

The Fairhurst Fund – Grants Criteria

The Fairhurst Fund was set up in 2018 and is independently managed by the Leeds Community Foundation. It supports Leeds Community Foundation's values and vision of creating a city of opportunity for all.

Grants of between £500 and £5,000 are available for organisations that seek to deliver activities which have tangible and practical outcomes, and which directly support children and young people living in Leeds to be healthy and well; to work, learn and be financially well; and to thrive and be safe. This fund has a particular focus on projects that actively support:

- Children Looked After by the Local Authority – i.e. young people in the care of the local authority, either with a foster carer or in a children's home;
- Care Leavers – i.e. young people aged 18 to 25, who were in the care of a local authority until they turned 18 and are living in Leeds;
- Children who are eligible for free school meals and/or in areas of greatest need in the city.

Types of projects that can be funded

We are particularly keen that children and young people are at the heart of these projects and are actively involved, for example, through the design of activities, consultation around their views and in decision-making, and volunteering to support other Children Looked After, Care Leavers and/or children in poverty. The fund will support projects that, for example:

- Help children and young people to work, learn and be financially well through developing life skills, financial literacy and/or employability skills;
- Increase opportunities and aspirations, enabling children and young people to be healthy and well, for example through leisure, sport and recreational activities, arts, intergenerational activities or community gardening, growing schemes that build and enhance skills and provide long-lasting benefit;
- Help children and young people thrive, by supporting them to integrate into their community at key stages of transition, such as leaving school and moving into independent living;
- Provide enrichment activities for Children Looked After and Care Leavers that do not fall under statutory responsibility;
- Address gaps in provision to support specific groups; pilot new ideas/approaches; or extend existing activities which have shown to be effective.

Process

To apply, click [here](#).

Timeline

The deadline for the receipt of all applications is **Thursday 10 January 2019 at 12 noon**. We aim to inform successful applicants by the end of February 2018.

Funding allocated should be spent within 12 months of receipt.

Criteria

Applicants must be organisations that:

- Are from the voluntary sector, including community groups, social enterprises, registered charities or not-for-profit organisations with charitable aims;
- Have a management committee or board of trustees of at least three unrelated people, a governance document (like a constitution or articles of association), and safeguarding policies in place;
- Are established and have been operating for two years or more;
- Are both based in Leeds (Leeds Metropolitan District ward boundaries) and benefit residents of Leeds.

Applications:

- Can include core costs;
- Will only be considered for 50% - 100% of the cost of the project/specific piece of work;
- With partnerships where leverage of other resources can be secured are welcomed;
- Should be for 6-12 month projects.

We are **not** able to fund the following:

- Organisations or activity based outside Leeds;
- Activity that is purely about research (though evaluation of the proposed activity can be funded);
- Activity which has already taken place;
- Duplicate funding of an already funded activity;
- Individuals, statutory organisations or commercial entities.

Applicants must be able to show that they are addressing a specific need or gap in their community, that they are well-placed to work with the beneficiary group and that there is demand for their services. We are looking to fund practical projects that provide real, tangible impact, as opposed to information or research. We are keen to support projects which are proactive and work with other organisations to refer and signpost to enable people to access a wider range of support.

If you have any queries about the programme, or would like advice as to whether or not your project might be eligible, please contact Leeds

Community Foundation on (0113) 242 2426 or email grants@leedscf.org.uk