

Women's Vote Centenary Grants Scheme

Large grant fund – Round 1: Frequently Asked Questions (06/02/18)

We will update this document with new answers to frequently asked questions as they arise so please check the website regularly.

Applying for large grant funding

How much funding is available?

In Round 1 you can apply for between £30,000 and £125,000 out of a pot of around £700,000. We expect to fund around 8 to 12 projects in Round 1.

Round 2 will be open around April 2018, for projects with a shorter running time. Applicants will be able to apply for between £2,000 and £65,000 out of a pot of around £400,000.

Please see womensvotecentenaryfund.co.uk for further information.

Is this funding only available for organisations and activities in England?

Yes, this funding is only available for organisations and activities in England. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will have their own arrangements for marking the centenary.

I think I have a great idea, but it needs a lot more work. Should I apply during Round 1?

For Round 1 we are looking for projects that are well developed and able to start by 30 April. If you think this does not describe your project, we would strongly advise you to wait and apply during Round 2, as you are very unlikely to be successful in Round 1.

Can I apply to the Scheme more than once?

We will only award large grant funding once to any single organisation. If you are a partner in one application, and leading on another, we will take this into account and it may affect whether or not we fund you. This is so that as many different organisations as possible across England can benefit from funding.

Organisations that have already received funding from the small grant fund are able to apply to round 1 or round 2 of the large grant fund as long as it is for a different project.

If you apply for a grant and are unsuccessful then you are able to apply again, but you should only do so if you have addressed the reason why you were unsuccessful.

Organisations that have received funding from the Centenary Cities fund will not be able to apply for funding through this element of the Scheme. We are also unlikely to fund projects in the seven Centenary Cities areas (Bolton, Bristol, Leeds, Leicester, London, Manchester and Nottingham) unless they are distinct from and/or add significant value to what has already been funded in those 7 areas.

How long will I have to wait for a decision?

We aim to let you know the outcome of your application by the end of March 2018.

How to apply

Do I have to apply online?

Yes. We can only accept applications through the application portal. We think the portal is easy to use and you are able to save what you've done and return to your application at a later time.

Please use the PDF of the application form for guidance only.

If you have any access requirements please contact us at womensvotecentenaryfund@ecorys.com.

Am I required to provide a reference?

No. Please ignore this note on the summary page of the online form. *Please note: It is responsibility of the **applicant** to ensure that the contributor (Referee) on this application has completed their contribution in good time before the application closing date. We recommend that the contributor ensures they have completed this **one week** before the closing date.*

Who can apply

Which organisations are eligible to apply for a large grant?

The large grant fund is open to voluntary and community organisations, colleges, universities and trade unions. Voluntary and community organisation is a common term that encompasses a number of different organisation types that have a social purpose in common, and are not run for financial gain.

Please refer to the guidance for a full list of eligible organisation types.

Will you consider applications from partnerships and consortia?

Partnerships and consortia are able to apply for funding.

Each partnership or consortium must have a lead partner who will take on full responsibility for the grant, project delivery and keeping to the terms and conditions. The lead organisation must be an eligible applicant organisation.

Special purpose vehicles are not able to apply.

Why are local authorities not eligible to apply?

Local Authorities may not apply for funding as a lead organisation as the grant scheme's particular focus is on sector and community led projects. However, we recognise the

expertise and experience of local authorities and welcome their involvement as members of a consortium or partnership.

We want to include a commercial organisation in our partnership. Can we do this?

The legal underpinning of the scheme (section 70 of the Charities Act) will not allow money from this fund to support for-profit activity. Commercial organisations, such as theatre companies, can act as a partner or subcontractor if the grant activity is delivered at actual cost and does not include profit. We would expect any inputs from commercial organisations to be limited, and essential to the delivery of the project.

Completing the application form

What do you mean by key deliverables?

We will use the information you provide in this question to agree a payment plan with you, so we ask you to break your project down into key events or blocks of activity so that we can do this.

For example, if your project includes an exhibition that will run for the full six months of your project, and then three separate events that will run alongside this, then you should separate out these four activities as four deliverables. You may either attribute marketing and other costs to each item or list these separately if that makes more sense for your project.

Can we apply for funding for project overhead costs?

You can include some of your overheads in your budget as well as the direct costs of your project.

Direct project costs are the costs that relate clearly and directly to a project. These can include salaries for project workers or volunteer expenses.

Overheads are costs that partly support the project, but also support other projects or activities that your organisation provides. These could be a proportion of salaries of core staff such as administrators. They could also be rent and utilities costs. Most organisations will have their own way of apportioning overhead costs to projects.

Overhead costs should be fully justifiable and limited to no more than 10% of your overall budget.

My activities will cost more than £125,000. Can I include any additional funding in my budget?

Yes, you may include additional funding from other sources in your budget, but the Women's Vote Centenary Grant Scheme must be the majority funder. The maximum project size must therefore be less than £250,000.

Why do you want to see a copy of one of our bank statements?

We ask for this as part of approach to risk management and fraud prevention. It is one of the steps we take to verify that organisations applying to the Scheme are genuine.

Can I provide any supporting documents with my application, such as a reference?

No, you should only send in the documents we ask for. These are your completed application form and bank statement. In the interests of fairness, we will not be able to consider any other supporting documents, such as references.

Eligible activities and costs

Can we apply for funding to commission an artist?

No. We do not think commissioning a piece of art would support the scheme objectives. However, it is acceptable to hire an artist to work with women and/or young people as part of your project.

As part of the Government's wider plans for marking the centenary a statue of the suffragist Millicent Fawcett will be unveiled in Parliament Square in spring 2018.

Other

What is the relation between Ecorys UK and Government Equalities Office?

Government Equalities Office appointed Ecorys UK, a grant administrator, to oversee the application and award process of this scheme.

Any other questions?

If you have a question that is not answered here, or in the application form or guidance, then please email us at womensvotecentenaryfund@ecorys.com.

We regret we are unable to advise on the suitability of strength of your project idea.