

Main Grants 2017-18 report

Name of organisation	Rushey Green Timebank
Date of meeting	31.08.16
Names and positions of attendees	Philippe Granger - CEO Susan Ryder - Trustee James Lee- Head of Service - Cultural and Community Development Maya Onyett- Volunteering and Cultural Participation Manager

Group Name:	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Total funding received 2015-16	£70,000	N/A	£23,334	£23,333	£23,333
Total funding to be received 2016-17	£93,333	23,334	£23,333	£23,333	£23,333
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaboration with Lewisham Volunteer Centre (VCL) to promote volunteering via local press and social media and promote time banking 2. Collaboration with (VCL) to promote the Community Contributor card in relevant areas where card system is active 3. Lewisham Volunteer Centre signposts clients to RGTB for time banking and card registration 4. Collaboration with Community Connections and partners from the Community Connections consortium to refer clients to RGTB and also promote the Community Contributor Card 5. Relevant Ward Assemblies promote the time bank and the Community Contributor Card 6. Eco communities libraries promote the community contributor card as part of their strategy to attract and keep volunteers 7. 25 Community /voluntary sector groups that engage volunteers sign up to promote the card within their organisation and local area 8. 125 small traders are visited and asked to join the card scheme – target 55 to sign up and offer discounts 				

	9. Lewisham Leisure services sign up to offer discounts 10. 90 new people join the time bank 11. 600 community contributors (volunteers) from across our VCS partners for the card have and use a community contributor card valid in Rushey Green, Catford South and Crofton Park 12. 2600 time banking hours recorded between July 15 and March 16									
Outputs:	2015-16 Target	2015-16 Q2	2015-16 Q3	2015-16 Q4	2015-16 Total	% Achieved	2016-17 Target	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	% Achieved TD
<i>One-to-one meetings with local traders</i>	125	30	56	57	143	114				
<i>Work with Local residents and groups who know their local traders in pilot areas</i>	25	6	27	12	45	180				
<i>Work with council officers to reach traders and leisure services</i>	15	2	9	9	20	133				
<i>Visits to groups</i>	40	2	33	17	52	130				
<i>Design and production of promotional materials for contributor card</i>					completed	100				
<i>Promote the scheme at Ward Assemblies</i>	7	2	2	4	8	114				
<i>Work with VCS and Community organisations to promote the scheme</i>	30	5	23	17	45	150				
<i>Develop a digital platform for quick and easy sign up</i>					completed	100				
<i>Produce and publish list of traders accepting the card</i>					ongoing	100				
<i>Presence at community events, assemblies, flyers in medical centres and through social media, referrals from Community Connections</i>	95	45	10	48	103	108				
<i>90 new people join the time bank</i>	90	25	30	31	86	96				
<i>600 community contributors (volunteers)</i>	600	210	200	211	621	104				
<i>2600 combined time banking/ volunteering hours recorded</i>	2600	1000	1210	1166	3376	130				
<i>Set up a Foodcycle Hub at the Calabash Centre as a platform to increase</i>							1	1		100%

participation and reduce isolation among service users and referrals from Community										
Number of volunteers recruited for the Foodcycle project							90	130		578%
Number of Foodcycle meals produced by the volunteers							1000	156		62%
Hold a Lewisham Volunteering event at St Laurence Centre in Catford with Community Connections partners, to showcase volunteering opportunities to support isolated people							1	0		0%
Showcase the Lewisham Local Community Contributor card at Ward Assemblies to promote the value and benefits of volunteering and community participation and development							10	0		0%
Number of festivals and events attended to showcase the Lewisham Local Community Contributor card to promote the value and benefits of volunteering							15	5		133%
Contact and/or visits to Lewisham community groups/organisations to encourage them to sign up to the Lewisham Local Community Contributor Card as an opportunity for them to thank and retain their volunteers and as a potential to attract more volunteers							127	60		188%
Number of Lewisham Community organisations/groups that have newly signed up to the Lewisham Local Community Contributor Card scheme							83	5		24%
Number or newly registered Lewisham Local Community Contributor Card holders							1037	134		52%

Number of visits to Lewisham independent traders to ask them to sign up to the Lewisham Local Community Contributor Card as their contribution by way of discounts to local volunteers								332	40		48%
Number of Lewisham independent traders that have newly signed up to the Lewisham Local Community Contributor card								150	26		68%
Organise a film to promote the Lewisham Local Community Contributor Card to help promote the value and benefits of volunteering in Lewisham.								1	0		0
Implement a digital platform to quicken and reduce the enrolment process for the Lewisham Local Community Contributor Card								1	0		0
Number of volunteering hours done across all our projects in Lewisham								4637	1450		125%
Lewisham Local giving initiative overseen by partners including LBL: recruit and co-manage the Lewisham Local giving Lead Worker (funded by City Bridge Trust) due to start in September.								3	0		0

1. Remove funding from under-performing groups/those performing least well

Have you achieved at least 90% of the agreed reporting outputs and outcomes in all quarters since the start of the programme?

Rushey Green Time Bank has delivered well against its outputs, achieving fully against all of them and exceeding targets in 8 out of 13. Highlights of the year include achievements around:

- Lewisham Local Community Contributor card
- Wildcat Wilderness project
- Foodcycle hub
- Community gardens

Have you achieved all of the wider outcomes outlined in the initial grant application?

The organisation has deliver a broad ranging programme of work that has achieved all of the wider outcomes, much of which is not captured on the out puts table above. This includes:

- 268 new volunteers across projects (but not all yet signed up to time banking)
- 147 still be registered as time bank volunteers from the Wild Cat Project
- over 600 local residents using the Wild Cat Wilderness in 6 mths and 200 children at the site every week
- Sabrina's Kitchen' - partnership project with Foodcycle has started and resulted in an additional 123 volunteers signed up
- Increased collaboration with Community Connections
- A large number of community gatherings

The organisation has also received a very positive response to the community contributor card from London funders which has posted a blog on its website.

If no to either of the above:

- what are the mitigating factors?
- what plans are in place for improving performance?
- what progress has been made against actions agreed with your Development Officer?

N/A

What local support/evidence of need can you identify for the work you are undertaking?

The success of the projects in terms of the numbers attending and getting involved demonstrates that there is a need for the services that the organisation provides

2. Negotiate reductions and seek alternative funding streams

Are there any proposals that you can put forward that will deliver significant saving against current expenditure? This can include capital investment to change your delivery/business model.

The organisation has not been able to identify any opportunities to deliver significant savings but will continue to explore ways in which this might be possible. Officers will provide support in doing this where appropriate.

What alternative funding streams are you already pursuing?

RGTB has been successful in accessing funding from the People's Health Trust and is currently waiting for a response to an application to Comic Relief.

The organisation is also exploring funding opportunities with :

- Awards For all,
- City Bridge Trust,
- Big Lottery
- Tudor Trust
- Esme Fairbairn.

This funding will not replace Council funding but will enhance service delivery.

Are there any other funding streams that you can identify that the council can support you to access?

There are no opportunities currently but officer will continue to provide support where appropriate

3. Work with groups to consider mergers or asset sharing

Are there any organisations doing similar work to you in the borough who you may consider sharing resources or merging with? Who have you considered/approached?

The organisation has been part of discussions with Voluntary Action Lewisham and Volunteer Centre Lewisham around the development of a new voluntary sector infrastructure support organisation and which may lead to a merger involving some or all of the parties or the emergence of an entirely new organisation.

At this stage it is too early to know what the outcome of these discussions will be and whether RGT will play an ongoing part.

Are there other groups in the local area that you could share resources with even if they are delivering a different type of service? Again, who have you considered/approached?

See above.

What support might you need to move these suggestions forward?

Officers are actively involved in supporting the current discussions and are hopeful that these will be productive.

4. Pro-rata reductions across all groups

What would a 25% cut in your grants look like in service delivery terms? What are the wider impacts?

If the discussions around RTG playing a part in a new voluntary sector infrastructure organisation are pursued then there may be more opportunities for efficiencies. If this is not the case then the organisation has always had a flexible approach to service delivery and will adapt accordingly.

The organisation is keen to keep developing the Community Contributor Card and will if necessary try to access alternative funding to do this.

Have you modelled this cut and developed an action plan for its implementation?

No specific modelling has taken place so far but this is at least in part due to the ongoing discussions regarding infrastructure support which it is hoped will lead to major changes in the organisation.

Conclusion

Any other comments / areas discussed

RGT are open to new branding and would like to include a more Lewisham wide name.

Conclusion and recommendation

The organisation has performed strongly and achieved its outputs and outcomes. Discussions around merger are continuing but at this stage it is difficult to know whether RGTB will be part of this process. The organisation will continue to actively fundraise but this is unlikely to replace Council funding.

Negotiations with VAL and VCL are ongoing at the time of writing so funding may well be merged into a new service offer but, at the present time, **it is recommended that the Rushey Green Timebank receives a pro-rata cut.**

Equalities groups disproportionately impacted by recommendations			
Ethnicity:		Pregnancy / Maternity:	
Gender:		Marriage & Civil Partnerships:	
Age:	X	Sexual orientation:	
Disability:	X	Gender reassignment:	
Religion / Belief:			
Commentary and potential mitigations:			
<p>The organisation primarily provides services for older people and people with disabilities and so these groups will be disproportionately impacted by the recommendation. If RGTB is part of the new Voluntary sector infrastructure support organisation, this will mitigate against the impact of the cuts and officers will continue to work with RGTB around this option and others</p>			