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**Greater Together Foundation Community Resilience Fund 2024/25**

**Guidance Notes**

**1. Introduction**

Building on the great success of the Resilience Fund 2023 to provide grants to organisations offering support to Great Places customers and the local community with the cost-of-living crisis, Great Places is pleased to launch the Resilience Fund 2024.

**This year’s fund will focus on:** Healthy Communities

With abudget of £100k, the Greater Together Foundation Resilience Fund will distribute grants on a commissioning basis with Community and Partnership Managers facilitating the allocation of funds for their respective region. Community and Partnership Managers will help to identify community organisations that are eligible for the fund and provide guidance with their application if required.

Grants of up to £10,000 will be made available to those organisations that can clearly demonstrate and evidence how they will support Great Places customers with health and wellbeing services, in particular early intervention and prevention, or community cohesion activities and projects. Great Places is particularly keen to receive applications from organisations that can support people with:

* Access to Health Services and Clinical Preventive Services.
* Environmental Quality.
* Maternal Infant and Child Health.
* Mental Health.
* Oral Health, Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity
* Reproductive and Sexual Health
* Community cohesion that can bring a sense of belonging and common vision that can be developed between people from different backgrounds and circumstances.
* Shared events like community festivals, sports events, outings, and welcome events.
* Outreach work to engage with new arrivals, including informal leaders and networks.
* School engagement to help students understand their own backgrounds and cultures, and to provide a safe environment where bullying, harassment, and prejudice are not tolerated. Schools can also partner with other schools to provide opportunities for students to interact with students from different schools.
* Addressing hate crime
* Challenging negative stereotypes

Please see the attached link for a more detailed description of the above: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/healthy_people/hp2020/hp2020_indicators.htm>

**2. Overall purpose of the Community Resilience Programme**

To provide financial assistance to community groups, charities and social enterprises to implement or enhance their provision to support Great Places customers and the local community aligned with the overarching theme of ‘Healthy Communities’.

To mobilise those organisations that are best placed to react quickly to the needs of the local community and have the greatest impact.

To enable customers and the community to access services and support that will help them to live a healthier life and feel part of their community.

**3. Key Great Places principles**

Our guiding principles are to support our priority neighbourhoods and customers to access help in alignment with key Local Authority action plans and strategies whilst helping meet our key service delivery framework principles and corporate objectives.

Great Places wishes to fund a range of services and activities and has set out our criteria in these guidance notes which should be viewed in conjunction with the application form.

**4. Geographical locations**

Great Places is a traditional social landlord with homes ostensibly across the Northwest, South Yorkshire and Cheshire East. We target our resources towards the neighbourhoods where we have significant stock levels and where we can have a greater impact for our customers and the local community.

Organisations applying to the fund must realistically be able to deliver their service locally in areas where Great Places has a particular concentration of stock which include; Manchester, Oldham, Stockport, Knutsford, Sheffield, Rotherham, Burnley, Blackburn Pendle, Hyndburn, Preston, Blackpool and Morecambe.

**5. Eligibility Criteria**

We wish to support a wide range of groups and charitable organisations. The following is a specific list of organisations that are eligible for the fund.

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| **Size of Grants**  | Up to £10,000 |
| **Types of organisations eligible** | Constituted Voluntary and Community groups with their own bank account |
| Registered and Exempt Charities |
| Community Interest Companies |
| Not for profit companies and or Social Enterprise with a different recognised legal entity |
| Statutory or non-statutory organisations |
| **Project Timescale** | 12 months after award date |

**All organisations must have**

Annual accounts, i.e., a summary of your financial activity. If you are a small organisation, this may be produced by your board and doesn't have to be done by an accountant. Alternatively, a projected income and expenditure document if a new group or organisation.

At least 2 unrelated bank account signatories.

Up to date safeguarding procedures.

Relevant insurance.

**6. Outcomes**

Applicants will need to provide anticipated outcomes with any evidence of previous success. Outcomes can constitute any or a combination of the following:

* Number of people accessing the service, activity or project.
* Case studies of people accessing the service, activity or project.
* Interviews with people accessing the service activity or project.
* Testimonials from people accessing the service, activity or project.
* Evidence that people have improved health, feel safer, are more active in the community.
* Evidence that people feel more positive about themselves and the future for themselves and their family.

**7. Evidence of Need**

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate how they know there is a need for the service, activity, or project, and refer to evidence of consultation if available. Types of evidence of need could include:

* Office for National Statistics (ONS) health data.
* Local Public Health Data
* Primary Care Data
* NHS Prevention Programme Data
* ONS Neighbourhood and Community – Community Life Data

**8. How to apply**

The fund opens on Monday 2nd September 2024 with a closing date of Sunday 29th September 2024.

Interested applicants need to complete the online application form [**here**](https://www.greatplaces.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Application-Form-Greater-Together-Foundation-Community-Resilience-Fund-2024.docx)**.**  For further information please contact:

Patrick Brown: Email Patrick.Brown@greatplaces.org.uk Telephone 07561868867

Craig Stone: Email craig.stone@greatplaces.org.uk Telephone 07561868867

**9. Service Level Agreement (SLA)**

A Service Level Agreement will be drafted for all projects receiving a grant of £2000 and above.

The SLA will specify roles and responsibilities, with clear outcomes and a claw back clause if service delivery fails to meet the agreed objectives.

No payment will be made until the SLA is signed by both parties.

**10. Monitoring and Evaluation**

Community and Partnership Managers will meet with successful applicants to assess their capability of delivering on the project.

Community and Partnership Managers will complete 2 monitoring contacts, via telephone, online or in person. At least one contact will include the completion of the monitoring visit form.

Community and Partnership Managers will complete a central monitoring spreadsheet of those organisations that are funded. The monitoring spreadsheet will include when the SLA is signed, the grant payment made and received, and brief notes of the monitoring contacts.

**11. Service Escalation**

Community and Partnership Managers will be responsible for resolving any issues regarding service delivery as stated and agreed in the Service Level Agreement. Where the issue is not able to be resolved this will be escalated to the Community Investment Manager. If the matter is still not able to be resolved there will be a further and final escalation to the Head of Community Investment.