See below further information and guidance about the Sutton STEAMs Ahead 2023 programme.

**Sutton STEAMs Ahead Fund Guidance**

**Overview**

We are looking for artists, creatives and technicians to work with the London Borough of Sutton’s Sutton STEAMs Ahead Programme funded by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF).

To support the delivery of Sutton STEAMs Ahead, the council is offering one-off commissions to creatives in Sutton including those who have a strong link to Sutton.

* The funding supports a variety of community-focused projects that deliver the outcomes for the Sutton STEAMs Ahead programme.
* We aim to ensure local artists are showcased as well as promoting science-related activity amongst all generations of residents within, and visitors to, the borough.
* This funding will support the creative arts and arts community by working with local artists/creatives in order to further develop a solid and resilient grassroots Sutton arts scene.
* We aim to support artists/creatives to inspire residents to get involved and share new cultural experiences.

**Sutton STEAMs Ahead**

In 2019 the London Borough of Sutton was awarded a Cultural Impact Award as part of the Mayor’s ambition to put culture at the heart of local communities. In 2023 the Cultural Impact Award will deliver an ambitious programme, **Sutton STEAMs Ahead (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths)**, uniquely blending arts and science.

**National Lottery Heritage Funding**

Additional funding secured from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) will deliver an associated programme of activities, events and workshops with a science link, using the history of the borough to bring communities together, embedding heritage and culture into resident’s everyday lives.

**Commissions**

1. **Creative Film and Sutton STEAMs Ahead Launch**

The Film is a creative interpretation of the research into cancer treatment taking place at the London Cancer Hub in Sutton, and a unique opportunity for local communities to be part of an exciting creative experience. Members of the local community have been engaged as

participants in the film, taking part in choreographed scenes depicting cell-like movement across a variety of iconic Sutton landmarks, including Mayfield Lavender fields, Manor and Beddington Parks, the Benhill Estate and Sutton High Street. Using aerial filming, these abstract dance sequences are intercut with scenes of International Cancer Research scientists filmed at the ICR. The public premiere of the film will form part of the programme launch for the Sutton STEAMs Ahead year. The launch will take place on World Cancer Day, 4 February 2023. It will be held in the St Nicholas Centre with a variety of performances and interactive workshops.

| Commission: This film has been commissioned and created and will be released on World Cancer Day, 4 February 2023. Further details will be available via our social media channels and website.  |
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1. **Sutton STEAMs Ahead Education Programme: Primary Schools**

Sutton’s primary schools programme has been developed with primary and secondary school teachers and headteachers. Pupils will be invited to explore ‘Hidden Worlds’ of Sutton. In partnership with University College London (UCL), schools will be provided with lesson plans for KS1 and KS2 around geology, the built environment, and bioscience. For example as part of the geology lesson plan pupils will learn about how Sutton has been built from the earth up including fossils on our high street, and clay and chalk in our soil. Responding to the science, local artists will support this learning with unique creative lesson plans. This programme aims to increase the awareness of science and encourage school children to engage with STEAM subjects in education.

| Commission: We are commissioning creatives to develop and deliver artistic workshops for primary-school age children, inspired by STEM lessons. Artists/creatives will be supported by an educational specialist to develop their workshops into lesson plans for teachers to use with their year group. If funding allows, we will be offering some practical hand-on lessons to schools. |
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1. **Sutton STEAMs Ahead Education Programme: Secondary Schools**

‘Sutton STEAM Talks’ will invite professionals from STEAM industries to create ‘day in the life’ style films. The aim is to expand students' knowledge of unique STEAM careers, for example finding alternative careers in medicine such as radiographers, anaesthetists or cardiac sonographers; and showcasing the diversity of careers available in the creative industries, such as asset designers and gaming. The films will create a resource that can be shared with schools and promoted at careers events. This will link into the STEAM Fair.

| Commission:The work for the Schools STEAM Programme: Secondary Schools does not require to be commissioned. If you are working in a STEAM career, please contact us marking your email ‘Secondary school talks’.  |
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1. **STEAM Fair**

The STEAM Fair, in partnership with [Successful Sutton BID](https://enjoysutton.co.uk/), builds on an established annual STEM event. This year is unique as it is being led by sixth formers from across the borough who will shape and plan the Fair, to be delivered in schools and on the High Street. These students will connect with inspiring role models and have the opportunity to get hands-on with experiments and activities, all of which will give Sutton’s secondary school children a real understanding of careers in STEAM fields.

| Commission: A group of sixth form students are leading on developing and commissioning for the STEAM Fair. They will take a lead on securing exhibitors, stall holders, creatives, scientists, mathematicians, engineers and technicians – all the areas of STEAM – to deliver a STEAM Fair. If you are a sixth form student in a Sutton school/college and want to be part of the group leading this programme, please contact us, marking your email ‘STEAM Fair’.  |
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1. **‘Light and Dark’ Cultural Event**

Building on the annual Diwali event which takes place in the borough, local community groups from diverse backgrounds are being commissioned to create an event based on the theme ‘Light and Dark’ celebrating the link between science, culture and art. The event will bring diverse communities together recognising the importance of intersectionality.

| Commission: The Light and Dark Festival will be run by local community groups who will commission relevant professionals including artists, creatives and technicians. If you or your community group in Sutton would like to be involved in this event please contact us, marking your email ‘Light and Dark Festival’.  |
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1. **Artistic Legacy**

The artistic legacy is an opportunity for STEAM themed legacy artistic pieces (in any medium) to be created and exhibited in Sutton. The programme aims to change the way art can be commissioned, refocusing on finding value in developing artistic practice and creative freedom. Artist residencies will be provided where artists will be commissioned to explore the STEAM theme while developing their own practice. The goal will be to provide an exhibition that showcases an artist's creative journey.

| Commission: Artist residences are being commissioned and the details will be circulated via our social media and website.  |
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1. **Community Activities**

To run alongside the five key events, a programme of smaller community engagement events and activities will be developed across the borough. An associated programme of activities and workshops with a science link that uses the history of the borough will be delivered. The council will work with local artists/creatives to inspire residents to get involved and share new cultural experiences.

**7.1.a Shed Loads of Happiness**

Sutton residents are invited to collect and curate what makes them happy about where they live, in pop-up sheds located in accessible locations across the borough.

| Commission: Local community groups will be commissioned to deliver :* Contemporary heritage exhibitions and displays
* Pop up heritage storytelling
* Pop up heritage poetry/performance
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**7.1.b Stories from the Shed***Stories from the Shed* will run alongside the *Shed Loads of Happiness* exhibition during Summer 2023, and will take place at the two static shed venues mentioned above (Whitehall Historic House and Little Holland House). The council will work with local artists/creatives to inspire residents to get involved and share new cultural experiences.

| Commission: Local creatives and or community groups will be commissioned to deliver:* Pop up heritage storytelling
* Pop up heritage poetry/performance
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**7.3 Lavender Fields Forever**

The growing of lavender, mint and other herbs was a significant industry in Sutton in the second half of the 18th century. This unique heritage inspires activities including talks and heritage walks; lavender distillation workshops; ‘Smells and Feelings’ travelling exhibition and the creation of a heritage focused film co-produced by residents and made freely available to schools and community groups.

| Commission to:* Design and deliver Lavender Distillation workshops
* Design and deliver heritage activities across a number of venues including storytelling
* Speaker/storyteller for a heritage themed walks
* Facilitate and design a ‘Smells and Feelings’ travelling exhibition to deliver pop up sessions in schools, care homes and other identified venues
* Filmmaker to deliver a heritage film looking at the local lavender industry and making connections with aromatic plants and diverse cultures
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**7.4 Then, Now, Next**

This builds on the Council’s ‘[Past on Glass](https://pastonglass.wordpress.com/)’ collections (captured by David Knights-Whittome from 1904-18). The images from this collection have been used in the films ‘1917’ and ‘Mrs Harris Goes to Paris’. Residents will have the opportunity to learn more about this renowned collection, through commissions for projections or similar innovative responses in non-traditional spaces across the borough, sharing the images and stories from the glass negative collection. This will include working with Heritage Officers to shine a light on local figures of significance, such as Margaret Bell, the first woman to serve on Sutton Council, Sutton-based Belgian refugees during World War One, in addition to famous Sutton residents such as Pauline Boty – the only female painter in the British Pop Art movement.

| Commission will include:* Local creative/educator to deliver photography classes
* Creative to design and deliver local heritage inspired image based project
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**Criteria**

Consideration will be given to how projects make a positive impact on art, science and culture and on local residents. Applicants should make reference to how their project will support people within communities, including school children, uniquely blending arts and science. They should also demonstrate why they are best placed to deliver the programme outlined in the relevant Brief in the application form.

**Who can apply?**

* Creatives/Artists who have a strong connection with Sutton, preferably currently
* You must be aged 18 or over

**How much can I apply for?**

Each Brief will outline the amount of money being offered for the commission and this could be any amount from £100 to a maximum of £50,000. The amount offered for each Brief is based on guidance from the [Artists Union England’s Rates of Pay Guidelines](https://www.artistsunionengland.org.uk/rates-of-pay/). We follow the council’s rules on procurement processes and awarding contracts set out in the [Contract Standing Orders](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1205KUjCCBg9yKBZx49MlmroQk27jFfMHsy3ZyXF_Pcg/edit?usp=sharing) that form part of the council’s constitution.

The amount awarded will be a one-off amount to help set-up, design and deliver a project for identified groups, which may include a range of communities or residents in Sutton.

Projects must demonstrate an awareness of the [London Borough of Sutton’s Environmental Strategy](https://www.sutton.gov.uk/documents/20124/454993/Environment_Strategy_2020.pdf/44a51ff0-5903-6896-0fb5-057d43054b77).

Ongoing funding will **not** be provided. Contractors will be issued with contracts which outline the terms and conditions and funding arrangements including reporting and evaluation.

**What do we fund?**

Projects that blend art, culture and science and meet the needs of the Briefs provided.

The Sutton STEAMs Ahead Fund can for example provide: staff, venue and event costs; appropriate materials and equipment; and publicity (both paper and digital). We can fund the overheads needed to support the project you are applying for. However, you must be able to demonstrate how the project will blend art, culture and science and deliver the Brief. If you are providing classes/activities or equipment/materials for a project, the Sutton STEAMs Ahead Fund expects applicants to demonstrate educational outcomes.

**What we won’t fund**

* Projects where a statutory agency would normally be expected to cover the costs.
* Projects whose primary purpose is not to blend art, culture and science.
* A ‘shortfall’ in funding from a statutory agency.
* Services which schools could be expected to pay for.
* Projects which have not demonstrated a clear local need for what they are proposing.
* Political parties, lobbying and campaigning.
* The promotion of religion.
* One-off events, e.g. day trips/outings, party celebrations.
* Food and refreshments.
* New projects where, in the view of the panel, there is already adequate provision.
* Creatives/Artists that do not have any established links with Sutton or are not based in Sutton.
* Existing projects.

**How to apply**

Please use the Sutton STEAMs Ahead Grant Application Form.

**Decisions**

* Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within two weeks of submission.
* The panel may ask for further information before making a decision.
* The decision of the panel is final and there is no appeal process.
* Deadlines will be set for each part of the Sutton STEAMs Ahead programme including community activities. These will be communicated via the website, Sutton Cultural Scene, Sutton Scene, Facebook and the council’s social media channels.
* Once the funding pot has been distributed, we will no longer accept further applications.

**Rejection of Applications**

The Council reserves the right to decline any applications. Reasons for this may include, but are not limited to the following:

* You cannot demonstrate how you are best placed to deliver the project.
* You cannot demonstrate how your project will blend art, culture and science meeting the needs of the Brief.
* We have issued all available funding.
* You have not demonstrated a strong link to Sutton (personal or professional).

If you have any questions or need any further information please visit our website or email us.

Want to find out about future events? Sign up to our [newsletter here](http://eepurl.com/gALgZD)!

And follow us on:

Facebook [@SuttonLibrariesLondon](https://www.facebook.com/suttonlibrarieslondon)

Twitter [@SuttonLibraries](https://twitter.com/SuttonLibraries)

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