

WOMEN'S VOTE CENTENARY GRANT SCHEME SMALL GRANTS - ROUND 2

Frequently asked questions

How much funding is available?

The Scheme has an overall value of £1.5 million for small and large grant funding. Small grant funding of between £300 and £2,000 is currently available.

The closing date for Round 2 is 18 May 2018.

All activity in this round must start no later than 31 August 2018.

There will be a third round of small grant funding in 2018. This final round for small grants will run between 12 July – 14 September.

The second round of large grant funding will be launched in April.

Please see www.womensvotecentenaryfund.co.uk for further information.

Why are you prioritising applications from certain regions?

In Round 2 we especially welcome and prioritise applications from Yorkshire & Humber; West Midlands; East Midlands; Eastern; South West and South East. This is because these regions were under represented in grants awarded in Round 1 and we want to ensure a good spread of projects across England.

Can I apply to the Small Grant Fund more than once?

We will only award small grant funding to a single organisation once in the lifetime of the Scheme. This is so that as many different people as possible across England can benefit from funding.

If you have had an unsuccessful application in Round 1, you are able to apply again in Rounds 2 or 3.

If you have an unsuccessful application in Round 2, then you are not able to reapply in Round 2, but you can reapply in Round 3.

You should only apply again if you have addressed the reason(s) why you were unsuccessful.

I have a project funded through the Large Grant Fund, am I eligible to apply to the Small Grant Fund?

Yes, as long as the project is different and distinct from what has been funded through the Large Grant Fund.

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. More details are available at www.womensvotecentenaryfund.co.uk.

What type of activities will you fund?

We want communities to decide for themselves how they mark the centenary, so we have deliberately not set out a list of 'allowed' activities. We encourage you to be creative and take this as an opportunity to do something different.

However, it is important that activities bring people together face to face, and particularly people who are underrepresented in civic life, such as women and young people. Activities should also be either one-off or for a limited time only.

We will fund activities that meet the overall CELEBRATE objective:

CELEBRATE, INSPIRE and REMEMBER: to increase national awareness and mark 100 years since women got the right to vote.

Specifically we are looking to fund activities that will:

- increase people's awareness of the women's suffrage movement
- improve people's understanding of democracy in the UK, particularly young people
- encourage and inspires participation in civic life.

Applying for small grant funding

Who can apply for a grant?

The Women's Vote Centenary Grant Scheme is open to voluntary and community organisations, schools, colleges, universities and Town and Parish councils. Voluntary and community organisation is a common term that encompasses a number of different organisation types that have in common that they have a social purpose, and are not run for financial gain.

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

Why are local authorities not eligible to apply?

Local Authorities may not apply for funding as the grant scheme's particular focus is on sector and community led projects.

Will you consider applications from consortia or partnerships?

We will not accept applications for small grant funding from consortia or partnerships. Consortia and partnerships are eligible for funding for the Large Grant Fund Round 2. Further information will be provided shortly.

Can we apply for funding to cover the core running costs of our organisation?

No. Small grant funding may not be used to cover any of the day to day costs of running your organisation, including core running costs and salaries for existing staff.

Please refer to the guidance for a full list of ineligible costs.

My activities will cost more than £2,000. Can I include any additional funding in my budget?

Small grant funding is intended for one off or time-limited activities on a small scale. The total cost of activities must not exceed £2,000. The Women's Vote Centenary Grants Scheme must be the only funder.

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

We ask for this as part of our 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 apply for funding for campaigning activity?

It is important that your activities should be non-partisan and do not promote the cause of any single political party.

In addition, we are not able to fund activity that propagates a particular religion or seeks to lobby government.

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, bank statement and governing document (if required). In the interests of fairness, we will not be able to consider any other supporting documents, such as references.

What do we mean by start date?

The start date is not the date when your event actually takes place but when you need to start the project as a whole, so this would include any planning or preparatory work.

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.

How will you make decisions?

As with Round 1, we expect to receive more good applications that we can fund in both Rounds 2 and 3. Alongside the eligibility and suitability of the project, decision making will also consider ensuring a good geographical spread alongside awarding a variety of activity types.

How long will I have to wait for a decision?

We aim to let you know the outcome within four weeks of submitting your application. Please make sure you apply in sufficient time before your planned start date.

After being awarded funding

How will you monitor our activities?

You will be asked to send us a short monitoring report (up to one page) at the end of your activities. We will provide a template for you to use. We would also love to see photographs, other media and media coverage if you have this.

You should keep a record of what you have spent your grant on and evidence of expenditure (such as receipts). We will audit a number of grants and may select your grant for an audit. You do not need to send us evidence of expenditure unless we ask for it.

If you do not provide this information when asked for it then you may have to pay back your grant.

Any other questions?

If you have a question that is not answered here, or in the guidance, then please email us at womensvotecentenaryfund@ecorys.com. Please state your **application reference number** in any email communication about your application. You can find it on the application portal in the format 'SGFR2\xxxxxx'. If you do not have a reference number, please state in your email to which grant fund your query is related (i.e. **Small Grant Fund** or **Large Grant Fund**).

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

We will update this document with new answers to frequently asked questions as they arise.