

CANARY WHARF GROUP COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAMME 2024 FAQ

A compilation of Q&A from the online webinar held on 6 February 2024.

1. Are companies limited by guarantee eligible?

Yes, non-profit groups that are a company limited by guarantee with a demonstrated asset-lock are eligible. Community Interest Companies (CICs) limited by guarantee are also eligible. Private companies and CIC's limited by shares are not eligible.

This funding is open to voluntary, community, faith and social Enterprises (VCFSE) with an annual income of under £2,000,000 per year as well as schools and statutory agencies. Please see guidelines for more on groups eligible to apply.

2. Is a project working in partnership with a school in Tower Hamlets eligible to apply for a grant from the Fund if the lead organisation is not based in Tower Hamlets?

Yes, if the project is taking place in a local school in Tower Hamlets and is for residents of the borough, it is eligible. Please ensure the application indicates whether or not the project is already running in the school and if not, confirmation the school has provided explicit interest and approvals necessary to run the project if funded.

3. Is £10,000 maximum for a grant?

Yes, grants between £500 to £10,000 are available for a project.

4. What is the average grant amount given? Is there a benefit at pitching it at a certain amount?

Please request an amount eligible within the guidelines (£500-£10,000) that best reflects the true cost of your project and the amount you would need to successfully deliver your activities and anticipated outcomes.

If your project is funded, we will aim to award you the full amount requested. In the event a smaller amount would most likely be awarded than requested, EECF would connect with you to confirm what deliverables and outcomes may be affected.

5. While the grant funds must be used within 12-months, can it go towards a longer-term ongoing project?

Yes. The grant funding must be used within 12-months of being received, however we understand your project may be ongoing and continue after the year.

If awarded funding, the money must be spent within 12-months and even if the project is continuing, you would be asked to report on the outcomes achieved throughout the 12-month grant period.

6. Within the grant programme's theme "Wellbeing and Biodiversity," can a project be focused on only one of those outcomes (such as only Wellbeing or only Biodiversity)?

Yes, absolutely. If your project is aligned with Wellbeing or Biodiversity, it can be eligible.

7. If you apply for Round 1 but are unsuccessful, can you apply for Round 2 or Round 3?

Yes. You can apply to more than one round if your project is not successful in receiving funding. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application for a funding round via email.

If you are unsuccessful in a grant round, we aim to provide insight into outcome decisions in our communication, but please do contact the EECF grants team directly (grants@eastendcf.org) if you require more feedback on why your application was not successful.

8. Do we need to focus on a project rather than say a community centre?

This grant programme is for project funding and specific to the themes and associated outcomes outlined in the guidelines. If you are applying for core costs of your organisation or centre, please do expand on how the apportioned core costs contribute to specific project delivery at your centre/organisation that align with the themes and outcomes associated with this grant programme.

9. Can we ask for capacity towards a project to ensure we continue with it?

Yes. The grant can contribute to a new project or the continuation running costs of a project or to scale it up/increase capacity. The funding can cover a variety of costs towards a project such as staffing including sessional staff, running costs related to the project e.g. volunteer costs, room hire, refreshment contribution, to organisational overheads and small-scale purchase of any equipment you need.

10. Can we apply for this grant programme if we are still producing our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policy?

Yes. If your organisation is still producing this policy (or other requested organisational policies requested in the application) you can still be eligible to apply. Please indicate any supporting documents that are missing in your application (or email the Grants Team at grants@eastendcf.org) and provide a date in which the policies will be completed.

If your project is awarded funding, the release of payment would most likely be conditional on the receipt and review of the policies missing from your application.

11. If the project is shorter term i.e. less than 12 months - when would the report be required?

The monitoring report will be scheduled to be completed approximately 2-months after your project is finished.

12. Can the grant go towards funding part of a larger project, or must it be the full project cost requested? What status of the rest of the funding are you happy to accept?

Yes. This grant can go towards the full cost of a project or can be a contribution to a larger project with more than one funder.

If a contribution to a larger project, please ensure to state in the application the total project cost and the status of remaining funds secured/to be secured to run the project. Please also indicate if activities/deliverables may change if full funding is not secured.

13. Can a project be successful in more than one round in 2024 if the project requires more funding in time?

No. If you are successful in receiving a grant for a project, the project is not eligible to apply for continued funding in the same granting year (in future 2024 rounds). You can however apply for a different project than the one funded.

14. How do we submit an application? Is there a sample application form?

The application form is online. **Once you register your email at [this link](#)** , you will receive the application form to the email that was registered. You can then view the application form and all questions that are asked at any time. The application form is a unique web link to you, that you can open/view/draft responses/share with colleagues easily and save your work along the way until you submit it before the round deadline.

If you do not receive the email with your application form after registering (it can sometimes get caught in SPAM) please email the Grants Team at grants@eastendcf.org.

A paper copy of the application form questions (on Microsoft Word) is available if needed for accessibility. Please email the Grants Team at grants@eastendcf.org for a copy of this version.

15. We are a charity operating pan London but wish to apply for funding to support a specific user group (such as Visually Impaired people) in Tower Hamlets. Are we eligible?

Yes, projects supporting Tower Hamlets residents are eligible and we recognise some pan London groups support a specific beneficiary group and provide a specialised service that may not be replicated by other locally based organisations.

16. Can we discuss projects with you beforehand if we have a couple we need to choose from?

We are happy to chat if you have any questions before applying. Please contact the Grants Team at grants@eastendcf.org to schedule a quick call.

Please know that we cannot advise you or give our opinion on which project you should apply for. However, we are happy to discuss the guidelines and provide any clarity on priorities of the Fund or process to help you decide which project best aligns with this grants programme.

17. Our organisation is based in Tower Hamlets, and we deliver the project from there, but the project beneficiaries are from all over London. The project also engages local residents. Are we eligible?

Yes, this is eligible. However, this grant programme is specific to supporting Tower Hamlets. In your application, please ensure you are clear how many beneficiaries in Tower Hamlets will directly benefit in relation to your project and the grant request, and your reach in the borough.

18. Can we apply for funding to cover overheads and staffing costs associated with our employment support programme in Tower Hamlets through the DWP Flexible Support Fund?

No. This fund is specifically to provide project funding. CWG recognises the need to fully fund costs involved in delivering projects and therefore can fund a contribution to overheads as part of your grant. However, this funding cannot be used to cover gaps in statutory funding or other funding that does not support full cost recovery, and this is an issue that needs to be addressed by those funding organisation.

Additional questions raised at the online webinar held on 12 March 2024.

1. Can parents from a school apply?

Yes, parents can apply if they have a project that will support the local community. However, EECF cannot give grants to individuals or pay into personal bank accounts. Therefore, you will need to identify a legal entity who can accept the grant and manage the funds on your behalf. This could be the school, or another group such as a local Community Centre. Do reach out to EECF if you would like more guidance on this.

2. From round one (February 2024) 1) How many applications did you receive? 2) How many successful? 3) What was the breakdown of grant amounts? 3) do you publish who was successful?

We received 122 applications in Round 1. We are completing the assessment of these applications and will announce the outcomes in early April. Details of the successful groups and grant awarded will be published on Canary Wharf Group's and EECFs websites.

3. Are we able to apply for different projects or can we only have only one 'active' application at a time?

You may apply for different projects. However, you can only have one active grant per theme. Also, as demand is high, and we want to reach as many groups as possible, it is unlikely we will award multiple grants to an organisation. We recommend you prioritise which project you want supported and submit one application accordingly. If you are unsuccessful in Round 1 or Round 2 you can apply to a future round for the same, or a different, project.

4. If the project targets more than one of the priority themes, should this be noted, or is it better to just focus on one of them?

Submit your application to the theme you feel is most relevant to your proposal. If during assessment, we consider your proposal is better suited to a different theme we will move it across for consideration there. On the application form, you can choose both a primary and secondary theme.

5. Can a grant from the CWG Community Grant Programme be used as match funding for a larger project?

Yes, we recognise that your project costs may be more than £10,000. You can use a grant to support a larger project. On the application form you will be asked to identify the grant you need from Canary Wharf Group as well as the overall cost of your project, and how much match-funding you have secured to date.

6. If we were successful in setting up a new project this year, can we apply for continued funding next year?

Yes, the grant can fund continuing projects. These can be projects established through grants from a different funder, or a grant from Canary Wharf Group. If it is a continuing project, please provide some evidence in your application of what the project has achieved to date and any outcome or evaluation data.

7. If we're unsuccessful in Round 1 can we apply in Round 3

Yes, you can apply again in Round 2 or 3, either for the same project or a different one.

The Canary Wharf Group Community Grants Programme is being delivered with East End Community Foundation (EECF). If you have any further questions feel free to email grants@eastendcf.org