

## **Applications Now Open for Better Bankside Community Partners 2016-2019**

Better Bankside's [corporate responsibility programme](#) is inviting applications for Community Partners.

As Community Partners the successful organisations will receive funding of between £3,000 and £5,000\* each per annum for 3 years from April 2016, as well as the opportunity to access in-kind support and expertise from the local business community. A key focus of the partnership will be to develop mutually beneficial and long term relationships with local businesses supporting the Community Partner organisations in their development.

The Better Bankside Corporate Responsibility (CR) group is keen to support groups that:

- Work with people who live, work or study in Southwark with special reference to people within or very close to the Better Bankside Business Improvement District (BID). **Organisations do not have to be based in this area themselves but the activities they are applying for funding for must benefit at least some people within or close to the BID area.** Please see map of Better Bankside BID area below\*.
- Work to improve people's quality of life and opportunity in the London Borough of Southwark, particularly in or near the Better Bankside BID area.
- Can demonstrate that their activities have achievable outcomes and a lasting impact.
- Can offer ways for local businesses to work in partnership with the group and/or its service users, for example through in-kind donations of time/expertise.
- Will monitor and evaluate the impact of their work, reporting back annually by attending selective CR group meetings, quarterly reviews with Better Bankside's Business and Community Coordinator and a written report in February of each year.
- Will maximise attendance at Better Bankside networking events to create links with local businesses

Funding can support core costs within a specific project, particularly if this enables the organisation to achieve full cost recovery and/or lever in further funding.

Before receiving any funding the successful group/s will be required to sign a project contract which will outline the expectations of the partnership. At the start of the partnership, successful group/s will be required to participate in an introductory training day aimed at helping them to gain a better understanding of the work Better Bankside does and to maximise networking opportunities with Bankside Businesses.

\*The entire fund size is £20,000 per annum. Depending on the number of Community Partners selected, the amount awarded may be less than the sum applied for, or chosen Community Partners may be invited by the CR group to apply for additional funding on top of their original application.

Interested parties should contact Josephine Clarke on 020 7928 3998 or [jc@betterbankside.co.uk](mailto:jc@betterbankside.co.uk) for an application form or [download it from here](#).

### **Important Dates**

- Deadline for the receipt of completed applications is 5pm on 13 January 2016
- More information may be requested from applicants in the week commencing 18 January
- Shortlisted organisations will be invited to present their ideas to the CR group on 29 January
- Applicants will be informed of the outcome in February

# Better Bankside

## About Better Bankside

Better Bankside is a Business Improvement District: a company owned, funded and led by employers in the Bankside area of London that exists to improve the quality of the area and enhance the competitiveness of its businesses. Better Bankside represents 620 companies in the BID area, which extends east to London Bridge, west to Hatfields, north to the river and south to Borough tube, Marshalsea Rd and Webber Street. It was established by ballot of businesses in 2005 and successfully renewed in 2010 and 2015 re-ballots. Better Bankside's core funding comes from an annual 'levy' on its member businesses.

## Expectations of the partnership

Better Bankside is keen to facilitate business involvement with the local community through a variety of channels one of which is direct funding over a three year term. As our Community Partners could receive a total grant of £15,000 we have higher expectations of the willingness of Community Partners to build a solid relationship with us and our member businesses. This could include attendance at our events, engaging with us on social media and making sure we are aware of any campaigns you are undertaking.

We appreciate that not every organisation has the knowledge to capitalise on making connections at our networking events or how to maximise the use of social media and training will be provided to help support our Community Partners with this.

Capitalising on connections made takes effort, please do not expect that through being one of our Community Partners you will suddenly have lots of local businesses fundraising for you. We try to encourage mutually beneficial relationships beginning with the sharing of time, skills or knowledge that may potentially grow and develop over time e.g. into a Charity of the Year Corporate Partnership. If you are able to use our Community Partner funding to partially cover core costs aimed at engaging businesses in a way that will ultimately increase the impact of your project locally then do please take this into consideration.

Successful applicants will be required to acknowledge that the project has received financial support from Better Bankside and include relevant logos in promotional publicity.

You may feel that entering into a Community Partner relationship with Better Bankside is not appropriate for your organisation at this time. We would still like to help advertise any volunteering or in-kind support your organisation requires through the 'Bankside and You' section of our website ([link here](#)). If you have an opportunity you would like to promote please send it to Josephine Clarke at [jc@betterbankside.co.uk](mailto:jc@betterbankside.co.uk)

## **\*Map of Better Bankside BID area**

