programme. The project would support 40 CDARS service users, to complete the programme covering acting, play writing and stage production. Voices of Resilience will be peer-led, guided by our Neurodiversity Programme Manager, a qualified Dance and Movement Psychotherapist.	Lavender	Health and Wellbeing	£9,891.00	£9,891.00

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6	Connected Lives	Connected Lives	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver five 'Circle of Security Parenting Groups' during school term time. One at Battersea Family Hub, one on the Doddington Estate at S.T.O.R.M Family centre, one at Cromwell house and one at the Roehampton Family Hub. Each group runs for 8 weeks and each weekly session lasts 1.5 hours. Sessions contain a mixture of DVD footage, exercises and facilitator guided reflection and discussion. All Circle of Security Parenting groups are run by trained facilitators in the model and groups are supervised by an accredited Circle of Security Parenting Fidelity Coach.	Battersea Park and Roehampton	Health and Wellbeing	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
7	Cre8 Football Academy Limited	Cre8 Pathways: Volunteering and Work Experience for Wandsworth Community	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver a project that coordinates volunteer and work experience opportunities for young people and residents in Wandsworth, linked to the applicant's wider football coaching activities.	St Mary's and Battersea Park wards	Achieving Aspirations and Potential	£7,260.00	£0
8	Devas Club	Active Devas: Facilities improvements for better physical experiences	The applicant is requesting funding to transform an underused facility at their youth club, a storage cupboard that was once a shower area, into a modern wash facility, and to make specific improvements to two bathroom facilities to make them more accessible. They will also employ a specialist dance teacher across three terms to deliver 26 two-hour sessions. Funding would also be used to upskill two of their current youth workers with Level 1 Fitness coaching, so that they can continue their fitness offer once the wash facilities have been upgraded.	Lavender	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25+ disabled)	£7,519.38	£7,519.00
9	Enable LC	The Care Collective	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver a structured series of activities including youth café sessions, workshops, and trips designed to improve wellbeing, build confidence, and foster meaningful peer relationships. These activities will run at weekends over a 14-week period across two selected community venues in Roehampton and Furzedown, facilitated by trained youth workers. They will target young carers from Wandsworth aged approximately 12-18 and anticipates reaching around 224-280 young carers in total.	Roehampton and Furzedown wards	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25+ disabled)	£9,960.00	£9,960.00

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10	Estate Art CIC	Health and Wellbeing Activities	The applicant is requesting funding to extend their ongoing activities, which includes group walks, physiotherapy, gentle indoor exercise, including chair yoga, a spud night taking place on Wednesdays, and a health café. Much of the project will be delivered at the Manresa Clubroom of the Alton Sheltered Housing Scheme (4 Fontley Way, London, SW15 4LY), a local warm space with kitchen facilities that is conveniently located within the Alton Estate. Occasionally, targeted events may be organised at larger local venues or at schools, as appropriate. Delivery is scheduled to begin in January 2026 and conclude at the end of June 2026.	Roehampton	Health and Wellbeing	£9,925.00	£0
11	Exceed Reading Stars CIC	Achieving Beyond Capabilities (ABC)	The applicant is requesting funding for their Digital Achieving Beyond Capabilities (ABC) project. Their programme builds on the success of their core literacy intervention model, Achieving Beyond Capabilities by incorporating digital tools to support strengthening reading fluency, comprehension, and peer-led mentoring in schools. The Achieving Beyond Capabilities (ABC) project is a youth-led literacy and learning initiative that brings young people together to lift each other up through reading, creativity, and mentoring. It focuses on children in Key Stages 2–3 who are falling behind in literacy, particularly those from racialised, multilingual, or disadvantaged backgrounds.	St Mary's, Lavender, Wandsworth Town, Battersea and Tooting Broadway wards	Children and young people (0-11 years)	£10,000.00	£9,550.00
12	Forever Fishponds CIC	Forever Fishponds Community Garden	Forever Fishponds CIC are requesting funding for the establishment of a new community garden in Fishponds Fields. The main beneficiaries will be volunteers that will support the gardening, design, and construction of the garden. The group will also encourage visitors to the garden and engage local groups, for example local primary schools, to participate in the garden. These beneficiaries will be local to the Tooting area	Tooting Bec	Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods	£4,500.00	£4,275.00
13	Friends of Battersea Parish Church	The Sven Tester Project: Recording the Living Memory of St Mary's Battersea	The applicant is requesting funding to film interviews with a long-standing congregation member to be turned into a 20-minute documentary and 10 short online videos about St Mary's church in Battersea and its heritage. The beneficiaries of the project would be the estimated 300 local residents and visitors who would see the final films.	St Mary's	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	£4,300.00	£0
14	Friends of Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School	Launching an Outdoor Learning Centre at Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School	The applicant is requesting funding to create an Outdoor Learning Centre at Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School, including an allotment, and launch weekly Forest School sessions on Wandsworth Common for Early Years Nursery and Reception students.	Trinity	Children and young people (0-11 years)	£7,375.00	£0

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15	Future Skills Training	Future Skills	The applicant is requesting funding to expand this tutoring offer by directly employing a science teacher, who will provide five hours of tuition a week, across a 39-week period. The participants who will directly benefit from the project are vulnerable and disadvantaged young people aged 11 - 16. Many are referred from schools, Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), or local authority departments and include children at risk of exclusion, those who have already been excluded, or those awaiting school placements. The project is due to start in February 2026 and will conclude in 2027.	Borough wide	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25+ disabled)	£8,300.00	£8,300.00
16	Generate	Wandsworth change makers	The applicant is requesting funding to pilot a new and innovative social action project called Wandsworth Change Makers. The project will empower learning disabled and neurodivergent people to come together as active citizens to solve problems or issues that are important to them. This one-year project will run from February 2026 to February 2027. The project will have 115 beneficiaries, with 100 learning disabled and/or neurodiverse Wandsworth residents and 15 professionals (who work in the borough) who will be consulted and involved	Borough wide	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	£9,934.00	£9,934.00
17	PUTNEY ARTS THEATRE - Group 64 Theatre for Young People	The Ignite Project	The project offers young people the opportunity to work alongside Group 64 Directors and theatre professionals to create and perform an original piece of theatre which for 2026 will be based on Mental Health. Participants will devise, produce, and tour a 45-minute show to 2-3 local secondary schools, reaching approximately 500 students. 15 to 20 young people from Ark Academy, Southfields Academy, St Cecilia's and other local Wandsworth Secondary Schools, will benefit from a two-week bespoke work experience programme; the main focus will be focused on young performers; however, one position will be provided for a technical/stage manager role.	West Putney, Southfields and West Hill wards	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25+ disabled)	£6,000.00	£0
18	Happy Homes Community	Wandsworth Wellbeing Hub	Happy Homes Community's (HHC) proposed project aims to enhance the wellbeing and mental health of women, girls, single mothers, and refugees across Wandsworth by creating a safe, inclusive, and empowering environment. Over a 12-month period, they will deliver weekly wellbeing sessions that combine physical, creative, and educational activities.	Battersea Park	Health and Well-being	£10,000.00	£0
19	Holy Trinity Church, Roehampton	Glass door – widening access	The applicant is requesting funding to install a new glass door to the north vestibule, inside the north-east entrance of the church. This will replace old and heavy curtains. The door will significantly reduce draughts, which will also help ensure the space remains comfortable and welcoming throughout the year. The door gives access to the North Transept, which is the area in the church that most lends itself to community activities, but is also one of the draughtiest parts of the church.	Roehampton	Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods	£7,050.00	£0

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			The additional insulation this project will provide is key to making the space usable in the coldest months.				
20	Kambala Estate Resident Association	Kambala Bulerias Class	The project, Kambala Bulerías, will run for three months and will offer a series of Flamenco-inspired dance and wellbeing workshops for residents of the Kambala Estate and surrounding community, in the Kambala Community Club room. Weekly classes will bring together residents of all ages and backgrounds to learn, move, and connect. Midway through, there will be a community showcase where participants can perform and celebrate their achievements with neighbours and friends.	Falconbrook	Achieving Aspirations and Potential	£1,000.00	£0
21	Katherine Low Settlement	Youth Club Workshops	The project would deliver a series of skills-based workshops across the year for newly arrived refugee and asylum-seeking young people aged 15-18 and living in Wandsworth. The workshops would cover a range of practical topics including first aid, CV writing and job-preparation, financial literacy, public speaking and online safety. These workshops would be delivered in partnership with specialist agencies such as StreetDoctors, Refugee Education UK and the Set Them Up Foundation and aim to address critical gaps in safety, education and life skills for young people who are otherwise isolated and under-supported.	St Mary's	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25+ disabled)	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
22	Living Truth CIC	Cromwell Hub: Revitalise, Restore, Empower	The applicant is requesting funding for refurbishment works to create a more sustainable and welcoming space for the children and young people that they support. Funding will also be used to ensure the continuation of their vital mental health services, including one-to-one wellbeing coaching and group sessions, and a Children and Young People's wellbeing and outdoor pursuits residential trip.	Battersea Park	Health and Wellbeing	£9,900.00	£0
23	Mother and Child Welfare Organisation	Empowering Women: Building Community, Achieving Potential	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver their Empowering Women: Building Community, Achieving Potential project that aims to deliver a comprehensive series of activities designed to engage and empower women from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds, particularly those in Putney, Roehampton, and the wider Wandsworth area. This initiative will be carried out over the course of one year, with the aim of creating a supportive, inclusive environment that addresses key areas such as mental health, financial resilience, and community integration.	Roehampton	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	£10,000.00	£10,000.00

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24	Re2uge	Own My Life Facilitator training and course delivery	The grant would fund the delivery of the 'Own My Life' (OML) programme, a twelve-week course supporting women who have experienced domestic abuse to regain ownership of their lives. Re2uge has a track record of successfully delivering this programme in other areas of London, this grant would enable the programme to be expanded into Wandsworth, building on Re2uge's existing presence in the borough where it delivers IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy) services.	Tooting Bec	Health and Wellbeing	£8,010.00	£0
25	Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability	Medical Escorts Service	The applicant is requesting funding to support medically escorted patient outings. The medical escort service is an existing programme that supports patients on day trips with the aim of improving mental wellbeing, reducing social isolation and supporting enhanced rehabilitation outcome and increased autonomy and dignity of patients.	West Hill	Health and Wellbeing	£9,900.00	£0
26	Safety4Kids CIC	Safety4Kids Wandsworth	The project proposed is an extension of the applicant's existing work of delivering courses in schools to children on a variety of topics related to safety. The project would operate in five primary schools in Wandsworth, running 6-week courses in both spring and summer, reaching an estimated 150 children in total. The project is specifically targeting young people as they are about to transition from primary to secondary schools	Queenstown and Falconbrook Wards	Children and young people (0-11 years)	£8,600.00	£0
27	Send In Mind, WCLMind	Tackling ethnic disproportionality in matters related to SEND for Children and Young People (CYP)	The aim of the project is to actively engage with parents/carers in Wandsworth help them to understand their Children and young people's Special Educational needs and help them navigate and access the right professionals for support and avoid unaddressed Special Educational Needs becoming co-morbid conditions. The project is to deliver this support directly in the community and across the different wards in a way that responds to barriers such as language, childcare and social mobility and makes it accessible to marginalised communities.	Borough wide	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25+ disabled)	£8,452	£8,452
28	Share Community	Gardening for All	The applicant is requesting funding to redevelop parts of their onsite garden in Tooting, providing accessible raised planters which will enable students to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs in the existing polytunnel as part of their horticulture programme. The applicant estimates that around 70 existing Share students will participate in garden activities as a result over the next year, 30 of whom will be Wandsworth residents. The project would commence in spring 2026, planting seeds for the summer growing season, and outcomes of the students would be tracked for the next year.	Wandsworth Common	Health and Wellbeing	£10,000.00	£0

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29	Smallwood Primary School & Language Unit	Smallwood Primary School & Language Unit	The applicant is requesting funding to transform a neglected garden area and part of the school playing field into a vibrant outdoor learning space, including a Garden Area and Orchard Zone, to promote biodiversity, healthy living, and hands-on learning for their students. The project is being delivered in partnership with Think Outside Outdoor Learning, who are a CIC that have designed and maintained garden spaces for numerous schools (including 10 in Wandsworth), churches, community centres and a care home for the elderly.	Tooting Broadway	Children and young people (0-11 years)	£9,744.70	£0
30	Sport in Mind	Physical Activity to improve mental health	The applicant is requesting funding to deliver two new one-hour sport and physical activity sessions a week for 48 weeks, to improve people's mental well-being. The sessions will be aimed at adults with serious mental illness and those struggling with their mental health. One will be in Tooting and the other in Roehampton.	Roehampton, Tooting Bec and Broadway Wards	Health and Wellbeing	£9,940.00	£9,940.00
31	Sport4Health	Winstanley Youth Basketball Sessions	The project will provide two basketball sessions per week of 2-hours duration (one after school during the week and one at the weekend), to residents of the Winstanley and York Road Estates. They have delivered weekly sessions at Battersea Sports Centre for some years now and have had contact with local young people who report that there is a lack of provision on the Winstanley and York Road Estates.	Latchmere	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25+ disabled)	£9,100.00	£9,100.00
32	St Mark's Church	Replacement of lift	The applicant is requesting funding to contribute towards replacing the lift which has been in service for 20 years and for which replacement parts are no longer available. The church building is used for multiple purposes in the local community including by the Wandsworth Foodbank, Spear Clapham Junction, Wandsworth Foodbank Advice Project, Wandsworth Mediation Service, Wandsworth One-Stop Shop (drop-in services for survivors of domestic abuse) and various other functions. These services are delivered in partnership with multiple external partners including Citizen's Advice, Spear, and the Trussell Trust.	Lavender	Achieving Aspirations and Potential	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
33	The Baked Bean Charity	Foundation Active Beans	Funding would be used to deliver a project that will offer weekly group activity sessions for adults with learning disabilities, designed to improve physical health, mobility, and overall wellbeing. Sessions will run every Wednesday, and each will include a structured mix of warm-ups, energisers, themed activities, relays, team challenges, and cool-downs. All activities are designed to be inclusive, accessible, and fun - focusing on four key areas of physical development: coordination, balance, agility and stamina.	Battersea Park	Health and Wellbeing	£6,385.00	£0

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34	The Furzedown Project	Care and Connections	The applicant is requesting funding to provide a year-long Carers' support Group for unpaid older carers aged 60+ across Wandsworth. The project would commence with a recruitment phase in February 2026, followed by eleven months of delivery and a final evaluation period. Activities will take place at the charity's accessible centre in Moyser Road and in local green spaces across the borough.	Furzedown	Health and Well-being	£9,550.00	£9,550.00
35	Tooting History Group	Historic Shops of Tooting Trail	The applicant is requesting funding to create a walking trail of historical Tooting shops. Using a collection of historical photos of Tooting (1900-1960), they plan to display a selection on 25 (A2) posterboards in shop windows throughout Tooting. Each shop's board will include a historic image and information about the shops that have previously occupied the premises. The planned historical shops trail connects the present to the past - it's an opportunity for today's residents of Tooting (and beyond) to explore local heritage	Tooting Broadway, Tooting Bec, Furzedown wards	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	£4,637.44	£3,637.00
36	Tooting Woodcraft Folk	Tooting Woodcraft Folk Annual Programme	The applicant runs weekly groups for children aged 6 to 15 using co-operative games and fun activities to teach them about nature, social equality, outdoor pursuits and more. They are requesting funding to deliver a programme of outdoor activities such as camping and hikes, and a weekly session in term time that will support the children in new achievements, recognised in badges they earn, in creativity and self-expression, health and wellbeing, environmental awareness, nature and awareness of global issues.	Tooting Broadway	Children and young people (0-11 years)	£1,950.00	£0
37	Transition Town Tooting	TootingCAN	The project is a one-day event that brings together the Tooting community to share their skills (what they "CAN" do) with the wider community and each other. These skills are varied in scope and are generally, but not exclusively, based on finding sustainable (and low cost/no cost) solutions to issues such as repair of electrical goods, re-purposing textile waste and learning to produce nutritious home cooked food. Together with a shared meal, the event is a celebration of community-led solutions to sustainability which encourages active citizenship and builds social cohesion.	Tooting Broadway	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
38	Wandsworth Mediation Service, trading as WMS	Engaging new local volunteers to provide free mediation for Wandsworth neighbours and families	The applicant is requesting funding to expand their volunteer base. They recognise that their mediation work is long-established, however they indicate that this is a new project being developed specifically in response to growing demand. For over 20 years, WMS have been the only organisation in Wandsworth offering free mediation support to local neighbours and families. Demand is growing and they need funding to recruit and train new volunteers to support their work, which directly supports a fairer, more compassionate Wandsworth. They aim to create a safe space for people to talk, listen and resolve conflict peacefully.	Borough wide	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	£9,998.00	£0.00

**Grants Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Tuesday 27th January 2026
Wandsworth Grant Fund, Round 31 – Summary of Award Recommendations**

39	World Heart Beat Music Academy	First Beats Kimber Road: extending access and impact for children in Wandsworth	The applicant is requesting funding for an early access music and wellbeing programme that supports disadvantaged primary age children (7-11) in Wandsworth to build confidence, resilience and joy through music. Each week during term time, children are collected directly from Swaffield and Allparthing Schools and brought safely to WHMB's Kimber Road Academy. They will receive free instrumental and ensemble tuition led by professional musicians, many of whom share their cultural backgrounds and act as trusted role models. Every child is given an instrument to take home, a healthy snack, and kind, consistent pastoral support from the team. Across three terms (April 2025 to March 2026), participants take part in 16-week blocks of creative learning that build musical ability and personal growth.	Wandle	Children and young people (0-11 years)	£10,000.00	£0.00
						£315,556.52	£141,108.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/1	Grant requested	£6,950.00
Organisation name	Amplify Us CIC	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Chestnut Grove Academy Podcast Project	Total project cost	£12,250.00
Website	https://www.amplify-us.org/	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£5,300.00
Primary ward of activity	Balham Ward and Furzedown Ward	Match funding (%) of total project budget	42%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Jo Rigby Cllr Judi Gasser	Number of beneficiaries	18
		Grant / per person cost	£402.77
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Community Interest Company		
Charity number	-	Company number	15807528
Annual Income	£21,807.00 (June 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£21,401.00 (June 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£0 (June 2025)		
Project Description:			
<p>Amplify Us CIC are requesting funding to support young people through podcasting. The applicant piloted a 4-week programme with five students at Chestnut Grove Academy in 2024 and would like to run further sessions following positive feedback from participants and staff.</p> <p>Three workshops will be delivered through the year during spring, summer and autumn. Each workshop will work with a different cohort of students and will comprise the same five creative podcasting sessions led by two experienced facilitators from the applicant organisation. These facilitators have extensive experience working with young people in educational and community settings. Workshops will be delivered collaboratively on the school site at Chestnut Grove Academy, using a participatory approach that empowers young people to lead on designing their own content. Each session will build on the previous one to develop a complete, youth-led podcast. The applicant hasn't clarified if delivery will be taking place during school hours.</p> <p>The project will engage students aged 14–18 at Chestnut Grove Academy, with priority given to those receiving free school meals or on Pupil Premium who are struggling to engage with mainstream learning. Particular focus will be on those from underrepresented or disadvantaged backgrounds or who might be struggling with overall wellbeing. In total they hope to engage 18 young people.</p> <p>The project seeks to empower young people through creative expression and to build transferable and employability skills in communication, teamwork, planning, problem-solving, and digital media.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Facilitators x 2 for 15 sessions (3 hours) over three terms @£150 each	£4,500.00
Planning, Evaluation and Support with Outreach	£750.00
Post-production (editing and mixing final podcasts) (8 hours x 3 at £50 per/hour)	£1,200.00
1 extra laptop for student editing	£500.00
Total grant requested	£6,950.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled) theme; however, they indicate that the project also supports other fund priorities, including arts and culture and Citizenship and Civic Engagement.

The program intends to develop practical digital media skills, from scriptwriting and interviewing to audio production and editing; whilst also instilling broader transferable skills like communication and teamwork, that improve their readiness for education or work. Through improving confidence, agency, and transferable skills, the applicant hopes to help young people move towards independence, education, and employment, supporting them to become happier, healthier, and more resilient. The project does have a notable creative element and there is some risk that it more appropriately supports the Arts and Culture theme. However, the applicant has provided sufficient information to justify their alignment with their chosen priorities.

The applicant was established in 2024 and are a little over one year old. The accounts provided are in draft format and show income of £21,807.00 against expenditure of £21,401.00. Total net assets currently sit at £0 which indicates that the organisation is operating on a break-even basis and has limited financial reserves.

The delivery plan appears broadly suitable; however, a January start date has been given which is not realistic, based on fund decision making timelines - Retrospective costs cannot be supported by this fund. The project delivery team are experienced, and a similar project has been recently delivered.

The applicant has been clear on their target beneficiaries and the approach they take to recruiting participants, which is realistic. Participants will be nominated by Chestnut Grove Academy's pastoral and creative learning teams, focusing on students who would benefit most, particularly those who show potential but lack confidence or engagement in traditional classroom settings. Priority will be given to students in receipt of free school meals or Pupil Premium who are struggling to engage with mainstream learning, which is a priority for the fund.

The project builds on a successful pilot delivered at Chestnut Grove Academy in 2024, which received highly positive feedback from both staff and students. Young people expressed a clear interest in additional sessions, directly informing the design and scope of this proposal. The applicant supports this with quantitative data and participant testimonials, demonstrating strong demand within the pilot cohort. However, evidence of wider need is limited. The application does not provide broader contextual data to show how the project addresses a systemic gap or aligns more broadly with community needs.

Progress will be monitored through pre- and post-project surveys, facilitator notes, feedback interviews, and the final podcast output. The general approach is sufficient for the nature of the project, however the outcomes provided lack clarity. Whilst some outcomes are specific and measurable, others are not. Greater clarification on outcomes would have strengthened the application.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

They have requested £6,950.00 in funding that will be used on facilitation costs, outreach, post-production and the purchase of an extra laptop. They will be contributing the remainder in match funding for a total project cost of £12,250.00. Costs appear broadly realistic although certain expenditure lines would have benefited from more detail; it is unclear why a new laptop is needed for example, as we might assume that they already have the equipment/software in place having delivered an iteration of the project before.

The applicant has been unable to secure alternative funding. They do not hold reserves, and the school is unable to fund the activity. It is unclear how longer-term sustainability for this project would be achieved.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Jo Rigby: Podcasting is the fastest growing medium in the UK, creating new jobs in the sector. The media industry is trying to become more inclusive and move away from an employment model that has relied heavily on nepotism. This project not only gives our young people a valuable experience and builds their confidence and communication skills, it will also give them the much sought after work experience to put on their CVs to try to get employment in the industry. It's a springboard for future opportunities. The self-belief that the participants will gain is priceless and will set them up for future success.

Cllr Judi Gasser: This is a very worthwhile project which will give students practical skills and a safe space to enhance their creativity and wellbeing; I am very happy to endorse it.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project broadly aligns with the Children and Young people's theme. • The delivery plan (starting in January) is unrealistic given decision-making timelines. • While the applicant has described strong demand for the project, evidence of wider need for the project has not been clearly demonstrated. • Project outcomes lack clarity and would have benefited from greater specificity. • The applicant has not been able to secure alternative funding, they do not hold reserves, and the school is unable to fund the activity. It is therefore unclear how the longer-term sustainability of the project would be achieved.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	N/A

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
N/A	N/A	N/A

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
N/A	N/A	N/A

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Amplify Us CIC supports young people to realise their potential by amplifying their voices through creative podcasting. Through storytelling, collaboration, and skill-building, participants gain confidence, communication skills, and digital literacy — all of which contribute directly to their personal and professional aspirations and also support in building peer networks whilst at the same time creating content that raises the voices of the young, bringing their insights and experiences to new audiences helping to bridge intergenerational understanding and help create brighter futures.
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Ref No	R31/2	Grant requested	£9,845.00
Organisation name	Artburst CIC	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Artburst Play in a Day for 5–12-year-olds	Total project cost	£14,185.00
Website	www.artburst.co.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£3,290.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (0-11 years)	Match funding (in-kind)	£1,050.00
Primary ward of activity	Lavender Ward	Match funding (%) of total project budget	30%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Kate Stock Cllr Jonathan Cook Cllr Tom Pridham	Number of beneficiaries	60
		Grant / per person cost	£164.00

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Community Interest Company (CIC)		
Charity number		Company number	05771971
Annual Income	£112,370.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£105,586.00 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£16,615.00 (March 2024)		

Project Description:

The applicant is requesting funding to deliver ten high-quality, empowering 'Play in a Day' workshops between April and December 2026, benefitting 60 children. The project will take place at the Burrigge Gardens Community Centre, St John's Hill in Clapham, SW11 1AR. Each session will run for five hours from 10.30am-3.30pm.

The workshops will be spread over the Easter holidays, summer holidays and October half term. This will create sustained year-round access for children aged 5 to 12 years old from disadvantaged backgrounds, including those with SEND and Free School Meals/Pupil Premium eligibility. Children with SEND will need to attend a mainstream school.

Key outcomes expected from the project include, increased confidence and communication, enhanced pride and wellbeing, improved social skills, and community and family support.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Art Facilitator delivery x 10 sessions @ £200 per session	2,000.00
Drama Facilitator delivery x 10 sessions @ £200 per session	2,000.00
Well-being Facilitator delivery x 10 sessions @ £200 per session	2,000.00
Art/Drama planning and prep x 4 days @ £200 per day	800.00
Facilitator Training day at Artburst office 3 freelancers @ £150 per person	450.00
Travel for Staff/Workshop material drop costs @ £200	200.00
Extra art materials and printing costs £30 per session x 10 sessions @ £300	300.00
Project Admin x 6 days @ £170 per day £1,020	1,020.00
Project Director x 3 days @ £250 per day £750	750.00
Refreshments for children x 10 days @ £10 per day £100	100.00

Publicity costs – design, printing marketing x 1.5 days @ £170 per day	225.00
Total grant requested	9,845.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and Young People’s theme stating that the project is directly aligned with the core vision for Children and Young People and the local for Falconbrook Ward priority weighting due to deprivation. The project meets the criteria around supporting early intervention and preventative work by targeting children receiving free school meals / pupil premium and those with SEND. The activities will also support development of communication and language skills. The project also meets elements of the Health and Wellbeing thematic area by supporting mental health, reducing social isolation and supporting unpaid carers.

The applicant provides accounts until the end of March 2024, which report an income of £112,370.00 against expenditure of £105,586.00 resulting in a surplus of £6,832.00. The organisation holds unrestricted reserves of £16,615.00. The organisation’s reserve policy is to maintain reserves equal to at least three months of expenditure. Their unrestricted funds are equivalent to approximately 1.8 months’ operating costs. While a slightly higher level of reserves would be expected, this level is proportionate for the organisation.

The applicant plans to run the project from April-December 2026 with the activity scheduled across the school terms and holidays to provide flexible provision throughout the year. A clear timeline of activity has not been provided, but the applicant states that all required permissions are in place to run the project and the Community Centre can accommodate the proposed bookings.

The applicant has described the beneficiaries as a minimum of 60 children aged 5–12-year-old who are residents from the Falconbrook / St John’s Hill area. They have 20 places available per session but would like to secure repeat engagement from vulnerable children to foster stable relationships and maximise developmental incomes. They also anticipate involving at least 50 parents/carers. They will use broad outreach to establish the project and once the reputation of the project has spread through word of mouth, they will be more selective in their marketing and referral approaches. They would like to make sure that at least 50% of attendees for the workshops are for those children most in need based on vulnerability. This will include prioritising children eligible for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium and those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Priority may also be given to children identified by teachers/SENCOs/Peabody staff who would benefit most from repeat attendance to maximize their developmental outcomes.

The applicant has provided limited evidence in terms of the need for the project. They have referenced feedback from their previously funded holiday playscheme, which has informed changes to this project e.g. regarding timing. They have also engaged with local families and other partners including the Peabody Housing Association and local Primary Schools and SENCOs. They also describe how the project will be held in a deprivation hotspot meeting a social and emotional and arts and wellbeing gap. The applicant has not referenced any data or other evidence to support the need for the project.

The applicant describes how they will monitor and evaluate the project by tracking how well the project is going and the positive difference that the activity is making. This will include checking in with the children on their feelings at each session, using accessible visual feedback techniques and post-performance feedback forms. They will also capture feedback from parents/carers and session staff. It is unclear if baseline information will be collected in order to track development of children over the life of the project.

The majority of the budget is for staff costs including for an art facilitator, drama facilitator and wellbeing facilitator. Additional costs cover facilitator training, planning and prep, travel costs, Project Admin and Director costs and costs for the project itself, refreshments and materials. Costs are considered to be somewhat high, but this may be understandable if the group is working with children with special educational needs.

The applicant is providing £3,290 cash match funding from BBC Children in Need which will support parts of the project and £1,050 in-kind match funding. They have not approached any other funders to support this project. The total project cost is £14,185 and they are contributing £4,340 in match funding, representing 30% of the overall cost.

The applicant states that this funding will enable them to pilot a new project that builds on the initiative they ran over the summer, strengthens connections with children and families in the area and allows them to monitor and evaluate the impact. To extend the project, they plan to apply for HAF funding or approach Peabody to explore financial or match funding support.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Kate Stock: I would like to endorse the above WGF application. My endorsement is as follows:

I strongly endorse the “Play in a Day” project. The project builds on the experience Artburst gathered from delivering a pilot playscheme in summer 2025. The project aligns strongly with the grant fund priority for Children and Young People (0–11 years).

I support the project's focus on providing creative workshops for children aged between 5-12 years (particularly 5-8 years) as the Council's recent youth strategy identified that there is a gap in provision for this age group. Equally, I am not aware of other provision for children being provided on the St John's Hill estate meaning the project would also fill a geographical gap.

Artburst's delivery of free sessions with a focus on targeting participants, such as pupils with SEND or those eligible for free school meals is very welcome. This meets the grant fund priority in relation to early intervention and prevention by offering creative, therapeutic engagement that supports emotional regulation and communication development. Local parents' welcome opportunities for free activities for children with SEND in the local area. Delivering the project locally at Burridge Gardens removes barriers to access for families who want to access hyper local services.

I very much welcome the evolution of this project arising out of the learning gathered during the summer pilot, such as responding to parent requests for longer sessions. The opportunity to provide a year-round schedule through this project would ensure continuity and deeper developmental outcomes for children in the local area.

Cllr Jonathan Cook: I'd be happy to endorse your application; and I'd be curious to know what plays you plan in the Play in a Day programme?

Cllr Tom Pridham: Of course - happy to endorse.

Recommendation Summary

Not recommended

- The need for the project has not been clearly described. While some feedback and consultation have been carried out, the applicant has not referenced any data or other evidence to support the need for the project.
- The monitoring approach described is limited and outcomes lack clarity.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project budget looks somewhat high, and the majority of expenditure items are for staff costs.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Holiday playscheme for 5–8-year-olds	26/06/2025	£9,570

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R28 / January 2025 - Holiday Playschemes for 5-8 yr olds	£10,000 not awarded	
R29 / June 2025 - Holiday Playschemes for 5-8 yr olds	£9,570 awarded	Project successfully completed

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Artburst is a not-for-profit organisation set up in 2006 that specialises in services designed for children and parents/carers who typically face barriers to accessing and enjoying arts-based learning due to low household income, Special Learning & Communication Needs (SLCN) and Special Educational Needs Disabilities (SEND). The objectives of the company are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to advance the education of the public, and in particular but not exclusively disadvantaged children and young people, in the arts; to facilitate the empowerment, confidence and self-development of children and young people through the arts particularly but not exclusively through arts, crafts, drama, dance and music; and to promote the arts as a means by which the public, and in particular but not exclusively children and young people, can participate in creative processes and in particular to promote the arts to those who are socially and economically disadvantaged. <p>They achieve these aims through running creative workshops using art, drama, music and stories in schools, housing estates, museums and community settings.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/3	Grant requested	£10,000.00
Organisation name	Battersea Befriending Network	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Counteracting social isolation	Total project cost	£63,176.00
Website	www.batterseabefriendingnetwork.org.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£3,000.00
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£50,000.00
Primary ward of activity	Battersea Park, Roehampton, Tooting Bec, Tooting Broadway, Balham	Match funding (%) of total project budget	84%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Tony Belton Cllr Matthew Tiller	Number of beneficiaries	50
		Grant / per person cost	£200
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)		
Charity number	1194593	Company number	-
Annual Income	£15,681.00 (October 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£25,093.00 (October 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£ 21,459.00 (October 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>The project aims to reduce social isolation for those living with mental health issues in two ways. First, they will run a recruitment drive for, and then deliver, two training courses for new volunteer befrienders in late April and early November. This will meet rising demand for their services at a time when volunteering nationwide is in decline. Newly recruited and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked volunteers will then be matched with individuals referred by the Mental Health Trust, Wandsworth Social Services and other agencies. They hope to have at least 12 new befrienders by the end of the project.</p> <p>The applicant will also provide opportunities for wider social interaction by offering activities at which users can meet and mix with not only other befriended and befrienders, but also, on occasion, with mentors and trustees. This has already taken place successfully at two of their main social events each year – a summer picnic in Battersea Park and, in December, a Christmas party which precedes their AGM. The aim is to extend this to regular events such as outings to Kew Gardens or the seaside and informal get-togethers for tea, coffee and chat.</p> <p>The project is scheduled to start in April 2026 and conclude in 2027. Across that time, they anticipate supporting around 40 individuals with their mental wellbeing.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
Proportion of payment to Professional Advisor attributable to the new project: planning/running of 2 training courses			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

and subsequent matching and supervision + planning/attending of special events: 160 hours @ £40	£6,400
Proportion of payment to Volunteer Coordinator attributable to new project: recruitment for, organisation of and attendance at 2 training courses + planning/attending of special events: 120 hours @ £15	£1,800
Hire of church hall for 2 training courses 30 hours @ £25	£750
Catering for 2 training courses (including lunches provided) + for special events	£300
DBS checks for new befrienders	£300
Entry fees and travel costs for special events	£300
Printing and publicity for courses and events	£150
Total grant requested	£10,000.00

Assessment Summary:

Battersea Befriending Network (BBN) exists to relieve the social isolation and marginalisation often experienced by adults with mental health issues. The project, which will recruit and train volunteers to provide a befriending service, is focused very clearly on two key priorities that sit under the health and wellbeing theme, activities that work to reduce social isolation and feelings of loneliness; and projects that tackle mental wellbeing. Befriending services play a critical role in reducing social isolation and loneliness especially amongst vulnerable groups. Volunteering also has positive H&WB benefits to the volunteer themselves. The applicant has therefore clearly demonstrated how the project meets the health and wellbeing theme. There is also some alignment with the citizenship and civic engagement theme through the facilitation of volunteering.

Accounts are available to the end of October 2024 and show income of £15,681.00 against expenditure of £25,093.00, which resulted in a deficit of £9,412 for the year. They have £21,459.00 in reserves, all of which are unrestricted. They intend to maintain three months funding in reserve, in line with their reserves policy which they are currently meeting. Based on 2024's figures they have roughly 85% of operational expenditure currently in reserve. Despite the significant deficit, in their 2024 figures, they appear to be financially stable.

This is an existing service which is a low priority for the fund, however they are experienced in delivering the service, they provide and have set out a reasonable and achievable timeline of activity. Participants are referred into the project by mental health professionals working for referral partners like the Mental Health Trust, Mind, Wandsworth Social Services, GP surgeries and others. Referrers have specifically identified beneficiaries as being in need of a befriender for the purpose of both reducing their isolation and enabling them to participate in activities in the community which their illness or low self-esteem would prevent them from doing unaccompanied. Referral routes appear well established for those they are supporting. Recruitment of volunteers is varied and delivered across multiple channels, combining social media promotion with traditional outreach in community settings.

Some evidence of need is provided at borough level, with the applicant noting that a minority (46%) of Wandsworth's adult social care users do not have access to as much social contact as they would like and isolation is a significant issue to the broader Wandsworth population, with 24.7% adults reporting loneliness. The last ASCOF rating does show there is a need in the borough but it should be noted that ASCOF performance in 2022/23 (the latest set of results) is very good in Wandsworth when compared to the rest of the capital, with 15 of the 19 indicators (79%) in the top two quartiles and no indicators in the fourth/bottom quartile. Notably, the case set out in the application is focused generally on isolation, with little

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

data/evidence provided on mental health and wellbeing. The application would have been strengthened had more consideration been given to this element of the project.

For monitoring and evaluation, participants will be asked for feedback after each social activity. Feedback on the befriending relationship is sought during review meetings at six-month intervals. The metrics and process for this is somewhat opaque and the application would have been strengthened by greater clarity on how progress against outcomes, improved mental health and reduced social isolation, is measured.

Total project cost has been given as £63,176.00, with the bulk of this comprising the in-kind cost of volunteers donating their time; there isn't a consensus on the per hour financial value of volunteering but by any metric used in adult social care the figure assigned within the application is higher than would usually be considered. Match funding contribution equates to roughly 84% of the total project cost which exceeds the 25% requirement for the fund. Staffing costs have been included, totalling £8,200.00. These costs appear to be for existing staff, not one-off costs and would be a low priority for the fund. The remaining costs totalling £1,800.00 appear broadly realistic.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Tony Belton: BBN has a long track record of assisting residents with serious personal and confidence issues. It provides much needed support in those areas of the Borough with the most challenging problems. BBN fulfils many of the grant criteria important to the Council. I am happy to endorse this application.

Cllr Matthew Tiller: Battersea Befriending Network provides a much-needed and life-changing service to people with mental health difficulties. I am glad to endorse this application.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application aligns with the health and wellbeing theme and key priorities to reduce social isolation and improve mental wellbeing. • The project is clearly described, and the applicant is experienced in managing projects of this type. • This is an existing service however and as such it is a low priority for the fund • The metrics and process for this is somewhat opaque and the application would have been strengthened by greater clarity on how progress against outcomes are measured.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	None.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth Covid-19 Response Fund	2020	£3,120.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
N/A	N/A	N/A

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Battersea Befriending Network (BBN) exists to relieve the social isolation and marginalisation often experienced by adults with mental health issues. It does this by facilitating one-to-one befriending relationships through (1) training and vetting volunteer befrienders, (2) matching them with individuals referred to us by the Mental Health NHS Trust, Wandsworth Social Services, GP surgeries and other agencies, and (3) supporting the befrienders through a one-to-one mentoring scheme and quarterly peer groups.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/4	Grant requested	£8,580.00
Organisation name	Be Enriched	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Tooting Community Canteen	Total project cost	£40,780
Website	www.be-enriched.org	Match funding (Cash)	£13,000.00
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing & Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods	Match funding (in-kind)	£21,600.00
Primary ward of activity	Tooting Broadway	Match funding (%) of total project budget	84%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Sana Jafri	Number of beneficiaries	50
		Grant / per person cost	£171.60
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)		
Charity number	1170219	Company number	-
Annual Income	£474,660.00 (September 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£330,180.00 (September 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£87,182.00 (September 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>Be Enriched are applying for funding to deliver a weekly community canteen, providing a free meal every Friday, at Tooting URC Church on Rookstone Road. The meal will consist of three-courses, will be entirely vegetarian and prepared by volunteers. The meals are made using surplus food donations, in partnership with local grocery stores, Neighbourly and Fareshare. The community canteen is led by a Canteen Leader who has been at this location for approximately five years. She is food safe certified and she receives operational oversight and support with the recruitment and retention of volunteers.</p> <p>The community meal complements existing services by addressing food insecurity in an inclusive and relational way, rather than simply replicating food distribution models like food banks. It fills a gap by serving those seeking a sense of community. By collaborating with local service providers, the meal also acts as a point of connection to other resources—thus enhancing the network of support without duplicating efforts already in place. Everyone is welcome and the applicant supports people from a wide range of demographics including those from vulnerable groups who may be struggling with mental health concerns, may have low or no-income parents, be asylum seekers or unemployed.</p> <p>The aim of the canteen, in addition to tackling food insecurity, is to improve wellbeing whilst also developing a stronger sense of community, particularly for those who are socially isolated. The applicant anticipates supporting between 30-35 people each week.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Canteen Leader wages approx. 372 monthly x 12	£4,464.00
Portion of Volunteer Coordinator wages 263 monthly x 12	£3,156.00
Church kitchen rent at £80 per month	£960.00
Total grant requested	£8,580.00

Assessment Summary:

In establishing their alignment with the health and wellbeing theme, the applicant focuses on social isolation and developing a sense of community. The applicant has not made a case around how the project increases the availability of healthier, nutritious food, which would, arguably, have been a more natural fit for this project. Nonetheless, reducing social isolation and feelings of loneliness is a priority under this theme and sufficient information has been provided to establish a link to this priority.

Accounts are available to the end of September 2024 and show income of £474,660.00 against expenditure of £330,180.00. This resulted in a healthy surplus of £144,480.00 for the year. They have net assets of £87,182.00 all of which are unrestricted. Their reserves policy states that they intend to maintain three months of operational expenditure in reserve, which they are just shy of with reserves equivalent to 2.92 months of operation. The applicant is in a broadly stable and healthy financial position.

The project is scheduled to start at the beginning of March 2026 and will run for a period of 12 months to the end of February 2027. The applicant has also stated that no specific permissions are required at this stage. They have been delivering this project for several years and staff are notably experienced; there are no significant concerns with delivery, however existing activities that form part of an organisation's ongoing work are a low priority for the fund.

The project operates on an open-access basis, welcoming all participants. However, it is unclear how individuals experiencing social isolation are specifically identified or targeted. While the application notes that vulnerable beneficiaries receive support, further information or data to support and substantiate this has not been included. The applicant currently relies primarily on word of mouth and flyer distribution for recruitment. Providing more detailed information on their targeting strategy, as well as a clearer explanation of their recruitment approach would have strengthened the application.

The applicant has provided some evidence of need, based on its own delivery data. They report that the project has been operating for over 10 years, with demand continuing to grow. In 2024 alone, the service supported more than 1,300 guests and engaged over 500 volunteers. Findings from their annual survey in the same year indicate positive outcomes: 89% of guests reported making new friends, and 76% reported eating more fruits and vegetables. While this information demonstrates impact and sustained demand, it is not supported by additional data or research to evidence wider community need, particularly in relation to social isolation or food poverty.

In terms of monitoring and evaluation, they conduct a yearly survey with guests to understand the level of food insecurity they live with and the effect the project has on their outlook. Suggestions for improvement are also collected. Specific outcomes have not been provided.

Broadly, the costs appear realistic however much of the budget relates to ongoing staffing costs, totalling £7,622.00 of the £8,580.00 requested. These are ongoing costs that form part

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

of the applicant's core service and are therefore a low priority for the fund. The project includes a match funding contribution of 84% which includes a combination of in-kind and cash match funding. The applicant has recently secured continuation funding from Neighbourly (£6,500.00) and Wells Fargo (£7,500.00).

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Sana Jafri: I'd be happy to endorse the application.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is clear merit in this application, which aligns well with the aims and priorities of the fund. • The applicant is well established and has the necessary experience to deliver the project. • This is an ongoing project that forms part of the applicant's core service and is therefore a lower priority for the fund. • The application would have been strengthened from additional detail regarding project need and impact.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	N/A

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth Council – Cost of Living	23/24	£9,810.00
Wandsworth Council – Food Bus	2023	£2,950.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R13/Nov 2019/Foodservice training for Learning Disabled Young Adults Pilot	£0	Not Recommended

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Be Enriched is a South London Food Charity, established in 2013. Their mission is to create a world buzzing with connection, where food, planet and people are united. They use food as a tool to bring people together, cultivate joy, dignity and community relationships. Fostering resilience and creating long lasting change whilst fighting food waste and nourishing the community.</p> <p>They deliver weekly community meals across three boroughs serving approx. 100 people a week while engaging with over 1,000 volunteers. Their mobile food project services areas where residents have reduced access to fresh fruit and vegetables. They also run popular kids' clubs throughout the year during school holidays to ensure children have access to healthy meals.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/5	Grant requested	£9,891.00
Organisation name	Community Drug and Alcohol Recovery Services (CDARS)	Grant recommended	£9,891.00
Project name	Voices of Resilience	Total project cost	£13,352.00
Website	www.cdars.org.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£3,461.00
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£0
Primary ward of activity	Lavender	Match funding (%) of total project budget	26%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Jonathon Cook	Number of beneficiaries	40
		Grant / per person cost	£247
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	1028663	Company number	02634372
Annual Income	£994,919.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£997,496.00 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£508,701.00 (March 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>The applicant is requesting a grant of £9,891.00 under the Health and Wellbeing theme to deliver a year-long performing arts programme. The project would support 40 CDARS service users, to complete the programme covering acting, play writing and stage production. Half of the participants would be drawn from the day programme in Wandsworth which supports people experiencing substance or alcohol misuse, the other half from the neurodiversity support programme. The programme would run twice during the year, each cycle lasting six months and taking two cohorts, (one from each user group) of 10 participants each, supporting four cohorts in total across the year.</p> <p>Through weekly sessions participants will co-facilitate sessions to take on a range of roles including playwriting, directing, acting, stage management and costume design, culminating in a public performance for each cohort. The project aims to build self-confidence, resilience and transferable skills such as teamwork, communication and project management for the participants, as well as foster empowerment, social connection and provide a voice for people often underrepresented in creative spaces. The applicant proposes to deliver this project from January – December 2026. The project builds upon a recent pilot activity in which CDARS service users prepared and performed a play at the organisation’s 40th anniversary celebration.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Peer mentor expenses @£20 per day x 4 peer mentors pw x 48 weeks	£3,840.00
Refreshments @ £10 pw x 48 weeks	£480.00
Marketing (printing of leaflets and posters)	£500.00
Contribution towards the supervision of the project by the Neurodiversity Manager @£18.60 ph. x 4 hours pw x 48 weeks	£3,571.00
Rental of a venue for the performances £250 per day x 4	£1,000.00
Materials (e.g. costumes, props etc)	£500.00
Total grant requested	£9,891.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant is requesting funding under the Health and Wellbeing theme. The proposed project would contribute to multiple theme priorities. Performing arts are widely recognised as tool for improving mental health and wellbeing. The project will focus on two groups living with long-term conditions (those in recovery from substance misuse and neurodiverse individuals) and support them to engage in activities that have the potential to reduce social isolation and loneliness through fostering self-expression and emotional connection and creating a sense of belonging within a group that shares common goals. Activities will be co-produced with participants who will take on leadership roles to develop the direction of the play and planning for the public performance. The project aligns with Steps 16 (Mental Health) and 19 (Social Isolation) of the Wandsworth Health and Care Plan (2025-7).

The project aligns with the Arts and Culture theme by supporting residents to participate in creative activities. It is also aligned with the Wandsworth Arts and Culture Strategy 2021-31, particularly the goals around

- i) Access for All, contributing towards improving inclusion and diversity by offering targeted support to enable participation by two marginalised groups often underrepresented in creative spaces.
- ii) Health and Wellbeing through using artistic activities to positively impact on mental health by providing a creative outlet for emotional expression, and strengthening self-esteem and social connection

The published annual accounts indicate that the organisation has healthy income streams, has experienced steady growth and is financially viable. Annual returns have been consistently filed on time with both the Charity Commission and Companies House. The organisation has significant relevant experience in using creative arts activities to support holistic recovery, and a long-standing presence in Wandsworth borough working with people experiencing or recovering with alcohol or substance misuse, and more recently supporting neurodiverse individuals. The applicant has a reserves policy stating that a reserve equivalent to at least one quarter of the total annual expenditure should be held in case of a non-predicted fall in funding or financial changes. The level of reserves at the end of the financial year reported is above this minimum.

The applicant has an existing established set-up, including the venue to be used (the Day Programme Centre on Cedars Road), staff with relevant experience and existing links with the two groups of participants targeted. They are therefore able to activate the project quickly upon award. No external permissions are necessary. The project would commence in January 2026. Confirmation of the amended timeline would be required as retrospective funding cannot be supported. The application refers to a six-month engagement with each

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

cohort. The number of participants proposed seems realistic given their existing activities with the targeted groups. The project will target forty individuals:

- Twenty service users from the CDARS Wandsworth Day Programme who have achieved abstinence from substance or alcohol misuse and are working towards sustaining their recovery. Their complex needs include poor mental and physical health, low level of social connections resulting in feelings of loneliness and isolation, and disengagement from meaningful activities including work or volunteering.
- Twenty service users from the Neurodiversity Support programme. These individuals have a history of disengagement from mainstream support services. They have often faced stigma, resulting in initial reluctance to engage in peer support groups. Engaging in creative activities such as arts and crafts has been proven to be an effective tool to build their trust and confidence

The programme will run twice during the year-long project, two batches at a time, for a six-month period of engagement each. Participants will take on a range of roles, including playwriting, directing, acting, stage management, and costume design. Each cohort will co-facilitate weekly sessions, which will culminate in a public performance at a local venue such as Battersea Arts Centre to an audience of peers, family members, and the wider community. The applicant has extensive experience of supporting hard-to-reach individuals who often face barriers in accessing mainstream support and so is well-placed to deliver this project. Project activities will be supported by peer mentors, service users now in recovery, who are trained as volunteers to use their lived experience to support others.

The project will support the health and wellbeing of two sets of marginalised groups who are often excluded from mainstream arts activities. Using performing arts - acting, playwriting, and stage production - the project aims to provide a creative outlet for emotional expression, while reducing stress, anxiety, and depression, and strengthening self-esteem and social connection. The process of writing their own play to perform also provides participants a space to reflect on and raise awareness of issues of importance to them. The design of the project has been informed by feedback from service users through existing programmes, and learning taken from a pilot activity earlier this year which demonstrated how this type of activity could positively impact on confidence, self-worth and general wellbeing.

The project outputs will include 40 participants (20 individuals in recovery and 20 neurodivergent individuals) overcoming barriers and completing a six-month performing arts programme, culminating in 4 public performances. Project outcomes expected are that the 40 participants will report improved mental health and wellbeing, reduced loneliness and isolation, and improved self-confidence and sense of self-worth. The applicant has outlined an adequate monitoring and evaluation plan to measure project achievements. Participants will complete a baseline questionnaire that captures their circumstances and state of wellbeing at the beginning of the project, mid-way through the activities, and after their final performance. Additionally, the project will collect quotes and case studies, and quantitative data on attendance and retention rates. It is recommended that the applicant additionally collate feedback and learning from the first two cohorts of participants, to inform the design of activities with the remaining cohorts.

The applicant is seeking a grant of £9,891.00 to cover the costs of peer mentor expenses, staffing supervision by the Neurodiversity manager, refreshments, printing of leaflets and posters, costumes and props, and rental of venues for the final performances. The costings appear realistic and the breakdown is clear. Match funding is at the required level and is provided through contributions relating to staffing supervision and overheads. The project activities are described as an extension of the existing ongoing Wandsworth Day

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programme; however, officers have confirmed that there would be no duplication of funding with other grant funds or commissioned services. The grant cost per person supported is reflective of the extended period of engagement with each participant (6 months) and the complex needs of the individuals supported. The applicant also makes the case that supporting the recovery of individuals from substance misuse has the potential to lower the risk of relapse and future costs to emergency services.

The applicant indicates that this is a new initiative that builds on a successful pilot activity from earlier this year in which a small group of service users from the Wandsworth day programme prepared a performance based on a play written by one user entitled *Recovery vs Relapse* and performed it at the organisation’s 40th anniversary celebrations in September 2025. Participants will receive ongoing support beyond the project through the organisation’s wider support services. Evidence from this project will be used to document impact and best practice, which the applicant indicates has the potential to help attract future funding from corporate donors.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Jonathan Cook: Thank you for this clarification, and I'm happy to endorse the application.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has clearly outlined how the project meets the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing thematic area and additionally contributes towards the Arts and Culture thematic area. • The project is supporting two hard-to-reach marginalised groups (people in recovery from substance misuse, and neurodivergent individuals) with complex needs. • The project builds upon the existing expertise and established set-up of the applicant.
Recommended Award	£9,891.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant to ensure that the project participants are Wandsworth residents. • Confirmation of a new timeline for the project, commencing in February/March 2026, and including time clearly built in for planning and evaluation. • Feedback and learning from the first two cohorts to inform the design of activities with the remaining cohorts.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
VCS Community Spaces and Inflationary Pressures Fund (CSIP)	Nov 2025	£11,398.00
Adult Social Care Grant for Digital Inclusion work (funding over two years)	July 2024	£49,744.00
WGF (Capacity Building Grant Fund)	October 2022	£12,970

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

R29 Apr 2025 Cycle and Go	Not awarded (£9,740.00)	N/A
R25 Dec 2023 / Wandsworth Nutrition Programme	Awarded £9,600.00	Project completed
R24 / CDARS Community Kitchen	Awarded £1,383	Project completed
R14 / CDARS Community Kitchen	Awarded £9,800	Project completed

<p>Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation</p>	<p>CDARS aims to improve the lives, mental health, wellbeing and recovery capital of people experiencing mental health issues, substance and alcohol misuse issues and other complex challenges such as neurodiversity.</p> <p>CDARS Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a range of innovative and inclusive psychosocial services to support the recovery of people experiencing substance or alcohol misuse, mental health issues, neurodiverse groups and ex-military veterans, to support their wellbeing and re-integration within the community; • Limit the harm which comes with these issues for service users, their families and carers, and the wider community; • Raise awareness and reduce the stigma associated with mental health, substance and alcohol misuse and neurodiversity <p>CDARS has 40 years of experience offering wraparound support to hard-to-reach individuals, who often faced barriers in accessing mainstream support service. Activities are focused around southwest London and include a substance and alcohol recovery day programme, a mental health recovery café, a youth café, a community kitchen service, a suicide prevention programme, a health and wellbeing programme, a neurodiversity support programme and targeted support for ex-military veterans.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/6		Grant requested	£10,000.00
Organisation name	Connected Lives		Grant recommended	£10,000.00
Project name	CL Wandsworth project		Total project cost	£18,400.00
Website	https://www.connectedlives.org.uk/		Match funding (Cash)	£1,200.00
Theme(s)	Health and wellbeing; Children and young people (0- 11 years); Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)		Match funding (in-kind)	£7,200.00
Primary ward of activity	Battersea Park and Roehampton		Match funding (%) of total project budget	45%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Juliana Annan		Number of beneficiaries	150
	Cllr Graeme Henderson		Grant / per person cost	£66.67
Organisational information				
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity			
Charity number	1184376	Company number		
Annual Income	£205,207.00 (December 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£219,821.00(December 2024)	
Unrestricted Reserves	£20,600.00 (December 2024)			
Project Description:				
<p>Connected lives have requested funding to deliver five 'Circle of Security Parenting (COSP) Groups' during school term time, one at Battersea Family Hub, one on the Doddington Estate at S.T.O.R.M Family centre, one at Cromwell house and one at the Roehampton Family hub.</p> <p>Each group runs for eight weeks and each weekly session lasts 1.5 hours. Sessions contain a mixture of DVD footage, exercises and facilitator guided reflection and discussion. All Circle of Security Parenting groups are run by trained facilitators in the model and groups are supervised by an accredited Circle of Security Parenting Fidelity Coach.</p> <p>Parents develop and improve their observational and inferential skills and engage in reflective dialogue regarding their strengths and struggles in parenting. Over the course of eight sessions, the focus of the intervention moves from discussing secure attachment and children's needs, to the more vulnerable process of parents reflecting on themselves and their own defensive behaviours that can maintain insecure and disorganised attachment.</p> <p>They also plan to deliver one in person Connected Teens group for parents of Teenagers. The material is delivered over 6 weeks (2-hour session) with a mixture of presentations, videos and discussion groups. Approximately half of each session is dedicated to facilitated conversation in groups which gives parents the space to reflect on their own stories and on their relationship with their teen.</p>				

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Following the conclusion of these groups, the applicant will offer circle clinics, a 45 minute 1:1 zoom chat with an experienced facilitator to help make sense of some of the struggles parents might be going through after the course. This after-course service ensures that the parents have someone they can call so they are not left isolated once the course finishes.

The project is scheduled to begin in February 2026 and conclude in December 2026. During this time, they hope to support roughly 150 beneficiaries.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Training 1 Circle of Security Facilitators & 1 Connected Teens Facilitator, £850*2 =£1,700	£1,700.00
1 Facilitator Fees for Parenting Groups (£960 per group, 3 groups), £2,880	£2,800.00
1 Connected Teens Facilitator Fees (£960 per group, 2 Groups) = (£960*2) =£1,920	£1,920.00
12.5% Hubs Manager salary = £3,800, Course facilitation, monitoring and reporting	£3,800.00
Volunteers DBS check (2*3) *25= £150 Volunteers transport (£20*8) *3 =£480	£630.00
Flyers & Care givers workbooks (£350)	£350.00
Total cost	£11,200.00
Total grant requested	£10,000.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied to the fund under the health and wellbeing thematic area, indicating that the project will support the mental wellbeing of Wandsworth residents who are parents and carers for children and young people aged 0-18 years old. They state that participation in the group will reduce stress associated with parenting; by coming together with other parents to share experiences, strengths, and challenges. Participants find a supportive and non-judgmental space, reducing isolation and loneliness while fostering self-compassion and emotional well-being. They have provided a good case for their alignment with the health and wellbeing theme.

The applicant describes that elements of the project will contribute to other thematic areas, specifically the Children and Young People theme. Early parental support will help to build stronger family relationships and improve the emotional and educational wellbeing of children and young people.

Accounts are available to the end of December 2024 and show income of £205,207.00 against expenditure of £219,821.00. This resulted in a deficit of £14,615.00 for the year. The applicant has net assets of £28,210.00, of which £20,600 is unrestricted, representing 1.12 months of operational expenditure. The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than three months' salary expenditure, which they are not currently meeting.

Connected Lives is a well-established charity with a strong track record of supporting families to improve health and wellbeing through evidence-based, relational programmes. Their work focuses on strengthening parent-child relationships, reducing conflict, and breaking cycles of trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and has a strong track record of delivering in Wandsworth. The delivery team is highly qualified, with deep local knowledge and established community partnerships.

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The project is due to start in February 2026 and conclude in December 2026. The delivery plan is realistic, within this timeframe. The project has been developed directly in response to the needs and feedback of local parents and carers. The applicant has piloted this project via three Circle of Security Parenting (COSP) groups; two on the Doddington Estate and one in Katherine Lowe, Battersea with Somali speaking mothers. They also have 10 years of experience delivering this project across their Northwest London hubs. They appear to be well linked in with local services and providers, having consulted with participants, social workers, family hubs and GPs all of whom have referred families. They are experienced in delivering health and wellbeing projects of this type.

This project is exclusively designed to benefit residents of the Battersea and Roehampton wards. However, it is open access and will support parents and carers from all backgrounds, not only those already identified by professionals as needing help. The application does lack specificity in terms of their target beneficiaries, however this is by design – the advantage being that the service will likely support those not already identified as being in need of their support, those that might otherwise ‘fall through the cracks’ and the opportunity for early intervention missed; in this way it will complement existing services. Their approach to marketing and recruitment is diversified and appropriate to the project.

The application is well-evidenced, drawing on local needs assessments, participant feedback, and robust monitoring and evaluation methods. They note that Wandsworth’s Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and DataWand identify persistent inequalities in child wellbeing, family stability and mental health, particularly in Battersea, Roehampton and Tooting. Healthwatch Wandsworth (2024) also reports ongoing gaps in timely emotional and family support. This is bolstered by their experiences of delivering three pilot projects across the borough.

Their plan to monitor and evaluate the project is robust and detailed. They have provided clear outcomes and outputs that are specific and measurable. There are no concerns from a monitoring and evaluation perspective.

The applicant is requesting £10,000.00 in grant funding to cover the costs of group facilitation, materials and volunteering costs. The applicant has already secured £1,200 in cash match funding to support the project and is providing £7,200 in-kind support from venue hire and facilitation costs. The budget looks broadly realistic with funding requested towards the training and facilitation, workbooks, volunteer costs and the Hubs Manager salary

The total cost of the project is £18,400.00 and the applicant is contributing 45.65% in match funding.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Juliana Annan: I am happy to support this funding application. I am writing to endorse the work of Connected Lives, a unique project that provides early-intervention support to help families improve their health and wellbeing through evidence-based practice. The charity supports parents, children and couples to build secure attachments, reduce conflict, and strengthen mental health.

I kindly ask that you consider this application with care and compassion.

Cllr Graeme Henderson: I fully support this application. At a time when family relationships are under extreme pressure, especially in deprived areas such as Roehampton and the Doddington, this type of initiative is much needed.

Sound family relationships are central to a child's secure development including positive personal relationships with other children and to take full advantage of education and social

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

opportunities and to live a healthy lifestyle. Sadly, many parents struggle with parenting skills.

The project is unique. I have never come across a similar project in Wandsworth and as such it is an opportunity to see whether this type of initiative should be rolled out on a wider basis.

The team behind this are well respected and have a track record of successful delivery.

Recommendation Summary	Recommend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant has sufficiently demonstrated how they align with the priorities for the fund. The need for the project is well evidenced and draws on a variety of sources. Their plan to monitor and evaluate the project is robust and detailed. They have provided clear outcomes and outputs that are specific and measurable.
Recommended Award	£10,000
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Connected Lives is an early-intervention charity helping families improve health and wellbeing through evidence based relational programmes. The support parents, children and couples to build secure attachments, reduce conflict, strengthen mental health, and break cycles of trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Our therapeutic group programmes are delivered in partnership with family hubs, schools and community organisations by trained facilitators with professional backgrounds in social work, psychology, General Practice and education. Working with referrers such as schools, GPs and social workers, they reach over 1,800 parents, carers and children annually, offering targeted support to 280 adults and 450 children across their hubs. Last year, they delivered three in-person Circle of Security Parenting groups on the Doddington Estate, with 82% of participants from Global Majority backgrounds.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/7	Grant requested	£7,260.00
Organisation name	Cre8 Football Academy	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Cre8 Pathways: Volunteering and Work Experience for Wandsworth Community	Total project cost	£10,640.00
Website	https://www.cre8football.com/	Match funding (Cash)	£1,000.00
Theme(s)	Raising Aspiration and Potential	Match funding (in-kind)	£2,380.00
Primary ward of activity	St Mary's and Battersea Park	Match funding (%) of total project budget	32%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Mcleod Cllr Akinola	Number of beneficiaries	70
		Grant / per person cost	£104

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	N/A	Company number	09720739
Annual Income	£46,885.00 (October 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£47,426.00 (October 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	-£308.00 (October 2024)		

Project Description:

The applicant is requesting a grant of £7,260 to deliver a project that coordinates volunteer and work experience opportunities for young people and residents in Wandsworth, linked to the applicant's wider football coaching activities. The placements would be for roles within Cre8 such as football assistant, operations support, business administration and social media support. Most of the placements would be for young people aged 14-21, along with some wider Wandsworth residents. Two community football festivals would also run with primary school children participants, providing event experience for the volunteers. Additionally, the project would deliver two Football Association (FA) Stepping Over the Sidelines workshops which introduce students to football coaching and wider roles and pay course fees for four students to complete the accredited FA Introduction to Coaching Football course. The project anticipates around 70 people participating in the project in total, 90% of whom are expected to be residents of Wandsworth. The applicant proposes commencing a 10-month project in February 2026, completing in November 2026.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Volunteer & Work Experience Coordinator (8 hrs/week @ £15/hr x 10 months)	£4,800.00
Delivery of 2 x Stepping Over the Sidelines workshops (£300 each)	£600.00
FA Introduction to Coaching Football course fees (4 x £165)	£660.00
Student & volunteer resources / admin materials	£700.00
Community festival delivery (equipment, refreshments)	£500.00
Total grant requested	£7,260

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Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Raising Aspiration and Potential theme, making the case that the project will create structured, high-quality volunteering/work-experience opportunities that will build employability and confidence in the participants, as well as the applicant's capacity to offer and manage placements. There is limited evidence in the application that the project is specifically targeting participants who are unemployed or marginalised, and the alignment with the priorities of this theme has not been clearly demonstrated. It could still be argued that the project is promoting job-readiness among young people, but there is no reference in the application to football/sports being a local growing job market with unfilled needs in the sector. Work experience should reflect real work opportunities, and it is unclear if this is the case. The application would have been strengthened by providing greater clarity on the different roles on offer, how the roles specifically support individual's employability, and next steps for participants following completion of the project. The applicant also suggests that the project contributes towards both the themes of Children and Young People and Citizenship and Civic Engagement, which may have potentially been a stronger fit.

The most recent accounts indicate that in the year ending October 2024, expenditure was slightly above income, and the organisation had reserves of minus £308.00. This is short of the reserves policy which aims for three months of core operating costs to be held in reserves. The information provided indicates that there is some vulnerability around the applicant's financial position.

The applicant states that they have experience in supporting young people's personal and professional development through sport, mentoring and volunteering. The organisational website focuses on delivery of football coaching, with limited reference to wider activities such as volunteering or work experience provision. In 2018 the applicant received a Wandsworth Civic Award for Contribution to Sport & Healthy Lifestyle and also more recently a certificate of recognition from BEST Work Experience in Wandsworth in relation to their work providing work experience for young people.

The applicant states that the project would be able to commence in February 2025. The organisation is well established as a provider of football coaching and clearly has good local connections and experience of placing volunteer and work experience students. The project would be led by the organisation Director, with support from a Coordinator who would be hired for 8 hours a week. Feasibility of the project may depend on the capacity of the organisation Director to support delivery of activities, as the planned Coordinator time seems limited, given the number of planned activities/placements. The applicant has indicated that several external organisations have confirmed they are willing to work with the applicant on this project (e.g. supplying work experience students or hosting events).

The project aims to reach 70 direct participants. This includes up to 15 students aged 14-21 years seeking work experience, 20-35 volunteers (aged 16 plus) and 40 primary school children who will participate in the football festivals. Limited further information is provided, except a reference that preference will be given to those who face barriers to participation, although how this will be assessed is not explained. The project seeks to identify participants through school partners and local youth networks.

The project has been designed based upon the applicant's experience of hosting students for work experience from five secondary schools last year, and feedback from the participants from that experience on how useful they would find it. The applicant references external data indicating higher levels of child poverty and young people not in education,

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

employment or training in specific parts of the borough, but it is unclear if or how the project would be targeting those areas specifically. It would have been helpful if the applicant had provided evidence that there were unfilled needs in the local area for jobs relating to football/sports, that this project was helping to bridge.

The applicant plans to capture evidence of progress from attendance logs, participant surveys, supervisor feedback, qualification results and reflection sessions. The outputs of the project include 14-15 work experience placements, 35 volunteers engaged, two FA workshops conducted and four participants completing accredited football coaching courses. Outcomes suggested include improved employability, teamwork and communication for the work experience students, increased local participation and community, improved job prospects for those completing coaching qualifications, and greater female and minority representation in leadership as a result of the FA workshops. The applicant has not clearly described how these outcomes would be measured and the monitoring and evaluation plan would need strengthening.

The applicant is seeking a grant of £7,260.00. The majority of the grant (£4,800.00) would be used to pay for a Volunteer and Work Experience Coordinator who would support the project for 8 hours a week. Other costs are for delivery of the two FA workshops (£600.00), Coaching course fees for four students (£660.00), participant resources/admin materials (£700.00) and delivery of the two football festivals £500.00. The costings seem realistic. The applicant is proposing to contribute £2,380 in match funding, £1,000.00 in cash, and the rest through in-kind support (pro bono venue hire and volunteer support). The match contribution would be used for branded t-shirts, DBS processing fees and contingency. Contingency costs are not supported by this fund. This budget meets match funding requirements, with a 32% contribution to the total budget. The cost per beneficiary is £104.00, which seems reasonable value for money.

The project builds upon the existing football coaching programme, and previous work with volunteers and work experience students. The applicant aims to use the project to develop a model that can be expanded in the future with further funding or sponsorship, using the evidence of progress from the period funded by this grant.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Mcleod (Battersea Park)

Please accept my endorsement for the Making a Change project.

I'm very aware of the need for residents in my ward to find good work, but I also know many of them face extra hurdles when job seeking. Projects which help overcome those barriers are vitally important, and I fully endorse this bid.

Cllr Akinola (Tooting Broadway and Deputy Leader)

Sending my endorsement for this application as they are well connected to council services and strategic aims.

Recommendation Summary

Not to Recommend

- The applicant has not clearly demonstrated alignment with the theme priorities.
- The applicant has net negative reserves, which indicates vulnerability around the applicant's financial position.
- The need for the project has not been clearly demonstrated or whether there are ongoing local job opportunities available following gaining work experience.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant has not clearly described how the project outcomes will be monitored and evaluated.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Cre8 is a non-profit organisation dedicated to using sport to promote healthy lifestyles, teamwork, respect, accessibility and perseverance. Each week, it engages around 300 children and young people through a mix of sessions, workshops and projects that support development in sport, education, employment and life skills. It has been active in the South London community for over a decade, primarily in Croydon and Wandsworth, and continues to expand its reach across the borough. In recognition of its work, Cre8 received a Wandsworth Civic Award for Contribution to Sport & Healthy Lifestyle in 2018.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/8	Grant requested	£7,519.38
Organisation name	Devas Club	Grant recommended	£7,519.00
Project name	Active Devas: facilities improvements for better physical experiences	Total project cost	£14,900.00
Website	www.devasclub.org	Match funding (Cash)	£2,500.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£2,800.00
Primary ward of activity	Lavender	Match funding (%) of total project budget	35.5%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Sara Apps	Number of beneficiaries	60
		Grant / per person cost	£125.32
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)		
Charity number	1129419	Company number	-
Annual Income	£259,562.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£309,455.00 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£16,753.00 (March 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>Devas Club are applying for a mixture of both revenue and capital grant funding. The capital element includes the transformation of an underused facility at their youth club, a storage cupboard that was once a shower area, into a modern wash facility, and to make specific improvements to two bathroom facilities to make them more accessible. The Club are actively looking to improve the uptake of their service with teenagers, and current beneficiaries have flagged a lack of appropriate wash facilities as a barrier to engagement. They are also seeking to restore a sound system in their dance studio.</p> <p>On the revenue side, they would like funding to employ a specialist dance teacher across three terms to deliver 26 two-hour sessions. They would also use funding to upskill two of their current youth workers with Level 1 Fitness coaching so that they can continue their fitness offer once the wash facilities have been upgraded.</p> <p>They hope that creating a shower room and dance programme will create a safer, more hygienic, more active and more inclusive environment at the club. The project will directly benefit 60–80 young people per month aged 11–16, the majority from disadvantaged backgrounds in Wandsworth. They anticipate at least 90% of participants will be Wandsworth residents.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
One year of weekly dance lessons with a qualified instructor. 1 dance teacher @£30 (£27 wage + £3 PAYE/pension) x 2-hour sessions x			£2,160.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

26 weeks)	
Staff training – 2 staff to achieve Level 2 Personal Training Certificates £699 each	£1,398.00
Refurbishment of boys' & girls' toilets and shower facility and Conversion of storage cupboard into a shower room. It was a working shower room in the 70s, plumbing work to get this working again.	£3,263.38
Sound equipment materials in the dance studio: £698 Replace defunct 20+ year old system. One-off cost. Audio Vault 80W small studio PA system, 4 wall-mount speakers: £599. Q-Audio microphone: £99.	£698.00
Total grant requested	£7,519.38

Assessment Summary:

The applicant will be working with children and young people between the ages of 12-18. They have not clearly described how they meet the priorities that sit under their chosen theme of Children and Young People, but there is inferred benefit. They have chosen health and wellbeing as a secondary thematic priority and the project generally aligns with the health and wellbeing theme, as it will enable them to improve their reach, increasing access to physical activity. The application would have been strengthened if they had explored this in more detail however sufficient information has been provided to evidence alignment with the fund thematic areas.

Accounts are available to the end of March 2024 and show income of £259,562.00 against expenditure of £309,455.00, which resulted in a significant deficit of £49,893.00. There have been consecutive deficits for the last three years, with deficits of £51,673.00 in 2023 and £35,273.00 in 2022. Net assets stand at £108,519.00, of which just £16,753.00 is unrestricted. Trustees aim to hold reserves sufficient to enable it to settle its affairs at any time in a controlled way; at present, they hold less than one month of operational expenditure in reserve. Consecutive deficits of this level are notable; and although they have some unrestricted reserves a continued deficit position would present some financial risk to the organisation.

Devas Club are currently commissioned for 2 years by Children's Services to run a Seniors Youth Club (11-19) from their building, starting January 2026.

This project is due to start in January 2026 and complete in January 2027. The proposed start date is before grant decisions are finalised, however in general, the project timeline appears achievable and according to the applicant, all permissions have been obtained. The applicant owns the building, and the Council is a tenant with a 'licence to occupy' so a condition will be added to ensure that the applicant provides advance notice of the works to the council and ensures that the works will be undertaken in such way to mitigate the impact on tenants. They have also confirmed that their appointed contractors will undertake all works. They are currently delivering gym sessions, and the capital works will support this; the dance element appears to be new activity. Nonetheless, the organisation has been delivering youth club activity for 140 years in the borough, have a great deal of experience and good links across the community.

The applicant has clearly described the beneficiaries of the project, which will comprise their current youth club membership of young people between the age of 11 and 16 years old, the majority of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds. Participants will be recruited through the organisation's usual channels, including their youth club membership, from local schools, outreach to local housing estates, and partnerships with community organisations.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

For the dance group, priority will be given to young people who are less active, socially isolated, or from low-income households.

The applicant has stated that their own attendance data indicates that wellbeing-focused sessions consistently attract high participation but currently outstrip available resources. The Wandsworth Joint Strategic Needs Assessment highlights health inequalities in the borough, with obesity and inactivity disproportionately affecting children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. DataWand shows that Battersea has higher-than-average levels of child poverty, reinforcing the need for free/affordable activities. The information provided is general in nature but is sufficient to evidence need. Greater specificity here would have strengthened the application.

The applicant’s approach to monitoring their project is straightforward and robust. They will track participation through attendance, conduct pre- and post-delivery surveys to measure changes in confidence, wellbeing and physical activity levels. They will conduct focus groups and solicit informal feedback, in addition to collecting tutor and staff reports on engagement, skills and behaviour development. Photographic and video evidence will also be collected to showcase the project.

They are requesting £7,519.38 in funding that would be spent on the refurbishment works, and the sessional staffing costs. The total cost of the project is £14,900.00 and the applicant will be providing £5,300.00 in match funding, representing 35.5% of the total project cost. Based on the figures provided, there appears to be a gap in funding of £2,080.62. the applicant should confirm that they have the funds in place to meet this gap in funding before an award is confirmed.

The project is designed as a one-off, with lasting impact through facility improvements and staff training. Beyond the grant period, they hope to sustain delivery by using newly trained staff to run ongoing fitness sessions in-house, reducing the need for external instructors and leveraging the improved facilities to attract further local partnerships, small trust grants, and occasional user contributions where appropriate. Fitness and dance will be integrated into their core youth club timetable, supported by volunteers and existing programme budgets. They will continue to explore partnerships with local schools and corporate donors who can provide small grants, sponsorship, or in-kind support.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Sara Apps: I very much support this project, and it fits within our council priority to support women and girls' sport

Recommendation Summary	Recommend
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has not clearly described how the project meets the Children and Young People theme, but the benefits can be inferred. The Health and Wellbeing theme was chosen as a secondary thematic priority, and the project generally aligns with this. • The applicant’s approach to monitoring their project is straightforward and robust. • The need for the project is general in nature but is sufficiently evidenced. • The project is designed as a one-off, with lasting impact through facility improvements and staff training.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Recommended Award	£7,519.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant to confirm that they have the funds in place to meet the £2,080.62 gap in funding. • Applicant to confirm both a new project start date and that funds will not be used to finance any retrospective costs • Subject to the applicant confirming that the proposed works will be undertaken in such a way as to mitigate the impact on tenants and users.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth BC - mental health and wellness room	15/02/2024	£6,000.00
Wandsworth Active Grant - rooftop basketball hoop	10/3/2024	£1,486.74
Contribution from WBC to Devas general costs	01/11/2022 – 01/01/2023	£30,000.00
HAF Easter 2025	Easter 2025	£4203.75
HAF Summer 2025	Summer 2025	£13,819.20

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R4, January 2017, 'Renovation of Café and Reception area'	Awarded £4,235	20 young people acquire skills and support into employment by industry professionals. The renovations provide a space where ongoing work with young people could take place.
R13, February 2020, 'Devas Foodie club'	Awarded £5,400	Project delayed several times due to Covid-19 and staffing issues. The project is engaging members in the process of meal preparation, showing them food from different places and cultures. On-going project.
R24, November 2023, Devas Wellbeing and Mental Health Room	Not Awarded	
R25/December 2023/Devas Wellbeing and Mental Health Room	Awarded £6,000.00	The project will establish a 'Wellbeing and Mental Health Room' onsite at Devas to support the mental health and well-being of the children and young people attending Devas to benefit vulnerable children; those not in education, employment, or training (NEETs); and at risk of exclusion.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Devas Club is one of London's oldest youth clubs, based in Battersea. We provide safe, inclusive, and inspiring opportunities for young people aged 8–25, focusing on personal development, creativity, sports, and wellbeing. Our mission is to raise aspirations, promote healthy lifestyles, and nurture resilience among young people, particularly those facing disadvantage. Through mentoring, sports, training, and cultural opportunities, we empower young people to achieve their potential while supporting community cohesion in Wandsworth.
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Ref No	R31/9	Grant requested	£9,960
Organisation name	Enable Leisure and Culture (Enable)	Grant recommended	£9,960
Project name	The Care Collective	Total project cost	£14,152
Website	https://enablelc.org/	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£4,192
Primary ward of activity	Roehampton and Furzedown	Match funding (%) of total project budget	29.6%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Judi Gasser Cllr Leonie Cooper	Number of beneficiaries	224
		Grant / per person cost	£36
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered charity		
Charity number	1172345	Company number	N/A
Annual Income	£18,066,55 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£18,546,291 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£263,009 (March 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>The applicant is requesting funding under the Children and Young People (12-18) theme for a pilot project supporting young carers. The project will target young carers from Wandsworth aged 12-18 and anticipates reaching around 224-280 young careers in total.</p> <p>The project will deliver a structured series of activities including youth café sessions, workshops, and trips designed to improve wellbeing, build confidence, and foster meaningful peer relationships. These activities will run at weekends over a 14-week period across two selected community venues in Roehampton and Furzedown, facilitated by trained youth workers. Sessions will include informal games, creative workshops, physical activity sessions, and skill-building workshops covering topics such as emotional wellbeing, managing stress, education and employment readiness and accessing financial or practical help. Additionally, there will be training around peer mentoring.</p> <p>Overall, the project aims to provide holistic support to young carers by improving wellbeing, confidence, social connection and future prospects, whilst reducing isolation and stress. Planning activities will include collaborating with schools, GPs and local carers organisations such as Wandsworth Carers Centre and Wandsworth Carers Partnership Board to identify needs, recruit participants and establish referral pathways. Planning and outreach activities are expected to commence in March 2026. Sessions will be delivered from late May, and evaluation activities completed in September 2026. This pilot project aims to lay the foundations for a wider initiative to be later expanded across Wandsworth.</p>			

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Youth Café Venue Hire (Roehampton Family Centre) x 1 locations x £20ph x 3 hours x 14 weeks	£840
Youth Café Youth Workers x 2 locations x £25ph x 3 hours x 2 workers x 14 week	£4,200
Youth Café Refreshments X £35 per session	£980
Trips in Easter and Half Term £40 per head x 25 people x 2 trips	£2,000
Equipment for Youth Café	£800
Training for 3 staff (peer mentoring and working with young carers)	£500
Workshop leads/facilitators as directed by young carers @ £80 per session x 2 locations x 4 sessions	£640
Total grant requested	£9,960

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has clearly demonstrated how the project meets the Children and Young People thematic area, supporting young people aged 12-18. It is focussed on young carers who are a priority for this fund. The application also references evidence that many of the young carers may also fall into other vulnerable group categories, specifically NEETs (Not in education, employment or training), and those at risk of poor mental health and wellbeing. Project activities align clearly with fund priorities that support early intervention and preventative work for those who may be most vulnerable, equipping with skills development for life, and providing space and inclusive spaces for young people to connect, grow and thrive. The project activities are also being delivered in two wards identified as priorities in the borough for this funding, Furzedown and Roehampton.

There are also elements of this project which contribute towards other funding themes. The focus of project activities on wellbeing and reducing social isolation among young carers align well with the Health and Wellbeing theme. The incorporation of education and employment readiness into facilitated sessions with participants also link to the funding theme around Raising Aspiration and Potential.

The applicant has a strong track record of delivery in the borough and has regularly secured and implemented grant-funded projects. Organisational income is raised from a diverse range of sources including grants, events and filming, bereavement services, sports and leisure services and education services. Income in 2023/4 was 15% higher than the previous year. 2024 was a challenging year in terms of costs and expenditure was higher than income, using up some of the organisational reserves. As of end of March 2024, Enable had total reserves of £696,452 and unrestricted reserves of £263,009. Free reserves at the end of the financial year were lower than the minimum level desired by the board, but based on cash flow projections and new contracts, the organisation appears financially viable.

The delivery plan is realistic within the timescale. The applicant has experience in running health and wellbeing activities in the borough and strong local links with relevant local stakeholders including GPs and schools who will be involved in the identification and referral of participants. They have already identified the youth workers and volunteers who will support facilitation and the two accessible community centres from which activities will be delivered in different parts of the borough. One of these has already confirmed use, the other has begun discussions. The project timeframe has built in a period for planning and outreach ahead of commencement of the activity sessions. The applicant plans to start the project in March 2026.

The applicant has clearly described the beneficiaries of this project, young people in Wandsworth who identify as carers, aged approximately 12-18 (with some flexibility on this as needed). Secondary beneficiaries include parents and close family members of the young carers, and existing support systems.

The applicant commits to reaching young carers who are currently hidden or unrecognised, as well as those already known to services. There is a realistic plan for engaging them in the project, through a three-pronged approach to recruitment. 1) System-based referrals through local schools, GPs and other local youth-care providers. 2) Outreach through social media and community contacts to reach young carers who don't yet identify themselves as carers. 3) A targeted messaging programme in collaboration with local GPs and hospitals aimed at parents or family members of young carers. The locations of the two designated project sites have been chosen with accessibility in mind.

The project addresses a clear need to provide safe and inclusive spaces for young carers in Wandsworth to connect, grow and thrive. They have demonstrated this with references to data from Action for Children who estimate that around 90% of young carers are not identified by local authorities and so remain unnoticed and unsupported by the system. They also reference research from the Carers Trust which highlights the common issue of lack of breaks from caring responsibilities for many young carers, the negative impact on mental and physical health and the potential long-term impacts on other areas of their lives including educational achievement and employment opportunities. The project also references evidence that young carers are statistically more likely to be NEET, and the disproportionate incidence of poor mental health compared to young people without caring responsibilities.

The application notes the limited current provision of support for young carers of this age group in Wandsworth and the need for a multi-layered response involving peer support. It references data from DataWand, the Wandsworth JSNA and the 2021 Census which point to a high concentration of unpaid care in specific areas of the borough including Roehampton and Furzedown. The project approach has been designed inclusively to reflect the nuances of the local context, recognising the significant populations from low-income and global majority backgrounds in the local area of the project sites, for example differing cultural interpretations of 'caring' roles.

The project approach works closely with other stakeholders to identify participants and tailor support, including schools, GPs, sports facilities, and other youth providers. It aims to complement the work of statutory and council-led programme such as the Wandsworth Carers Partnership. The design of the project has been informed by feedback from young carers through other project initiatives that have highlighted the pressures they face, as well as input from local organisations about current gaps in provision. The focus of activity sessions will be co-produced with young carers themselves. Ongoing monitoring of the project will help ensure that the activities remain responsive to the needs of participants.

The applicant has developed a strong and detailed monitoring and evaluation framework for the project, with the intention of gathering robust evidence of impact that can later be used to secure funding for scale-up of the model beyond the pilot. Key performance indicators have been identified and both quantitative and qualitative outcomes will be tracked to understand both the level of engagement of young carers in the project, and improvements to their lives as a result of participating. Monitoring will be conducted through attendance reporting, feedback forms, informal interviews, participant check-ins and facilitator observations. Outputs measured will include numbers of young carers participating; number of sessions delivered; retention rates; and peer mentors trained. Outcomes measured will include self-reported improvements in wellbeing, confidence and

social connection; increased awareness of available support; reduction in reported loneliness and stress. The project will also collect participant stories and case studies. The applicant has also internally identified who within the organisation will be responsible for outcome tracking, analysis and learning.

The applicant is seeking a grant of £9,960 to cover the costs of venue hire, youth workers and workshop leads to deliver sessions, refreshments, staff training on peer mentoring and working with young carers, group trips during Easter and half term, and equipment for the Youth Café. The budget appears realistic and in line with the eligible costs for this fund. It also appears to be value for money with 224-280 young carers anticipated to benefit from the activities, resulting in a per head cost of approximately £36-44. The project includes a match funding contribution of 29%, which is over the 25% minimum required for a grant of this size. This is through a contribution of in-kind costs: use of one venue offered free of charge, volunteer provision, and overhead support including project management.

This is a pilot project, to test the model, and establish the foundation for future expansion of the initiative that can later be rolled out to build a network of support for young carers across Wandsworth borough. The applicant has already begun exploratory conversations with local businesses, charitable trusts and philanthropic partners to lay the groundwork sustainability beyond the pilot. Additionally, the investment in resilience strengthening and skills development through the project aim to have long-term impact on the participating young carers.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Leonie Cooper: I am pleased to endorse this application, which will provide valuable additional support to young carers in Wandsworth. I am looking forward to seeing the programme benefit the young carers of Furzedown and the wider borough, ensuring they receive the recognition and support they deserve

Cllr Judi Gasser: I am happy to endorse this application which will really add to the support we provide ourselves in Wandsworth. Children's Services look forward to working closely with Enable, and to them joining the Wandsworth Carers Partnership so that our provision is complementary, to support this very important group of children and young people.

<p>Recommendation Summary</p>	<p>Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has clearly outlined how the project meets the priorities of the Children and Young People thematic area • The specific group targeted (young carers) and the locations targeted (Furzedown and Roehampton) are a high priority for the fund • The project addresses a clear need to provide holistic support to young carers, addressing issue such as isolation, stress, and lack of confidence • There is a gap in provision of support for young carers of this age in the locations targeted • The project provides an opportunity to develop a model that has the potential to be scaled up across the borough in the future
<p>Recommended Award</p>	<p>£9,960</p>
<p>Conditions of Grant/ other comment:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation of permission to use the Roehampton Family Hub as the second project site • Provide details of the equipment to be purchased for the Youth Café, in line with project objectives

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Heritage interpretation boards on Wandsworth Common	24-25 Q2	£5,000
Short Breaks service	24-24 Q1	£33,253
Cost of Living Grant – Funding for Open Door Community Centre	24-25 Q3	£22,838
Cost of Living Grant – Funding for the Cromwell Community House	24-25 Q3	£57,616
Holiday Activity and Food Programmes	24-25 Q1	£7,867
Open Door Community Centre for Warm Hubs	25-26 Q1	£33,714
Cost of Living Grant - Cromwell House Community Space 2025-26	25-26 Q3	£ 42,761
Cost of Living Grant - Wilditch Community Space 2025-26	25-26 Q3	£10,000
Cost of Living Grant - Open Door Community Space 2025-26	25-26 Q3	£22,835

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R30 “Cardiac Screening Pilot”	Not Awarded	N/A
R26 June 2024 “Heritage Interpretation Boards on Wandsworth Common”	Awarded £5,000	Project ongoing
R23, July 2023 “Enabling Physical Activity for Cancer Patients in Wandsworth	Awarded £5,000	Project completed successfully
R17, July 2021, “Henry Prince: Youth Sessions”	Awarded £8,630	Project completed successfully
R14 July 2020 “Notice boards for Wandsworth Friends Group”	Awarded £2,2100	Project completed successfully

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Enable LC is a registered charity, working in partnership with councils, charities and other organisations to deliver health, leisure and community services and events that enrich people’s lives. It operates primarily in Wandsworth, but also other south London boroughs.</p> <p>It aims to take an inclusive and collaborative approach, involving local partners and people in identifying needs and designing responses. Its experience includes staging events, running sports and community facilities, delivering health, wellbeing, and social care interventions and running targeted youth programmes.</p>
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Ref No	R31/10	Grant requested	£9,925.00
Organisation name	Estate Art CIC	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Health and Wellbeing Activities	Total project cost	£38,900.00
Website	https://www.estateart.co.uk/	Match funding (Cash)	£10,750.00
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£18,225.00
Primary ward of activity	Roehampton	Match funding (%) of total project budget	74.5%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Jenny Yates Cllr Matthew Tiller	Number of beneficiaries	100
		Grant / per person cost	£99.25
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Company Limited by Guarantee / Community Interest Company		
Charity number		Company number	13347473
Annual Income	£49,893.91 (April 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£43,998.81 (April 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£1,870.00 (April 2025)		
Project Description:			
<p>The applicant is requesting funding towards extending their ongoing activities, which include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group walks in local green spaces, Physiotherapy or other gentle exercise on Monday mornings. Groups meet at Manresa Clubroom on the Alton Estate or start and end at this location. 2. Gentle indoor exercise at Manresa Clubroom on Wednesday mornings. Chair Yoga organised in collaboration with Live Karma Yoga. 3. Spud Night on Wednesday late afternoons: Warm space (Manresa Clubroom), a warm meal, opportunities for socialising and arts and crafts activities to build community, encourage healthy eating and reduce loneliness and isolation. 4. Health Café: multipurpose activity providing a Warm Space, a warm meal, take-home food donations along with opportunities for socialising and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arts and crafts, music or other entertainment • health checks • signposting and advocacy • targeted community wellbeing outreach events 			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Much of the project will be delivered at the Manresa Clubroom of the Alton Sheltered Housing Scheme (4 Fontley Way, London, SW15 4LY), a local warm space with kitchen facilities that is conveniently located within the Alton Estate. Occasionally, targeted events may be organised at larger local venues or at schools, as appropriate.

Delivery is scheduled to begin in January 2026 and conclude at the end of June 2026.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Contribution to salary support for Project Lead, £800 per calendar month for six months	£4,800.00
Contribution to hourly wages for Support Worker, £15 per h x 10 h/week x 25 weeks	£3,750.00
Contribution to project expenses (Manresa Clubroom hire, food and art supplies at £55 per week x 25 weeks)	£1,375.00
Total grant requested	£9,925.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Health and Wellbeing thematic area. The project does have a focus on health and wellbeing including the prevention of long-term conditions, improved mental health and resilience, and reduced loneliness and isolation. Project outputs are varied and these aspects are key priorities in the Wandsworth Health & Care Plan 2025–27. They have therefore clearly described their alignment with the fund's Health and Wellbeing theme.

Total exemption full accounts have been provided which include just a balance sheet. To supplement this, they have also provided a copy of their draft summary of accounts for the year that includes income and expenditure. These accounts combined show income of £49,893.91 and expenditure of £43,998.81 resulting in a surplus of £5,894.09 for the year. They have net assets of £1,870.00, however it is unclear what their reserves policy is, as this isn't detailed in their accounts document. The organisation therefore operates on minimal reserves / funding and acknowledges uncertainty beyond the funding period.

The organisation is a well-established charity with a good track record of delivery in Roehampton. They are currently delivering the proposed activity as part of their regular operations. Existing activities / projects and costs, including staffing, that form part of an organisation's ongoing work is a low priority for this fund. The project plan is clear however their proposed start date does not fit the grant decision timeline. Retrospective costs are not supported by this fund.

Most participants who take part in their regular wellbeing activities are residents on the Alton Estate in Roehampton and include older people, people belonging to various ethnicities, including BAME; and people with long-term health issues including dementia. In terms of recruitment, there appears to be a focus on their current, established base of regular attendees, however they will also make ongoing efforts to increase their reach, via flyering, marketing across social media and local magazines (Roehampton Voice), referrals through local NHS social prescribers, and word of mouth. Whilst broadly appropriate, the approach is not especially targeted.

A range of evidence has been provided to demonstrate need for the project. They have consulted DataWand and note that the Alton Estate is identified as an area affected by

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health inequalities and socioeconomic deprivation, scoring low on an Index of Multiple Deprivation. They also reference a survey conducted by Health Champions in Roehampton in 2022, which identified a high prevalence of people with multiple concurrent health and wellbeing issues and unmet mental wellbeing needs. There is a clear need and by targeting deprived areas like Roehampton, the project will reach those most in need to support. It is worth noting that they do undertake informal consultation with participants, in addition to some survey work, although it is unclear how regular these surveys are and if they form part of a systematic approach to monitoring.

They appear to collect demographic data through surveys, track volunteer numbers and monitor signposting/advocacy activity undertaken on behalf of beneficiaries, all of which is positive. Their approach to evidencing outcomes is less clear however, and the application would have benefited from greater information on this point. Further, outcomes themselves are couched as ‘benefits’ which are more akin to outputs and not measurable outcomes. The application would have been strengthened if the applicant had developed outcomes that were specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timebound.

They are requesting £9,925.00 in funding, the majority of which will be allocated to staff costs for the project lead and a support worker. The amount requested appears realistic, but, but ongoing existing staff costs are a low priority for the fund. The remainder of the budget will be allocated to room hire, food and art supplies. The total project cost is £38,900.00 and they are contributing £28,975.00 in cash and in-kind match funding, equivalent to 75.4% of the project cost.

Project sustainability is focused on securing additional grant finding and they appear to have diversified their approach. It would have been helpful to understand what other measures they are taking to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Graeme Henderson: The three Roehampton Councillors are fully supportive of the excellent work done so far by Estate Art to engage a diverse range of residents, in one of the worst areas of deprivation in the Borough, across a wide range of health-based initiatives. The Saturday lunch events, in particular, have been extremely successful in bringing together many residents who would otherwise be isolated and alone for much, if not all the week. The benefits of companionship and community that Estate Art has fostered is unquantifiable in helping people to avoid isolation, loneliness, and consequent mental health issues.

Last year Estate Art developed a very successful project involving the establishment of locally based ‘Health Champions’ financed by the ICB’s Health Inequalities Fund, which was rated ‘Good’ in the final evaluation presented to the IC Partnership. Sadly, financial pressures have meant that the ICB have ended the Health Inequalities Fund in its entirety.

Whilst we, in Wandsworth Council, are looking to see what assistance we can provide, we cannot replace NHS funding, certainly not on a long-term, sustainable basis. We would, however, very much welcome the continuation of the work of Estate Art under the leadership of the indefatigable Lynne Capociamma, in whatever form is sustainable

Recommendation Summary

Not to Recommend

- The project shows merit and clear alignment with the Health and Wellbeing thematic area.
- Reasonable justification has been provided in terms of project need.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project activity is currently being delivered as part of the organisation's ongoing operations. Existing activities / projects and costs, including staffing, that form part of an organisation's ongoing work is a low priority for this fund. The applicant has not clearly described the expected outcomes and the process to monitor and evaluate them. The bulk of the budget relates to recurring staffing costs, which are also a lower priority for the fund.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	It is recommended that the applicant engage with The Age Well Roehampton service to ensure there is not duplication of activity / target groups on the same day / times.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Support for VE Day event	05/2025	£1,042.00
Roehampton's Got Talent	07/2025	£1,450.00
Roehampton's Got Talent (supplemental costs)	08/2025	£350.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R18/August 2021/ Art in support of White Ribbon Day	Awarded £3,539.00	Raise awareness of the aims of White Ribbon Day by commissioning local artists to produce works in support of the campaign to stop domestic violence against women (and men).

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Estate Art serves the health and wellbeing of Roehampton residents, primarily those on the Alton Estate, a focus of socioeconomic deprivation and health inequalities, by providing regular wellbeing activities including healthy meals, outlets for social connection and creative expression, gentle exercise, targeted health and wellbeing outreach events and art events, signposting and advocacy, and the training and deployment of community health champions.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/11	Grant requested	£9,550.00
Organisation name	Exceed Reading Stars CIC	Grant recommended	£9,550.00
Project name	Achieving Beyond Capabilities (ABC)	Total project cost	£12,750.00
Website	https://www.exceedreadingstars.com	Match funding (Cash)	£3,200.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (0-11 years) & Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£0
Primary ward of activity	St Mary's, Lavender, Wandsworth Town, Battersea, Tooting Broadway.	Match funding (%) of total project budget	25%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Steffi Sutters Cllr Paul White	Number of beneficiaries	83
		Grant / per person cost	£115.06
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Community Interest Company		
Charity number	-	Company number	12643201
Annual Income	£46,034.00 (June 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£42,540.00 (June 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£9,701.00 (June 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>Exceed Read Stars (ERS) would like funding for their Digital Achieving Beyond Capabilities (ABC) project. Their programme builds on the success of their core literacy intervention model, Achieving Beyond Capabilities by incorporating digital tools to support strengthening reading fluency, comprehension, and peer-led mentoring in schools.</p> <p>The Achieving Beyond Capabilities (ABC) project is a youth-led literacy and learning initiative that brings young people together to lift each other up through reading, creativity, and mentoring. It focuses on children in Key Stages 2–3 who are falling behind in literacy, particularly those from racialised, multilingual, or disadvantaged backgrounds. The approach engages young people as mentors and leaders, creating a peer-supported network that makes literacy social, enjoyable, and relevant. Through creative, evidence-based literacy sessions, children strengthen reading fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension, while discovering the joy of storytelling and self-expression.</p> <p>The applicant hopes that this will create a scalable, replicable model which can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve reading accuracy, fluency, and comprehension for target cohorts • Develop pupils' digital literacy and peer-mentoring skills • Build a pipeline into Apple-aligned pre-apprenticeship experiences for 16–18s. <p>Apple will be a partner on the project, which is due to start in February 2026 and complete in March 2027. Delivery will primarily take place in the schools participating in the project, with additional sessions in local youth and community environments to extend impact and progression; including Devas Club, Caius House Youth Cub and South Thames College. Across the three terms of delivery, 50 primary age pupils will receive 30 sessions (10 per term) of structured literacy interventions - each session of two hours.</p>			

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Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Project Lead – delivering training, planning literacy sessions, delivery and supervision of literacy sessions, monitoring and reporting. £32ph x 6 hours x 10 weeks (training) £32ph x 7 hours x 30 weeks (10 weeks delivery per term)	£8,640.00
Training	910.00
Total grant requested	£9,550.00

Assessment Summary:

ERS have applied under the Children and young people (0-11 years) theme and have clearly demonstrated their alignment with the priorities. They note that a significant number of primary school pupils require additional support with literacy, which is particularly true of children from less affluent backgrounds and those from homes where English is not the primary language. The most recent survey by the National Literacy Trust shows that only 2 in 5 of those aged 8 – 18 enjoy reading in their spare time. And daily writing levels have decreased from 19% to just 11% from 2023 to 2024. From their own observations in schools ERS suggest that these figures are likely to be magnified in less affluent communities. The negative impact of poor literacy levels at a young age, continues to be felt throughout people’s lives, with basic skills like literacy well documented to be closely related to individual wellbeing and civic engagement in later life. They have therefore provided good justification to show that their digital ABC project supports theme priorities of enabling children to reach their full potential, develop skills for life and be happy, productive members of their communities. The project also supports the Children and young people 12-18, Citizenship and Civic engagement, and Achieving Aspirations and Potential themes to varying degrees.

Accounts are available to the end of June 2024 showing income of £46,034.00 against expenditure of £42,540.00, which resulted in a surplus of £3,494.00 for the year. They have net assets of £9,701.00, however they have not defined what proportion is restricted versus unrestricted, nor have they detailed a reserves policy. Based on their net assets, they currently have 2.7 months of operational expenditure in reserve. Broadly, for the size of the organisation, ERS appear to be in a reasonably stable financial position.

This is an extension to an existing project, and the organisation has a great deal of experience and expertise in delivering projects of this nature. They have not previously delivered activity in Wandsworth, but they do have wider experience of delivering regionally, across south London. They have engaged commercial (Apple) and voluntary sector (Caius House, Devas) partners who are based in the borough and will be supporting the project. It is unclear how the digital aspect will be integrated into the project design and further information would have been helpful here. Beyond this, there aren’t significant concerns with the delivery plan or timescales.

50 primary pupils will participate in the project, whilst 25 secondary age pupils will participate as Young Reading Leaders. 6-8 16+ young people will take part in an apprenticeship pathway with ERS and Apple, with one to two days per week gaining hands-on experience, digital skills and professional development while supporting the delivery of reading enrichment in schools. To recruit students, they will be working directly with colleagues at Apple to identify and appoint participating schools. The schools, and Caius House/Devas Club, will then refer into the programme. They also intend to publicise their work in the borough, through participating in community events and engaging with parents. There is a heavy reliance on partners, however this feels appropriate to the project.

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The applicant has carried out some consultation with senior leaders across the borough to discuss the project and ensure it aligns with local priorities. They have also spoken to youth leaders working with children in Wandsworth both at Caius House and Devas Club. They have also provided additional data around literacy rates and the link between low literacy and poverty, to evidence a strong need for their project.

The proposed monitoring appears appropriate for the project. They complete baseline and end of project assessments to review progress, using the Hachette Learning Reading Assessment tests. They take into account feedback from the students themselves, as well as staff observation notes. Project outputs and outcomes are clear and measurable.

They are requesting £9,550.00 in grant funding for a total project cost of £12,750.00 and are providing £3,200.00 in match funding, representing 25% of the total cost which meets the requirement for a large grant. Broadly, costs appear realistic and appropriate to the project. Project sustainability is focused on securing additional funding.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Steffi Sutters: I am delighted to endorse your grant application. The programme, aimed at Key Stage 2 and 3, sits well with our ambition to increase literacy for all our children here in Wandsworth. Without doubt, the ability to read and understand is one of the building blocks of a successful life but too many pupils miss their milestones. I also note you commendably take this one step further by seeking to promote confidence in interpretation, weaving in other ways to view and understand the import of words differentiated in a range of texts.

Cllr Paul White: A child reading when very young, is often the difference between a child achieving their goals and one who doesn't. Therefore, it is really important for projects like this to encourage reading and mentors to facilitate this. I whole-heartedly support this project that looks to develop reading as a habit in young people and bring mentors forward as part of this process.

Recommendation Summary	Recommend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application clearly aligns with the Children and Young People (0-11) theme. • The applicant has not previously worked in Wandsworth, and this would be new activity for the borough. • The applicant has clearly described the need for the project. • The proposed monitoring and evaluation plan appears appropriate for the project.
Recommended Award	£9,550.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant to confirm which schools are taking part in the project. • The applicant to provide further information on how the digital aspect will be integrated into the project design.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R29/April 2025/ Achieving Beyond Capabilities (ABC)	Not Awarded	N/A

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Exceed Reading Stars CIC is a dynamic South London company transforming children's literacy through early intervention. Youth-led and community-focused, the organisation trains and empowers young people aged 12–18 to become Young Reading Leaders, reading advocates who bring energy, empathy, and encouragement into primary schools. Under guidance, they deliver engaging literacy sessions that help younger children who are falling behind in reading to catch up and thrive. With a focus on those facing disadvantage or disengagement, Exceed Reading Stars builds confidence, connection, and a lifelong love of learning, demonstrating that when young people lead, real change can happen.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/12	Grant requested	£4,500.00
Organisation name	Forever Fishponds CIC	Grant recommended	£4,275.00
Project name	Forever Fishponds Community Garden	Total project cost	£15,760.00
Website	https://www.transitiontooting.org/forever-fishponds	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods	Match funding (in-kind)	£11,260.00
Primary ward of activity	Tooting Bec	Match funding (%) of total project budget	71%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Paul White	Number of beneficiaries	40
		Grant / per person cost	£112
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Community Interest Company		
Charity number	-	Company number	13946746
Annual Income	£30 (March 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£149.27 (March 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£212.83 (March 2025)		
Project Description:			
<p>Forever Fishponds CIC are requesting funding for the establishment of a new community garden in Fishponds Fields. The main beneficiaries will be volunteers that will support the gardening, design, and construction of the garden. The group will also encourage visitors to the garden and engage local groups, for example local primary schools, to participate in the garden. These beneficiaries will be local to the Tooting area</p> <p>Grant funding will be used to reinforce and expand their team of volunteers, welcoming those of all backgrounds and ages, as well as those from marginalised groups. In terms of capital works, they will be able to create three raised beds, construct rain water harvesting mechanisms and plant a range of different plants, herbs, flowers and edible produce. Four community sessions/workshops will also be held.</p> <p>Successfully establishing the garden will reflect and strengthen Forever Fishponds existing strong community leadership skills. They aim to empower all participants as co-creators of the garden and develop their co-operative leadership abilities as well as gardening skills. It will improve participants physical and mental wellbeing, increase social connection, sense of belonging, improved environmental awareness and biodiversity gain.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
High quality/long lasting Timber for 3 raised beds (to rest on former/disused asphalt area 17m x 9m close to biodiversity meadow.)			£2,400.00

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Beds at different heights to allow gardening access needs met + children 1600	
Infill for 3 beds, grit, compost and topsoil	£500.00
Mature Plants	£540.00
Garden tools	£200.00
Protective Wear/wellingtons/aprons with FF logo	£180.00
Other small beds	£180.00
2 water butts + rain water collection system	£220.00
3 compost/leaf mould bins incl bokashi bran	£180.00
Sundries	£100.00
Contingency @ 5%	£225.00
Total grant requested	£4,500.00

Assessment Summary:

The project has applied under and aligns with the Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods thematic area, and this alignment has been clearly demonstrated by the applicant. It fits well with priorities such as creating a more sustainable borough, demonstrating community leadership on sustainability and promoting a circular economy and reducing carbon emissions by better biodiversity.

The applicant is a small organisation which has provided unaudited accounts for the year ending March 2025. They have an income of £30 and expenditure of £149.27. They have £212.83 unrestricted funding.

The delivery plan looks realistic within the timescales, and the project will be able to launch within 3 months of the grant committee. The applicant states that they are working closely with Enable on this project. Formal written permission from Enable will be required to carry out this project. Council parks officers have indicated that there is support for this project.

The applicant has clearly described the project beneficiaries and provided a realistic engagement plan. More information on how they intend to engage with marginalised groups and expand their network beyond the individuals who are already interested in community gardening would have strengthened the application. Further information is needed on the planned engagement with local groups after the garden has been installed and who their priority groups would be.

The need for the project has been clearly evidenced, using multiple sources of information. For example, the applicant held an open meeting to look at community gardening and Fishponds with over 50 people attending. They have used DataWand to determine levels of deprivation and link that to the need to encourage more use of green spaces and with the health benefits of community gardening. This link could have been explored a bit further e.g. why is it important for areas with high levels of deprivation to have more engagement in similar activities.

The monitoring and evaluation plan appears adequate for the project and the proposed outcomes. They are proposing using wellbeing surveys to monitor progress for individuals throughout the project, which more information could have been provided on how this will work. It is important that they capture a baseline for wellbeing at the beginning of the project.

The budget look realistic and appears to provide value for money. They have requested £4,500 with the biggest cost being the timber for the raised beds at £2,400. £225 has been requested as contingency costs which are not supported by this fund. They have identified other non-financial support in line with match-funding requirements. Although 71% of the

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

costs of the project will hinge on match funding in-kind, which presents a risk for a sustainable approach longer-term.

The applicant has considered the sustainability of this project. The costs for the garden installation are standalone as once set-up, only maintenance will be required. They will work with their volunteers to upkeep the garden and have stated plans for engaging with local groups.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Paul White: Forever Fishponds (FF) have a proven record of engaging the local diverse community, bringing people together in a positive, transformative environment. FF have been very careful to maintain a balance at the Playing Fields, to ensure the sports and recreation nature of the space is respected, while developing bio-diversity and planting opportunities on under-used spaces, adding a new dimension to the Fields.

Their wish to expand their volunteer force, in an area of high diversity, would help to create a space where people from different areas can mix, socialise, learn new skills and strengthen community cohesion.

Would hope to see outreach to vulnerable people as well and as the project fits in with the strong bio-diversity gain the council wants to see, with a key output being a sustainable environment, I back this fund application 100%.

Recommendation Summary	Recommend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has clearly demonstrated the need for the project which aligns with the Environment and Attractive neighbourhood thematic area. • The applicant has clear links and a good working relationship with Enable • The project has provided realistic costs and appears to be value for money. • £225 has been requested as contingency costs which are not supported by this fund. This has been deducted from the recommended grant amount.
Recommended Award	£4,275.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to the applicant having the relevant permissions in place to carry out the work. • Further information to be provided on the proposed plans to engage with local groups.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Forever Fishponds is a group of volunteers committed to the development of Fishponds Fields as a flourishing green community space that promotes the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of all.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/13	Grant requested	£4,300.00
Organisation name	Friends of Battersea Parish Church	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	The Sven Tester Project: Recording the Living Memory of St Mary's Battersea	Total project cost	£5,600.00
Website	https://www.stmarysbattersea.org.uk/friends-of-battersea-parish-church/	Match funding (Cash)	£800.00
Theme(s)	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	Match funding (in-kind)	£500.00
Primary ward of activity	St Mary's	Match funding (%) of total project budget	23%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Jamie Colclough	Number of beneficiaries	300
		Grant / per person cost	£14
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	254932	Company number	N/A
Annual Income	£1,769 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£0 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£61,000 (March 2024 - as reported in the application form)		
Project Description:			
<p>The applicant is seeking a grant of £4,300 under the Citizenship and Civic Engagement theme to film interviews with a long-standing congregation member to be turned into a 20-minute documentary and 10 short online videos about St Mary's Church in Battersea and its heritage. Other local residents will also be invited to contribute memories.</p> <p>A digital heritage trail will be created through the church and churchyard enabling visitors to access the videos by scanning QR codes. The applicant states that this will celebrate St Mary's as a centre of local identify and heritage, and preserve stories of the church, its riverside community and historical association with key figures such as the painter JMW Turner.</p> <p>The beneficiaries of the project would be the estimated 300 local residents and visitors who would see the final films. Limited information is provided about measurable outcomes. The timeline for the project is unclear, the application indicates it would run from January to July 2025 but also refers to public screening as part of Open House 2026 which will be in September. Grant funds would be paid to two pre-identified local creatives, a videographer and a local artist.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
Filming, editing and scanning/photographic work to produce a short documentary and ten themed heritage videos about St Mary's Battersea, including professional videography by Sandra Muñoz-Alvarez			£3,500

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Design and printing of the QR codes by local artist Roopa Basu	£800
Total grant requested	£4,300

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the theme of Citizenship and Civic Engagement and has made the case that by preserving the historic stories of the church, this will promote pride in the community. Although there is some merit in identifying a link between celebrating local heritage, and helping communities to feel confident, the case made here is weak, with limited information provided. The applicant also references collecting oral histories as a way of strengthening inter-generational connections, but again with very limited information provided about who those collecting the stories will be, or how this will work, it is difficult to see a strong link with the priorities of the theme.

The applicant's financial history indicates an income around the range of £1-2,000 most recent years except in 2022/3 when income was £6,000. The annual return in March 2023 was submitted late to the Charity Commission. The financial history filed with the Charity Commission indicates that for three years in a row, expenditure exceeded income, followed by the two most recent years when there was no recorded expenditure. The grant requested by this fund is more than double the annual income of the applicant in 2023/4. This financial history may indicate a higher level of risk in awarding a grant of this size to the applicant. The application states that organisational reserves currently stand at £61,000. The applicant has delivered community and heritage projects in the past including events celebrating VE and VJ Day anniversaries, and a restoration project.

It is difficult to assess the feasibility of the delivery plan because limited information has been provided about the activity milestones to be delivered, or the timeline. The application indicates the project would run from January to July 2026 but also references public screening of the films as part of Open House London, which takes place in September. The applicant has already pre-identified two local creative individuals who would provide professional services to deliver the project (videography and designing QR codes). The applicant states permission for filming, photography and installation of QR-coded heritage points has been granted in principle by custodians of the church site.

The applicant states that the beneficiaries of the project will be local residents, volunteers and visitors to St Mary's Church. 10 people are expected to participate in the making of the project who will be drawn from the church congregation, existing volunteers and local residents invited to be interviewed. The applicant estimates that at least 300 local residents and visitors will view the films produced.

The need for the project is unclear, other than anecdotally, in reference to the community aspiration to preserve and make accessible the history of the church. The application notes that the idea for the project emerged from local residents and congregation members who wanted to capture the memories and stories of a particular long-standing community member. The application could have explained more clearly why the testimony of the identified individual is particularly important or relevant to the project.

The monitoring and evaluation plan is limited and not clearly described. The application refers to tracking some data, including monitoring attendance, and collecting feedback from participants, volunteers and visitors, but does not specify how this will be done or the type of feedback to be collected. The project outputs listed are 10 short films and a documentary produced, and 300 people to view them. The application refers to outcomes of increased civic

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pride and community engagement, improved inter-generational connection and new digital and creative skills, but gives no indication of how these would be measured.

The applicant is requesting a grant of £4,300, and £3,500 would be paid to a local videographer to produce the documentary and short videos, and £800 paid to a local artist for the design and printing of the QR codes. These costs seem reasonable, but there is no indication that the applicant has researched alternatives, or plans to invite others to tender, which would help ensure both a fair and transparent process and value for money. The applicant plans to use the grant to pay two named individuals from the local area who have been pre-identified. The applicant is contributing £1,300 as match funding, 23% of the total project which meets the requirements for a grant of this size. This would be from both a financial contribution of £800, and an in-kind contribution of volunteer time. Overall, the budget is simple and there is limited breakdown to show how figures were calculated. It is not clear if the budget lines include other costs that might be expected, such as recording equipment hire or launch event costs.

The aim of the project is to create a permanent digital resource at the church that will continue to benefit residents and visitors long beyond the term of the grant. The ongoing maintenance costs are expected to be minimal. The applicant will consider approaching local heritage organisations and sponsors if the resource is to be expanded or updated in the future.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Jamie Colclough: St Mary's church has hundreds of years of history, to the point that it can be overwhelming. This brilliant little scheme will use local expertise to make sure that all of this culture and history is documented and accessible to the public for the foreseeable future. For such a modest sum, Battersea's oldest church can have a modern, permanent display that deservedly allows it to take part in the Borough of Culture.

Recommendation Summary	Not to Recommend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has not clearly demonstrated how the project aligns with the priorities of the theme • There is a lack of clarity regarding the project activities, timeline of delivery, budget and outcomes • The need for the project is unclear. • The organisation appears to have limited experience in managing grant funds and the grant requested exceeds average annual income
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any award would be subject to applicant providing evidence of public liability insurance • Written confirmation of permission from the PCC, for filming, photography and QR points installation

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

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Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Friends of Battersea Parish Church is a local charitable trust that preserves and promotes St Mary's Church, Battersea, a Grade I listed riverside landmark. It funds heritage and environmental projects in the church and churchyard, and hosts community events including VE and VJ Day celebrations, Carols in the Square, and Open House London Week. Working with local partners, schools and charities, it seeks to strengthens community pride and wellbeing through heritage, music and storytelling in the heart of Wandsworth.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/14	Grant requested	£7,375.00
Organisation name	Friends of Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Launching an Outdoor Learning Centre at Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School	Total project cost	£22,325.00
Website	http://www.tsm.wandsworth.sch.uk/friends-of-tsm-1/	Match funding (Cash)	£9,950.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (0-11 years)	Match funding (in-kind)	£5,000.00
Primary ward of activity	Trinity	Match funding (%) of total project budget	67%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Lizzie Dobres Cllr Jack Mayorcas	Number of beneficiaries	363
		Grant / per person cost	£20.31
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1194469	Company number	-
Annual Income	£14,056.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£13,900.00 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£4,092.00 (March 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>Friends of Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School are requesting funding to create an Outdoor Learning Centre at Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School (including an allotment) and launch weekly Forest School sessions on Wandsworth Common for Early Years Nursery and Reception students. The project will be delivered in three stages; stage one includes project set up, minor capital works, training, engagement with partner schools, securing any required Insurance, permits and licenses. Stage two covers initial marketing and outreach to parents, updating teaching materials and school prospectus, and project launch. Stage three comprises ongoing delivery and wider engagement with other community groups.</p> <p>Creating an outdoor learning centre and launching a Forest School / allotment aims to increase children's physical development, cognitive development, social interactions, cooperation and teamwork, connection with nature, health and well-being, positive risk-taking and resilience. The Outdoor Learning Centre, together with weekly Forest School sessions, afterschool and weekend clubs and the launch of the allotment will attract other schools, nurseries and community groups – growing the impact of the project beyond the school.</p> <p>The project will take place at Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School and on Wandsworth Common. It will begin in January 2026 and conclude in August 2026. They hope to support a combined 363 students and parents.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Creation of outdoor-learning centre (renovation of small area of Front Playground and storeroom) and four low raised beds for the TSM allotment, equipment & materials (as suggested by Forest School Association)	£4,250.00
Marketing, volunteer training & outreach (website development, parental communication / training sessions / DBS checks and community engagement activities – e.g. official launch event)	£1,500.00
Evaluation & assessment (time & resources to collect feedback, measure outcomes and report on the impact of the launch of the Forest School / outdoor-learning centre) –3 days for Forest School Lead & Assistant plus a half-day feedback session with Head	£1,625.00
Total grant requested	£7,375.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and Young People’s theme, stating that the project aims to improve/increase children’s physical development, cognitive development, social interactions, cooperation and teamwork, connection with nature, health and well-being, positive risk-taking and resilience. Unfortunately, these aims do not clearly fit with the priority of this theme. A case could be made for the different ways this project would enable beneficiaries to enjoy a healthy life, reach their full potential and be happy productive members of their communities. Unfortunately, whilst this is touched on in different parts of the application it hasn’t been explored in depth. The applicant has therefore not sufficiently demonstrated their alignment with the fund priorities.

Accounts are available to the end of March 2024 and report income of £14,056 against expenditure of £13,900, resulting in a modest surplus of £156. The organisation holds net assets of £4,092, all of which are unrestricted. While the reserves policy is not clearly defined, the current level of reserves equates to approximately 3.5 months of operating expenditure, which is broadly in line with best practice guidance recommending 3–6 months. Although the reserves are relatively small, they are proportionate to the organisation’s size and activities, indicating a reasonably sound financial position.

The applicant has provided a detailed, staged delivery plan that appears realistic. However, there is disparity regarding the project start and end dates. The staged project plan provided indicates that delivery will take place across the calendar year beginning in January. With an end date of August, it is unclear how the delivery plan can be realised.

The applicant has been clear on the beneficiaries they intend to support, stating that, initially 40 children (aged 2-5) will be participating in the project whilst older pupils (120 aged 5-11) will also participate through afterschool clubs and benefit from more outdoor lessons. Pupils enrolled at the school will be the main beneficiaries and so outreach beyond this will be limited, however they do intend to engage with the wider community through promotion via local churches, parent groups, schools and nurseries. They also hope to build relationships with other partners, including the Forest School Association, Think Outside and Friends of Wandsworth Common.

In terms of need the applicant has undertaken some consultation with parents and outreach with partner organisations, including the Forest School Association. Nature adjacent projects and trips have also been monitored closely as a way to bolster the case for the project. Much of the case they have made however, centres on the potential physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development the project might have for beneficiaries. This is different from project need, for which, limited information has been provided.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

A robust monitoring and evaluation framework has been provided, clearly setting out measurable and specific outcomes which are linked to appropriate outputs. There are no concerns from a monitoring and evaluation standpoint.

The budget appears broadly reasonable but could have benefitted from being broken down further – each expenditure item includes several elements, and it would have been helpful to understand these in greater detail. The budget includes funding for website development which is a low priority for the fund. The total project cost is £22,325.00 and they are contributing £14,950.00 in match funding, representing 67% of the overall cost.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Lizzie Dobres: I've had a look through - happy to endorse.

Cllr Jack Mayorcas: I am also happy to endorse.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has not clearly demonstrated how their project aligns with the Children and Young People's thematic area. • The need for the project has not been clearly demonstrated. • There is a lack of clarity regarding the project's timeline and delivery schedule. • While some limited community use on weekends and school holidays has been described, this appears limited and the main beneficiary will be the school.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R27/December 2024/Launching of Early Years Forest School at Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School	Not Recommended	N/A
R25/February 2024/Forest school and outdoor learning	Not Recommended	N/A
R22/November 2022/Completion of the Multi-Use Games	Not Recommended	N/A

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Area for improved PE provision, subsidised after-school sports clubs and holiday		
R16/November 2021/Development of TSM Upper School Playground	Recommended, £8,000.00	The development of the school's large upper playground - to put in seating areas for outdoor classes, table tennis tables and a multi-sports cage.

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Friends of TSM was set up in 2021 to raise funds for the school. Our purpose is to advance pupil's education, increase their opportunities and allow them to thrive by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developing effective relationships between staff, parents and others associated with the school; 2. Engaging in activities or providing facilities / equipment; 3. Offering support and opportunities for families of the pupils and building relationships within the local community.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/15	Grant requested	£8,300.00
Organisation name	Future Skills Training	Grant recommended	£8,300.00
Project name	Alternative Provision - Tutoring	Total project cost	£46,910.00
Website	https://www.future-skills.co.uk/	Match funding (Cash)	£16,380.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£22,230.00
Primary ward of activity	Borough Wide	Match funding (%) of total project budget	82%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Sarah Davies Cllr Kate Stock	Number of beneficiaries	40
		Grant / per person cost	£207.5

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1119501	Company number	5745511
Annual Income	£278,588.00 (August 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£261,499.00 (August 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£62,549.00 (August 2024)		

Project Description:

Future Skills Training (FST) is a London-based charity supporting disadvantaged young people aged 8 to 19 who are excluded from school, have special educational needs, or are not in education, employment, or training. In the past, the applicant has worked with external tutoring agencies to support their beneficiaries. In 2024, they brought this in-house by hiring a dedicated tutor to provide daily sessions in Maths, English, and functional skills.

FST are requesting funding to expand this tutoring offer by directly employing a science teacher, who will provide five hours of tuition a week, across a 39-week period. The project is due to start in February 2026 and will conclude in 2027. FST are currently based in the Training and Resource Centre in Wandsworth, and this is where the tutoring sessions take place. The participants who will directly benefit from the project are vulnerable and disadvantaged young people aged 11 - 16. Many are referred from schools, Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), or local authority departments and include children at risk of exclusion, those who have already been excluded, or those awaiting school placements.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Tutor for 39 weeks at £40/ hr for science tuition (5 hrs a week)	£7,800.00
CGP Books	£300.00
Pencil cases	£50.00
Printer paper and printer resources	£150.00
Total grant requested	£8,300.00

Assessment Summary:

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

They have applied under the Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled) theme, indicating that the project supports vulnerable and disadvantaged children by providing targeted educational and personal development support. Through one-to-one tutoring in English, Maths, and functional skills, they help children build essential literacy and numeracy abilities, boosting confidence and engagement in learning. By adding science, this will further expand their academic offer, increasing academic opportunities for the young people. This is a very clear fit under the theme, and they are supporting priority groups of children and young people who are vulnerable and may be at risk of exclusion.

Accounts are available to the end of August 2024 and show income of £278,588.00 against expenditure of £261,499.00. This resulted in a surplus for the year of £17,089.00. They have net assets of £62,549.00, all of which are unrestricted. Their reserves policy is to ensure that there are funds available to run the basic operations of the charity for a minimum of three months, which they are not currently meeting; they are just short with enough funds to cover 2.8 months worth of expenditure. Broadly however they appear to be in a stable financial position.

The delivery plan is clear, achievable, and grounded in practical experience. Having operated a similar service in-house since 2024, the organisation has demonstrated that it possesses the necessary expertise and capacity to deliver projects of this nature effectively. They are a well-established provider with a strong reputation and a proven track record of working in partnership with schools, pupil referral units (PRUs), and a range of council departments that regularly commission their services. Although this specific project is not currently funded by the Council, if funding is awarded, a condition should be included to ensure that any Council service referring into Future Skills Training for this project will not be required to pay additional costs to access the provision.

The participants they intend to support are priorities for the fund, being vulnerable and disadvantaged young people aged 11 – 16, around 80-90% of whom will be from Wandsworth. They appear to have strong referral routes with many of their participants referred on by schools, PRUs, or local authority departments and include children at risk of exclusion, those who have already been excluded, or those awaiting school placements. All participants are recruited via referrals; no other marketing or wider engagement is required. They receive around 80 total referrals each year, the majority of whom are part of their Alternative Provision (AP) package and receive one-to-one tutoring.

They do not undertake consultation with service users, which feels like a missed opportunity to gather valuable feedback, doubly so for a new service. It is recommended that a condition be attached that feedback be sought from participants on this funded project. They have bolstered their case in terms of need through the provision of statistics regarding students in alternative provision (AP). They note that only 5% of AP pupils achieved 9-4 passes in English & maths, compared to 64% in mainstream schools. Also, pupils in AP are very unlikely to achieve standard passes in English & maths via GCSEs without extra support. Many AP pupils have SEN, or behavioural challenges and have Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans. In the most recent Wandsworth Locality children's profile report, the lowest percentage of expected outcomes at KS4 attainment are EHCP pupils which form the bulk of FST's students. They have therefore made a reasonably strong case in terms of need.

For monitoring and evaluation, they use a curriculum teaching platform called BKSb where they can measure young people's progress made over time. This is achieved through assessments on multiple subjects via the platform, alongside end of term tests introduced to track development over seven-week periods. Their approach to M&E appears appropriate to the project.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

They are requesting £8,300.00, the bulk of which will be put towards the costs of a tutor, at £40 per hour, which appears reasonable. The total project cost is £46,910.00 and they are contributing 82% in match funding. In terms of sustainability, they have indicated that they intend to apply for additional grants to maintain the project. However, they hope that this expansion will eventually pay for itself as they start to offer it to schools through their alternative provision packages.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Sarah Davies: I support this application by Future Skills to extend the vital work that they are carrying out to continue to support continuing education for children in Wandsworth. I believe that this grant, which would permit them to employ and in-house, tutor will allow to consistency and consolidation, and I wish them all the best.

Cllr Kate Stock: I would like to endorse the above WGF application. I endorse this project. FST's tutoring scheme provides an opportunity to improve outcomes for young people and deliver better value for money. The funding would enable FST to extend their tutor's hours and recruit an additional tutor specialising in science, allowing them to expand their academic offering and meet the growing needs of the young people they support. FST's tutor can have a significant impact by offering consistent, tailored academic support in English and maths to young people.

I am very familiar with the work that FST have undertaken in Wandsworth for over 17 years—they are a trusted local partner with a strong track record of supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable young people aged 8 to 19 who are excluded from school, have special educational needs, or are not in education, employment, or training.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has clearly outlined how the project meets the priorities of the Children and Young People thematic area • The groups targeted are priorities for the fund • They have good referral routes appropriate to the project, with well-established partners including PRUs, Schools and Local Authority departments • The organisation is in a sound financial position • Monitoring and evaluation is appropriate to the project
Recommended Award	£8,300.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant to confirm that they will consult and gather feedback from participants on this new service and include the feedback in their end of project report. • Applicant to confirm that any Council services referring into Future Skills Training for this project will not be required to pay additional costs to access the provision.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R5/June 2017/ Infuse - youth café and club	Awarded £10,000.00	Infuse is a youth café and club open Wednesdays and Thursdays 3.30pm - 6.30pm term time only. It provides a safe space for those aged 11-18 to engage in fun activities, enjoy home cooked food and build relationships with each other and the team. We also offer volunteer work experience opportunities.
R2/November 2015/ Future Skills Training & Infuse Youth Café	£12,000.00	Infuse, youth café and club, opens Wednesday and Thursdays 3.30 - 6.30pm for all those aged 11-18. The grant is requested to cover the costs of employing a female youth worker for one year on a part time basis.

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Future Skills Training is a London-based charity supporting disadvantaged young people aged 8 to 19 who are excluded from school, have special educational needs, or are not in education, employment, or training. Our charity offers different packages to schools/PRU's and local authorities through alternative education. Our main objectives are to build confidence, resilience, and emotional wellbeing. We also offer tailored one-to-one or small-group tuition, helping young people re-engage with learning. Residential trips and life skills workshops further support personal development. With a focus on long-term impact, over 75% of participants achieve positive outcomes, such as returning to education, entering training, or improving their mental health and wellbeing.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/16	Grant requested	£9,934.00
Organisation name	Generate	Grant recommended	£9,934.00
Project name	Wandsworth change makers	Total project cost	£28,511.00
Website	https://generate-uk.org/	Match funding (Cash)	£15,927.00
Theme(s)	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	Match funding (in-kind)	£2,625.00
Primary ward of activity	Borough Wide	Match funding (%) of total project budget	65%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Rosemary Birchall Cllr Angela Graham	Number of beneficiaries	100
		Grant / per person cost	£99.34
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1069548	Company number	1069548
Annual Income	£1,948,040.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£1,838,121.00 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£260,171.00 (March 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>Generate are requesting funding to pilot a new and innovative social action project called Wandsworth Change Makers. The project will empower learning disabled and neurodivergent people to come together as active citizens to solve problems or issues that are important to them. This one-year project will run from February 2026 to February 2027. The project will have 115 beneficiaries, with 100 learning disabled and/or neurodiverse Wandsworth residents and 15 professionals (who work in the borough) who will be consulted and involved.</p> <p>Funding will be used to pay for two part-time Co-ordinators to recruit, co-ordinate train and support 15 learning disabled, and neurodivergent Wandsworth residents called "Change Makers" aged 18 plus to lead on achieving positive change. This will be a bottom-up approach where local people will determine the issues which they would focus on. Examples might include health and wellbeing, mental health, social care, employment, benefits, poverty, discrimination and travel. Change Makers will engage citizens in the borough and undertake community research, decide on the chosen issue or problem to tackle, convene stakeholders to understand the issues in more depth and collaborate with partners to co-produce solutions. They will ensure that all of the materials, communication and workshops are accessible, removing any barriers to participation.</p> <p>There are five stages to the model, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and build the capacity of the Change Makers • Undertake peer-led community research • Deepen the understanding around the issues 			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

- Co-produce solutions
- Test and learn

The Change Makers project will be advised by a Change Makers Steering group comprising of Wandsworth stakeholders from across the system including members of the Generate Voices Forum, (a self-advocacy group for learning disabled and neurodivergent people living in Wandsworth) and professionals from across the sector in Wandsworth, health, police, education and politicians. They will meet every other month to advise, oversee the work, support the implementation of the chosen ideas and consider the next steps after the completion of the pilot.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Co-ordinator with lived experience (7 hrs a week) including NI and pension x 52	£3,105.00
Coordinator (7 hrs a week) incl. NI and pension x 52 weeks	£3,105.00
Line management	£800.00
Group training	£700.00
Materials and refreshments and venue hire	£560.00
Overheads and central management costs	£1,664.09
Total grant requested	£9,934.09

Assessment Summary:

The project outcomes match well with the priorities of the Citizenship and Civic Engagement theme, especially with the priority to help disadvantaged and under-represented groups to engage in the wider prosperity of the borough and building participants' confidence and communication skills so that they can speak up and represent their own interests and those of their communities, thereby enhancing democracy. Although more links could have been made with some of the other priorities within the theme, for example “activities that help communities to feel confident, promoting community leadership and cohesion, including intergenerational activities”, to make their application that much stronger.

Based on the information supplied, the organisation appears to be financially viable and well managed. It is a large organisation, with significant income and expenditure. Accounts are available to the end of March 2024 and show income of £1,948,040.00, against expenditure of £1,838,121.00. The reserves policy looks sufficient and current reserves (as of March 2024) look healthy at £260,171, which would be able to sustain the organisation for between 2-3 months.

The delivery plan looks realistic and thorough, with clear plans for every part of the project, from phase one, recruitment, which is scheduled to comprise the first three months of the project, through to phase five of the project, test and learn, where chosen ideas are tested and learnings generated in the last three months of the project. The project is due to start in February 2026 and conclude in February 2027. Notably however, there are no contingencies for if the professionals that they have lined up are no longer able to take part, or if it takes slightly longer to get participants on board.

They have clearly described their beneficiaries and have a realistic plan for engaging with them. They will be engaging 100 Wandsworth learning disabled and neurodiverse residents aged 18 and up. In terms of recruitment, they plan to engage their existing service users in the borough, engage partners and undertake extensive community outreach.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

They have clearly evidenced need for the project. Individuals with learning disabilities do not have enough of a say in services that are provided for them, and they have used a variety of evidence to demonstrate this. They cite Wandsworth Council strategies and consultation events undertaken with their Generate Voices group, which comprises residents, parents/carers and professionals. The application may have been strengthened, if they had engaged slightly wider than their Generate Voices group.

The monitoring and evaluation plan looks adequate to measure the assumed outcomes – especially for the individual’s journey through the project, for example increased confidence. Although some further thought on how they would measure active citizenship might be needed and how they will monitor the professionals' assumed outcomes.

The costs appear realistic and value for money at £99.34 per participant. Most of the costs are for staffing costs, which is related to starting the new project (e.g. they will be recruiting new staff specifically for the project). They have identified other match-funding support with both cash and in-kind donations being 65% of the full project cost.

This is a standalone project and have planned for the sustainability of the project on further fundraising, which if the grants don’t come through and are solely reliant on fundraising then this may jeopardize the future of the project.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Rosemary Birchall: I would like to endorse the Grant application from Generate. As a charity, they are doing very worthwhile work, through Generate Voice helping those with learning difficulties to engage within the community. Members are helped to use their own voice to help build the services which they need in the Borough. I am in support of the good work which is been done by Generate.

Cllr Angela Graham: I most welcome and give my support to your request for this initiative as I think its values, benefits and experiences, enjoyment and wellbeing cannot be put into words as well and very important will continue to enrich your clients in their communication skills.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has clearly demonstrated how the project aligns with the Citizenship and Civic Engagement thematic area. • The need for the project has been clearly described. • The project costs are realistic and provide value for money.
Recommended Award	£9,934
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant may want to consider connecting with Ruils who run the Wandsworth Disabled People’s Forum.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Isle of White residential - Generate Youth	01/07/24	£8,000.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R26/April 2024/Residential holiday to the Isle of Wight	Awarded, £8,000.00	A residential to the Isle of Wight.
R23/April 2023/Emergency Grant Application	Not Awarded, £2000.00	N/A
R14/July 2020/Community Food Provision with Fair-Share	Awarded, £6,928.00	In collaboration with Fair-Share, they took on the administrative and delivery functions of Wandsworth Borough Council's existing food provision service.
R10/February 2019/Generate Talks Up	Awarded £3,600.00	Weekly mentoring support and after-school sports clubs for 20 of West Hill Primary School's most at-risk pupils for one year.
R2/November 2015/Youth Club Transportation	Awarded, £7,278.00	Provision of transportation (Monday & Wednesday clubs) to enable young people who are not able to travel independently to be able to access the youth clubs.

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Generate was founded in 1972 to ensure that people with a learning disability have better lives and can connect to the community as equal citizens. They focus on people's strengths, promoting independence and inclusion, through learning, work and leisure opportunities.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/17	Grant requested	£6,400.00
Organisation name	Putney Arts Theatre - Group 64 Theatre for Young People	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	The Ignite Project	Total project cost	£9,450.00
Website	www.g64.org.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£3,050.00
Primary ward of activity	West Putney, Southfields and West Hill	Match funding (%) of total project budget	32%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Nick Austin Cllr Steffi Sutters	Number of beneficiaries	20
		Grant / per person cost	£320
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1157481	Company number	-
Annual Income	£317,375.00 (March 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£321,061.00 (March 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£52,434.00 (March 2025)		
Project Description:			
<p>The Ignite Project offers young people the opportunity to work alongside Group 64 Directors and theatre professionals to create and perform an original piece of theatre that will be based on Mental Health.</p> <p>Participants will devise, produce, and tour a 45-minute show to 2–3 local secondary schools, reaching approximately 500 students. 15 to 20 young people from Ark Academy, Southfields Academy, St Cecilia’s and other local Wandsworth Secondary Schools, will benefit from a two-week bespoke work experience programme; the main focus will be on young performers; however, one position will be provided for a technical/stage manager role.</p> <p>The young people who will benefit from the project will be aged 14-16 and will audition or be nominated by their school to take part. They will work with schools to identify potential participants and will focus on those who might benefit most, including vulnerable young people who may be in receipt of free school meals.</p> <p>The project will start in March 2026 and conclude in July 2026. The project will take place predominantly at Putney Arts Theatre, but the show that the young people will create will tour into local secondary schools in the Wandsworth borough.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
Co-Facilitator for Ignite Project (80 hours)			£1,750.00
Theatre Technician for Ignite Project (40 hours)			£900.00
Set Designer and Maker for Ignite Project (40 hours)			£900.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Mentoring Support from Forest Forge Theatre Company	£50.00
Admin Support	£200.00
G64 Cover for Stacey's classes	£400.00
Props and Costumes for the project	£500.00
Set Materials for Project	£600.00
Lighting Hire for Project	£500.00
Follow up information for audiences	£100.00
7 days of Van Hire	£450.00
Food to support young people	£50.00
Total grant requested	£6,400.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and Young People's theme, stating that it will have a positive impact for vulnerable young people, from local schools across West Putney, on several fronts: providing them with valuable work experience and more resilient mental health, whilst fostering inclusion, confidence, and wellbeing. Whilst there is certainly merit in this, it has not been clearly demonstrated how this links to the priorities that sit under the chosen theme. Much of the benefit is tied up in the work experience element, however this does not clearly link to priorities that sit under the raising aspirations' theme either, given the demographics of their chosen beneficiaries. They indicate that the project also supports Arts and Culture by integrating theatre into education, complementing PSHE curriculum within local schools. The application appears to be more suited to this theme, but arts projects are not currently considered by this fund.

Accounts are available to the end of March 2025 and report income of £317,375 against expenditure of £321,061.00, resulting in a deficit of £3,685.00. The organisation holds net assets of £239,747.00, of which £52,434.00 are unrestricted. The bulk of their assets comprise tangible fixed assets of £181,832.00, representing the value of their building, Putney Arts Theatre. The charity's reserves policy is to maintain a Building Capital Reserve which is sufficient to meet all anticipated and otherwise unfinanced costs of improvement and maintenance of the theatre; and a Revenue Reserve which aims to be equal to three months' normal expenditure.

The delivery plan is realistic and achievable within the timescale. They anticipate making contact with participating schools in March, undertaking workshops with schools to identify young participants in April/May and to begin delivery in June. They state that all required permissions are in place. The number of participants appears somewhat low, and therefore impact will be limited.

They have clearly described who their beneficiaries will be, noting that they will be supporting Year 10–11 students from Ark Academy, Southfields Academy, St Cecilia's and other local Wandsworth Secondary Schools. Priority will be given to vulnerable young people and those on free school meals. They have piloted this project before and appear to have established relationships with target schools. Their delivery plan takes into account outreach, which appears realistic and appropriate.

Some evidence of need has been provided and includes consultation with participants on the pilot project who overwhelmingly reported finding value in the project and felt it would be beneficial for future young people to take part. Demand for this project is also reflected in the number of requests/applications the applicant received for work experience – they receive around 50 applications for work experience per year and being a small charity they are unable to offer a great number of opportunities.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Project monitoring will be undertaken primarily through the survey of participants, staff, audience and schoolteachers. Appropriate outputs have been identified and measurable outcomes defined, although they could be more specific. Each outcome includes several elements, that could have been broken out into more defined outcomes; “Increased self-esteem, confidence, wellbeing and knowledge of arts careers”, is a good example.

They are requesting £6,400.00 in funding for a project that will cost £9,450.00 in total. Match funding of £3,050.00 will be providing, which equate to roughly 32% of the project cost. The project costs appear to be broadly realistic.

The applicant has considered sustainability, indicating that they plan to sustain future Ignite projects by seeking a combination of other grant opportunities, charitable donations, sponsorship and partnership work.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Nick Austin: I am very pleased to offer my full endorsement for Group 64 Theatre for Young People’s Ignite Project as part of their application to the Wandsworth Grant Fund. As a Councillor for West Putney, I have long admired the work of Group 64 and the invaluable contribution they make to our local community through the arts. Their programmes at Putney Arts Theatre provide young people with the opportunity to express themselves creatively, explore complex social issues, and develop key life skills in a supportive and inclusive environment. The Ignite Project in particular stands out for its powerful combination of creativity, education, and wellbeing. By enabling young people to devise and perform original work that addresses real-life themes such as mental health, gender equality, and resilience, the project not only develops confidence and teamwork but also helps foster empathy and understanding among their peers. The model of touring performances to local secondary schools ensures that the project’s impact reaches well beyond the participants themselves, encouraging dialogue, reflection, and positive social change across Wandsworth’s youth community. I am confident that the Ignite Project represents outstanding value for the borough, combining professional artistic guidance with measurable social and educational benefits. It is precisely the kind of initiative that strengthens our community and helps young people to thrive.

Cllr Steffi Sutters: I am delighted to endorse your grant application for the Ignite Project. It is making a real difference to young people's confidence using work experience in a theatre setting to capture their enthusiasm and energy but with a serious underlying message about 'difficult conversations' and how these might be productively conveyed. And so, I believe this project goes further than just promoting new skills and the discipline of co-working, which are important in themselves, to bring in a wider dimension of how we can communicate in positive and uplifting ways things that often go unsaid.

Recommendation Summary

Not to recommend

- There is merit in the application however the applicant has not clearly demonstrated how their project aligns with the Children and Young People’s thematic area.
- The project is a better fit for the Arts and Culture theme that is not being considered as part of this round.
- Some evidence of need has been provided but is dependent upon consultation with previous participants. Little other supporting data has been provided.

Recommended Award

£0

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	
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Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth Arts Fringe - Spreading the Joy - Grant Funding	2024	£1,198.00
Wandsworth Schools Showcase - Commissioned Service	2024	£1,700.00
Wandsworth Schools Showcase - Commissioned Service	2025	£4,250.00
Wandsworth Arts Fringe - Spreading the Joy - Grant Funding	2025	£1,990.00
CPD Training - Commissioned Service	2025	£750.00
UPLIFT Festival - Commissioned Service	2025	£11,200.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R20/June 2022/Alton, a place I call home	Awarded, £9,075.00	inter-generational art-based workshops and activities on the Alton Estate.
R16/November 2020/Embedding better mental health strategy into our practices for young people	Awarded £1,500.00	This project consists of 2 strands: the first is training for key individuals as Mental Health First Aiders. The second part of the project entails working with a locally based Mental Health expert to mentor the staff team, to support strategic decisions around how they embed best practice for mental health.
R4/January 2017/The Writers Project	Awarded, £2,745.00	Through drama and writing workshops, a group of 6 with a director and a professional playwright will work with two classes over the course of a term to write their own script. The class will then get the opportunity to perform the play on stage at Putney Arts Theatre.

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Group 64 Theatre for Young People is an inclusive youth theatre based at Putney Arts Theatre. We empower young people by providing a safe, nurturing, and creative environment where their voices are valued and heard. Through a varied arts programme, we help young people develop skills, confidence, and self-expression. Our work includes devising, performing, and producing theatre with, for, and by young people, ensuring that the arts are accessible and impactful for the local community.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/18	Grant requested	£9,000.00
Organisation name	Happy Homes Community	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Wandsworth Wellbeing Hub	Total project cost	£12,000.00
Website	www.happyhomescommunity.org.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£3,000.00
Primary ward of activity	Battersea Park	Match funding (%) of total project budget	25%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Juliana Annan	Number of beneficiaries	100
		Grant / per person cost	£90.00
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1215208	Company number	-
Annual Income	£15,327.97 (November 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£13,446.67 (November 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	(N/A)		
<p>Project Description: Happy Homes Community's (HHC) proposed project aims to enhance the wellbeing and mental health of women, girls, single mothers, and refugees across Wandsworth by creating a safe, inclusive, and empowering environment. Over a 12-month period, they will deliver weekly wellbeing sessions that combine physical, creative, and educational activities. Each session will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gentle chair yoga to promote relaxation and physical health. • Confidence-building discussions to strengthen self-esteem and emotional resilience. • Conversational English practice in a supportive, culturally sensitive environment. • Digital skills training to help participants access online services and opportunities. • Art and craft workshops to encourage self-expression, creativity, and stress relief. • Light refreshments will be provided to foster a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. <p>To further promote social connection and broaden horizons, they will also organise local and out-of-London trips, enabling participants to explore new environments and strengthen community ties. Through these activities, participants will be supported to progress towards education, training, and employment, building the confidence and independence needed for a brighter, more connected future.</p> <p>The project will be delivered primarily from the York Gardens Library and community Centre, and the Rose Clubroom. It is expected to start in February 2026 and conclude in February 2027. They hope to reach between 25 and 100 Wandsworth residents.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Venue hire (Weekly Hall hire for 12 months for wellbeing, yoga, art, and English sessions) £50 per session x 48 weeks =£2400	£2,400.00
Activity material (Supplies for creative sessions and digital skill activities)	£900.00
Qualified sessional instructor (qualified wellbeing, yoga, English, and art facilitators (Living Wage compliant) £62.50 per session	£3,000.00
Project co-ordinator Manage delivery, monitor progress, and liaise with participants	£1,500.00
Refreshment and health snacks Healthy snacks and drinks during sessions to create a welcoming Environment and keep participants hydrated	£600.00
Printing, outreach and publicity material	£300.00
Monitoring and evaluation	£300.00
Total grant requested	£9,000.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the health and wellbeing theme and there is some limited alignment. The applicant indicates that they have a focus on mental wellbeing and there are other elements that contribute to wider wellbeing, including the gentle chair yoga, creative activities and involvement of health practitioners. The application would have been strengthened, had the applicant explored this in greater depth. Likewise, they suggest that the project delivers against other themes, including citizenship and civic engagement, environment and attractive neighbourhoods, and achieving aspirations and potential. There is some merit in the civic engagement and achieving aspiration's themes, but again the case for both could have been explored further.

The applicant indicates that they have been operating for a year but have yet to finalise their first year's accounts. They have provided Income and Expenditure accounts for the twelve months, November 2024 to November 2025. These accounts show income of £15,327.97 against expenditure of £13,446.67, which resulted in a surplus of £1,881.30. A balance sheet has not been provided so we are unable to confirm their assets and reserves, however we might assume the charity's funds total the surplus generated at £1,881.30. This represents a little under 1.5 months of operational expenditure. The organisation is new and the grant they are requesting would represent over 65% of their entire income for the last year. It is unclear whether the applicant has the necessary capacity and expertise to manage the funds and deliver a project of this scale.

The project will be delivered primarily from the York Gardens Library and community Centre, and the Rose Clubroom. It is expected to start in February 2026 and conclude in February 2026. A detailed, phased delivery plan has not been provided. However, the activity described can reasonably be delivered within the project timeline. They indicate that all necessary permissions and consents have been secured. The evidence of co-design, with residents helping to shape the project content and priorities is a notable positive.

They state that participants of the project will be South Asian women and girls, single mothers, and refugees specifically, although all women will be welcome. Limited information has been provided on the applicant's approach to recruitment, but they have said that there is already demand for the project and they will advertise in community groups and social media. It is positive that the project is tailored to the cultural and linguistic needs of its target groups, offering support in community languages and creating safe, welcoming spaces for engagement.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Some evidence of need has been provided, predicated primarily on community consultation. In planning this project, they directly engaged with residents through their regular advocacy sessions and community meetings. During these sessions, residents repeatedly expressed the need for activities and support delivered in their own language, as many face challenges accessing mainstream services due to language barriers. The design and content of the project are therefore based directly on the priorities identified by the community themselves. There is thus some evidence of co-design which is positive.

In terms of monitoring, they will monitor and evaluate the project through attendance records, feedback forms, and regular discussions with participants and volunteers. The approach is reasonable for the project but may have been strengthened with pre- and post-delivery surveys. Outputs and outcomes make sense within the context of the project but could have been more specific and measurable.

The applicant is requesting a grant of £9,000.00 towards a total project cost of £12,000.00. The budget is realistic and appropriate to the project, and they are providing £3,000 match funding which represents 25% of the total project. The sustainability plan relies heavily on future fundraising and volunteer support, which may be difficult to maintain, and there is limited detail on formal partnerships with statutory bodies or other organisations.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Juliana Annan: I am writing to offer my full support for the proposed project, which aims to enhance the wellbeing and mental health of women, girls, single mothers, and refugees across Wandsworth. This initiative will create a safe, inclusive, and empowering environment where participants can build confidence, reduce social isolation, and develop essential life skills.

The focus on supporting vulnerable women and families to strengthen their resilience, improve social connections, and fully participate in the local community is both timely and vital. By prioritising mental health, empowerment, and community integration, this project has the potential to create long-lasting positive impact for individuals and the wider community.

I strongly endorse this project and kindly encourage you to give it full consideration.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has only been in operation for a year. The grant requested represents over 65% of their entire income for the last year. It is unclear if the applicant has the necessary capacity and expertise to manage the funds and deliver a project of this scale. • Some limited evidence of alignment with the fund priorities has been provided, however this could have been strengthened. • Limited evidence of need has been provided predicated primarily on community consultation. This is positive, however further information setting out the wider need across the borough, would have strengthened the application.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Grant for Iftar Party	February 2025	£1400.00
WAF Grant Wandsworth	March 2025	£1750.00
Grant for VE Day celebrations	May 2025	£1000.00
Community Engagement Winstanley Estate	September 2025	£800.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

<p>Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation</p>	<p>Our organisation’s primary aim is to promote social inclusion for the public benefit among South Asian families in the UK, with a special focus on women, refugees, and those newly arrived in the country who face language and cultural barriers. We are dedicated to helping individuals who are socially or economically excluded to gain confidence, build skills, and participate fully in community life. To achieve these aims, we provide a wide range of educational workshops and training programmes, including English language classes, digital skills sessions, and employment and wellbeing workshops. These activities help participants to communicate effectively, gain independence, and access new opportunities. We also deliver practical support and one-to-one guidance to help individuals adapt to life in the UK, including signposting to healthcare professionals and other community organisations, and providing help with accessing local services.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/19	Grant requested	£7,050.00
Organisation name	Holy Trinity Church, Roehampton	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Glass door – widening access	Total project cost	£13,440.00
Website	Home - Holy Trinity Roehampton	Match funding (Cash)	£6,390.00
Theme(s)	Environment and Attractive neighbourhoods	Match funding (in-kind)	£0
Primary ward of activity	Roehampton	Match funding (%) of total project budget	47.5%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Yates	Number of beneficiaries	N/A
		Grant / per person cost	N/A

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1176544	Company number	-
Annual Income	£57,912.00 (December 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£70,324.00 (December 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£16,892.00 (December 2024)		

Project Description:

Holy Trinity Church, Roehampton are requesting funding to install a new glass door to the north vestibule, inside the north-east entrance of the church. This will replace old and heavy curtains. The door will significantly reduce draughts, which will also help ensure the space remains comfortable and welcoming throughout the year. The door gives access to the North Transept, which is the area in the church that most lends itself to community activities, but is also one of the draughtiest parts of the church. The additional insulation this project will provide is key to making the space usable in the coldest months.

The project will reduce Wandsworth's carbon footprint by enabling the church to be better insulated and therefore reduce heating and carbon emissions. It will also promote awareness of climate change topics and green skills development among children and young people by being highly visible. When the church is used, it will also provide opportunities for public engagement, particularly with vulnerable groups

The project will take place in the church and begin in April 2026 and conclude in June 2026. The most direct beneficiaries will be the 128 children from Roehampton Church Forest School who come to Sparkle, and to assemblies and other church visits. Other direct beneficiaries include the older people coming to Sparkle, totalling 25 beneficiaries, and 30 members of the school children's choir club.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Contractor (Ion Glass) cost of new Glass Door: survey, manufacture and installation	£6,150.00
15% contingency	£900.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Total grant requested	£7,050.00
Assessment Summary: <p>The applicant has applied under the Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods theme and there is merit to this, as some connection is made to reducing carbon emissions and promoting awareness of climate change topics and green skills development. Nonetheless, this could have been explored in more depth, particularly in terms of climate awareness. Climate change discussion and activities are mentioned but little detail sits behind this, what activities, when will climate change be discussed and how often, is not clearly described. There appears to be some reliance on the door itself being a visible reminder of climate change, but how or why is not explained or explored. The application would have been strengthened had further information been provided.</p> <p>Accounts are available to the end of December 2024, showing income of £57,912.00 against expenditure of £70,324.00, which resulted in a deficit of £12,412.00 for the year. They have net assets of £87,038.00, of which £57,802.00 are unrestricted, representing 9.8 months of operational expenditure. Despite the reasonably significant deficit, they appear to be in viable financial position.</p> <p>The project is proposed to start in April and end in June 2026, which appears to be a realistic timeframe for the initial capital works to complete. These works are straightforward and can be achieved in the timeframe set. Time does not appear to have been included for project monitoring and evaluation, and it is unclear how they intend to monitor the impact of the project in such a short period of time.</p> <p>The beneficiaries have been described as existing users of the hall, and they will look to recruit new young beneficiaries through local school outreach. Given the links of the group with the Roehampton Partnership and Our Roehampton, this could have been explored and expanded more to provide a clearer picture of their intended beneficiaries</p> <p>They cite work conducted by Our Roehampton and Wandsworth Council that outlines the need for more affordable community space in Roehampton; however, this also could have been explored in more detail. For example, they could have looked at the gaps in this research or looked to complement this by consulting with user groups or local communities. The link between the lack of affordable community space and this project could have also been strengthened further if they had committed to reviewing their own booking prices to make sure the space is affordable. It was unclear if they were going to work with Our Roehampton and the Roehampton Partnership to promote the space for community use, and the application would have been strengthened had they considered this.</p> <p>In terms of the monitoring and evaluation plan, they could have considered measuring how many new users book the space after the works have completed, to better evidence impact. Given the limited project timeline, it would also have been beneficial to understand how they would evidence outcomes within this timeframe.</p> <p>The costings appear realistic and value for money, especially as they have gone through a tender process. They have also identified other financial and non-financial support in line with match funding requirements. The project is heavily reliant on grants being approved. This is currently a standalone project and won't need to look at sustainability. Although it would be interesting to see how much the space gets used by community groups after the works as this is the crux of the need for the project.</p>	
Councillor Endorsements:	

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Cllr Jenny Yates: I am happy to endorse and fully support this application by Holy Trinity Roehampton for a grant from the WGF for £7,050 for the installation of a new glass door to the north vestibule of the church.

Holy Trinity is a valued community focussed church in Roehampton. Rev Joshua Rey has made great efforts to make it a welcoming place for the local community and for community events e.g. during the Wandsworth Arts Fringe. It is used by Sparkle for an intergenerational café bringing together older people with primary school children, which is an important and welcome new initiative. The after-school Choir Club is bringing together children from local schools, which is another excellent initiative. Across the road from Holy Trinity is the large Alton Estate, which has the highest levels of deprivation in Wandsworth, and such local initiatives are really important to support local children and adults who need more opportunities locally.

There is a shortage of community meeting spaces in the local area, and as a local councillor I often receive requests from local groups to assist them to find spaces to meet. However, given the nature of the church building, it is cold in the winter and very expensive to heat, which of course makes it less attractive as a venue and more expensive for local groups to use it. But it's such a shame that such a lovely building in the heart of Roehampton cannot always host community events because it is too cold.

The new glass door would be a one-off cost that would have a great on-going benefit in terms of increasing further the use of the church for community activities, which are so needed in this area.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited evidence has been provided to demonstrate the projects alignment with the Environment and Attractive Neighbourhood thematic area. • There was also limited evidence provided of project need. • Much of the monitoring and evaluation plan is reasonable and appropriate, however it is unclear how meaningful data could be captured within the project timeline provided.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R17/June 2021/ Re-commissioning external lighting of Church spire	Not Awarded	N/A

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Holy Trinity is the Church of England parish church in Roehampton. As well as being a place of worship they have existed for many years to serve all the community through use of the church building, the church primary school, pastoral care and outreach.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/20	Grant requested	£1,000.00
Organisation name	Kambala Estate Resident Association	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Kambala Bulerias Class	Total project cost	£1,942.00
Website	www.mykambala.co.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Raising aspirations and potential	Match funding (in-kind)	£942.00
Primary ward of activity	Falconbrook	Match funding (%) of total project budget	49%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Kate Stock	Number of beneficiaries	20
		Grant / per person cost	£47
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Residents' Association		
Charity number	N/A	Company number	N/A
Annual Income	£1,748.00 (August 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£698.23 (August 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	- (August 2025)		
Project Description:			
<p>The project, Kambala Bulerías, will run for three months and will offer a series of Flamenco-inspired dance and wellbeing workshops for residents of the Kambala Estate and surrounding community, in the Kambala Community Club room. Weekly classes will bring together residents of all ages and backgrounds to learn, move, and connect. Midway through, there will be a community showcase where participants can perform and celebrate their achievements with neighbours and friends.</p> <p>This project will look to support up to 20 beneficiaries, women and girls from the Kambala and Winstanley Estates, across 10 Flamenco dance sessions (Bulerías style). They anticipate that participants will have improved physical health and wellbeing through regular dance activity, Increased confidence, self-expression, and cultural pride, and strengthened community connection and inclusion, particularly for women who are isolated or less active.</p> <p>The project will also include either a community cultural evening where the group will perform for the community, attended by around 100 people, or alternatively, collaborate with another cultural group to deliver a performance in a different community.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
Flamenco Teacher, Lola Rueda 10x1£80			£800.00
Refreshment for a Spanish Cultural evening for the community where we will perform.			£200.00
Total grant requested			£1,000

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Assessment Summary:

This project was submitted under the raising aspiration and potential theme, however the application does not clearly evidence that their project fully aligns with this priority area. The focus of the project is more cultural, with secondary impact for health, wellbeing and community resilience, all of which have merit. Nonetheless, it was felt that the project is a better fit for other priority themes including the Arts and Culture which is currently not being considered by this fund.

A simple income and expenditure account is available to August 2025 and shows income of £1,748.00 against expenditure of £698.23 for the 12 months of August 2024 to August 2025. Whilst the accounts do not define the organisations 'assets', cash at bank is shown as £2,161.26. For the size and nature of the organisation, as a resident's association, they appear to be in a stable financial position.

The delivery plan looks realistic and appropriate for the project. It should be noted that the lease for the Kambala clubroom has not yet been signed and agreed by Wandsworth Council for the Kambala Community Alliance to take over running of the clubroom.

They have clearly described the beneficiaries and a realistic plan to engage with them. The approach is limited to use of an established WhatsApp group and local noticeboards however, and the incorporation of different methods, would broaden their reach and impact.

They have stated that there is a clear need for affordable, inclusive cultural and wellbeing activities in our community. This has been evidenced by feedback from last year's Flamenco project, and strong interest for the project to continue. This is notably limited and specific to the organisation's own experience; the applicant could have used further data or community engagement to strengthen the evidence for this application.

The monitoring and evaluation plan looks adequate for the amount of funding requested. It would have been helpful to understand the focus of questions included in their post-delivery survey.

Costs, in general, appear realistic and provide value for money, although venue hire costs are notably absent. Colleagues have advised that without a lease in place, the applicant would be required to hire the space and this as a cost has not been factored into the budget. The amount of funding requested is for £1,000 to pay for the dance tutor and refreshments for the community workshop. They have identified other financial and non-financial support in line with match funding requirements. They have applied for further funding to extend the sessions from the Wandsworth Care Alliance. If they finish setting up the alliance as a community interest company, they will make the sessions a permanent fixture.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Kate Stock: I wholeheartedly endorse KERA's inclusive dance project. The project aligns strongly with the grant fund's priority of Achieving Aspirations and Potential and also supports cross-cutting priorities in Health and Wellbeing, Arts and Culture, and Community Engagement. The project also fits well during Wandsworth's year as London Borough of Culture.

Providing a course of free dance workshops in an area of recognised deprivation will enable residents to access workshops that have not previously been available to them. These workshops will promote physical activity, emotional wellbeing, and social cohesion—particularly among women and girls. I also note that the project will take place in the Kambala

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Clubroom, which is seriously underused something which, as councillors, we would like to see change.

KERA has demonstrated its capacity to deliver successful community-led projects, and this proposal builds on their previous achievements. Having attended Battersea Festival myself I know the performance was very well received by the community and there was great interest from residents.

The use of underutilised community space, the focus on accessible cultural participation during our LBOC year, and the commitment to celebrating Latin/Hispanic heritage will all contribute to a vibrant local environment and contribution to the wellbeing and aspirations of residents in the ward. I fully support its delivery.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application has not clearly demonstrated how it aligns with the raising aspiration and potential thematic area. The project may be a better fit with the arts and culture theme which is being delivered through the London Borough of Culture. • Demonstration of need for the project is limited. • The applicant is requesting a small amount of funding and appears to provide value for money
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R14/July 2020/Kambala Cares	£7,000.00	Delivery of a customised, age-appropriate and bespoke food service (allowing for ethnic tests, Halal, Coeliac, etc.) with volunteers also shopping and prescription collecting, to the most vulnerable people in the most under-privileged district in the Borough.
R4/November 2016/Kambala Cares Project - Community Engagement events	£2,018.00	To run three coach trips for residents with the aim to tackle isolation in the community, promoting family time, and greater community cohesion.

Brief description of the aims and	The Kambala Estate Resident Association (KERA) works to strengthen community life on the Kambala Estate through events, activities, and local advocacy.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

activities of the organisation	
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/21	Grant requested	£10,000
Organisation name	Katherine Low Settlement (KLS)	Grant recommended	£10,000
Project name	Youth Club Workshops	Total project cost	£13,890
Website	www.klsettlement.org.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£3,050
Theme(s)	Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£840
Primary ward of activity	St Mary's	Match funding (%) of total project budget	28%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Colclough	Number of beneficiaries	60
	Cllr de La Soujeole	Grant / per person cost	£167

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	1081248	Company number	3814833
Annual Income	£1,166,015 (March 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£1,301,006 (March 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£142,486 (March 2025)		

Project Description:

The project would deliver a series of skills-based workshops across the year for newly arrived refugee and asylum-seeking young people aged 15-18 and living in Wandsworth.

The workshops would cover a range of practical topics including first aid, CV writing and job-preparation, financial literacy, public speaking and online safety. These workshops would be delivered in partnership with specialist agencies such as StreetDoctors, Refugee Education UK and the Set Them Up Foundation and aim to address critical gaps in safety, education and life skills for young people who are otherwise isolated and under-supported. The project would build on the work of the Monday Youth Club, an established initiative that the applicant already runs for young people in Battersea.

The project would deliver 15 workshops to around 60 young people, and aim to lead to improvements in social skills, emotional skills, resilience and social mobility. The applicant seeks to commence the project in February 2026 and end in January 2027.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Costs for external facilitators to deliver 15 sessions at £250 per session	£3,750
KLS youth worker, extra hours to plan and support the workshops (20 days at £120 per day)	£2,400
Room hire at KLS, £30/hour for 15 hours	£450

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Refreshments for workshop	£500
Ten chrome books for participants £200 each.	£2,000
Travel expenses = £20 per session for 15 sessions	£300
Materials and takeaway activities for sessions	£600
Total grant requested	£10,000

Assessment Summary:

The applicant is applying under the Children and Young People theme and there is clear alignment with the first two priorities of the theme. The project will be focused on young refugees and asylum-seekers who are recognised as a particularly vulnerable and marginalised group. A series of workshops will be delivered, providing guidance, tools and support, with the aim of developing independence, improving wellbeing and financial literacy. The applicant argues that youth clubs provide a safe, supportive space for young people seeking sanctuary, many of whom have experienced trauma, and that introducing experienced professionals into this trusted environment alongside familiar peers is an effective way to equip them with essential life skills. The topics of the workshops focus on providing advice on health and wellbeing, keeping safe and vocational development, all of which link with the second priority of the theme. The applicant also draws a link between the encouragement given to participants to engage in volunteering, with the theme of Citizenship and Civic Engagement. This project also aligns with Wandsworth borough's commitment to being a Borough of Sanctuary

The organisation has maintained a steady income over recent years and has experience of managing various grants. The accounts were submitted late to the Charities Commission in 2024 but have otherwise been filed on time. The current level of free reserves (£142k) appears lower than the level set under the reserves policy (four months of operations). The applicant has a well-established presence in the borough and extensive experience delivering community-based programmes, including several funded by the Council. The applicant provides evidence about the impact of their work from the most recent annual survey of young people supported.

The applicant indicates that they would be ready to launch the project as early as February 2026. The delivery plan seems feasible given that the project will build upon the work of an established youth club, and the participants will be identified from the organisation's wider work. The applicant has already identified external partnership to support in the delivery of specific topics and has already designed some of the sessions. The applicant indicates that no other permissions are required. It is recommended that the applicant provides a more detailed project schedule, with delivery dates agreed for key project milestones.

The beneficiaries are clearly described. The participants in the project will be newly arrived refugee and asylum-seeking young people aged 15-18. The project aims to support around 60 participants through the workshops which appears somewhat ambitious. The project design builds upon the applicant's existing expertise and experience of working with this target group. All of the participants will be from Wandsworth, mostly from the Winstanley, Doddington or Surrey Lane estates and will be participating in other activities run by the organisation. A partnership with Southfield Academy who have an international department that supports a large number of recent arrivals, help to facilitate the connection between the targeted group and the support available. The applicant indicates that the current users of their services come from around 14 different countries of origin including Somalia, Afghanistan and Syria.

The project has been designed in response to feedback from young people who attend in the organisation's wider activities. This has highlighted particular areas of concern for young

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people seeking sanctuary, including financial planning, physical and mental wellbeing, education and life skills. The applicant references data from DataWand that only 54% of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds reach expected education standards compared to the general population.

The monitoring and evaluation plan for this project is referenced, but more details are needed to strengthen it. The applicant indicates that data will be drawn from a range of sources including registers, staff observations and termly feedback from participants and volunteers. The application references two project outputs – 15 sessions delivered, and 60 young people supported. The applicant indicates that the outcomes targeted include improvements in social skills, emotional skills, resilience and social mobility but does not explain how these will be measured. It is recommended that the application develop a clear monitoring and evaluation plan, with more outputs, clear and specific outcome indicators, and details of how they will be measured and a baseline measurement.

The applicant is requesting funding of £10,000. The grant would be spent on external facilitators to deliver the 15 sessions (£3,750), support from a youth worker to plan and support the workshops (£2,000) and ten ChromeBooks to be used by the participants (£2,000). Other smaller costs include room hire, refreshments, travel expenses and materials and takeaway activities. The costings appear realistic. The applicant is providing a 28% match contribution to the total project costs, which is in line with the fund requirements. This will be mainly from a cash contribution (£3,050) towards additional workshop materials, a project support worker involved in session planning, and supervision from a senior director, as well as an in-kind contribution (£840) through the support of volunteers. The grant cost per expected beneficiary is £167, which seems value for money given the extended period of support and hard-to-reach nature of the target group.

This project builds upon the existing work of the organisation and their work with refugee and asylum-seeking families, and the intention is to continue similar activities beyond the term of the grant. The applicant indicates that they plan to seek future funding from other sources using insight gathered from the implementation of this project.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Jamie Colclough: Wandsworth becoming a Borough of Sanctuary was not a gimmick, it was a commitment to making sure some of our most vulnerable residents are looked after and able to acclimatise to their new home. KLS have been such an important part of that commitment, and this project will be vital to ensuring that such a vulnerable group of people, at such a crucial age, are given more chances to develop into healthy, productive adults and Wandsworth Residents.

Cllr Caroline de La Soujeole: I am writing to express my support for KLS' Youth Club Workshops project, which will provide refugee and asylum-seeking young people with vital skills and guidance in a safe, trusted environment. These workshops will foster independence, wellbeing, and vocational development, making a lasting difference for one of the borough's most vulnerable groups.

Recommendation Summary

Recommend

- There is clear and strong alignment with the priorities of the Children and Young People theme of this fund and the wider commitments of Wandsworth borough

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has the potential to have high impact on a vulnerable and hard-to-reach group The applicant has relevant existing expertise and experience to enable them to deliver the project successfully The project facilitates connections and shared learning across the borough between different external stakeholders who work with this target group
Recommended Award	£10,000
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a schedule with dates agreed for key project milestones A more detailed monitoring and evaluation plan to be provided with clear and specific outputs and outcomes, along with details of how they will be measured and a baseline captured. Applicant to confirm that Chromebooks will not be gifted to participants.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth Refugee Week 2025 Small Grants Scheme	June 2025	£1,778.55
Wandsworth Borough of Sanctuary Fund	June 2025	£10,000
Community VE celebrations	May 2025	£561.95
VCS Cost of Living	Oct 2024	£14,467
Lifelong Learning – ESOL	July 2024	£49,273
Digital Inclusion 2024-6	July 2024	£50,000
Age Well Contract	June 2024	£234,196

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R30 (July 2025) Move and Munch club	£10,000 Awarded	Project in progress
R28 (Jan 2025) Family Futures: Parenting Workshops	£9,727 Awarded	Project in progress
R27 (Sep 2024) KLS Arts Room, Doors and Window	£9,430 – Not awarded	N/A
R25 (Feb 2024) Jamies Farm residential trip	£5,000 – Awarded	Project complete
R24 (October 2023) KLS Centenary community singing	£1,720 – Awarded	Project complete

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Katherine Low Settlement is a charity at the heart of the Battersea community since 1924. They reduce poverty and isolation by offering long-term support and bringing people together across generations and cultures. Over 500 residents visit their centre each week.</p>
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	<p>Their core programmes provide holistic family support for refugees and migrants, with a focus on education, wellbeing, and integration; and social, physical, and creative activities for older people, particularly those who are isolated or living with frailty. They are a trusted, welcoming space where people connect, grow, and thrive together.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/22	Grant requested	£9,900.00
Organisation name	Living Truth CIC	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Cromwell Hub: Revitalise, Restore, Empower	Total project cost	£21,560.00
Website	N/A	Match funding (Cash)	£7,410.00
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing & Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods	Match funding (in-kind)	£4,250.00
Primary ward of activity	Battersea Park	Match funding (%) of total project budget	54%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Maurice McLeod	Number of beneficiaries	240
		Grant / per person cost	£41.33

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Community Interest Company		
Charity number	-	Company number	06496728
Annual Income	£183,936.00 (February 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£174,190.00 (February 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£17,668.00 (February 2025)		

Project Description:

Living Truth CIC are requesting funding for refurbishment works to create a more sustainable and welcoming space for the children and young people that they support. Funding will also be used to ensure the continuation of their vital mental health services, including one-to-one wellbeing coaching and group sessions, and a wellbeing and outdoor pursuits residential. Key objectives of the project include:

- Refurbish the building using eco-conscious furniture and equipment.
- Reduce single-use plastics and replace them with sustainable alternatives.
- Raise awareness among service users about environmentally friendly living, providing guidance on how they can make greener choices in their daily lives.
- Increase wellbeing support for Adults and Children and Young People.

The project is scheduled to take place in January 2026 and conclude in December 2026. Across the project, they intend to reach an estimated 240 participants. The bulk of delivery will take place at the Cromwell Community Hub, Cromwell House, Charlotte Despard Ave, SW11 5HW; whilst the Residential will be at Avon Tyrrell, Bransgore, Christchurch BH23 8EE.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
2 Recycled or Sustainable Sofa, 2 large Storage Units, Additional Tables	£2,700.00
Eco Friendly Reuseable Beakers, Cups and kitchen Equipment	£200.00
Blackout Blinds for Conference Room and Back Room for holistic Therapies and Movie Screening	£500.00

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2 Wellbeing Coaches x 20 Group sessions @ £90 per session	£1,800.00
30hrs of one-to-one wellbeing coaching for adults x £45ph	£1,350.00
36hrs of one-to-one wellbeing coaching for CYP x £45ph	£1,350.00
Coach Hire for Wellbeing Residential and Outdoor Bound Trip	£1,000.00
Sustainable weatherproof Banner promoting the Hub services	£500.00
Monitoring and Evaluation	£500.00
Total grant requested	£9,900.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Health and Wellbeing and Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods priority areas. They indicate that the project supports the Environment & Attractive Neighbourhoods priority by improving the physical environment of the Cromwell Hub. The refurbishment will include the use of sustainable equipment and resources, eco-friendly and sustainable new or recycled furniture. This creates a cleaner, safer, and more welcoming space for all users. They will also work to eliminate single-use plastics and raise awareness about sustainable living within the community. Additionally, they indicate that the project will directly support Health and Wellbeing priorities by doubling the number of one-to-one wellbeing support sessions being provided whilst continuing their weekly wellbeing group sessions; this support focuses on improving participant's mental wellbeing. The applicant hasn't demonstrated their alignment with the Environment & Attractive Neighbourhoods theme, however their link to the health and wellbeing theme is stronger, with clear alignment to the mental wellbeing priority area.

The applicant is in a reasonable financial position for their size of organisation. Accounts are available to the end of February 2025 and show income of £183,936.00 against expenditure of £174,190.00, which resulted in a surplus of £9,146.00 for the year. They have total assets of £17,668.00, which exceeds their 'optimal' reserves level of £15,000.00 according to their reserves policy, which requires three months of unrestricted expenditure. They are in a broadly stable financial position.

The delivery plan is broadly realistic and makes sense within the scope of the project. The start date given is ambitious however and will need to be revised should an award be made. It is unclear what expertise staff and volunteers have to deliver the refurbishment works, nor is it clear what permissions would be required and if they have obtained them. The mental health support is an existing service, and the organisation are vastly experienced in providing it. Existing activities / projects and costs, including staffing, that form part of an organisation's ongoing work is a low priority for the fund.

They have indicated that staff and volunteers will primarily be involved in the refurbishment alongside partner organisations including Good Gym, Apple, and Enable Leisure and Culture volunteers. Current service users will then benefit from the refurbished site and the increase in service provision. Individuals who use their wellbeing services, comprise underrepresented individuals who have experienced trauma, mental health issues, or addiction struggles. It will include children and young people who suffer from mental ill-health or are at risk of exclusion, and elderly residents living on the estate, who often experience social isolation and mental health challenges. In terms of recruitment, they have an existing service user database of over 300 people and participants will be primarily recruited from this cohort. They will also advertise through social media, flyers, and word of mouth within the local community.

Some evidence of need has been provided to show the need and demand for the project. They state that a recent survey of partners, staff /volunteers and service users highlighted that the physical space is outdated and unattractive, requiring revitalisation. It also underlined the value placed by service users on the mental health and wellbeing support Living Truth provide. The data that sits behind the survey hasn't been shared however, and

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their case would have been bolstered had they done so. Equally, some data has been provided from DataWand, however only a limited amount is applicable to their case – statistics on deprivation for instance have been provided, but its relation to mental wellbeing is not explored in depth. They indicate that residents have limited access to Mental health services across the borough but again this isn't qualified or contextualised. In sum, a reasonable case has been made, but it could have been stronger.

They will use a combination of both qualitative and quantitative tools to ensure they are meeting objectives and delivering meaningful outcomes. This includes surveys, feedback forms, attendance tracking and the collation of case studies. Outputs and outcomes are well defined and their approach to monitoring appropriate to mental wellbeing element. Their approach to evidencing the impact of the refurbishment is less clear.

A grant of £9,900.00 is being requested with £3,400.00 being spent on refurbishment works, and the remainder being spent on mental wellbeing support. The total cost of the project is £21,560.00 with £11,660.00 in match funding being provided, representing 54% of the cost. Alignment with the environment theme has not been clearly established so it is recommended that these costs are excluded from consideration. Equally, whilst a good case has been made for the mental wellbeing element where alignment is stronger, we note that this is an existing project and is therefore of lower priority for the fund.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Maurice McLeod: I have known Peggy and her work for some years and living Truth provide vital support for residents, particularly from the hub on the Doddington. I wholeheartedly endorse this application.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment with the Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods thematic area has not been clearly demonstrated, but alignment with the Health and Wellbeing theme is clear in regard to the Mental Health elements of the project. The mental health support is an existing service, and existing activities / projects and costs, including staffing, that form part of an organisation's ongoing work is a low priority for the fund. The monitoring and evaluation approach is limited, and the application could have been strengthened with additional data to evidence need.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Community Connect (HAF +)	October 2025	£2,500
Holiday and Food (HAF) Summer	April 2025	£6,400.00
Holiday and Food (HAF) Summer	July 2025 2024	£19,140.00
Wandsworth Grant Fund –Healthy Minds, Healthy Environment Programme	April 2024	£8,404.00
VCS COL Fund	2024	£6,084.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R28/November 2024/Healthy Minds, Healthy Community	Not awarded	N/A
R24/July 2024/Vibes Battersea Café	Not awarded	N/A
R23/April 2023/Healthy Minds, Healthy Environment	Awarded. £8,404.00	The objectives were to develop a project that will expose, educate, encourage and impact 16 participants (young people aged 13-18 years, and up to 25 if disabled) to develop a campaign and resources to share their learning in climate change and individual resilience and wellbeing.

<p>Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation</p>	<p>Living Truth CIC is a ‘not for profit’ organisation who offers innovative resilience and wellbeing support services and training programmes grounded in the ‘Three Principles’, an insight and asset-based wellbeing understanding.</p> <p>We provide services to people from marginalised communities particularly but not exclusively to young people, families, people who experience mental ill health, people with SEND, refugees, young offenders, victims of sexual exploitation and crime, homeless and those organisations who support them.</p> <p>We do this through one-to-one wellbeing coaching, group work, training, holiday provision, residentials, family work, mediation, retreats, befriending services, training and we have an income generating café. VCS COL Fund</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/23	Grant requested	£10,000.00
Organisation name	Mother and Child Welfare Organisation	Grant recommended	£10,000.00
Project name	Empowering Women: Building Community, Achieving Potential	Total project cost	£14,600.00
Website	www.macwo.org	Match funding (Cash)	£1,000.00
Theme(s)	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	Match funding (in-kind)	£3,600.00
Primary ward of activity	Roehampton	Match funding (%) of total project budget	31.5%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Steffi Sutters	Number of beneficiaries	70
		Grant / per person cost	£142.85
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	1156832	Company number	08479121
Annual Income	£219,161.00 (April 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£226,839.00 (April 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£5,000.00 (April 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>Mother and Child Welfare organisation (MACWO) are requesting funding to deliver their Empowering Women: Building Community, Achieving Potential project. This project aims to deliver a comprehensive series of activities designed to engage and empower women from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds, particularly those in Putney, Roehampton, and the wider Wandsworth area. This initiative will be carried out over the course of one year, with the aim of creating a supportive, inclusive environment that addresses key areas such as mental health, financial resilience, and community integration.</p> <p>At the core of delivery will be a series of coffee mornings and workshops. Ten coffee mornings will be held throughout the year, providing a relaxed environment where women can come together to receive advice and share experiences on key issues like mental health, financial resilience, and health awareness. These coffee mornings will be hosted in accessible local venues such as Putney Library and Roehampton Hub. The sessions will be available both in-person and online via Zoom. Ten workshops will also be delivered on topics such as ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), financial literacy, health education, and skills development. Each workshop will be 90 minutes long and will be designed to address specific needs. As with the coffee mornings, workshops will be held both in-person and online to provide flexibility. Throughout the yearlong delivery, MACWO will conduct outreach activities to ensure they reach women from underrepresented communities, including those from Somali and other ethnic backgrounds. They will work closely with local community leaders, faith organisations, and support networks to identify and engage women who may not have previously connected with mainstream services.</p>			

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The project is scheduled to start in February 2026 and conclude in January 2027. During that time, they anticipate supporting between 50 and 70 women, all of whom Wandsworth residents from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds living in Putney and Roehampton.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Venue Hire (Putney Library Hall) for 10 sessions (at £40 per hour for 2 hours per session)	£800
Workshop Materials and Resources (printing, handouts, learning materials)	£800
Facilitator/Trainer Fees (for 20 x 90-minute workshops) For Workshops (20 sessions): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 facilitators per session, each at £50 per hour for 1.5 hours • Total per session for 2 facilitators: £75 x 2 = £150 per session • Total cost for 20 workshops: £150 x 20 = £3,000 For Coffee Mornings (10 sessions): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 facilitator per coffee morning, at £50 per hour for 2 hours • Total per coffee morning: £50 x 2 = £100 per session • Total cost for 10 coffee mornings: £100 x 10 = £1,000 	£4,000.00
Refreshments for Coffee Mornings (for 10 sessions)	£600.00
Project Manager Salary (for project oversight and coordination)	£2,800.00
Marketing, Outreach and Promotion (advertising, printed flyers, social media campaigns)	£1,000.00
Total grant requested	£10,000.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Citizenship and Civic Engagement theme and suggests that the project also contributes to the Health and Wellbeing and Achieving Aspirations and Potential themes. They indicate that the project promotes active participation in the community and helps disadvantaged or under-represented groups to engage in the wider prosperity of the borough. Through health workshops, mental health support, and practical advice on managing health and financial resilience, the project will empower women to take control of their wellbeing and reduce isolation. Through ESOL classes, educational upskilling, and financial resilience training, the project helps women reach their full potential, fostering personal growth, increasing employment opportunities, and instils a sense of belonging. They have successfully demonstrated alignment with priorities of the fund on several fronts.

Accounts are available to the end of April 2024 and show income of £219,161.00 against expenditure of £226,839.00, which resulted in a deficit for the year of £7,642.00. Total net assets for the year stood at £18,641.00 of which £5,000.00 is unrestricted reserves. Their reserves policy is to maintain their reserves at £5,000.00 which they indicate is equivalent to maintaining core services for two months, which is below industry best practice of maintaining reserves of between 3-6 months of operational expenditure. They are in a broadly stable position, but the deficit and lack of reserves put the organisation at risk.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

The project is due to start in February 2026 and conclude in January 2027. The delivery plan they have outlined is realistic and achievable in the timeline provided. They have clearly identified their beneficiaries and how they intend to recruit them into the project. The project will take place at Putney Library and Roehampton Hub in Wandsworth. These venues are accessible to local residents and have the facilities to accommodate both in-person and online sessions. They plan to engage between 50 and 70 women from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds in Putney and Roehampton, with a particular focus on those who experience social isolation, mental health issues, and financial instability. Participants will be recruited through community networks, local organisations, and outreach to schools and healthcare providers. They will also use social media and flyers in community spaces like libraries, clinics, and community hubs.

MACWO state that they have engaged directly with women from the target communities through consultations with community leaders, local organisations, and informal focus groups; there is therefore some evidence that the project has been developed in consultation with target beneficiaries. Additional data and information has been provided to evidence the case they have made regarding need, across deprivation, domestic abuse and violence, health and wellbeing and community demand.

MACWO will use a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods to monitor and evaluate the progress of the project, including attendance tracking, pre and post surveys and feedback forms. Outputs are clearly articulated and outcomes are SMART. Their approach to monitoring and evaluation is robust and appropriate for the project.

Total project cost stands at £14,600.00 of which they are requesting £10,000.00 in grant funding and they have £4,600.00 in match funding. As such match funding sits at 31.5% of the total project cost, which meets the 25% match funding requirement for a large grant. They have confirmed that no other funding applications are currently pending for this project.

They do appear to have considered the broader sustainability of the project, having indicated that further funding will be explored, as will fee-based models for future workshops and increased reliance on volunteer support to reduce operational costs.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Steffi Sutters: I wish to endorse the above application as a local West Putney councillor whose community will benefit from the introduction of a varied and interesting programme delivered within a safe and supportive environment aimed at empowering women, particularly those from our refugee communities. The programme is well structured and builds on MACWO's experience of what works for vulnerable women delivered elsewhere in the borough. The various strands of the programme are set out in the application and are not repeated here.

I should add I have had face to face discussions with Khadra, who will lead the workshops, to better understand her ambitions and that of the organization behind her. I found her to be an energetic and charismatic leader who I have no doubt will deliver impactful outcomes.

Recommendation Summary

Recommend

- A reasonably strong project with good theme alignment and evidence of need.
- They are in a broadly stable financial position, but the deficit in the most recent year's accounts and lack of reserves puts the organisation at risk.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The outcomes have been clearly defined and there is robust monitoring and evaluation process in place to monitor these.
Recommended Award	£10,000
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R04/November 2016	Not awarded	N/A
R17/June 2021/ Health and Happiness	Awarded, £7,780.00	This project aimed to improve the mental well-being primarily of Somali people living in the Alton Estate leading to residents feeling happier, having improved skills and knowledge, connection to others and feel that they have hope for the future.
R20/April 2022/ Somali Health Hub	Awarded, £9,200	The project aimed to deliver a health and well-being programme to benefit 80 Somali adults (55 women and 25 men) mostly living on the Alton Estate, Roehampton to overcome health inequalities that affect them.
R24/July 2023/Women's Sewing and Employment Support Group	Not awarded	N/A
R25/December 2023/Women's Sewing and Mental Wellbeing Group	Not awarded	N/A
R26/April 2024/SEND children support and parent programme	Not awarded	N/A

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Mother and Child Welfare Organisation (MACWO) empowers women and families, especially from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds, by providing tailored services that foster community integration and personal development. We offer ESOL classes, financial resilience training, health and wellbeing workshops, and educational support. Our
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	<p>work is focused on reducing isolation, alleviating poverty, and promoting mental health, with an emphasis on citizenship and civic engagement. MACWO aims to create opportunities for individuals to improve their quality of life and integrate into society, particularly in the Wandsworth and surrounding areas.</p>
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Ref No	R31/24	Grant requested	£8,010.00
Organisation name	Refuge	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Own My Life facilitator training and course delivery	Total project cost	£10,810.00
Website	https://refuge.org.uk/	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£2,800.00
Primary ward of activity	Tooting Bec	Match funding (%) of total project budget	26%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Stock	Number of beneficiaries	24
		Grant / per person cost	£334.00

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	277424	Company number	1412276
Annual Income	£31,975,898.00 (March 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£30,149,880.00 (March 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£8,632,469.00 (March 2025)		

Project Description:

The applicant is requesting funding for the delivery of the 'Own My Life' (OML) programme, a twelve-week course supporting women who have experienced domestic abuse to regain ownership of their lives. Refuge has a track record of successfully delivering this programme in other areas of London, this grant would enable the programme to be expanded into Wandsworth, building on Refuge's existing presence in the borough where it delivers IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy) services. Through this project, two IDVAs would be trained and accredited as OML facilitators and then would deliver two consecutive courses of the OML programme. In total across the two cohorts, the project would expect 24 women to participate. All participants would be domestic abuse survivors from Wandsworth and would be identified through Refuge's existing client base in the borough. The participants would be expected to benefit from improved mental wellbeing, reduced isolation, increased understanding of healthy relationships and enhanced financial and personal independence. The project would also support the embedding of trauma-informed practice across Refuge's Wandsworth services. The project would commence in April 2026 and conclude by March 2027.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Temp cover for IDVAs involved in OML training and delivery - 24 days @ £28.80/hr	£5,184.00
<i>Own My Life</i> Facilitator Training for 2 IDVAs @£720	£1,440.00
<i>Own My Life</i> Journals @£16.50/ participant for 24 participants	£396.00
Travel	£100.00

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Central Management Cost	£890.00
Total grant requested	£8,010

Assessment Summary:

The applicant is applying for funds under the Health and Wellbeing theme. The applicant makes a strong case relating to the project’s contribution to this priority by addressing the emotional, social and psychological impacts of domestic abuse and supporting long-term recovery for women who are often excluded from mainstream services. The project contributes to Step 19 (Social Isolation) of the Wandsworth Health and Care Plan 2025-7 through its focus on peer support and resilience-building. The focus on domestic abuse survivors, who often face multiple disadvantages, through a group-based programme that creates a safe space for reflection, is strongly aligned with priorities around improving mental wellbeing and reducing social isolation and loneliness. Although this project is the replication of a model used elsewhere rather than a new innovation, the applicant makes the case that this is the first time that the course would be delivered in Wandsworth, to the benefit of the residents here. The applicant also indicates that the project contributes towards the Citizenship and Civic Engagement theme through empowering disadvantaged women to re-engage with their communities, build confidence, and use their voices to shape services and local decision making.

The organisation has a steady and growing stream of income from a variety of sources (just under £32 million in 2024/5) and appears financially viable and well managed. Annual accounts and returns have consistently been filed on time with both the Charity Commission and Companies house. In the 2024-5 financial year the organisation generated a surplus of £1.8 million above expenditure. As of March 2025, the level of unrestricted reserves was £8.6 million which is significantly above the range sought under its reserve policy (maximum £6.4 million). The applicant indicates that it plans to use some of these reserves to make investments in core business systems. However, the applicant still has substantial reserves and is in the position to fund the project itself.

The applicant has provided a clear and detailed delivery plan for the project including a comprehensive and realistic timetable for different project activities. This include set-up time, training of facilitators, promotion of the course and participation recruitment, and then two cohorts of course delivery, to be run consecutively over a 3-month period each. The project would commence in April 2026 and be completed by March 2027. Sessions would be delivered from the Tooting Family Hub in Tooting Bec. The applicant has confirmed no additional permissions are required.

The project would be aimed at women who are victims/survivors of domestic abuse. They will all be residents of Wandsworth and the project will aim to recruit 12 women for each course, 24 women in total. Participants would be identified through the applicant’s existing client base in Wandsworth, through the IDVA and Enhanced Support services. The project will aim to engage clients who are ready to engage in recovery-focussed support. This will typically include women who are no longer at immediate risk, but who are on their journey of recovery and would benefit from structured support to rebuild confidence, self-esteem and wellbeing. IDVAs will identify suitable clients, explain the programme and offer a supportive trauma-informed invitation to participate. The applicant makes a commitment to make any necessary accommodations to ensure equitable and accessible participation. Participants would join group sessions for structured, interactive sessions that aim to help women understand trauma, abuse and recovery in an accessible way and take steps towards independence.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

The organisation currently delivers the Richmond and Wandsworth IDVA service, providing crisis intervention, risk assessment and advocacy for survivors of domestic abuse. The applicant makes the case that the current contract does not include sufficient funding for group-based, recover-focussed activities that support women beyond immediate crisis, and so there is a need for this project to build upon and complement existing activities.

OML is a widely recognised trauma-informed and evidenced-based course within the VAWG support sector, implemented by multiple specialist domestic abuse services, and respected for its impact in supporting participants to regain ownership of their lives. The applicant states they have a strong track record of delivering OML in other areas of London, and there is now the opportunity to replicate this model in Wandsworth for the benefit of its residents.

The applicant outlines how domestic abuse survivors often face multiple disadvantages including poor mental health, low income and insecure housing; and references casework conversations with existing clients who have identified a need for peer support, recovery-focused learning and confidence-building. The application would be stronger if it had included some statistics or other data relating to domestic abuse prevalence in Wandsworth and to back up the statements made about the impact of the OML programme. But it does include reference to positive feedback from participants who have accessed the programme in other boroughs, who reported improvements in emotional health and wellbeing and an enhanced understanding of the nature and impact of domestic abuse. The applicant also outlines how the project can impact positively on the resilience, emotional stability and school engagement of participants' children.

The applicant has provided a clear and detailed monitoring and evaluation plan that incorporates both qualitative and quantitative data collection. Participants will complete pre and post questionnaires to document changes in areas such as confidence, self-esteem and understanding of healthy relationships. Facilitators will capture attendance and engagement data. Evaluation at the end of the courses will capture learning points, examples of empowerment/behavioural changes observed, personal reflections, case studies and quotes. Outputs include sessions delivered, participant numbers, and staff trained. Outcomes will track improvements to perceived mental wellbeing and self-esteem, understanding of healthy relationships, enhanced financial and personal independence and reduced isolation.

The applicant is seeking a grant of £8,010. The largest cost is £5,184 for staff time of the IDVAs delivering the project. Other costs include £1,400 for the accredited OML facilitator training, £396 for participant journals, £100 for travel and an £890 contribution to central costs (overheads). These costs seem realistic. The applicant meets match requirements with a 26% in-kind contribution to the total project costs provided through managerial support and pro-bono secured venue hire. The grant cost per beneficiary is high (£334) which the applicant contends is excellent value for money for a trauma-informed intervention supporting vulnerable women, that has the potential to benefit not just the participants, but also their children and the wider community.

As two staff members will be trained as accredited facilitators, this opens the possibility of future OML courses being run beyond the initial project period for other domestic abuse survivors. Additionally, the applicant contends that the training and experience of delivering this project will enable the staff members to strengthen the trauma-informed practice and group facilitation in wider IDVA activities in Wandsworth. Each participant will also receive an OML journal which provides both course information and space for reflection which becomes a personal and ongoing resource of support beyond the course. Graduates of the programme will be encouraged to participate in a Survivor Engagement Panel which is being

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

established through the applicant’s wider work and will provide a space for participants to use their lived experience to inform future service delivery.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Kate Stock: I support the proposed delivery of the Own My Life programme. The Council has committed to reducing violence against women and girls and increasing support for survivors of domestic abuse.

I note the programme was designed by a survivor of domestic abuse and is proven to empower women and aid recovery. I very much welcome Refuge’s current work to establish a survivor engagement panel in the borough and that graduates will be encouraged to support and take part in the panel, ensuring their lived experience informs future service delivery.

Refuge are well placed to deliver this project given they currently deliver IDVA services in Wandsworth. Refuge has a strong track record, and I note that the programme is delivered in neighbouring borough where participant feedback has consistently highlighted increased self-esteem, understanding of healthy relationships and reduced isolation.

Given Refuge’s work in the borough and existing strong partnerships and relationships this programme presents good value for money. I also welcome delivery of the programme from Tooting Family Hub given the Council’s strategy to increase co-location of services, including partner services, within our Family Hubs.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a strong project with clear alignment with the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing theme • OML is widely recognised as a highly impactful programme for engaging domestic abuse survivors • The grant cost per beneficiary is high (£334) and the majority of the grant will be spent on staff costs, but it does build on other work being supported by the council • The application sets out a feasible delivery plan and has a clear monitoring and evaluation plan • The high level of free reserves, which are significantly above the organisational reserve policy maximum indicate the organisation is in the position to fund this initiative themselves and as such they are a low priority for funding.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Richmond and Wandsworth IDVA Service	Contract start date April 2025.	£363,649.00 per/annum
Richmond and Wandsworth Complex Needs Service	Contract July 2023- July 2025	£96,000.00 per/annum

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Refuge is the UK's largest specialist provider supporting women and children who have experienced gender-based violence including, domestic abuse, modern slavery, forced marriage, 'honour'-based violence and sexual exploitation.</p> <p>Each day, Refuge supports over 500 victim/survivors through refuges, IDVA services, community outreach, culturally specific support, sanctuary schemes, and expert services for children.</p> <p>Its national reach includes specialist support for victims of modern slavery, an innovative Tech-Facilitated Abuse and Economic Empowerment Team, and the 24-Hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline. Through award-winning campaigns and advocacy, Refuge raises awareness of VAWG and amplify survivor voices to influence policy and drive systemic change.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/25	Grant requested	£9,900.00
Organisation name	Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Medical Escorts Service	Total project cost	£49,900.00
Website	www.rhn.org.uk	Match funding (Cash)	£40,000.00
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£0
Primary ward of activity	West Hill	Match funding (%) of total project budget	80%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Grimston	Number of beneficiaries	230
		Grant / per person cost	£43.00

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	205907	Company number	04570542
Annual Income	£56,569,000 (September 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£53,853,000 (September 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£17.3 million (September 2024) The RHN Board of Trustees has determined a range of £13-£16 million of free reserves as being a minim operating level for three months		

Project Description:

The applicant is requesting funding to support medically escorted patient outings. The hospital provides care for 230 resident patients with profound disabilities due to serious brain injuries or neurological issues. The applicant states that two of the patients are Wandsworth residents.

The medical escort service is an existing programme that supports patients on day trips with the aim of improving mental wellbeing, reducing social isolation and supporting enhanced rehabilitation outcome and increased autonomy and dignity of patients. No information is provided about the timeframe for activities.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Staff costs (escorts, drivers, porters)	£8,100.00
Transport costs (fuel, maintenance, insurance)	£1,500.00
Other (fees, snacks, drinks, misc.)	£ 300.00
Total grant requested	£9,900

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Health and Wellbeing thematic area to support the provision of day trips for resident patients who are receiving care for serious brain injuries or neurological issues. The applicant makes the case that these trips have multiple benefits for patients including improving mental wellbeing, reducing isolation and supporting

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

increased autonomy and dignity of patients along with their longer-term rehabilitation. The applicant also draws a link with the theme on Achieving Aspirations and Potential through supporting patients to pursue hobbies and spend time with family, but weak evidence is provided to support this. The application is based on supporting an existing programme of medically escorted trips and mainly covering existing staff costs and so is a low priority for this fund.

The applicant has an annual income of over £56 million and unrestricted reserves of over £17 million and appears very financially viable. The current level of reserves is £1 million over the requirement of the organisational reserve policy. The level of reserves raises questions about whether external funding is necessary when internal resources could cover these costs.

No information is provided about the timeframe for this project. The applicant states that permissions and/or consent is not applicable.

The beneficiaries will be long-term resident current patients of the hospital who are all adults with complex disabilities. The applicant states that there are 230 resident patients, only two of whom are residents from Wandsworth. No further information is provided about the beneficiaries. The hospital currently provides around 900 trips per year, so each patient usually participates in at least three trips out annually.

Very limited information is provided about the need for the project, other than a general statement that feedback from staff, patients and families supports the visible benefits of spending time outside the hospital.

The application states that the expected outcomes are improved mental well-being, enhanced rehabilitation, increased autonomy and dignity and connection with family and community. No information is provided about outputs (e.g. number of patients/visits expected with the grant). No information is provided about how a baseline would be conducted or outcomes would be measured, other than a reference to collecting feedback from staff, patients and families

The applicant is seeking a grant of £9,900 to support medically escorted day trips for patients. The application states that the average cost of a single trip is £90, which seems good value for money. The majority of the grant would be spent on paying for existing staff costs (£8,100) which is a low priority for this fund. The remaining £1,800 would be spent on transport and miscellaneous costs. The applicant refers to a £40,000 match of other funding already secured but provides no details of how this will be used.

This grant would be used as a contribution towards the applicant's ongoing programme of escorted day visits for patients, and so is not a standalone project.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Malcolm Grimston: I am very happy to endorse this grant application.

Recommendation Summary

Not to Recommend

- The applicant has £17.3 million in free reserves which is £1 million more than required by their reserves policy and so could potentially fund this project themselves

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With limited funds available to award, a grant of up to £10,000 is likely to have more of an impact with a smaller organisation • This is not a new project but part of an ongoing initiative to deliver escorted patient trips. Existing projects that form part of an organisation's ongoing work are a low priority for the fund. • The grant would mainly be used to pay for existing staff costs, which are a low priority for this fund • Limited information has been provided regarding the monitoring and evaluation of the project. • Only two of the 230 resident patients are Wandsworth residents • Minimal information has been supplied throughout this application
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	N/A

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
14/03/2022	Towards general costs	9,620

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	The Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability is an independent, national, not-for-profit medical charity. It is not part of the NHS. It seeks through the provision of specialist services and research to enable people with profound or complex disabilities resulting from damage to the brain or other areas of the nervous system, to enjoy an optimal quality of life through enhanced independence
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/26	Grant requested	£8,600.00
Organisation name	Safety4Kids CIC	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Safety4Kids Wandsworth	Total project cost	£11,875.00
Website	http://www.safety4kids.co.uk/	Match funding (Cash)	£1,475.00
Theme(s)	Children and Young People	Match funding (in-kind)	£1,800.00
Primary ward of activity	Falconbrook, Shaftesbury & Queenstown	Match funding (%) of total project budget	27.6%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Aydin Dikerdem Cllr Kate Stock	Number of beneficiaries	150
		Grant / per person cost	£57.33
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	N/A	Company number	14598545
Annual Income	£4,006.88 (January 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£4,492.09 (Jan 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£1,263.94 (January 2025) The applicant states they have a reserve policy of three months		
Project Description:			
<p>The applicant has applied for a grant for an extension of the applicant's existing work of delivering courses in schools to children on a variety of topics related to safety. The project would operate in five primary schools in Wandsworth, running 6-week courses in both spring and summer, reaching an estimated 150 children in total.</p> <p>The project is specifically targeting young people as they are about to transition from primary to secondary schools, recognised as a time when children may be particularly vulnerable, and would aim to equip them to deal with issues such as gangs, bullying and grooming. The output would be 150 trained in safety awareness. Limited information is provided about outcomes, although it is clear the project aims to keep children safe. The applicant is working in partnership with the 5 schools where the courses are to be delivered. The applicant has indicated the project would run from January – August 2026.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
Delivery fees for 60 sessions x £100 per session			£6,000.00
Training for delivery support 10 sessions x £50 per session			£500.00
Admin support 40 hrs x £30			£1,200.00
Transport and subsistence			£900.00
Total grant requested			£8,600.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and Young People theme. There is a clear alignment with the theme's priority around early intervention and preventative work for vulnerable young people. Through providing safety awareness sessions at a key period of transition as young people move from primary to secondary school, the project is aiming to help keep young people safe from harm and equip them to be more able to respond to the kinds of challenges they may face in the future, including grooming and gang influence. The course would also provide some self-defence training to participants. The applicant also briefly references that the project could contribute towards the theme of citizenship and civic engagement by helping children to have a stronger awareness of what is acceptable behaviour.

The organisation is a relatively new CIC, incorporated in January 2023. For the year ending January 2025, the organisation had an income of £4,006.88 and expenditure of £4,492.09, so net income that year was minus £485.21. The submitted accounts indicate that the applicant had reserves of £1,263.94 which is in line with the organisational policy to hold three months of operating costs. The grant requested (£8,600.00) is more than double the organisational income for the previous year. Testimonials on the applicant's website indicate the courses have been well received in schools and community centres where they have been previously delivered.

The applicant has suggested a start date of mid-January, which would need to be pushed back in line with the expected decision-making timeframe of this fund. Otherwise, the delivery plan appears realistic, the applicant is already experienced in delivering these courses and has identified the five schools in which the project will run and indicates the schools have already given permission for implementation. The applicant is already working in three of the schools.

The project is targeting 150 students across five schools in Wandsworth. The application indicates that participants will be from Years 6-7, which suggests they will be aged around 10-11. The project is targeting students at the time when they are about to make the transition from primary to secondary school and may be particularly vulnerable. The applicant references that some of the participants may be at risk of exclusion and/or poor mental health, and that many of the students are on free schools meals.

The courses would run for an hour a week over a 6-week period. 15 students would participate in each course. The courses would cover a range of safety awareness topics such as gang influence, bullying and grooming. Courses would run both in the spring and summer terms. Participants would be selected by the schools.

The applicant references that the activities have been informed by feedback from schools and parents that there is a need for supporting children through the transitional phase from primary to secondary school. No external data (e.g. research/local stats) have been provided to back up the anecdotal evidence.

The monitoring and evaluation plan is not adequate to measure the impact of the project. The outcomes are not clearly explained, and it is not clear how progress would be measured. There is no reference to a baseline assessment being carried out. Elsewhere in the application there is reference to how the courses support the participants to build confidence, communication skills and knowledge about to respond to arising challenges, so there are clearly outcomes that the applicant could have referenced. The applicant references using questionnaires and testimonials from teachers and parents, but there is no

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

indication of collecting data from the participants themselves. The only output described is that 150 children would be given six hours of safety awareness training

The cost per child supported is £57.00 which appears good value for money. Some of the budget is a little unclear. The £8,600.00 grant would appear to mainly be spent on organisational staffing costs supporting the project (delivery fees, training delivery support and admin support = £7,700.00 total) plus £900.00 for transport and subsistence costs. The application indicates that £1,475.00 will be provided in cash matched funding towards printed materials (£350.00), parent liaison meetings (£625.00) and reporting (£500.00). Clarification of some of these lines would be needed. The applicant also proposed contributing £1,800.00 of in-kind costs, through 100 hours of project management (£1,500.00) and 20 hours of accounts and reporting (£300.00). The numbers of hours suggested for these lines seem excessively high for this project.

This is an ongoing project, and the applicant indicates that they plan to seek other funding to continue activities beyond this grant, which may include from other councils and crowdfunding. No further details about sustainability are provided.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Aydin Dikerdem: Very happy to endorse your application - please put my name down

Cllr Kate Stock: I wholeheartedly endorse this application. As a Council we are focussed on providing additional support for children during the vulnerable transition from primary to secondary school. This project is incredibly valuable given their approach—combining participatory safety discussions with confidence-building activities; this approach offers a valuable complement to existing school provision and supports the Council’s aim to reduce risk factors such as bullying, gang influence, and absenteeism. I note many of the children who will participant are eligible for free school meals.

Safety4Kids CIC has demonstrated a strong track record of delivery. I have received feedback from a local headteacher that their sessions have be very worthwhile for pupils and have added to pupil's education. I note the application itself also refers to positive outcomes evidenced through teacher testimonials and parent feedback. As well as aligning with the children and young people priority the programme also promotes civic engagement through the development of parent champions and community feedback mechanisms.

Recommendation Summary

Not to Recommend

- The application indicates strong alignment with the fund’s priority for early intervention work among vulnerable children to keep them safe from harm
- The project appears to be part of the organisation’s ongoing work which is a low priority for the fund
- The project outcomes are unclear, and monitoring and evaluation plan could be strengthened
- Some of the budget lines seem disproportionate or are unclear

Recommended Award

£0

Conditions of Grant/ other comment:

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Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Safety4kids is a new Community Interest Company, set up to educate young people aged 9-16 on how to avoid trouble and stay safe on the streets. It focuses on pupils moving from primary to secondary school to support children moving to new environments and new communities. All courses are provided free of charge. It has run courses in 3 Wandsworth schools and 2 community centres in Lambeth. The Courses run for 5/6 weeks during school term time in school hours and consist of a weekly one-hour session. These are designed to discuss issues that are of most concern to the participants within a structured format that covers a range of topic such as gangs and police, mobile phones, safety on public transport.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/27	Grant requested	£8,452.00
Organisation name	Send in Mind / West Central London MIND	Grant recommended	£8,452.00
Project name	Tackling ethnic disproportionality in matters related to SEND for Children and Young People	Total project cost	£13,052.00
Website	https://www.wclmind.org.uk/children-young-people-services/send-in-mind/	Match funding (Cash)	£1,720.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (0-11 years) & Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled & Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£2,880.00
Primary ward of activity	Borough wide	Match funding (%) of total project budget	35.66%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Judi Gasser Cllr Sana Jafri	Number of beneficiaries	360
		Grant / per person cost	£23.47
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered charity and Company limited by guarantee		
Charity number	292708	Company number	01796928
Annual Income	£4,617,098.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£4,912,183.00 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£ 2,334,944.00 (March 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>The aim of the project is to actively engage with parents/carers in Wandsworth (across all three constituencies) to understand their children and young people's Special Educational Needs (SEND) and help them navigate and access the right professionals for support and avoid unaddressed Special Educational Needs becoming co-morbid conditions. The project is to deliver this support directly in the community and across the different wards in a way that responds to barriers such as language, childcare and social mobility and makes it accessible to marginalised communities.</p> <p>The project is taking place in three phases, over three years, in three different locations across the borough, and with three different priority groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 in Tooting Dates: 01/04/2026 – 31/08/2026 Asian Heritage Community • Phase 2 in Battersea Dates: 01/09/2026 – 31/03/2027 Somali and Eritrean Community • Phase 3 Putney 			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Dates: tbc in 27-28
Eastern European and South American Communities.

Funding will be used primarily for phase one of the project taking place from April 2026 to August 2026 and part of phase two; 12 sessions across the two phases will be funded. Phase one of the project will be delivered from the Mushkil Aasaan Centre in Tooting and is due to start in April 2026 and complete by August 2026. Phase two of the project will take place from September 2026 to March 2027 and be delivered from either the EMCA centre or George Shearing Centre, in Battersea. The project is delivered through a series of workshops, the first three are aimed at early years (0-5 years), and coffee mornings sessions before and after the event. Each Phase will include 10 sessions. Participants will be the Parent/Carers of the Children, and Young People (aged 0-19 Years) in Wandsworth without an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) on the Special Educational Needs (SEN) register. Phase one is focused on the Asian Heritage Community whilst phase two is focused on the Somali and Eritrean Community. They anticipate reaching 300 parent/carers and around 60 children and young people.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Phase 1 - Hire of Mushkil Aasaan @ £20/hr Details - 2x3hrs/month for the remaining 5 sessions of Phase 1 = £300	£300
Phase 2 - Hire of EMCA, Battersea @ £30/hr for 3x3hrs/month for the 7 sessions = £630	£630
Admin Support – managing Eventbrite, canva and emails to families £20ph x 3hrs pw x 12 months	£720
Coffee supplies (tea/coffee, water, biscuits, snacks for the assisted play session) @ £20 x 12 sessions = £240	£240
Travel (parking and transport for the delivery partners) @£3.50x2.5 hrs x 3 people x 12 sessions £315	£315
Travel to outreach events x 2 monthly meetings @ £10x2 x 12 months =£240	£240
Translation with premium linguistics for 5 languages @3x£15ph x 5 translators x 12 sessions =£2,700	£2,700
Learning and Play Hub assisted play session @£35x2 x 12 =£840	£840
Specialist session February 2026 and January 2027 - Learning and Play Hub @£65x3hrs x 2 = £390	£390
Specialist Session in March 2026 and February 2027 - Yacksmart @£65x3hrs x 2 = £390	£390
IT equipment – portable projector and wireless microphone Projector £367 plus wireless microphone for £110 = £477	£477
Marketing: SIM table Banners with SEND Community Project @£255 x 2 = £510	£510
End of Phase 1 celebration event in July 2026 Food, drinks and hire (similar to launch on 19/09) with 30-40 people = £350	£300
Launch of Phase 2 event in August 2026 Food, drinks and hire (similar to launch on 19/09) with 30-40 people = £350	£300
Total grant requested	£8,452.00

Assessment Summary:

A good portion of the application is spent setting out how the project aligns with the broader aims of the fund (A fairer, Compassionate and more Sustainable Wandsworth). This is

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

helpful but fails to address their alignment with the specific themes they have chosen. Some limited justification to demonstrate their alignment with the Children and Young People, Health and Wellbeing, Rising Aspirations and civic engagement themes is provided. It is positive that they will be supporting notably vulnerable participants which is a priority under the Children and Young People theme. Furthermore, bringing services under one roof, ensuring that relevant support is more accessible, will make getting support easier which will ultimately have a net positive impact on the mental wellbeing of both parents and children and young people. Whilst they could have made a stronger case for this, enough has been done to successfully demonstrated their alignment with some of the fund's priority areas.

Accounts are available to the end of March 2024 and show income of £4,617,098.00 against expenditure of £4,912,183.00, which resulted in a deficit of £295,085.00. They have net assets of £2,334,944.00, all of which are unrestricted. Despite the significant deficit, they are in a robust financial position with reserves appropriate to the size of the organisation.

The delivery plan lacked clarity and coherence. The applicant has clarified that the overarching project comprises three phases and funding would contribute to phases one and two, both of which take place within 12 months from April 2026 to March 2027. Each phase of the project will comprise 10 sessions, and funding will be utilised for 12 sessions across phase one and two. The organisation and delivery team are embedded in the community and experienced in delivering projects of this type. The delivery plan appears realistic and achievable.

Their target demographic is the SEND parents and carers of 4,389 children and young people (aged 0-19 Years) on the SEN register in Wandsworth. These children and young people do not have an EHCP that provides a framework of support and mechanism to access structured and monitored specialist support. This project provides the framework to signpost and provide access to services that support children and young people. Phase one is focused on the Asian Heritage Community in tooting, specifically early years children (0-5 yrs old), which accounts for 300+ parents. Recruitment is focused on effective engagement through stakeholders, including Professionals, Parents and carers, Translators, and the Venue host; greater clarity here would have been helpful.

From a project need perspective, the case they make is good, noting that new Oxford University research shows that Asian pupils (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Other Asian) are half as likely to be identified with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) as White British pupils. However, a large proportion of Asian pupils may not be receiving the access to specialist resources and support they need. They appear to have already supported 170 parents from the Asian Heritage community, but they suspect that this number is significantly higher. They have also consulted with professionals and SEND parents and carers.

They intend to utilise a mixture of qualitative and quantitative methods to measure impact, including surveys and questionnaires, observation and field visits, track attendance and record engagement, and undertake post session impact meetings. The approach is robust and the outputs clear. Less clear are the project outcomes, which haven't been included in the application.

The total project cost is £13,052.00 and they are requesting £8,452.00 in funding, with £4,600.00 in match finding. the costs appear realistic and reasonable for the project. The budget is detailed and spread across various expenditure lines, including salary costs, equipment purchase and venue hire.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Judi Gasser: I am very happy to endorse this project which will add to the important work SEND in MIND is already doing, particularly focussing on some of our hard to engage families.

Cllr Sana Jafri: Please can I endorse an application for a grant; the grant is for an organisation called Send in Mind. I have witnessed the outstanding service that this organisation provides to Wandsworth residents.

Recommendation Summary	Recommend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant successfully demonstratef alignment with the priorities of the fund. There is clear merit in the application, which is supporting a vulnerable group in need of support The organisation and delivery team are embedded in the community and experienced in delivering projects of this type. The delivery plan appears realistic and achievable. The applicant has robust finances and are in a stable position. Their reserves equate to 5.7 months of operational expenditure which is appropriate to the size of the organisation.
Recommended Award	£8,452.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
SEND Family Support	September 2023	£203,642.05 Per Annum
Wandsworth Mental Health Floating Support	Not Specified	£337,996.22 Per Annum
Workshops for parents of children who have ADHD	Not Specified	£2,500

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	West Central London (WCL) Mind is a community-based organisation providing mental health support and clinical interventions across London - by using decades of local community knowledge to help people, live the life they want to live.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/28		Grant requested	£10,000.00								
Organisation name	Share Community		Grant recommended	£0								
Project name	Gardening for All		Total project cost	£21,349.00								
Website	www.sharecommunity.org.uk/		Match funding (Cash)	£2,000.00								
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing		Match funding (in-kind)	£9,349.00								
Primary ward of activity	Wandsworth Common		Match funding (%) of total project budget	53%								
Member Endorsement	Cllr Henderson Cllr Graham Cllr Cook		Number of beneficiaries	70								
			Grant / per person cost	£143.00								
Organisational information												
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee											
Charity number	264894	Company number	01081030									
Annual Income	£2,290,763.00 (March 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£2,334,787.00 (March 2025)									
Unrestricted Reserves	£430,000.00 (March 2025)											
Project Description:												
<p>Share provides a range of programmes to support and empower adults with learning difficulties and autistic adults. They are requesting funding to redevelop parts of their onsite garden in Tooting, providing accessible raised planters which will enable students to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs in the existing polytunnel as part of their horticulture programme.</p> <p>The applicant estimates that around 70 existing Share students will participate in garden activities as a result over the next year, 30 of whom will be Wandsworth residents. The project would commence in spring 2026, planting seeds for the summer growing season, and outcomes of the students would be tracked for the next year.</p> <p>The applicant outlines how gardening activities will provide multiple health and wellbeing benefits including promoting physical activity, enabling access to nutritious food, and reducing social isolation through group work. It will also allow the polytunnel to be used more effectively throughout the colder season as an outdoor classroom.</p>												
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Total grant requested	£10,000
<p>Assessment Summary:</p> <p>The applicant has applied under the Health and Wellbeing theme, indicating that funds would be used to purchase and build new raised planters to better equip the gardening programme which supports autistic and disabled adult students to develop practical horticultural skills. The application makes the case that gardening activities contribute towards both physical and mental health, and that learning about and growing vegetables increases the likelihood of the students eating them as part of a nutritious diet. Additionally, the groupwork approach will contribute towards tackling social isolation. The project is supporting people with learning disabilities, who are recognised as a priority group for this fund. The applicant also indicates that the project would contribute towards other thematic areas including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raising Aspirations and Potential through training students with practical skills that would support them in future work or volunteering in horticulture ○ Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods through promoting green skills s and sustainable practices such as using green waste for compost ○ Children and Young People – supporting young disabled adults under 25 with skills development and supporting independent living (although later in the application it is noted that the average age of students is 35) ○ Citizenship and Civic Engagement through building participants’ confidence and communication skills. <p>Although providing new supporting infrastructure, the project appears to be largely a continuation of existing activities (a horticulture programme for students) and so is a low priority for this fund.</p> <p>The applicant has steadily grown its income over recent years from a variety of sources and accounts and returns have been filed on time. The current level of reserves is within its organisational policy. On this basis we can conclude the applicant appears financially viable. The organisation has a well-established presence across south London, operating from four sites in Tooting, Battersea, Brixton and Kennington. Share aim to have free reserves sufficient to meet vulnerabilities in its planned operations and to have a degree of flexibility to invest in new areas. The Trustees have set a target range for free reserves of £430,000 to £460,000. This represents around 19% of forecast expenditure in the coming year, which the Trustees expect will safeguard the continued liquidity of the Charity while allowing project opportunities for future development to be pursued.</p> <p>The applicant states that they have been delivering horticulture training to disabled and autistic adults for 30 years from its garden site in Tooting and so are well placed to deliver this training over the coming year. They have qualified staff ready to support the project. The new planters would be installed quickly, ready to plant seeds ready for the summer growing season. They are an adult social services partner and have received funding to provide digital inclusion support from Prevention and wellbeing commissioners. They are also on the Learning Disability delivery framework overseen by Learning Disability commissioning team.</p> <p>The project would be supporting 70 Share horticulture students, 30 of whom are residents of Wandsworth. A majority of residents supported will therefore not be Wandsworth residents. Many of the students have been referred to Share through Social Services. Information provided about current Share students indicates an age range of 19-74 years, 69% are male, all have a learning disability and just under half are autistic. The applicant</p>	

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

also suggests that a further 20 Wandsworth residents could indirectly benefit as the families of students bringing home nutritious food to eat.

Limited information is provided about the need for the project. The design of the new raised planters has been informed by feedback from students who found standing for long periods of time difficult using the ground-level planters. The applicant references NHS research (the 2021 Learning Disabilities Mortality Review) that highlighted that people with learning disabilities were adversely impacted by health inequalities and have lower life expectancies.

The applicant provides a plan for measuring the outcomes of students on the horticulture programme using existing tools, but it is not clear how this would measure impact of the difference that the planters funded by the grant would make. The organisation uses the Outcomes Star tool to measure progress of students against individual health and wellbeing goals. The outputs and outcomes to be measured are a little unclear but it would include enrolment data tracking the mobility needs of students accessing the site, and improvements in wellbeing and physical health using the Outcomes Star. If this project is funded, it is recommended to clearly agree outputs and outcomes to be tracked, along with case studies to be documented.

The applicant is seeking £10,000 to cover the costs of material for two planters, compost and the labour cost of installation. The costs seem relatively high for the planters being procured. The project is estimated to benefit around 70 students, so the overall grant cost per beneficiary is also high (£143 for all, or £333 per Wandsworth resident). The applicant is contributing £2,000 of their own funds towards raised flower beds and a raised pond, and £9,349 of in-kind support from volunteers supporting weekly gardening sessions. In total the applicant would be contributing 53% match towards the project costs, which is above the threshold required.

The project would cover one-off costs of installing the new planters, to equip the site, after which Share would continue offering its ongoing horticulture programme.

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Graeme Henderson: I recently visited this excellent horticulture project which gives those with learning disabilities a real purpose and outlet for their creativity. It also starts to engage them in day-to-day activities that others take for granted. The training and therapeutic benefits to those who participate is immeasurable.

Due to the redevelopment of their garden, they have lost one of their polytunnels where they used to grow vegetables. They now want to start growing vegetables in the other double polytunnel.

The application is to fund some new raised planters, including some accessible ones which will enable students in wheelchairs to sit and work with the plants / veg: Previously all the veg was grown at ground level, which proved difficult for some students to access. They need accessible, raised planters to give both students in wheelchairs and those who find standing for a long period of time challenging more opportunity to participate in the horticulture programme. It will also allow the polytunnels to be used more effectively throughout the colder seasons as outdoor classrooms.

The bid is aimed at the health and wellbeing strand of the Fund, a) because of the benefits that gardening has on physical and mental health and b) because giving more students access to growing vegetables increases the likelihood of them eating / cooking with them.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

All these objectives are entirely consistent with the Health and Well-Being Strategy. The Share Community are a highly respected and efficient organisation that can be relied upon to deliver good value for money.

Cllr Angela Graham:

The wonderful work that Share has done must continue and to have the planters so that wheelchair users can experience the planting, caring and the growing of vegetables all goes to health and wellbeing and the understanding of the natural world and the cycle of food. The raised planters and beds will be accessible for all needs is the way forward with your horticultural vision and visioning forward. I am very happy to support their application.

Cllr Jonathon Cook:

I'm sorry to hear Share has lost a polytunnel due to the redevelopment and can appreciate that they now want to maximise usage of the other. I'm happy to endorse the application.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funds would be to support the applicant's existing ongoing horticulture programme rather than a new project. Projects which form part of an organisation's ongoing activity are a low priority for the fund. • The number of people supported is low, and the cost per beneficiary is high • Less than half of the students benefiting are anticipated to be Wandsworth residents.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Provision of Life skills and wellbeing services to adults with learning disabilities and autism. From October 2023, delivery of services on the Life Skills and Wellbeing Activities framework. Previously ad hoc provision.		£658,876 in 2024/5 £531,809 in 2023/4
Digital Integration	November 2024	£25,000 (plus potential further £25,000 in 25/26)
Healthy Eating Project	July 2024	£8,000 (further £8,000 due in 25/26)
Spring Engagement Grants	April 2025	£1,096

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R27 (July 2024) Inclusive Health and Wellness	Awarded £9,984	Project ongoing
R14, (July 2020) Healthy Cooked	Awarded £9,650	Project completed

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Meals for Vulnerable Wandsworth Residents delivered to people's homes		
R13 (Feb 2020) Healthy Cookery Classes	Awarded £9,900	Project completed
R9 (Oct 2018) Unknown	Awarded £8,000	Project completed
R7 (Feb 2018) Planting for Wellbeing	Awarded £7,000	Project completed
R3 (June 2016) Unknown	Not Awarded £9,000	N/A
R2 (Jan 2016) Cooking Skills	Awarded £14,989	Project completed
R1 (June 2015) Unknown	Not Awarded £9,879	N/A

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Share provide a range of programmes, activities and qualifications aimed at supporting and empowering adults with a learning disability and autistic adults to live happier, healthier and more independent lives. It operates out of two training centres, in Battersea and Brixton, a garden – in Tooting – and a community café and sports hub in Vauxhall. It currently works with 191 students each week and provides support for their carers. Courses offered develop creative expression, independent living skills and employability. It also provides volunteer-led befriending and social opportunities at evenings and weekends.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/29	Grant requested	£9,744.70										
Organisation name	Smallwood Primary School & Language Unit	Grant recommended	£0										
Project name	Small Wood, Big Garden	Total project cost	£16,644.70										
Website	http://www.smallwood.wandsworth.sch.uk/	Match funding (Cash)	£900.00										
Theme(s)	Children and young people (0-11 years)	Match funding (in-kind)	£6,000.00										
Primary ward of activity	Tooting Broadway	Match funding (%) of total project budget	41.5%										
Member Endorsement	Cllr Rex Osborn	Number of beneficiaries	271										
		Grant / per person cost	£35.95										
Organisational information													
Type of Legal structure	Primary School												
Charity number	N/A	Company number	N/A										
Annual Income	£3,356,003.27 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£3,425,312.34 (March 2024)										
Unrestricted Reserves	- (March 2024)												
Project Description:													
<p>Smallwood Primary School & Language Unit are requesting funding to transform a neglected garden area and part of the school playing field into a vibrant outdoor learning space, including a Garden Area and Orchard Zone, to promote biodiversity, healthy living, and hands-on learning for their students. The project is being delivered in partnership with Think Outside Outdoor Learning, who are a CIC that have designed and maintained garden spaces for numerous schools (including 10 in Wandsworth), churches, community centres and a care home for the elderly.</p> <p>The project, which is due to start in April 2026 and conclude in December 2026, will take place primarily outside of school time, across 12 volunteer days at weekends for children and parents to help with building and learning practical gardening skills. 12 days of group workshops will also be offered, including tailored sessions for children with SEND, behavioural and motivational challenges. Children will have access to the Garden and Orchard Zones during normal lessons with their teachers as part of the extended learning opportunities offered by the outdoors. They indicate that all 251 children, many of their parents, 20 teaching staff, governors and other local residents will benefit from the project.</p>													
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Decking - 6 x (29mm x 124mm x 3.6mm) @£8.45	£50.70
Wood for nature zone/log pile, bug hotels, digging tubs, mud kitchen - various	£300.00
Wood screws - assorted lengths/widths	£79.00
Mulch - 180 x 60l bags: bulk price for 60 - £265	£795.00
Fruit trees - 7 x semi-mature apple trees (each £80 - £100)	£630.00
7 x tree stakes (+free protection/surrounds) @ £25	£175.00
Fresh topsoil for pits (20 x 25l) - bulk price	£138.00
Picket fence - 20 x (1.8m length x 0.9m height)	£700.00
Posts + supports: 20 x £30	£600.00
Large wooden shelter (3.7m x 2.9m)	£1,400.00
Orchard shed for tools and "loose parts" play	£260.00
Workflow management - co-ordination, ordering, buying & delivery, planning sessions: 10 hrs @50ph	£500.00
Volunteer weekends: 2 days for 6 weekends: 5 hrs pd @£50 pd	£3,000.00
Total grant requested	

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and young people (0-11 years) theme, indicating that many of their students are living in deprivation, with 37.5% in either deprivation band 1a or 1b; 33.9% of their students receive free school meals, and 41.4% have special educational needs; whilst 65.7% come from ethnic minority groups and 31.6% speak English as a second language. They are clearly supporting priority groups that sit under the Children and young people (0-11 years) theme, which is positive, however in the main, only limited information has been supplied to demonstrate alignment with the actual priorities under that theme.

Whilst its not explicitly stated in the application, some alignment does result from project's focus on being outdoors, connecting with nature while being physically active; learning about nutrition and seasonal eating; planting and harvesting. All of these are skills for later life, the development of which is a priority for the fund. They also indicate that the project supports other themes, including health and wellbeing, environment and attractive neighbourhoods and achieving aspirations. Reasonable cases have been made for health and wellbeing and environment and attractive neighbourhoods. The application would have been stronger had they applied under the latter theme where their alignment is arguably strongest.

An income and expenditure report has been provided for the 2024 financial year, which shows income of £3,356,003.27 and expenditure of £3,425,312.34, which resulted in a modest deficit of - £69,309.07. No information has been provided on their reserves or their reserves policy, so we are unable to comment on either of these. However, as a community school, we do not have any concerns regarding the organisation's long term financial sustainability.

They have provided a detailed phased delivery timetable for the lifetime of the project that appears entirely realistic and appropriate. They have engaged a delivery partner for the project 'Think Outside Outdoor Learning', who are a CIC that have designed and maintained garden spaces for numerous schools (including 10 in Wandsworth), churches, community centres and a care home for the elderly. They seem to have the necessary expertise and experience to deliver the project.

They have been clear on those who will take part in the project, which includes the school students, their parents and staff. They will therefore recruit from among their own students, which makes sense within the context of the project. This is a community fund however and it would have been beneficial if they had considered access to the wider community.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

There has been some consultation with staff and the Parent Teacher Association, who are motivated to engage children in more outdoor gardening activities. They note that the school is in an area of Public Open Space Deficit (score: 1 based on the Ward that the school is located in) and an Urban Heat Island (score: 0.86 based on postcode of the school). Some justification of need has therefore been provided; however, the case is not particularly strong and the application could have been improved by the inclusion of information and data more aligned with their chosen themes.

In terms of monitoring, they will gather data informally by talking to participants, getting written feedback and using creative evaluation tools (scrap books, symbols, photographs, etc) when working with younger participants who would find formal monitoring difficult. The approach doesn't appear especially well defined, and it would be helpful to understand what the consistency of approach is. Project outputs are clear, however outcomes by comparison lack clarity and could have been made more specific and measurable.

Costs appear to be broadly realistic and appropriate. They are requesting £9,744.70 in funding that will be spent primarily on material costs for the separate garden and orchard zones. £3,500.00 has been allocated to Think Outside's costs.

This is a standalone project, and it is expected that staff and parent volunteers working on the project will gain the necessary skills to maintain the site in the longer term. It has been designed with good-quality materials that will last for many years, and maintenance costs are expected to be low.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Rex Osborn: This project should be supported because it doesn't merely assist traditional teaching it also puts Smallwood School at the heart of its active, conscientious, forward-looking local community.

The project gives children skills and discernment that enable them to meet and contend with the future. It engages parents too. It gives extra stimulation to an already highly committed teaching staff.

Tooting Broadway needs every scheme like this that eases its green space deficit and improves its air quality. This is more than just a plan for a new teaching project or a new school garden plus some trees. This initiative starts with what's best for the students but then goes on to create green space that enhances health and well-being for all and engages the whole community in improving the environment. This is a big idea, with big commitment and big ambitions in what shall be, in a very special sense, a big garden.

Recommendation Summary

Not to Recommend

- There is some alignment with fund priorities.
- There is also a clear project plan, and the partners have the necessary skills and experience to deliver the project.
- Project need has not been clearly demonstrated and would have benefited from additional information.
- Their approach to monitoring and evaluation is not clearly defined and it would be helpful to understand what the consistency of approach is.

Recommended Award

£0

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	
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Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Climate Action Microgrant	2024	£500.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R27/July 2024/Smallwood Primary School and Language Unit Spanish Club	Not awarded	N/A

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Smallwood is a Primary School (Community) including a specialist language unit and school-based nursery provision from 3 years +.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/30	Grant requested	£9,940.00
Organisation name	Sport in Mind	Grant recommended	£9,940.00
Project name	Physical Activity to improve mental health	Total project cost	£13,284.00
Website	www.sportinmind.org	Match funding (Cash)	£2,000.00
Theme(s)	Health and Well-being	Match funding (in-kind)	£1,344.00
Primary ward of activity	Roehampton, Tooting Bec and Broadway	Match funding (%) of total project budget	25%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Juliana Annan Cllr Graeme Henderson	Number of beneficiaries	50
		Grant / per person cost	£198.80
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1161323	Company number	-
Annual Income	£1,177,551.00 (February 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£931,146.00 (February 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£490,765.00 (February 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>Sport in Mind is requesting funding to deliver two new one-hour sport and physical activity sessions a week for 48 weeks, to improve people’s mental well-being. The sessions will be aimed at adults with serious mental illness and those struggling with their mental health. One will be in Tooting and the other in Roehampton.</p> <p>A Sport in Mind Development Officer is working with Places Leisure to deliver the sessions to complement their GP referral scheme. The referral programme is a community-based initiative that works in partnership with local GP surgeries, mental health services, and community organisations to identify residents in need of wellbeing support, including those struggling with mental health challenges, isolation, or inactivity. These sessions provide a clear next step for those exiting clinical services or those not qualifying for intensive intervention, promoting preventative and recovery-based support. There is a clear need for a sport/physical activity session specifically for people with mental health conditions and these new Sport in Mind Sessions will be added as a referral pathway option and communicated to practitioners as part of the Places Leisure resource pack.</p> <p>The session in Roehampton will be delivered from Roehampton Sports and Fitness Centre, Laverstoke Gardens, Roehampton, London SW15 4JB, whilst the session in Tooting will be delivered from Tooting Leisure Centre, Greaves PI, London SW17 0NE. Delivery will begin in March 2026 and conclude in February 2027 and reach a total of 50 participants, 30 taking part on a regular basis and 20 on a more ad-hoc basis.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
Hire of Venues for 2 hours a week for 48 weeks @ £50			£4,800.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Coach/Instructor costs for 2 hours a week for 48 weeks @ £40 per hr	£3,840
Wellbeing journals for 30 residents @ £30 per journal	£300.00
Admin/coordination/marketing and promotion	£1,000.00
Total grant requested	£9,940.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Health and Wellbeing theme, indicating that the project will increase physical activity levels through the provision of two structured hours of sport/physical activity and guidance to support additional activity throughout the week. They note that this is particularly important for target beneficiaries as people with serious mental illness die on average 15-20 years prematurely due to physical health problems. Regular engagement in sport and physical activity is proven to have a positive impact on mental and physical health, enhancing mood, increasing self-esteem, reducing levels of stress and symptoms of anxiety and depression. Studies have shown that there is approximately a 20% to 30% lower risk of depression for adults participating in daily physical activity. They indicate that for many people struggling with their mental health physical activity is inaccessible. According to their own data, 91% of the people they engaged in 2020 said they felt unable to access mainstream sport due to their mental health. The applicant has provided a great deal of information to evidence their alignment with the priorities of the fund.

Accounts are available to the end of February 2024 and show income of £1,177,551.00 against expenditure of £931,146.00, which resulted in a healthy surplus of £246,405.00 for the year. They have net assets of £1,434,226.00 of which £490,765.00 are unrestricted. The organisation's reserves policy is to maintain six months operating costs in reserve, which they are currently meeting. Free reserves aren't excessive for the size and nature of the organisation or the requirements set out in their reserves policy. They are in a healthy financial position.

A detailed timeline has been provided setting out the delivery plan from project launch, through marketing, delivery and data collection. Consent has been obtained for the Places Leisure venues; no other permissions are required. The delivery plan is realistic and achievable within the timescales. The organisation and staff have the necessary experience and qualifications to deliver the project.

Beneficiaries will comprise adults with serious mental illness (SMI) such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, depression and anxiety, as well as those struggling with their mental health. Support will be targeted to those people most in need, who face poverty, exclusion, and discrimination and struggle to access traditional mental health support. The Referral Demographics based on 2024 data, include adults Primarily 25–55, 60% female, 40% male, 45% Black/Global Majority backgrounds and 58% unemployed or on Universal Credit.

Sport in Mind are working closely with Places Leisure, and these sessions will form part of their GP referral scheme. This partnership is a significant strength, given their established reputation in the borough and existing referral pathways through GP surgeries and social prescribing networks. People will be recruited via Talking Therapies, GP surgeries, mental health nurses, social prescribers, and community outreach workers complete a simple online referral form. Residents will also be able to self-refer via their website, Places Leisure website or through community partners. Sport in Mind will also look to establish their own partnerships with the community mental health team, local MIND and other local voluntary services supporting people with mental health conditions.

They have clearly demonstrated the need for the project, noting that an estimated 44,000 adults in Wandsworth live with common mental health disorders and in Roehampton there

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

are more people registered with serious mental health conditions than in any other area in Wandsworth. The self-reported wellbeing (2022/23) survey showed that almost 21% of respondents had high anxiety. Around 19% of adults in Wandsworth report being physically inactive, with barriers such as cost, stigma, and social isolation frequently cited. Active Lives data shows that people in lower socio-economic groups are less likely to be active than those in higher – in London only 46.5% are doing 150 minutes a week compared to 74.3% in higher socio-economic groups. 54.5% of Roehampton residents are economically active, which is lower than across Wandsworth and residents are more likely to be long-term unemployed across Roehampton than for Wandsworth generally.

They will use the online system, Upshot, to track project delivery and collect data, including sessions delivered, attendance and participant demographics, home postcodes, mental health conditions, and any disability or other long term health conditions. They also collect surveys, case studies, regular feedback and testimonials, utilising their new Net Promoter Scale to measure mood and their participant experience. Project outputs and outcomes are clear and appropriate to the project. Monitoring and evaluation plans are therefore of a reasonable level however could be strengthened by incorporating validated physical activity measures (e.g., IPAQ) at baseline, 12 weeks, and follow-up points to better evidence impact.

Costs appear realistic with the bulk of the budget being spent on venue hire and sessional costs for the coach/instructor. They are requesting £9,940.00 in funding towards a total project cost of £13,284.00, that includes match funding and in-kind support of £3,344.00 that represents 25% of the project cost.

From a sustainability perspective, this the project could be enhanced by exploring opportunities for Places Leisure staff to be trained to deliver sessions post-funding, building local capacity and reducing reliance on external support.

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Juliana Annan: I am pleased to support Sport in Mind's funding application, in partnership with Places Leisure. This project will provide much-needed opportunities for residents in Roehampton, Furzedown, and Battersea to improve their mental well-being, reduce social isolation, and strengthen community connections through sport and physical activity. I fully endorse this initiative and believe it will have a positive and lasting impact on some of Wandsworth's most deprived communities.

Cllr Graeme Henderson: As the Cabinet Member for Health and Chair of the Health and Well-being Board, I welcome this initiative to help those adults with mental health issues to become more involved in sport and physical activity. We know that mental and physical health are closely related with one impacting upon the other. Since COVID we have seen an exponential increase in demand for mental health services. Initiatives like this support social prescribing as a means of tackling mental health issues without the emphasis on medication. The referral programme is a community-based initiative that works in partnership with local GP surgeries, mental health services, and community organisations to identify adults who would benefit from and participate in the scheme. Roehampton, which will be one of the sites where the programme will be run on the Alton Estate is an area of social deprivation that can often lead to mental health problems.

Recommendation Summary

Recommend

- The Application demonstrates strong alignment with the Health and Wellbeing theme, focusing on increasing physical activity among adults with serious mental illness.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Beneficiaries are disproportionately affected by health inequalities. • The partnership with Places Leisure is a significant strength, given their established reputation in the borough and existing referral pathways through GP surgeries and social prescribing networks.
Recommended Award	£9,940.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant to confirm that validated physical activity measures (e.g., IPAQ) are incorporated into their monitoring plan at baseline, 12 weeks, and follow-up points to better evidence impact. • Applicant to explore opportunities for Places Leisure staff to be trained to deliver sessions post-funding, building local capacity.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R30/August 2025/ Physical Activity to improve mental health	Not Awarded	N/A

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Sport in Mind improve the lives of adults, children and young people experiencing mental health problems through sport and physical activity. We deliver free, community and inpatient sessions for those experiencing mental health problems, working closely with NHS trusts. Our person-centred programmes—co-designed with people with lived experience—improve wellbeing, boost confidence, and inspire positive change. We support adults, pregnant and postnatal women, and young people with weekly sessions, wellbeing journals, workshops, and volunteering opportunities. Everything we do promotes the mental health benefits of being active and aims to remove the barriers our audience face when trying to stay active.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/31	Grant requested	£9,100.00
Organisation name	Sport4Health	Grant recommended	£9,100.00
Project name	Winstanley Youth Basketball Sessions	Total project cost	£12,400.00
Website	https://sport4health.co.uk/	Match funding (Cash)	£1,900.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (12- 18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£1,400.00
Primary ward of activity	Latchmere	Match funding (%) of total project budget	26.61%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Simon Hogg Cllr Stock	Number of beneficiaries	30
		Grant / per person cost	£303.33

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1207371	Company number	-
Annual Income	£192,471.00 (September 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£197,936.00 (September 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£5,465.00 (September 2024)		

Project Description:

The project will provide two basketball sessions per week of two hours duration (one after school during the week and one at the weekend), to residents of the Winstanley and York Road Estates. They have delivered weekly sessions at Battersea Sports Centre for some years now and have had contact with local young people who report that there is a lack of provision on the Winstanley and York Road Estates.

The project will be managed by a qualified basketball coach who will be the Lead for the project, whilst an assistant will provide support. They intend to begin delivery in spring 2026 and conclude delivery by the end of October 2026. All participants will live locally on both estates, be predominantly from disadvantaged families and from ethnic communities aged between 11-16.

The project aims to tackle disadvantage and poverty affecting young people on both estates as well as address the risks of poor mental health and wellbeing by providing structured basketball sessions in the community. Sessions will provide local young people the opportunity to have positive, supervised, sports activity and to meet locally to socialise with others, build self-confidence, learn new skills, and be less alone and isolated.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Lead Qualified Basketball Coach @ £40 per hour x 2 hours per session x 70 sessions 5,600	£5,600.00
Assistant Qualified Basketball Coach @ £25 per hour x 2 hours per session x 70 sessions 3,500	£3,500.00
Total grant requested	£9,100.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and young people (12- 18 years or 25 if disabled) theme. They have not clearly demonstrated their alignment with the priorities that sit under this theme; however, this can be inferred to some extent. The support they will be providing however, clearly aligns with the Health and Wellbeing theme. In addition to increasing the availability of physical activity they will also work to promote healthy eating and lifestyle to their participants.

Accounts to the end of September 2024 report income of £192,471 against expenditure of £197,936, resulting in a deficit of £5,465. Total assets stand at £3,539, all of which are unrestricted. The organisation's policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves equivalent to at least three months of expenditure; this requirement is currently not being met. While the financial position remains relatively stable, it is notably tight, with historically small surpluses or deficits each year. This latest year marks the first time in several years that the deficit has reached thousands.

The delivery plan is straightforward and realistic within the timescales given. The project is expected to start on 1st March and end on 30th October. They have indicated that no additional permissions or consents are required.

They have been clear on the beneficiaries who they intend to support. They will be supporting young people from Winstanley and York Road Estates, between the ages of 11-16 who come from disadvantaged, and Black Asian and Ethnic Minority backgrounds. Additional information could have been provided on their approach to recruitment. They indicate that they received funding for a pilot of this project, and they have maintained relations with previous attendees; should funding be secured, they will reach out to them and then rely on word of mouth from there.

Consultation has taken place with parents on the estates following the pilot project which shows some demand and support for the project. The remaining evidence, links somewhat to the chosen theme in that it suggests the project will have a positive diversionary impact on participants who live in the area, where the violence and antisocial behaviour statistics are comparatively high. Little other data or information has been provided on health and wellbeing. The application could have been strengthened had they explored need in more detail.

The applicant will complete pre and post-delivery surveys which will be the primary approach to assessing distance travelled against outcomes. They will also collect feedback, take photos and may make a video. Outputs are very clearly articulated and corresponding outcomes are reasonably well aligned to these.

The request comprises the sessional costs for both the basketball coach and the assistant at £9,100.00. The lead coach is being charged at £40 per hour which feels a little high but not excessively so. They are contributing £3,300.00 in match funding which is just above the required threshold at 26.6%

From a sustainability perspective, they have not applied to any other funders for this project, however they plan to review mid-project performance before looking at alternative funding for spring/summer 2027.

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Hogg: Thank you for getting in touch. I'd be happy to endorse it.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Cllr Kate Stock: I strongly endorse this project. The project aligns with the children and young people theme. The proposed delivery of this programme on the Winstanley estate itself is welcomed as this is an area of high levels of deprivation and there is a gap in provision for affordable basketball sessions in the geographical area.

Sport4Health has demonstrated a strong track record of delivering inclusive, community-led programmes within the local area and they already have parents and young people who are keen to attend outdoor basketball sessions.

The project therefore supports the Council's aims of tackling inequality and disadvantage. Promoting physical and mental wellbeing, engaging residents in meaningful, locally accessible activities as well as supporting community cohesion and reducing antisocial behaviour.

The project is well-planned and offers excellent value for money. I support the project as it will make a tangible difference to young people's lives and contribute positively to the local area.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project clearly aligns with the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing thematic area. • The project plan is clear, realistic and achievable. • The project will have a positive diversionary impact on participants who live in the area • Outputs are clearly described and corresponding outcomes are well aligned to these. Their approach to monitoring is appropriate to the project.
Recommended Award	£9,100.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
COL R2 – Table Tennis sessions + hot food provision for older residents in Battersea	15/02/2024	£10,210.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R9/August 2018	Not Endorsed	N/A
R13/November 2019/ Wandsworth 55+ Sports and Social Club	Awarded, £4,030.00	The provision of 2 hours per week of sport-related activity (e.g. Badminton, table-tennis) for 20 older residents (aged 55+) to take place at Battersea Sports Centre and to run for 30 weeks from Spring 2020.
R18/August 2021/ Physical activity sessions for	Not Awarded	N/A

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

older LGBTQ+ community in Wandsworth		
R24/July 2023/ Badminton and wellbeing sessions for older people in Wandsworth	£9,060.00	The provision of 3.5 hours/ week of professionally delivered sport (badminton) and wellbeing exercises to 25 people 55+; for 40 weeks in total; at Battersea Sports Centre.

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	We provide sports, social activities and programmes for the health, social and wellbeing benefit of disadvantaged people of all ages, particularly older people, young people, and those from minority communities. We are both LGBTQ+ and global majority led (70% of Board; 75% Coaches/Staff) and with several Board members aged 55+. We have provided opportunities for disadvantaged people and communities since 2006. Our office base is in Westminster as we have it pro bono; but we have lived and worked in Wandsworth for many years and had previous Wandsworth grant funding as well as repeat funding from the Wimbledon Foundation.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/32	Grant requested	£10,000.00
Organisation name	St Mark's Church	Grant recommended	£10,000.00
Project name	Replacement of lift	Total project cost	£54,000.00
Website	https://smbc.church/	Match funding (Cash)	£42,000.00
Theme(s)	Achieving Aspirations and Potential	Match funding (in-kind)	£2,000.00
Primary ward of activity	Lavender	Match funding (%) of total project budget	81%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Jonathon Cook	Number of beneficiaries	2,500
		Grant / per person cost	£4.00
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1135080	Company number	N/A
Annual Income	£853,207 (Dec 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£1,003,452 (Dec 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£173,445 (Dec 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>The applicant is requesting funding to contribute towards replacing the lift which has been in service for 20 years and for which replacement parts are no longer available. The church building is used for multiple purposes in the local community including by the Wandsworth Foodbank, Spear Clapham Junction, Wandsworth Foodbank Advice Project, Wandsworth Mediation Service, Wandsworth One-Stop Shop (drop-in services for survivors of domestic abuse) and various other functions. These services are delivered in partnership with multiple external partners including Citizen's Advice, Spear, and the Trussell Trust.</p> <p>Built on a hill, the site has facilities on five different levels, and the lift is essential for the provision of accessible services. A significant number of the current services users are disabled or have a long-term condition requiring inclusive access to the site. The lift is also essential for bringing in food deliveries for the food bank. The applicant estimates that over 2,500 people will use the above community services within the first 12 months of the new lift being operational. The outcomes of the project are linked to the services provided, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supporting young people back into work and/or education through the Spear programme ○ Increased income through the Foodbank Advice Project ○ Provision of food to Foodbank users <p>Significant match funding is required for this project. The applicant has already raised £10,000 from the church congregation and the remainder will be met from reserves and other grants. Supplier tenders have already been secured, and the applicant estimates the lift installation process will take around 4 months and can be carried out between February-May 2026. Monitoring will then continue to track service users utilising the lift.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Chain drive platform lift (Gartec Inc)	£10,000
Total grant requested	£10,000

Assessment Summary:

St Mark's Church is a valued community resource. The services operating from the premises are all well known to Work Match over many years. The Council have supported the Spear Programme with participant referrals and staff visits to some of their learning cohorts; we have made use of Wandsworth Mediation Service for dispute resolution, and we occasionally outreach to the Foodbank to promote our range of employability services.

They are requesting funds under the Raising Aspiration and Potential theme and several groups who utilise the site, do undertake work that directly relates to priority this, and other themes. One of the groups that utilises the site, for example, is the Spear Programme which supports young people aged 16-23 into work and/or education through a programme of coaching, practical training and follow-up support. All of the participants have at least one barrier to accessing work/education when they join the programme, including disabilities. The Children and Young People theme was not mentioned in the application, but the Spear programme would contribute to that theme through its focus on young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEETs). Additionally, Wandsworth Foodbank and Foodbank Advice Project both operate from the site so there is a link to the Health and Wellbeing theme through enabling access to nutritious food through the Wandsworth Foodbank, and help to resolve financial difficulties, impacting on stress and mental health. The site sees extensive community use from a range of groups accessing several services, who's work directly aligns with priority themes; it is therefore a good fit for the fund.

St Mark's has a well-established presence in Battersea Rise where it provides multiple services for residents. Wandsworth Foodbank, Spear Clapham Junction and Wandsworth Mediation Service have been operating out of the church premises for over 12 years. The organisation has raised a consistent level of income over recent years, and annual returns and accounts have been filed on time. The current level of reserves appears slightly lower than is targeted under their reserves policy. The organisation aims to hold unrestricted reserves to the value of a minimum of three months of expenditure. Reserves are monitored on a monthly basis.

The delivery plan appears realistic; they have already completed the tendering process and identified a suitable supplier. The proposed start date is in February, with an estimated four months' delivery process (including manufacture, delivery, installation and redecoration) to be completed by May 2026, and then ongoing monitoring of usage.

The applicant has confirmed no planning permission or other consents are required and that the project would still be able to proceed in the agreed timeframe even if their other applications for a further £12,000 match funding from elsewhere were unsuccessful

The project would benefit the users of the building who would otherwise be impacted by the lift being out of use. Based on figures from the previous year, this would include 2,000 people accessing the Foodbank, 250 people accessing the Foodbank Advice Project, 80 young people participating in the Spear programme, 100 people accessing the Mediation service and 100 people accessing the One Stop Shop among others.

The applicant has been advised by the lift's current servicing company that replacement parts are no longer available, and it will not be possible to repair the lift when it breaks down. Multiple community providers operate out of the venue, working in partnership with various

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

referral partners including council services and national agencies. The applicant states they have been in consultation with the providers about the lift potentially being out of service and they have fed back that the lift is vital for the continued operations of the programmes. The applicant also states that a significant proportion of users of the various community programmes have accessibility issues including physical disabilities and need the lift to be able to access services.

The monitoring and evaluation plan has limited information, in part due to the nature of the project. The applicant has suggested tracking the number of community and church users and also gathering narrative feedback from the projects using the premises on the impact of an improved reliable lift for the users. It is recommended to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation component by agreeing additional specific quantitative KPIs (e.g. # Spear service users, % of Spear trainees in fulltime work or education after completing the course, # tonnage of food distributed through the foodbank or # households receiving emergency food supplies) and capturing quotes or case studies from service users whose access was affected by the lift.

The applicant has tendered the project to four suppliers and has selected the supplier who provided the most comprehensive and lowest fixed price quote for a total project cost of £54,000 including warranty and servicing. The majority of the cost is for the removal and disposal of the old lift and installation of the new lift (£47,930 total), along with the refurbishment of the hall and stairs after installation (£4,070). The applicant is committing a substantial proportion (81%) of the funds themselves for this project, £20,000 from organisational reserves, alongside significant funding (£10,000) that has been raised from the local congregation/community indicating strong local support for this initiative. The applicant is awaiting responses to funding requests submitted to other trusts and foundations for the remaining £12,000 balance. The match commitment also includes £2,000 for pro-bono support from an architect. The new lift is expected to be operational for around 20 years, which the applicant estimates will work out around £2 per beneficiary over the lifetime of the lift, which appears good value for money.

The supplier quote selected includes a 5-year parts warranty and free servicing for the first 12 months, after which time St Marks will take over the cost of annual servicing to ensure the longest lifespan possible for the new lift.

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Jonathon Cook: I'm happy to endorse this grant application - I'm familiar with the church layout over many years, indeed most of the lifetime of the current lift, probably most recently Spear meetings and can appreciate how vital it is.

Recommendation Summary

Recommend

- The project would benefit multiple community groups accessing services at the venue and there is merit in this as these groups do undertake work that aligns with priority themes.
- The applicant is proactively addressing a need before it becomes a critical issue, ensuring a valued community resource remains in effective operational use
- Beneficiary numbers are notable and speak to the projects value for money and impact
- Monitoring and evaluation plans are not particular strong and clear outputs and outcomes should be agreed for an award to be confirmed.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Recommended Award	£10,000.00
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear outputs and outcomes to be agreed • The applicant to confirm that the remaining funds required to carry out the project have not already been secured.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>St Mark's is a church based in Battersea Rise. The premises are used throughout the week by a variety of local charities and other providers to deliver community services. St Mark's provides the venue, operational support and volunteers for Wandsworth Foodbank and Spear Clapham Junction. It also provides the venue for the Foodbank Advice project (led by Citizens Advice), Wandsworth Mediation service and Wandsworth One-stop shop (Domestic Abuse support). It also hosts a weekly women's drop-in and ad hoc courses for the local community including bereavement, parenting and marriage courses, and ad hoc events including Cheer (single parent lunches), weddings and funerals.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/33		Grant requested	£6,385.00
Organisation name	The Baked Bean Charity		Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Foundation Active Beans		Total project cost	£8,466.00
Website	https://www.bakedbeancompany.com/		Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Health and wellbeing		Match funding (in-kind)	£2,121.00
Primary ward of activity	Battersea Park Ward		Match funding (%) of total project budget	25%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Tony Belton		Number of beneficiaries	15
			Grant / per person cost	£426.00
Organisational information				
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity			
Charity number	1163851	Company number	-	
Annual Income	£1,487,065.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£1,612,527.00 (March 2024)	
Unrestricted Reserves	-£151,370.00 (March 2024)			
Project Description:				
<p>The Baked Bean charity is requesting funding for their Foundation Active Beans (FAB) project that will deliver weekly group activity sessions for adults with learning disabilities, designed to improve physical health, mobility, and overall wellbeing. Sessions will run every Wednesday, and each will include a structured mix of warm-ups, energisers, themed activities, relays, team challenges, and cool-downs. All activities are designed to be inclusive, accessible, and fun - focusing on four key areas of physical development: coordination, balance, agility and stamina.</p> <p>The project is split into a 12-week cycle, with each week alternating between the four themes to build skills consistently while keeping sessions fresh and engaging. For example, participants might take part in a “Ninja Warrior” agility session one week, and a “Space Race” stamina challenge the next. Each activity is broken down into small, manageable steps to suit a range of needs and abilities, with clear instructions and visual aids.</p> <p>The project will support adults with learning disabilities improve their physical health, mobility, and confidence through fun and inclusive weekly sessions. With rising levels of obesity and inactivity in this community, FAB provides a safe, supportive space to get active, learn new skills, and build healthier habits.</p> <p>The project is intended to start between December 2025 and January 2026 and conclude in March 2026. It will be delivered in the Hall of the Wilditch Community Centre and support and anticipated 10 adults with learning disabilities, 8 of which are Wandsworth residents.</p>				
Description of item and costs calculations				Cost (£)

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Venue Hire £80 x 12 weeks	£960.00
Staff £20ph x 4.5 Hours x 12 weeks = £1,080 X 3 staff = £3,240	£3,240.00
Flyers	£80.00
Admin Hours £20ph x 20	£400.00
Speaker	£300.00
Equipment Sports Equipment £500 Educational Resources £100 Floor Piano £100 Paints, pens & felt-tips £250 Glue, Tapes and floor tapes £50 Storage bags & boxes £50 12 x Yoga matts - £135	£1,185.00
Awards Afternoon: Refreshments £70 Awards £150	£220.00
Total grant requested	£6,385.00

Assessment Summary:

The project outcomes match well with the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing theme. For example, the outcome of participants getting fitter, moving more and feeling better in themselves match well with the priority of projects that increase physical activities and healthy eating amongst priority groups most impacted by health inequalities (e.g. people with learning disabilities). Outcomes for the project also focus on improving social connections and helping to reduce isolation, which fit well with the priority for activities which focus on reducing social isolation and feelings of loneliness.

For the financial year ending March 2024, the applicant reported an annual income of £1,487,065 and an annual expenditure of £1,612,527. They had unrestricted reserves of minus £151,370. The financial position is clearly explained in the accounts and draft income and expenditure figures provided within the application form show a more positive financial position.

The Charity Commission shows that their annual report and accounts were submitted late for the last two years. The Fund criteria states that organisations must not have more than one late submission within the last two completed financial years. The applicant is therefore ineligible for funding.

The delivery plan looks realistic for the 12-week programme. Required permissions are in place for the use of the community centre and participants have already filled out participation questionnaires. With all the information given, it appears that they will be ready to activate within 3 months post Grants committee. The proposal is well-structured, with clear aims to improve physical health, confidence, and social connections through inclusive weekly sessions. Charity is a well-established organisation with a strong reputation and a history of partnership with the Council, including supporting delivery of the Life Skills Framework for people with learning disabilities (LD).

The beneficiaries have been described clearly as those with LD, although the application could have been strengthened if participants had also been specifically identified as physically inactive to maximise impact on health inequalities. Nonetheless they have already engaged and identified potential participants of the programme which is positive. They also engaged with their student council to help research/identify what the programme would look

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

like. This is a priority group as it relates to health and wellbeing, which is a positive aspect of the application, although beneficiary numbers are notably low at 10-15 participants.

The need has been identified through the Public Health Annual Report 2020 which states that “People with disabilities or long-term conditions are twice as likely not to be active enough for good health”; whilst helpful, this could have been strengthened by including more recent data on overweight, obesity, and physical activity levels in this population to highlight disparities. They also provided evidence from consultation with their student council where they noticed that anything ‘fitness’ related didn’t appeal to at least 40% of the group. On balance, they have done a reasonable job of establishing a need for their project.

The monitoring and evaluation plan looks adequate to measure the assumed outcomes, although the organisation needs to remember in the pre-project surveys to enable individuals to record a baseline for wellbeing and fitness and that this gets tracked through the project to properly evidence individual progress.

The costs appear realistic although the costs per participant seem quite high, if they had 10 participants the costs would be £638.00 per person and if they had 15 participants the costs would be £423.00 per participant. The full grant requested is for £6,385.00 with staff hours and equipment being the highest costs. They have identified other financial and non-financial support in line with match funding requirements for the grant fund.

This is currently a standalone project, but the organisation is looking to build on the skills, equipment and structure developed during this time to continue the sessions as part of their ongoing programme. They are looking at future places being funded through a mix of student contributions, personal budgets, and referrals from local services, as well as through applying for other small grants.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Tony Belton: As the ward councillor, I am delighted to support and endorse this interesting looking proposal to help people with learning and confidence disabilities to conquer their issues. Baked Bean's track record, as displayed during this Year of Culture, stands as witness to the organisation's track record and success. I wish it all the best in this application for a grant.

Recommendation Summary

Not to recommend

- A clear need has been established but could have been strengthened with more up to date data.
- Questions remain over the organisation’s financial position, although draft accounts for 2025 show a more positive outlook.
- The application could have been strengthened if participants had also been specifically identified as physically inactive to maximise impact on health inequalities.
- The Charity Commission shows that their annual report and accounts were submitted late for the last two years. The Fund criteria states that organisations must not have more than one late submission within the last two completed financial years. The applicant is therefore ineligible for funding.

Recommended Award

£0

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	
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Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth Arts Fringe funding for 2024	20/12/2023	£2,000
Wandsworth arts fringe funding for 2025	12/03/2025	£2,000
Funding for Liberty Festival R&D	26/02/2025	£1,500
Funding for strictly Wandsworth – Zumba	12/05/2025	£500

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R27/July 2024/ London Calling	Not Awarded	N/A
R25/ Rise up Discos	Awarded, £10,000.00	The project will deliver 4 inclusive club nights, held across the year, in Wandsworth for 40+ adults with learning disabilities to attend.
R24/July 2023/ Plane Sight	Awarded, £4,532.00	16 theatre-based workshops over a 4-month period for/ with 20 adults (aged 21 to 70 yrs.) who have learning disabilities
R21/July 2022/ Artsy Beans	Awarded, £7,500.00	20-week length art course (6 hrs per week) at Tooting Works for 25 young people and adults that reside in Wandsworth - who are vulnerable, have learning disabilities, complex needs, autism/As
R12/November 2019/ Healthy Green Beans	Awarded, £7,212.40	Health Green Beans is a bespoke healthy lifestyle course designed and targeted towards learners with learning disabilities, complex needs and autism/Asperger's, with a focus on education around green issues and recycling.
R8/June 2018	Not Awarded	N/A
R7/February 2018/ Healthy Beans	Awarded, £7,512.00	Healthy Beans is seeking to provide a new healthy lifestyle course, specifically designed and targeted towards learners with learning disabilities, complex needs, autism/Asperger's.
R4/November 2016/ Runner Beans	Awarded, £8,000.00	A pilot sports course for adults and young people with learning difficulties.

Brief description of the aims and	The Baked Bean Charity is an organisation that champions people with learning disabilities through creative arts and well-being
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

activities of the organisation

programmes that push boundaries, empower lives and create a world where every individual can thrive.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/34	Grant requested	£9,550.00
Organisation name	The Furzedown Project	Grant recommended	£9,550.00
Project name	Care and Connections	Total project cost	£17,007.00
Website	www.furzedownproject.org	Match funding (Cash)	£1,157.00
Theme(s)	Health and Wellbeing	Match funding (in-kind)	£6,300.00
Primary ward of activity	Furzedown	Match funding (%) of total project budget	44%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Judi Gasser	Number of beneficiaries	30-40
		Grant / per person cost	£239-£318
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	1076087	Company number	3662469
Annual Income	£330,901.00 (March 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£210,961.00 (March 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£116,195.00 (March 2025)		
Project Description:			
<p>The applicant is requesting funding to provide a year-long Carers' support Group for unpaid older carers aged 60+ across Wandsworth. The project would commence with a recruitment phase in February 2026, followed by eleven months of delivery and a final evaluation period. Activities will take place at the charity's accessible centre in Moyser Road and in local green spaces across the borough.</p> <p>In person weekly sessions at the community centre will offer a mix of wellbeing activities, creative workshops, and peer-led discussions, with online options for carers unable to attend in person. Additional activities include monthly health workshops, outdoor activities such as community gardening, cycling and park walks, digital skills support, and one-to-one wellbeing check-ins for carers needing extra help.</p> <p>An estimated 30-40 carers will participate in the programme. The project's planned outcomes include improved mental wellbeing and reduced isolation, increased confidence and self-esteem, enhanced digital and practical skills, better physical health through gentle movement and outdoor activity, and increased awareness of available support services. The applicant will work with partners such as GPs, NHS Social Prescribers, Wandsworth Carers' Centre and the Wandsworth Care Alliance for referrals.</p>			
Description of item and costs calculations			Cost (£)
Project Co-ordinator 4hrs/week @ £22/hr x 50 weeks			£4,400.00
Project Manager 2 hrs/month@£25/hr x12 months			£600.00
Session Facilitators 40 sessions @ £50 /session			£2000.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Utilities	£700.00
Workshop and Activity Materials	£800.00
Marketing and Publicity	£300.00
Monitoring and Evaluation	£750.00
Total grant requested	£9,550.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant is applying to the fund under the Health and Wellbeing theme. The project is aimed at supporting carers, who are a priority for this fund as one of the groups most impacted by health inequalities. The application makes a strong case as to how the project activities would meet priorities under this theme, by creating a network of support for residents providing unpaid care for friends and family members, and by activities which focus on reducing social isolation and feelings of loneliness. This is also well aligned with Step 19 of the Wandsworth Health and Care Plan 2025-7, which identifies unpaid carers as a group particularly at risk of social isolation. The project also has elements which contribute towards the Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods theme through promoting walking and cycling and through repairing and upcycling workshops. The application also references a link with the theme of Raising Aspiration and Potential through sessions on digital skills, but the case around this is weaker.

The applicant has also outlined the various way in which the project will support the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy through embedding environmental responsibility throughout the project design, for example in promoting walking/cycling activities and promoting upcycling and repair skills.

The organisation has maintained a steady income in recent years. Annual submissions to the Charities Commission have been on time for the past two years but the annual confirmation statement due to Companies House is currently overdue. The applicant has a long-standing presence in the area and has been supporting older residents with a variety of programmes for many years. It is recognised for its inclusive, responsive and collaborative approach to improving health and wellbeing. It has a network of trusted local relationships and a successful record of improving wellbeing and reducing isolation among those it serves. The Trustees recognise the need to hold sufficient reserves to sustain the charitable core activities in the event of any unforeseen reduction in income and to meet its legal obligations. The policy aims to have sufficient free reserves equivalent to at least six months' operating costs. At the year-end, the free reserves stood at £116,195 which is above this minimum.

The applicant has a clear plan of deliverable activities for the project. This includes

- Weekly group sessions combining wellbeing activities, light exercise, and creative workshops
- Green space activities such as gardening, park walks, and cycling workshops.
- Peer-support small group discussions creating a space for sharing experiences, coping strategies and self-care tools
- Monthly health and information workshops delivered by professionals on carers' rights, stress management, healthy lifestyle and accessing local services
- Practical activity sessions on topics including textile repairs and upcycling, eco-friendly household practices and digital skills
- One-to-one wellbeing support for carers needing additional help and signposting.

Delivery will be supported by a part-time coordinator, trained volunteers, and various external guest speakers and specialist facilitators. Although most activities are in person, where possible online participation will be offered for those unable to attend due to caring

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commitment or mobility barriers. The project will work in collaboration with Wandsworth Carers' Centre for specialist advice and referrals, and with local health link workers, social prescribers, and counsellors for themed workshops. The timescale proposed for the project (13 months) is beyond the maximum 12 months permitted by this call.

The project seeks to support around 30-40 carers aged 60+ from Wandsworth during the 1-year project. The project plans to target unpaid and paid carers in Wandsworth who are experiencing stress isolation or other barriers due to their caring role. Some will be existing members of the Furzedown Project, others are anticipated to be referred from external sources including GP practices, Wandsworth Carer's Centre, social prescribing and other community partners. There will be a specific focus on reaching carers who are on low incomes or at risk of social isolation, from underrepresented or minority communities, or are living with their own long-term health conditions or disabilities.

The applicant indicates that direct referrals are expected from multiple sources including Wandsworth Carer's Centre, GP practices, NHS Social Prescribers, the Wandsworth Care Alliance and local voluntary sector networks. Other than the Carer's Centre, there is no reference to consultation with the other stakeholders in this project design and so it is not clear if they have agreed to make referrals to this project.

The project plans to promote the service through multiple channels including the current member base, newsletters, GP surgeries, libraries, community hubs and neighbourhood groups, leaflet and poster distribution and local social media. In the event that the service is oversubscribed, the project has outlined transparent criteria for prioritisation.

The applicant references data from the 2021 Census that reported 17,705 people in Wandsworth borough were providing unpaid care, just under half of them for over 20 hours per week, and around half of those for over 50 hours per week, indicating a significant number of people likely to be facing stress, isolation or risk of burnout. A 2024 joint report published with the Wandsworth Carers and Young Carers Charter found that the proportion of people providing over 20 hours per week was increasing. Many carers are not fully identified or supported by local services.

The project design has been directly informed by consultation with local carers and members of the Furzedown community, which has taken place through surveys, focus sessions and informal discussions, to ensure that the plans reflect their needs, priorities and lived experiences. Findings from a recent member survey and discussion groups highlighted a need for more emotional support, peer connection, skills development and respite opportunities for unpaid carers as well as activities to improve both mental and physical health. Sessions have been designed to respond to specific needs already expressed from local carers and will be further informed by input from carers gathered from feedback sessions during the launch and set up period.

The Furzedown Project already works closely with other key stakeholders including Wandsworth Council, Wandsworth Carers' Centre, local GPs, social prescribers and Furzedown Community Network. This project seeks to bridge formal and informal sources of support by providing peer support and connecting participants with available services. The applicant states Wandsworth Carers' Centre have been consulted in the design of the project to avoid duplication and to support two-way referrals.

The applicant identifies one current barrier to support for carers is distance, that by providing a local neighbourhood base in Tooting/Furzedown, this is more accessible for carers who cannot travel far due to their caring responsibilities and so are unable to access

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more centrally located borough-wide services. The application does not provide any indication of the level of need in the local area, i.e. how many unpaid carers in the neighbourhood are in need of support.

The application sets out clear output targets and anticipated outcomes, and an M&E plan that seems comprehensive. Outputs include the 30-40 carers targeted to engage in the programme, the number of activity sessions and wellbeing check-ins delivered, partnerships established, and a final learning and evaluation report. Outcomes for participants include improved mental wellbeing, reduced isolation and increased social connection, increased confidence and resilience, enhanced physical health and activity levels, increased digital and environmental awareness and greater access to information and support. Wider project outcomes relate to strengthened local networks and enhanced use of green and community spaces. Data will be gathered through baseline questionnaires for participants using recognised wellbeing tools, activity logs to track attendance, retention and facilitator observations, and qualitative feedback through focus groups, interviews, quotes and case studies. Project reviews will be held quarterly to evaluate progress and inform future activities.

The applicant is seeking a grant of £9,550.00 to support the costs of establishing a support group for carers and running it for a year. The funding would cover the staffing and facilitator costs of running the sessions, workshop and activity materials, marketing and publicity, and a contribution towards utilities and monitoring and evaluation costs. The running costs seem proportionate to the project. The staffing and facilitation costs appear directly related to the project sessions. The applicant is also contributing £7,457 of match funding, both in cash (for refreshments and additional workshop and activity materials) and in-kind through volunteers. The match funding contributes 44% of the total project funding and so meets the 25% match funding requirement of the fund. The grant cost per beneficiary is high (£239-£318) but it is likely that once the carers' support group has been established, the project may continue to support further beneficiaries beyond the one-year term of this grant funding.

Longer term, once the carers' network is established, the applicant plans to integrate this work into the wider activities of the Furzedown Project, using the volunteers who have been trained during the project term. The applicant suggests a blended funding model would enable activities to continue, including support from other identified donors using evidence from the first year, and introducing optional small fees from participants to join future sessions.

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Judi Gasser: I am very happy to endorse this application. The Furzedown Project is a very well respected and successful local organisation; this project is a vital addition to the services the Project provides for local people.

Recommendation Summary

Recommend

- The project aligns strongly with the Health and Wellbeing theme
- The project is targeting carers who are a priority group to support
- There are a clear plan of delivery and a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan
- The project will work in collaboration with multiple local stakeholders, helping to strengthen coordination and referral pathways

Recommended Award

£9,550

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Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project implementation period will need to be reduced to 12 months, with updated start and end dates provided • Confirmation that multiple stakeholders (e.g. GP surgeries, social prescribers, Wandsworth Care Alliance) have agreed to refer participants to the programme to enable the applicant to meet the target of 30-40 participants. • Applicant to ensure carer output from this project is kept separate from monitoring reports for Adult Social Care commissioned work so there is no double-funding/recording of activity.
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Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Warm Spaces - Adult Social Care and Public Health funding	March 2025	£16,000
Warm Spaces - Adult Social Care and Public Health funding	Jan 2025	£4,500
Commissioned/partnership services	Jan 2023	£75,000 distributed quarterly
Warm Space and Food Grant	Jan 2023	Awarded £11,140

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R25 (Dec 2023) Aging on Our Own Terms	Awarded £8,860	Project completed
R24 (July 2023) Kitchen Equipment	Awarded £1,293	Project Completed
R18 (Nov 2021) LGBTQ+ Forum	Awarded £9.835	Project completed

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>The Furzedown Project is a registered charity operating in Furzedown in the south of the borough. It provides an activity centre for people aged 50 and over, with a mission to improve wellbeing, reduce social isolation, and support independence among older adults.</p> <p>The organisation delivers a broad range of health, social, and wellbeing activities, including falls prevention, digital inclusion, creative arts, and intergenerational projects. Activities are largely member-led and take place six days a week at the centre, which serves approximately 200 members weekly and maintains a membership base of 390. For those unable to attend in person, there is a volunteer run weekly home visit service.</p> <p>In addition to social and recreational opportunities such as art classes, fitness sessions, and cultural groups. Through these initiatives, The Furzedown Project seeks to address the health and</p>
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	psychological challenges associated with isolation and ensure older residents remain active, connected, and valued members of the community
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Ref No	R31/35	Grant requested	£4,637.44
Organisation name	Tooting History Group	Grant recommended	£3,637.00
Project name	Historic Shops of Tooting Trail	Total project cost	£12,152.44
Website	https://tootinghistory.org.uk/	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	Match funding (in-kind)	£7,515.00
Primary ward of activity	Tooting Broadway, Tooting Bec and Furzedown	Match funding (%) of total project budget	62%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Rex Osborn Cllr Paul White	Number of beneficiaries	310
		Grant / per person cost	£14.95

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Unincorporated association (community group)		
Charity number	N/A	Company number	N/A
Annual Income	£1,491.25 (December 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£1,290.29 (December 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£5,310.15 (December 2024)		

Project Description:

Tooting History Group (THG) are requesting funding to create a walking trail of historical Tooting shops. Using a collection of historical photos of Tooting (1900-1960), they plan to display a selection on 25 (A2) posterboards in shop windows throughout Tooting. Each shop's board will include a historic image and information about the shops that have previously occupied the premises.

The planned historical shops trail connects the present to the past. It is an opportunity for today's residents of Tooting (and beyond) to explore local heritage, to see what the high streets of the past looked like and reflect on how things have changed. They plan to display a selection of the photos on large posters boards, in shop windows of the shops featured in the photographs, creating a 'real life' then and now.

They will host a public talk (March 2025), and 2 x guided walks of the trail (April and June 2026, the latter as part of the Wandsworth Heritage Festival). They will produce printed maps; some will be available in the shops, Tooting library and at other THG events, and there will be a QR code on each display board, linking to the project-specific website. There will also be a trail tick off list to encourage families to take part - it will include simple visual clues to find and tick off along the trail - it will be available in digital and paper format.

Project delivery is due to start in February 2026 and conclude in July 2026. They anticipate reaching 310 beneficiaries directly, including members, volunteers, shopkeepers, talk and guided trail attendees directly and the grant per person cost has been calculated on this basis. They anticipate reaching many hundreds if not thousands of beneficiaries through passers by looking at the posters and utilising the online resources.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Artwork design for 25 x history display boards	£1,000.00
Project-specific website design to develop online interactive map	£1,000.00
Artwork design for map and trail tick off list	£1,000.00
Recording and editing (audio/video) of talk including closed captions	£500.00
25 x 10mm A2 Foamex history display boards (£20 per board, Chelsea College of Arts Printing)	£500.00
Chalk stencil and sprays	£150.00
Fixtures for attaching display boards (command strips £13.49 x 10 packs, wall fixing screw set from B&Q £7.99 x 5 packs)	£174.85
Printing A4 folded leaflets of trail map x 1000 (vistaprint)	£192.59
United Reform Church x 2 h room hire (£40 p/hx3)	£120.00
Total grant requested	£4,637.44

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Citizenship and Civic Engagement theme, stating that the project will bring local businesses, history, and residents together, hopefully sparking an interest in the local area and create opportunities for intergenerational conversations. They also indicate that the project will be delivered free of charge, and they will work with partners to ensure hard to reach communities are engaged.

They suggest that the project will contribute to additional themes, including health and wellbeing, Children and young people (0-11 years), Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods. The case they make for these additional themes is less successful than their primary theme, as it is hard to see how the project aligns with specific priorities that sit under the additional themes, with perhaps the exception of reducing social isolation and feelings of loneliness where a reasonable case can and has been made. Across the project, the applicant has provided enough justification to demonstrate their broad alignment with the different themes.

THG is small, as an unincorporated organisation, however their finances appear to be in a stable position. Accounts for the 2024 calendar year have been provided, showing income of £1,491.25 against expenditure of £1,290.29, which generated a small surplus of £200.96. They have total reserves of £5,310.15 which represents 49.4 months of operational expenditure based on last year's performance. They do not have a defined reserves policy.

The delivery plan is detailed and achievable. Project delivery is due to start in February 2026 and conclude in July 2026 with the public talk taking place in March and the guided walks taking place in April and June. The project will be delivered by members of the group who are experienced with this type of project.

The project is designed to be open access, and they anticipate supporting primarily Tooting/Wandsworth residents, many of whom may not have an existing interest in local history and heritage. This appears to be by design to ensure broad appeal and accessibility. The approach to marketing and engagement is varied and appropriate to the project, comprising online marketing strategy, utilising platforms such Facebook and X, blogging and email marketing, list events with appropriate websites. More traditional marketing like posters, flyers, newsletters and press releases will be used in conjunction with the online

marketing strategy and engagement with partner organisations like local libraries, schools etc.

Some evidence of need has been provided to show demand for the organisation and the projects they deliver. They note that Tooting Broadway/Tooting Bec averages 500,000 visitors a month according to TFL's Network Demand Dashboard reports, Local residents have shown interest in the topic, with approx. 70 attendees to every Tooting History Group talk. Initial approaches to shopkeepers have also been made, and positively received, with a clear appetite for finding new ways for the public to engage with local businesses. Evidence of need would have been strengthened if more information had been provided to link project need with their chosen priority.

An online participant survey for talk, guided tour, and self-guided participants, to include qualitative feedback on the events, as well as demographic information will be used on this project. They will also be able to record the following:

- The number of in person visitors on the guided walks
- Record the number of online resource downloads
- Record of how many participants/volunteers and hours worked

The monitoring approach is varied and appropriate to the project. Additionally, project outputs and outcomes are clearly articulated and measurable. There are no significant concerns regarding monitoring and evaluation.

Costs appear broadly reasonable for the nature of the project. They have included £1,000.00 for website design to develop the online interactive map, which is a lower priority for the fund. A reduced amount is therefore recommended. The total project cost is £12,152.00 and they are contributing £7,515.00 in match funding which is equivalent to 65% of the total project cost.

This is a standalone project however it will have passive benefits in the longer term as the digital resources developed will be maintained beyond the initial project lifetime. The applicant has applied to London Borough of Culture Community Investment Fund in July 2025 but were unsuccessful. They are also considering applying to the Wandsworth Historical Society and National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Rex Osborn: This project should be supported because of the attractive Tooting items that it puts on display and the way it displays them. The proposed trail allows visitors and residents to get a purchase on what makes Tooting history unique and does so in a fashion that delivers community cohesion, focused enquiry, local exploration, and an active life.

This is a project that familiarises both Tootingites and incomers with the present-day commerce of Tooting and its rich past. It's a scheme that sells the best of Tooting for everybody as well as to everybody.

Cllr Paul White: This is a comprehensive and well-researched project, from an established community group, that will enlist other established amenity groups, retailers and the community to produce this project.

THG is a valuable resource to this community, shining a light on its history and engaging in projects that develop an insight into histories and legacies that most people know little about.

This particular project certainly fits within that. Tooting has a particular high street economy, that tends to suffer less from turn-over and empty premises and so is fairly unique in that regard. But how did that develop, what were the conditions that allowed this strong unique identity of diversity and specificity to come into being and what came before?

The architecture of the area is very “South London,” but from a different era, having a knowledge of this and empathy towards this, will help preserve this unique neighbourhood and resist pressures towards homogenisation, where neighbourhoods become “identikit,” with little distinctness and this will provide a bulwark against the bulldozers and commercial pressures that lead to that “sameness” experienced elsewhere.

I completely endorse this application and hope to see it coming into being and learning so much about my great town!

Recommendation Summary	<p>Recommend, but propose a lower level of funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizenship and Civic Engagement has been chosen as the primary theme and enough information has been provided to justify the applicant’s alignment with this theme. • Project need could have been strengthened; however, it’s clear that the project will have a positive benefit for the local community. • Project delivery elements, including monitoring and evaluation, the delivery plan and budget were notably impressive, particularly for the size of the organisation.
Recommended Award	£3,637
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If awarded funding, the applicant is encouraged to review and expand their safeguarding policy.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
None		

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Tooting has a rich history, and Tooting History Group (THG) aim to promote a wider awareness of that history through a well-attended programme of talks, walks, and special events which are open to members and the public. They also keep a watching brief on buildings of historic interest. Their Conservation Officer attends Wandsworth Council’s Conservation and Heritage Advisory Committee, to represent members’ interests regarding Tooting’s built heritage: considering planning applications in Conservation Areas, to listed buildings across the borough, and local planning matters concerning non-designated heritage assets, locally listed assets and items nominated for local listing. THG has a steadily growing membership and is run by a committee of volunteers.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/36	Grant requested	£1,950.00
Organisation name	Tooting Woodcraft Folk	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Tooting Woodcraft Folk Annual Programme	Total project cost	£3,736.00
Website	https://woodcraft.org.uk/about-woodcraft-folk/	Match funding (Cash)	£806.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (0-11 years) & Children and young people (12-18 years or 25 if disabled)	Match funding (in-kind)	£980.00
Primary ward of activity	Tooting Broadway	Match funding (%) of total project budget	47%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Judi Gasser	Number of beneficiaries	20
		Grant / per person cost	£47.5

Organisational information

Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity		
Charity number	1148195	Company number	-
Annual Income	£1,269,031.00 (December 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£1,457,752.00 (December 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£499,739.00 (December 2024)		

Project Description:

Tooting Woodcraft Folk run weekly groups for children aged 6 to 15 using co-operative games and fun activities to teach them about nature, social equality, outdoor pursuits and more. They would like funding to deliver a programme of outdoor activities such as camping and hikes, and a weekly session in term time that will support the children in new achievements, recognised in badges they earn, in creativity and self-expression, health and wellbeing, environmental awareness, nature and awareness of global issues.

Activities are designed to help all the children regardless of their ability, to gain confidence, think for themselves, debate, learn new skills and become good citizens, including volunteering to help others. This is achieved through co-operative games and fun activities that teach them about nature and the environment, social equality and peace, outdoor pursuits, health and wellbeing. A local nature walk and summer camping trip is planned.

The project will support between 15-20 children between the ages of 5-15 years old, all of whom are from the local area. It will take place between March 2026 and March 2027, at Sellincourt Primary School.

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Hire of school hall 1x 2hrs/ week for 39 weeks @ 25/hr	£1,950.00
Total grant requested	£1,950.00

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and Young People theme but has not clearly demonstrated their alignment with this theme. A case could be made for the project supporting children and young people to succeed and helping them with key transitions, but this hasn't been addressed within the application. Nonetheless, the project broadly aligns with the Citizenship and Civic Engagement through encouraging more active citizenship and increasing volunteering.

The Tooting Woodcraft Folk are a branch of the national charity, Woodcraft Folk. Accounts for the national charity have been provided showing income of £1,269,031.00 against expenditure of £1,457,752.00, which resulted in a deficit of £188,721.00 for the year. They have net assets of £2,120,043.00, of which £499,739.00 is unrestricted free reserves. Their reserves policy has not been specified in their application, nor is it clearly articulated in their accounts. Current free reserves represent a little over four months of operational expenditure based on last year's performance. Despite the significant deficit, Woodcraft Folk are in a robust financial position with reasonable but not excessive free reserves.

The applicant states that activities are designed to help all the children regardless of their ability, to gain confidence, think for themselves, debate, learn new skills and become good citizens, including volunteering to help others. This is achieved through co-operative games and fun activities that teach them about nature and the environment, social equality and peace, outdoor pursuits, health and wellbeing. Beyond a nature walk and camping trip however, the application doesn't set out specific outputs that they intend to deliver, and it would have benefited from greater clarity here.

The project will support between 15-20 children between the ages of 5-15 years old, all of whom are from the local area. The delivery location, Sellincourt Primary School, is on the border of the borough so it should be confirmed that a majority of beneficiaries will be Wandsworth residents. It appears that recruitment will be focused on current beneficiaries, although they do intend to promote the offer through schools, GPs, parents and carers' networks, and social media - The national Woodcraft Folk organisation provides marketing support.

The applicant relies primarily on testimonials to evidence need. Whilst these show positive outcomes and clear demand for the project, little information has been provided to effectively demonstrate actual need and the application would have benefited from greater information here.

The applicant indicates that they monitor each child and track their participation and constantly evaluate how the programme is performing. Little elaboration is provided beyond this however – detail on the specific tools, systems and processes would have strengthened the application. Outputs make sense within the context of the project, but outcomes lack specificity.

They are requesting £1,950.00 in funding towards a total project cost of £3,736.00, with the remainder, £1,786.00, covered by cash and in-kind match funding. Funding would be put solely towards the cost of the school hire, which is realistic. If funding isn't received, they intend to apply to other funders, although none have been identified in the application, or increase subscription fees, which they are hesitant to do as it would pose a barrier to those parents on low incomes.

Councillor Endorsements

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Cllr Judi Gasser: I am very happy to endorse this application. I know Woodcraft Folk to provide a supportive, inclusive environment where all children are encouraged to learn new skills, make new friends, build their confidence and have fun.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to Recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is clear merit in the application and value for money in the proposal. • Not enough information has been provided to clearly evidence the case for support and justify an award at this time. • The application would have benefited from greater information on the project plan, project need and impact.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant is recommended to consider re-applying following feedback from the WGF Grants Team.

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
None		

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R30/July 2025/Tooting Woodcraft Folk Annual Programme	Not awarded (Late Submission)	N/A

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>Tooting District Woodcraft Folk are a branch of the national charity, Woodcraft Folk. The charity helps children develop into active citizens with a special concern for nature and the environment, through a programme of stimulating, supportive activities that embed skills, learning and positive values. We run weekly groups for children aged 6 to 15 in a local school, using co-operative games and fun activities to teach them about nature, social equality, outdoor pursuits and more. We organise camps and hikes. Our inclusive group is open to all children, including those with disabilities, and low cost. All live in or near Tooting, many in areas of high deprivation. We are 100% volunteers.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/37	Grant requested	£1,000.00
Organisation name	Transition Town Tooting	Grant recommended	£1,000.00
Project name	TootingCAN	Total project cost	£4,040.00
Website	Transition Town Tooting	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	Match funding (in-kind)	£3,040.00
Primary ward of activity	Tooting Broadway	Match funding (%) of total project budget	75%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Rex Osborn	Number of beneficiaries	150
		Grant / per person cost	£6.67
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Unincorporated Association (community group)		
Charity number	N/A	Company number	N/A
Annual Income	£7,257.00 (February 2025)	Annual Expenditure	£6,684.00 (February 2025)
Unrestricted Reserves	£2,275.00 (February 2025)		
Project Description:			
<p>Transition Town Tooting (TTT) is a community group (Unincorporated Association) based in Tooting focussed on climate change and sustainability; they are part of the worldwide network of Transition Towns.</p> <p>The project is a one-day event that brings together the Tooting community to share their skills (what they “CAN” do) with the wider community and each other. These skills are varied in scope and are generally, but not exclusively, based on finding sustainable (and low cost/no cost) solutions to issues such as repair of electrical goods, re-purposing textile waste and learning to produce nutritious home cooked food. Together with a shared meal, the event is a celebration of community-led solutions to sustainability which encourages active citizenship and builds social cohesion. This event is “of the community, for the community.” The event will look to engage with over 150 participants with 90% being Wandsworth/Tooting residents. Across the day, there will be around 15 different skill sharing workshops.</p> <p>It is hoped that the event will create opportunities for learning through skill sharing, and will enable disadvantage communities to access community expertise, with the event being free and all solutions focusing on being low-cost. It will also provide opportunities to develop leadership through active citizenship and better cross cultural and interfaith relationships through bringing communities together.</p> <p>The project is scheduled to take start in February 2025 and conclude in May 2026, once the event has taken place, which is scheduled for 9th May. It will take place at the United Reformed Church on Rookstone Road.</p>			

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Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Materials for making a large, freestanding, re-usable timetable sign	£200.00
Transport	£100.00
Communications - design and printing of posters and fliers	£200.00
Food costs for shared, vegetarian meal	£100.00
Materials costs for workshops	£200.00
Materials for improving the entrance of the venue	£150.00
Volunteer refreshments	£50.00
Total grant requested	£1,000

Assessment Summary:

The project outcomes match the main theme of Citizenship and Civic Engagement as the project will encourage more active citizenship and increase volunteering by enabling residents to engage with their neighbourhoods and local community through this one-day event. The project will also be a cross cultural and interfaith activity bringing together a range of community groups who would not otherwise come together through the group's links with the Balham and Tooting Community Association and with other faith groups in the local community; which is also positive. It also links to the Council's Waste Environment and Sustainability Strategy by supporting the themes of circular economy, waste reduction, green skills and sustainable textiles; in this way the project broadly aligns with the Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods theme as a re-use and repair project.

Accounts are available to the end of February 2025 and show income of £7,257.00 against income of £6,684.00, and reserves of £2,275.00. Based on the information supplied, the organisation appears financially viable and well managed. They have at least three months of operational costs in their reserves, have a reserve policy and have a healthy balance sheet. The timescales look realistic and seem to have all permissions in place. Planning for the event appears to have already started, however a project start date of February 2026 has been given. They have already delivered two similar events so have demonstrable experience in delivering projects like this and should be able to activate quickly post grant committee.

The project is scheduled to begin development in February, take place on 9th May and conclude on 31st May. The project is well structured, and a phased delivery plan has been provided, breaking down each stage of the project.

Detail on target beneficiaries is somewhat broadly defined as members of Tooting communities. This is, at least in part, a function of this type of project, as a one-day event, however the application would have benefited from additional detail here. Their plan to engage participants appears realistic and appropriate to the project, although further detail on local engagement via Facebook groups, local connections etc. would have been helpful.

They have undertaken two pilot schemes and used feedback from those pilot schemes to which does demonstrate some need and demand for their project. The application could have been strengthened if they had linked their case to local statistics – for example deprivation as one of the main outcomes is finding low cost, sustainable solutions.

The monitoring and evaluation plan looks adequate for the size and nature of the project. The approach is varied and includes a range of qualitative data, including participant numbers and the number and types of activities, in addition to more qualitative data gathered through feedback forms that will be incorporated as learning for future events.

The costs appear realistic and value for money. They have requested a small amount (£1,000) for the event and seem to rely heavily on in-kind donations from individuals. The

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

total project cost is £4,040.00 and they are providing £3,040.00 in match funding, equivalent to 75% of the total project cost. Volunteer costs which make up all of the in-kind support are calculated at £20.00 per hour which is quite high. Indeed, they appear to rely heavily on volunteer support - this is a stand-alone event, if they wanted to replicate it or do a yearly event they would have to look at their financing in more detail. As heavy reliance on in-kind donations of people's time and expertise may not be sustainable.

Councillor Endorsements

Cllr Rex Osborn: This grant application should be supported, not just because Transition Town Tooting (TTT) has a well-established history of innovative community action but also because this particular project captures the spirit and character of what modern Tooting has become. High footfall and population churn are not problem free, but through the commitment of TTT and others, Tooting has always been good at problem-solving. This project offers the kind of practical solutions, fun, and sense of belonging that make Tooting special, and it does it in a sustainable way that locals want. The message delivered here by TTT is that not every part of London, not every town, not every community can find the skills and commitment to bring all its elements together so effectively BUT Tooting can.

Recommendation Summary	Recommend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has clearly defined the need for the project which aligns closely with the theme priorities for Citizenship and Civic Engagement. • The project is value for money. • The monitoring and evaluation plan looks adequate for the size and nature of the project.
Recommended Award	£1,000
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Climate action microgrant Upcycled Fashion Show	4 August 2025	£500

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R13/February 2020/	Awarded, £1,600.00	£1,600 awarded

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	Transition Town Tooting (TTT) is a community group (Unincorporated Association) based in Tooting focussed on climate change and sustainability. TTT is part of the worldwide network of Transition Towns. Founded in 2008, the group is a hub for incubating innovative ideas, promoting information and creating projects around climate change, resilience and sustainability themes.
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/38	Grant requested	£9,998.00
Organisation name	Wandsworth Mediation Service, trading as WMS	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	Engaging new local volunteers to provide free mediation for Wandsworth neighbours and families	Total project cost	£28,971.00
Website	https://wmsmediation.org/	Match funding (Cash)	£0
Theme(s)	Citizenship and Civic Engagement	Match funding (in-kind)	£18,973.00
Primary ward of activity	Borough Wide	Match funding (%) of total project budget	65.5%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Sana Jafri Cllr Jonathan Cook	Number of beneficiaries	138
		Grant / per person cost	£72.44
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company limited by guarantee		
Charity number	1102464	Company number	4778659
Annual Income	£81,080.00 (March 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£71,348.00 (March 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£16,474.00 (March 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>WMS is requesting funding to expand their volunteer base. They recognise that their mediation work is long-established, however they indicate that this funding is for a new project being developed specifically in response to growing demand. For over 20 years, WMS have been the only organisation in Wandsworth offering free mediation support to local neighbours and families. Demand is growing and they need funding to recruit and train new volunteers to support their work, which directly supports a fairer, more compassionate Wandsworth. They aim to create a safe space for people to talk, listen and resolve conflict peacefully.</p> <p>The project will involve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruiting up to 10 new volunteers who are already trained in neighbour mediation. They will take part in supervision sessions to support their development. • Recruiting and training up to 8 new volunteers in inter-generational (IG) mediation. This training will be delivered by WMS' existing external provider, who has trained all their current IG mediators. This ensures consistency in approach, as mediators always work in pairs. <p>The project is due to begin in February 2026 and conclude in February 2027. Promotion and outreach will take place from February to April, volunteers will be interviewed and onboarded between May and August, and training will commence in September and complete in November. New volunteers will then take part in frontline delivery in the last quarter of the project from December 2026 to February 2027. The volunteers will mostly be local residents, and the people they support will all live in the borough. Interviews will be held either online or at their office in St Mark's Church, near Clapham Junction.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Office team time to support the project Up to 186 hours across the year, shared between the Service Manager (£25/hour), Development Manager and Case Managers (£20/hour). This includes: • Advertising roles • Volunteer recruitment and selection • Onboarding (DBS checks, safeguarding, induction) • In-person support during 2-day IG mediator training • In-person support during 2 supervision sessions • Matching new volunteers to cases, ongoing support • Data collection, monitoring and reporting	£3,720.00
Trainer fee for inter-generational mediator training £4,500 2-day training course for new IG mediators. Delivered by our regular external partner at a discounted charity rate (normally charged at £1500 p/person)	£4,500.00
DBS checks Basic checks for new volunteers (at £37.70 each)	£678.00
Supervision sessions for volunteers Two sessions to support shared learning and reflection on cases. Includes facilitator fees and refreshments.	£1,000.00
Marketing Budget to promote the opportunity through online adverts.	£100.00
Total grant requested	£9,998.00

Assessment Summary:

They have applied under the Citizenship and Civic Engagement theme and have provided justification to demonstrate their alignment with several priorities that sit under this theme. This is a fit for the fund, particularly within the context of encouraging more active citizenship and increasing volunteering priority. They have suggested in their application that this is a new project to meet growing demand, however the volunteers who are recruited will be taking part in established services that have been running for some time and so it should be considered as a lower priority.

Accounts are available to the end of March 2024 and show income of £81,080.00 against expenditure of £71,348.00, which resulted in a surplus of £9,732.00 for the year. They have net assets of £32,454.00, of which £16,474.00 are unrestricted. WMS aims to retain three months running costs, which they are currently just short of, with 2.77 months of operating costs currently in reserve. It should be noted that this policy is under review and is expected to be updated within the next 6 months.

They have provided a clear delivery plan, outlining a phased delivery taking place from February 2026 to February 2027. The bulk of the project will comprise recruitment and training of the 18 new volunteers who will start taking part in frontline delivery during the final quarter of the project. They suggest that all required permissions have been secured.

They indicate that in addition to the 18 new volunteers who will be recruited, they anticipate that 120 residents will benefit from the additional capacity that will be created by the new volunteers. Their approach to recruitment is appropriate to the project and will comprise paid online adverts to target local residents, particularly in areas like Battersea, Roehampton and Tooting, in combination with outreach through local networks like Our Roehampton, WCEN and Wandsworth VCS.

A strong case has been presented regarding demand. The applicant highlights that no equivalent service exists across the borough and reports a growing number of residents seeking support—particularly those with noise complaints, shared space issues, housing concerns, and financial hardship. In the first three quarters of 2025 alone, they received 180 enquiries for their free service, already surpassing the total requests for all of 2024. This

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

clearly demonstrates rising demand, which helps contextualise the project’s relevance. The inclusion of a case study and testimonial further reinforces this point. However, while demand reflects the manifestation of need, the application would have been stronger had it addressed the underlying project need more directly.

They intend to use both qualitative and quantitative methods to collect data that will include optional questionnaires, registration statistics, and feedback from trainers, trainees and service users. It is heavily weighted in favour of qualitative methods, but this is likely appropriate for the reasonable for the project. Project outputs are very clear and concise which is positive. Project outcomes however are less clear. They have aligned these to priorities of the fund, but they would have benefited from greater specificity to make them clearer and more measurable.

The total project cost is £28,971.00 and they are requesting £9,998.00 in funding with £18,973.00 of in-kind match funding. Project costs appear broadly reasonable and appropriate for the project. They have included staff costs for a service manager, development manager and case managers which, as recurring staff costs, are all lower priority for the fund.

WMS indicate that they have not applied for any other funding for this project. If this grant is not awarded, the project will not go ahead, and they will continue to operate using existing resources.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Jonathan Cook: I'm aware of WMS and the valuable work you do and having also looked at your website I'm happy to endorse this application.

Cllr Sana Jafri: I would be happy to endorse your application for a grant fund.

Recommendation Summary	<p>Not to recommend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was a reasonably strong application for a project that aligns well with the Citizenship and Civic Engagement theme. • Whilst the recruitment campaign is new, the services supported are not and therefore as an existing service, the application is considered a lower priority for funding. • Project outcomes lacked clarity and would have been strengthened had they been more specific and measurable.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth Grant Fund 24 Reflect Communication & Conflict Skills programme for Secondary School Pupils (completed during the academic year 2020/25).	Nov 2023	£10,000

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Wandsworth Youth Partnership Fund Peer Mediation programme in 3 primary schools in academic year 2025/26	Sept 2025	£15,000
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Past applications to the WGF (Round/Date/Project name)	Recommendation (Awarded/Not awarded and amount)	Summary of Outcome
R7/February 2018/ New database for casework for community, inter-generational, family and commercial cases	Awarded, £5,584.00	The provision of a new database for casework.
R20/April 2022/ Empowering Women Workshops	Awarded, £5,542.00	The project delivered 6 weekly, 3-hour peer mediation workshops to empower 35 women in Roehampton and to improve their confidence.
R24/July 2023/ Communication & Conflict Skills workshops for Secondary School Pupils	Awarded, £10,000.00	The project delivered a series of workshops to pupils in years 7 to 10, focusing primarily on Years 8 and 9 designed to encourage prosocial behaviour, improve young people's communication skills, and foster emotional regulation.
R28/November 2024/ Peer mediation scheme for primary schools in Wandsworth	Not Awarded	N/A

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	<p>The aim of WMS is to help people navigate through conflict towards peace, by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing free mediations to residents of Wandsworth for neighbour and family disputes using 50+ volunteer mediators, most of whom live locally. 2. Delivering training courses/workshops to help people of all ages communicate better and change the way they deal with conflict. We run peer mediation programmes in primary schools, and behaviour interventions in secondary schools. <p>Mediation helps those in conflict to work out a solution themselves which is empowering and has a huge impact on their relationships. It helps strengthen communities, families, and changes lives.</p>
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Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Ref No	R31/39	Grant requested	£10,000.00
Organisation name	World Heart Beat Music Academy	Grant recommended	£0
Project name	First Beats Kimber Road: extending access and impact for children in Wandsworth	Total project cost	£35,177.00
Website	http://www.worldheartbeat.org/	Match funding (Cash)	£25,177.00
Theme(s)	Children and young people (0- 11 years)	Match funding (in-kind)	£0
Primary ward of activity	Southfields	Match funding (%) of total project budget	28%
Member Endorsement	Cllr Sarmila Varatharaj	Number of beneficiaries	48
		Grant / per person cost	£208.33
Organisational information			
Type of Legal structure	Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee		
Charity number	1139579	Company number	06984769
Annual Income	£1,189,496.00 (August 2024)	Annual Expenditure	£1,284,513.00 (August 2024)
Unrestricted Reserves	£34,897.00 (August 2024)		
Project Description:			
<p>World Heart Beat Music (WHBM) are requesting funding for an early access music and wellbeing programme that supports disadvantaged primary age children (7-11) in Wandsworth to build confidence, resilience and joy through music.</p> <p>Each week during term time, children are collected directly from Swaffield and Allfarthing schools and brought safely to WHBM's Kimber Road Academy. They will receive free instrumental and ensemble tuition led by professional musicians, many of whom share their cultural backgrounds and act as trusted role models. Every child is given an instrument to take home, a healthy snack, and kind, consistent pastoral support from the team. Across three terms (April 2025 to March 2026), participants take part in 16-week blocks of creative learning that build musical ability and personal growth.</p> <p>The programme's rhythm, collecting, caring, creating, celebrating, embodies early intervention in action. It provides children with trusted adults, a place to belong, and a sense that their voices matter. For families under pressure, it offers relief and reassurance. For the borough, it is an investment in resilience, wellbeing and a brighter future for Wandsworth's young people.</p> <p>The project will support 48 children directly across two 16-week cohorts of 24 participants. Participants will be aged between 7-11, directly referred into the project from partner schools, Swaffield and Allfarthing, who meet specific criteria including free school meals and pupil premium. Priority is given to those most likely to benefit, consents and Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) considerations included. The project will take place at WHBM's Kimber Road Academy in Southfields Ward.</p>			

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

Description of item and costs calculations	Cost (£)
Instrument taster sessions: Tutor fees of £60p/h for 1.5 hours each session x 32	£2,880.00
Pastoral support staff x 2: 2 at £13.85 p/h x 2 hours for each of 32 weekly sessions	£1,773.00
Post-school sustenance for children: Food and drink for the children each week @ £20 x 32 weeks	£640.00
Schools' concerts at the schools: 4 x performers @ £150	£600.00
DBS checks for x 4 tutors	£184.00
Instrument maintenance allowance (20 instruments) - servicing and repair costs	£300.00
Contribution towards the £28,000 required for 24 free access to WHB Academy lessons, ensembles, performance opportunities for students facing financial need	£3,623.00
Total grant requested	£10,000.00

Assessment Summary:

The applicant has applied under the Children and young people (0- 11 years) theme, indicating that the project aligns with the priority to provide activities that “*support early intervention and preventative work for those who may be most vulnerable To provide things to do, places to go and someone trusted to talk to.*” They feel that the project embodies this priority through prioritising children on Free School Meals/Pupil Premium and those at risk of anxiety or disengagement; providing trusted adults, a safe place after school, and structured activities that build confidence, belonging and communication. The project helps develop resilience and emotional self-regulation through group learning and performance which speaks to alignment with a secondary theme, Health and wellbeing, and the mental health priority, which improves from reduced anxiety, greater self-belief and stronger peer relationships.

The project is perhaps a better fit for the arts and culture theme, although applications are not currently being accepted under this theme and funding is separately available via grants supporting the London Borough of Culture. Creative projects that overlap with other themes can be considered however and this is an example of an application that has successfully demonstrated their alignment with other priorities thereby establishing their eligibility. The case they make is reasonable and bolstered by data to show outcomes achieved through their Embassy Gardens programme.

Accounts are available to the end of August 2024 and show income of £1,189,496.00 against expenditure of £1,284,513.00, resulting in a deficit of £95,017.00 for the year. They have net assets of £3,173,711.00 however the bulk of this is restricted funds with just £34,897.00 of unrestricted funds. The bulk of their assets are tied up in leasehold property, which represents £2,916,852.00 of the total. Their reserves policy is to hold three months of operating costs in reserve which they are currently not meeting. The deficit is explained by a capital expansion in 23/24 and lingering impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. They state that they have a realistic three-year financial plan, overseen by the Board, and are confident they can remain stable while continuing to deliver impact and rebuild their reserves.

The project will be delivered in two 6-week blocks of creative learning. The project will start delivery in April 2026 and conclude in March 2027, so this timeline is entirely achievable. They do not define when exactly these two blocks will take place and it would have been helpful to have greater clarity on this. The project proposal is an existing programme of activity and is therefore a low priority for funding

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

They have been clear in describing who their beneficiaries are. They will be supporting 48 children aged 7 – 11 who attend two local schools, Swaffield and Allfarthing. Participants are referred into the project by the schools, who have identified children needing extra support to build confidence, communication and emotional wellbeing. Priority will be given to those who receive free school meals/pupil premium, have wellbeing needs and are at risk of disengagement. These are priorities for the fund, which is positive.

A good level of detail has been provided to evidence need. They note that around 29% of local children live in low-income families, and in the estates surrounding Kimber Road. Families often have little disposable income, limited access to safe after-school opportunities, and growing concerns about children’s mental health. They note that there is strong appetite from staff at both schools, where there are large numbers of pupils on Free School Meals or Pupil Premium. Their case is reinforced by the inclusion of outcome data from a prior iteration of the project, their Embassy Gardens programme. Over two years, 132 children took part in weekly sessions, with independent evaluation showing: - 92% of participants felt more confident - 89% felt more able to express themselves - 86% felt they belonged to a group - 84% demonstrated greater resilience and perseverance when tasks became difficult. Teachers reported calmer classrooms, improved focus and a stronger sense of classroom harmony.

WHBA’s monitoring framework was developed with researcher Dr Meghan Peterson (King’s College London) and combines qualitative and quantitative tools that are appropriate for primary age children. Each child completes simple baseline and end-of term questionnaires designed to capture changes in confidence, belonging, emotional regulation, self-expression and resilience. Teachers and tutors also complete short rubrics on attendance, engagement and teamwork, giving a rounded picture of progress. The approach is robust and appropriate to the project, with clear, measurable outputs and outcomes.

The costs included in the request appear broadly reasonable. They have requested a £10,000.00 contribution towards tutor costs, refreshment for participants, tuition costs, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and concert costs. The value of the the concert costs at £600, which includes £150 payments to four performers, is questionable; the cost appears to be an add on, not essential to delivery of the core programme and should be excluded if an award is made. The total in-kind costs presented in the application form are inflated, being based on the broader Embassy Gardens project which includes four schools. The cost of direct delivery per school for the Kimber Road extension is £17,588 for a total project cost of £35,177.00.

Councillor Endorsements:

Cllr Sarmila Varatharaj: I would like to endorse this application by World Heart Beat Music Academy. This program, First Beats Kimber Road will provide disadvantaged primary school with access to music to help with their wellbeing. Children are provided with an instrument to take home and support from professional musicians. This is a great opportunity for children in our borough and specifically Wandle Ward. The organisation has worked with children in the past with successful programmes.

Recommendation Summary

Not to recommend

- Good evidence has been provided to demonstrate project need. However the project is an existing programme of work and is therefore a lower priority for the WGF.

Wandsworth Grant Fund – Summary Recommendation Report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project monitoring and evaluation is good with a robust approach and clear, measurable outputs and outcomes. • The overriding theme for the project is arts and culture focused, although the applicant has sufficiently evidenced their alignment with other themes of the fund.
Recommended Award	£0
Conditions of Grant/ other comment:	

Details of notified previous council funding in the last two years	Date awarded	Amount (£)
Wandsworth Live LBOC	November 2025	£2,000.00
Wandsworth Arts Fringe	March 2025	£1,600.00
Wandsworth Affordable Workspace	March 2023	£110,000.00
Wandsworth Grant Fund	February 2023	£9,900.00
Wandsworth YOP Fund	June 2022	£2,940.00

Past applications to the WGF	Recommendation	Summary of Outcome
R22/November 2022/ Emerge Taster Sessions	Awarded, £9,900.00	EMERGE is a youth-led programme that aims to address the systemic barriers facing young people from under-represented groups in finding pathways into sustainable careers within the music/creative industries.
Covid-19 Response Fund/April 2020	Not Awarded	N/A
R14/June 2020/We Are One	Awarded, £4,916.00	A series of live streamed performances by talented local young people aged 15 – 24 years old who are part of our Musical Leaders programme

Brief description of the aims and activities of the organisation	World Heart Beat Music Academy is a Wandsworth-based organisation providing high quality music education and industry-informed opportunities for 5 - 25-year-olds, prioritising children facing disadvantage. We deliver weekly tuition, ensembles, mentoring, concerts and creative-industries skills from our Kimber Road and Embassy Gardens sites. More than half of our students receive bursaries for free tuition, and over 60% are from Global Majority backgrounds. Our work builds confidence, belonging and aspiration, with clear progression pathways from first access into sustained learning.
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Community and Organisations may also be considered for Community Interest Companies (CIC's) and their structure and the current legislation and a summary of the current law for CIC's.

- CICs are either a company or a limited liability partnership and are either a company or a limited liability partnership. They are a company or a limited liability partnership and are either a company or a limited liability partnership.
- Required to have a minimum of one director and one member. They must be a company or a limited liability partnership.
- Directors must be natural persons who are ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom. They must be a company or a limited liability partnership.
- CICs must have at least a year's (12 months) operational history and be an independent body. They must be a company or a limited liability partnership.
- CICs must have a primary purpose of providing a benefit to the community. They must be a company or a limited liability partnership.
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For more information (see notes regarding London Borough of Culture in thematic detail)

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It is important to understand the role of the central bank in the economy and how it can influence the money supply and interest rates.

- The central bank is responsible for issuing the national currency and for maintaining the stability of the financial system.
- The central bank can influence the economy by changing the interest rate and by buying and selling government securities.
- The central bank can also influence the economy by changing the money supply and by providing loans to the government.

Introduction

The central bank is the institution that issues the national currency and is responsible for maintaining the stability of the financial system. It is also responsible for controlling the money supply and interest rates.

The central bank can influence the economy by changing the interest rate and by buying and selling government securities. It can also influence the economy by changing the money supply and by providing loans to the government.

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You can learn more about the central bank at www.bankofengland.org

Key points

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- Roadworks in the City of York are planned to be completed by the end of the year. You can find more information on the [Roadworks and the City of York](#) website.
- The City of York Council and the City of York Council are working together to improve the City of York Council's services. You can find more information on the [City of York Council](#) website.

For more information

The City of York Council is committed to providing a high quality of services to its residents. The City of York Council is committed to providing a high quality of services to its residents. The City of York Council is committed to providing a high quality of services to its residents.

For more information

- Any work or activities that are carried out by the City of York Council are subject to the City of York Council's policies and procedures.
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Mortgage Deductions

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Interest on a second mortgage is deductible if the mortgage is secured by a primary and secondary mortgage on the same property. Carry over a deduction if a current year's mortgage interest deduction exceeds the annual limit. The annual limit is \$750,000 for individuals and \$1,000,000 for married couples filing jointly. Interest on a second mortgage is deductible if the mortgage is secured by a primary and secondary mortgage on the same property.

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Community Development

Your community development role is to help the community to improve its own life and you need to work with your community to identify the needs and priorities of the community and to help them to meet these needs. This can be done through a range of activities and services which are designed to help the community to improve its own life.

These activities will contribute towards the Council's community development strategy.

- Community development projects
- Community development services
- Community development initiatives

Community Development Strategy

The Council's community development strategy is to help the community to improve its own life and to help the community to meet its own needs. This can be done through a range of activities and services which are designed to help the community to improve its own life. The Council's community development strategy is to help the community to improve its own life and to help the community to meet its own needs. This can be done through a range of activities and services which are designed to help the community to improve its own life.

Community development projects, services and initiatives

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Community development projects, services and initiatives are designed to help the community to improve its own life and to help the community to meet its own needs. This can be done through a range of activities and services which are designed to help the community to improve its own life.

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Community Development Strategy

The Council's community development strategy is to help the community to improve its own life and to help the community to meet its own needs. This can be done through a range of activities and services which are designed to help the community to improve its own life.

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Delivery of Wandsworth's Environment and Sustainability Strategy

Wandsworth's Environment and Sustainability Strategy

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The following table provides a summary of the key actions identified in the Strategy

- **Improve air quality** by reducing emissions from cars, buses, taxis and delivery vans, and by increasing the use of public transport and walking and cycling
- **Reduce the amount of waste** that is sent to landfill by encouraging households to recycle more, and by increasing the use of reusable products
- **Reduce the amount of water** that is used in homes and businesses by encouraging people to take shorter showers and to turn off the tap when brushing their teeth
- **Reduce the amount of energy** that is used in homes and businesses by encouraging people to use energy-efficient light bulbs and to turn off lights and appliances when not in use
- **Reduce the amount of carbon dioxide** that is emitted from homes and businesses by encouraging people to use energy-efficient light bulbs and to turn off lights and appliances when not in use
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Many of our services are available online. We will ensure that our services are accessible to all, including those with disabilities and those who are vulnerable. We will also ensure that our services are accessible to all, including those with disabilities and those who are vulnerable.

Our actions will support your ability to access the services you need for your health and care. We will also ensure that our services are accessible to all, including those with disabilities and those who are vulnerable. [Click here for more information](#)

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