

Click [here](#) if you are having trouble viewing this message.



For immediate release: 10:00 Monday 17 April 2023

LONDON MARATHON FOUNDATION REACHES £100 MILLION FUNDING MILESTONE

- **London Marathon Foundation reaches funding landmark as final countdown to 2023 TCS London Marathon begins**
- **£100 million has been awarded to more than 1,600 projects across the UK since 1981**
- **London Marathon Foundation funds projects that Inspire Activity**
- **2023 TCS London Marathon takes place on Sunday 23 April**

The London Marathon Foundation today (Monday 17 April) announced it has reached the significant landmark of £100 million awarded to projects that inspire activity across the UK. The “monumental” milestone comes just six days before the 2023 TCS London Marathon, the 43rd edition of the world’s most popular marathon, on Sunday (23 April).

The charity was created in 1981, just before the first London Marathon, by Chris Brasher and John Disley, the co-founders of the London Marathon. The London Marathon Foundation (previously known as the London Marathon Charitable Trust) currently focuses on funding projects that create opportunities for more children, young people, marginalised groups and communities to lead active and healthy lives.

The £100 million of funding since 1981 includes the following:

- 51 playing fields across the UK protected from development in perpetuity
- £7 million towards London 2012 Olympic legacy projects, including funding [the London Marathon Community Track](#) in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

- Founding the [Go! London Fund](#) – the biggest community sports fund in London aiming to change the lives of young people through physical activity – in partnership with the Mayor of London and Sport England which launched in March 2023
- More than £4 million to play projects, including the 2018 refurbishment of the [Greenwich Park Playground](#), near the TCS London Marathon’s famous Start Line
- Funding the innovation of the Poolpod, which provides disabled people with safe and dignified access to swimming pools, and its installation in 20 pools across the UK
- Funding a huge range of projects across communities in all 32 London Boroughs and the City of London
- Supporting more than 20 large-scale projects across the UK, including:
 - £1 million partnership with [Transport for Greater Manchester](#) to get 10,000 more people walking and cycling
 - £1 million partnership with the [Alliance of Sport](#) to use the power of sport to improve the health and life outcomes of 11,000 children from ethnically diverse communities more likely to be involved in the Youth Justice System
 - £1 million partnership with [Activity Alliance](#) to create inclusive sessions where disabled and non-disabled people can be active together

The London Marathon Foundation is the sole shareholder and parent charity of London Marathon Events (LME), the organisers of the world-famous TCS London Marathon, Ford RideLondon, the world’s greatest festival of cycling, The Big Half, the Vitality Westminster Mile and Vitality London 10,000, the Standard Chartered Great City Race and Swim Serpentine. Every year, after costs, the surplus made by LME is passed through corporate Gift Aid to the Foundation.

Catherine Anderson, Executive Director of the London Marathon Foundation, said: “Our founders Chris Brasher and John Disley were renowned for their visionary thinking and determination to inspire more people to get active. Everyone at the London Marathon Foundation and London Marathon Events is incredibly proud of this landmark moment.

“The £100 million funding has reached millions of people in London and across the UK who’ve been able to take part in sports and physical activities through projects we’ve supported. Over the past four decades, we’ve helped people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds - from family afternoons in a playground to dance classes for people with Parkinson’s Disease - lead active and healthy lives.

“We’re excited about the future and directing our funding to where it’s most needed by supporting impactful, innovative projects that will make physical activity accessible to everyone.”

Sir Rodney Walker, Chair of the London Marathon Foundation, said: “We’re hugely grateful to everyone at London Marathon Events for all their work which has enabled the London Marathon Foundation to reach this monumental milestone.

“We’re very proud of what we’ve achieved with the £100 million we’ve awarded to date and we will continue to champion new initiatives supporting participation and diversity in sports and physical activity for communities needing the most help to be active.”

Nick Bitel, CEO of London Marathon Events, said: “Chris and John’s legacy is extraordinary and I don’t think they ever imagined that the event they created back in 1981 would have gone on to inspire so many millions to get active, sowed the seeds for our current portfolio of events and enabled the London Marathon Foundation to make grants totalling £100 million and counting. As always, we will be thinking of our founders on Marathon Day next Sunday.”

Earlier this month, the Foundation announced more than £2.4 million had been awarded to 81 projects through its new Active Spaces Fund. This funding supports a wide range of projects and activities across London, from environmentally friendly ‘plogging’ (combining jogging and litter picking) to playground improvements, and took the total amount awarded since 1981 over the £100 million mark.

Read more about the work of the London Marathon Foundation [here](#).

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Interview opportunities with Catherine Anderson, London Marathon Foundation’s Executive Director, are available throughout the week.

About London Marathon Foundation

- London Marathon Foundation’s mission is to fund initiatives that inspire, encourage and champion participation and diversity in sports and physical activity.
- Since its founding in 1981, London Marathon Foundation has awarded more than £100 million to more than 1,600 projects in London and across the UK, that help more people to lead active and healthy lives.
- London Marathon Foundation is the parent charity of London Marathon Events (LME), organisers of world leading mass participation sporting events, including the TCS London Marathon taking place this Sunday 23 April. Every year, after costs, the surplus generated by LME is passed as corporate Gift Aid to London Marathon Foundation.

About London Marathon Events

London Marathon Events (LME) organises a series of mass participation events for more than 200,000 participants every year and an extensive programme of activity with schools, children and community groups across the UK. Its portfolio of world-class events includes the world’s biggest marathon and the world’s greatest festival of cycling. The mass participation events are:

- **Brighton Marathon**
- **TCS London Marathon and TCS Mini London Marathon**
- **Ford RideLondon**
- **Standard Chartered Great City Race**
- **The Big Half, New Balance Big Relay and The Big Mile**
- **Vitality Westminster Mile**
- **Vitality London 10,000**
- **Swim Serpentine**

The London Marathon is the world’s biggest annual one-day fundraising event and has now raised more than £1.1 billion for thousands of charities.

For further information, please contact:

Amy Cruse | Communications & Engagement Manager | London Marathon Foundation
e Amy.Cruse@londonmarathonfoundation.org |



London Marathon Foundation is the operating name of The London Marathon Charitable Trust, a registered charity number 283813, and a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales, number 01550741; Registered Office: 190 Great Dover Street, London, SE1 4YB.

[Click here to unsubscribe or to change your Subscription Preferences.](#)