

Community Investment Programme

The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation

We are an independent charity set up 10 years ago. Since then, we've worked successfully to bring the community together to tackle the inequalities faced by many across the borough which the Grenfell Tower tragedy brought into stark relief. We spotlight issues which disadvantage people and raise the funds and resources to tackle them. We invest these in local organisations to collectively address local needs and build a stronger community.

Community Investment Programme

The Community Investment Programme is part of our Grenfell Community Development Fund. Through it we will allocate the remaining funds from our Grenfell Tower Fund into projects that will help the community in North Kensington to rebuild and flourish.

We want to support organisations that have ideas that will help the community on this journey with investments which will usually be:

- Up to £10,000 for individual organisations;
- Up to £50,000 for those who want to work in partnership, either with other local organisations or with out of Borough organisations on a bigger picture project.

Higher amounts may be awarded for projects that are considered exceptional and/or vital to the community for either individual organisations or partnerships.

We realise that most projects will require a longer-term approach to enable the best possible outcomes. With this in mind, where appropriate, investments can be made for up to three years.

What we want to achieve through the Community Investment Programme

We want to fund projects which enable local people to not only materially improve their well-being, but to flourish and so strengthen the community as a whole.

Through a Listening Project we carried out with the local community, we are aware that the following are considered some of the priorities by people in North Kensington and community organisations may wish to consider these and how they can contribute in their proposals:

Employment and skills: new approaches to increase employment, confidence and skills

Older people: intergenerational programmes and neighbourhood befriending schemes

Mental Health: culturally relevant, age and gender appropriate approaches to mental health

Families: family mediation and support, after school care, especially for working parents, enabling people of all ages to fulfil their potential

Under 25s: mentoring, sports, helping young people to achieve, especially those who are hard to reach, vulnerable and exposed to violence or crime

Community projects: bringing people together, integration and community cohesion, building strong relationships across communities, recognition of local culture and history

Places and Spaces: improving places that matter to the local community

In the first instance, we would like to hear from you if you have a proposal which:

- Empowers and supports local people;
- Is forward thinking;
- Will have positive long-term outcomes for individuals or families;
- Can show how you have researched with local people that the need exists;
- Demonstrates how you are reaching out to people in the community.

During the early response to the Grenfell Tower tragedy, members of the community, local and non-local organisations, community centres and faith groups all came together and collaborated in a way which demonstrated the very best of human spirit. There is now the real opportunity to continue this successful approach with programmes which are about the bigger picture rather than what an organisation can do on its own or has done in the past.

We would welcome ideas which come from people and local organisations getting together to co-create programmes which have the potential to have a bigger impact and which encourage building relationships across the community.

Whilst the importance of the local community is central, we also realise that to have maximum impact, local groups may wish to work together with organisations from outside of the Borough who bring particular expertise in relation to an identified local need and have a proven track record of success.

The main aim of this funding is to provide long-term benefits to the people in North Kensington. If you wish to talk to us about an existing programme of work, you will need to be able to demonstrate that it is adding value and important in helping people to continue to rebuild their lives.

The money received for the Grenfell Tower Fund was specifically given to help those directly affected and the wider community. This programme should not be considered as a source of core funding for local charities and community partners, but as exceptional funding to help with exceptional circumstances and to support local people in the most effective way through this continuing difficult period.

The **Community Investment Programme** looks to be:

1. **Community-led** – we want to see that you are listening to local people and they should be part of the development of ideas for projects put forward
2. **Strengths-based** – should take account and build on what's already working well and the skills and experiences of people which already exist
3. **Collaborative** – an openness to pooling resources with others with the incentive being to achieve the best possible outcomes for local people
4. **Connected** – people connecting and working together to improve their own wellbeing and across the community

How will it work?

In the first instance, get in touch with us to discuss your idea.

Any projects put forward must show how they will benefit the Grenfell-affected community which means people, living, working or going to school or college in North Kensington and also those who were made homeless by the fire.

We don't have any pre-conceived ideas about what projects will be as long as they can clearly demonstrate how they will be supporting and empowering local people and looking to long-term outcomes. Funds could be used for a combination of project activities, operating costs and capital costs.

There are no deadlines. It is far more important to identify projects that will be most effective.

The role of the Kensington & Chelsea Foundation

Our role will be to support project leaders and to be responsible for how the money is allocated and monitor how it is spent. We will:

- Be open and transparent about the programmes we are supporting and how local people can access and benefit from them;
- Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the supported programmes and share what we learn.

Who will decide what gets funded?

Because this funding is for specific programmes, we will look at each proposal that comes to us individually. If we believe that it has the potential to make a positive impact on the community as outlined above, we will ask you for more detail. For larger investments, we will bring together a group of people with the skills and knowledge to assess your programme and its objectives. Each group will include a community representative and, for the purposes of governance, a K&C Foundation trustee. The K&C Foundation Board of Trustees will authorise all investments.

Who can apply?

To apply for support your group **must**:

- Be a registered charity, constituted group or social enterprise/CIC;
- Be based in Kensington and Chelsea or have an established reputation for excellent work locally;
- Have a bank account in its own name which has been open for six months or longer at the date of application.

Is there anything you won't fund?

Whilst wishing to be as flexible as possible, we are unable to fund projects for individuals, activities which are primarily religious in purpose, animal welfare, projects which have already happened, trips or holidays, lobbying or political activities or legal costs or advocacy for individuals or groups.

For more information contact:

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