

StockwellUNITED

Summer 2003

The Newsletter of

The Stockwell Urban II Community Initiative

Stockwell United is here!

The Stockwell Urban II Community Initiative - or "Stockwell United" as it is popularly known - was launched in June 2002 at the Oasis Adventure Playground. Since then, a number of local projects have been awarded funding and several more are being developed. One year on, this newsletter wants to tell Stockwell residents about the programme and encourage you to get involved if you wish.

Stockwell United is a £12 million regeneration scheme focussing on Larkhall and Stockwell wards, plus

the estates covered by North and West Stockwell housing neighbourhoods. £6 million comes from the European Union's European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the remaining £6 million has to be secured through match funding. Stockwell is the only area in London to be awarded Urban II ERDF funds.

Stockwell United will be allocating funding to projects until 2006 and should continue operating in our area - and spending money - until 2008.

The Stockwell United Board

The Stockwell United Board is very much a local Board comprising Stockwell residents. 16 people sit on the Board and these include representatives of the Stockwell Partnership and the local neighbourhood housing forums, two ward councillors, a representative from Lambeth Council and the National Black Women's Network.

All funding applications come to the Stockwell United Board who has the power to accept or reject them. They are also able to attach conditions to funding awards and have so far exercised this right on a couple of occasions.

Applications that are under £100,000 only need local Board approval. Applications over £100,000 also have to be approved by the Government Office for London who oversees the programme.



Projects in the pipeline...

There is no shortage of projects in Stockwell that could benefit from Urban II funding and several groups and organisations are in the process of working up bids. These include:

- South Lambeth Tate Library wish to involve students from Lambeth College in an external refurbishment of the library. Not only will this brighten the appearance of one of Stockwell's oldest buildings but it will also provide valuable practical work experience for local trainees.
- The Bronze Woman Monument Project has plans to create a 7 foot bronze statue of a mother and child that will be situated in the Stockwell Memorial Gardens. The statue will celebrate the global contribution made by women as well as African-Caribbean men and women who served in the two world wars.
- North Stockwell housing office is submitting a bid for funding to upgrade a playground on Mursell estate. West Stockwell housing office is also developing a funding application to Urban II.
- Hyde Housing Association and Sure Start wish to seek funding to extend the provision of affordable childcare in the Urban II area.

The Stockwell Partnership is currently awaiting a decision from Government Office for London on their application for Urban II funds. If successful, the Partnership will be able to employ an Advice Worker for Stockwell residents and a support worker to help local groups apply for Urban funds themselves. In particular, the Stockwell Partnership wants to help smaller voluntary groups access European funds.

Projects up and running!

So far almost £1.5 million of Urban II funding has been awarded to local projects. These include:

- £134,000 to local charity Oasis Children's Venture to enable them to expand the services they offer to local children and further develop their exciting proposals to build a Cycle and Activity Centre on the Larkhall Adventure Playground
- £36,000 towards the costs of encouraging community involvement during the development of the Stockwell West Health and Community Centre – a proposed new health and community facility in an underused car park on Springfield estate
- £300,000 to the Thessaly Community Project – a contribution towards the cost of building a new community centre on Thessaly Road

that aims to serve residents on Patmore, Carey Gardens, Springfield and Hemans estates.

- £900,000 towards the Wandsworth Road Safety scheme. The Urban contribution to this £3 million plus project will be to fund improvements to the entrance to Larkhall Park, improved street lighting and raised entry treatments for side roads.
- £29,000 towards the cost of developing a comprehensive and costed regeneration Action Plan for Larkhall Park.
- £28,500 for a local Community Fund for the Environment that will be matched by £28,500 from the Environment Agency. The aim is to establish a youth focussed small grants scheme – managed by young people - for community-led environmental projects.

What can Stockwell United fund?

Any activity that comes under the broad heading of 'regeneration' may be eligible in principle. Below is a list of some examples of the types of activities that Stockwell United can fund.

- Developing effective capacity with the community – support for community and voluntary sector organisations providing training and advice; the creation of community networks and partnerships; support for feasibility and research studies in the area.
- Developing community hubs - refurbishment of run down community premises; development of new community premises; improved access for the disabled: associated landscaping and environmental works.
- Developing an inclusive community - activities that help to breakdown cultural and linguistic barriers to employment; the promotion of cultural experience and learning; support for multi media and ICT innovation that address exclusion; support for minority ethnic networks; support for people with disabilities; promotion of intergenerational and intercultural activities.
- Developing a greener and sustainable neighbourhood - activities that increase or improve public or pedestrian space; promotion of the 'greening' of Stockwell; improvements to existing open green areas and parks; activities that reduce crime; promotion of healthier and environmentally aware lifestyles.

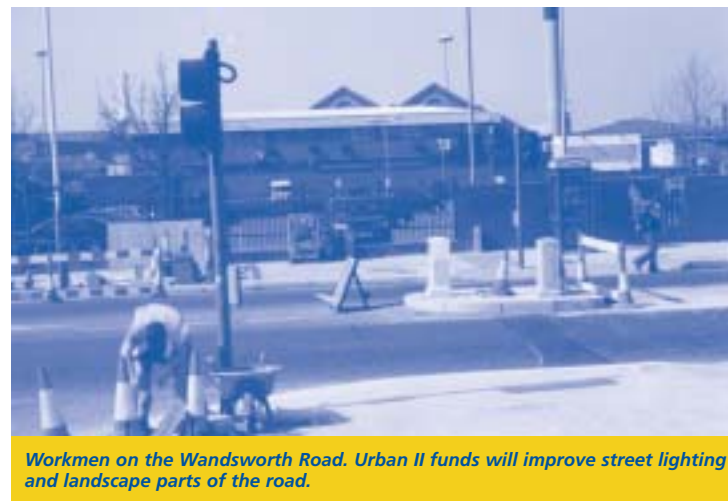
- Supporting local enterprise - support for business start-ups and existing enterprises; assistance with business plans and marketing strategies; activities that encourage job creation.
- Supporting employability - support for the provision of advice, learning, mentoring and ICT training to assist in accessing employment.

And what can Stockwell United not fund?

- Activities that are a statutory obligation
- Activities of a political nature
- Activities that promote religious beliefs or that exclude people on religious grounds
- Activities of a commercial nature
- Housing development
- Any activity outside Larkhall and Stockwell wards (except on those estates that are part of West and North Stockwell housing neighbourhoods).



External refurbishment of the South Lambeth Tate Library could be on the cards thanks to Urban II funding.



Workmen on the Wandsworth Road. Urban II funds will improve street lighting and landscape parts of the road.



A former car park on Springfield estate is set to become a new health and community centre. Stockwell United has supported the project's development.



ERDF Urban II funds enabled the Thessaly Community Project to commence construction of their community centre.



The popular Oasis projects can extend their opening hours following their Urban funding.

STARS
across
Stockwell!

All groups in receipt of Urban II funding must clearly acknowledge the grant they have received from the European Union. So as more projects get going, we shall be seeing the European "Stars" logo across the Stockwell neighbourhood. Urban II funding is providing financial support to this year's Stockwell Urban Festival in Larkhall Park on 21 June. Expect to see the park festooned with EU stars!

Support for smaller groups... a grant's fund

Stockwell has a thriving voluntary and community sector and it is hoped that many local groups will access Urban II funding. However, there is a strict requirement that all projects seeking funding from Urban must provide 50% of the project match funding from another source.

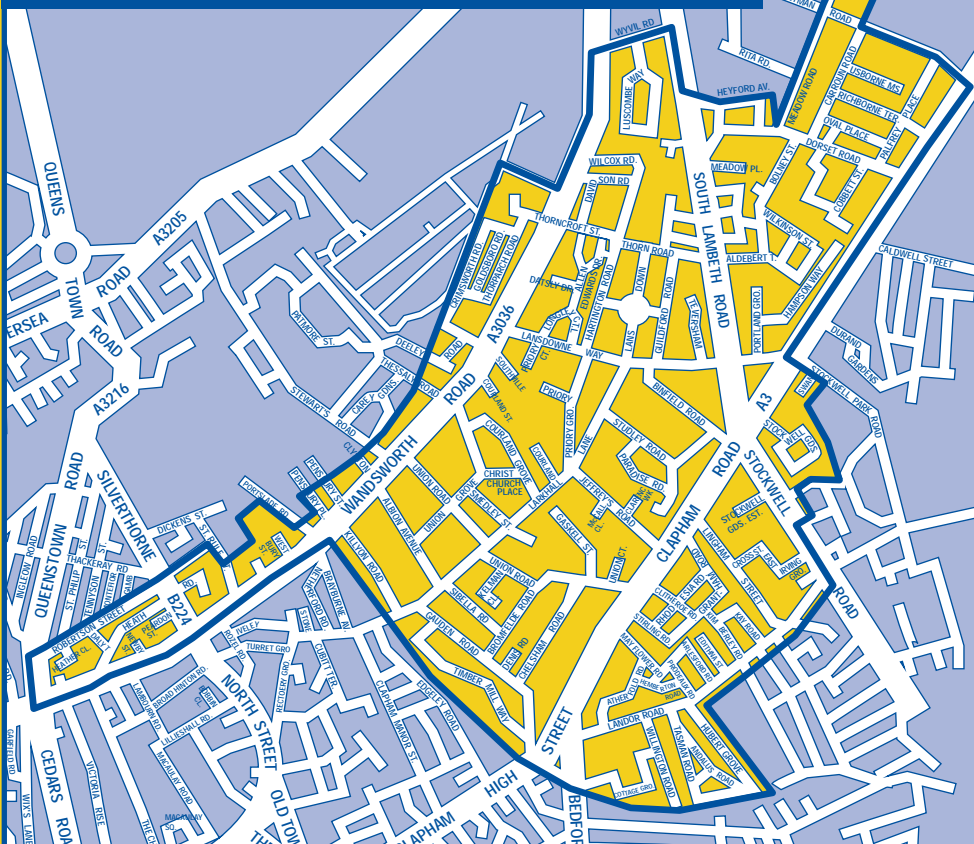
Concerned that this may penalise smaller groups, the Urban II team have been working with Connecting Stockwell SRB to establish a framework for extending the existing SRB-funded Stockwell Community Grants Fund. The SRB programme finishes in March 2004 but if all goes to plan, Urban II funds will continue to provide a small grants programme – with no match funding requirement - until 2006.

Bidding for funds

Bidding for ERDF funding is quite complicated and your organisation will need to have experience of managing funding in the past. The first bidding round closed on 30th May 2003 and round 2 will be opened in September 2003. In the meantime contact Claire Geary or George Wright (details below right) if you would like to submit an Expression of Interest for your project.

If you would like this newsletter in large print, on audio tape or another language, please contact the Stockwell Partnership on 7793 7730.

Map showing the Stockwell United Urban II area.



Who's who with Urban II

Lambeth Council:

At a local level, Lambeth Council have overall responsibility for Urban II. Council staff manage the programme and provide support for organisations wishing to apply for funding.

Stockwell Partnership:

The Stockwell Partnership is a registered charity and the community forum for the Stockwell neighbourhood. They are Lambeth's partner in the Urban programme and have the important role of ensuring that the local community has the opportunity to decide the priorities for how the Urban money is spent.

In the near future, two full time members of staff will be employed who will be solely dedicated to programme. A Programme Coordinator will be employed by the Council to manage the programme and a Theme Group Coordinator will be employed by the Stockwell Partnership to encourage community involvement in the programme via Theme Groups.

In the meantime, if you want more information on the "Stockwell United" Urban II Community Initiative or wish to go on the Stockwell Partnership mailing list, contact George Wright on 7793 7730 george@stockwell.org.uk or Claire Geary on 7926 1048 cgeary@lambeth.gov.uk.