

Community Grants Programme Criteria

To be eligible for Community grant funding the applicant group must:

- be independently set up for charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes and not make private, commercial or personal profit or gain.
- have a legal structure appropriate to the size and nature of the organisation with a governing document defining its aims and procedures.
- have at least three unrelated, elected volunteers who decide policy and overall management. These must not be family members, married couples or civil partners, or people living at the same address.
- meet the legal responsibilities of an employer and adopt, implement, and monitor good employment practices and procedures, if relevant.
- comply with all statutory and legal responsibilities applicable to the organisation and its regulatory body.
- have up-to-date, appropriate and adequate insurance cover.
- have an asset lock (not for profit distribution clause)

We would not fund:

- organisations set up as a company limited by shares where profits can be given to shareholders
- statutory organisations, or those set up or managed wholly or partly by one
- private partnerships
- sole traders
- organisations that promote or appear to support a political party or ideology
- organisations that have a 'person with significant control' listed on the Companies House register with:
 - the right to appoint and remove the majority of the company's directors
 - more than 50% of the company's shares
 - more than 50% of the voting rights
 - the right or power to exercise (whether directly or indirectly) a considerable degree of influence or control over the company or its activities
- organisations based outside the UK
- uniformed groups
- groups that have not complied with the monitoring requirements for any grant previously received from us

Additional grant criteria would apply depending on the funding Tier as set out below:

Tier	Purpose	Group Eligibility	Funding Details	Grant Pot value ¹
Tier 1	<p>Restricted funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proof of concept testing - For one-off events or activities happening within one year - To meet emerging local needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New² or existing groups - Any not-for-profit group governance model that meets the general criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to £5,000 per application - Annual funding - Revenue funding 	£100,000 per year
Tier 2	<p>Restricted funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recurring activities or events across the city or in specific neighbourhoods - Organisations that may have a range of objectives – some aligning with the Council; others not. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Based anywhere in the UK, not necessarily delivering the majority of its overall activities in the City. - Must be an incorporated group and meet the general criteria - Applications welcomed from organisations with inclusive, community-focused aims, including faith groups where activities are open to all and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to £10,000 per year (exceptions possible where there is significant demonstration of need) - 3-year grants - Can include a proportion of the overhead costs as well as the direct cost of delivery - Max £30,000 total over the three years - Delivery of the funded activity must take place in the City³ - Revenue funding 	Combined Tier 2 & Tier 3 total of approx £1m per year.

¹ These are indicative: if the demand was higher than anticipated for one of the Tiers there may be a need to adjust the value of the pot.

² Established for less than 3 years

³ This will be subject to change in response to LGR developments.

Tier	Purpose	Group Eligibility	Funding Details	Grant Pot value ¹
		<p>primarily serve a wider social or community need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Must have been established for at least three years - 		
Tier 3	<p>Unrestricted funding for:</p> <p>Organisations that align with the Councils strategic priorities and outcomes, enabling those organisations to get on with delivering their own vision and mission</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Must be an incorporated group and meet the general criteria - Must be delivering primarily in the City - Must have < £2m annual turnover (exceptions possible) - Must have at least one paid staff member - Group purpose and activities must have clear alignment to Council priority outcomes - Must have been operating in the City for at least 3 years⁴ - Must have successfully delivered a City Council grant previously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maximum award of £40,000 per year but usually in line with previous awards or - Funding capped at a maximum of 20% of average annual turnover based on last 2 years' accounts, whichever is the lowest (exceptions possible where there is significant demonstration of need) - 3-year grants - Unrestricted - Funding awarded will be proportionate to the percentage of city residents supported by the group - Must have measurable impact at population or system scale 	<p>Combined Tier 2 & Tier 3 total of approx £1m per year.</p>

⁴ We reserve the right to review this on a case by case basis.

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		<p>Exclusions:</p> <p>We are unable to fund organisations whose core purpose does not directly support community benefit. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership-based organisations where access to services or activities is restricted to paying members; • Faith-based organisations whose primary mission is religious worship or evangelism. 		