



A Resource Hub for Place Based Giving (FAQs)

January 2024

This document provides information about a new Resource Hub to support place based giving (PBG). If you'd like to find out more about the Hub, or have questions which haven't been answered here, please get in touch with us at info@londonfunders.org.uk

If you are new to place based giving, you might want to first check out this [FAQs on place based giving](#) or other resources on the [London's Giving website](#).

What is the Resource Hub?

In September 2023 the funding committee of the Bridge House Estates Board approved three years of funding to establish a Resource Hub for place based giving. This will bring together capacity, connections, practical support and advocacy to help take place based giving to a 'new level'.

This decision followed an extensive consultation and scoping exercise undertaken on behalf of City Bridge Trust (now City Bridge Foundation), which recommended the establishment of a Hub, hosted initially by London Funders. Its focus would be to:

- Drive reach, establishing new Place Based Giving Schemes ("PBGS") and helping emerging and established PBGS to achieve their potential
- Build the profile of the movement enabling cross-London relationships to accelerate growth and influence
- Provide challenge and support, innovation and influence, to ensure a greater collective impact on the lives of Londoners

City Bridge Foundation (CBF) have provided funding for three years initially and have indicated this is part of their longer term commitment to the Hub. The Hub will build on the work of London's Giving but bring new voices, structure and capacity into the work to expand its remit and reach.

What will its ambitions be?

This is a really significant step in achieving the potential of place based giving across the capital as it marks the start of a long term funding commitment to support the movement to grow, develop and be more sustainable.

Lots of people have been involved in shaping what the Hub could deliver, through an independent feasibility study and subsequently through further consultation with stakeholders across and beyond the London's Giving network. A key part of the Hub's remit will be to continue to support the existing network of place based giving schemes in London. This was an important area identified in the scoping exercise as people valued the 'hands on', practical support available to schemes to help them develop and strengthen their work.

But the Hub will also expand the reach into wider thinking about place and effective place based funding. High on the agenda are ambitions to make the Hub a vibrant network for sharing the latest learning about place and what works in achieving change. The Resource Hub will marshal resources, reach and interest beyond London to learn from national and international approaches to place.

Across the London's Giving network we've been testing and embedding different ways of participatory work in grantmaking alongside other aspects of funding. Those already involved in place based giving want the Hub to be a beacon of excellence in its participative giving practice. This is a really exciting area of work, where we are already seeing a shift in how power is used differently by funders alongside the community, often at a hyper local level.

And there are ambitions for the Hub to do more to help place based giving challenge and influence the wider funding system, providing the space and resources to do things like collective advocacy work, testing new approaches, and developing different funding models.

How will it be different to the London's Giving programme?

London Funders has delivered London's Giving for the past 10 years and there have been impressive results during this time. More than half of London boroughs now have an active scheme. In the past 5 years over £25m given out to grass roots groups and 13,000 people engaged through collaborative projects, funding rounds, campaigns and partnerships. New alliances have been built, and new funding approaches tested bringing in resources to address inequality in the city. You can read about some of these successes [here](#)

But to take place based giving 'to the next level', the feasibility study recommended increasing the capacity and scope of the programme, being more ambitious in its reach and dedicating more capacity to areas of work which are particularly challenging. It also recognised that to be sustainable in the long term, we need to diversify the core funding of PBG, build connections with other funders, and increase the profile of PBG beyond London.

So while the Hub will continue to support the existing network of place based giving schemes it will also lead new programmes of work to strengthen and amplify the wider reach and reputation of place based giving. It will also continue to stimulate place based giving in funding 'cold spots' and work with boroughs who are interested in activating a scheme.

What sort of activities will it deliver in the first 3 years?

Stakeholders, including the existing London's Giving network, identified a number of activities to help deliver the Hub's ambitions. A new Director will build on these ideas to shape and develop them in consultation with stakeholders, including the London's Giving network, during the early days of the Hub.

Activities were grouped in the following areas:

1. Driving Innovation & Influence
 - Leadership, voice and challenge
 - Participatory practice
2. Achieving Reach
 - Start-up, cold spots and trouble shooting
 - PBGS specific support for developing PBGs (1 to 1 support)
 - Network and peer support
3. Building Profile

- Business Engagement
 - Collective advocacy/campaigns
 - Marketing & Comms
4. Equity & Justice
- Leadership & challenge on EDI
 - Putting EDI at the heart of PBG practice and culture

How will the Resource Hub be delivered?

The Hub will combine a core staff resource alongside flexible ‘hands on’ support and strategic leadership:

- A Hub Director (0.8-1 FTE), who will be employed by London Funders and line managed by the Chief Executive
- Comms and admin support, either via a dedicated post or flexible support model
- Consultancy budget for internal (within the London’s Giving movement) and external consultancy; and joint project costs (e.g. collective campaigns, training, resource development)
- Support for London Funders to provide leadership and links with their wider work on funding, collaboration and place.

The Hub will be guided by a new Steering Group, which will bring together fresh and independent voices for this new phase of place based giving. The new Steering group will enable greater representation of those involved in different aspects of PBG to shape the direction of the Hub, providing support and scrutiny during its initial phase.

What will be the role of the Steering group?

The Steering Group will comprise multiple stakeholders from across the sectors which have a role in place based giving - either who are currently involved or whose input can help us shape and deliver its ambitions. The steering group will provide support, oversight and accountability around the Hub’s delivery. It is anticipated it will meet 3-4 times per year.

We anticipate it will include:

- Up to three representative from the London’s Giving Network
- Two Board members of the London Funders Board, who are delegating authority for oversight of the Hub to the Steering group
- Local Authority rep
- Corporate sector/business representative
- Other voices from the civil society/wider funding sector within and beyond London

While these are some of the views we would like to be represented on the Steering Group, this may change over time and the new Director will be expected to develop and recruit members to address any gaps or bring in particular expertise as required.

Will the Hub be part of London Funders?

Initially yes – and the Director will be employed and line managed by London Funders. However as outlined in the feasibility study, the Director will be tasked with identifying the right longer-term structure for this work and taking steps to transition to this – for example a subsidiary company/charity or independent body.