

IMPACT

REPORT

2023-2024

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1. INTRODUCTION

This year marks another successful chapter in our commitment to supporting not-for-profit organisations dedicated to waste prevention activities across north London. The North London Community Fund continues to play a pivotal role in empowering local communities to engage in sustainable practices, reduce waste, and promote environmental protection.

In 2023/2024, we awarded grants to 16 remarkable organisations. These grants have enabled a diverse array of projects, each tailored to address specific aspects of waste prevention, from sustainable design initiatives and educational campaigns to innovative reuse programs and community composting efforts. The awarded projects reflect the creativity, dedication, and collaborative spirit of north London's vibrant community.

Our recipients have made significant strides in reducing waste, educating north London residents, and fostering a culture of sustainability. Through their tireless efforts, they have not only diverted waste, but also inspired many residents to adopt more sustainable lifestyles.

This report highlights our recipients, showcases the impact of their projects, and underscores the importance of community-driven waste prevention initiatives. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the organisations and individuals who have contributed to making the 2023/24 programme a resounding success. Together, we are preserving resources and the environment for future generations.



2. IMPACTS

In the 2023/24 funding cycle, the North London Community Fund **awarded £203,781.70 of grants**, to **16 organisations**, empowering a diverse array of local projects and **engaged over 4,450 residents**, driving community cohesion and education around sustainability and waste prevention.

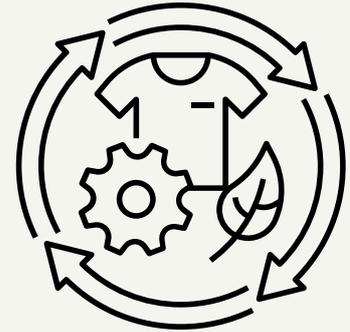
With the support provided, these projects delivered an impressive **236 workshops and events** across the boroughs. Activities ranged from hands-on repair cafes and woodworking sessions, to interactive composting workshops and large-scale sustainability fairs, all designed to equip residents with the knowledge and skills needed to make a positive impact on their environment.

Additionally, the projects provided valuable employment and volunteering, with some participants gaining work-based training, achieving certifications, and even **securing 6 employment opportunities** as a result.

By bringing people together to learn, share, and take action, these projects have not only enhanced individual understanding of sustainable practices but have also strengthened community bonds, fostering a collective commitment to reducing waste and building a greener future for north London.



£203,781.70



16 organisations



4,450+ residents



6 employment opportunities



236 workshops & events

3. PROJECTS

2ECOND CHANCE

2econd Chance is a not-for-profit computer recycling company dedicated to providing work-based training for individuals who face significant barriers to employment. They focus on supporting people with physical disabilities, learning difficulties, and social, emotional, and mental health needs. This project supported NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) trainees to repair unwanted computers that would otherwise have gone to waste, recirculating the devices to Barnet residents.



Key outcomes:

- 200 machines to local people through community partners
- 100 funded by NLWA
- Developed sustainable network receiving 15-20 requests for devices per week



ARTIST HIVE STUDIOS

Artist Hive Studio are curators, artists and cultural programmers specialising in arts and placemaking. Using the grant, Artist Hive Studios delivered a series of workshops offering the local community the opportunity to engage with artists and designers in the fundamentals of sustainable design.

Key outcomes:

- 15 sustainable design workshops delivered, engaging 86 people from local communities
- 25 young people engaged with two classroom workshops
- Two week exhibition with 92 attendees

BOUNDS GREEN FOOD BANK

Bounds Green Food Bank (BGFB) provides a lifeline to a growing number of residents in Haringey facing food insecurity. They run collection sessions for fresh produce, packaged and tinned food, cleaning materials and toiletries twice weekly at St Michael's Hall, Bounds Green Road, as well as operating a delivery service to those who cannot travel to the site. BGFB used the funding to formalise and build on their existing Eco Group project. The projects vision is to make the food bank zero waste through the development of several recycling and reuse strategies.



Key outcomes:

- Developed training for zero waste food bank approach
- 4 composting bins installed
- 2 clothing donation events
- Established sewing group who repurposed pre-loved fabric into tote bags for food parcels



CAMDEN NEW TOWN FESTIVAL

Camden New Town Community Festival (CNTCF) was established in 1998 as an annual festival that attracts over 2,000 visitors. Using the funding, CNTCF developed a 'Green Corner' for the 2023 festival. The Green Corner deliver a range of activities, talks and workshops that run throughout the weekend, to help people cut waste in their daily lives. The workshops continued after the festival throughout the autumn months for local residents.

Key outcomes:

- Worked with local organisations to develop and deliver 7 pro-environmental workshops for CNTCF event
- 515 visitors engaged with workshops
- 2000 people attend festival in total
- 12 follow up workshops delivered with 93 residents attending

CAMDEN FIXING FACTORY / POSSIBLE

Possible is a climate action organisation. Through encouragement and engagement with the public, their mission is to inspire people in the UK to take the action required to address the climate crisis. Possible, partnered with Camden Fixing Factory to deliver, Five Weeks of Fixing - a structured project for seeding community repair clubs that aimed to galvanise, energise and expand community repair of portable electrical and electronic appliances in north London.



Key outcomes:

- Successfully set up three community repair clubs
- Donated 47 repaired items from Regis Road RRC to local beneficiaries
- 21 local residents participated in repair club on regular basis

FASHION FOR FUTURE



Fashion for Future is a Charitable Community Benefit Society that seeks to redefine people's relationships with textile waste. They have been operating our clothing exchange hub since April 2022. They take your preloved clothes and give tokens to shop for new ones. Using the grant, Fashion for Future delivered a range of sessions and workshops for residents regarding textiles waste. Including things such as learning how to mend and rework clothes, and clothing swaps providing the opportunity for residents to access preloved clothes.

Key outcomes:

- Engaged 784 local residents
- 85 workshops held
- 7906 clothing swaps
- 51.1 tonnes of textiles reused

FOREST FIXERS @ THE MILL

The Mill is more than a community centre – it's Walthamstow's living room. A home from home for anyone to drop in, read the papers, view an art exhibition, browse the honesty library, join a group or activity (or start up their own one). Through this funding, Forest Fixers @ The Mill delivered free repair cafés where residents learnt, with the help of volunteer fixers, how to repair their broken electrical and electronic devices.



Key outcomes:

- 23 repair cafes delivered
- 223 residents attended
- 207 electrical items assessed
- 100 items fixed
- 19 repair clubs (skill sharing / training sessions)

FOREST RECYCLING PROJECT



Forest Recycling Project is a charity with environmental and social aims. They engage with organisations and communities in London through a range of practical initiatives to reduce, re-use and recycle waste, and help people live sustainably. Forest Recycling Project used the funding to increase capacity and to collaborate on solutions to deal with leftover paint in Waltham Forest.

Key outcomes:

- Increased opening hours contributing to increase in sales 149% and income 215%
- 5 events held
- Diverted over 14,000 litres of paint from RRC
- Social media presence increased by 35%

LABURNUM BOAT CLUB

Laburnum Boat Club are a voluntary organisation managed by local people for local people. They aim to provide opportunities for the personal development of children, young people and their families in the local community through participation in a range of water-based activities. With the grant, Laburnum Boat Club worked with disadvantaged, disabled, and vulnerable young people, aiming to reduce food and textile waste, by engaging and educating them and their families through various activities.



Key outcomes:

- Project engaged with 52 disadvantaged, disabled and vulnerable young people
- Provided information regarding waste prevention to 50 families
- Delivered 30 workshops



MERIT

Merit works benefit the community and in particular, but without limitation, to the relief of poverty associated with the lack of digital knowledge, access and/or equipment and the provision of adequate, general and vocational training that develops the capacity and skills for individuals to gain employment, financial and technological independence. Merit provided a free repair service for the community and support for community centres so they could refer beneficiaries for electronics repair support and advice.

Key outcomes:

- 95 repairs - 92 successful, 3 unsuccessful
- Engaged with 16 volunteers (30% female, 70% male)
- Two volunteers moved on to full-time employment following experience gained

NAPPY EVER AFTER

Nappy Ever After, founded by parents, for parents is your one stop shop for all thing reusable nappies. They sell reusable nappies, provide advice and demonstrations on how to use reusable nappies, and run a reusable laundry service. Through this project Nappy Ever After aimed to increase uptake and use of reusable nappies by residents and nurseries in three north London boroughs.

Key outcomes:

- Upgraded reusable nappy stock
- Purchased new cargo bike
- Invested time in developing stronger relationships with the nurseries and parents they support
- Served five nurseries and recruited 21 new households



OCTOPUS COMMUNITY NETWORK



Octopus is a mutual collaboration between 15 of Islington's largest multi-purpose community centres. They collaborate to co-produce and co-deliver programmes, projects and activities informed by local communities. Urban Soil Food formed a network of three neighbourhood-based food waste compost hubs in Islington. The project built on a small-scale pilot in 2022 and mainly targeted residents of social housing estates, particularly single households.

Key outcomes:

- Three people-powered composting hubs set up (Highbury Quadrant, Packington Estate, Community Plant Nursery)
- Created and delivered 3 x 4 weekly urban soil farmer courses, engaging 71 residents
- Upskilled 10 urban soil farmers through online and in-person programmes

OUR HOME OUR PLANET

Eco Show and Tell is a community initiative based in Barnet, which aims to create friendly spaces where knowledge about climate change initiatives and solutions can be shared between neighbours. This project supported the delivery of Eco Show and Tell sustainability fairs in Barnet. Each fair hosted stalls delivered by community groups and local activists focused on sustainability, to support and showcase the work of local residents and organisations.

Key outcomes:

- Six events, hosting 10-16 stalls manned by local community groups and local activists
- Launched Eco Show and Tell website
- Engaged 350 residents



OUR YARD CLITTERHOUSE FARM

Our Yard's mission is to build and support resilient and sustainable communities in and around Clitterhouse Farm and Northwest London. Our Yard at Clitterhouse Farm raised local awareness about food waste by engaging families to take part in a composting pilot project. Additionally, monthly workshops on composting and cooking for the whole community were delivered. The work also involved tackling food waste dumping in the surrounding park.

Key outcomes:

- Installed two composters, creating a compost corner
- Recruited 35 households + café/garden volunteers to drop off food waste
- Provided education to recruited families, including free composting workshops 3
- Free cookery workshops for families
- Tackling fly tipping - through the project, fly tipping of food has decreased in the park (no figures for this)
- Will give away free compost to participating families



GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS

Garden of Earthly Delights is a living museum of what is possible with would-be waste. This project expanded on their work as Woodshop of Recycled Delights, by partnering with other non-profit organisations and schools in north London, teaching carpentry skills using wood that would otherwise have gone to waste. The Woodshop of Recycled Delights addresses the pressing issue of wood waste while harnessing its potential. Tackling the environmental issues of wood waste by capturing and repurposing for the benefit of urban community spaces.



Key outcomes:

- 5,220kg timber repurposed
- 283 participants engaged
- 33 woodworking sessions run
- 65% income from other sources
- £60K funding secured for 2024
- 1 x full time member, 3 x new carpenters

4. CONCLUSION

The importance of grassroots investment in driving positive change cannot be overstated. By empowering communities and supporting local initiatives, we tap into the creativity and commitment of individuals who are deeply connected to their environment. Investing in these grassroots efforts enables the development of innovative solutions for waste prevention and sustainability, tailored to the unique needs and challenges of each community. As demonstrated by the success of the North London Community Fund, when communities are given the tools, resources, and opportunities to lead, they become powerful agents of change, fostering a culture of environmental stewardship that can inspire broader societal shifts toward a more sustainable future.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT