

YOUNG GRANT-MAKERS: A report on the pilot programme, 2018

About this Report

This report is written with the intention that it will be of interest to funders, public agencies, philanthropists, CSR teams, young people in their communities, charities, social enterprises and any other organisations working for the benefit of young people. We hope that it can help inspire a movement to challenge and diversify decision-making structures and involve young people and others who are not often invited to the table.

The report documents the journey through the first year of our Young Grant-Makers (YGM) programme in 2018 when a diverse group of 15 young people aged 16-26 came together and issued Islington Giving grants amounting to a total of £80,000 to local organisations offering activities and support to Islington's young residents. The report is accompanied by a short film which can be viewed [here](#).

Introduction

In 2015 Islington Giving commissioned research with Islington's young people to inform our strategy for Investing in Young People, entitled *Making the Most of Free Time*¹. One of the findings from the research was that young people wanted to be involved in what gets funded. We were serious about responding to this and giving local young people power to shape their community through grant-making.

We started scoping our approach to a pioneering YGM programme in 2017. We conducted research and consulted widely with local voluntary organisations, other funders and experts in youth participation. It seemed that in the UK, although there were examples of charities and local authorities involving young people in aspects of decision-making, what we as an independent funder were aiming to do – fully devolve decisions over a portion of our core grants budget to a group of local young people – was unusual and pioneering.

The Islington Giving Board approved a budget of up to £30,000 to run a pilot YGM programme in 2018 and agreed to delegate £80,000 of its grants budget for the young grant-makers to disburse, approximately 12% of the total budget for the year.

¹ Islington Giving (2016) *Making the Most of Free Time*. Available at: https://www.cripplegate.org/sites/default/files/field/attachment/MMFT_summary.pdf

Research into Young People in Grant-Making

A YouthGiving.org review in 2014 (Foundation Center, *Scanning the Landscape of Youth Philanthropy*, available [here](#)) found more than 200 foundations worldwide supporting youth grant-making programmes. Within a diversity of programmes most promoted empowerment of youth as critical thinkers, team players, decision makers and active leaders. And a review of project evaluations by Child to Child in 2013 (summary findings [here](#)) found that child participation positively impacted on: children's life skills - e.g. team work, decision-making, communication, critical and creative thinking; their learning skills - e.g. reasoning, coming to conclusions, collecting and interpreting data; and their language skills - e.g. literacy, listening and speaking.

One of the most widespread models of youth engagement is Youth Bank which combines youth grant-making with youth community service/project delivery. In 2017 there were 216 operating local Youth Banks in 23 countries worldwide with an estimated 2,500 young people acting in leadership roles.

Overall the evidence we found supported the proposition that young people can make a positive contribution to decision-making about community development and funding and make big personal strides in their own life and skills.

YGM Aims and Objectives

From the start the aim for YGM was framed as *giving young people in Islington the means to shape their local area, their community and their opportunities, and achieve influence within local and wider society.*

The principal objectives of the programme are:

- **More informed and accountable grant-making.** Putting young people's perspectives directly into grant decisions feeds in views and understanding that would otherwise be missing or patchy in our deliberations as a funder. We expect that our Young Grant-Makers programme will inform our approach to our wider grant-making. In addition, giving young people the power to allocate funding has the potential to help build trust and accountability in the wider population of young people.
- **Personal and professional development for young people.** Our young grant-makers benefit from training, support and experiences that are directly relevant for personal and work-related development. Young people will be able to describe their grant-making experiences in CVs and job applications, name Islington Giving as a referee in college and job applications and access opportunities through Islington Giving's networks. In time, we hope to offer formal accreditation through the YGM training.

PART 1: YGM IN 2018 – HOW WE DID IT

Building a Partnership

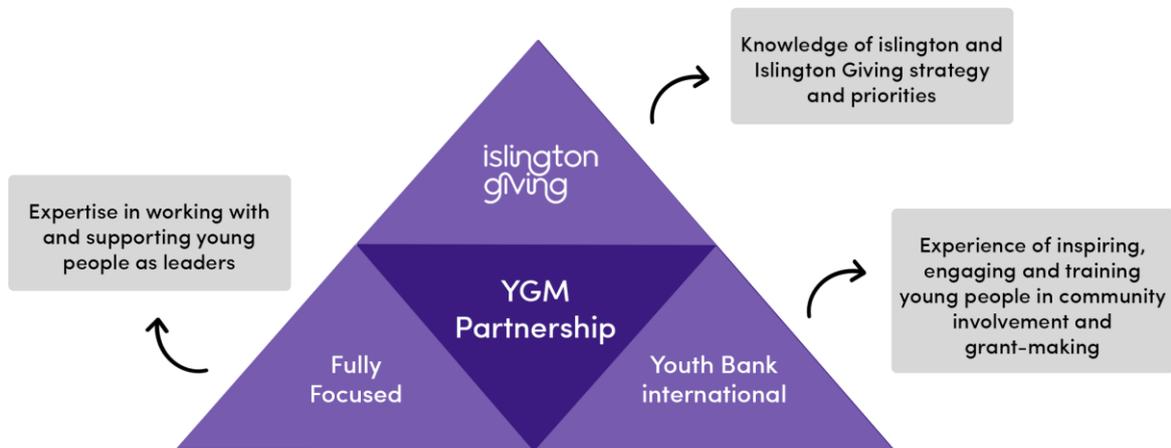
At Islington Giving we knew that we didn't have the skills or experience to set up and run YGM on our own. As a place-based funder Islington Giving has deep local knowledge but no direct experience of delivering a programme with and for young people. We were extremely fortunate to find two expert organisations willing and able to become our partners:

Fully Focused Community Trust <https://www.fullyfocusedproductions.com/> was already one of our trusted local partners. As a youth-led organisation itself, Fully Focused was able to offer a member of staff, Alex Simpson, with professional youth work qualifications and experience to be our Programme Leader in 2018. The role would be to coordinate the programme, support the young people as individuals and as a team, and help gather learning. Fully Focused led the recruitment process for YGM with three members of their Young Team leading outreach workshops which Fully Focused designed to engage and recruit young people across the borough. This led to the successful outcome of 15 young Islington residents becoming young grant-makers. Consultation with Fully Focused throughout the year helped to shape and develop the pilot programme as it progressed,

Youth Bank International <https://www.youthbankinternational.org/our-story> was enthusiastic about YGM from our first conversation with them during scoping in 2017. With over 20 years of experience in setting up and sustaining Youth Banks around the world they were able to bring extensive knowledge of how to engage and train young people in grant-making. The Chair of Youth Bank International, Norman Leet, helped us design and improve the programme from the start and delivered the training sessions for the young people across the year, generously drawing on his knowledge and experience as well as the wealth of Youth Bank's own resources and toolkit. Youth Bank International provided invaluable advice and support as the programme progressed.

By pulling together the strengths of our 3 organisations we designed the management of the programme as a partnership, as shown in the diagram overleaf.

We wanted to put young people in the lead right from the start to ensure ownership/buy-in and avoid any sense of dilution of young people's role as leaders. Working with Fully Focused allowed us to do this because members of their young team met with us as a working group to: (1) help us recruit a Programme Leader; (2) devise a start-up plan; (3) provide peer-to-peer outreach to young people to recruit our first young grant-makers.



Preparing the Programme

There were two key elements in getting ready to launch. The first involved Islington Giving preparing for it as an organisation and the second was in designing the programme so that it would be successful.

The Islington Giving Board were highly supportive of the pilot. A budget for running costs of up to £30,000 for 2018 was agreed. This would cover the costs of: paying the Programme Manager; paying the young people for expenses and for their time at the London Living Wage; session costs including food and refreshments; and a celebration event at the end of the year. The Board also agreed to fully delegate £80,000 of Islington Giving's 2018 grants budget, accounting for 12% of the annual grants total. The Board agreed that the decisions of the young people would be final, with no referral back to the Board for sign-off. YGM would be held accountable to the Board through Islington Giving's Programme Director who was tasked with ensuring that YGM maintained alignment with Islington Giving's strategy and best practice processes and would report back to the Board regularly.

The direct involvement of Islington Giving in a programme with young people meant that we needed to tighten our approach to safeguarding. Under the guidance of our partner, Fully Focused, our policies and practices were reviewed and updated and necessary DBS checks for those involved were implemented.

In designing Islington Giving's YGM programme we were conscious that it needed to fit the Islington context and Islington's young people. It was suggested, for example, that ways of working in inner-city areas differ in important ways from rural or suburban contexts (eg: young people potentially have less "down" time in busy city environments).

1. Core Principles

Drawing on our research into models for involving young people we devised a set of principles to set the overall shape of the programme and these are listed below. Five of these draw on Youth Bank International's 9 Golden Rules². We decided that further guiding principles could be discussed and decided by the young grant-makers themselves.

PRINCIPLE	DESCRIPTION
1. Creating a positive experience with and for young participants will be the programme priority	<u>From Golden Rule 7:</u> Using a range of creative and fun activities YGM will offer young people new experiences, new skills and new learning, providing opportunities to do things that they would not normally have the chance to do.
2. Young Grant-Makers will be youth led	<u>From Golden Rule 1:</u> Being youth-led means young people in YGM will make funding decisions. The role of adults will be to provide training, support and advice to young people, rather than make decisions on their behalf.
3. Young Grant-Makers will be adequately resourced	Young people's time and effort will be valued. Young people will receive training and support around grant-making, finance, communication and interviewing skills. They will be supported as individuals and as a group by expert staff.
4. Learning will be central to the programme	We accept there will be successes and failures and we see the value of that reality. Improvements will be needed and made along the way. <u>From Golden Rule 8:</u> Young Grant-Makers will take time to look back at everything they have been involved in, from training and team-building, to how they made decisions and the type of projects they funded. They reflect on what worked well and decide if they would do anything differently next time around
5. Involvement in the programme will be limited to young people who are resident in Islington	This reflects the mission and objectives of Islington Giving.
6. YGM will align with Islington Giving's strategic aim to address poverty and inequality in Islington.	This will inform both the recruitment of young people and the focus of funding through Young Grant-Makers.
7. Young Grant-Makers will adopt best-practice standards in grant-making	<u>From Golden Rule 5:</u> The decision-making process will ensure that all money awarded is given out fairly and that the processes used for checking how money is spent are clear and transparent.
8. Involvement as a Young Grant-Maker will be aimed at a diverse range of motivated young people	Those who are ready to engage in more activities with additional support, are inspired by the opportunity and demonstrate a commitment. We will reach out to those local young people who may struggle more to access opportunities.
9. Fun and celebration will be built into the programme	<u>From Golden Rule 9:</u> it is important to celebrate the hard-work of young grant-makers and congratulate the young people who make a difference in their community through celebration events for example

² Youth Bank, *Your Change Your Community*. Page 14-15. Available at: <http://www.youthbank.org/download/files/158113%20YouthBank%20Brochure%20Singles%20lo.pdf>

2. Working out important details

With our partners, Youth Bank International and Fully Focused, we worked through a set of questions in preparation for bringing young people on board and getting started. These are shown in the table below. One of the most important decisions was that the young people's time for involvement in YGM should be recognised and paid at the London Living Wage. This reflects the real work experience the programme is intended to offer.

QUESTION	ANSWER
What age and age-range for our young grant-makers?	Age range 16-21 will be prioritised but young people up to 26 could be included
How do we achieve a mix of young people?	Recruit a mix across gender, ethnicity etc and socio-economic backgrounds
How will we recruit?	Approach a mix of trusted local partners eg: schools, youth groups
What attributes are we looking for in our young grant-makers?	Looking for energy, commitment and an interest in the local community
What is the right level for the YGM grants budget?	£80,000 for round 1
What will YGM grants be for?	Grants will be for organisations offering activities, services or support to young Islington residents
What should be the maximum single grant?	£15,000, recognising the weight of responsibility young people may feel with bigger grants than this
What is the time commitment for the young grant-makers?	The programme will cover a grant cycle, from researching the community and shaping a call for proposals, through to assessment of applications, and final decision-making as a panel. The cycle will end with a welcome meeting for successful grantees and a celebration event for the young grant-makers. The structure of sessions, eg: weekly? Fortnightly? Once a month on a weekend? would be worked out with the young grant-makers at the start
What support should be available to the young people?	The Programme Leader (Fully Focused youth worker in 2018) will offer confidential individual as well as group support
How should the young grant-makers be rewarded?	YGM is real work experience and young people's time should be recognised. The young people would be paid London Living Wage for their time. Expenses also paid for young people to attend meetings. Food and refreshments provided at each session

3. Recruiting young grant-makers

The Fully Focused Programme Leader and young team members contacted local youth organisations and schools about the YGM opportunity. As well as speaking to individuals who expressed interest, the team made a series of visits to groups to talk to their young people and describe what the programme was about and what it could offer them. 15 young people attended an initial Make Your Mind Up session on 1st May 2018.

The Course of the Programme over 2018

At the Make Your Mind Up session on the evening of 1st May, we agreed with the young people that the group would meet weekly from 6pm to 8pm at Islington Giving's offices. The young people were asked to let the Programme Leader know during the week up to the session on 8th May if they felt YGM wasn't for them. All 15 returned on 8th May. One young person ceased coming in the Summer and four others stopped in September when they left for universities out of London. Otherwise, the majority of ten stayed with the Programme until completion in December 2018.

The diagram overleaf summarises the course of the programme throughout the year, from May to December. The pink shapes show key dates and deadlines. The purple squares fit in between highlighted dates and show the tasks and learning covered in each period. Over the course of the 8 months there was only one week in which the group did not meet, on 6th November, the week after the final funding decisions had been made.

The YGM Call for Proposals and Final Grants Issued

Between the beginning of May and mid-June the young grant-makers thought and learned about their local area in Islington and what challenges young people face here. They also came to understand their role as grant-makers and what that means for local groups and the young people they work with.

The young people carefully shaped their call for proposals, inviting:

applications for projects that will strengthen the community in Islington and provide more activities for young people enabling them to learn new skills and meet new people.

They further explained that: *Through this call we as Young Grant-Makers want to fund great projects which will help widen the spread and range of high-quality activities on offer to young people living in Islington. Our core principles are that:*

- *Participating in fun, positive, social activities is critical for young people's enjoyment and quality of life, for their mental health and well-being and for developing a range of skills.*
- *Being involved and participating in extra-curricular activities gives young people the skills, motivation and confidence to progress towards the world of work.*
- *Opportunities for young people to take part in local activities or events that might include people of other or all ages can help create a stronger, more connected community in Islington that will be good for everyone.*
- *Better communication through multiple channels about the opportunities that are available will help more young people find something they love to do and be part of.*

Diagram: Key dates (pink shapes) and tasks and learning between key dates (purple shapes)



A strong framework of criteria was developed so that the young grant-makers, who were experiencing the assessment of grant applications for the very first time, could consider and assess proposals consistently, fairly and openly. Among the key criteria were that projects or activities should be: free; regular over a period of time rather than one-off; and aware of young people’s mental health needs. The young grant-makers were also keen to see that any activity would provide food and drinks for participants as part of any session plans.

With the guidance of Islington Giving staff, the young people themselves assessed all the applications we received in two stages:

1. The first stage for applicants was to submit a two-page expression of interest describing their activity or project with an outline budget. Using their framework of criteria, the young grant-makers assessed and short-listed 10 applications from the total of 27 received. As well as ensuring that the criteria were addressed, the young people chose to short-list those projects or activities that sparked the most interest in the group.
2. The short-listed applicants were invited to complete Islington Giving’s full application form over the summer. The young grant-makers carefully reviewed all the full applications. Then in small groups of two or three, accompanied by a member of staff from Islington Giving, the young people visited each applicant organisation. These visits gave our young people the chance to understand the organisations face to face, to see some of the activities in action, and to discuss the questions that arose for them from reading the application.

Following the visits the young people wrote up their final assessment of each application. These were taken to a full meeting of the young grant-makers and as a group they arrived at their final funding decisions on 30th October. The following grants were awarded:

Organisation	Grant Amount	Description
Access to Sports	£15,000	Mixed sports activities
Amberliegh	£12,000	Music, drama and social activities at the weekend
The Brandon Centre	£10,700	Young people as ambassadors for mental health awareness and support
Creative Opportunities	£15,000	Mentoring for young people by professionals from creative industries
Copenhagen Youth Project	£14,550	Weekly Monday evening youth club
Dynamic Autism	£7,000	Music project for young people with autism
Isledon CIC at Platform Youth Hub	£5,200	Mental health and well-being group project for young men

PART 2: ACHIEVEMENTS AND LEARNING FROM YGM IN 2018

A learning process was built into the programme from the start so that we could: test whether and to what extent YGM achieved its stated aim and objectives; have space to reflect on other outcomes and observations during the year; use the knowledge we gathered to adapt and improve future rounds of YGM.

Learning points were captured in a number of ways:

1. Time for reflection among the young grant-makers was regularly built into sessions so we could check in with them how they felt things were going
2. The Programme Leader wrote short reflection reports after each session
3. Regular weekly catch ups between all staff allowed space to discuss observations, points that had arisen or were of interest, and ideas for future sessions
4. A structured plan for understanding success and gathering evidence was devised early on with the young grant-makers. A set of success indicators was framed alongside a plan for eliciting feedback from key stakeholders including the young grant-makers.

The tables in the attached Annex provide a full list of the success indicators envisaged for different stakeholders (the young people themselves, Islington Giving, the community in Islington, other funders) with final outcomes against each one shown in the second column. In summary, the following key points can be drawn out:

1. **10 out of 15 original young grant-makers stayed with the programme** throughout the cycle from May to December. At the set-up stage of the programme we were concerned we would either not be able to recruit enough young people or would lose many of them along the way. We were delighted that this did not happen. Young people told us they valued the pay they received but this isn't what kept them coming. It was the sense of team-work, the skills they were learning and their ability to shape their community that mattered.
2. **Young people highlighted that the programme helped them develop particular skills:** listening, team-working, and financial skills.
3. **Young people described how control over grant-making gave them voice and power** to help other young people have opportunities.
4. **Islington Giving gained the perspectives of young people in its grant-making** and added 7 high quality projects to its portfolio of grants.
5. **The programme demonstrates Islington Giving's mission to work with and not just for the people of Islington.** We are continuing our YGM programme and are committed to involving more residents in other aspects of our decision-making going forwards.

6. **9 out of 10 of the applicants we surveyed were clear that YGM increased the sense of accountability around grant-making.**
7. **Two other funders – City Bridge Trust and Children in Need have joined YGM in 2019.** City Bridge Trust and Children in Need engaged with our learning during 2018 and chose to invest with us in 2019 for the second year of the programme.

How far did YGM achieve its aim and objectives in 2018?

We believe we made good progress towards our aim in 2018. We gave young people the means to help shape opportunities and support for other young people by delegating a budget of £80,000 over which they had full control. The invitations our young people have received to speak at events for the Association of Charitable Foundations, Children in Need's annual staff conference, and a National Lottery Community Fund event demonstrate how they as young grant-makers are achieving influence in wider society.

In terms of the objectives we set for YGM:

- Feedback from the young people indicates that they were able to identify areas of personal and professional development as a result of their participation. One young grant-maker cited her involvement in YGM as helping her secure a job in grant-making with another funder.
- Islington Giving staff and board members feel that involving young people in decision-making has provided a major contribution to the action we have taken through our *Making the Most of Free Time* strategy for the benefit of local young people; and it has, more broadly, informed our whole approach as a funder. The programme tested our assumptions about what young people want and helped us learn what is appealing and important for young people, and what they know about local offers and the type of engagement strategies that work. We are now looking to bring together a panel of adult residents in 2020 for decision-making on our Supporting Families programme. Feedback from applicant organisations strongly suggested that community groups appreciate the direct involvement of young people in decisions about who receives funding.

Looking Forward: Lessons from YGM in 2018

As the year progressed we noted some key lessons:

- Recruitment takes time and can be stressful if too condensed. Lack of time carries the risk that we might not be as effective at reaching more disadvantaged young people.
- Recruiting young people going to university out of the area during the cycle means the programme loses their valuable input.

- For some young people there are costs to participation that can be a barrier. Travel expenses are paid to the young people, however, we realised that some allowance for other costs such as child-care can also be imperative.
- Providing good work experience should carry an expectation that young people will develop core skills including good time-keeping.
- Through working together in a structured but informal way learning naturally occurs through conversation regardless of 'status'. Young grant-makers, Islington Giving staff and local groups all taught and learnt from each other.
- Developing a robust framework of criteria is gold! Grant-making is an art not a science, but the young people were able to depend on the framework to help them navigate tough decisions.
- Providing food at the sessions is essential but it needs to be carefully organised so it doesn't take up too much time or distract too much from the work to be done.

Wider Lessons

YGM highlighted how grant making can radically change from an approach where foundation trustees make decisions on applications based on written reports from staff. Islington Giving's programmes are designed with, not for, residents and the experience of YGM is informing the development of all Islington Giving's future programmes.

YGM in 2019

13 new young people and 2 returners from last year joined us for our second YGM programme. We are continuing with the model from 2018 delivering the programme again in partnership with Youth Bank International. We have a new Programme Leader this year who joined Islington Giving on a freelance basis and is an experienced youth worker.

We are delighted to be working in partnership with City Bridge Trust and Children in Need this year and are enjoying being on the journey together with them this time.

Conclusion

Islington Giving is committed to sharing ideas and best practice with others – funders, statutory partners, businesses, residents and voluntary organisations. We are also committed to sharing the power of grant-making and programme design and delivery with local people. Please do get in touch with us (contact overleaf) if you would like to find out more about our approach or YGM in particular. We would be delighted to discuss with you the practicalities, opportunities and challenges of implementing YGM.



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- The Marple Trust for its investment in YGM with Islington Giving in 2018
- Youth Bank International, in particular Norman Leet, Chair of YBI
- All those at Fully Focused Community Trust, particularly Alex Simpson who was our Programme Leader in 2018, and Fully Focused's young team members who participated as young grant-makers throughout the year
- Chan Allen who gave time so generously at the YGM sessions throughout the year

Annex

A1. Success criteria for the Young People – evidence gathered from session records and reports and questionnaires completed by all the young grant-makers in August and November 2018 – quotes in blue italics

Indicator	Outcome
Engagement is maintained throughout the programme	Of the 15 young people who started YGM on 1 st May 10 remained throughout the programme. 4 young people left in September because of starting university outside London. Only 1 young person left for other reasons. Although some young people missed some weeks or blocks of weeks, they did return and maintained important input. Average attendance at each session was 8 young people. Asked what success from YGM meant for her one young person wrote: <i>Completion 😊 because I have never completed anything in my life.</i> This person stayed with us throughout the YGM year.
They enjoy the experience	Individual feedback mid-way through and at the end of the programme suggested this was achieved. <i>It's an amazing experience and the decision-making is in your hands</i> <i>Allows you to work as part of a special team for the greater good of the community</i>
Sessions feel positive and purposeful	The stages of the cycle and the purpose of each session were set out clearly. In the time we had the pace was quite fast. This kept the momentum up. All key dates/deadlines were met.
Young people learn new skills that they value	In their feedback the young people highlighted skills development around: people and social skills including patience; team-working; understanding finances; analysing information and reading between the lines. <i>It has helped me learn to really listen and be confident in making decisions in a fair and impartial way.</i>
Young people have real decision-making power	The YGM decisions were final. They were not returned to the IG board for review or approval. <i>It is very rewarding to have the chance to impact other young people's lives for better. Your decisions are not controlled by Islington Giving so you have the power</i> <i>YGM gave me a voice and a platform to benefit my community and confidence in my everyday life.</i>
They make new friends and feel supported	Observations, staff records and young people's feedback show this was the case. <i>There have been amazing friendships made in the group.</i>
They can describe how the experience will be helpful for their future	In their feedback the young people spoke about gaining confidence, life skills and a greater understanding of themselves that they felt would benefit their future. <i>YGM has set me up for great success building reading skills, team skills, financial management, compassion in life and to be a team player.</i> <i>It has helped me secure a job. My goal is to create my own organisation for young people in the future and YGM has given me greater credibility and understanding of good youth project</i>

A2. Success criteria for Islington Giving – evidence gathered from session records and reports and questionnaires completed by Islington Giving staff and Board members – quotes in blue italics

Indicator	Outcome
At least 6 young people stay with YGM to the end	10 young people remained with YGM throughout the year.
Regular weekly attendance is high	Average attendance across all sessions was 8 young people
Sessions feel positive and purposeful	As for the young people, the stages of the cycle and the purpose of each session were set out clearly. In the time we had the pace was quite fast. This kept the momentum up. All key dates/deadlines were met.
The YGM grant round fits well with <i>Making the Most of Free Time</i> strategy	IG staff and Board members were satisfied that the YGM grant round fitted well with and positively enhanced action on its strategy as set out in <i>Making the Most of Free Time</i> .
High-quality grant applications are received	27 expressions of interest were received at initial application stage, with 10 being short-listed to submit a full application. There were some difficult decisions to be made at short-listing, evidence of the number of high-quality bids received. Some difficult decisions also at final funding stage.
At least 5 projects receive funding	7 projects were funded, at a total sum of £79,450
The perspectives of the young people are clear in the decision-making process	There were examples when the young grant-makers challenged IG assumptions, eg: the group did not favour projects to help young people with steps towards the world of work, believing that involvement in community activities would give them valuable skills and experiences in a more holistic way. The young people devised the assessment criteria with reference to the IG strategy, but also to their experiences, eg: the importance of having food available when engaging in activities. Even if the funding decisions were not evidently different to those the IG Board might have made, young people’s perspectives in the process clearly came through. <i>I think the end result is a bit, but not radically, different to what would have been funded. But expectations have been way exceeded around the learning from the YGM, and the value of local groups being assessed by local young people.</i>
There is a clear rationale for why funded projects were chosen	The clear framework for assessment criteria devised by the young people and the consistent record-keeping against these criteria ensured that a clear rationale was available for final funding decisions
The experience and learning ensure a smooth transition to year 2	The success of the programme in 2018 means the IG Board has been keen to continue the programme into year 2. Robust systems and record-keeping in the pilot provide a strong basis for starting year 2.
The experience and learning benefits IG’s mission and practice	IG staff learned from working with young people about elements of better practice eg: interviewing skills in grant assessments, thinking differently about connecting with people as our way of working. From the success of YGM in 2018 IG is looking at ways of involving more local people in its programmes and decision-making. <i>Its IG’s poster project and its value goes much beyond the young people or the groups they have chosen to support. YGM symbolises what we say IG can do – involve a wide range of people who can give to the community and does this with rather than for.</i>
The pilot engages other funders at least two of which commit to invest in YGM in Year 2	The learning session for funders held on 27 th November 2018 attracted 16 participants from 9 trusts and foundations. One funder has now confirmed investment alongside IG in YGM in 2019 and another is near finalising a decision on co-investment this year.

A3. Success criteria for the Community in Islington – evidence gathered from surveying the 10 short-listed applicants prior to YGM final decisions on funding - quotes in blue italics

Indicator	Outcome
Voluntary Sector Organisations voice support for the YGM model of grant-giving	All respondents were supportive of the YGM model and felt it mattered to VSOs and the community. <i>I believe it matters greatly. This approach is changing the dynamic of a top-down feeling of traditional funding ‘food chain’. The message of a community project being supported by young people for young people is very empowering and guarantees a greater degree of relevance and effectiveness at meeting local needs.</i>
Applicants report a positive experience of engaging with the YGM process	All respondents reported a positive experience. <i>I really enjoyed going through the process as keeping young people at the heart of decision making is something we advocate for. The young people were very knowledgeable of our bid and asked great questions.</i>
Applicants report a greater sense of accountability to the community because the decisions were made by local young people	9 out of 10 respondents were clear that accountability was increased, and 1 respondent thought it was possibly so. <i>Absolutely! It empowers the young people who were on the committee to make decisions for their peers and community. Young people should be supported to be the representatives and decision makers for other young people, as adults can often mis-programme events/offers for that age group, though well intended.</i>
Young people in the funded projects know that their funding was decided by local young people	This criterion will be tested at project monitoring, but we have already received positive feedback. <i>We told our young people about the bid and that young people will be making the decision and they felt very validated to know that they were being represented.</i>
Young people in the funded projects can say what it means to them that funding was given by young people in YGM	This criterion will be tested at project monitoring

Success criteria for other funders – evidence gathered from meeting records and conversations with other funders

Indicator	Outcome
Other funders value engaging with Islington Giving and other funders in the learning from YGM as evidenced by good attendance at meetings	The Marple Trust generously invested with us in the pilot programme in 2018. The learning session for funders held on 27 th November 2018 attracted 16 participants from 9 trusts and foundations. IG staff and young grant-makers were invited to and spoke at 2 ACF meetings
Other funders gain valuable learning for their own approaches, eg: they trial YGM elsewhere	Children in Need invited Islington Giving and 2 of our young grant-makers to speak at their staff conference in 2019 on the theme of engaging young people in decision-making. We are also in conversation with the National Lottery Community Fund which is looking at young people’s direct involvement.
Other funders see benefits in investing with Islington Giving in year 2 and beyond	City Bridge Trust and Children in Need have joined YGM in 2019 with generous contributions to the budget for young people to disburse.