

**APPLICANT GUIDANCE:
GREATER MANCHESTER MAYOR'S CHARITY
- HOMELESSNESS INNOVATION FUND**

Thank you for your interest in the Greater Manchester Mayor's Charity (The Charity) Homelessness Innovation Fund. Before applying for the fund please read these guidelines carefully.

What is the fund for?

This fund is to assist frontline organisations to deliver innovative initiatives to tackle homelessness and support "A Bed Every Night" (ABEN) which aims to end the need for rough sleeping across Greater Manchester. We are, in this Fund, particularly interested in supporting projects that target an unmet or under-served need within the current ABEN provision.

For this first round of funding the Charity is therefore inviting applications for projects that target **one** or more of the following groups:

- Young people
- Women
- People with no recourse to public funds

This is our first open call for applications to the Charity. As we develop more funding opportunities, other funds with specific targets/priorities/criteria will be opened. We are also happy to receive general proposals for new project funding and will enter into discussions upon receipt.

Who is eligible to apply?

The Fund is aimed at organisations based in Greater Manchester who already work within the homelessness sector. You can apply if your organisation is a:

- Voluntary or community organisation
- Registered charity
- Not-for-profit company or Community Interest Company (CIC)
- Constituted group or club

At this time we **will not be** seeking applications from:

- Individuals
- Statutory agencies
- Organisations registered outside of the UK
- Sole traders
- Organisations applying on behalf of another

To access the Fund, organisations must adhere to the following key principles and values:

- To promote independence and not sustain life on the streets
- A commitment to end rough sleeping
- A commitment to reduce homelessness
- A proactive approach to equality and diversity
- A willingness to work together with other partners in the GM Homelessness Action Network
- A willingness to share good practice and expertise with the network
- A commitment to share and publish outcomes from any project supported by the Charity

What can you apply for?

We are looking for applications of **up to a maximum of £10,000** for innovative activities and services that will support ABEN delivery. ABEN provides people who are rough sleeping with a roof over their heads, a hot meal, a hot shower, and help and support to move off the streets and into a home where they have dignity, hope and a future.

Projects may include, for example:

- Providing specialised supported accommodation for young people with access to personal development opportunities
- Health and rehabilitation programmes
- Small capital projects that enable ABEN ambitions and delivery

This list is by no means exhaustive – we welcome any application which offers innovative solutions to homelessness for our target groups.

In most cases we would expect the funds to be spent within 12 months of the award.

It's important to us that you involve your community in the design, development and delivery of the activities you're planning. We believe this will help your project to be better supported by the energy and strengths that exist within your community and it is more likely to be successful as a result. By community, we mean people living in your local area, people who share a common interest, or people who experience similar barriers and issues.

What you cannot apply for...

- Support for a specific individual
- The replacement of ongoing operational costs
- Organisational staffing costs on a continuous basis*
- Political or religious promotion and/or campaigning activity
- Projects with no charitable purpose
- Work that statutory bodies have a duty to fund
- Profit-making or fundraising activities
- Contingency costs, recoverable VAT, loans or endowments
- Retrospective costs ie requests to cover expenditure incurred before any funding is awarded
- Requests for unspecified expenditure
- Request to fund travel outside of the UK
- Projects that predominantly support people living outside Greater Manchester

* The Charity recognises the value of supporting some substantive staffing costs directly involved in project delivery where these funds may be difficult to access from other sources. We will consider applications on a case-by-case and time-limited basis.

We may consider supporting exceptional larger projects where there is strong evidence of need and impact. Applicants should contact us in advance to discuss their proposal before applying.

How to apply

Deadline for applications

We can accept applications to this fund at any time up to **11:59pm Monday 30th September 2019** using the application form available on our website.

All applications will be considered on a case by case basis. We only have a certain amount of funding to award and we expect that we may have more applications than we can support through this initial fund. This means we will have to make some tough decisions when looking at all the applications we've received and there may be some projects that we are unable to support at this time.

Get in touch

If you need more information, advice or support in completing your application (or need the application materials in an alternative format) please contact us at **enquiries@gmmayorscharity.co.uk**

Please note we will also ask you to provide the following additional information with your completed application form:

- **A copy of your most recent approved accounts** which should be no more than 18 months old. If you are a new organisation set up within the last 15 months you can provide a 12-month cashflow projection
- **A signed and dated copy of your governing document or constitution**
- **A copy of your safeguarding policy and procedures**

Applications should be sent to **enquiries@gmmayorscharity.co.uk**

How we will assess your application....

We will assess the strengths of your project and your organisation. We expect a strong application will demonstrate:

- A fit with the priorities for this fund
- The longer term impact the project will have on achieving the ambition of ABEN
- An understanding of significant existing under-provision and/or a developing area of need
- Involvement of people will experience of homelessness in the design and delivery
- Innovative approaches to addressing homelessness

We don't require match funding but demonstrating that there is additional support for your project, either financially or in kind, from other agencies could strengthen your application.

All the details you provide should be accurate, up to date and consistent with other information about your organisation that is available in the public domain eg on regulatory bodies such as Companies House and the Charity Commission, on your website and on your social media pages.

If you have provided referees for your application it is likely we will contact them towards the end of this process. Please ensure that they are aware of your project and that they may be contacted by someone from the Charity.

Letting you know the outcome of your application

We will endeavour to provide a decision on your application within **four weeks** of the deadline date of 30th September 2019. There may be occasion for more complex applications where this will take a little longer, and we will inform you if this is the case at our earliest opportunity.

Reapplication

Organisations can reapply to the Charity for future funding, however we would not expect to make more than two awards to a single organisation in any 12-month period.

What happens next

If your application is successful you will receive an email informing you of the decision. This email will give you more information on what happens next and the terms and conditions of your grant. There may be some additional conditions on your grant: changes that need to be made or things you will have to tell us before we can award you the funds.

You will have to start spending the money within 6 months of the date of the email informing you of the decision.

If your application is unsuccessful, you will receive an email informing you of the decision. This email will give you brief reasons as to why your application was turned down and will indicate when you can next apply. You can also contact us if you would like further feedback.

On behalf of the Charity and our patron, Mayor Andy Burnham, we would like to thank you for your interest and continued commitment to supporting those most in need across our city region.