

Proudly supporting
youth social action



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport



COMMUNITY
FUND



UKCOMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS

#iwill 2022

Fund Criteria and Guidance for Applicants



PROGRAMME BRIEF

INTRODUCTION

A Definition of Youth Social Action:

“Young people taking practical action in the service of others in order to create positive social change that is of benefit to the wider community as well as to the young person themselves.”

Young Foundation

Youth Social Action includes volunteering, fundraising and campaigning, as well as skills and confidence-building projects which work with young people. This fund will prioritise organisations working with young people from less affluent backgrounds, to develop an appetite for this sort of activity

FUND BACKGROUND

The #iwill Fund is made possible thanks to £66 million joint investment (£33 million seed funding each) from The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to support young people to access high quality social action opportunities.

The #iwill Fund supports the broader #iwill movement – a collaboration of over 1000 cross-sector organisations and over 300 young people who are united by a shared belief that all children and young people should be supported and empowered to make a positive difference on the issues that affect their lives, their communities, and broader society.

AIMS

The #iwill Fund looks to support social action activities that create opportunities for young people aged 10-20 to develop their potential and their capacity to significantly contribute to their community.

The programme will prioritise young people under the age of 14, as well as young people from socio-economically deprived areas and communities. It will specifically target those scoring lower than 20% on the indices of multiple deprivation and/or those belonging to ethnic groups that have been hit especially hard by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Social action involves activities such as campaigning, fundraising and volunteering and has huge potential to create enjoyable opportunities and skills development for young people, and in turn benefit the local people and places.

Grants of up to £10,000 will be awarded by to groups for projects lasting up to a year; with the aim of funding both groups that are well established but also those that are new and innovative, especially those that can reach young people that are new to social action.

GRANT PRIORITIES AND CRITERIA

APPLYING FOR A GRANT

GRANTS

- Grants are between £1,000 and £10,000
- Projects can be up to a year in duration.
- Grants should deliver **campaigning, fundraising and/or volunteering opportunities** for young people aged 10 to 20 years old, or up to 25 for people with disabilities.
 - Community foundations will prioritise young people between the ages of 10 to 14, as well as young people from socio-economically deprived areas and communities (see priorities section below).

ELIGIBILITY

- This fund is open to registered charities, constituted community groups and other charitable organisations including Social Enterprises and CICs limited by guarantee in England.
- National organisations with local branches (with their own management committee and bank account) can apply.
- New organisations that can demonstrate they are financially robust can apply.

PRIORITIES

We will prioritise projects that:

- Are working with young people at the younger end of the spectrum (10-14 years old)
- Seek to increase participation from young people from less affluent social economic groups and young people who might not usually take part in volunteering, campaigning and fundraising activities, in particular:
 - young people from socio-economically deprived areas and communities, specifically those scoring lower than 20% on the indices of multiple deprivation.
 - young people in areas of economic deprivation and those ethnic groups that have been hit especially hard by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Build the appetite of young people to continue with campaigning, fundraising and/or volunteering; support habit forming behaviour; leave a legacy of behaviour/activity after the funding stops
- Involve young people in consultation, planning, delivery and evaluation
- Give young people the opportunity to learn new skills and develop their character and confidence
- Give young people the platform to get their voice heard.

We will fund groups that are well established but also those that are new and innovative, especially those that can reach young people that are new to social action. Applications should address some of the 6 principles of youth social action as articulated below:

- Reflective – recognising contributions as well as valuing critical reflection and learning
- Challenging – stretching and ambitious as well as enjoyable and enabling
- Youth Led – led, owned and shaped by young people’s needs, ideas and decision making
- Socially impactful – have a clear and intended benefit to a community, cause or social problem
- Progressive – sustained, and providing links to other activities and opportunities
- Embedded – accessible to all, and well-integrated to existing pathways to become a habit for life



(More details about the 6 principles can be found on the #iwill website [here](#))

WHAT WE WILL FUND

- Staff costs - Budget for staffing, including full-time staff, part-time staff, sessional staff and other related expenses e.g., a volunteer coordinator
- Development and capacity building costs – Budget to help build capacity and sustainability of organisation e.g., staff/volunteer training, external consultancy fees
- Volunteer costs - Budget for reimbursements of expenses, e.g., telephone calls, travel and meals
- Activity costs - Budget for resources to facilitate a project / activity (which are not already included as part of equipment, volunteer or staffing costs) e.g., catering, insurance
- Skills development projects, which help young people be ‘social action-ready’
- Established groups with an existing youth provision may apply for NEW projects or an expansion and development of an existing project (recruiting new young people etc) which meet the aims of #iwill
- Continuation funding for previously funded organisations is available, where the organisation can demonstrate effective and impactful use of the previous grant and learning and adaptation of processes.

WHAT WE WON'T FUND

- Statutory services
- Activities promoting religious or party-political activity
- Capital costs / large equipment costs – small scale equipment, such as tools are acceptable **up to 10% of the requested grant**
- Individual sponsorship
- Activities generating private profit
- Organisations that are in receipt of a current #iwill grant from a community foundation (unless the grant is due to be spent and monitoring submitted before the new grant would be awarded)

DUE DILIGENCE

We will ask applicants for the following documents to carry out due diligence:

- A copy of governing document (e.g., constitution, memorandum & articles or set of rules)
- A copy of most recent annual accounts or management accounts
- A photocopy of a bank statement no more than 3 months old. The bank account must be in the name of the organisation applying
- Copies of safeguarding and equal opportunities policies

Charity Commission and Companies House checks will be carried out on partnership organisations where relevant.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

We are committed to equality of opportunities in relation to funding and feel that a diverse portfolio of grants allows for more learning and in turn, improvement of practice. We are committed to promoting equal opportunities, to valuing diversity regardless of age, gender, race, ethnic origin, nationality, religion/belief, culture, language, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, economic status, health status, or any other protected characteristics.

USE OF PERSONAL DATA

By completing this application form, UK Community Foundations and its network partners will use the personal data about you and other individuals named in your application to assess and administer a grant application for the #iwill programme. To support with this, searches may be carried out using publicly available sources such as the Charity Commission website. If your application is successful, your details may also be used to contact you to gain your thoughts on the effectiveness and impact of the programme.