



## Immediate Release

### **St George's Estate in Shadwell Gets 20 New Trees**

Community greening project creates a leafier, peaceful and more natural outdoor environment

On Saturday 23 April 'Trees for Cities' will plant 20 trees around the St George's Estate in Shadwell to create an interesting and natural communal green space for residents to relax, play and socialise in.

A community led event where residents will be getting involved by helping with planting and will also have the opportunity to develop horticultural skills and knowledge around tree planting and tree care.

Trees for Cities has been working in partnership with Housing Association EastendHomes and residents at St George's Estate in Tower Hamlets since 2012. Feedback from residents has been hugely positive, with a high attendance during planting days. Following this early success, the residents were keen to continue improving their living environment and so inspired the planting of 20 new trees.

#### **Paul Wilson, Community Engagement Manager Eastend Homes, said**

"Our partnership with Trees for London has been a great success. Their horticultural expertise combined with our resident's passion is transforming unused areas of St George's Estate, improving residents well being now and for future generations."

**David Elliott, Chief Executive of Trees for Cities, said** "Trees for Cities' work is as much about people as it is about trees. Our vision 23 years ago of working with communities to transform the urban environment still underpins everything that we do. The residents on St George's Estate have a real passion for improving their communal green spaces. Their local knowledge and willingness to get involved in the project from the initial design, the planting and on-going tree maintenance, is fantastic".

This project has been kindly supported by the Evening Standard Dispossessed Fund (a grant from the "The Estate We're in Initiative") managed by the London Community Foundation, and the Tower Hill Trust.

#### **Notes to Editors - Media Contacts:**

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**Trees for Cities** is the only independent charity working on a global scale focussed entirely on planting urban trees, inspiring children to grow and eat good food and providing volunteering opportunities to bring local people together. Since our inception, we have engaged over 70,000 people to plant 575,000 trees focusing on health, food security, environmental protection, and providing opportunities for education and learning through our Edible Playground and Urban Forest programmes. Our vision to plant trees in cities is global. However, we know the importance of a local focus – we empower and work with local people to strengthen their community. . ([www.treesforcities.org](http://www.treesforcities.org))

#### **EastendHomes [www.eastendhomes.co.uk](http://www.eastendhomes.co.uk)**

Eastend Homes is a community led, Registered Provider of Social Housing based in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Its mission is to provide a local housing service which is efficient, gives value for money and



meet the needs, priorities and aspirations of all residents.”

**The Evening Standard Dispossessed Fund** was set up in 2010 to help grassroots charities tackling poverty, inequality and exclusion across the capital.

Since its launch in 2010, the Dispossessed Fund has raised £16 million from the general public, business, Government, Comic Relief and the Big Lottery. This is the most money ever raised by a newspaper campaign outside of war or natural disaster. So far the fund has distributed over £10 million in 1,018 grants, helping more than 130,000 people across the capital.

This year’s theme for the Fund was The Estate We’re In initiative. More than 125 deprived housing estates in London will benefit from the £1 million-plus grants programme.

96 grassroots groups tackling social exclusion on estates across the capital were awarded funding. The array of projects funded is wonderfully diverse and comprises 85 groups in 23 boroughs as part of our pan-London rollout, and 11 new groups on Angell Town, Brixton.

**Tower Hill Trust** - [www.towerhilltrust.org.uk/](http://www.towerhilltrust.org.uk/) is an independent charitable trust. The Trust was set up in 1934 to improve the area around Tower Hill, London. The provision of gardens and open public spaces remains a primary purpose to this day, however new funding priorities are in place and the area of benefit now includes the whole of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The Trust is a registered Charity: Registered Charity number 206225



**THE DISPOSSESSED**

