

Fidelity UK Foundation Kent Community Development Fund

Guidelines April 2018

Purpose of the Fund

This Fund supports projects which help the young and/or the disadvantaged achieve their potential.

Grant-making reflects the Fidelity UK Foundation's investment approach, focusing on strengthening charities, increasing their potential impact and encouraging long-term sustainability.

Applicants must show how they will use the investment to achieve significant, measurable outcomes, such as a new revenue stream or expansion of an already successful activity.

Who can apply?

Must be a registered charity that has been in existence for at least three years. Annual income over £100K. The Fund will only support organisations in robust financial health. The Fund will only support organisations with a demonstrably strong track record.

Geographical area of benefit

The county of Kent including Medway

Grant size

Grants of £5,000 to £20,000. Grant request must be less than 10% of annual income. Grants will be one-off investments and not be awarded over multiple years.

General guidance

The Fund will prioritise grants which enable strong charitable organisations to reach new levels of achievement, efficiency and sustainability.

Applications will typically be considered for:

- **Capital expenditure** – including equipment, new construction, renovation, and expansion

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which are critical to sustainability and achieving mission. *E.g. organisation working with elderly and isolated, offering meals & cooking-based interventions, supported to enlarge kitchen, leading to increase in number of beneficiaries & additional income generated.*

- **Strategic IT projects** – including investments in hardware/software which will enable expansion or efficiency in service delivery. (The standalone replacement of dated office IT equipment will not be considered.) *E.g. mental health organisation working across large remote area supported to purchase & implement new IT system allowing reliable remote access for outreach workers, leading to staff time saved on admin so increasing number of hours service delivery, and reducing travel costs for staff no longer needing to travel as regularly to central office.*
- **Strategic organisational developments** – including mergers and planning initiatives which use expert consultants to determine new, transformational paths. *E.g. youth-focused organisation presented with expansion opportunity, supported to engage consultant to assess long-term viability of expansion, and to assist with expansion implementation.*

The Fund will not consider:

- Applications for core/running costs such as general salaries, marketing, training or event sponsorship.
- Applications from individuals, political or sectarian organisations, mainstream schools and colleges, playgroups, community centres, sports clubs. Religious groups can apply but their services must be open to all and the grant cannot be used for the promotion of religion.

Decision making

Applications will be considered three times a year.

Feedback/Monitoring required

Applicants must include in their application what outcomes they hope to achieve, how these outcomes will be measured and what evidence of impact they will be able to provide (e.g. reports, photos, user feedback). Grantees must complete a monitoring and evaluation report at the end of the project period (or within 12 months if sooner).

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