

Business Action Groups for Schools

Autumn term report 2014



Jo Emmerson
Education Works
Programme Director

Dear Business Action Groups for Schools colleague

As ELBA's new Education Works Programme Director, I would like to welcome you to the latest edition of the Business Action Groups for Schools (BAGS) End of Term Report.

This term the team has been delivering a variety of activity across the schools and businesses with which we work. It has been particularly interesting to see the range of cross school programme activity that has taken place, highlights of which are detailed within the report.

The opportunity to bring established and new BAG members together for our inaugural training event was invaluable for all attendees. The evening was spent sharing best practice and networking. Thank you to everyone who attended and to HSBC for hosting.

BAGS this Autumn:
5,799 beneficiaries
174 activities
1,143 volunteers
in 14 schools

We welcomed NewVic to the BAGS programme. NewVic has had a long term relationship with ELBA through our Community Works programme and has recently joined BAGS for support in strengthening engagement with employers.

We are looking forward to working with the L&Q Foundation which has joined KPMG as one of the key sponsors of the BAGS programme. With their support we are now looking to expand the programme to reach more schools through 2015 and beyond.

I know this is an exciting time to be joining ELBA, leading a committed and enthusiastic Education Works team. The BAGS programme, with the support of our members, schools and funders has real potential to grow, particularly within the strands of leadership, strategic and institutional support. I look forward to meeting some of you over the coming months.

Thank you for your continued support.

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Students set their goals during Chaucer Challenge workshops

Following on from the workshop in July, The Chaucer Foundation decided to build upon their work with the students and returned to The Royal Docks Community School to run a programme of three further workshops throughout the autumn term. 21 students with varying difficulties participated in three sessions across the programme to help develop their teamwork, confidence, communication and leadership skills. Through a mix of physical challenges and classroom based activities, students were asked to set realistic short term goals and career aspirations working with Chaucer volunteers to come up with action points on how to achieve these goals.

Students were also given the opportunity to work with some of the junior student ambassadors. The junior ambassadors were able to work alongside and gain an understanding of students they may not necessarily meet within the mainstream education environment. Overall, 33 students worked with 26 Chaucer volunteers across the 4 sessions, including Bob Stuchbery, Chaucer's CEO.

Andy Barrow, former Paralympic Wheelchair Rugby Captain, who developed and led the sessions, said "it's been extremely rewarding to see how the students have progressed through these sessions and the enthusiasm of the Chaucer volunteers has been crucial to that. It's clear that the students are thriving as a result of the encouragement that they are receiving, but make no mistake, it's the hard work of the students that's seen them come so far. I'm so pleased that ELBA has given Chaucer the opportunity to make such a difference to this group of young people and I hope that this is just the beginning of this partnership."



NCS students switch on their business brains for KPMG Career Insight Day

On 22nd October students from Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre (NCS) visited KPMG for a career insight visit, and spent the day with the audit team. Students learnt about the skills and personal qualities valued at the company. They heard from volunteers about how they started their careers at KPMG to help them understand what type of individuals are employed there. Students then worked on an activity where they had to analyse the financial strength of a company's growth, profit, sales, characterising strengths and weaknesses and present back their findings. This activity enabled students to understand the type of work they could be doing if they worked for KPMG, and put into practice some of the key skills valued by the organisation.

Nadia Lamaina a student who attended the visit felt it enabled her to understand the inner workings of "a world leading company, at the top of the financial sector. The visit gave us an insight into the world of accounting, equity and consulting. I had a wonderful experience which put me in the shoes of a professional working in finance". Asfia Malik, Geography Teacher and Enrichment Coordinator at NCS, said "Everyone was impressed with the calibre of students, their ability to interact well in a professional environment and the excellent delivery of presentations. This is a fantastic achievement and the feedback received from KPMG was extremely positive. It is clear to see that this experience has helped raise the aspirations of our students at the NCS and future students to come."

Deutsche Bank Associate Interns train Rokeby Prefects

At the end of last term, volunteers from Deutsche Bank delivered a training session for a group of junior and senior prefects from Rokeby School, to help them identify their leadership styles and give them tips on communication and negotiation. The workshop was focused around the skills of a good leader, types of leader and strengthening their teamwork skills. The activity formed part of Deutsche Bank's Associate Intern training programme to help them develop their own communication and presentation skills. As leaders within their school, the students were chosen for the training to help them within their roles, particularly for communicating with other students.

Norlington Students Prepare for Work

This year Norlington School for Boys has embarked on a “Work Preparation Programme” for its Year 10 students, to help them develop skills that prepare them for working life.

For the first session, students were invited to Accenture, Barclays, Citi and KPMG for a teamwork and leadership skill development session. The visits also exposed the students to the world of work and professional role models.

For the second session, a group of students were invited to Deutsche Bank to look at time and project management through an activity involving creating a football tournament to time and budget, whilst the rest of the students took part in a “Your Shop Window” session, identifying personal brand and skills, the building blocks of a good CV and how to make a good first impression.

The boys will be taking part in a further three sessions throughout the rest of the academic year, delving into topics such as workplace etiquette, challenging scenarios and interview skills.



Lister's University and Employment Insight Day

241 Year 10 students at Lister Community School experienced a University and Employment Insight Day which was designed to give students an insight into apprenticeships, school leaver programmes, training and development volunteer opportunities for young people, how to apply to university and what university life is like. Volunteers from KPMG's STAR school leaver programme gave students a remarkable insight into different education and training routes post 16, and the University of Greenwich and the University of East London informed students about university life, how to select subjects at university, the UCAS process and financing the cost of university. Volunteers from ELBA and young people on apprenticeships also helped students understand what apprenticeships are, the

diversity within apprenticeships, how to apply for one and the experience of being on one. Senior Student Tefla Mohamed felt that the day informed her about “Lots of opportunities out there post secondary school that I didn't know about. The different sessions on university and employment has really helped me to think more about my future.”

Buxton student leaders shine at TIAA Henderson Christmas Conference

26 Buxton School student leaders from Year 10 and 11 excelled in an exciting yet challenging opportunity as they took part in TIAA Henderson's Christmas Seminar. The conference brought together 250 TIAA Henderson employees from around the world, with each student facilitating a session for 10 employees. The aim of the session was to enable TIAA Henderson employees to think about what key employability skills are important for young people to develop, the skills and personal attributes valued at TIAA Henderson, how young people can decide on their future careers, and what ways do they think they can personally support a young person's journey into the world of work. In 30 minute micro volunteering sessions, students also got an opportunity to ask the employees questions, network and hear some important advice about their future career journeys and the world of work. Lydia Hopton, Sustainability Executive at TIAA Henderson said “The session was a roaring success with our staff and Executive Leadership Team. James Darkins, CEO of TIAA Henderson, even used the Head Boy Cameron's positive and enthusiastic outlook in his round up speech for the day so an impression had certainly been made!



Credit Suisse Women in Technology Insight Visit

20 students from Plashet School on 24th November were beneficiaries of a special career insight visit, designed to encourage young girls to consider careers in technology. The day consisted of a tour of Credit Suisse' Cabot Square office, where students viewed their impressive facilities, followed by an exciting trading game, a networking lunch and a shadowing session with technology graduates to gain an insight into the kind of work they could be doing in a few years' time. 24 volunteers from Credit Suisse took part in the day, with lead organiser Abigail Wright, Plashet School BAG representative and I.T Project Manager, keen to show the students the range of careers available in Technology, and how it is a viable career choice for women. Student feedback about the insight visit was overwhelmingly positive, comments on the day included “Enjoyed building tour, trading game, work shadowing & networking lunch” “gave me ideas for after graduation” and “amazing experience! Everyone was friendly and very welcoming.”

Young people

Autumn term highlights



Mentors and mentees reflect on peer mentoring programme

During the 2012/13 academic year students from University of East London (UEL); many of whom have been mentored by professionals as part of ELBA's Higher Education Mentoring Programme; were buddied up with Year 10 students from The Royal Docks Community School for a six week mentoring programme. Over the course of the programme, mentors talked to the students about their career aspirations and helped develop their confidence, covering sessions such as dealing with stress, time management and career ambitions. The students from The Royal Docks Community School met their mentors on a weekly basis, sharing their concerns about school and balancing exams and hobbies.

On September 30th UEL hosted an end of programme celebration event, where mentors and mentees were asked to give speeches about how the programme had benefitted them, before being presented with certificates.

One mentor, Aisha Bello, commented "I absolutely loved my experience on the peer mentoring scheme with The Royal Docks Community School. I love inspiring and encouraging students to be their best."

One of the mentees also said of the programme, "My mentor gave me tips on coping with stress and how to handle different situations. I learnt how to help myself to succeed but also to help others."

Financial Conduct Authority host first Goals and Aspirations Conference

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) recently hosted 25 students from Rokeby School and Willowfield Humanities College for the FCA's inaugural 'Goals and Aspirations' conference.

The conference was the culmination of a series of workshops, facilitated by employee volunteers, to help students think about their goals, define their aspirations and increase their confidence. It was opened by FCA Chairman, John Griffith-Jones, who spoke to the students about his own background and success, before opening up the floor for questions. The students then heard from FCA Enforcement team member Heather McLarnon before taking part in an activity to identify their own personality styles.



Students were then invited to give a presentation about role models within their community. Students from Rokeby talked passionately about a teacher who had been at their school for 100 terms. Willowfield students delivered a presentation about the determination of Fabrice Muamba after his near fatal heart attack.

Kay Oladele, lead volunteer from the FCA, said 'Our first Goals and Aspirations Conference was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone on the FCA team. Our team demonstrated a real commitment in getting to know young people in our local community and helping to make a difference in their lives. Understanding some of the challenges they face, in turn helps us to be better in our role as a consumer regulator. We hope that the workshops and conference have left a positive impact on the students.'

'World of Work Day' motivates Little Ilford School Year 10 Students

On 17th December, Little Ilford School held their first 'World of Work Day' for Year 10 students. 270 students learnt about CV and application writing, as well as interview skills through workshops created by Accenture's Teach First Network. 23 volunteers from Barclays, Thomson Reuters, KPMG and Citi delivered the sessions to groups of students, and after the workshops, students were able to practice what they learnt in the interview skills session, through mock interviews.

Black History Month Celebrations

Little Ilford school recently celebrated Black History Month with a mixture of high profile individuals, and professional role models contributing to motivational assemblies and creative workshops. The school explored the theme of “I am my own success” and employee volunteers from a range of ELBA member companies were able to inspire students to believe in, and work toward future successes, by sharing encouraging anecdotes from their lives.

Dean Howard, Project, Marketing and Communications Manager at Little Ilford School said “What made this year’s Black History Month celebrations so successful was the inclusion of volunteers in workshops and student lessons.” High profile volunteers from the world of radio Ruby Mulraine, co-founder of BBC iXtra, and Austin Daboh Radio Manager of BBC Radio iXtra were involved in Little Ilford’s newly formed ‘Careers School’, where they informed students about their careers in radio and worked with them on taster radio activities. In addition, volunteers from Deutsche Bank, Catlin, a former Facebook employee and an entrepreneur were able to motivate students to follow their passions through hard work and dedication, and provide an insight about their careers and challenges they have overcome.

Reservoir to Tap, Thames Water challenges students at Norlington School for Boys!

On November 12th employee volunteers from Thames Water challenged students from schools across Newham and Waltham Forest to an interactive Water Network challenge. Norlington School for Boys hosted the event with a total of 30 students attending from Buxton School and Little Ilford School.

With the support and guidance from the volunteers, the students were tasked to budget, design, build and commission a water supply network for a community, closely matching the real life phases of an engineering project. Teams concluded by testing their plans and building their water supply network, with a team from Little Ilford School judged the winners.



Liz Banks, Education Manager at Thames Water, said: “Our employee volunteers really enjoyed working with the students from Newham and Waltham Forest. It’s important for Thames Water as a business to support young people in developing their key skills and getting them ready for the workplace, and our event showed that there are certainly some captains of industry among the students we worked with! We’d like to thank the team from ELBA for organising the event and the teachers at Norlington School for Boys for hosting us, it was great fun!”

Citi and KPMG volunteers challenge Chobham Academy pupils to create their own enterprising business

On 6 November 2014, employee volunteers from Citi Private Bank, Citi Finance and KPMG helped to run a Space themed Enterprise Challenge at Chobham Academy. During the day, volunteers worked in teams with all 196 Year 7 students, competing to create a space product to meet the needs of their “planet”. The day started with introductions from Katherine Anderson, KPMG Forensic Risk Analyst and Marilou Calara, Citi Private Bank Managing Director, Global Investment Product Management, to give students an awareness of each company and some tips for the day ahead.

The employee volunteers from Citi and KPMG used their expertise to support teams with ideas and guidance, whilst role playing as banks and retailers to give students an opportunity to pitch and promote their business plans. The students pitched some imaginative product ideas ranging from crime watches and everlasting cookies to hover cars and space ports to provide travel solutions. At the end of the day students were given the chance to present their ideas and the volunteers served as judges to select the winning teams. The judges were really impressed with the confidence, creativity and negotiation skills displayed by students throughout the different parts of the challenge.



Marc Charles, Citi team leader, for the event, said ““It was a great experience, well worth doing. The day was very well run, and the students appeared to be genuinely engaged. Creating, commercialising and presenting a product, albeit an Alien Fast-food chain, or a Time-travel computer game, was a great opportunity for the students to shine.”



Cllr Mark Rusling

Labour and Co-operative Party Councillor for Hoe Street Ward,
London Borough of Waltham Forest

Describe your role at Waltham Forest Council

My role consists of two main areas – overseeing education for young people in Waltham Forest, and also overseeing the delivery of social services for children and young people.

What are the issues/obstacles that schools in Waltham Forest face?

Waltham Forest is in a similar situation to many of outer London boroughs - the cost of living is high but the opportunities of work for the local residents are in too short supply as many major employers are in central London. So the local community feels the pressures from living close to the centre of the capital but don't necessarily see the benefits in equal measure.

That's where organisations such as ELBA can help bring balance to the community, by bringing their business members to the doorstep of the local community groups and schools.

What is the current focus for Waltham Forest – Children and young people?

We can't support young people on our own, nor can the schools or families be expected to cope without support. Our main focus area is in collaboration. By joining up our resources and working together we can ensure a better level of support for young people.

Our goal for the young people of Waltham Forest is to ensure they are up skilled to a level on par with the rest of London. We want to make sure that they have access to the same opportunities as everyone else and have access to the same jobs not just locally but further a field also. But, to raise the skill level of the children within our schools alone is not enough, we want to put the opportunities in front of them. Some of the world's largest businesses are based just down the road in Canary Wharf. It's our responsibility to make sure the young people of Waltham Forest receive their fair share of the benefits those businesses bring.

How do you think ELBA's Business Action Group for Schools can help Waltham Forest schools?

What I like about ELBA is that they try to get people from London, but also where possible people who have grown up in the local boroughs, to come along and speak to the schools of east London. The students get to actually meet people with relatable backgrounds. In spending time with business executives who can explain the journey from school to workplace and the skills needed to get there, new opportunities can be introduced to these young people.

What was your favourite subject at school and what was your worst?

My favourite subjects were History and English Literature – the teachers were fantastic and I'm still in touch with them. They loved their subjects which you could tell as their passion for the topics would rub off on the students. My worst subject was CDT, I'm atrocious at making anything with my hands so I'm insanely jealous of anyone who can actually make something themselves!

Newham Sixth Form College (NewVIc) joins the Business Action Groups for Schools programme

NewVIc is London's largest sixth form college with over 2,600 students with over 700 of whom progress to university every year. Students are aged 16-19 and study a wide range of courses across A-levels and the full range of vocational programmes in most sectors. The college has links with over 400 employers and offers work placements to all vocational students and many A level students as well.

The work experience team maintain strong relationships with employers and students benefit greatly from employer input into careers events, project days, focused visits, mentoring and many other work-related initiatives. NewVIc Principal, Eddie Playfair, explains why the college has turned to ELBA for help with its employer engagement strategy;

"We've been working on promoting the greater involvement of various key groups in the development of the college, in particular: staff, students, parents, alumni and local residents. We have been very successful in developing an active and vibrant student council, parent council and staff council and these have brought new ideas and helped to challenge us to improve the college further. The more active these council are, the more people are prepared to get involved and this also feeds in to our governing body which has student, staff and parent representatives. In 2015, we would hope to bring representatives from all these councils together to help shape our long term thinking. We've asked ELBA to work with us on developing an employer council which will form ELBA's Business Action Group programme. It will draw on the expertise and commitment of significant employers in east London and encourage them to contribute to enhancing opportunities for our students as well as our staff. We want to help employers understand what is happening in the curriculum – particularly on vocational courses – and to give them opportunities to influence what we teach and how we prepare young people for professional careers. They might be able to offer an exciting career insight visit or sector study days for students or perhaps an industry updating placement for staff. We would also really value their insights on how to develop the wider entrepreneurship and employability skills which they value.

We chose ELBA because we have worked with them successfully over the years and they have the best employer contacts in east London and an unmatched expertise and track record of building the kind of employer-education relationships which produce practical projects and tangible benefits. We're certainly not looking to create something that is just a talking shop; it will be expected to lead to positive outcomes for our students."



Eddie Playfair, Principal, NewVIc



Citi Private Bank supports the development of employability skills and career direction of young people

Citi Private Bank with the support of senior management from the Private Bank, committed their fellow colleagues to a series of skills based volunteering opportunities in BAG schools throughout the Autumn Term.

The Citi Private Bank worked on 12 projects such as financial management, career insight visits, employability skills and leadership training. 118 numbers of employees were engaged at all levels of the business including Luigi Pigorini, EMEA CEO of the Private Bank. 873 student beneficiaries from Buxton School, Chobham Academy, Kingsford Community School, Lammas School, Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre, Norlington School and Sarah Bonnell School took part in the events throughout the term. Some events took place at Citi's headquarters in Canary Wharf and others were hosted at the schools, enabling students to gain an insight into working in Canary Wharf and also enabling volunteers to step back into the classroom and meet students in their own environment.

Sambamoorthy Nandakumar who sits on the Community Development Committee said that the projects provided Citi Private Bank Employees with an opportunity to "engage with the community in a meaningful way." He commented that feedback from the business volunteers was "overwhelmingly positive. Volunteers felt that it was an extremely satisfying and rewarding experience."

189 volunteers, 17 activities and 882 students over 31 days - Barclays Make a Difference Day Campaign

During October the Education Works team worked closely with the Barclays' Community Investment team to help facilitate and deliver a range of volunteer events as part of Barclays' 'Make A Difference' month. Make a Difference Day is an annual volunteering campaign encouraging Barclays' employees from across the globe to give their time and skills for the benefit of local communities. The programme of events demonstrated Barclays' commitment to change 5 Million Young Futures, as volunteers worked to enhance beneficiaries' employability skills.

The month started with Barclays hosting four ½ day employability workshops for 104 year 9 students from Willowfield Humanities College, a money skills workshop with year 8's from Kingsford Community School and a Women in the Workplace workshop for Sarah Bonnell year 10 students. Volunteer teams also visited Rokeby School, Norlington School for Boys and Buxton School to deliver money skills activities which gave students the chance to learn about budgeting and money management. Newham Collegiate Sixth form students benefitted from a soft skills development session, Lammas School focused on CV skills and Norlington School for Boys also had an interactive Enterprise Day for its year 8 students.



A Student Perspective – Betty Oware

Over 100 Year 11 students at Lammas School and Sports College recently took part in a Super Learning Day, aimed at helping prepare them for life after school, and supported by volunteers from ELBA member companies Citi and Barclays.

Betty Oware was one of the students who participated in the day and has written an article summing up her experience of the day:

"During super learning day, we went through a CV preparation course with help from a few guests from Citi and Barclays. We started the day by looking at what 'CV' actually stands for and it truly shocked me how none of us knew it stood for Curriculum Vitae! We went on to find out what a CV is and what it is needed for. Also we went through what should be included in a CV. A few examples of that are personal profiles, personal information, skills, hobbies and interests and educational qualifications, plus more.

We spent some time completing some study skills tests. We went through what type of learning style suits us. It helped us work out if we were visual, kinesthetic or auditory learners. In addition, we talked about time management and how we use our time effectively which we then used to write a plan for our time management.

We were introduced to the '10 R's' to help us deal with stress that may come during this year, these were; Recognize, Realise, Reorganize, Regulate, Reality check, Return, Refuse, Redirect, Reflect and Relax.

Our last session consisted of us using a very useful website (www.s2sacademy.com) to help us with identifying skills in an application form as well as how to fill out and answer an application form thoroughly. After all of this, we finally started to write our CVs and I can truly say that after today, I am very confident when it comes to writing a CV and answering an application form."



Pinsent Masons' volunteers become Team Leaders for inaugural Schools Debating Competition

In November Pinsent Masons hosted their inaugural Schools Debating Competition in association with the BAGS programme and with the support of the Pinsent Masons Foundation.

The competition saw eight teams of students from across Newham and Waltham Forest receive coaching sessions from employee volunteers from Pinsent Masons and some of its key clients, before competing against each other at the head office of Pinsent Masons in the City. The coaching sessions introduced students to the debating format, researching and preparing motions, and developing their confidence and public speaking skills.

Throughout the heats, teams debated a range of issues affecting young people, from whether the Olympics was a good investment for young people in the UK to whether university education should be free.

An esteemed panel of experts, chaired by Lord Kerr, Justice of the Supreme Court of the UK, judged the debates. The competition culminated in the top two teams from the heats, Plashet School and Sarah Bonnell School from Newham, being asked to argue whether all students should be required to perform a period of community service. After a strong performance from both teams, Plashet School was announced the winning team.

Kristian Grice, Senior Associate at Pinsent Masons and lead organiser of the event said, "It was a fabulous event that I'm pleased to say everyone was fully engaged with and seemed to thoroughly enjoy. From the students' perspective, not only was this a great experience but, in a fiercely competitive market whatever they decide to do after their exams, each student involved now also has a fantastic and invaluable addition that he or she can proudly make to their CV."

ELBA's Chief Executive, Liam Kane, commented, "We were delighted to work with Pinsent Masons on this debating competition. It is a fantastic showcase of how the BAGS programme brings the worlds of business and schools together whilst developing the skills and aspirations of young people."

Girls from Newham and Waltham Forest help Standard Chartered launch Goal

In October, girls from across eight schools in Newham, Waltham Forest and Tower Hamlets came together to celebrate the UK launch of Standard Chartered's award winning 'Goal' Programme, hosted at The Copper Box Arena.

The Goal Programme is aimed at empowering adolescent girls from low-income communities with the skills they need to make informed life choices, through sports training and life skills education. It uses sport and life skills' education to transform the lives of adolescent girls in 19 countries across the globe.



The girls were welcomed to the event by Standard Chartered CEO, Richard Holmes. They were then given the opportunity to ask questions to the Liverpool Ladies' Football Club representatives, including Captain Gemma Bonner, regarding their training regime and the challenges they face as women in a male dominated sport.

Throughout the day, Standard Chartered volunteers ran group sessions focused on teamwork, communication and leadership skills, to give students a taster of the programme and help increase their confidence. The day was rounded off by Pamela Walkden, Standard Chartered Group Treasurer, and Roselyne Renel, Group Chief Credit Officer, inviting questions from the students about their career pathways and their own personal challenges they faced before becoming successful business women.

Thank you to Standard Chartered and the girls from Buxton School, Lammas School, Kingsford Community School, Lister Community School, Plashet School, The Royal Docks Community School, Sarah Bonnell School and St. Paul's Way Trust School for making the day so successful.

Strategic & Institutional Autumn term highlights



ISS Front of House Training

Oliver Game, Learning and Development Manager at ISS delivered a 'Front of House' training workshop for six members of staff that work in administrative teams at Sarah Bonnell School, Lister Community School, Plashet School, and Rokeby School. The sessions covered time management, customer service, vocal awareness and e-mail and provided the attendees an insight into the front of house industry as a profession outside of the school environment. The training took place at Sarah Bonnell School and provided an opportunity for the attendees to share experiences, express challenges and practice some of the new skills they had learnt in the session through mock telephone calls to reinforce phone etiquette.

Maya Vaghela, Administrative Assistant at Plashet School commented "Ollie was fantastic and made us feel so relaxed. The activities were interesting and an eye opener, as I found that you can't assume things by just looking at people's photos, or how people see you from the other side of front desk. Also the activity on how you sound and respond on the phone to parents and agencies was great, as I have never recorded myself and heard how I responded to parents' calls. I would love to go to many more workshops like this, as I thoroughly enjoyed the experience."



BAG members come together for the first ELBA BAG Member training session

The very first BAGS best practice and networking workshop took place on Tuesday 25th November, which was kindly hosted by HSBC. The workshop aimed to provide current, new and potential BAG members with the opportunity to listen to one another's experience of organising BAG activity, learn how their respective companies and BAGS project managers can support them with their roles, and hear from other BAG members how they organise one off and long term BAG activity.

Attendees were also given the opportunity to share their experiences of organising activity, which included discussions around challenges, successes and levels of support with one another. The groups were mixed up to ensure that more experienced volunteers and those new to the programme were engaged in the exchange of knowledge.

Umair Rahim from Thomson Reuters, who has recently been working on BAG activity with Little Ilford School, commented that: "I really enjoyed the workshop! It was a great way to share ideas with other volunteers about various initiatives and to learn more about the support available from ELBA."



With thanks to our BAG members and partner organisations...

Accenture, Barbican, Barclays, Birkbeck University, Chaucer, Citi, CMS London, Credit Suisse, Crossrail, Deutsche Bank, Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, HSBC, Interior Services Group (ISG), ISS, KPMG, Lend Lease, London City Airport, London Fire Brigade, London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC), L&Q Housing Association, Mazars, Moody's, Morgan Stanley, National Maritime Museum, National Theatre, Ogilvy & Mather UK, Pinsent Masons, Siemens, Standard Chartered, T. Rowe Price, Tate & Lyle Sugars, TIAA Henderson, Tottenham Hotspur Community Foundation, Thames Water, Thomson Reuters, University of East London, University of Greenwich, Vastint, West Ham Community Foundation and Zurich Global Corporate UK.