Coronavirus Community Fund – Phase 3 (Recovery) Guidance Notes

TwoRidings
Community Foundation
Giving across North & East Yorkshire

Overview - Phase 3 (Recovery) Grants

In phase 3 of our funding strategy, we are thinking about the emerging needs of our communities as we recover from the immediate crisis and start to deal with the 'new normal' and the resulting public health, social & economic crisis and its impact.

As funds are becoming more limited, our grant making in phase 3 will be much more focussed. Applications must meet one of the following 5 themes based on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and we are keen to move more towards support for the **development of self sufficient and resilient communities** by helping to support solutions rather than the symptoms of problems.

Following our recent consultation in which we held a focus group and also circulated a survey in which we asked questions about our current priorities and how they are meeting the needs of our communities, we have made some small amendments to the guidance notes. Generally, it was felt that the priorities were pitched about right but that in order to reduce the amount of unsuccessful applications, a more targeted approach was required.

Groups indicated that mental health was a particular concern as was the impact of financial insecurity and re-connecting communities as we emerge from restrictions. Groups were particularly concerned about the long term effects of the pandemic and the impact on their financial reserves and overstretched staff.

Due to the huge demand for funding, we are oversubscribed in every round, currently we are funding around 20% of the applications received. With this in mind, we are keen to try and be clear in our approach as we enter what we expect to be the final phase of funding.

The following are our priorities for funding

Good jobs & economic growth
Young people and older people in particular will be adversely affected by the downturn in the job market and particularly in areas of seasonal employment. Competition for jobs will be much higher and for those that have not had a chance to build up experience or those that may be deemed too old to invest in will be even more difficult. Under this theme, we are keen to support organisations that provide opportunities for people to increase employability skills, training courses, young people's volunteering projects, work placements for young people and apprenticeships. **Under this goal we will prioritise projects for people aged 16-25 and projects for people aged over 50 living in areas of significant disadvantage, high unemployment and low educational attainment. We are keen to support projects which remove barriers and assist people to take up work opportunities, and projects which seek to improve educational attainment.**
Zero hunger
In the immediate response phase, we have provided a large amount of funding to support the provision of food. In this phase we are keen to support organisations that can help local communities to build food security and maximize their ability to increase self sufficiency. We will support sustainable growing projects, food education and cooking projects along with strengthening the organisations that can build this type of

community resilience.

Under this goal, we will prioritise projects for people living in areas of significant disadvantage and with low income that can demonstrate how the project can increase self sufficiency.

Good health & wellbeing

We know that for many people the effects of the pandemic have adversely affected mental health and worsened existing health inequalities. This is a particular problem for young people especially young people with disabilities and also those with fewer support networks for example older people, people affected by homelessness, carers, people with disabilities and people from BAME communities. We also know that many people are experiencing fear of reconnecting with the outside world and are suffering with social isolation and loneliness as a result.

Under this goal we will prioritise projects which seek to improve mental health, reduce health inequalities and reduce isolation amongst those most affected.

No Poverty

The Coronavirus pandemic has resulted in an economic crisis which will see a rise in unemployment and for those people already struggling the effects will be significantly worse. Many may rely on support from charities which may now themselves be at risk.

Under this goal we will prioritise groups and projects which provide the services which can help to prevent people from sliding into poverty or help to provide a route out. For example we are keen to support projects which can provide advice and support services to ensure people can access all of the support they may be entitled to.

Reduced Inequalities

The pandemic and resultant lockdown has starkly highlighted many inequalities that currently exist within our communities, from the digital divide to the underfunding of groups working with BAME communities. We are keen to strengthen organisations that can help to redress the balance for the long term and we are keen to support projects that provide infrastructure support to marginalized groups, volunteer training, community transport and organizational development.

Under this goal, we will prioritise groups that represent the most marginalised people in our communities and in particular those that have become more marginalised and isolated as a result of the lockdown.

In all cases, we will prioritise applications based on need and we will use relevant geographic data along with information from local partners to assist us with this. We are also particularly interested in applications where people with lived experience (experts by experience) of the issues being addressed are involved with the design of the project and/or the running of the organisation.

Funds are available for either project or running costs but work supported must be aimed at strengthening communities and/or strengthening the organisations that provide vital support to communities.

We will also welcome applications from groups seeking to work in partnership either formally or informally.

What we will not fund

Who cannot apply/ what work will not be supported?
- Individuals   - Private Businesses   - National organisations – except where a local branch of a national organisation can demonstrate its autonomy from the national organisation for example where it has its own local management committee and is responsible for its own accounts   - General appeals or sponsorship   - Work normally funded from statutory sources   - Work undertaken by/ on behalf of schools, colleges or universities as part of their statutory curricular activities   - Work undertaken by or on behalf of statutory bodies as part of their statutory duties   - 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   - Capital costs ie building adaptations or large equipment costs although small items of equipment may be included as part of a larger project for example kitchen, sports and art equipment.   - Digital equipment for individual end users/beneficiaries

Eligibility

All groups should meet our general eligibility criteria which can be found here:
https://www.tworidingscf.org.uk/how-to-apply/

Groups must:
- Be based in and/or working in North Yorkshire, York, East Riding of Yorkshire or Hull
- Have a management committee with at least 3 unrelated members
- Be a voluntary organisation, community group, registered charity or other not for profit organisation
- Have a bank account in the group's name (with two unrelated signatories as a minimum)

Grants are available of up to £10,000.

The Process
Applying
o Complete the online application form accessed via our Coronavirus Community Fund web page
https://www.tworidingscf.org.uk/fund/coronavirus-community-fund/
and attach supporting documents. If supporting documents cannot be attached then please forward these by email to grants@tworidingscf.org.uk

If you experience any difficulties with completing the application or providing any of the requested documentation please let us know via email.

- An assessor may contact you to obtain further information, please ensure that the person named as the main contact is familiar with the application and can be available to discuss the detail.
- All Applications are considered by a local panel and the final decision cannot be changed.

Award

- We will aim to get a decision to you within 10 weeks of receiving a completed application however we may 'hold' your application in a pipeline if we cannot fund it straight away.
- We will contact you by email to let you know the outcome. When we contact you we will copy in a trustee/member of your management committee so it is important that we have email addresses for your Board members.
- Payment runs will usually be done on a weekly basis. If your application is successful, provided we have everything we need, your payment will be made on the next payment run following your acceptance of our grant offer.

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