

# Paul Hamlyn Foundation

## Statement by Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Paul Hamlyn Foundation is an independent grant making foundation working in the fields of migration, arts, education and learning, young people and India. We provide funding to organisations and individuals but also aim to be more than a grant-maker and offer non-monetary support to those that we fund - including the use of our building in King's Cross. Whilst we fund across the UK, we also have an active portfolio in Camden and are heavily engaged in the local area.

## Paul Hamlyn and Camden roots

Paul Hamlyn was committed to offering new opportunities to people experiencing disadvantage in society. He was an entrepreneurial publisher and philanthropist with roots to the local area, having started his career selling books in Camden Market (please see annex A). His passion for making high quality art and literature accessible to all led him to become one of the most renowned publishers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The foundation that bears his name in King's Cross today, continues Paul's belief in social justice and is one of the largest independent grant-making foundations in the UK. He set up the foundation in 1987, and upon his death in 2001, he left a bequest that has enabled us to fund ground-breaking organisations and individuals who work hard for social change

## Funding and activity in Camden

Many of the organisations and individuals that we fund are based in the local area or benefit the borough's residents through their work. For example organisations such as Fitzrovia Youth in Action, one of LB Camden's leading youth action charities, Clayground Collective who have also been supported by the local authority to find engaging ways to bring communities together and the Roundhouse who have worked with thousands of young people in the area to develop skills and opportunity - all demonstrate our value to the local area as a funder and as a partner to the community and the local authority.

The total number of live grants that we currently have in place in the UK and India is 550 and we expect to award around £30 million of grants in the current financial year. Whilst it is difficult to put an accurate figure on the number of organisations and individuals in our current grant-making portfolio that benefit the local area (as many have national and regional structures which would incorporate Camden) there are around 40 grantees who are currently based in the area and form an important part of local life, both in terms of what they offer to residents but also to



visitors. The total current investment in these organisations is over £3 million (please see annex B for some case studies).

The Hamlyn family retains a deep connection with Camden. This year, trustees agreed a new budget line targeted at investing in organisations dedicated to alleviating the deprivation we see around Leeke Street. We have been exploring potential investments in organisations supporting young people, those that are experiencing homelessness and women and girls in particular.

Beyond our grant-making, we strive to be a good neighbour in other ways. We participate in networks that help to find solutions to challenges felt in the local area. Camden has historically been one of the most polarised boroughs in London. With the polarisation of communities comes a diversity of need. Over the last three years, we have been working with the police, Camden council and other neighbouring businesses to form a regular group that has met to consider how the local area around Leeke Street can be supported and have seen tangible results. We are also an active member of the Knowledge Quarter pushing the local areas of Kings Cross, Euston Road and Bloomsbury as a world class knowledge cluster. The organisations involved in the network are putting Camden on the map. Please watch a video about the local knowledge clusters that the network seeks to maximise here: <http://www.knowledgequarter.london/> together with other materials which we have contributed towards.

### **Leeke Street Building**

Alongside our monetary, social and civic investment in the area, we seek to maximise the use of our building for charitable purposes. When we purchased our offices in 2010 we chose a space which could be adapted to offer facilities for those we fund to use, free of charge as well as office space for our staff.

Grantees are offered access to our building in Leeke Street, which is maintained to a high standard offering them and visitors a comfortable place to connect and work in the heart of central London. This tangible support can alleviate the financial and administrative burden of seeking out space for charities who do not have the resources to invest in meeting rooms. In 2017/2018 1,471 people visited events at our offices, an increase on figures of 1,383 for the previous year. Grantees run events to share practice, facilitate training sessions for staff and bring people together to develop strategic development plans for their organisations.

We know from our grantees that the space offered by the building is a coveted resource and scarce, with many commenting on how difficult it is to access the space due to growing demand. Expansion of the building would further increase the space that can be offered to those seeking to host conversations and events in the area. Many of these organisations are making important contributions to the economy and society. They are often at the forefront of cultural and social innovation, shaping and delivering public services. Many provide a valuable civic resource, building social capital and leveraging resources to tackle disadvantage and enhance social justice.

## **Growth**

The Foundation has prospered during its time in Camden - with an increase in grant making from £15m in 2010 to £30m planned in 2018/19. Staff numbers, including a number of locally based staff, have increased from 29 to 38. As explained above, our assessment of the need for accessible space for charitable projects to meet and work in has proved correct and nearly 1,500 people used our meeting rooms last year.

At a time when those we work with are facing uncertainty and challenge as the funding environment reduces and the needs of beneficiaries increase, the demands on the Foundation increase and we are committed to responding but limited by the space available in the building. For example, we have recently been invited to participate in a £4m project with two other foundations focussing on youth social action and whilst we would very much like to be involved are concerned that we will not have sufficient space to house the two additional posts needed to run the project. We are also increasingly having to turn away charities who wish to use our space for their events as we don't have a sufficient number of rooms available - we estimate for every booking we take here are at least two bookings we turn down. Expansion into 13 Leeke Street would enable us to offer additional meeting space for grantees and office space to support our growing staff numbers to deliver the increased funding we wish to offer.

We believe this mission is consistent with the ambitions laid out in Camden 2025 and hope that we can continue to play our part in the local area.

## Annex A - Paul Hamlyn - The man behind the books

Paul started his book selling business at just 22 with humble beginnings and grew a multi - million pound personal fortune, establishing himself as one of the leading publishers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



Paul Hamlyn selling books in Camden Market.



*"If you have been as lucky as I have, and the sums of money are as enormous as they are, it seems to me unthinkable if some of it didn't go to people who need it."*

Paul Hamlyn (1926-2001)

## **Annex B - Case studies**

With such a large portfolio it is impossible to share all the stories of impact that we know our grantees help to make possible every day. The following are some of the examples of funding that we feel help to highlight the difference that is being made in the local area.

### **Roundhouse**

The Roundhouse Studios in Chalk Farm Road give young people space and support to grow creatively as individuals. Engagement in the arts through music, media and performance projects has helped many young people to achieve more.

In 2012, PHF donated a £5m endowment to the Roundhouse to enable it to expand the offer to more young people, with a particular focus on those experiencing disadvantage. The Roundhouse's youth engagement programmes now reach over 3,500 young people a year, both at the studios and through off-site provision at primary and secondary schools.

To enable the Roundhouse to extend its reach, we made a further grant of £200k to Gloucester City Council to support the development of a long term partnership between the city and the Roundhouse. The work will focus on building local capacity to increase opportunities for local young people to participate in the arts and realise the city's longer term vision to create a new iconic Gloucester Roundhouse.



Students participate in Easter Project Band Bootcamp at Roundhouse Studios

*"I've benefited from the Roundhouse in too many ways to count. They took me to my first festival, helped me to write my best work, gave me some of my best mates and gave me gigs that got me paid work."*

Sean 24, Spoken Word Artist.

## Fevered Sleep

Fevered Sleep is an arts organisation based in London that focuses on challenging social relationships through performance, installations and other art mediums. One of the partners Fevered Sleep have worked with is The Place in King's Cross. The focus of the project is to engage local girls to co-create and perform a dance project alongside professional male dancers. As well as working with audiences that are traditionally hard to engage, Fevered Sleep will also gather evidence in order to understand the impact of involvement in the project on participants who engage in making, presenting and promoting their work.



Fevered Sleep's Men & Girls Dance is a project celebrating the rights of adults and children to be together, to play together and to dance together

*"Working with PHF to research and deliver three very different participatory arts projects is enabling us to radically evolve our practice and test new models of working with participants and partners around the country, allowing us to create work which aspires to have real impact and significant reach."*

David Harradine, Co-Artistic Director

## Coram Children's Legal Centre

Coram Children's Legal Centre (CLC), based in Mecklenburgh Square, are experts in all areas of children's rights, as well as immigration, child protection, education and juvenile justice. We support Coram CLC to undertake policy and capacity-building work to promote the rights of children and young people who lack settled status. Coram CLC provide policy analysis and legal advice support directly to young people and to organisations working with them with the aim of promoting effective legal routes to permanent status in the UK.



Youth Rights Trainers, accredited young people with experience of the UK immigration system, design and deliver courses through Coram Children's Legal Centre