

Name of your Organisation:	Environmental Law Foundation (ELF)
Name of the project TFN funded:	Developing core work
Date Funded by TFN:	09/12/2020
Were you able to undertake your project as planned?	Yes
If no, please outline how the project has changed.	
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	The TFN funding enabled us to continue with two paralegals for longer than 6 months. Additionally, we have been able to support a former paralegal to continue to assist with comms work for a few hours per week. Our most recent paralegal vacancy was publicised via our Young ELF university network, and we were inundated with around 100 applications. We are now working with 15 universities and there is a particular interest in policy clinics. These provide opportunities for longer term empirical research. We ran two projects last year (on Climate Emergency Declarations (CEDs) and Neighbourhood Planning) and have three this year. The CED project involved 8 universities, researching different regions of the UK and providing ELF with regional reports. ELF then published a national overview report immediately prior to COP26. Officer time involved in co-ordinating the project and producing the report was more than anticipated. However, research on such a scale would not have been possible without the assistance of the university network Covid-19 restrictions limited our ability to provide public outreach events. However, we were able to deliver online webinars aimed at the Young ELF audience. Following discussions with a social justice charity working with young people we planned to deliver a workshop as part of their training programme but unfortunately this was cancelled. We had some helpful discussions with a university regarding Streetlaw presentations which demonstrated that this will require a lot of preparation and so further work is required to develop this aspect of the Young ELF programme. However, we have been able to add recordings of some ELF webinars to the resources page on our website. We were able to progress a three-year strategy with accompanying annual operational plan. We have continued to seek further grant funding support and had some positive funding discussions with funders regarding plans to further develop our paralegal capacity to

	be able to offer full time roles although the primary funding application for this was unsuccessful.
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	30% (of core work)
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	Five - two officers, two paralegals, one comms assistant
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	ELF receives over 300 enquiries per year and behind each enquiry there is a community. We estimate that ELF reaches indirectly tens of thousands of individuals every year.
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	Yes
If yes, how much were you able to raise?	We were delighted that the Tudor Trust who had provided us with unrestricted funding over three years have extended their funding for a further three years on the strength of the work we are doing.
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	No
If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?	
Has the training you received from TFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?	Yes
Has TFN increased your capacity to raise further funds?	Yes
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We would have found it difficult to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	Our finance admin assistant moved to another organisation. The role has not yet been replaced as other funding applications have been unsuccessful, requiring the current executive team to hold additional responsibilities.

Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	Just to say many many thanks to TFN for the opportunity.
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	ELF has so many stories but to pick out a few. 1. Better Streets for Kensington and Chelsea. ELF has been working with the group on their challenge to the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's decision to remove a segregated cycle lane down Kensington High Street. After extensive consultation and the use of over £300k in public funds, the cycle lane was taken out after only 6 weeks. The group have sought to challenge two decisions. The first to remove the lane was pre-determined. When ELF pointed this out a new decision was taken in March 2021 to research the position. We are challenging this latest decision and have been granted permission by the court to proceed, lack of consultation being one of the grounds. See here. 2. ELF has been working with the Woodcock Hill Village Green Committee for over a year and is now heavily involved with a Public Inquiry on their behalf. ELF is instructing Counsel for the community. The Public Inquiry relates to an application by Taylor Wimpy (TW) to de-register a large portion of the Woodcock Hill Village Green. It was registered as a Village Green in 2008, the original application having been made in 2004. It is an idiosyncratic area of the law and a de-registration application unusual. In the long term TW want to build houses on this site. TW have to demonstrate that the replacement land that they are proposing instead of Woodcock Hill VG is at least as good if not better. The community have loved, treasured and maintained this wild Local Wildlife Site for years and now face the real prospect of losing it. It is a typical ELF, David and Goliath case. We say the replacement land is in no way comparable to what will be lost to the community. We have also pioneered working with a team of law students at City University, one of our university clinic members, on this matter. Working with the barrister, they were set the task of scrutinising the applicant's expert's evidence and producing a document. It was a great experience for the students to work on a case such as this under the supervision of a barrister. There is more about the case on ELF's website here. 3. Assisting a local group to obtain environmental information (ecology reports) which had not been made publicly available and when we made a request under the Environmental Information Regulations, it was denied them. We have been working with Sussex University, another of our university clinic members. We were

	pleased to learn last week that the ecology reports have now been disclosed.
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