Community support and opportunities: grants, jobs and apprenticeships, and progress so far

Community support

There are three separate sources for community support that are being delivered in the Camden area.

CEF/BLEF funds

Two funds are available to local communities and businesses to help with the disruption that will be caused by the construction of Phase One of HS2 between London and the West Midlands: the Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF). There have already been a number of announced funding awards for projects in the Camden area. For example, the Castlehaven Community Association has secured a £74,000 grant from CEF. This will fund a team of 20 volunteers to recruit and train local people to organise community events and clean ups, help develop a local nature park, promote wildlife habitats and address specific environmental issues that emerge throughout the construction of HS2.

You can find out how to apply to the funds here: www.groundwork.org.uk/national-grants/grants_hs2-funds/

The latest update on projects that have successfully secured funding is available here: www.hs2funds.org.uk/home/projects-funded-by-hs2funds/#more-2397

The Camden Fund

This is now established and approximately £1.2 million of awards have been made to 17 separate organisations. Information about the awards will be regularly updated on the Camden Giving website and you can also find out how to apply here: www.camdengiving.org.uk/thecamdenfund

Information about both funds is provided in the quarterly flash report that is provided to the Euston Community Representatives Group (ECRG) meeting and is also available on the ECRG pages on our HS2inCamden website.

Contractor community investment

Our contractors are seeking opportunities to develop relationships with community partners, which will enable them to share the skills and knowledge that exist within the Project.

For example, the enabling works contractor Costain Skanska Joint Venture (CSJV) has assembled a team of Senior Managers to provide bid writing and business development support to several community projects, including the Surma Centre. Assistance has been provided with developing refurbishment plans, which has included conducting building surveys and architectural drawings.

The Camden People's Theatre are refurbishing the first floor and basement of their theatre and enlisted the support of CSJV with painting, DIY and clearance to restore their space, located just off of Hampstead Road.

Reclaimed and reconditioned fridges have been donated to local charities including the Euston Foodbank. CSJV is also working with the Foodbank to deliver training to staff so that they can support with foodbank distribution to vulnerable clients across Area South.

If you would like to discuss any investment opportunities that you would like our contractors to consider, please contact the engagement team at hs2incamden@hs2.org.uk

Jobs and apprenticeships

The enabling works contractor in the London area (CSJV) has already employed a number of people from the Camden area, and 46 apprenticeships have started with them so far London-wide.

If you are interested in working for CSJV or any of their sub-contractors, please view and apply for vacancies and sign up for job alerts at www.kingscross.co.uk/jobs-and-recruitment

We will continue to provide updates on progress in this area through the flash reports.

