

Big Local Legacy – Consultant Brief



The two Big Locals in Walthamstow, St James Street and William Morris, are seeking a community consultant with the necessary skills and experience to provide them with a considered and researched piece of work. The overall aim of this work will be to appraise how the Big Locals fit within Walthamstow’s community sector, their value to the community, and to provide a report on how the two Big Locals could best focus their energies to provide a long-lasting legacy. A key part of the work will also explore whether the Big Local’s should continue to operate beyond their National Lottery funding.

What is Big Local?

There are 150 Big Local areas in England that were each awarded £1 million National Lottery funding (<https://localtrust.org.uk/big-local/>). The 10+ year programme gives each Big Local area the freedom to use the funding to address local need and deliver initiatives that improve their community. The programme nationally is in its final phase with all Big Local’s needing to have spent their allocation of funding by 2026.

Local Trust

Local Trust is the charity that was set up to oversee the Big Local programme nationally. It has supported areas with governance and strategy and provides a guiding hand. Local Trust authorises payments to Big Local areas once their community plans have been approved.

William Morris Big Local (WMBL) is a community organisation and one of the 150 Big Locals with National Lottery funding. WMBL aims to make the William Morris area of Walthamstow a better place to live, work and play for all. We have a ‘Partnership’ of 10 local residents which leads the programme and makes strategic decisions on how the funding is spent. Projects are delivered through a range of means: in house through staff and volunteers, commissions, through partnerships, and by making funds available to the community. Initiatives include, a Tool Lending library, youth clubs, multicultural events, activities to reduce loneliness and the awarding of small grants to local community groups.

St James Street Big Local (SJSBL) is a group of local volunteers investing £1 million of National Lottery funding in the St James Street area of Walthamstow. Some of the things we’ve organised or supported:

- Street art and the 1B Coppermill Lane window gallery
- Annual events, such as jumble trails and carol concerts
- Shop front improvements on St James Street and the High Street
- Supported the establishment of Crate at St James Street
- Resident-led projects like social clubs and a children’s magazine
- Pandemic grants for residents during the coronavirus outbreak
- funding and training for social enterprises in conjunction with UnLtd
- Grants for local charities to support community initiatives including HR Training and funding towards local business network

1. Big Local Legacy

Local Trust has been encouraging Big Local areas to develop their own Legacy statements and plans to determine “what remains when the Big Local £1million is spent” (<https://localtrust.org.uk/insights/research/the-legacy-of-big-local/>)

Both WMBL and SJSBL have developed their own local understanding of Legacy and have written a Legacy document which can be found in the appendices along with a research paper conducted by Local Trust on the subject. These are very much baseline documents and further work is required to help turn the vision into a comprehensive action plan with timelines.

There are similarities and differences in the WMBL and SJSBL vision and approach to Legacy. However both are keen to establish whether an organisation should be created to help realise their Legacy. Local Trust will be providing advice and guidance on how to set up as an organisation and how to choose the right structure should the Big Local's pursue this. An important part of the consultancy work at this stage will be to determine what collaborative approaches to Legacy could be brokered between the two Big Locals.

2. The Consultancy Work

a) The main aims (outputs) of the work are:

- to research and write a **report** for the two Big Locals that provides an appraisal of their Legacy vision within the context of the community sector in Walthamstow. This report will take stock of what the local challenges and opportunities are for the community sector and look at the local authority's strategy for third sector support in the coming years. This report will be vital to providing the Big Locals with a clear understanding of their projects beyond 2026 and of their potential future roles.
- to draw up an **options paper** with different directions the Big Locals could take in order to deliver the Big Local Legacy in Walthamstow. This will include mapping out the necessary milestones needed as well as the resource implications. It will map out what work each Big Local needs to do separately and what they can do in collaboration

b) We anticipate the following work being key to delivering a comprehensive report:

- Research and understanding the value and impact of the Big Locals in Walthamstow to date.
- Analysis of the Big Locals' current situation (SWOT analysis or similar)
- Interviews and meetings with key stakeholders including partner organisations, community leaders, councillors, council directors, MP, and external funders
- Attendance at Big Local meetings
- Working with staff members and committee members involved in the Legacy work
- Researching the current and future landscape of the third sector in Walthamstow
- Understanding of the Local Authority's strategy and plan for supporting the third sector in Walthamstow

3. The Consultant

We wish to appoint a consultant who has the following:

- A minimum of 5 years' experience of community development including the support of third sector organisations with strategy and governance.
- Strong research and analytical skills.
- Good knowledge of the charity and third sector landscape in Walthamstow
- Experience of facilitating meetings with multiple stakeholders and voices in the room.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Knowledge and experience of the funding landscape for large scale projects.
- Ability to write clear and understandable reports even when the content is complex.

Timescales:

Brief Circulated	1st August
Deadline for Responses	30th August
Shortlisting	Early Sept
Interviews	during week of 12th Sept
Consultant Starts	Late-September
Work completed	December

We anticipate the work taking an average of 1-2 days per week over a period of 8-12 weeks but are open to applicants looking at a more condensed approach if necessary.

Payments will be made monthly on submission of an invoice with the final invoice payment made subject to the satisfactory completion of the work and deliverables.

4. Application Process

If you are keen to apply we would ask you to respond to the brief in the following way:

- read the existing Legacy documents that have been draw up by WMBL, SJSBL and Local Trust which can be found in the appendices of this brief
- provide us with an initial appraisal and understanding of the current situation for the two Big Locals and their Legacy work. What alignment is there between the two Big Locals and with Local Trust's vision of Legacy? (one-page)
- Outline your approach and methodology to deliver this piece of work. (one-page)

Please also send us your CV and examples of any similar work you have delivered. Please also provide us with your costs to deliver this piece of work.

Your proposal and accompanying documents need to be sent to gabriel@wmbiglocal.org by **11.59pm on Tuesday 30th August 2022**

5. Further Support and Clarification

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this work please contact Gabriel Edwards (gabriel@wmbiglocal.org / 07947 766 251) or Gayle Wallace (GAYLE WALLACE gayle.wallace@btconnect.com / 07814 422 696)

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Local Trust view of Legacy

https://localtrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/local_trust_big_local_legacy.pdf

Appendix 2 – William Morris Big Local Legacy Statement and Baseline Plan

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o3uTE_lm-l9tdZXlui2_CvC0xghkblZM/view?usp=sharing

Appendix 3 – St James Street Big Local Legacy Strategy

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gTpwOHqeS4cdsfKKgSLaLaMpOTejLfPi/view?usp=sharing>

Appendix 4 - Local Trust questions to Big Local areas to help them understand Legacy for their area:

1. What does legacy mean to us?
2. What's our vision of our area in the future, after Big Local?
3. How will we have contributed to it?
4. What are our strengths and our best likely outcomes?
5. Which aspects of our impact and legacy will last of their own accord?
6. Will any (like activities, projects or assets) need more attention and resources? If so, what resources do they need, and how will we get them?
7. Does our partnership wish to continue in some form? What resources do we need, and how will we get them? Will we need to source our own income in future?
8. Are there skills we could develop now, such as leadership skills, which will help our legacy to be stronger?
9. How can we share our skills and experience with others?
10. Are there any risks that we need to think about and plan for?
11. How does our legacy fit with what's coming up in the future for our area?