**Bettys and Taylors Group Community Fund**

**Guidance Notes 2024**

**Overview**

The Bettys and Taylors Group Community Fund has been developed as part of the Bettys & Taylors Group force for good framework of community support activity and is a follow up to the Bettys and Taylors Group Coronavirus Community Fund and the Bettys and Taylors Group Cost of Living Fund.

In line with the Bettys & Taylors Group pillars for community activity, in 2024, the Community Fund is intended to support organisations in North Yorkshire, with a preference for organisations in or close to Harrogate, Ilkley, Northallerton and York, whose work is focused on enabling social mobility and employability. Projects should be supporting:

* Skills development (life skills such as cookery, literacy, communication, IT)
* Enhancing employability through formal skills, training, and education.

The work/activity should reflect the concerns and priorities of the organisation’s key stakeholders and fit well with existing community services/activities.

Funding is not available for capital costs except where small equipment purchases form part of a revenue bid for running costs and organisational development for example a laptop or computer to assist with administration.

**Grants**

The fund will distribute up to £100,000 per annum in grants of between £5,000 - £10,000 to small voluntary and community groups, small charities and other types of not for profit organisations provided that they can clearly demonstrate that the purpose of the organisation is wholly charitable.

**Eligibility: who can apply?**

Applicants must be based and working in North Yorkshire, and can be any of the following:

* constituted voluntary and community groups
* registered charities
* co-operatives
* social enterprises
* community interest companies (CIC’s will be subject to additional scrutiny as outlined in our grant making policy)
* schools – to support vocational training projects only

**Priority will be given to groups that:**

* Demonstrate a clear understanding of the needs they are addressing.
* Are based within a radius of approximately 15 miles of Bettys Café Tea Rooms and the Bettys and Taylors head office. These are located in York, Harrogate, Northallerton and Ilkley.
* Have an annual income of under £500k based on the most recent annual accounts (if your income is over this amount, we recommend that you speak to us before making an application)
* Are based in an area of deprivation or work with a community disadvantaged for another reason.

We recognise that many areas can suffer from ‘hidden deprivation’ (pockets of deprivation based in otherwise seemingly affluent areas or deprivation caused by rurality) and encourage applications from within these communities too.

**When Should I apply?**

There will be two grant rounds, with decisions for grant awards made in April 2024 and then in September 2024 by a special panel made up of members of the community, Bettys and Taylors Group staff, and representatives of Two Ridings Community Foundation. Deadlines for applications will be:

* 10th March 2024
* 1st July 2024

**Examples of the type of activity that could be supported:**

Overheads

* Rental costs
* Heating, lighting, water rates
* Core staff costs
* Stationery, small capital items, internet
* Volunteer costs

Direct project costs

* Staff training
* Trustee training
* Volunteer training and management
* Enabling work placements
* Life skills training, such as cookery, literacy, communication, IT
* Travel costs to enable training attendance as part of this funded project

**Monitoring and Completion**

* 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. 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.
* 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.
* Successful applicants **must** ensure that the Foundation is included in any publicity and our logos will be provided for this purpose.

Supporting documents, if not attached to the online application form, should be sent by email to

 grants@tworidingscf.org.uk.

**If the supporting documentation is not received within 4 weeks of the date of submission of the online application, or by the advertised closing date where applicable, the application will be withdrawn. Applications will only be processed when all documentation has been received.**

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