

Press release  
5 February 2019

## Derwent London launches 6<sup>th</sup> year of Community Fund with £100,000 available for 2019

Derwent London plc (“Derwent London” / “the Group”) is pleased to announce its Community Fund 2019 – covering the newly-created Fitzrovia & West End and the Tech Belt\*. This forms part of the Group’s on-going sustainability programme and commitment to nurturing community engagement.



Islington Boat Club – spring 2018



The Garden Classroom – spring 2018

Derwent London continues to develop this programme to enable the delivery of worthwhile projects. Support from its Community Fund is in addition to the Group’s required community contributions from planning agreements. The Group has now awarded a total of over £560,000 to date to the Community Fund since it was launched in 2013. Most projects funded are either completed or under way and are providing much needed improvements, community facilities and new opportunities. New for this year, the Fitzrovia element of the Fund has been expanded to include areas to the west.

Derwent London invites local community groups, residents and local business owners to apply for funding for community projects. For 2019, funds will be available as follows:

- Fitzrovia & West End – £50,000;
- Tech Belt – £25,000 for spring 2019 (with a further £25,000 available in autumn 2019)

Deadline for receipt of spring 2019 applications: 28 March 2019.

As in previous years, applications will be considered by representatives from Derwent London and the local community. For further information and how to apply, please visit [www.derwentlondon.com/community-fund](http://www.derwentlondon.com/community-fund) or contact the Communities team at Derwent London – Tel. 020 7659 3000 or email [community@derwentlondon.com](mailto:community@derwentlondon.com)

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

*“We are really pleased to extend our Community Fund with a further £300,000 for three years and also to broaden the scope to cover areas in the West End and beyond. The fund is now in its sixth year and we look forward to supporting a range of local projects. Since 2013, we have supported over 70 projects in Fitzrovia and the Tech Belt. Many local people are benefitting from the positive outcomes which the projects offer and we look forward to seeing many more.”*

*\*The Tech Belt is defined as the area extending from King’s Cross to Whitechapel, largely covering EC1 and E1.*

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### For further information, please contact:

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## Notes to editors

### Derwent London

Derwent London plc owns 87 buildings in a commercial real estate portfolio predominantly in central London valued at £5.0 billion (including joint ventures) as at 30 June 2018, 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 5.5 million sq ft portfolio include White Collar Factory EC1, Angel Building EC1, The Buckley Building EC1, 1-2 Stephen Street W1, Horseferry House SW1 and Tea Building E1.

In 2018, the Group has won Property Week Property Company of the Year and EG Offices Company of the Year, whilst White Collar Factory scooped RIBA National and London awards, RICS National and London awards, two BCO awards for Commercial Workplace and Innovation, an EG Creative Places award and an NLA Wellbeing award. 25 Savile Row also won RIBA National and London awards and SKA Gold for the fit-out. In 2013 Derwent London launched a voluntary Community Fund and has to date supported 70 community projects in Fitzrovia and the Tech Belt.

For further information see [www.derwentlondon.com](http://www.derwentlondon.com) or follow us on Twitter at @derwentlondon

### Background to the Derwent London Community Fund

Derwent London's Community Fund forms part of the Group's on-going sustainability programme and commitment to developing community engagement. Creating Value in the Community is a key priority and, to deliver on this principle, the Group has evolved a voluntary Community Fund to support local projects in the key areas in which it operates. Funds are designed to support projects with a focus on community events, environmental improvements, health & well-being activities, music & culture and ongoing help for disadvantaged/isolated groups. Starting with Fitzrovia in 2013, the Group offered a £250,000 Community Fund and supported 17 local projects from 2013 – 2015. Notable projects have included resurfacing a multi-use games area, music workshops for people with mental health problems, art project for homeless people and lunch club for the elderly. In 2016, Derwent London announced an extension to the fund of £300,000 to be shared equally in Fitzrovia and now in the Tech Belt, to be spread over three years and a further £300,000 commitment was made to continue the Fund from January 2019 for three years, with the Fitzrovia scope being widened to include the West End.

### Community Fund in Fitzrovia & West End

The Fitzrovia & West End fund runs once a year and registered charities can apply for £10,000 maximum; non-registered groups, businesses and individuals can apply for £2,000 maximum.

### Community Fund in Tech Belt

The Tech Belt Community Fund runs twice a year (spring and autumn) offering c.£25,000 each time. The context, background and issues around the considerably larger Tech Belt area are somewhat different and more diverse than Fitzrovia and so the scope has been extended to support: young people, training & upskilling, increasing employment/apprenticeship opportunities for disadvantaged people in the area and in particular for access into tech/startup businesses; health & well-being activities for all generations; worthwhile community events, music, culture & arts; small improvements to public space. Registered charities can apply for £5,000 maximum; non-registered groups, businesses and individuals can apply for £2,000 maximum.

Applications will be considered by representatives from Derwent London and the local community. For further information and how to apply, please visit: [www.derwentlondon.com/news/article/community-fund](http://www.derwentlondon.com/news/article/community-fund) or contact Derwent London, Tel: 020 7659 3000 or email [community@derwentlondon.com](mailto:community@derwentlondon.com)

### Broader community/employment initiatives

Building on its long-term sustainability principles, the Group are evolving wider support opportunities with individuals and organisations in the area. Initiatives include work placements, mentoring and volunteering opportunities for our staff.

## **Derwent London Community Fund – Organisations funded so far:**

### **2013 – Fitzrovia:**

**Fitzrovia Centre** – community garden at the centre

**Fitzrovia Youth in Action** – resurfacing the multi-use games area at The Warren & local football league

**All Souls Primary School** – running lunch and after-school clubs and parenting classes

**All Souls Clubhouse** – Wednesday Lunch Club for older people

**Fitzrovia Trust** – replanting the garden at the Fitzrovia Nursery

### **2014 – Fitzrovia:**

**Fitzrovia Noir** – 140 Characters or less - an art project portraying streetlife in Fitzrovia

**Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association** – Positive Health exercise and massage project for women

**Upbeat Music** – Songs inspired by Dylan Thomas – music project for people with mental health issues

**All Souls Clubhouse** – supporting the Clubcare project and providing new kitchen facilities

**All Souls Primary School** – Learning together through technology; photography project for children

**Women Like Us** – From Playground to Payslip – supporting Fitzrovia parents to combine work and family life

**ARTfitzrovia** – Taking the next steps – expanding the platform for this art collective for homeless adults

### **2015 – Fitzrovia:**

**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

### **2016 – Fitzrovia**

**All Souls Clubhouse** – Wednesday Lunch Club

**FitzFest** – Classical music festival and education programme 2016/17

**Fitzrovia Centre** – Project Feel Well Fitzrovia

**Fitzrovia Trust** – Playground improvements

**Holcroft Residents Association** – Greening Carburton Street

**Soup Kitchen** – Kitchen costs

**Table Tennis Fight Club** – Community programme

### **2016 summer – Tech Belt:**

**All Change Arts** – Meaning to Say creative project for people with mental health problems and Word Festival event June 2017

**The Parent House** – Parent to Parent Outreach training programme for parent volunteers to encourage use of drop-in services offering mentoring, work placements, crèche

**Theatre Centre** – Our Place community drama programme for young people, with performance at Shoreditch Town Hall

**St Luke's Parochial** – 3 community events: Older people celebration October; Christmas Fayre & Lunch

**St Hilda's East, Boundary Women's Project** – 'ABC' confidence building network events for socially excluded women

**Finsbury & Clerkenwell Volunteers** – Lunch & Telephone Club befriending and support for older people around Old Street

### **2016 winter – Tech Belt:**

**Centre 404** – EC1 family support and drop-in services

**Quaker Court TMO** – Intergenerational story and drama project

**St Hilda's East Community Centre** – Older people's healthy living group

**Inspire/ St Monica's Primary School** – iDiscover project promoting STEM subjects

**Inspire/Central Foundation Boys School** – Connecting Silicon Hack

**St Luke's Parochial Trust** – EC1 collaborative public art project

**Islington Play Association** – This is real and it's yours! Toffee Park Playground redesign

#### **2017 – Fitzrovia**

**All Souls Clubhouse** – Wednesday Lunch Club  
**Fitzrovia Centre** – Camels in the Community school art project  
**Fitzrovia Chapel** – Community engagement and events  
**Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association** – Positive Health project  
**Fitzrovia Youth in Action** – Active Fitzrovia intergenerational exercise programme  
**Holcroft Court Residents Association** – Greening of Carburton Street  
**Whitefield Charity Soup Kitchen** – Welcomer funding

#### **2017 spring – Tech Belt**

**Urban MBA** – Starting it up! Project  
**The Spitz Charitable Trust** – Music for well-being workshops  
**Ministry of Stories** – children’s writing programme  
**Islington Play Association** – Acting Freely drama workshop  
**Cardboard Citizens** – Peer to Peer homeless mentoring  
**St Hilda’s East Community Centre** – Active Ants nature play

#### **2017 autumn – Tech Belt**

**Centre 404** – EC1 family support and drop-in services  
**Society Links Tower Hamlets** – Digital Explorers for Beginners  
**Spitz Charitable Trust** – Well-being exchange through cross-generational music-making  
**St Hilda’s East Community Centre** – Surajumuki creates headlines  
**The Garden Classroom** – The Secret Garden shared  
**Young Actors Theatre** – Stage Door

#### **2018 spring – Fitzrovia**

**All Souls Clubhouse** – Wednesday Lunch Club  
**All Souls Primary School** – Blue Plaque Walk project  
**Fitzrovia Centre** – Heroes’ journey intergenerational arts project  
**Fitzrovia Chapel** – Autumn exhibition  
**Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association** – Positive Health project  
**Fitzrovia Youth in Action** – Community Christmas lunch  
**Whitefield Charity Soup Kitchen** – Soup kitchen costs

#### **2018 spring – Tech Belt**

**Foundation for Change** – The NEXT psychology project for the homeless  
**Inspire for Central Foundation School for boys** – Leadership academy  
**Islington Boat Club** - Summerversity  
**Islington Play Association** – Sunny Saturdays  
**The Peel** – Clerkenwell Coding Club for children  
**St Hilda’s East Community Centre** – Community food co-op outreach  
**The Parent House** – Outreach in the community

#### **2018 autumn - Tech Belt**

**Access to Sports** – Holiday programme  
**Holborn Community Association** – Creative arts for young people  
**Providence Row** – Breakfast service  
**Society Links** – Digital Explorer  
**Soapbox** – Digital Talent Pipeline  
**Urban MBA** – The Untold Truth