

Guidance - BME Older People's Fund

Introduction

Sheffield City Council is pleased to announce a new grant fund to support community activities to help BME older people to sustain and improve their wellbeing in the community, and in particular, to reduce social isolation/loneliness.

We know that, in some circumstances, BME older people can face additional barriers to participating in community life or accessing the right information for their health and wellbeing. For example, past experience indicates that Lunch Clubs have not always worked for all BME communities and this fund is to give BME VCF organisations a chance to try different activities that will reduce loneliness and social isolation, and help people to make new friends and connections. We are committed to a 'test and learn' approach and are looking for innovative applications which, through monitoring and measurement of success and impact, can evidence what people want and what works.

The outcomes that this fund seeks to support are two from the People Keeping Well (PKW) Outcomes Framework. The two outcomes are:

- Local Inform and Advise, and
- Asset Based Community Development

Local Inform and Advise

This outcome is about people and communities getting advice and support locally to enable them to make informed choices to improve their health and wellbeing for themselves and/or the person they may care for.

Asset Based Community Development

This outcome is about local people and communities working together to develop a range of support that improves people's health and wellbeing. This can include utilising people's skills and knowledge to improve their own communities, and connecting people with others in the community.

You can find out more about PKW and the PKW Outcomes Framework in the document below:



PKW Outcomes Framework v4.pdf

Grant Pot

The grant pot is £30,000 per annum for the next three years from 2017/18. Organisations (or groups of organisations working together) can apply for between £2,000 and £8,000 per year.

The fund is for new or existing projects which work towards delivering the PKW Outcomes. It will run alongside the existing Sheffield City Council Lunch Club Fund.

Any organisation which has an evidenced proposal for how their idea will reach isolated BME older people and help build community assets to support and engage BME older people is eligible to apply.

We are particularly looking for organisations to show how:

- their proposals will work to deliver/meet the PKW Outcomes and Outcomes Indicators
- they have used learning from existing projects; knowledge from speaking to older people and their families; and/or other credible research, to underpin their proposals
- they intend to measure success/show impact
- they can contribute to the knowledge base about what works

Criteria

There are a number of criteria you must meet when applying for this funding:

- Your proposed activities **must** contribute towards **one or both** of the PKW Outcome(s) as detailed in Table 1:
 - Local Inform and Advise, **and/or**
 - Asset Based Community Development
- Your proposed activities **must** contribute towards achieving the following Outcome Indicators:
 - Improved wellbeing – reduction in social isolation/loneliness, **and**
 - At least one other Outcome Indicator for each of your chosen Outcome(s) from Table 1

For example, if you choose to provide activities towards meeting the Outcome of Local Inform and Advise, you **must** then select Improved wellbeing – reduction in social isolation/loneliness, and then **at least one** of:

- Improved health literacy,
- Increased awareness of, and involvement in, community activities
- Reduced inequalities in access to services

Applications will be assessed on how well the activities will meet the chosen Outcomes and Outcome Indicators, and the evidence provided for this.

An application which aims to meet both Outcomes and all Outcome Indicators will gain no more merit than one which aims to meet one Outcome and the minimum of two Outcome Indicators, *provided both applications are evidence-based and feasible in both time period and scale.*

Your application will need to demonstrate that you have a clear idea of how you are going to measure the success of your proposed activity and how this will demonstrate that you have met the outcome indicators your application intends.

Outcomes and Outcome Indicators

As detailed above, this fund is to support two Outcomes (Local Inform and Advise, and Asset Based Community Development). Each Outcome has a number of Outcome Indicators - measures that describe how well we are achieving the outcomes – attached to it.

Table 1: PKW Outcomes & Outcome Indicators

PKW Outcome	Outcome Indicators
Local Inform and Advise (LI&A)	Improved wellbeing – reduction in social isolation/ loneliness MANDATORY if you choose LI&A
	Improved health literacy
	Increased awareness of, and involvement in, community activities
	Reduced inequalities in access to services
Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)	Improved wellbeing – reduction in social isolation/ loneliness MANDATORY if you choose ABCD
	BME older people report feeling engaged and in control of their health and wellbeing
	Increased range of activities to improve health and wellbeing are established and sustained in partnership with other organisations
	More BME older people actively engaged in planning and delivery of activities
	Increased range and take up of volunteering opportunities by BME older people

Safeguarding

In response to Q6 on the application form, you must have a safeguarding policy and procedures for detailing how and when it is appropriate for DBS checks are carried out.

NB: We do **not** need you to send a copy of your policy and procedures to us but we may ask to see them, or may visit your organisation to check that these policies and procedures are being put into practice. For further information and guidance in relation to current legislation, please see the Voluntary Action Sheffield information leaflet [Safeguarding Vulnerable People](#).

Assessment and Approval Process

Responses on the application form will be marked as follows:

Question	Details
1	Not marked – information only
2	Not marked – information only
3	Not marked – information only
4	Not marked – information only

5	Pass/Fail
6	Pass/Fail
7	Pass/Fail – applicants must select one or both of the PKW Outcomes, and then select Improving wellbeing and at least one other Outcome Indicator for each of their chosen Outcomes
8	30% of total mark – Has the applicant answered the question and followed the prompts? The answer will be marked using the scoring criteria in Table 2 (below)
9	35% of total mark – Has the applicant answered the question and followed the prompts? The answer will be marked using the scoring criteria in Table 2 (below)
10	35% of total mark – Has the applicant answered the question and followed the prompts? The answer will be marked using the scoring criteria in Table 2 (below)
11	Pass/Fail – is the proposed budget realistic and value for money?

Table 2: Scoring Matrix

Score	Description of Response
0 - 1.4	Completely unsatisfactory response, suggesting the applicant would have serious difficulties delivering the activities to meet their chosen PKW Outcomes and Indicators, or has provided no relevant information at all.
1.5 - 2.4	Unacceptable response, indicating that the applicant would meet only some of their chosen PKW Outcomes and Indicators, some of the time. Considerable work would be needed with the applicant to expand on information provided in order for the information to indicate that the PKW Outcomes are likely to be met.
2.5 - 3.4	Acceptable response, indicating that the applicant would be likely to meet their chosen PKW Outcomes and Indicators, but further work needed to ensure that Outcomes will be met consistently.
3.5 - 4.4	Good response, clearly indicating that the applicant has fully understood and can apply and deliver on their chosen PKW Outcomes and Indicators. Small amount of further work may be needed in some areas.
4.5 - 5	Response indicating that the applicant has a wholly comprehensive understanding of the activities to deliver their chosen PKW Outcomes and Indicators, and that the proposed approach will result in the Outcomes being exceeded.

Council officers will assess the answers to Q8, Q9 and Q10 in the application form, using the scores outlined in Table 2 (above). These assessments will be then considered by a Grants Advisory Panel. The Panel will then make recommendations for authorisation by the Cabinet Member for Community Services, Cllr Jack Scott.

Timetable

Date	Action
Monday 13 th February	Application pack on website and advertised
Friday 10 th March	Applications due in on Friday 10 th March by 5pm
Monday 13 th -Friday 17 th March	Applications assessed by Council officers
Monday 20 th -Friday 24 th March	Applications considered by Grants Advisory Panel
Monday 27 th -Friday 31 st March	Cllr Jack Scott to authorise successful applications Feedback given to unsuccessful groups
Monday 3 rd -Friday 14 th April	Finalise Funding Agreements and agree monitoring with successful applicants
Friday 21 st April	Funding Agreements are signed & returned by 5pm
Monday 24 th -Friday 28 th April	First payments are made and the activities start

Monitoring

As mentioned above, we are particularly interested in hearing about how organisations intend to measure the success/impact of their activities. Due to this, we will be finalising individual monitoring arrangements separately with each successful applicant.

However, we expect that, in the first year, successful applicants will provide six monthly monitoring returns – October 2017 and April 2018.