



Over 2017/18...

we brought together 126 funders from across all sectors* to strengthen civil society and create a better London. We focused on collaboration – convening funders to connect, contribute and cooperate together, to help people across London's communities to live better lives. Our work over the year included:



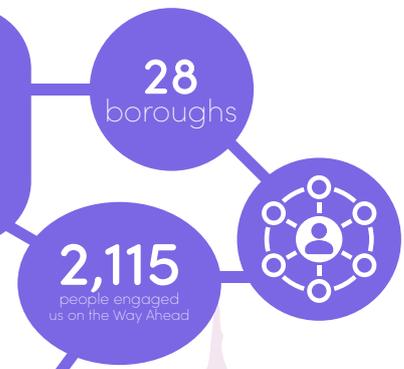
"London Funders provides a brilliant resource and network"

- Local Authority Officer

"Attending London Funders meetings led to the establishment of the Healthy London funders group, which is providing an invaluable network of contacts and ideas"

- Trust Staff Member

We supported the growth of the London's Giving movement (with 10 schemes operational, 2 preparing for launch, 5 in development and 11 further boroughs expressing an interest), and launched our report "A Place To Give" (July 2017) with evidence from the giving schemes, to share our learning across sectors and beyond London about how working collaboratively in a place can help to maximise the use of local assets and more effectively meet local needs.



We worked with partners from the funding community and beyond on "The Way Ahead", developing a change plan to help shape the future of civil society support in London. We established a cross-sector representative group to drive forward our shared ambitions, worked with London Councils on sharing and shaping practice in local commissioning, and supported funders to develop the "Cornerstone Fund" to invest in making a difference to London's civil society.

"London Funders has an important role in developing place-based giving initiatives and has stimulated much creative thinking"

- Trust Staff Member

"Bringing funders together across sectors has really enhanced the design of our funding programme for civil society in London – the work London Funders does in enabling this sort of collaboration has strengthened the impact we can achieve,"

- Local Authority Officer



1,460
people read our
newsletter

We curated information for members to share learning relevant to their work, through our publications and network meetings, to help shape funding in London around: the use of assets and spaces to enable effective youth work; effective practice in working with smaller and community-focused organisations; working collaboratively to tackle issues in communities; and research reports highlighting changing needs of communities across London.

4,284
online engagements

We shared the insight and intelligence from our members to help inform the development of policy in London, with a 36% increase in people reading our news and publications, including: discussing the impact of Universal Credit on communities; considering the social infrastructure required for a growing London; how social integration policy can develop in the capital; and contributing to the consultations on the Mayor of London's health inequality strategy, London Plan and youth narrative.

“London Funders provides great support for our work and useful sources of information”
- Local Authority Officer

“Your response [to the London Plan consultation] was an excellent document, and I’m really impressed with how you have managed to pull together so cogently and coherently all the ideas that emerged during the meeting.”
- Trust Staff Member

In response to the Grenfell Tower fire we brought together funders from across sectors to deliver a coordinated funding programme, providing immediate financial relief to groups at the frontline and ongoing funding to ensure communities were able to access the support they needed. We piloted new ways of working, established effective models for collaboration, and gathered and shared learning to help shape future grant programmes through our “The possible not the perfect” report.

£4.5m
for Grenfell



16
funders

Building on successful funder collaborations in London, we brought together members to look at taking a joined-up approach to the funding of Deaf and Disabled People’s Organisations, to explore how to co-produce funding models with communities, and how funders in one locality can best work together to bring about positive change. We used this platform to engage with members across sectors to develop and test our new strategy for 2018-21 which puts collaboration at its heart.

“London Funders provided helpful information sharing around Grenfell Tower that has been useful in guiding trustees towards effective action”
- Grants manager, Grenfell response

“[London Funders] members were able to mobilise quickly and effectively because of the years of groundwork, networking and building collaborative cross-sector approaches that had already been achieved”
- Local Authority Officer

We’ll be building on this track record in the coming year, and have an ambitious new strategy for 2018-2021. You can find out more about our current work on our website at www.londonfunders.org.uk and through following us on Twitter  **@LondonFunders**