

Communities Together Fund

Background Information

The Communities Together Fund is managed by the Community Foundations for Lancashire and Merseyside on behalf of B&M

What is the focus of the fund?

The Communities Together Fund plans to pilot a programme aiming to support community cohesion projects that concentrate on breaking down barriers to social mobility.

The Communities Together Fund would welcome applications from locally recognised leaders, multicultural and multi faith community organisations working especially for vulnerable women. Applications are encouraged from organisations that work within communities to help vulnerable women, especially women from the Asian community, to learn English, integrate or escape domestic violence, or from organisations that help vulnerable minority groups who through various community barriers are not able to be socially mobile.

How much is available?

For this pilot programme the average grant size will be between £5,000 and £10,000. Higher grants will be available for exceptional impact driven projects.

Who can apply?

Charities, Voluntary/Community groups, Community Interest Companies and Social Enterprises. Successful applicants will be credible organisations that have been informed by their local communities.


Which areas are covered?

The North West of England including Lancashire, Merseyside and Manchester

Examples of the sorts of projects that may be funded

The focus of applications should be on projects within minority groups , especially for women, which encourage rights learning, education and shelter as well as projects that focus on addiction, disability or mental illness.

- Projects to reduce social isolation for women and young girls
- Projects to support women and girls education
- Skills building sessions ; training for volunteers

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- Projects that focus on the safety of women and young girls /advice and counselling
 - Projects that empower young girls to be economically and socially mobile

How to apply?


Please visit the Community Foundation for Lancashire website - www.lancsfoundation.org.uk for Lancashire based applicants and complete an online application form. Once you have submitted the online application you will need to send the documents listed below. If you do not submit all the relevant documents within 7 days your application will be withdrawn. You can now attach the documents to your online application, email them to applications@cflm.email or post them to the address below.

Documents which need to be included with your application:

- A copy of your organisations governing documents, rules or constitution
- A copy of your organisations latest annual accounts or income/expenditure document
- A copy of your organisations recent bank statement
- A copy of your organisations current Safeguarding Policy. All applicants must ensure that they hold relevant policies and procedures in place to undertake activities, such as Criminal Records Bureau checks and/or a health and safety policy, depending on proposed activity. If unsure about what you need please contact the Community Foundation for help (details below)
- **NB:** If you have previously applied to us in the last months and your application was successful you do not need to send in the above documents again. However, a bank statement is required with every application.

The following items cannot be supported via the fund:

- Statutory organisations or work that is their responsibility
- National organisations that cannot demonstrate local governance/control of local finances
- Commercial ventures
- Purchase/maintenance of vehicles
- Regional or local offices of a national organisation
- Activities that will have already taken place before we offer you a grant
- Politically connected or exclusively religious activities
- Projects for personal profit
- Trophies and medals
- Organisations that are set up for the benefit of animals or plants (environmental groups that work with animals or the environment such as city farms are acceptable)
- Groups comprising just one family
- Debts and other liabilities
- Reclaimable VAT
- Travel outside UK



🍷 Gifts or projects exclusively for the purpose of entertaining (social events can be funded where there is a clear community benefit)

What happens next?

Completed applications are considered by Community Foundation staff to check eligibility. You may be contacted for more information after applying and a decision making panel will make recommendations based on the fund's criteria and the budget available.

The closing date for applications is Friday 3rd June 2016 and you should expect to hear the outcome of your application approximately 6 weeks of the closing date.

For further information please contact Tina Kennedy, Community Philanthropy Manager at:

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Community Foundations for Lancashire and Merseyside are delivering this programme in association with B&M.