

THE

DALSTON QUARTER

COHORT 2016



THE **VIBRANT** HEART OF LONDON

VIBRANT





CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Hackney CVS	3
Arcola	9
Shiloh Pentecostal Church	13
V22	17
Hackney Co-operative Developments	21
Age UK East London	25
Bootstrap Company	29
Café Oto	33
Dalston Eastern Curve Garden	37





INTRODUCTION

The London Borough of Hackney is committed to regenerating the Dalston Quarter. At this stage, the preferred strategy for regeneration in Dalston is to take assembled land forward as a comprehensive development/refurbishment package where a development partner or consortium of development partners is procured as part of a joint venture with the Council through an architectural / design-led competition.

In doing so, the Council has identified four development sites which include buildings that are currently leased to a number of organisations, including Voluntary Community Service (VCS) / Third Sector organisations. These leaseholders have formed an informal group, chaired by local Councillor Peter Snell.

The purpose of this document is to inform the evidence base demonstrating the role and contribution that the existing organisations bring to the area for consideration as part of any regeneration strategy for the area, including as part of informing principles for a 'Developer's Brief'.

The Council recognises that Dalston's cluster of unique cultural, creative, community and third sector industries are major assets to the character of the town centre and play a key role in both attracting and sustaining significant regeneration opportunities and economic sustainability.

To inform the content of the development brief so that these organisations are empowered to be part of the regeneration of the area going forward, the group commissioned CAN invest to undertake a social value report, providing a profile of the group's socio economic contribution to the quarter.

This report reflects the findings of the original CAN report, with a focus on qualitative elements to encapsulate the day-to-day benefits of each organisation. For the purpose of continuity, the group of organisations will be referred to as "the Cohort" from herein.

Each organisation in the cohort varies in size, purpose and operations, but collectively work together to shape the character of the Dalston Quarter.



This project is very important for people our age. They come in and have a massage, they have a nice talk and making new friends and it's been very welcoming here. I look forward every time to meet the people again."

Members of the Connect Hackney over 50s community research team



HACKNEY CVS

ABOUT HACKNEY CVS

At Hackney CVS we speak the language of local communities and give them a mouth piece and the mechanisms to deliver really effective community projects in Hackney - whether that is about tackling isolation amongst older people, disaffection and lack of opportunity amongst the young, people experiencing health problems or discrimination - Hackney CVS is the organisation that local charities, community groups, politicians and decisions makers - turn to, for solutions.


Set up in 1997 as an independent charity to support other charities and community groups in the borough, we have delivered a huge range of projects and programmes since then that 10,000s of residents have benefited from. We usually manage around 20-30 projects each year and turnover around £3m. We were recently awarded the highest ever NAVCA Quality Award score in the UK and hold Investors in People Silver Accreditation. Like most charities, we have a board of trustees who work with the staff team to deliver our charitable vision to create a fairer Hackney.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Often acting as a bridge between communities and the public sector (Hackney Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group, Met Police, Schools and others) we predominantly lead partnerships of local charities & community groups to deliver major programmes. We also provide support to help organisations develop new skills and network with each other as well as host meetings which influence key strategies in the borough. In addition, we provide grants for community projects and gather evidence about the key issues affecting residents on the ground.

'Hackney CVS has frequently supported our projects. We visited information events for funding and we have had one-to-one advice. With [their] support, we have won 3 Awards'.

Gundula Gruen, London Gypsy Orchestra



We are often called on to help newly arriving residents to engage with more established ones through local giving schemes and opportunities for volunteering. Our main website is the best way to find out more about what we do – please go to www.hcvs.org.uk. If you are looking to support Hackney's communities please get in touch – we are sure we can help you.

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROJECTS

The Young People's Stop and Search Monitoring Group coordinated by Hackney CVS has been key to improving relations between young people and police in Hackney. Since June 2012, the number of stop and searches in Hackney has dropped by 75% (in comparison to a drop of only 24% London wide)

Through our Hackney Giving project which collects donations for local charities and community groups we awarded £105,000 in funding to 24 Hackney projects between in 2015. More info from www.hackneygiving.org.uk

“With the money from Hackney Giving we are training 6 disabled people in advocacy and providing them with work placements.”

Caroline Nelson, Choice in Hackney


Our City and Hackney Health and Social Care Forum has been working with local groups on the Free Condom project, encouraging safer sex practices and the take up of HIV testing amongst Hackney's African communities. In the first five months of this project 416 people received free condoms and sexual health advice. More info from www.hscf.org.uk.

We have secured nearly £6m from the BIG Lottery Fund for local charities to help older people who are socially isolated. A 6 year programme, Connect Hackney allows local older people to vote for the projects they want to see delivered. More info from www.connecthackney.org.uk.

Older people gather stories about the experiences of their peers. They popped along to the Complementing Your Health project, run by Hands Inc and funded by Connect Hackney, and found that participants were feeling the benefits. One said:

“This is project is very important for people our age. They come in and have a massage, they have a nice talk and making new friends and it's been very welcoming here. I look forward every time to meet the people again.”

Members of the Connect Hackney over 50s community research team



Remarkable Hackney resident Irene Sinclair, aged 107, talks to Gubsie Agolia-Aspinall from the Connect Hackney Senior Citizens' Media Group about her long life – and her experience as an international cosmetics model at the age of 96. Check it out online at: <http://connecthackney.org.uk/news/news/irene-sinclair-interview/>.

We set up a special purpose vehicle, City & Hackney Together, which now has 70 members and bids for contracts and grants that require a partnership approach. City and Hackney Together, Hackney CVS' bidding partnership, is leading the voluntary sector's involvement in the new One Hackney health initiative. Funded by the Clinical Commissioning Group [CCG], One Hackney is promoting integrated care for adults with multiple care needs in Hackney.

“I have been delighted, astounded and taken aback by the support. Whilst care in the home may not prove to be a long-term solution, it is such a life changing start!”

One Hackney Patient

“Having worked for 20 years in the Voluntary sector, making referrals to both statutory and voluntary providers, I am certainly finding that working together with services on the One Hackney framework this process is quicker, easy for referrers and providing faster results for our clients.”

Senior Community Support Navigator

Our work with East London Business Alliance enables local people who run community groups to engage with corporate business volunteers which can help them.

The free Hackney CVS weekly newsletter is distributed to over 1700 local contacts. It's full of community news, training opportunities and work and voluntary opportunities. Sign up at www.hcvs.org.uk


Talent Match Hackney, our youth employment partnership, has supported over 70 young people 18-24 to find work. We employ young people sessionally to deliver youth engagement activities to their peers and to work with businesses to help them become more youth friendly. We also work on a project to get equality for young black men (YBM). We recently supported some local young people to visit Atlanta where black businesses thrive.

Hear more of their stories here <http://hcvs.org.uk/index.php?category=14&sec=67&page=391>

“My experience of Atlanta was fantastic. I crossed paths with several elite black men at the top of their game including: entrepreneurs, law firm owners, bankers and engineers. I’ve learnt a lot on this trip and the experience was simply breath-taking”.

Daniel Burnette Williams, YBM Inspirational Leader.





We coordinate Hackney's luncheon club offer for older people working with 15 local community organisations who reach over 2000 older people each year.

Over the last two years we have seen a steady rise in the number of community organisations that have clients affected by domestic violence and abuse. In response, we established a partnership of women's organisations, Hackney Women's Haven, which we supported to secure £750k investment over the next 4 years to provide support services around domestic violence and female genital mutilation to black & ethnic minority women and their families.

We set up the 'LGBT+ Network: Out There Hackney' in November 2014 to promote, challenge, influence and shape equal opportunities for LGBT + people living and working in Hackney.

Our Hackney Refugee Forum and its members have led a major community consultation exercise in Kingsmead and Clapton Park Estate to find out about people's health needs and barriers to accessing services.

We help to coordinate services for Carers working with Hackney Carers Centre and local charities to ensure there is a wide offer to Hackney's diverse residents.

[Read our latest annual report here](#)

http://hcvs.org.uk/resources/web_hackneycvs_annualreview_2015.pdf

MAKING CONNECTIONS

We are always interested in making links with local businesses and often work with developers who are looking to give back to the local community in a way that is meaningful and provides a lasting legacy in the area.

The Chief Executive is Jake Ferguson who can be reached at jake@hcvs.org.uk

We are a Registered Charity No: 1069736 and Limited company No: 3365292

CONTACT

The Adiaha Antigha Centre
24-30 Dalston Lane
London
E8 3AZ

Tel: 020 7923 1962

Web: www.hcvs.org.uk





ARCOLA

ARCOLA ENERGY

ARCOLA ENERGY IS A HIGH GROWTH SMALL BUSINESS

With a turnover of over £1m and 150% growth since 2012 Arcola Energy is one of the 30,000 high growth small businesses that generate nearly 70% of all new jobs in the UK (Centre for Economics and Business Research report). We are working in new, exciting and growing markets for zero emissions transport and power and are recognised as a success story by InnovateUK, the Government's national Innovation Agency.

ARCOLA ENERGY IS A HIGH SKILLS BUSINESS IN THE HEART OF HACKNEY

We are an engineering services business, employing and training highly skilled engineers and technicians as well as business support teams with an expertise in leading edge technologies. Through our education programmes, including the London Schools Hydrogen Challenge sponsored by the GLA, we are also introducing young people to both the potential of clean technologies and the opportunities of an engineering career.

ARCOLA ENERGY IS WORKING ON SOLUTIONS TO LONDON'S CHALLENGES . . .

We specialise in low carbon, zero emission technologies in transport, energy and construction. We are working on enabling the use of zero emission cars, vans and buses that directly address issues of air quality and climate change. We are working to increase efficiency and reduce noise and emissions from construction sites. And we are working with partners to build the low carbon energy networks of the future.

...but we have global ambitions

Arcola Energy is increasingly recognised as a key partner for leading international businesses in our sector, working to high value systems from high tech components from companies across the EU, Canada and China. We are also developing export markets for the technologies; for example helping to provide zero emission transport for the Asian Games in Indonesia in 2018.

CONTACT
24 Ashwin St
Dalston
London
E8 3DL
Tel: 020 7503 1386
Web: www.arcolaenergy.com
Email: sales@arcolaenergy.com



ARCOLA THEATRE

Arcola Theatre is one of London's leading off-West End theatres staging a diverse programme of plays, operas and musicals 7 nights a week. World-class productions from major artists appear alongside cutting-edge work from the most exciting and emerging companies. Arcola has been a launch pad for artists including Rebecca Lenkiewicz, Alecky Blythe, Lyndsey Turner, Lucy Kirkwood and Barney Norris. World-renowned directors including Max Stafford-Clark and Dominic Dromgoole have premiered work at Arcola, as have playwrights Bonnie Greer, Frank McGuinness and Sam Shepard.

KEY FACT

Last year Arcola was nominated for 9 Off West End awards – more than any other London theatre. The Guardian said “Arcola Theatre brings the very best of the world’s performing and visual arts to the people of the world living and working in London”.

Arcola believes that diversity makes for better art. Arcola is a home for Diverse Voices providing 28 weeks of free rehearsal space to emerging, ethnically-diverse artists through the Arcola Lab.

KEY FACT

In 2015/16, a third of productions were by ethnically diverse artists and two-thirds had women at the helm as writers, directors and producers.

Arcola stages Affordable Theatre for Everyone - delivering one of London's most extensive community engagement programmes. We create over 6,000 opportunities every year such as workshops, classes, and learning opportunities.

KEY FACT

Arcola is also committed to affordable ticket pricing – you’ll almost always get change from £20, and can pay what you can on Tuesday evenings. Arcola Passport makes a trip to the theatre £10 or less.

Arcola is a world leader in Environment Sustainability - aiming to be the world's first carbon-neutral theatre. Our pioneering environmental initiatives, developed in partnership with Arcola Energy, are internationally renowned.

KEY FACT

We’ve fitted solar panels, DC power grids and now carbon-neutral heating to make our building more sustainable.

Arcola is a Business and Community Hub - offering studios and spaces at affordable pricing. The studio space ranges from large to small, perfect for rehearsals, conferences, events, workshops, and performances.

KEY FACT

Arcola presents around 60 productions and events each year. Half are new plays, involving new talent and young companies.

The Arcola Bar is the best place to relax before and after shows with food, drink and entertainment. With live music nights and DJ's, the bar is among the most unpredictable, and certainly friendliest, in Dalston.





KEY FACT

The Arcola Coffee Hut is open six days a week and is a perfect environment for a good catch up with friends.

Arcola is a resource and training ground for the whole community - a place to develop skills, discover the many careers available in theatre, or just to meet interesting people in a diverse environment. Arcola Theatre offers a diverse range of volunteering opportunities, as well as regularly hosting student work experience. We actively encourage people from all backgrounds to join us.

KEY FACT

Over 2,500 students attend Arcola's performances each year, and Arcola runs five in house youth theatres.

Arcola is a space for young people and families

and we are committed to producing work that excites the imagination and inspires creativity in everyone. Arcola aims to produce exceptional theatre works which inspire, educate and challenge local community, national and even international audiences.

KEY FACT

Arcola is a signatory of the Family Arts Standards committed to producing music, theatre, circus, art and dance for families to enjoy.

In 2014, Arcola won 3 Family Arts Festival Awards including Best London Venue and Best Production/Event.



CONTACT

24 Ashwin St
Dalston
London
E8 3DL

Tel: 0207 503 1646

Web: www.arcolatheatre.com

Email: boxoffice@arcolatheatre.com

SHILOH PENTECOSTAL CHURCH



MISSION STATEMENT DALSTON

God has called this church to be a caring loving church whose purpose is to carry the good news of Jesus Christ to our lost and needy neighbourhood and to the world. We will achieve this by doing everything possible to help every person possible. We are responsible to help restore troubled people to peaceful, purposeful lives that can bear testimony to God's redeeming power.

VISION STATEMENT DALSTON

To create a church body that have adequate organisations to accomplish care, development and outreach.



ABOUT US

Shiloh Pentecostal church exists because the Community needs a caring loving Church whose purpose is to carry the good news of Jesus Christ to our Community. We try to do this by doing everything possible to help every person possible. We are needed because we help restore troubled people to peaceful, purposeful lives that can bear testimony to the fact that they are important in God's eyes. So we are like a spiritual surgery ministering to the whole man. Without us Hackney would be worse off.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

- Worship services (about 300 people per week, 52 weeks per year. People are all ages and abilities, but the majority of the parish is Afro-Caribbean).
- Weddings (about 5 per year)
- Christenings (about 10 per year)
- Funerals (about 10 per year)

COMMUNITY/RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

- Choir/band for young people (teenagers more or less) (about 10-15 people)
- Choir for primary school age children
- Lunch club/activities for elderly people (20-25 people)
- Counselling for all (church members and the community)
- Men and Women Groups open to all in the community (To try and interact with people who are not necessarily church goers)

MAIN STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

1. The local community, especially the Afro-Caribbean population
2. Young people (teens)
3. Elderly people

CONTACT

Ashwin St
Dalston
London
E8 3DL

Tel: 020 7254 0884

Web: www.shilohdalstonchurch.org.uk

Email: Church@shilohdalston.freeserve.co.uk







V22

V22 is a multifaceted art organisation, with a shared ownership structure, which specialises in the collection of contemporary art, the production of exhibitions and events, the provision of artists' studios, workspaces and workshops at affordable rates, and the running of community engagement and education programmes.

V22 plc is a public limited company listed on the ISDX market which owns our art collection. V22 is the first publicly-listed art collection co-owned by artists and investor-patrons. In 2013 V22 became a founding member company of London's new Social Stock Exchange. In 2014 and 2016 V22 was proud to be one of four shortlisted Social Impact Companies of the Year.

A SHARED ART COLLECTION

V22 works to make a more accessible art market and encourage wider art ownership. Through its work, V22 is committed to promoting and assisting the development of contemporary art talent, in particular emerging and younger artists.

This innovative shared-ownership model enables participation in patronage at all levels and allows artists to retain a stake in their work and that of their contemporaries.

The V22 art collection was independently revalued in December 2015 at £1,670,429, an uplift of £1,112,248 since the start of the collection, a gain of 199.3%. The biannual revaluation shows that while some artists, in particular the younger ones in our portfolio, have been holding or steadily growing their value, some artists have done exceptionally well – our highest growth has been 1900% from purchase in 2009 to 2015.

Art is a valuable alternative asset class and the market for contemporary art, although still in its adolescence, is rapidly expanding and developing. The market itself has the potential to become the best kind of art patron, but it requires greater diversity of audiences and collectors and greater input from the artists themselves. V22's structure illustrates its commitment to its core mission. It was built by its key stakeholders: initiated and shaped by artists working in partnership with finance and business experts. This innovative model provides a new structure for the ownership of art and the wider art economy.

V22 London Ltd is a private company wholly owned by V22 plc which currently runs five studio buildings in London providing affordable workspace. They are situated in Dalston, Lewisham, Forest Hill, Hackney Wick, and Peckham.

V
2
2



STUDIO BUILDINGS

V22 has been providing affordable artists' studios, artisans' workshops and workspace since early 2006. We believe that the wide provision of affordable artists' studios and creative workspace in London is one of the reasons this city is the creative capital of the world. This not only directly benefits the creative economy, but also the growth of the city itself.

V22 communities not only benefit the artists and creative professionals within them, but have an inclusive and positive role in the regeneration of areas where they work and the wider communities around them. Art organisations revitalise neighbourhoods and promote economic prosperity; participation in the arts improves physical and psychological well-being; and the arts provide a catalyst for the creation of social capital and the attainment of important community goals.

The Mayor of London recognises the importance of artists' studios which make "a unique and highly valued contribution to the quality of life and reputation of the boroughs in which they are based". V22 is part of a Strategy Group set up by the wider London Cultural Strategy Group chair – Iwona Blazwick. The Group is keen to support endeavours by its constituents to create sustainable, long term, affordable studio provision.

Alongside projects which deliver short term workspace and project-based events, V22 aims to provide affordable long-term studios,

and encourage the creation of new relationships and networks amongst creative people and organisations. V22 further seeks to bring the value of the arts to society, enabling these in new areas and sectors of society, through its studio spaces, public programmes, educational community projects, art exhibitions and events programmes that are free to the public.

V22 Foundation is V22's not-for-profit wing and runs V22's exhibitions, education and community projects. V22's Young London exhibition series has exhibited the work of nearly 100 emerging artists and has assisted in the trajectory of their careers. Our Summer Club has presented over 250 events in partnership with over 1000 artists and partner organisations.

OUR PUBLIC PROGRAMME

We view our exhibitions and events programme as a learning process which feeds into our art collection and complements our provision of studio space. Similarly, our community projects and education programmes are ways to learn about the areas in which we operate – both geographic and intellectual. Not only does our public programme increase the profile of V22 and the exhibiting artists alike, but forms a public face for V22 which goes beyond conventional formats of interaction between artists, their art and visitors.



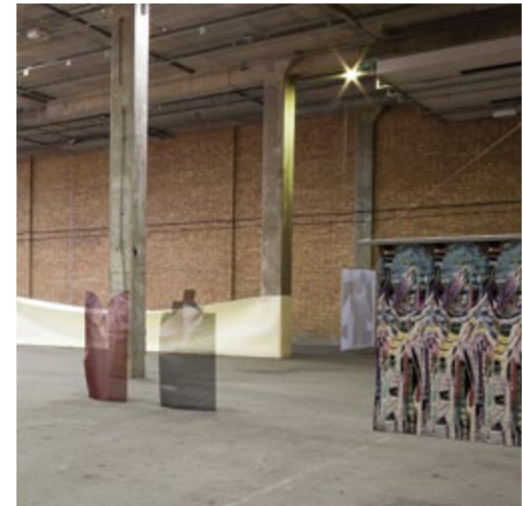
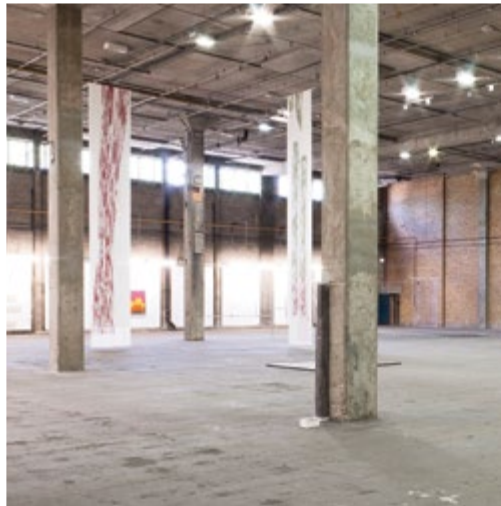
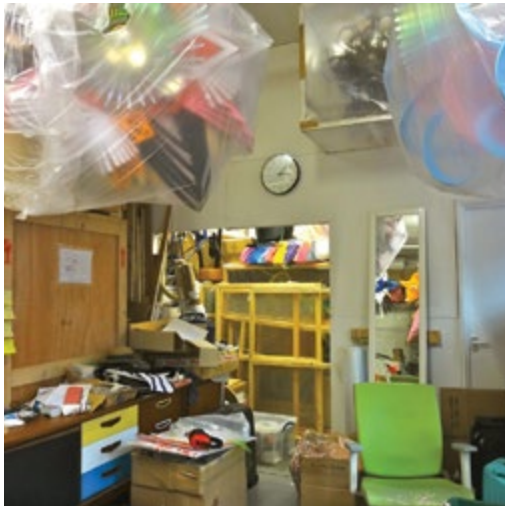
Because V22 is more than an exhibition space, we are particularly delighted when an exhibition forms the starting point of a relationship with our artists – many subsequently join the V22 studios, and selected artists are invited to become part of the V22 art collection, thus becoming part-owners of the whole enterprise and partners in the future of V22. Since its inception, V22 has presented the work of hundreds of emerging and established artists in various formats: exhibitions, events, happenings, screenings, talks, workshops and collaborative projects.

CONTACT

10–16 Ashwin Street
Dalston London
E8 3DL

Web: [www.v22collection.com/
v22-dalston](http://www.v22collection.com/v22-dalston)

Email: Tara@v22collection.com





HACKNEY CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENTS



HACKNEY CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENTS


Hackney Co-operative Developments (HCD) is a local community economic development agency with a membership open for all those who subscribe to its co-operative goals and values (see Appendix 2). HCD works within our local community to explore ideas and opportunities to create a sustainable environment for Hackney's communities to flourish.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

HCD are committed to inspiring the next generation of Hackney's Social Enterprise pioneers and to arm them with the necessary skills and knowledge to grow their enterprise, in turn growing the local economy and the socially-owned share of the wider economy. We believe passionately that Social Enterprise in its many forms offers communities the opportunity to create businesses that are better for them and society and we are here to support those with the talent, ambition and commitment to succeed. HCD is a widely-recognised market leader in expert Social Enterprise Development advice and support. We have over 30 years experience of delivering Social Enterprises in Hackney providing the very best free advice, training and consultancy on how to set up, run and grow a sustainable, social business and achieve great things.

Pioneering Social Enterprise in Hackney is HCD's flagship social enterprise development support programme. The programme was established in December 2013 with the support of UBS to grow the social enterprise sector in Hackney. Hackney is an area of economic opportunity as a result of the increased focus on East London as an area of growth and development for London and the UK. Nevertheless, many Hackney residents have not participated in this growth and the borough is still performing poorly in areas such as unemployment, average monthly earnings and out-of-work benefits. By supporting the growth of Social Enterprises specifically we are targeting support on the sector that provides greatest proportional job creation to the local economy.

Social Enterprises are heavily concentrated in areas of multiple deprivation such as Hackney, with 38% operating within the top 20% most deprived, that is three times the proportion of SMEs creating jobs and contributing to the economy where it is needed most. Statistically, Social Enterprises recruit far more employees from the local area. Social Enterprises in the most deprived communities are more likely to focus on creating employment and addressing social and financial exclusion, 52% of Social Enterprises also actively employ people who are disadvantaged in the labour market.



Our support has targeted the key areas of need for the local social enterprise market, particularly Business planning; Employment and Staffing; Financial planning and management; Legal and Governance and Growth. Through this one programme we have supported over 100 social enterprises. This has included establishing new social enterprises over many different forms (Community Interest Companies, Worker Co-operatives, Community Benefit Societies and more) and enabling existing social enterprises to successfully start trading, grow, access finance or funding or move to improved premises. Our direct consultancy support is complimented by a range of training events and workshops.

AFFORDABLE WORKSPACE IN HACKNEY

HCD has been a leading Affordable Workspace Provider for over 25 years. We play an important role in the borough's business ecosystem, contributing to urban regeneration by delivering targeted, flexible Low-Threshold Employment Space. Our mixed ownership portfolio comprises of wholly-owned properties and long-term head-lease holdings, ranging through purpose-built, mixed-use developments from rehabilitated derelict housing stock to new build.

Until this year, our portfolio has been concentrated in Dalston, which has increasingly become the economic powerhouse for Hackney borough and one of London's primary hot-spots for start-ups, particularly within the creative and social industries. We provide flexible, affordable, well-managed workspace for the incubation of businesses in Hackney's growth sectors, particularly in their first years of development.


52% of Hackney's businesses have an annual turnover between £50,000 and £250,000. Premises costs are a significant outgoing, so HCD's flexible lease terms reduce their risks.

Businesses incubated by HCD have higher survival rates than London as a whole. Important factors in this success are our approach to management, the design of our facilities, and the opportunities we create for collaboration. We have a long-established track record of contributing to the goals of the Dalston Area Action Plan, in locations now designated in the Action Plan Policy as the Community, Cultural and Creative Quarter. Over the past four years we have maintained maximum occupancy across our sites.

HCD's democratic community ownership and strong legal asset lock, afforded to us as a Community Interest Company, ensure that our property portfolio remain a community-owned asset in perpetuity and will be retained or further developed for the provision of affordable workspace, meeting the needs of our local community. In 2015/16 we have been making significant developments in improving and expanding our property portfolio, to meet the needs of a market that lacks affordable workspace.

GILLETT SQUARE

Although discretely tucked away behind Kingsland High Street, Gillett Square and our adjacent property development Dalston Culture House injected new life into Dalston when they were completed some years ago. Our development combines an architecturally award-winning public realm with HCD's vibrant workspaces to provide a fascinating hub of cultural and creative, retail, community and third sector activities that are rooted in the ethnically and culturally eclectic spirit of the area. The character of the square is strongly influenced by the blend of contemporary urban architecture and landscape design with building forms more traditional to Hackney. The bustling businesses that make up our tenants trading into and overlooking the Square, as well as our shops, restaurants and bars on Bradbury Street and our programming of community and cultural events within Gillett Square combine to create the venue's distinct vibrancy.



Our Flagship events each year attract audiences throughout the day of up to 10,000 people. Gillett Square audiences are exposed to high-quality cultural experiences at our free festivals, where big names from around the world share the stage with local talent. We also support participation of local people in the shaping and development of Gillett Square through a number of initiatives, including the establishment of the Gillett Square Action Group – a working group formed of local residents, businesses, community groups, council officers and other stakeholders committed to the inclusive production of more events in Gillett Square, supported by our Community Organiser.

TRAINING

HCD is an accredited training centre providing into-work skills and support to those furthest from employment in Hackney. HCD is an active member of the Hackney ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Working Group and thanks to funding from the Tinder Foundation HCD are also a UK Online Centre, part of a network of 3,000 Centre partners, and 2,000 Access Points that bring digital inclusion to the heart of communities.

Our Learn My Way courses, including English My Way and Online Basics are providing a vital service to many of those in Hackney who are furthest away from the employment market. As well as basic English Language Skills, the learners referred to us by Job Centre Plus, Hackney Council and Hackney Learning Trust have received support in personal budgeting, job hunting, interview skills, career development, banking online, engaging with statutory services online, online safety and many more key skills for navigating contemporary life in London.

CONTACT US

62 Beechwood Road
London
E8 3DY

Tel: 020 7254 4829

info@hcd.coop





AGE UK EAST LONDON

AGE UK EAST LONDON is an independent charity delivering local services for and with older people mainly across the London boroughs of Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Newham. For every £1 we raise, 82p is spent on working directly with older people in their homes, in the community and in hospitals. The remainder is spent on making sure we do it well and on supporting our staff and volunteers to provide a safe and friendly service.

SERVICES IN HACKNEY

Hackney OPRG – 480 members

Age UK East London supports the City and Hackney Older People's Reference Group which provides a voice for older people in the design and delivery of services for them – and in all matters which affect their ability to live healthy and independent lives. The group also provides the forum for the NHS Community Voice project which we deliver in partnership with Healthwatch Hackney and through which we hold frequent open meetings to take up matters of concern to patients in each of the GP 'clusters' of Practices in City & Hackney and get responses from NHS services.

Hackney Community Support Navigators – 600 clients since April 2015

A Community Support Navigator is based in each of Hackney's 4 Quadrants and will be part of a multi-disciplinary team which will work with high risk patients with a wide range of needs including social isolation, physical impairments, long term health conditions, anxiety and/or depression. They work to keep people engaged in the community, develop support plans and ensure that isolated and vulnerable older people receive the right support from a menu of services delivered by voluntary, community and statutory providers.

Century Court Community Activities – 50 regular service users

A range of social and health oriented activities are provided 4 days per week throughout the year to the residents of Century Court sheltered housing scheme for adults with learning difficulties. Activities include ceramics, cookery, IT, arts and crafts, gardening and music. We also run a café where the 50 regular attendees are able to socialise in a communal setting and buy drinks and snacks.

Connect Hackney – 137 participants

City & Hackney OPRG is the lead older people's organisation in the lottery-funded Connect Hackney Project, which is a partnership of VCS providers who support schemes to combat older people's social isolation via a portfolio of user-led projects which are chosen by open democratic votes of older people and are also monitored by them. Age UK East London delivers the Community Outreach element of the programme,

The Employability Club – 89 members since April 2016

The Age UK East London Hackney employability club is a free service for Hackney residents, aged 50 or over, who have not retired and are looking for work. We provide job search support, CV writing and interview skills training, volunteering opportunities and networking – all designed specifically for older people who need to learn or update skills and awareness for employability, especially using computers and Internet in a workplace context.

IT Courses – 30 learners for 15/16 academic year

We deliver beginner and intermediate courses in a community setting which aim to support people aged 50+ to gain the skills to be able to use basic hardware and common software and to access the huge range of resources on the internet.

Advocacy For All – 223 clients 2015-16

The advocacy service supports people aged 50+ to access services and information under the Advocacy for All contract to have their voices heard and explore choices available. An Advocate

will discuss the issue(s), actions which can be undertaken and agree in partnership with the older person which actions will be undertaken and by whom. The service has 3 drop-in sessions, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings at the 22 Dalston Lane office, appointments can also be booked at this address or call our information desk on 0207 249 7149. Home visits are also available for anyone who finds it difficult to get out and about.

Take Home and Settle (Homerton Hospital) – 304 clients 2015-16

Age UK East London provides a Home and Settle Service on behalf of and in partnership with the Homerton Hospital and City & Hackney Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

The Service supports residents with low to moderate social care needs aged 55+ by facilitating early discharge where the delay is due to domestic arrangements (meeting them on their arrival home from hospital and settling them back into their home and normal routine).

The Service is delivered from the day the resident is discharged for up to six weeks, dependent on need and may involve:

- ensuring the home is adequately lit and heated (e.g. switching on the heating, topping-up the electric / gas*, etc)
- obtaining any immediate food shopping*
- making a snack and drink / meal preparation
- light housekeeping (e.g. changing bed linen, clothes and linen washing, tidying up, etc



- assistance with medication self-management (e.g. collecting hospital prescriptions, purchasing a dossett box for Customer use*, etc)
- supporting self-care confidence
- signposting to community-based support services (to reduce isolation)

*PAID FOR BY THE RESIDENT.

The Service operates seven days a week, year round and will accept referrals from individual residents and health and social care professionals.

Information and Advice – 1139 clients 2015-16

Age UK East London works in partnership with other agencies under The Hackney Advisory Group and provides support to older people and their carers around a range of issues. We help with welfare and disability benefit applications, housing matters, consumer, travel, disability, social care and a lot more. Age UK East London provides two drop-in sessions a week on a Monday & Wednesday morning 9.30-12.30pm at 22 Dalston Lane E8 3AZ.

The Information & Advice service in Age UK East London operates out of 3 GP surgeries in the borough under HIAC (Hackney Information & Advice Consortium), in total there are 8 Advice organisations delivering advice in 25 GP practices around the borough. This is casework and includes all elements of generic advice including appeals, reconsiderations and tribunal preparation.

Hackney CARSS – Carers, Assessment, and Registration Support Service 87 carers 2015-2016

Hackney CARSS is a service designed to identify, register and assess carers of the residents of the London Borough of Hackney. The service is aimed at monitoring the health & wellbeing of carers and to put in place preventative measures to ensure carers are supported in their caring role. The service is run by a partnership called the City & Hackney Together who have a wealth of knowledge and experience in delivering carer base service.

One Hackney Home Support Services – clients 2015-16 My Life My Decision - 14 clients 2015-16

The My Life, My Decision project is designed to raise awareness amongst members of the public, who are aged 50 years and over, and also amongst health and social care professionals about an individual's legal rights and choices around their treatment and care after that person has lost capacity.

We offer on-going 1-to-1 support and guidance to those who decide to complete one or more of the options – advance statements, Advance Decisions to Refuse Treatments (ADRT's), or Lasting Powers of Attorney, Health and Welfare (LPA's).

Age UK East London Home Support Service – self funded (Hackney, Newham and Tower Hamlets) – clients 2015-16

CONTACT

82 Russia Lane
Bethnal Green
London
E2 9LU

Tel: 0208 981 7124

Web: www.ageuk.org.uk/eastlondon

Email: info@ageukeastlondon.org.uk





BOOTSTRAP COMPANY

Bootstrap Company is a social enterprise, and charity, committed to alleviating poverty in Dalston, Hackney. Bootstrap's core business is providing workspace to a diverse mix of tenants, supporting them to start up and grow. From bakers (see Appendix 3) and brewers in the Bootyard to film studios and charities across the 3 buildings we operate in; Bootstrap boasts an eclectic mix of tenants.

Bootstrap was established in 1977 to support people to set-up their own businesses and improve employability skills across estates in Lambeth, Hackney and Camden. Bootstrap moved to Dalston in 1980 and the work in 2016 still echoes these original aims through our Enterprise Bootcamp programme, tenant networking and training events as well as a diverse programme across our community event spaces.

Our Enterprise Bootcamp is a pioneering programme designed to equip young entrepreneurs with the tools and support to start their own business. The course lasts for 12 weeks and provides the participants with a mentor, an accredited enterprise skills qualification, desk space here at Bootstrap and an opportunity to pitch for investment at the end of the programme.

The UnLtd team identified that many of the young entrepreneur's businesses had a social impact in Hackney and invited them to apply for funding for up to £5,000. In the latest Enterprise Bootcamp programme 10 of our young entrepreneurs were successful in their applications that totalled more than £23.5k.

Bootstrap manages over 60,000 square foot of workspace and in summer 2016 our rent for the buildings we manage was reset to market rates in the wider context of London's affordable property crisis. As a registered charity, Bootstrap is taking the surplus generated from charging market rates to create the 'Bootstrap Fund'.

The Bootstrap Fund is a pot of money that tenants can apply for to reduce their rent. It is awarded dependent upon which tenants have the biggest social impact in line with Bootstrap's mission. The first round has recently been finalised with tenants being invited to apply on an annual basis. We evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

- Community & Diversity – ensuring that Bootstrap, Dalston & Hackney are thriving and diverse communities
- Training, Employability & Education – delivering projects & services that support marginalised groups to develop professionally or personally
- Cultural Economy – contributing to the cultural economy with work of high quality and high public engagement, preferably in the local area
- Poverty Reduction – creating jobs, supporting higher living standards and increasing social mobility



The Bootstrap Fund in its first year supported 131 jobs for our tenant body and therefore over 26,000 beneficiaries through the work they do. 2016 is the first round of the Bootstrap Fund and each year we are working towards boosting the fund to allow us to provide affordable workspace to more of our tenants.

Bootstrap is pioneering this business model to survive, and thrive, as London's property prices continue to rise. We are hoping that other workspace providers adopt this flagship model to support small and medium sized enterprises across London.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Telephone: 020 7275 0825

Email: hello@bootstrapcompany.co.uk

Web: www.bootstrapcompany.co.uk

Twitter: @bootstrapco

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BootstrapCompany







CAFÉ OTO

Café OTO promotes engagement and participation with new music through live performances, residencies, workshops and discursive events to ensure that the widest possible audience experience this work.

In addition to building and sustaining audiences for new music, Café OTO actively supports the creative and professional development of emerging musicians. Café OTO is committed to providing a supportive space where musicians can share ideas, perform and develop creatively bringing artists and audiences closer to develop a new relevance and greater appreciation of experimental music among a wider audience. It does this by breaking down the barriers that surround experimental music, promoting engagement and participation and opening up the process of its creation.

BACKGROUND

Cafe OTO opened in 2008, and quickly established itself both nationally and internationally for its unflinching commitment to experimental music. Its position in the UK music scene is unique as it is the only venue presenting experimental music year-round most nights of the week.

In January 2012 OTO Projects (CIC) was launched to manage the programme at Cafe OTO whilst enabling it to expand into new areas. With a grant from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation OTO Projects was able to increase its capacity, enabling the programme to grow both within the venue and beyond.

New discursive strands involving workshops, talks and panel discussions were also added to the programme with the aim of unpacking the ideas behind challenging new music.

In 2014 OTO Projects successfully applied to become an Arts Council England National

PORTFOLIO ORGANISATION.

At the centre of what Café OTO does is an innovative, risk-taking year-round live programme of events that feeds all other related strands. This covers everything from established international performers, to mid-career UK-based musicians, to obscure emerging artists trying out new ideas.



We achieve these objectives through:

- Over 300 events in the venue each year with a total attendance of over 30,000
- 2,200 musicians taking part in the live programme each year
- Supporting and developing grassroots promoters
- Commissioning new work through offsite projects with artists, and partners including both established institutions and grassroots organisations
- Creating a digital archive and forum for debate

In addition to the live event programme Cafe OTO provides free rehearsal space to musicians, hosts talks and workshops about new music and collaborates with a number of external partners across the UK to produce offsite events.

Collectively this work represents a rich and diverse range of activity aimed at building new audiences for some of the most challenging new music being made today. This is combined with a desire to develop the creative and professional potential of emerging UK-based musicians.





CONTACT

18-22 Ashwin street
Dalston
London
E8 3DL

FOUNDER / DIRECTOR

Hamish Dunbar
hamish@cafeoto.co.uk





An excellent example of how an abandoned piece of land can be affordably transformed into an asset that enhances the locality and benefits the community. Every inch has a strong sense of community spirit.

Hackney Design Awards panel



DALSTON EASTERN CURVE GARDEN

Dalston Eastern Curve Garden is a unique managed community space in the heart of one of the most built-up areas of London. It is an oasis of trees, flowers and secret corners that has grown over the years to become a much-loved patch of nature for the people of this dynamic part of Hackney. But it is far more than simply a place to draw breath.

With a regular programme of workshops for children and adults, opportunities for volunteers, open-air music and festival events, it brings the vibrancy of its surroundings into a secluded natural setting. Deeply embedded into the community, Dalston Eastern Curve Garden provides a wealth of social, economic, environmental and health benefits to all sections of the local population, while gathering increasing recognition far beyond.

THE GARDEN'S ORIGINS

The origins of the Curve Garden lay in the community it now serves. In 2010, the disused 'Eastern Curve' railway line was prepared for the creation of a garden. The Garden had emerged from a flagship partnership project 'Making Space in Dalston' which brought together campaigning residents, local creative and cultural organisations and community groups with Muf Architects, J & L Gibbons Landscape Architects, the London Development Agency and Hackney Council to address Dalston's deficiency in quality public space.

THE NEED FOR GREEN SPACE IN DALSTON

The need for green space in this part of London was clear in 2010 and is just as pressing now. Hackney is the third most densely populated borough in the capital and Dalston is one of its most populated wards. Density here is triple that of the London average and Dalston's population has increased 40% since 2001 and is set to increase further in the years ahead.

By far the majority of that population live in flats (75% across Hackney) and few of those have access to their own green space. Future housing developments are unlikely to increase this access. The intensification of developments continues to contribute to an urban fabric that is already characterised by the intersection of two strategic road routes and rail lines with all the inevitable traffic and pedestrian congestion that entails.

In this context, public open green space is essential.



MANY HANDS

“The Garden is one of those special places that money can’t buy as it has grown organically with the people that use and love it.”

Celia, Dalston resident

From its beginnings, Dalston Eastern Curve Garden has grown with its community to become a unique resource that is both used and has been developed by local people. Two Dalston residents who had been part of the ‘Making Space in Dalston’ team and were involved in the development of the Garden, set up the social enterprise ‘Grow Cook Eat’ in 2012, exclusively to manage the Garden. The Garden is a social joint venture between the many different communities of Dalston, who year on year have invested their passion and commitment in the space.

The Garden is a community asset in the truest sense. It is a free-to-enter green space that is open 12 months a year, 7 days a week and acts as a focal point in the community for people to meet and relax. In just 6 years, it has grown to attract an average of 150,000 visitors per year. Beyond this, the events and activities hosted in the Garden – whether Garden-initiated or developed by other organisations – offer unique opportunities to break down barriers to engagement in the community, to combat social isolation and to bring residents and neighbours together.

We have forged strong relationships with voluntary organisations, schools and charities in the area who use the space for their own and collaborative activities. We regularly programme events and provide space for partnership organisations such as Age UK and Hackney Carers to create a genuinely intergenerational and culturally mixed environment. Activities such as the weekly music group for adults with learning disabilities have clear benefits for the participants that derive directly from the natural surroundings in which they take place and their sense of ownership and belonging in this space.

In keeping with its origins, it is central to the Garden’s ethos that the community are involved in its day-to-day operations. Volunteers are actively encouraged and supported and, at present, approximately 100 local residents from all cultural backgrounds regularly help out in all aspects of the Garden. The weekly gardening group is particularly key, nurturing the plants and helping design and develop new projects.

OUR COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Dalston Eastern Curve Garden has been imaginatively planted by the Curve Garden team to create areas for natural play intermixed with crop production and flower beds to attract wild-life. This has resulted in a continually evolving space that inspires curiosity, learning and a sense of wonder in the children who regularly use it.



We are particularly committed to creating learning, enterprise and play opportunities for children and young people. For many, the Garden presents an experience of hands-on, close-up explorations of nature that would not otherwise be available, as they have limited access to green space. As well as provision for independent spontaneous play and discovery, there is also a year-round creative programme of outdoor cookery and nature-inspired workshops and events, working with Hackney artists and chefs. In 2015/2016, more than 1,500 children attended approximately 35 workshops and larger community events at the garden. Young people who were first involved in children's workshops in the early days of the Garden have now progressed to doing paid work here. We have also developed creative programmes to support a number of young peoples' organisations, including the Off Centre, Hackney Learning Trust and Hackney Young Carers. Activities include an annual 'Pop-up Pizza' enterprise programme in partnership with Inspire, for young people in a pupil referral unit.

Local primary and secondary schools are supported in their work by an imaginative programme of outdoor learning that complements their academic curriculum. The Garden has developed a particularly immersive programme for nearby Holy Trinity Primary School, where the children have very limited access to green space, which combines art, cookery, food-growing and nature work.

OUR IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH IN HACKNEY

It is widely acknowledged that access to green space within an urban environment has enormous public health benefits. The Natural Capital Committee, a government advisory body, identified urban green spaces as offering "significant potential for improvements in physical and mental health, which in turn will reduce health expenditures and improve labour productivity". In providing a space for relaxation and the relieving of stress in this dense urban area, Dalston Eastern Curve Garden plays its part in reducing health inequalities across Hackney.

Local voluntary organisations and charities value the health benefits the Garden can provide to their users. City and Hackney Mind, for example, who regularly use the Garden recently launched their 'Take a Pause' campaign at a public event that attracted over 150 people.

As well as mental health and the clinical benefits of reduced stress levels, the Garden promotes good health through its regular outdoor cookery workshops and community events which emphasise the importance of fresh produce and healthy cooking and use fruit, vegetables and herbs grown in the Garden.



IMPROVING DALSTON'S ENVIRONMENT

In an area dominated by heavy traffic and high-density building, Dalston Eastern Curve Garden offers both intrinsic and consequential benefits to the environment.

In spite of its relatively small area, the Garden has a measurable effect on the local environment. As the Landscape Institute has shown, "even modest increases in tree canopy cover can significantly reduce the urban heat island effect through evapotranspiration and shading, as well as improve air quality". With its strategic varied planting, the Garden promotes biodiversity and offers diverse ecological habitats and refuge for insects, birds and bees.

We manage the Garden on a sustainable basis and our own practices of, for example, composting and recycling form the subjects of innovative and creative workshops to raise awareness of environmental issues among Hackney residents. We also aim to inspire involvement in and custodianship of the natural world, through our programme of 'citizen science' events and activities.

OUR YEAR-ROUND FREE CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Dalston Eastern Curve Garden provides a distinctive space for a unique variety of cultural activities. Acoustic music sessions are hosted throughout the summer months, along with regular spoken word and theatre performances. As well as the garden itself, with its secluded seating areas and pathways between the planting, the large covered pavilion, with clay oven and the conservatory style 'Pineapple House' mean creative workshops and activities led by Hackney artists can be offered all year round. The artworks that are produced by participants – such as carved breeze block gargoyles, recycled juice carton bird-feeders and giant paper lanterns – can be seen in every corner of the space, showcasing the creativity of Hackney residents and acting as a focal point for community pride. We work hard to ensure that the vast majority of our events and activities are free to participants, in order to address economic barriers to engagement in Dalston's cultural life. Through free events, such as our annual Festival of Light, we provide co-created community occasions, offering opportunities for cultural exchange and open to all. The Garden won the 2015 'Time Out Love London Award' for 'Best Cultural Venue' in Hackney.



SHOWCASING DALSTON NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

As well as being a vital, integral part of the local community, the Curve Garden also achieves recognition for the excellence of its work far beyond Dalston, enhancing the reputation of Hackney and showcasing the creative investment and passionate commitment of its community.

We regularly take part in London-wide and national events such as Open Gardens, Open House, Capital Growth urban food festivals and the Chelsea Fringe. In 2012, the Duchess of Cornwall visited and in 2015, BBC's popular radio show Gardeners' Question Time, broadcast from the Garden to its audience of 2 million regular listeners across the UK.

It can take 40 years for some gardens to feature on Gardeners' Question Time, but once we had discovered the Dalston Eastern Curve Garden, after just 40 days we were compelled to return to broadcast our show from here.

Producer, Gardeners Question Time, BBC Radio 4

The Garden is regularly visited and studied by national and international designers, architects and urban planners, as an exemplar of urban green space design and management. As such it has featured in numerous international magazines and journals, has been showcased in an international urban planning conference and used as a key case study in the Landscape Institute's 'Public Health and Landscape' policy document. It has been recognised with awards, including the Landscape Institute's President's Award and the Hackney Design Award.

An excellent example of how an abandoned piece of land can be affordably transformed into an asset that enhances the locality and benefits the community. Every inch has a strong sense of community spirit.

Hackney Design Awards panel

A GREEN SPACE AT THE HEART OF THE DALSTON CULTURAL QUARTER

As Dalston continues to grow, with the increase in housing and development, the Dalston Eastern Curve Garden as an established centre of stability, has never been more essential. At a time of such intensified change, the Garden acts as a focal point, connecting all of Dalston's residents, supporting and creating networks and helping develop a strong, resilient community.

The 'Grow Cook Eat' management of the Garden as a social enterprise has proven successful. Our enterprise and commitment to our guiding values have ensured that we continue to offer a beautiful green public space that is free and welcoming to all with a growing community and education programme.

Emerging from Dalston's strong history of community empowerment, our dynamic management is dedicated to ensuring, through the work of the Garden, that regeneration in Dalston benefits all of its residents. The Dalston Eastern Curve Garden has been co-created and nurtured by Hackney citizens and represents so much of the creativity, cultural diversity and community spirit that make Dalston so distinctive. The development of the new 'Dalston Cultural Quarter' is an opportunity to place the Garden's deeply established cultural and community roots at its heart. This key green infrastructure positions Dalston as a place where people want to live, work and visit and ensures that all of its residents, both existing and new, remain happy, healthy and connected.





CONTACT

13 Dalston Ln
London
E8 3DF

Web: www.dalstongarden.org

Email: info@dalstongarden.org



