

Overview

The North Yorkshire Reward Grant Fund is designed to help voluntary organisations, community groups and small charities based in and serving the communities of North Yorkshire to help make North Yorkshire an even better place to grow up, live, work and grow older. To help achieve this the North Yorkshire County Council plan has the following three ambitions:

- Every child and young person has the best possible start to life
- Every adult has a longer, healthier and independent life
- North Yorkshire is a place with strong economy and a commitment to sustainable growth that enables our citizens to fulfil their ambitions and aspirations

The North Yorkshire Reward fund aims to complement these broad aims and also the aims of Two Ridings Community Foundation. We know that loneliness and social isolation is a major issue across our area of benefit and in 2018/19 we will be partnering up the North Yorkshire Reward fund with our 'A Life Less Lonely' fund to widen the support we can offer to groups working to combat loneliness and social isolation in North Yorkshire.

Whilst the 'A Life Less Lonely' fund aims to support older people in our communities, it is widely recognised that loneliness is not exclusive to this group and can affect anyone at any age but with some known factors that may increase the risk of social isolation particularly for example for parents, people with disabilities, carers, people at risk of discrimination, people with long term health conditions, young people in rural areas etc. For this reason, with the support of the North Yorkshire Reward fund, we will be extending the provision of the 'A Life Less Lonely fund' in North Yorkshire to include projects aimed at other groups as well as older people.

This means that applicants can submit one application and if considered suitable, funding may be offered from either the North Yorkshire Reward fund or the A Life Less Lonely fund.

Funding Available

Grants are available of up to £5,000 for projects that can help to make people feel less lonely.

Projects should look to provide activities that establish sustained engagement with participants and should be run for a minimum period of 9 months. A priority for the fund is the quality of relationships and social connections built through participation in the funded activity.

It will be important for applicants to demonstrate how their target beneficiaries are affected by loneliness and how the project can help to relieve this, it will also be important to consider if there are any barriers to participation and how these can be overcome for example transport difficulties, befriending support etc

The fund is keen to support full cost recovery to ensure that applicant groups are also supported with ongoing sustainability where applicable. Further information about full cost recovery can be found on the Two ridings Community Foundation website.

Some of the impacts the fund is aiming to achieve are:

People talk to more people

Communities are open and welcoming to old and new residents

People report feeling less lonely as a result of taking part in a funded activity

People are able to identify/establish support networks that can be sustained beyond the end of the funded activity

Activity that could be supported:

We are looking to fund a broad range of activity and below gives some examples of the type of activity that could be funded, this list is not exhaustive.

- Projects aimed at supporting digital inclusivity
- Supportive befriending projects
- Peer support for parents
- Sporting projects that reach out to new beneficiaries
- Supported volunteering
- Intergenerational activity
- Community learning activities
- Creative arts projects

Activity that will not be supported:

- Capital costs alone, capital costs may be included but should not exceed 25% of the total amount applied for
- Sports clubs for general running costs, there must be some activity to reach out to engage with new beneficiaries to encourage sustainable and ongoing participation

Eligibility

Groups must:

- Serve the communities of the North Yorkshire Local Authority area
- Have an annual income of less than £50,000 (in their last financial year)
- Have a governing document (constitution/ rules/ memorandum/ articles of association) with a suitable dissolution clause
- Be a voluntary organisation, community group or small charity
- Have a bank account in the group's name
- Have been in existence for at least 6 months

As funds are limited, priority will be given to those groups that have not received funding from the North Yorkshire Reward fund in the last two years.

Who can apply?	Who cannot apply / what work will not be supported?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered charities • Smaller groups • Other types of not for profit organisation for work which is wholly charitable. <p>Priority will be given to work which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses needs identified by local people • Fulfils needs not already being met • Supports community involvement • Demonstrates a commitment to equal opportunities through activity • Projects where the grant covers a significant proportion of the costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Businesses • General appeals or sponsorship • National organisations and their affiliates • Work which has already started or taken place • Work normally funded from statutory sources • Work undertaken by or on behalf of statutory bodies • Work undertaken by/ on behalf of schools, colleges or universities as part of their statutory curricular activities • Work for the advancement of religion • Work where the main beneficiaries are animals • Work which does not directly benefit people living in the area of benefit • Overseas holidays or trips

The Process

1. Applying

- a. Ensure you are eligible and that the fund is currently accepting applications.
- b. Complete the online application form. A link to this is found on the North Yorkshire Reward page of the Two Ridings Community Foundation website, www.tworidingscf.org.uk
- c. The online application process is the easiest way to apply, it provides applicants with the ability to dip in and out of their application saving changes as they go, support is also available from the Foundation to assist applicants applying in this way. **If required however a paper version of the application form is available on request from the Foundation.**
- d. Supporting documents, if not attached to the online application form, should be emailed to grants@tworidingscf.org.uk. If this is not possible, paper copies can be sent to Two Ridings Community Foundation, Pavilion 2000, Amy Johnson Way, York YO30 4XT.

Applications will only be processed when all documentation has been received.

2. Assessment and Award

- a. All eligible applications will be assessed. An assessor may contact you to obtain further information or to arrange an evaluation. This may be over the telephone or in person.
- b. All Applications are considered by a special panel and its recommendations are ratified by the Board of Trustees. The final decision cannot be changed and no discussion will be entered into although we will try to provide constructive feedback if we can. In certain circumstances applicants will be awarded a pledge. This is the promise of a grant if/when certain conditions are met.
- c. Following the panel meeting, we will contact you by email to let you know the outcome.

3. Monitoring and Evaluation

- a. When your project is complete, you must fill in an End of Grant Monitoring Form. This is available as an online form very similar to the online application form and should your application for funding be successful the link to your end of grant report will be sent to you when your grant payment is made. You will not be eligible to apply for further grants from this scheme until we have received this form as it finalises your grant.
- b. We aim to undertake monitoring visits on a proportion of funded applications and we will contact you to arrange a visit if this is required.
- c. Successful applicants **must** ensure that the Foundation is included in any publicity and our logos will be provided for this purpose.

If you require any assistance with the completion of your application please contact Two Ridings Community Foundation on 01904 929500.