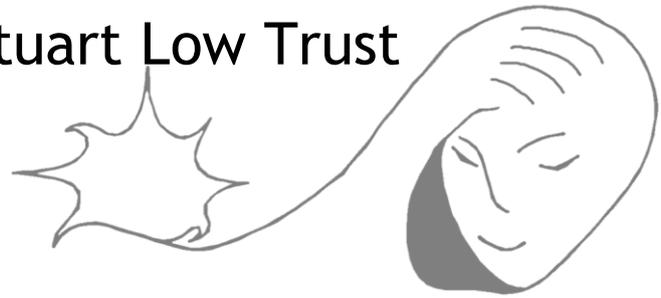




The Stuart Low Trust



bringing people together for better health and wellbeing

Fundraising Manager – Background information

About the Stuart Low Trust

The Stuart Low Trust (SLT) is an award-winning charity, supporting over 500 adults per year living in Islington and surrounding boroughs who are socially marginalised and experiencing mental health issues. SLT was set up in 1997 by Islington residents in memory of Stuart Low, who was diagnosed with schizophrenia and took his own life aged 27, when he couldn't find the right help at the right time. SLT aims to fill a service gap which continues, so that local people have quick access to community-based activity support groups.

Our Strategic Plan 2024-28 aims to fulfil our mission to support people who are most at risk through social isolation, by responding to the changing needs of our local communities and the changing world around us. We aim to transform our service impact, reach and financial sustainability. The Strategic Plan guides our fundraising strategy and so please read this.

We create safe, inclusive and welcoming spaces to reduce social isolation and stigma, by building resilience, mental wellbeing and coping skills. Through outcomes evaluation surveys completed at sessions, 90% participants report improved wellbeing at the end of the sessions. SLT is uniquely:

- **accessible** by offering support at times of increased risk from isolation at evenings and weekends.
- **inclusive** by avoiding the complex eligibility criteria of publicly-funded services.
- **community-embedded** by running all activities in collaboration with community partners.

SLT is based in the Jean Stokes Community Centre with three other local charities, which is situated on the Caledonian Road about 5 minutes by bus north of Kings Cross Station. We delivery activities across Islington and our nature outings extend across North London.

About the Fundraising Manager post

The Fundraising Manager will lead on strengthening our trusts and foundations pipeline, while building on our existing corporate, community and individual giving to diversify income, particularly among local supporters and City-based businesses.

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Company limited by guarantee registered in England No. 5001948
Charity Registered in England & Wales No. 1102325



You will be starting in the role with SLT in a secure financial position:

- 63% income secured for April 2026-March 2027 financial year through multi-year grants.
- 45% income secured for April 2026-March 2027 financial year through multi-year grants.
- 4 months cashflow in free reserves.

Income profile

Total annual income has increased and sustained for the past two years to our current annual target £255k for 2026-27 financial year, a mix of larger and small multi-year grants and one-year grants which may be secured again by re-application. Funders include City Bridge Foundation, Awards for All, Sport England, Garfield Weston, Drapers livery company and Islington local core funders Cloudesley and Cripplegate Foundation. Our current summary funding profile is:

- 46% restricted grant income for programmes
- 46% unrestricted core grant income
- 5% community and individual fundraising
- 3% corporate fundraising

SLT is ideally located for community, individual and corporate fundraising in Islington, where there are motivated high net worth residents and close to tech companies (Kings Cross), creative industries (Old Street) and on edge City of London, including successful fundraising partnerships with the charitable trusts of Livery companies. SLT partnerships include Microsoft Advertising, Kudos TV production company, Macquarie Bank, Waitrose and Coop supermarket.

Resources to support the role

Through our five-year major grant with the City Bridge Foundation, we secured a pro bono expert fundraising consultancy to design with the Chief Executive and Trustees an achievable roadmap to grow our community, individual and corporate fundraising during the coming three years. The roadmap starts with one year of work laying solid foundations of good systems and communications to build on.

SLT has excellent impact measurement systems in place through monthly surveys completed by participants, tailored to each of our three programmes (Arts, Nature and Wellbeing), co-designed with participants, combined with monitoring of attendance, demographics, qualitative feedback and in-depth case studies. Impact reports are produced quarterly for internal review and funder reporting by the Chief Executive.

About our team

The Chief Executive has 30 years' experience working the charity sector and 15 years in Chief Executive roles with extensive hands-on fundraising know-how. SLT is a small charity with 7 core staff, a team of 6 sessional staff who support the running of events and activities and 5-6 session leaders who specialise in nature, arts or wellbeing topics, such as yoga, mindfulness and dance. In addition, SLT's core approach is to work in partnership with community organisations which provide the specialist expertise to run some of our programmes including a local art gallery, local charities and cultural centres (eg theatres). A team of up to 20 volunteers assist at activities and events.

You will have help from our staff to achieve your fundraising targets (supervised by the Chief Executive):

- Our **Chief Executive** is a hands-on support with fundraising, as SLT is a small charity, by writing some trust and foundation grant applications and contributing to individual, community and corporate fundraising. He leads on public sector funding. He provides service design expertise and arranges participant consultations for co-design.
- Our **Programmes Manager** oversees the delivery of our activities and ensures all monitoring and impact data is collected.
- Our **Marketing and Communications Officer** is responsible for digital and printed resources.
- The **Volunteer Support Manager** recruits, inducts and supports volunteers to assist with programme activities.

The Fundraising Manager role can be hybrid, working both from home and in person. Occasional evening or weekend work may be required.

About our Activity Programmes

SLT achieves our mission through delivery of free, socially therapeutic activities per annum in three holistic programmes Arts, Nature and Wellbeing.

Arts Programme

- **Sunday Philosophy Forum** – The Forum is led by a team of volunteer facilitators under the expert guidance of philosophy graduates on Sundays.
- **Art Workshops** - SLT runs fortnightly art activity workshops in partnership with and on the site of Estorick Gallery of Italian Art.
- **Art outings** – Visits have included private tours around the Neo-gothic mansion Two Temple Place, the British Museum and the Museum of London.
- **Choir** - The Choir runs at the St Luke's Community Centre in Islington and performs at public events, including our Friday event in December.
- **Drama performance project** – Launched in 2024, the project is led by partner Odd Eyes Theatre to support young adults aged 18-35 to develop and perform their own work.

Nature Programme

- **Nature visits** - A varied programme of visits to a wide variety of nature sites and activities through the seasons, including nature reserves, gardens, farms and canal walks.
- **Nature outings** - Outings further afield including Kew Gardens and Regents Park.

Community & Wellbeing Programme

- **Friday Evening Events** - Friday evening events are run on a drop-in basis at our new venue the Jean Stokes Community Centre and are SLT's flagship service.
- **Wellbeing Workshops** - SLT's Wellbeing Workshops run on Saturdays enable participants by providing a toolkit of coping strategies and techniques to use at home including gentle activity, Yoga, Chi Kung, mindfulness, dance, visualisation and relaxation.
- **Monday Meet-ups** – Launched in 2024 as a new peer-led approach, the group meets once per month in a cafe to plan activities and once per month for an outing.