**KEY INFORMATION:**

**Grants available:** Grants of between £2,000 - £10,000 are available per application. Please note organisations can only apply once to this round of funding. The funding is provided by Manchester City Council’s Public Health team and managed by the Our Manchester Funds team.

**Key contact:** omfunds@manchester.gov.uk

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| **Opening date** | Monday 5th February 2024 |
| **Closing date** | 5pm, Monday 4th March 2024 |
| **Decisions made** | By end of March 2024 |
| **Start date for activity** | Mid-April 2024 |
| **End date for activity** | All activity must have been completed and final monitoring submitted by the end of March 2025.  |
| **Monitoring date(s)** | There will be an informal check-in halfway through the project.A formal monitoring form must be completed at the end of the project.A template monitoring form will be provided.  |

**FUNDING INFORMATION**

Health Equity is when everyone can reach their full health and wellbeing potential without unfair differences. We know from our research that some communities who already experience discrimination and disadvantage are also more likely to experience worse health outcomes.

The funding aims to help local Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise organisations across Manchester who work with any of the specific communities below to tackle local health inequalities. Please note that these communities are not presented in priority order, and that we welcome applications in support of any of these:

* Disabled people including people with learning disabilities.
* LGBTQIA+ Communities that experience racial inequality.
* Men experiencing poor mental wellbeing
* New or undocumented migrants / asylum seekers and refugees
* Older people (we define older people as those aged 55 years and above) experiencing poor mental wellbeing
* People or groups that experience multiple forms of discrimination (intersectionality) related to the 2010 Equality Act.\*
* Peri-natal women
* Racially minoritised people and communities that experience and are impacted by racial inequality.
* Roma / Gypsies and Travellers
* Sex workers
* Women (including trans women) experiencing domestic abuse
* Younger people (we define younger people as those aged 18 or under, or aged 25 and under if they have a special educational need or disability) experiencing poor mental wellbeing

**Aims of the fund:**

The communities above have been chosen from data analysis which suggests that they face the most health inequalities and are most in need. Specifically, we want groups to do one or more of the following:

* Understand what is important to these communities about their health.
* Remove barriers to, and increase engagement between, these communities and public service organisations, to improve health outcomes.
* Help with debt and finances relating to health equity, such as helping the groups to access benefits that they are entitled to.
* Help these groups to address key issues that affect their health and wellbeing.

**Who can apply:**

Organisations must be based in and/or mainly serving Manchester residents (Manchester ward boundaries apply) and must already be delivering work for one or more of the above communities. They must also be one of the below:

1. A charitable company limited by guarantee
2. A charitable incorporated organisation
3. A Community Benefit company registered as an industrial and provident society(Bencom)
4. A community interest company limited by guarantee
5. A community Interest company limited by share (Schedule 2 with 100% asset lock only)
6. A constituted community group
7. A faith group or organisation (exempt charity)
8. A registered charity
9. An unincorporated charitable association
10. An unregistered voluntary or community organisation.

**Applications will be assessed on:**

* The relevant skills and experience of the applicant organisation / group
* The relevance of the project to the aims of the fund
* Value for money

Please note that we are expecting a large number of applications, so not every applicant will be successful. We will prioritise applications based on their scoring in relation to the above, and if needed also based on the below.

1. While we are looking to invest in activity across Manchester, priority will be given to organisations working in the following wards that have been identified as most in need. Applications working in other wards are still welcome. Applications can be a mix of priority and non-priority wards. The priority wards are marked with an asterisk in the application form and are:
	* Ancoats & Beswick
	* Ardwick
	* Baguley
	* Charlestown
	* Cheetham
	* Clayton and Openshaw
	* Crumpsall
	* Gorton and Abbey Hey
	* Harpurhey
	* Higher Blackley
	* Hulme
	* Levenshulme
	* Longsight
	* Miles Platting and Newton Heath
	* Moss Side
	* Moston
	* Rusholme
	* Sharston
	* Whalley Range
	* Woodhouse Park
2. We aim to ensure that a proportion of funding goes to groups with a turnover of less than £10k per annum. However, the funding is still applicable to organisations with a medium (£10k – £100k per annum) or large (£100k+) turnover.
3. Preference will be given to organisations with a registered address and/or delivery address within the Manchester local authority boundaries.

**What we will fund:**

This funding aims to support and/or expand existing community provision. Typical costs covered might include:

1. Staffing and venue costs directly associated with the project.
2. Items of equipment.
3. Costs for community events or engagements.
4. Publicity material or meeting the costs of taking part in events which publicise the project services.
5. Volunteer expenses and training.
6. Costs of interpretations, translations, and alternative formats.
7. Costs towards sessional work.

**What we won’t fund:**

* Capital costs, for example refurbishments.
* Recruitment costs.
* Staffing costs not related to the specific project or activity.
* Core or operating costs not related to the specific project or activity.
* Individuals, including for travel, study, or other purposes.
* Projects or activities that have already taken place before the grant funding timelines.
* Projects where food provision is the main offer.

**Points to consider:**

* The maximum grant available for applications is £10,000.
* Funding is provided on a one-off basis and is not renewable.
* The decision to award a small grant rests with the Council and there is no appeal process.
* For community events please supply date and venue / medium (e.g., webinar, in person).
* Evidence of costs is required with all applications. As part of the assessment, we will consider if the costs appear reasonable.
* If the application form is not fully completed and the necessary supporting evidence not provided, then the application will be rejected.
* Depending on the amount requested and the length of the project, grants may be paid in one or multiple payments across the funded period. A payment schedule will be agreed with successful applicants.
* Applications should be completed using [the online application form on Smart Survey](https://surveys.manchester.gov.uk/s/CHEM24/). A Word version of the application form is available to help you plan your answers, but you should then use this to make your application using the online form. If you need help using Smart Survey, please email omfunds@manchester.gov.uk.
* The OM funds team will be running a drop in session to help people with the application process. For more information [see Macc’s website](https://manchestercommunitycentral.org/news/community-health-equity-manchester-grant-programme-2024) or contact the team using the email address above.