

5 June 2015

Derwent London announces Fitzrovia community funding recipients for 2015 and a further £150,000 for future projects.



Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association – Positive Health



Upbeat Music – Songs inspired by Dylan Thomas 2014

Derwent London plc (“Derwent London” / “the Group”) is delighted to announce the third year of projects to receive funding as part of its community funding programme in Fitzrovia. Of 12 applications, the Group can confirm five successful recipients with a total of £66,230 being shared.

The projects chosen for this year are:

All Souls Clubhouse – After school football club & Clubkicks

Fitzrovia Community Centre – Arts programme

Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association – Fitzrovia Positive Health

Fitzrovia Youth in Action –Community events programme

Upbeat Music & Mental Health – Streets of London music workshop and showcase

The choices were again this year made from a number of very interesting proposals which were submitted as part of the application process. Applicants were invited to attend a workshop in April to present their project proposals, meet other community members and groups and contribute to the decision-making process.

Meanwhile, previous projects funded have been very well-received and Fitzrovia Youth in Action’s project to resurface The Warren multi-use games area and set up a community football league will be ready this year.

Derwent London was again pleased with the quality and range of applications. It selected the winning entries on the basis that they will offer a range of positive benefits – focussing on social, cultural, art and health.

John Davies, Head of Sustainability at Derwent London, commented:

“We were really pleased to see a range of great projects this year and yet again had difficult decisions to make in allocating the funds. However the workshop feedback was very useful and informative and helped our decision-making enormously.”

In addition to the funding allocations this year, the Group are also pleased to confirm an extension to the funding programme, with a further £150,000 which will be allocated from 2016-2018.

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For further information, please contact:

Derwent London 020 7659 3000

Paul Williams, Director

John Davies, Head of Sustainability

Brunswick Group **020 7404 5959**

Nina Coad
Christian Seiersen

Notes to editors

Derwent London plc owns a portfolio of commercial real estate predominantly in central London valued at £4.2 billion as at 31 December 2014, making it the largest London-focused real estate investment trust (REIT).

Our experienced team has a long track record of creating value throughout the property cycle by regenerating our buildings via development or refurbishment, effective asset management and capital recycling.

We typically acquire central London properties off-market with low capital values and modest rents in improving locations, most of which are either in the West End or the Tech Belt. We capitalise on the unique qualities of each of our properties – taking a fresh approach to the regeneration of every building with a focus on anticipating tenant requirements and an emphasis on design.

Reflecting and supporting our long-term success, the business has a strong balance sheet with modest leverage, a robust income stream and flexible financing.

Landmark schemes in our portfolio of 5.7 million sq ft as at 31 December 2014 include Angel Building EC1, The Buckley Building EC1, White Collar Factory EC1, 1-2 Stephen Street W1, Horseferry House SW1 and Tea Building E1.

In December 2014 Derwent London topped the real estate sector for the fifth year in a row and was placed ninth overall in the Management Today awards for 'Britain's Most Admired Companies'. Also in 2014 the Group won the Property Week 'Developer of the Year' and the RICS London Commercial Award, and was shortlisted for awards by Architects' Journal, BCO, NLA and OAS. The Group was also awarded EPRA Gold for corporate and sustainability reporting. In April 2015, 1-2 Stephen Street W1 won the BCO London and South East award for Refurbished / Recycled Workplace.

For further information see www.derwentlondon.com or follow us on Twitter at @derwentlondon.

All Souls Clubhouse – After school football club & Clubkicks

To continue the After School Clubs and Toddler Clubkicks. The clubs are run every day for local children and care for around 65 children each week. www.clubhousew1.org

Fitzrovia Community Centre – Arts programme

To continue and develop the arts programme at FCC

Teeny Turners for under-5s; After school Arts Club for KS2 pupils at All Souls School; Fitzrovia village weekly social club for elders. www.fitzroviacommunitycentre.org

Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association: Positive Health exercise and massage project. The project will provide exercise classes for hard-to-reach Asian/Bangladeshi and elderly women who otherwise have no culturally appropriate place to participate in regular physical activity, along with free massage/reflexology sessions. www.fitzrovia.org.uk

Fitzrovia Youth in Action – Four seasons community events programme

FYA will deliver some large scale community events in Fitzrovia over the next year to help strengthen the sense of community: 1. Fitzrovia Street Party & Community Dinner (Sept); 2. Fitzrovia Christmas Dinner (Dec); 3. Summer BBQ (June). Young people will be at the forefront of organising these events through participating in youth steering groups and volunteering on the days, alongside local residents and employees. www.fya.org.uk

Upbeat Music & Mental Health – Streets of London music workshop and showcase

A guided tour on local Music History, followed by a series of Band Workshops for local people with mental health issues inspired by the Streets of Fitzrovia and two public showcases, accompanied with a professional studio recording of the songs. www.upbeatmusic.org