

Grenfell Community Development Fund

19.7.18

Hope, support, opportunities and connection

The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation has a ten-year record of success in bringing the community together to address local hardship and exclusion. It is committed to working side by side with the people of North Kensington for the long-term through its **Grenfell Community Development Fund**. **£1.6 million** will be invested over the next three years in community programmes in North Kensington to support those affected by the Grenfell Tower fire on their journey to healing. The Fund will become operational in September 2018.

The money is what remains of the £7 million donated to the Kensington & Chelsea Foundation's Grenfell Tower Fund. £5.4 million of this has already been committed, with over £5 million distributed to the survivors and the next of kin of those who lost their lives.

The **Grenfell Community Development Fund** priorities have been informed by a Listening Project which encouraged survivors and people living and working across North Kensington to tell us what they thought were the most pressing needs post-Grenfell and what might help to address them.

Priority areas include:

- a) **Employment and skills:** new approaches to increase employment, confidence and skills development
- b) **Older people:** intergenerational programmes and neighbourhood befriending
- c) **Mental Health:** culturally relevant, age and gender appropriate approaches to mental health
- d) **Families:** family mediation and support
- e) **Young People 0-25:** mentoring, sports, projects for hard to reach young men, music, arts, time away, schools and nursery initiatives
- f) **Community projects:** bringing some joy back, more community activities and places to go, integration and togetherness, recognition of local culture and history

We know that there will be further changes in circumstances, emerging needs and opportunities as time moves on so there will be flexibility about how the Fund evolves. We will continue to listen and be informed by people across the local community.

The **Grenfell Community Development Fund's** approaches will be:

1. **Community-led** – local people will be part of the development, recommendations and delivery of projects
2. **Strengths-based** – taking into account and building on the skills and experiences of people and assets which already exist locally
3. **Collaborative** – developing relationships which work across the community
4. **Connected** – people connecting and working together to improve their own wellbeing and the community

The role of the Kensington & Chelsea Foundation

Our role will be to convene and facilitate these four approaches. We will:

- Lead conversations with people who live or work in the community relating to needs and how they can be addressed and involve them in recommendations.
- Continually build our own knowledge so that we can spend less time asking for evidence of need and more time finding out what's effective in addressing it.
- Encourage local people and organisations to work collaboratively on programmes to make a bigger impact and ensure better outcomes.

- Keep up-to-date information on all the projects invested, be transparent about any decisions made and report on outcomes.
- Ensure that projects supported are to benefit the Grenfell-affected community which means people, living, working or going to school or college in North Kensington and also those who were made homeless by the Grenfell Tower fire.
- Use our contacts to bring in additional resources to maximise the success of the projects supported.

Whilst flexibility is important and we will regularly review, three funding approaches are being offered that we believe will support the community in a variety of ways and respond to the priority areas:

1. **Green Shoots** – small, one-off projects for the community
2. **Grenfell Organisation Champions** – investing in organisations which are playing a key support role
3. **Grenfell Community Development Programmes** – working collaboratively to shape programmes for a brighter future

Green Shoots

We aim to respond flexibly and quickly to ideas and needs and will set up an easily accessible fund open to voluntary and community groups, faith groups, local residents' associations, schools and other groups of people recognised by and part of the local community. **Green Shoots** funds are for projects which bring hope and joy to the community such as a street party, a new piece of sports equipment, a community barbecue, planting a new green space. Projects will usually be for small amounts of up to **£1,000** with a maximum for longer-term initiatives of **£5,000**. We will reserve a pot of **£50,000** each year for **Green Shoots** requests. The process for applying for these funds will be kept simple and will be ongoing from September 2018.

Grenfell Organisation Champions

The community knows that a number of local organisations stepped up and responded outstandingly to help survivors, the bereaved and others badly affected by the fire. Some of these organisations have a long history locally and took on extra work as a result of the fire and are continuing to play a vital role in supporting people as they try to rebuild their lives. Others came into being to respond to new and urgent needs and have become embedded locally and will need support to continue. With buy-in and advice from the community, funds will support these organisations so they can continue their excellent work in the aftermath of the fire. We will reserve a pot of **£150,000** each year to invest, providing funds of between **£10,000** and **£20,000** to individual organisations. To enable sustained help to be provided, it may be that a three-year commitment will be made. A panel will be set up to recommend how the money can be best allocated for maximum impact. This will involve local community members. Further details on how this funding will be allocated will be issued in September 2018.

Grenfell Community Investment Programmes – working together for a brighter future

During the early months following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, members of the community, organisations, community centres and faith groups all came together and collaborated in a way which demonstrated the very best of human spirit. There is now the real opportunity to continue this successful approach through community and organisations coming together to create new and innovative programmes responding to some of the issues outlined in the priorities.

The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation will gather community representatives and work with them to look at challenges and opportunities, and to collaboratively identify programmes which will lead to solutions.

**Gathering Community
Representatives**

**Examining Challenges
& Opportunities**

**Identifying Solutions &
Deploying Resources**

£330k a year has been reserved to invest in **Grenfell Community Investment Programmes** aimed at delivering major benefits to North Kensington with funding for programmes in the region of **£50 to £100k**. It is likely that these programmes will receive a three-year commitment and have the potential to deliver tangible and long-lasting outcomes for people in the community. Discussions relating to the priority areas and creative, collaborative solutions will begin in September 2018.

More information about all of **The Grenfell Community Development Fund** schemes will be available in September.

The Grenfell Community Development Fund - exclusions

Whilst wishing to be as inclusive as possible, other than in exceptional circumstances, this Fund will not benefit:

- Buildings with the exception of community or public spaces
- Activities which are primarily religious in purpose
- Animal welfare
- Hospitals, health authorities or hospices
- Retrospective funding
- Funding for individuals
- Lobbying or political activities or legal costs or advocacy for individuals or groups.

The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation

We are an independent charity set up 10 years ago. Since then, we've worked successfully to bring the community together to tackle the inequalities faced by many across the borough which the Grenfell Tower tragedy brought into stark relief. We spotlight issues which disadvantage people and raise the funds and resources to tackle them. We invest these in local organisations to collectively address local needs and build a stronger community.

For more information contact:

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