The London Marathon Charitable Trust

The London Marathon Charitable Trust was created in 1981, the inaugural year of the London Marathon, to meet one of the six objectives established by race founders Chris Brasher and John Disley ‘to raise money for the provision of recreational facilities in London’.

Their vision enabled the surplus from the London Marathon, and other events organised by London Marathon Events Limited, to go to The Trust in perpetuity. Every year, the surplus is transferred under Gift Aid from the trading company to The Trust.

The mission of The Trust is to make available high-quality, accessible and affordable opportunities for sport, physical activity and play primarily in the areas in which London Marathon Events Limited organises mass-participation sporting events.

It primarily awards grants for capital projects that increase participation in sport, physical activity and play among those who are physically inactive or have low levels of activity.

It accepts applications for facilities in these areas:

- the 32 London boroughs and the City of London
- Surrey
- South Northamptonshire
- Aylesbury Vale.

The current funding priorities

The Trust’s current priorities are to fund capital projects that encourage and support increased participation in sport, play and physical activity, especially among:

- individuals who are currently physically inactive or who have low levels of activity
- groups that are currently physically inactive or who have low levels of activity
- children and young people out of school hours.

An ‘inactive person’ is defined as someone who, over the course of a week, does not achieve a total of 30 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity.
What has The Trust Done?

The Trust has awarded more than £67 million to more than 1,200 projects in London and beyond.

Here are some milestones in The Trust's history:

1981 The London Marathon Charitable Trust is created by London Marathon founders Chris Brasher and John Disley 'to raise money for the provision of recreational facilities in London'.

1991 The charity's total awards to sports and recreation projects reaches more than £1 million.

1998 The Trust establishes a fund to support the purchase of public sports grounds and facilities to preserve them from developers.

2001 The charity's total funding of sports and recreation projects reaches £10 million.

2011 Prince Harry becomes Patron of The London Marathon Charitable Trust.

2012 The Trustees pledge to provide £6.9 million to support community legacy facilities of the London 2012 Olympic Games, including contributions to the London Marathon Community Track, the VeloPark and the Olympic Park's North Hub Playground.

2012 The Trust donates £1 million to the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge which has subsequently benefited 105 fields in London and Surrey.

2012 The Trust sponsors the design of PoolPod, a submersible and mobile platform to help people with impaired mobility to enter swimming pools.

2013 Projects in Surrey become eligible for Trust grants for the first time thanks to London Marathon Events Limited's involvement in the Prudential RideLondon cycling festival.

2013 The total value of grants made by The Trust passes the £50 million mark, supporting more than 1,000 projects.

2015 The London Marathon Charitable Trust celebrates its 35th anniversary.

2017 The London Marathon Community Track opens in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park thanks to a grant of £3.45 million from The Trust, the largest single award in its history.

2017 The Active Spaces partnership between The Trust and Fields in Trust is established to create a legacy of 50 permanently protected outdoor spaces across the UK.

The Trust in numbers

£1,500: The amount awarded in 1981 to each of the first seven projects supported by The Trust, which included the creation of a trim trail, purchase of gym equipment and provision of 5-a-side football equipment for people with disabilities.

1,200: Number of projects receiving funding from The Trust since 1981.

£67m: Total amount of money awarded by The Trust since 1981.

33: Number of London boroughs that are eligible for, and have received grants, including the City of London.

£7.7m Total amount of The Trust grants to athletics projects in London.

£6.9m Total of legacy grants from The Trust following the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

£3.45m Grant awarded by The Trust to fund the London Marathon Community Track in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, the largest in The Trust's history.

Current facilities named for the London Marathon

- London Marathon Pavilion Barn Elms
- London Marathon Redbridge Cycling Centre
- London Marathon Playing Field Avery Hill
- London Marathon Playing Field Chase Lodge
- London Marathon Playing Field Earlsfield
- London Marathon Playing Field Greenford
- London Marathon Playing Field Greenwich (Shooters Hill)
- London Marathon Playing Field Mottingham
- London Marathon Playing Field Redbridge
- London Marathon Community Track (Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park)
- London Marathon Athletics Track, Finsbury Park
Case Study 1: London Marathon Community Track – £3.45 million

The London Marathon Community Track was officially opened at the London Stadium in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on 18 October 2017 after The Trust had awarded the biggest single grant in its history to construct the facility.

The grant of £3.45 million was the final part of £6.9 million given towards the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games legacy facilities. These have included the Lee Valley VeloPark and Tumbling Bay Playground in the Olympic Park, and PoolPods used at the Aquatics Centre.

The Community Track was used as a warm-up facility at the 2017 IAAF World Athletics Championships and World Para Athletics Championships and will be managed by the London Stadium. It is available for community use throughout the year with designated sessions for schools and community groups as well as pay and run sessions for local residents. The Community Track will also have a new clubhouse area and gym.

Other groups to benefit from the new facility include Newham Athletics Network and England Athletics, and the West Ham Foundation, which are part of the park’s Active People Active Park programme. It will also be the home ground for London football team Altis FC and West Ham Ladies, providing a real multi-purpose community use.

The Track features a 200-seat stand named after Chris Brasher and John Disley, co-founders of the London Marathon, which was opened by their youngest grandchildren, Frances Disley (aged eight) and Rosie Brasher (aged four), in the presence of other family members.

Pupils from the nearby Bobby Moore Academy school were also at the opening where they enjoyed a training session with Britain’s World Championship medallists, Asha Philip and Rabah Yousif, plus coaches from Newham & Essex Beagles Athletic Club, which is now based at the track.

Sir Rodney Walker, chair of The London Marathon Charitable Trust, said: “This is a fantastic moment for The Trust. We have invested the biggest grant in our history to create this amazing facility in the shadow of such an iconic stadium. The Trust is all about inspiring people to be active and I have no doubt this track will do that.”

www.london-stadium.com/community-track

Case Study 2: Active Spaces Partnership with Fields in Trust – £675,000

The London Marathon Charitable Trust announced its first UK-wide funding programme in May 2017 with an innovative Active Spaces partnership with Fields in Trust to safeguard the future of green spaces across the UK and encourage people, particularly the most inactive communities, to participate in physical activity, sport and play.

The Trust has set aside £675,000 in 2017/18 to safeguard 50 green spaces in perpetuity and to fund activation programmes on those sites. Through its partnership with Fields in Trust, the green spaces will be protected from development by funding from The Trust. Each site will also be awarded a grant of up to £5,000 to fund programmes that inspire the local community to get active. Programmes can include any activity, including walking, cycling or coaching, or the use of outdoor gym equipment.

One chosen site in each home nation (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales), which demonstrates the most significant impact, will receive a major grant of £25,000 for its activation programme.

Landowners and communities across the UK can apply online to protect a site and to secure funding for activation programmes at www.fieldsintrust.org. Sites are selected for support following an assessment of the proposed activation programme.

Sir Rodney Walker said: “Participants in London Marathon events come from all over the UK and we feel now is the right time to make funding available to every community to safeguard much-loved local parks and green spaces and inspire more people to lead a more active lifestyle.”

Applications have already been received from across the UK and the first six selected included sites from as far afield as Belfast, Cornwall, Norfolk and Edinburgh.

More case studies and a full list of projects awarded grants by The London Marathon Charitable Trust can be found on The Trust’s website: www.lmct.org.uk
Charities & Fundraising

Three quarters of all London Marathon competitors run for a charity and a third of all places in the race are offered by charitable organisations with guaranteed entries. But charities weren’t always so prominent or well organised. In the early years, it was runners themselves who raised money for good causes.

In 1984, the London Marathon named the Sports Aid Foundation as its first official charity of the year and granted the organisation some places to help it raise funds. As charity involvement grew the organisers decided to offer more places to a wider range of charities and in 1993 they introduced the Golden Bond scheme to enable other charities to gain places.

Under this scheme, charities buy guaranteed entries which they then offer to runners who miss out on a place in the ballot. Runners who take one of these places do so in return for a commitment to raise an agreed sum for their cause, known as a ‘pledge’.

A Silver Bond scheme followed which guarantees a charity one place in the London Marathon every five years. With continued huge demand for places from charities, a new annual charity ballot was opened in May 2014, offering an additional 500 places each year to charities which do not already have guaranteed entries. Each charity can apply for one place.

Such has been the growth of charity involvement in the London Marathon that the event itself has entered the record books. In 2007 £46.5 million was raised for good causes by runners, making the London Marathon a Guinness World Record breaker as the largest single annual fundraising event in the world. The event has broken that record every year since, including in 2017 when £61.5m was raised.

2007 £46.5 million
2008 £46.7 million
2009 £47.2 million
2010 £50.6 million
2011 £51.8 million
2012 £52.8 million
2013 £53.0 million
2014 £53.2 million
2015 £54.1 million
2016 £59.4 million
2017 £61.5 million

In total, more than £890m has been raised for hundreds of charitable causes by London Marathon runners.

The highest total raised by an official charity was £3.6 million by Cancer Research UK, the London Marathon’s Charity of the Year in 2015.

Official charities of the London Marathon:

1984 Sports Aid Foundation
1985 Jimmy Savile’s Marathon Appeal
1986 Middlesex Hospital Research Fund
1987 St Thomas’s Hospital (heart research)
1988 Wishing Well Appeal
1989 Community Action Trust
1990 Fight for Life
1993 St John Ambulance; Snowden Award Scheme
1994 British Heart Foundation; Childline
1995 British Heart Foundation
1996 British Heart Foundation
1997 British Heart Foundation; NSPCC
1998 Age Concern
1999 Whizz Kidz; Leukaemia Research
2000 Mencap
2001 MS Society
2002 Outward Bound; FCWL
2003 Shelter
2004 Sense; British Heart Foundation
2005 Help the Hospices
2006 The Stroke Association
2007 Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust
2008 WellChild
2009 Heart UK; Spinal Injuries Association
2010 CLIC Sargent
2011 Oxfam
2012 TeamPB (Prostate Cancer Charity & Breast Cancer Care)
2013 YouthNet & Age UK
2014 Anthony Nolan
2015 Cancer Research UK
2016 NSPCC
2017 Heads Together
2018 Teenage Cancer Trust
Charity of the Year

**Teenage Cancer Trust**
Official charity of the 2018 Virgin Money London Marathon

Cancer sucks. At Teenage Cancer Trust, we make sure young people don't face it alone.

Every day, seven young people are diagnosed with cancer. It's a uniquely difficult experience to have cancer when you're young, often meaning you miss out on aspects of 'normal' teenage life, such as school, parties and playing sports. At the same time, you're facing cancer treatment and uncertainty over your future.

It can be a lonely and frightening experience, but the Teenage Cancer Trust team is there to make sure young people with cancer carry on being young people. Our incredible team of specialist staff support young people at every stage of their cancer journey, whether that's in one of our 28 state-of-the-art, teenage-friendly cancer units in NHS hospitals, at our amazing events, or by taking our services to local hospitals or young people's homes.

We also support young people's families and friends, keeping life as normal as possible and providing a listening ear in challenging times. And after treatment, when it's often assumed you'll just carry on as if a cancer diagnosis never happened, our teams are there, offering support and bringing young people together to help them find a new normal.

Over nearly three decades, we've refined the expertise we've gained from working with – and listening to – young people with cancer and their families. Our service is seen as the global gold standard in cancer care for young people. But for every young person we currently support, there's another one we can't reach.

#TeamLegend, our incredible Virgin Money London Marathon team, will help us grow our team of legendary specialist staff, so we can reach every young person who needs us, wherever they live.

**Running for Teenage Cancer Trust in 2018**

**Rochelle Humes**
Singer and TV presenter Rochelle Humes is taking on her first ever marathon as part of Team Legend. In November Rochelle visited the Teenage Cancer Trust unit at University College Hospital, where she got to know the young people and their families, and saw first-hand the difference she'll be making in supporting the charity.

Rochelle said: “I'm doing it for Teenage Cancer Trust because I've seen first-hand where the money goes and I'm really chuffed to be doing it for them.”

**Joel Dommett**
Joel is a comedian, actor and TV presenter, known to the nation for his role in *Skins* and for participating in (and then presenting) *I’m A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here!* Joel's marathon training began immediately after the most recent series of *I’m A Celebrity: Extra Camp*, and we can't wait to cheer him on as part of Team Legend.

**Jane Sutton**
Jane is the mother of Stephen Sutton, a young person diagnosed with incurable cancer who captured the nation's attention with his positivity and determination. To date Stephen's Story has raised over £5.5 million for young people facing cancer.

Jane said: “I'm thrilled to be returning to participate in my second Virgin Money London Marathon in April 2018. My son Stephen Sutton's cancer journey may have ended in May 2014 but the treatment, care and support offered by Teenage Cancer Trust enabled Stephen to maximise the time he had available once his cancer was diagnosed as incurable and crucially to share his experience with people of his own age.”

**Charlie Watson**
Charlie Watson is a marathon runner and fitness junkie from London, whose blog *The Runner Beans* is one of the most popular fitness blogs in the UK. With 13,000 Twitter followers and 39,000 Instagram followers, Charlie is highly influential in the fitness world.

In Charlie's words: “My goal is to champion the journey to a healthy, more active life where honest fitness and food makes wellbeing more accessible to all – without losing sight of the real lives we lead. Making fitness and healthy eating simple, approachable, realistic and without missing out on any of the good things in life.”

**Media enquiries to:**
Email: media@teenagecancertrust.org
Tel. 020 7612 0380