



# Cloudesley

Impact Report 2024/25



## Introduction

Cloudesley is an independent charitable trust that supports people, organisations and churches in Islington. This report covers our grant-making and other activities in the year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

We trace our roots back over 500 years to the will that local resident Richard Cloudesley wrote in 1517.

Today, we aim to have a significant positive impact on people's lives in Islington. All our work is underpinned by our values:

- Community focused
- Inclusive
- Responsive
- Committed

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## Health grants

Cloudesley's Health Grants programme includes grants for individuals and for local organisations. We provide support for Islington residents who are struggling financially and who are disabled or have health issues. We also fund Islington-based organisations which are working to address health inequalities.

### Health grants agreed in 2024/25

Health grants for individuals	£181,000
Health grants for organisations	£1,121,000
<b>Total health grants agreed<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>£1,302,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Funding of £28,000 was written back to Cloudesley during the year and became available for recommitment through our Health Grants programme.

**“This support has been a big relief, reducing stress and improving both our finances and our day-to-day wellbeing.”**

Islington resident who received a Cloudesley Partner grant for a washing machine



# Health grants for Islington residents

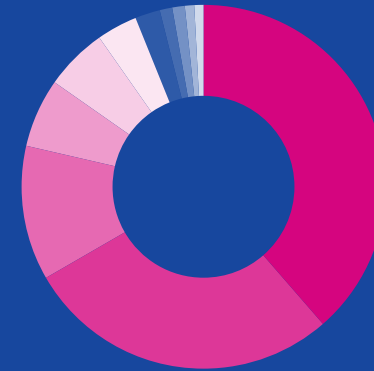
## Cloudesley Partners welfare grants

Our Cloudesley Partners scheme provides small welfare grants of up to £500 to Islington residents who are disabled or have physical and/or mental health problems and are experiencing financial hardship. These grants help with emergency expenses, such as food, energy bills, furniture, white goods and disability equipment.

In 2024/25, Cloudesley initially agreed £142,000 for 18 local organisations to distribute to residents. As demand remained high, a further £39,000 was agreed later in the year. In total, 1,395 Cloudesley Partner grants were made to individuals, helping people meet urgent needs and improve their quality of life.

Each Cloudesley Partner organisation received a 10% contribution towards administration costs, recognising the time and care involved in assessing and distributing grants.

## Purpose of Cloudesley Partner grants 2024/25



● Emergency expenses: food, clothing, accommodation, phone and travel	£65,388
● Furniture and furnishings	£47,173
● White goods	£19,714
● Other	£10,435
● Translation/interpreting	£9,642
● Clothing	£5,913
● Utilities	£3,375
● Legal documents and expenses	£2,251
● Disability equipment	£1,945
● Debt relief orders	£948
● Medical reports	£600
<b>Total</b>	<b>£167,383</b>



# Health grants for Islington residents

## Cloudesley Partners during 2024/25

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**Age UK Islington**

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**Citizens Advice Islington**

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**Community Language Support Services**

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**Disability Action in Islington**

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**Help on Your Doorstep**

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**Centre 404**

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**Islington BAMER Advice Alliance**

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**Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants**

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**Islington Law Centre**

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**Islington Mind**

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**Islington People's Rights**

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**The Manna**

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**Manor Gardens Welfare Trust**

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**The Margins Project**

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**Peter Bedford Housing Association**

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**London Borough of Islington** – Resident Support Scheme & No Resource to Public Funds teams

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**Solace Women's Aid**

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**St Luke's Community Centre**

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**St Mungo's**

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## Health grants for Islington residents

### Catalyst Fund

The Catalyst Fund makes grants of up to £500 to help people meet personal goals and connect to opportunities. In 2024/25, Cloudesley supported seven local organisations with Catalyst funding which they then allocated as 108 grants to local people. We continued to work in partnership with the Cripplegate Foundation on this scheme.

In the year, the Catalyst Fund was used for a wide range of purposes including for:

- A meditation course to support mental wellbeing following a period of homelessness
- A mobile phone to help a local resident to volunteer and strengthen their social connections
- A gym membership so exercise could help improve back issues

**“This grant isn’t just covering a legal fee, it’s helping restore a life. It supports healing, self-determination, and the ability to rebuild a future rooted in safety, stability, and hope.”**

Solace Women’s Aid



## Health grants for organisations

Following a review in 2024, the charity launched a new Health Grants programme for 2025–29. The programme aims to reduce health inequalities by funding sustainable organisations that deliver impactful services.

# £1,121,000

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Total Health grants agreed

# £1,054,000

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Large grants agreed

The Health Grants programme includes:

**Large Grants** – multi-year support for core costs or specific projects

**Flexible Fund** – this small fund can be used to help organisations test a different approach to tackling health inequalities, respond to a crisis or gap in service provision, or support capacity building in funded organisations

**Small Grants Fund** – project funding for smaller organisations

**Islington Giving** – Cloudesley’s funding for this local coalition is used to support work with people with health issues and/or who are disabled.

# Health grants for organisations

## Large Grants

In 2024/25, Cloudesley agreed Large Grants totalling £1,054,000 for ten organisations:

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**Disability Action in Islington** Complex casework

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**Help on Your Doorstep** Connect Service

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**Holloway Neighbourhood Group** Mental health & wellbeing

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**Islington Centre for Refugees & Migrants** Support service

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**Islington Law Centre** Three Advice Project

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**Islington Mind** Talking Therapies Clinic

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**Manor Gardens Welfare Trust** Health Connector

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**The Margins Project** Head of Margins

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**St Luke's Community Centre** Helping Hands project

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**Stuart Low Trust** Arts, Nature and Wellbeing Programme

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Cloudesley also continued funding ten other organisations awarded grants in previous years:

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**Citizens Advice Islington** Outreach advice worker

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**Community Language Support Services** Helping hand to improve lives

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**The Elfrida Society** LDAD Healthcare Access & Resilience Project

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**Islington BAMER Advice Alliance** IBAA Co-ordinator

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**Islington Bangladesh Association** Community Health Project

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**Islington People's Rights** Kids Support

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**MahaDevi Yoga Centre** Therapeutic yoga for children and young people with additional or complex needs

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**The Manna** Tackling health inequalities among marginalised people

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**The Maya Centre** Counselling for Black Women's Project

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**Prospex** Prospex One to One

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## Health grants for organisations

### Flexible Fund

In 2024/25, Cloudesley also agreed £11,300 through its Flexible Fund, supporting:

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**Islington People's Rights** Case management system

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**Islington Somali Community** CRM setup and training

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**The Maya Centre** Legal advice for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy

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**Urban Forest Tribe** Trauma-informed training

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### Small Grants Fund

During 2024/25, 11 projects funded through our Small Grants Fund in the previous year continued to run.

These supported young people, projects led by and for marginalised communities, and people with learning disabilities or autism. You can read more about the impact of these grants here: [Small Grants Report](#)

### Islington Giving

Cloudesley is a founder member of Islington Giving, a coalition which has raised over £11 million to support local organisations and projects since it was launched. In 2025, Islington Giving celebrated its 15th anniversary. To find out more about the work it has enabled, see [Islington Giving](#).

During the year, Cloudesley continued its support for Islington Giving, with a further £55,000 agreed towards work with people with health issues and disabilities.

For further details about all Cloudesley's Health Grants funding, see [www.cloudesley.org.uk](http://www.cloudesley.org.uk)

## Grants for Islington churches

Cloudesley's Church Grants programme supports the upkeep and repair of Church of England church buildings in Islington and helps maintain services in them. In 2024/25, the charity agreed £1,079,000<sup>1</sup> in funding for churches, including grants for major works, urgent repairs, access improvements, and sustainability projects.

### Main Church grants programme

During the year, Cloudesley awarded 49 grants to 22 churches in the Islington Deanery. These grants included:

- Tower, spire and stonework repairs
- Roof and drainage works
- Fire safety upgrades
- Feasibility studies and architects' fees
- Urgent repair works to address health and safety issues

# £1,079,000<sup>1</sup>

Funding

<sup>1</sup> Grant funding of £42,000 was written back to the Church Grants programme during the year and became available for recommitment through the programme.



## Other church support

### Church Access Project

2024/25 was the final year of Cloudesley's three-year Church Access Project. During the year, we continued to provide additional support for improving accessibility in church buildings.

# 22

Churches received Access Audit reports from the Centre for Accessible Environments

# 16

Grants of up to £10,000 were awarded for a wide variety of access improvements during the three-year project

### Church Access Project grants agreed in 2024/25

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**Christ Church Highbury** Access rail, hearing loop, bathroom locks and chairs

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**Emmanuel Hornsey Road** Access works including accessible toilet improvements & hearing loop

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**KXC** Hearing loop, acoustic baffles, flooring and training

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**Our Most Holy Redeemer** Sound system

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**St Andrew's Whitehall Park** External lighting and toilet decoration and improvements

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**St George and All Saints** Sound system

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**St James Clerkenwell** Temporary ramp

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**St John's Upper Holloway** Audio visual equipment

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**St Mark's Clerkenwell** Panic hardware to two doors, and inspection and repair of automated door

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**St Mark's Tollington Park** Improving access to the side entrance of the church

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**St Saviour's** Ramp for Garden Room

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**St Silas Pentonville** Repairs to the church entrance and handrails

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## Other church support

### Sustainable Church Buildings Project

Cloudesley's second Sustainable Church Buildings Project concluded in 2024/25. The project helped churches reduce their carbon footprint and improve environmental sustainability.

Over the past five years, approximately 26% of all Cloudesley's Church Grants funding has been agreed for sustainability/net zero church buildings projects, including through the second Sustainable Church Buildings Project.

For more details about the Sustainable Church Buildings Project and how it has supported the Islington churches, please see our end of project evaluation:

[Sustainable Church Buildings Project evaluation](#)

# 10

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Churches had detailed decarbonisation audits

# 99

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Hours of consultancy support

# 20

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Churches received small grants for sustainability measures, including for solar panels, secondary glazing and energy-efficient heating

### Islington Deanery Buildings Forum

Cloudesley convened three meetings of the Islington Deanery Church Buildings Forum, bringing together church representatives. At these meetings, participants shared learning on topics such as net zero improvements, managing capital projects, and addressing water ingress.



# Finance

## Finance and endowment review

Cloudesley's grant giving rose again in 2024/25, with £2,364,000 awarded, a 4.3% increase on the previous year. This reflects the charity's ongoing commitment to increasing its impact through strategic, sustainable funding.

After accounting for write-backs, the net amount of grants awarded was £2,294,000 with additional funding of £4,000 for access audits and £13,000 for sustainability consultancy for churches.

## Investment strategy and performance

We aim to balance the needs of today with those of the future, ensuring our funding remains impactful and sustainable.

The full Trustee's Report and Accounts are available to review online at [www.cloudesley.org.uk](http://www.cloudesley.org.uk)

## Financial highlights

	Year ended 30/06/25 £	Year ended 30/06/24 £
Total income	<b>1,517,000</b>	1,747,000
Staff costs, governance costs and overheads	<b>395,000</b>	393,000
Main grants programmes (health and church)	<b>2,071,000</b>	1,819,000
Church access project audits and grants	<b>74,000</b>	68,000
Sustainable Church Project audits and grants	<b>166,000</b>	283,000
Endowment funds at year end	<b>56,991,000</b>	58,038,000

## Governance and management

Cloudesley is governed by a Charity Commission Scheme and led by a Board of up to 15 Trustees, including:

- Ex-officio Trustee, The Mayor of Islington
- Archdeacon's Trustee
- Four Deanery Synod Nominated Trustees
- Four London Borough of Islington Nominated Trustees
- Five Elected Trustees

During 2024/25, three co-opted members brought additional skills and experience to Cloudesley's committees.

In 2024/25, the Board was supported by three standing committees (Finance & Endowment, Grants, and Staffing). Several working groups focused on strategic priorities including investment, diversity, and grant programme reviews.

Cloudesley's staff team is:

- Melanie Griffiths, Director
- Catherine Sorrell, Grants Manager
- Ross Holland, Finance Manager
- Jo Latham, Operations and Database Officer
- Etta Beckreck, Grants and Administration Officer/  
2027 Associate

During 2024/25, Cloudesley's team also included

- Kevin Turner, Grants Manager

Cloudesley is committed to valuing diversity, promoting equity and equal access, and ensuring inclusion in all it does. During 2024/25, actions have included targeted recruitment, accessibility improvements and a further audit of the Board.

The charity is also a signatory of the Funder Commitment on Climate Change and a member of Islington Sustainability Network. We remain committed to climate action, aligning operations and investments with sustainability goals.



This project is supported by



**Cloudesley**

Support in Islington for 500 years



## Cloudesley

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## Images

**Front cover** (clockwise from left)

Christ Church Highbury

Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants

St James Clerkenwell

Manor Gardens Welfare Trust

## Back cover

St John's Upper Holloway

Manor Gardens

## Charity Commission number

205959

## Registered Company number

7425897

## Photography

Janie Airey (unless otherwise stated)

## Design

Webb-Jenkins

