The benefits of providing community support services for older people are well documented in helping to promote wellbeing and a longer healthy life through reducing social isolation, increasing physical activity and maintaining independence in older age. The Equality Analysis of the change from the council’s Mainstream Grants programme to the Local Community Fund highlighted a potential negative impact on services for older people, particularly those from smaller minority communities who use services provided by organisations led by members of their own community.

This small grant theme therefore focusses on supporting community-based services run by Black, Asian and Multi Ethnic (BAME) led community groups. We are seeking to fund activities that bring older people together and provide activities that will increase independence and wellbeing and reduce social isolation.

Before applying for funding, please read the following guidance carefully.

**What Funding is Available?**

Up to £15,000 for one year with potential extension for a second year. Extension funding will be awarded following a submission of monitoring and evaluation information and positive assessment of the project.

**Who Can Apply?**

The Community Support Services for Older People Theme will only continue to support organisations which can show that at least 50% of their trustees/committee/board members are from BAME communities.

Organisations with an annual turnover in excess of £250,000 are not eligible to apply to this theme and priority will be given to organisations with a turnover of less than £100,000 per annum.

The fund is open to voluntary and community organisations. These are defined as;

- Registered charities
- Community groups
- Community associations
- Tenants and residents’ groups
- Green spaces friends’ groups
- Co-operatives and social enterprises
- School/parent groups which are independent of the schools they work with
• Faith organisations
• Sports, environmental, arts and heritage organisations
• Grant making trusts
• Housing associations
• Un-constituted groups of residents working together to make a difference in their local communities*

*Un-constituted groups will need to identify a constituted organisation to act as their accountable body or ‘parent organisation’. For example, this could be a local charity, constituted TRA or housing association that is willing to hold the grant money on your behalf. The application form must be completed by the un-constituted group and you must have written agreement from the accountable body demonstrating they support you.

We cannot accept applications from;
• For-profit organisations
• Individuals seeking funding for personal benefit, or sole traders
• Organisations based outside the UK

What We Will Fund

Applications may be made for projects that include the provision of a meal or other refreshments. The cost of premises, staff, volunteers and other costs for the project may be included but the Small Grants Programme will not pay for the cost of meals (ingredients, preparation etc). Funding can be used flexibly but is primarily intended to cover revenue costs and they can be used to fund a whole project or to pay for elements of a wider project. There must be a quantifiable contribution to the proposed activity either in cash (other funding) or in kind (volunteer time, rent free premises etc). However, we do not require match funding.

What We Won’t Fund

• Expenditure or activities that have already taken place
• Religious or political activity (we are able to fund religious organisations if they are providing benefit for the wider community)
• Activities where a profit will be distributed for private gain or projects that have no charitable or community element
• Activity that replaces government funding or is a statutory responsibility, for example, we can only fund school activities that are additional to the curriculum
• Activities that benefit individuals, rather than a wider community
• Retrospective costs and loan repayments
• Foreign travel
What We Look for in Organisations We Support

We’re particularly interested in supporting organisations that demonstrate they are people-led, strengths-based and connected to Tower Hamlets communities or residents.

*People-led* - We’re looking for meaningful involvement of the people you’re working with in the development, design and delivery of your project. Tower Hamlets wants to make real its commitment to the co-production of services and projects with the people intended to benefit from those. As a result, we want to hear how the people or community you’re working with has influenced your project and will continue to shape its delivery.

*Strengths based* - We want to hear how you’ll be making the most of, and building on, the skills and experiences of people and what already exists within our communities.

*Connected* – Tower Hamlets Council does not want to duplicate what already exists and we want to ensure you have a good understanding of what others are doing. We are keen to understand how your project is connected with other relevant organisations, how your idea complements what they are doing and how you have used these relationships to develop your project.

How to Apply

- To apply for a grant of up to £15,000 please [https://ukcf.secure.force.com/forms/lbthsgop](https://ukcf.secure.force.com/forms/lbthsgop)

Please submit your application by **Monday 25th April by 12 noon**.

If you would like a paper application form or have any questions or concerns, please contact the EECF Grants Team on 020 7345 4444 or email [grants@eastendcf.org](mailto:grants@eastendcf.org)

Supporting Documents

To enable East End Community Foundation to consider your application you must attach the relevant supporting documents to your online application. Alternatively, you can send these by email to [grants@eastendcf.org](mailto:grants@eastendcf.org). All supporting documents must be submitted by the application deadline.

Please ensure you have the following documents ready to submit:

- Constitution or articles of association
- Approved accounts or a record of income and expenditure for the organisation
- One bank statement dated within the last 3 months
- Equality & Diversity Policy*
- Safeguarding Policy *(If applicable)*

* Tower Hamlets Council and East End Community Foundation are committed to equal opportunities for all, and we expect groups and organisations applying for grants to show that they are aware of equal opportunities and can demonstrate commitment to them. Accordingly, organisations applying for grants are required to submit their Equality and Diversity Policy with their application.
Project Delivery and Monitoring

If your application is successful funded projects must:

- take place over a period of no more than **12-months**
- demonstrate how the proposed activities will address the Community Support Services for Older People Theme priorities and have a measurable positive impact on local residents
- have demonstrable outcomes related to the Community Support Services for Older People Theme

You will need to keep financial records of how the grant is spent including receipts and invoices for expenditure. You will also be required to keep records how many people benefit, and the difference the project has made to them. This information must be submitted in an end of grant report.

You will need to keep and provide the following:

- Financial records of how the grant is spent, including receipts and invoices
- Records and evidence of the identified outputs e.g. number of people benefiting, number of sessions, audience numbers, records of attendance etc.
- Records of the identified outcomes e.g. the difference the project has made to participants, participant feedback, staff observations, external reports from partners
- Anything that your organisation has learned from delivering the activities
- Photographs and videos of the project activities (if appropriate)
- A case story from at least one participant

The contribution of the Tower Hamlets Council Small Grants Fund must be acknowledged in any promotional literature or annual report issued on your behalf within twelve months of receiving the grant or any instalment of the grant. We reserve the right to use any photographs or details of the project in any future literature and/or promotion.
**Theme 7: Community Support Services for Older People**

**Combatting social isolation of older people through the provision of community based support services**

The benefits of providing community support services for older people are well documented in helping to promote wellbeing and a longer healthy life through reducing social isolation, increasing physical activity and maintaining independence in older age. The Equality Analysis of the change from the council’s Mainstream Grants Programme to the Local Community Fund highlighted a potential negative impact on services for older people, particularly those from smaller minority communities who use services provided by organisations led by members of their own community.

This small grant theme therefore focuses on supporting community based services run by BAME led community groups. We are seeking to fund activities that bring older people together and provide activities that will increase independence and wellbeing and reduce social isolation.

**Theme Priorities**

All applications must contribute to at least one of the following themes:

- Supporting older people from BAME communities who would otherwise not access support services
- Reducing social isolation for older people
- Helping older people maintain physical health and mental wellbeing
- Maintaining independence and supporting older people to remain in their own homes

**Theme Outcomes**

Relating specifically to older people from BAME communities, projects must show they meet one or more of the following:

1. **Reduce demand for public services.** By providing support within the community and promoting independence and wellbeing in older age the demand for public services will be reduced.

2. **Improve health and wellbeing.** Increase the proportion of older people from BAME communities who feel their health and welfare needs can be met within the community.

3. **Increase community resilience.** Community organisations are able to move towards more sustainable community based services with less reliance on public funding.

4. **Increase knowledge relating to information and advice.** Increase access to quality advice and information for older residence and understanding where this is available.

**Project Examples**

These examples are provided to give you an idea of the types of activities that might be supported under this theme:

- A service that provides physical and social activities for older people
- An advice service working in partnership with an established community based service for older people
- A befriending service that brings together older people for social and recreational activity

**Eligibility**

The Community Support Services for Older People Theme will only support organisations which can show that at least 50% of their trustees/committee/board members are from BAME communities.

Organisations with an annual turnover in excess of £250,000 are not eligible to apply and the theme will give priority to organisations with a turnover of less than £100,000 per annum.

**Grants Available**

Under the Community Support Services for Older People Theme grants of up to £15,000 are available.

**Monitoring Requirements**

An end of grant report will be required for all funded projects. An interim or progress report may also be required six months into the project.

You will need to keep financial records of how the grant is spent including receipts and invoices for expenditure. You will be required to keep records how many people benefit, and the difference the project has made to them. You will also be required to monitor how your project has contributed to the outcomes identified for the Community Support Services for Older People theme.

**Tower Hamlets Plan & Strategic Plan Priorities**

The Community Support Services for Older People theme contributes towards the following Tower Hamlets Strategic Plan Priorities;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Strong, resilient and safe communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>Better health and wellbeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>Good jobs and employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>A better deal for young people – aspiration, education and skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S1</td>
<td>People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2</td>
<td>A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3</td>
<td>A dynamic outcomes-based Council using digital innovation and partnership working to respond to the changing needs of our borough</td>
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