

Trafford Council Voluntary Sector Grants (2013-14)

End of Grant Monitoring Report

Your end of grant form provides us with vital evidence about the outcomes delivered by voluntary and community groups in Trafford. It helps us to monitor the success of Voluntary Sector Grants and see the impact they create. Your responses will be collated with those of other funded groups and will be used to support future grant making. We may also use any questions and case studies you provide to publicise the voluntary sector grants programme.

When accepting the conditions of funding, groups agree to the completion of monitoring information. Failure to provide satisfactory information can have result in a request for repayment as outlined in the Grant Agreement and Terms and Conditions.

When completing this report please refer to:

- Your submitted Application Form
- The Trafford Council Neighbourhood Voluntary Sector Grant Agreement you submitted
- Any other requirements or conditions stipulated in the Trafford Council Neighbourhood Voluntary Sector Grant terms and conditions.

Thank you for taking the time to share your stories. We look forward to receiving your completed form. **If you require support to complete this form please contact the Thrive team on 0300 7770145.**

Section A: About your Group

Name of Organisation or Group:	Friends of Stamford Park
Area in which project delivered:	South
Project completion date:	Ongoing
Contact details:	

Section B: About your project

1. How many people benefitted from your project?

Directly

50 Gardening
Volunteers

Indirectly

1000+
Park Visitors

*Direct benefit means the people who took part in your activities. Indirect benefit means the people who might not have come along, but who got a positive benefit as a result of your project. For example, improving a local park with a playground, has a **direct** benefit on the children who can play on it, but it has an **indirect benefit** on the people living in the surrounding area, by improving the quality of the park and the environment in which they live.*

2. In your grant agreement you set out measures and targets for your project.

Please tell us what your project has delivered, whether it was in line with the targets you set out originally and explain the reason for any differences.

Measure	Target	Actual Achieved	Explanation

3. Please describe how this grant made a difference to local people?

The Thrive Grant has made a tremendous difference to Stamford Park. Council funding had been reduced to the point that only one flower bed in the whole park was ear-marked for planting and only with annuals. This would have left most of the traditional, large flowerbeds looking bare and neglected. With the funding we have been able to develop four amazing floral displays

- *A Prairie Garden at one of the main entrances*
- *A Cottage Garden beside the bowling greens*
- *A Rose Garden next to the central pathway*
- *School Competition beds beside the pond*

We have planted perennial plants that will provide enjoyment year after year.

We have been able to involve a wide range of the community in planning and planting the new gardens – local school children, teenagers from the National Citizenship Scheme, local residents & members of the Friends of Stamford Park. We were judged by North West in Bloom and were delighted to hear that we have been awarded an award (level to be announced at an award ceremony in October – letter attached).

Section C: Project Finances

Amount Awarded	£4,779.54
Amount of grant spent	£4,769.00
What was the total cost of your project?	£5,212.00

4. In addition to the funding awarded through the Voluntary Sector Grant scheme, did your project bring in any additional support?

In the original proposal we recognised in advance that we were undertaking a very ambitious project so we said we would raise a further £1,000 funding to allow us to really make an impact in the park. We managed to secure funding as follows:

<i>Schools Competition sponsor</i>	<i>£500.00</i>
<i>Skipton Grant for additional planting</i>	<i>£500.00</i>
<i>Waitrose "Green Tokens"</i>	<i>£215.00</i>
<i>Bakehouse (local bakery) donation</i>	<i>£158.85</i>
<i>Bowdon Church School</i>	<i>£192.40</i>

The project is classed as ongoing as we are using the additional funding to do additional work on the Japanese Garden site and the Sensory Garden

5. In your Grant Agreement you set out an indicative budget. Please tell us how you actually spent the grant, and explain any changes from the original budget.

Project expenditure		Projected Spend	Actual Spend	Reason for Change
People	Salaries, NI & pensions			
	Recruitment			
	Volunteer expenses			
	Travel expenses			
	Training			
	Other (please specify)			
Premises	Rent/ Rates/ Room Hire			
	Heating/ lighting/ water			
	Insurance			
	Repairs, maintenance			
	Cleaning			

	Building work/ improvements			
	Other (please specify)			
Running costs	Telephone / internet			
	Stationery/ postage			
	Equipment and materials			
	Printing/ photocopying			
	Advertising/ promotions			
	Interpreters/ translation			
	Food/ refreshments			
	Other (please specify)			
Other	Ground Work	£540.00	£540.00	
	Noticeboard	£1,239.54	£1,620.00	<i>We installed a wooden noticeboard (see photos)</i>
	Gardening Equipment	£500.00	£297.86	<i>We were able to borrow equipment from Trafford and from volunteers</i>
	Plants & Trees	£2,000.00	£2,042.36	
	Planting Accessories	£500.00	£268.78	
TOTALS		£4,779.54	£4,769.00	

6. Is this project or activity going to continue after the funding has ended?

We have been unable to fully implement the planned Japanese Garden as the Japanese Gardening Society visited the site and advised us that the types of plants required would not thrive in this location. We have cleared the area of the unsightly conifers and we will be using the additional funding raised to install a new planting scheme in Spring 2015.

There has been a delay in implementing the Sensory Garden as we were waiting for groundwork funding. This has now been achieved and we will be progressing the work in Spring 2015, again using the additional funding.

We will be continuing to maintain the flowerbeds to ensure they are free from weeds and the plants remain well tended for.

Section D: Project Outcomes

7. Looking back, which of your projects achievements are you most proud of and why?

The Rose Garden. We involved 20 teenagers from the National Citizenship Scheme. They were fully engaged in the planning the design of the Rose Garden and researching which roses to purchase. They then did the hard labour of digging out the beds, enriching the soil and then planting the roses. It was a real team effort and we were all extremely proud of the results.

The Schools Competition Beds has been a fantastic community element of the project. We were able to get three local primary schools to participate. The children planned their planting schemes and then came to the park to plant their beds. The wider school communities ensured the beds were watered and weeded in the following weeks. All three schools came to the park in July when the Altrincham in Bloom Judges decided which trophies (platinum, gold & silver) were to be awarded to the schools.

8. Is there anything that didn't go as expected? Would you do anything differently if you were starting again?

At times we have found it difficult to find volunteers to undertake some of the heavy duty weeding and planting sessions. This has meant that the Friends of Stamford Park committee had to become more involved. "Our Altrincham" is helping us access a wider population of potential volunteer gardeners. If we were starting again we would canvass a wider network of volunteers.

Receiving the news from the Japanese Gardening Society was very disappointing. In hindsight we should have discussed with them first. We are now researching what plants will thrive best in this location so we achieve a good outcome.

9. As a result of this project and funding, what is next for the project/your group?

Stamford Park has looked glorious this year and we wish it to look just as amazing every year.

There will be ongoing maintenance needed for the Rose Garden, Prairie Garden and the Cottage Garden. The local community group "Our Altrincham" are in the process of setting up a Gardening Club and part of their remit will be helping to keep our three Gardens in a beautiful condition.

Following this year's success we will be inviting the local schools to take part in the School Beds Competition again.

As per the response in question 6 we will be progressing work on the Sensory Garden and Japanese Garden site using our additional funding.

10. What did the people who got involved in your project think? Please provide any quotes from people who participated:

Quote 1:

Quote 2:

Quote 3:

Section D: Your Experience

1. How positive was your experience of the funding programme overall?

Very positive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairly positive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neither positive or negative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairly negative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very negative	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Is there anything you feel we could change to improve the process?

Section E: Declaration

This declaration should be signed by one of the main organisers of the project or organisation.

I am authorised and eligible to sign this End of Grant Monitoring Report on behalf of the organisation and declare the information included in this report is true and accurate.

I understand that in the assessment of this report the Thrive Trafford may share information contained within it with relevant Trafford Council directorates and committees.

Please ensure you include the following when returning this form:

Receipts and invoices for your purchases with the grant funding

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Photographs and publicity <i>(Please seek permission from the person(s) identified in the photograph or parent/guardian for children)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other supporting evidence such as surveys, evaluations, video, questionnaires etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
We agree to the use of any photographs or evidence submitted with this document to be used for publicity purposes	<input type="checkbox"/>

Full Name:	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
Signature:	<div style="background-color: black; width: 80px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
Position	<div style="background-color: black; width: 300px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
Date:	<div style="background-color: black; width: 60px; height: 1.2em;"></div>

Once completed please return to: Thrive Trafford, Sale Point, 126-150 Washway Road, Sale, M33 6AG, or email to: info@thrivetrafford.org.uk with the subject line 'End of Grant report', along with copies of the required additional documentation listed above.

