

# United St Saviour's Charity & Peter Minet Trust publish research

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## ***'The Value of Small Grants: A review by Peter Minet Trust and United St Saviour's Charity: March 2018'***

United St Saviour's Charity (UStSC) and Peter Minet Trust (PM) are place-based funders – UStSC in North Southwark and PM in Southwark and Lambeth.

UStSC\* and PM have invested £854k in small grants of £5,000 and under over the last 3 years, supporting 243 different organisations. Both funders wanted to find out more about the value of large numbers of small grants and undertook a consultation with Rocket Science. 129 charities and voluntary organisations were surveyed and 22 took part in a workshop.

*(\*United St Saviour's Charity also runs a separate Community Investment Programme of large grants over £5,000)*

### **Key messages:**

- Local funders are increasingly vital to local charities as demand increases – they fill gaps and fund projects other funders won't fund, particularly as statutory funding is cut and competition for national funding increases
- Charities said covering core costs was their biggest challenge; for grassroots community organisations this was general fundraising
- Most organisations want core, multi-year funding, but many grassroots, volunteer-led organisations want funding for community one-off events – both types of funding are hard to find at a local level
- Small grants are of real value when they help leverage other funds
- Organisations want UStSC and PM to provide more than funding – networking, training and advocacy

**Quote:** *"We used to be supported by a national funder but we can't access that money anymore due to increasing competition. We now rely on small grants to fund out projects and core programmes."* (Grantee with income of between £10,001-£100,000)

### **What next?**

- PM will introduce new grant giving programmes in autumn 2018 benefiting from fresh insights
- UStSC is exploring ways of offering more support such as connecting, training and advocacy
- It has been valuable working together and both funders have learnt much from one another. We see this as the basis for working together on other projects in future.

### **Read the report:**

Here's the link to our summary report: *'The Value of Small Grants: A review by Peter Minet Trust and United St Saviour's Charity: March 2018'* [www.peterminet.org.uk](http://www.peterminet.org.uk)

Copies of full research on [www.peterminet.org.uk](http://www.peterminet.org.uk) and [www.ustsc.org.uk](http://www.ustsc.org.uk)

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