

Annual Review 2021/22



Cloudesley – introduction



Holloway Neighbourhood Group

Cloudesley is an Islington-based charitable trust that makes grants to local people, organisations and churches. We aim to have a significant positive impact on people’s lives.

Through our Health grants programme, we make small crisis and developmental grants to Islington residents in financial need. We also fund local organisations and projects which address health inequalities.

Our Church grants programme supports the Church of England churches in Islington by making grants to help repair their buildings and maintain services.

The charity’s history dates back to 1517, when Tudor yeoman and Islington resident Richard Cloudesley wrote his will.

This review covers our work from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, a year in which local residents, organisations and churches were affected by the ongoing impacts of Covid-19 and by the rising cost of fuel, food and other items.

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Grants agreed in 2021/2022

Health grants for individuals
£235,000

Health grants for organisations
£572,000

Church grants
£848,000

Total grants made
£1,655,000

Health and welfare grants for Islington residents



Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants



Islington Law Centre

Individual Grants

Cloudesley runs two individual grants schemes – Cloudesley Partners crisis grants and the Catalyst Fund.

Cloudesley Partners – crisis welfare grants

Our Cloudesley Partners scheme makes small crisis welfare grants of up to £500 to local residents. Grants are made to people who have physical or mental health problems or who are disabled and have low or no income. We are grateful to the 19 local organisations which administered this programme during the year, assessing individual funding requests and making grants to residents.

Cloudesley Partner grants are used for a wide variety of purposes, such as buying white goods, paying for Debt Relief Orders, mobility aids or emergency clothing.

During 2021/22, **1,085 crisis welfare grants** were made to local people. Because of increasing needs, Cloudesley also agreed an additional £18,000 for partner organisations to pass on to local residents during the year.

The Catalyst Fund

The Catalyst Fund scheme makes grants of up to £500 to help local residents meet personal goals and connect to opportunities. Run in partnership with Cripplegate Foundation, in 2021/22, Cloudesley made block grants to eight local organisations to distribute as Catalyst grants.

During the year, the impacts of Covid-19 continued to be felt and many support workers had less time for development work with service users as a result. Despite this, Cloudesley-funded Catalyst organisations made **166 grants to local residents**, 75 grants more than the previous year.

The Catalyst Fund was used for a wide range of items including laptops to enable access to online courses, gym memberships, therapy and camera equipment.

Grants for individuals

Agreed in 2021/22 for partner organisations to distribute

£235,000

“Having this grant has really helped me stop thinking about my experiences in prison and has made me feel more human and independent. I now have the kitchen items I need to cook and eat properly and am less reliant on takeaways and sandwiches. This has also saved me money. Even buying a TV stand has made my flat feel cosier and more comfortable. Thank you.”

Resident who received a Cloudesley Partner Grant

19 Cloudesley Partners during 2021/22

Organisation	Main activities/Health focus
Age UK Islington	Provide advice, guidance and support to adults of all ages
Centre 404	Provide support to people with learning disabilities and their families
Citizens Advice Islington	Provide free, confidential and independent advice on a wide range of issues
Community Language Support Service	Assist refugees from East Africa to access mainstream services
Disability Action in Islington	Provide a range of free welfare support including benefits advice and help with form-filling
Help on Your Doorstep	Work with Islington residents to improve lives, enhance wellbeing and strengthen communities
Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants	Support for asylum seekers, particularly those who do not yet speak English
Islington Law Centre	Specialist advice and other legal services
Islington Mind	Services to local residents seeking mental health advice and support
Islington People's Rights	Independent specialist welfare benefits and debt advice service to Islington residents
The Manna	Practical support, advice and care for homeless people, those at risk of becoming homeless or those affected by addictions
Manor Gardens Welfare Trust	Deliver a range of health, wellbeing and therapeutic services
The Margins Project	Support for people facing homelessness, in crisis or isolated
Octopus Community Network	A network of Islington's largest multi-purpose community centres
Peter Bedford Housing Association	Support for excluded people to help them move on to greater independence
Resident Support Scheme London Borough of Islington	Support for Islington residents with no recourse to public funds facing severe financial hardship and in need of one-off or temporary help with urgent living costs
Solace Women's Aid	Provide refuge and support for women and families affected by domestic violence
St Luke's Community Centre	Provide a range of activities and services in EC1 postcode area
St Mungo's	Help people recover from the issues that create homelessness

Health grants for organisations



St Luke's Community Centre*

Cloudesley's Health grants programme 2019–24 aims to reduce health inequalities by improving the health outcomes of people living in poverty and experiencing multiple disadvantages, including homelessness, substance misuse, mental illness, domestic violence and abuse.

During 2021/22, Cloudesley agreed:

- New multi-year grants for Disability Action in Islington, Islington Mind and Manor Gardens Welfare Trust
- Renewal funding for Centre 404, The Manna, The Maya Centre and Solace Women's Aid
- Development Fund grants for Healthwatch Islington to try out a new approach to the Digital Champions Initiative and for Islington People's Rights to work in partnership with Manor Gardens on a new welfare benefits project

Multi-year funding continued for many other local organisations, including for Help on your Doorstep's Connect Service and Islington Law Centre's Three Advice Project. A full list of our health and welfare grants is available at www.cloudesley.org.uk

Health grants agreed in 2021/22

For organisations

£572,000



Art Workshop at the Estorick Collection, Stuart Low Trust

Grants for organisations agreed in 2021/22

	Organisation	Grant purpose	Amount agreed
Development Fund	Healthwatch Islington	Towards a new approach to the Digital Champions Initiative	£49,300
	Islington People's Rights	Towards a new approach to providing welfare benefits in partnership with Manor Gardens	£30,000
Principal Grants Fund	Centre 404	Supporting Families Project (two years)	£60,000
	Disability Action in Islington	Information and Advice Service – complex caseworker (three years)	£90,000
	Islington Mind	Talking Therapies Clinic (three years)	£90,000
	The Manna	Tackling health inequalities among marginalised people (two years)	£60,000
	Manor Gardens Welfare Trust	Connecting for Health (three years)	£90,000
	The Maya Centre	One-to-one and group counselling for Black Women's Therapy Group (two years)	£60,000
	Solace Women's Aid	Towards the counselling service for survivors of sexual violence (two years)	£30,000
Grant Support Fund	ALAG/Autism Hub	Towards the inputting of data onto their new case management system	£2,000
	Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants	Towards a monitoring and evaluation system	£3,200
	Life Chances in partnership with AFLAH	For the Foundation for Social Improvement monitoring and evaluation support package	£2,050
	One True Voice	For the Foundation for Social Improvement monitoring and evaluation support package	£2,050
	Stuart Low Trust	Lamplight set up costs	£3,000

Health grants programme

Individual grant schemes

£235,000

For organisations

£572,000

Total agreed*

£807,000

Grants agreed

48

Local organisations

26



Manor Gardens

Health Grants – other support

In 2021/22, the majority of Cloudesley's Health grants for organisations' budget was allocated as multi-year funding, but we also provided other support.

Small Grants Fund

During 2021/22, **14 local organisations** ran projects supported by our Small Grants Fund. The fund provided grants of up to £10,000 for projects for people who had been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19. 64% of grants were given to organisations that were new to Cloudesley.

Projects supported by the Small Grants Fund reached **830 Islington residents overall**. Of these, 118 were young people under the age of 17 and 282 were over 60.

To find out more about the Small Grants Fund 2021 and the difference it made, see our [Impact Report](#).

Grants Support Fund

Cloudesley's Grants Support Fund makes small grants to support organisations to improve their internal processes and governance. During 2021/22, Cloudesley provided additional small grants to help five local organisations with the development of their monitoring and evaluation systems – see page 5 for details.

Events and partner development

From speaking with funded organisations during the year, it became clear that burnout was a real concern for voluntary sector staff, made worse by the pandemic and the increasing demand for services. To help address this, we arranged for Rethink Mental Illness to run two online sessions for Islington voluntary sector staff on 'Your wellbeing as a frontline key worker', jointly funded by Cripplegate Foundation. The sessions were attended by 40 people and were well-received. We are exploring ways in which we might provide other similar support in future.

Islington Giving

Islington Giving is a coalition of local people and organisations, working together to raise funds and to support communities and projects in Islington. Its current priorities include increasing access to opportunities for all Islington residents; reducing isolation and creating connections; sharing decision making more equally with residents and raising more funds to support local projects that create a greater sense of community in Islington.

During 2021/22, Cloudesley continued to support Islington Giving's work with local residents who have health needs or disabilities and who are living in poverty.

To find out more see www.islingtongiving.org.uk

Grants for Islington churches



Tuesday Tea at St Mary Magdalene

Cloudesley's Church grants programme for 2020-25 prioritises funding applications which address the upkeep and repair of the church buildings in the Islington Deanery, including for:

- Major works and buildings projects
- Preventative works and simple repairs
- Project development and feasibility studies
- Developing church capacity to deal with buildings issues and/or maintenance of services
- Urgent repairs

All Church of England churches in the Islington Deanery are eligible to apply for support.

In 2021/22, Cloudesley agreed 32 grants totalling £848,000 for 20 Islington churches*.

Twice a year, Cloudesley invites funding applications from the Islington's Church of England churches. During 2021/22, grants were agreed for a wide range of purposes including stonework and roof repairs, redecoration of a church interior, kitchen refurbishment, health and safety issues, audio-visual equipment and a hearing loop.

A full list of our church grants is available at www.cloudesley.org.uk

* Grant funding of £71,000 was written back to the Church Grants programme during the year and became available for recommitment through the programme.



Cloudesley-funded chairs, St George and All Saints Church

Small Urgent Grants

Outside of the two main funding rounds each year, churches can apply for small grants to quickly deal with urgent and unforeseen repairs.

During the year, three churches applied for these grants:

- Christ Church Highbury – up to £1,115 agreed towards urgent boiler repairs
- St Andrew Thornhill Square – £10,000 agreed towards replacement netting for the tower to keep the church building safe to use
- St Silas – £2,800 agreed towards internal plasterwork and external stonework

Responding to rising prices

Most of Cloudesley's Church grants funding is used to support building repairs, refurbishment or equipment costs. With rapidly rising labour and materials costs during the year, the churches faced particular challenges. By the time they were ready to move forward with projects, several churches found they were facing unforeseen budget shortfalls due to increased prices. To help respond to this, Cloudesley introduced additional top-up grants to help bridge the funding gap.



Artur Hanuszewicz of Fullers decorating the church ceiling at St Mary Islington*

Church grants in more detail

Islington Church Buildings Forum and the Church Access Project

Working with the Islington Deanery, in 2021/22, Cloudesley arranged two meetings of the Islington Church Buildings Forum. The meetings brought church representatives together to share information and experiences about church buildings projects.

At the November 2021 meeting, attendees heard more about the Heart of Islington project as well as from funder Benefact Trust (formerly Allchurches Trust).

The June 2021 Forum meeting was held at the recently refurbished King's House in Pentonville Road, the new home for KXC (King's Cross Church). At the meeting, Cloudesley launched a new three-year Church Access Project, which it is running in partnership with the Islington Deanery and the Diocese of London.

Through the project, Cloudesley will offer each eligible Islington church:

- a church access audit carried out by the Centre for Accessible Environments
- non-competitive funding of up to £10,000 towards access works in its buildings
- information and support to improve accessibility

Case Study: The Heart of Islington project

In 2016, St Mary Islington began its Heart of Islington project, which included a major programme of interior and exterior works to the church building. Over the course of the project, aspects of the works were funded by Cloudesley, Section 106 funding from Islington Council, the Benefact Trust, church fundraising and a wide range of other sources.

In 2021/22, Cloudesley agreed a further grant of £50,000 towards the project for St Mary's to carry out repairs to the tower stairs and to redecorate the interior of the church. Overseen by volunteer Anthea Nicholson, the extensive Heart of Islington project was completed in 2022.

Church grants programme

Agreed

£848,000

Grants agreed

32

Islington's Church of England churches

20

* Photo: Imogen Erskine

Finance, governance and management

Finance and endowment review

Funding through Cloudesley's main grants programmes rose considerably in the year. Although additional Covid-19 support grants came to an end, the charity is pleased to report that the level of grants awarded remained 57% higher than the year before the pandemic, being the year ended 30 June 2020.

Cloudesley's directly-owned properties continued to perform strongly, which partly offset a fall in line with market movements in the value of the charity's investment portfolio. The charity will seek to continue to use its endowment to maximise grants awarded to current beneficiaries while retaining appropriate funds to meet future needs.

In total, grants of £1,655,000 were agreed during the year. Health grants of £44,000 and church grants of £71,000 were written back to the charity and these write-backs are reflected in the figure of £1,540,000 opposite.

The full Trustee's Report and Accounts are available to review online at www.cloudesley.org.uk

Statement of financial activities

	Year ended 30/06/22 £	Year ended 30/06/21 £
Total income	1,624,000	1,490,000
Staff costs, governance costs and overheads	316,000	297,000
Main grants programmes	1,540,000	1,268,000
Covid-19 grants	–	390,000
Endowment funds at year end	57,054,000	58,707,000

Governance and management

Cloudesley is governed by a Charity Commission Scheme of July 1980, as amended.

Up to 15 Trustees are responsible for directing Cloudesley's activities and the stewardship of its assets. They are:

- Ex-officio Trustee – the Mayor of Islington
- Archdeacon's Trustee
- Four Deanery Synod Nominated Trustees
- Four London Borough of Islington Nominated Trustees
- Five Elected Trustees

During 2021/22, four co-opted members also brought additional skills and experience to Cloudesley's committees.

Cloudesley's staff are responsible for the management and administration of the charity, and are:

- Director – Melanie Griffiths
- Grants Manager – Catherine Sorrell
- Grants Manager – Kevin Turner
- Administrator – Jo Latham
- Finance Manager – Ross Holland

During 2021/22, the staff team also included

- Finance Manager – Phillip Everett
- Administrator – Joanna White



Cloudesley

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Images

Front cover (clockwise from left)

- St Luke's Community Centre
- St Andrew's Thornhill Square
- Hope Church – St Mary Magdalene

Back cover (clockwise from top)

- Stuart Low Trust
- Our Most Holy Redeemer
- St George and All Saints Church

