

THE OUR SPACE AWARD

GREENING LONDON'S COMMUNITY SPACES

Our support of Groundwork London's Our Space Award helped 27 projects to 'clean and green' their local communities in 2022-23.

Tideway's donation includes reinvested savings from our financing framework - our sustainable financing agreement links reduced interest on our debt to delivering legacy commitments. We exceeded our target to have at least 85% of our live commitments on track and re-invested the interest saving into the Our Space Award.

The programme aims to help Londoners improve their communities and increase a sense of ownership over shared spaces. In 2022 grants ranging from £500 to £20,000 were given to 27 different community organisations, including many in the 14 boroughs along the tunnel's route.

Partners involved	Area of land improved (m2)	Total area de-paved (m2)	Trees planted
75	11,211	1,004	744
Participants involved	Total number of volunteers	Volunteers: Young people/children	Total number of volunteer hours
3,504	2,940	1,792	16,773

Here are two examples of successful 'community greening' through the programme:

Large project: Core Arts, Hackney - Roof-top Rain Gardening at Core

- **Total area of land improved:** 31m2
- **Number of volunteers engaged:** 50
- **Participants:** 500

Core Arts promotes positive mental health and wellbeing through creative learning. They provide quality education, training, employment and social enterprise initiatives that enable people who experience mental health issues to overcome barriers, fulfil their potential and participate fully in their community. This project improved their rooftop garden and small pockets of public greening - capturing rainwater; installing solar panels to support a unique irrigation/pumping system; and upcycling new planters.



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Small project: Stillness Junior School, Lewisham – the Stillness Eco Garden

- **Total area of land improved:** 460m²
- **Number of volunteers engaged:** 211 (140 adults, 71 children)
- **De-paved area:** 460m²

The project is creating a permanent, sustainable Eco Garden within the school grounds to be used for outdoor learning, play and to embed a culture of environmentalism at the school. The funds have had a direct impact on the whole school, bringing the PTA, children, teachers and parents together to volunteer their time into creating an impressive new space. Thanks to the grant, it activated further funding from Grow Back Greener, a GLA fund that is also managed by Groundwork London.



Some examples of grantee feedback:

“This project has really helped us create an amazing resource for learning about nature and biodiversity as well as giving students an opportunity to learn about taking care of nature, gardening and food-growing.”

George Green’s School, Tower Hamlets

“Thanks again for your funding, it made a great difference to our charity. It was flexible and meant we could tailor it to design a project that really meet our needs and the participants that we work with.”

Bishop Creighton House, Hammersmith



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