



Big Local SW11

Big Local SW11 is an independent, resident led group that has been awarded £1m over 10 years to invest in the local area.

Together we want to remove barriers that prevent people in BLSW11 from reaching their potential as workers, volunteers, and members of our community.

This will strengthen the social fabric of the community through tackling low participation due to poor mental health, loneliness, isolation and poverty

How?

Big Local SW11 are here to facilitate the development of a local network of individuals and organisations - Battersea Together

We are working with others to mobilise resources (people, organisations and money) so that our community is stronger and better placed to find its own answers to isolation, mental health and poverty



Our Journey

2011 Consultation

We started by consulting with the local community to find out the evidence of need locally, what's being provided already and where can we make a difference

Key areas

The 4 key areas people identified that needed to change locally were:

- Achieving & potential
- Safety & Wellbeing
- Advocacy - community voice
- Community & belonging

2013/14 Testing the concept

We started trying some things

- Falcon Road Festival
- Grants Scheme
- Intergenerational programme
- Community fitness
- Building Futures

Barriers

Through our pilot projects we realised that there were a number of barriers preventing people participating in local community, volunteering and work opportunities.

These issues included debt, housing, unemployment, mental health and isolation.

2017 BLSW11 Alliance

We then set up the Alliance, a group of trusted local organisations to work with us to start strengthening the community voluntary sector in the patch.

These organisations share the same vision to see local people achieve their potential by removing the barriers in their way.

These organisations will work with us to develop our strategy and bring capacity, expertise, and connections to enable us to achieve more.

2019-21 Our 3 year plan

1. Set up Battersea Youth Voice
2. Invest in volunteer coordination
3. Build up the community voluntary sector The above 3 - £25,000 per year
4. Set up a local investment fund - £50,000 per year
5. Continue with the Falcon Road Festival - £15,000 per year
6. Develop the Intergenerational work - £10,000 per year
7. Develop the Grants programme - £20,000 per year
8. Staffing & Operations - £50,000 per year approx.

2016 Battersea Together

We started conversations with local organisations and groups through Battersea Together events to identify what was being done and how to tackle these areas

Local network

We recognised that we needed to build a network of local community organisations alongside individual participants.

Our local community organisations offer us access, expertise, capacity, trust and will be here once the Big Local 10 years finishes.

Our Role

Use our resources to develop a **local community network** we have concluded that £1m could easily be spent on grants and projects that end up not making any real difference; but if used to bring people together it might give us a bigger voice and a way of changing the way that existing organisations work.

Bringing in money We also agree that we should try and use our funds to bring new money into the area. Our goal would be that our delivery partners and our programmes become financially self sustaining after the Big Local programme finishes. So far through the BLSW11 Alliance we have secured an additional £360k to help deliver the strategy.

Support our partners with communications, strategic oversight, governance and volunteers.