

## Funding Application Eligibility Criteria 2020

This document explains what we look at in deciding which organisations to support, both in the charities which apply and the work they do.

It comprises four sections:

1. Our overall approach to grant-making
2. Our basic eligibility criteria
3. Our complex social issues
4. What we look for in the work we fund
5. Contact us

### 1. Our approach to grant-making

Even if you have had support from us in the past, you may not know about some of the recent changes to our funding criteria:

- i) Setting our priorities
- ii) Appetite for development
- iii) Safeguarding and quality standards

#### *i) Setting our priorities*

As set out in our strategy, *Reaching Further*, our ambition is to support charities with larger grants for longer. This gives our grantees greater flexibility over how they use those resources and allows them to take advantage of a wide range of the development support we offer.

We recognise that there are many charities out there who would like and would benefit from our support but, like any funder, we have a limit to the resources we have available. In fact, we are only able to make around 180 new grants a year to small charities in England and Wales, 50% of which will be up to £100,000 over three years, and the other half up to £45,000 over three years.

We also want to be open and transparent with charities and make best use of the time spent applying to us, by being clear in advance which charities and areas we are more likely to fund at any time.

**Our new process has introduced regional priorities. In setting these we have considered local need, the prevalence of eligible small and medium sized charities, the nature of the region and the level of investment the Foundation has given to each complex social issue in that area, including our portfolio of live grants. The size of grant a charity can apply for, or whether you can apply at all at the moment, depends on Local Authority and the Complex Social Issue**

**the charity's work is addressing. We will review and update the regional priorities every six months.**

*ii) An appetite for development*

We will be looking at applicants' understanding of their own organisational development issues, and their appetite to address them. This does not mean that you have to access the Foundation's development support; you may be working on these development issues in another way. However, it is important to us that you can demonstrate a willingness to build a partnership with the Foundation that goes beyond our grant funding.

*iii) Safeguarding and quality standards*

The Foundation is committed to promoting the safeguarding of all those individuals that use the services of the charities that we fund and the safeguarding arrangements and practice of both those charities and of our own organisation. The Foundation recognises and takes seriously its responsibility to use our policy to promote the welfare of adults at risk/children where we become aware of any safeguarding concerns.

As a charity itself, the Foundation has a responsibility to have an appropriate safeguarding policy and internal processes in place to ensure that reported incidents are effectively managed, and the Foundation's staff are kept safe. Therefore, not only must your charity have a safeguarding policy in place in order to apply to us, but also we will assess your understanding of this policy as well as the approach to safeguarding across your organisation.

Similarly, we expect charities doing certain kinds of work to hold certain quality marks, standards or accreditations. Our full expectations are laid out under each complex social issue below and on our website but, for example, if you are working with perpetrators of domestic abuse, you must hold [RESPECT](#) accreditation to be eligible for support from us.

## 2. Basic Criteria

The information in this document informs our Online Eligibility Checker, which is the first stage of making an application to us.

*i) At a glance: Our basic eligibility checklist*

To be eligible to apply for any grant from us, you need to meet all of our criteria. If you do not meet all these criteria, we recommend you do not submit an application; ineligible applications will not be considered.

Your organisation needs to have:

- A registered charity number (this can be as a CIO)
- An annual income of between £25,000 and £1m
- Its own bank account
- A track record of working with people aged 17 and over
- Been delivering services for more than a year in England and/or Wales
- Free reserves of less than 12 months
- A Board of at least three unrelated Trustees
- A safeguarding policy in place
- One of the Foundations regional priorities at the time of submitting the application

*ii) Your charitable status*

You must be a **Charity or Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)** registered with the Charity Commission. Pending registrations will not be accepted. You have **at least** one year of published accounts covering a twelve-month operating period. The accounts must show as 'received' on the Charity Commission website.

*iii) Your finances*

Your charity must have had an **annual income of between £25,000 and £1 million** in your last set of accounts published on the Charity Commission website. This is total income and in the case of consolidated accounts should cover all entities within those accounts. This applies even if your income exceeds £1million due to an unusual one-off payment such as a legacy or capital grant.

However, if your charity has received funds on behalf of a network of organisations or consortium, rather than for its own use, we may consider you eligible depending on the details of the arrangement.

You must have free reserves of less than 12 months' expenditure in the last set of published accounts.<sup>1</sup> This includes reserves which you have decided to allocate but are free to reallocate as needed and does not include the value of fixed assets such as buildings.

Each applying charity must also have its own bank account in the charity's name. This includes those you might be applying in partnership with. If the application is successful, the grant will be paid into this account.

---

<sup>1</sup> Free reserves are the amount of unrestricted cash reserves your charity held at year-end.

*iv) Your work*

Your charity must work with **people aged 17 and over**, who are facing the complex social issues listed in section three. The only exception to this is where you work with young parents; in this case they need not meet the age threshold.

Your charity must also have been **delivering direct services for at least one year**. If you have recently merged, then this must apply to at least one charity pre-merger. We will ask for evidence of direct face-to-face service delivery with people affected by complex social issues within the past year.

You must **operate mainly in England and Wales**. Most of your charity's time and money spent on activities in England and/or Wales, and helping people living in England and Wales who are experiencing the complex social issues we fund.

If your charity is conducting pilot work, working with a different client group or breaking into a new geographic area, then you must show evidence of face-to-face delivery in your other work.

We will look at your stated objectives to ensure that the work that you are looking to fund is in line with your organisation's purpose. If you are a faith-based charity, you are welcome to apply but we will look at your work carefully to ensure that any activities funded by us **do not include the promotion of religion**.

*v) Your governance*

You need to have an active board of at least three unrelated Trustees. Where Trustees are related, we will consider the relationship, conflicts of interest and the balance of power of the related Trustees.

*For example, if two of three Trustees are related, we are likely to conclude that they hold too much influence and that there is a conflict of interest; whereas if two out of ten Trustees are related and there are clear procedures in place to manage any conflicts of interest, then this is likely to be acceptable.*

Are you working in partnership with other delivery organisations?  
We welcome applications from delivery partnerships as long as:

- The applicant is the lead partner and meets our eligibility criteria (the other organisation/s do not need to meet the criteria but must be based in England or Wales)
- The applicant organisation spends at least 50% of the grant
- Appropriate partnership agreement/s are in place. These will need to be provided.

*vi) Exclusions*

We do not provide funding for the following organisations:

- Community Interest Companies
- Infrastructure or 'umbrella' organisations. We would consider requests from these organisations only for any direct delivery of support to disadvantaged people.
- Organisations whose primary purpose is to give funds to individuals or other organisations. This means organisations using more than 50% of annual expenditure as grants.
- Hospitals, health authorities or hospices
- Rescue services
- Nurseries, pre-schools or playgroups
- Schools, colleges, universities
- Animal charities
- Charities working predominantly outside England and Wales
- Organisations that do not have a purpose/benefit beyond the promotion of religion

### 3. Our 'Complex Social Issues'

We fund organisations supporting people who are experiencing complex social issues resulting in a significant impact on their lives. We will look for this support to be delivered in a way that fits the definitions provided in section 3.

We fund work addressing the following complex social issues:

Social Issue	People the work supports
<p>Domestic abuse</p>	<p>Our funding supports charities with a strong track record of working with: <i>People who have experienced abuse.</i> <i>Domestic abuse:</i> an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and/or violent behaviour. This abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, emotional or economic abuse.</p> <p>Our definition also extends to charities working with people who have experienced honour-based violence.</p> <p><i>Perpetrators:</i> People who have systematically abused another person to gain power or control in a domestic or intimate relationship. This might be a partner, family member or friend.</p> <p>If you work with perpetrators of domestic abuse, you will need to hold or be able to evidence that you are working towards <a href="#">Respect accreditation in order to apply for funding from us.</a></p>
<p>Sexual abuse and exploitation</p>	<p>People who have experienced sexual abuse and exploitation, which may include any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sexual abuse, violence or exploitation;</li> <li>• female genital mutilation;</li> <li>• adults who experience trauma from historic sexual abuse or exploitation</li> <li>• people involved in sex work where it has a significant adverse impact on their lives.</li> </ul>
<p>Mental health</p>	<p>People who are managing mental health problems resulting in significant disruption to everyday living or in recovery from an episode of such problems occurring in the last two years.</p>

	<p><b><i>What are we funding?</i></b></p> <p>Our funding supports charities with a strong track record of working with:</p> <p>People who are managing mental health problems resulting in significant disruption to everyday living or in recovery from an episode of such problems occurring in the last two years.</p> <p>This includes people managing conditions such as depression, schizophrenia or eating disorders. It does not include neurological conditions such as dementia or acquired brain injuries.</p> <p>As we want to support people who are most affected by this complex social issue, it is likely that the people you are supporting will be experiencing enduring mental health problems and will have received a clinical diagnosis.</p> <p>We are particularly interested in receiving applications from charities that provide a specialist mental health service, working to address a gap in statutory provision, as we believe this is the area in greatest need of support.</p> <p>We will not fund charities that provide counselling solely; as described elsewhere we are interested in funding services that offer more holistic support to people with mental health problems. These could be delivered in-house or in partnership with other organisations.</p>
<p>Homelessness/ vulnerably housed</p>	<p>People with no accommodation, living in temporary accommodation or who are vulnerably housed where there is a high risk of becoming homeless.</p> <p>Our funding supports charities with a strong track record of working to address these issues. We do not generally fund short-term emergency accommodation e.g winter shelters</p>
<p>Offending, prison or community service</p>	<p>People with a history of offending which <b>significantly</b> impacts on everyday life; rehabilitation of and prevention of reoffending for people with a custodial or community service sentence.</p>
<p>Care leavers</p>	<p>People who are currently managing the transition from having spent time in <b>care</b> as a child (i.e. under the age of 18). Such care could be in foster care, residential care or other arrangements.</p>

<p>Learning disability</p>	<p>We recognise that the breadth of the term ‘Learning Disability’ means that much more specific guidance on this complex social issue, hence the length of this guidance.</p> <p>We have adopted Mencap’s definition of learning disability:</p> <p>“A learning disability is a reduced intellectual ability and difficulty with everyday activities – for example household tasks, socialising or managing money – which affects someone for their whole life.”</p> <p>People with a learning disability tend to take longer to learn and may need support to develop new skills, understand complicated information and interact with other people.</p> <p>We believe the three greatest needs at present for individuals with a learning disability are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Addressing social isolation and loneliness</li> <li>b) Accessing appropriate health and social care (lack of) and the need for advocacy support to achieve this</li> <li>c) That everyone (with a learning disability) should ‘have an opportunity to achieve’ and to ‘aspire to be the best that they can’. This can include employment or accommodation related achievements, but these are not exclusive goals.</li> </ol> <p>We are keen to support charities which achieve the above in an in-depth and holistic way; causes which only address social isolation (for example a regular club night) are unlikely to obtain funding.</p> <p>We receive many applications from charities established to support people with autism and ASD. We acknowledge that many individuals with a learning disability have also been diagnosed with autism. However, our primary focus is on supporting individuals with a learning disability and not autism in isolation.</p> <p>The types of work and organisations we will fund under this issue will be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sustainable, in terms of building upon individual’s abilities, and have lasting impact</li> <li>b. Inclusive</li> </ol>
----------------------------	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Coproduced and user led</li> <li>d. Able to evidence working with existing infrastructure or communities to ensure long term benefits and inclusion – it should not be a silo</li> <li>e. Able to produce effective evidence such as changes in outcomes linked to activity (not end goal) or distance travelled</li> </ul>
Addiction and dependency on alcohol, drugs, substances and/or gambling	People whose lives are significantly affected by their addiction and dependency on alcohol, drugs, substances and/or gambling.
Trafficking and modern slavery	<p>People who have been trafficked or forced against their will into labour or marriage.</p> <p><b>Modern Slavery</b> is an umbrella term, which covers several human rights issues, of which human trafficking is one. It encompasses – slavery, human trafficking, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. Examples of exploitation into which people can be trafficked and held in slavery include labour exploitation, domestic servitude, forced marriage, forced criminality, organ harvesting and/or sexual exploitation</p> <p><b>In practice, the terms modern slavery and human trafficking are often used interchangeably.</b></p> <p><b>We recognise that there are only a few small, local and specialist charities working solely with victims of modern slavery at present. We therefore also encourage project-based applications from charities that have clearly evidenced need to support victims of modern slavery.</b></p>
Young parents	Young people under the age of 21 who have become parents and which may have adversely affected their health, relationships and opportunities to continue their education or move into training/employment.
Asylum seekers and refugees	<p>People who are seeking asylum in the UK or have been granted refugee status in the last two years.</p> <p>We fund services for people seeking asylum or have been granted refugee status in the last two years which could include immigration advice, welfare advice, and support to integrate in their local community.</p>

	To be funded for work which includes immigration advice you will need to hold or be able to evidence that you are working towards <a href="#">OISC accreditation</a> .
--	--

**Please note:**

We will **not** provide grants for significant capital purchases, building work or purchase of vehicles

#### 4. What we look for in the work we fund: 'Our Programme Fit'

Like any other funder, we cannot support all the applications we receive. We want to focus on the charities and projects that are most likely to have the biggest impact on the lives of people facing the complex social issues identified above, and have developed criteria for the characteristics we think that highly impactful work will possess:

- i) In-depth
- ii) Holistic and person-centred
- iii) Targeted
- iv) Supporting a journey of change
- v) An appetite for development

*i) In-depth*

We fund charities which work with people over a prolonged period; we will look at how frequent, sustained and regular your contact with your service users is, on average. We do not fund work that is primarily one-off advice, online based or 'signposting.'

*ii) Holistic and person-centred*

By holistic, we mean that we expect to see a 'person centred approach' in your work. The individual will have been assessed and their needs identified with a comprehensive plan of support put in place. We appreciate that any single charity or service can't be expected to provide a one-stop-shop covering all possible client/service user needs, but we will look for evidence that you are working intensively with service users on an individual basis and not just offering generic activities.

Where your charity cannot meet all of an individual's needs, you will need to tell us how you are working in partnership with others organisations (e.g. through supported referrals) to address them.

*iii) Targeted*

We fund work which is specifically aimed at those affected by one or more of our complex social issues to help them overcome, address or manage that particular issue. We do not tend to support work that is purely reactive, or for the benefit of an entire geographic community. You will know who the beneficiaries are, understand their needs and pro-actively seek to support them. We will ask whether you consult your service users regularly to ensure your offer is as relevant and appropriate to them as possible.

*iv) Supporting a journey of change*

We expect you to be able to monitor and measure positive, outcome-based changes. These may not always be 'hard' outcomes, (e.g. moving from homeless to stable housing) but we need to see evidence that you are supporting your service users to develop new skills, confidence, independence, security and/or agency. You do not have to be using databases or evaluation frameworks for this, but we will expect you to be able to tell us about the positive changes your service users are able to make.

*v) An appetite for development*

We have been offering support beyond grant funding for over five years now; it's changed the way we worked with charities and meant that we can partner with charities to help them become more resilient and sustainable over the lifetime of a grant from us. We also now know that our strongest relationships are those that have a development focus; our Regional Managers work closely with the charities we partner with to help them reflect on their organisation's needs and meet them through Enhance (our development programme).

This is why, under our new approach to grant-making, we will be looking at applicants' understanding of their own organisational development issues, and their appetite to address them. This does not mean that you have to access our Enhance support; you may be working on these development issues in another way. However, it is important to us that you can demonstrate a willingness to build a partnership with the Foundation that goes beyond our grant funding.

## 5. Questions

If you have any questions at all, please do get in touch with us. The team will be happy to help.

Email: [enquiries@lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk)

Telephone: 0370 411 1223