

## **Response, Recovery & Resilience Fund**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. Who can apply to the Fund?**

Grants will go to local charities and community organisations that have an annual income of £250,000 or less and meet our standard criteria for funding. See Eligibility Criteria on the [Fund webpage](#) for full details.

#### **2. What types of projects and activities will you support?**

The focus of the Fund will continue to evolve in line with need and help required. Types of activity the Fund will prioritise:

- support for foodbanks to continue to support those shielding and or struggling due to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic
- funding to ensure organisations have the right devices to support remote working to keep their operation going and deliver services online or via phone
- support to allow organisations to change their approach or adapt their services to meet social distancing guidelines.
- support to develop specific resources/infrastructure to deal with mental health issues e.g. employing counselling staff, or appropriate training for staff and volunteers, and mental health support for staff and volunteers.
- Training and resources for charities and communities to provide guidance on changes to operation and working practices to allow them to delivery services safely
- Advocacy, money, and housing rights advice to prevent/reduce financial hardship
- Social prescribing models to support well-being

#### **3. Can newly established, local aid groups apply?**

We are aware many people have joined community efforts to look after the most vulnerable in society by volunteering to pick up shopping, deliver medicine etc. This is something we warmly welcome. The [Covid-19 Mutual Aid](#) website provides advice on how to set up a local mutual aid group, including important guidance on safety and security.

Recently formed groups of local volunteers providing mutual aid in your community can also apply. You will need to:

- demonstrate that your work is endorsed by the Local Covid-19 Hub, another charitable or statutory organisation e.g. parish council.
- demonstrate that appropriate safeguarding has been considered, and appropriate

policies are in place e.g. volunteer code of conduct.

- seek authorisation from another charitable organisation or statutory organisation, e.g. community council, to hold funds on your behalf if you do not have a bank account. For further advice and guidance, please visit the [Covid Mutual Aid website](#)

#### **4. I'm organising a group of volunteers. I understand that there isn't a legal requirement for me to have my volunteers Disclosure Scotland checks, but should I do so anyway?**

Many of the roles that volunteers will carry out in their local communities do not raise safeguarding issues and do not need a to be sent to Disclosure Scotland to be checked. However, they are fast tracking some checks and waiving fees so have a look at their [website](#) if you are unsure.

If your group's activities are captured, under normal circumstances we would advise that having volunteers checked is a prudent safeguarding step.

#### **5. Can we apply for core costs?**

No, day to day running costs of your organisation are not eligible. We can consider funding for additional staff hours or a contribution to costs to deliver or adapt your service in a new way to help you respond to the impact of COVID-19.

#### **6. Can groups apply retrospectively?**

No, we cannot cover costs you have already incurred.

#### **7. Can individuals and households apply?**

We understand COVID-19 pandemic is having, and will continue to have, a big impact on individuals and families in our area. Our Fund has been set up to support charitable organisations that can help people most affected. We are not providing grants directly to individuals or families. If you are worried about money or other issues, you can contact a [Citizens Advice](#) or other [local advice centres](#)

#### **8. Can businesses apply?**

We are not providing grants directly to businesses. Our Fund has been set up to support charitable organisations that can help people most affected. We recommend you contact [Scottish Chamber of Commerce](#) for advice and guidance

#### **9. How does this Fund relate to the national appeal?**

The National Emergencies Trust has launched a UK-wide fundraising appeal in partnership with the British Red Cross to support local charities. We are the official partners for NET to distribute funds in Scotland.

#### **10. How do groups apply?**

Application forms are available from our website, [click here](#). We aim to process applications as quickly as possible. There are no deadline dates and the grants panel will meet on a regular basis.