



## Manchester City Council

### Food Poverty Grants 2014/16

#### Prospectus

### Tackling food poverty in Manchester

#### Key Information

- Call for applications: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014
- Closing date: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 4pm
- Decisions: week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014
- For voluntary, community and faith sector organisations only
- Must be based in Manchester and/or mainly working with Manchester residents
- £400,000 is available
- Bids are invited for between £5,000 and £50,000
- Funding should be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016
- Contact person: Lindsay Laidlaw: l.laidlaw@manchester.gov.uk and 0161 234 3540

#### 1. The Grant Programme

In December 2013 Manchester City Council made £250,000 available to VCS organisations in the city to respond to emergency food needs. Over 50 grants were provided. Most of these organisations had a number of checks in place to make sure only people in real need received food provision. Most also provided a range of other support to people.

Research carried out for us by the Council by the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) found that the funding received enabled organisations to increase and expand the food related activity they were already undertaking:

**“The Food Poverty Fund has been a life saver to our project! Emergency Food provision has always been at the heart of our centre's support services. Before we can begin to tackle the wider issues in a client's life, we need to meet their immediate emergency needs.”**

We have decided to extend the scheme for a further year and in doing so to respond to the information gathered about last year's programme by broadening the criteria for this funding year.

This programme is needed because organisations in Manchester who provide emergency food have told us that they have seen an increase in the numbers of people coming to them for help. This programme is trying to alleviate immediate food poverty at the same time as trying to help people develop the skills, knowledge and habits to reduce their risk of being dependent on emergency food provision in the future.



## 2. Grant Objectives

Grant applications must meet at least one of the following objectives:

- Meeting a specific unmet demand for emergency food in your locality or community;
- Offering emergency food as part of a broader anti-poverty package which supports people to acquire skills and prepare for work;
- Providing emergency food alongside activities that will help people sustain a balanced diet in the longer term, improving health outcomes for individuals and their families;
- Providing services to address some of the longer term causes of food poverty such as by improving cooking and budgeting skills, improving access to affordable, nutritious food, and healthy, community eating opportunities.

We will only fund activities in Manchester

## 3. Activities and organisations we will fund

What we will fund:

- Food
- Toiletries
- Staff salaries
- Volunteer expenses
- Storage facilities for food
- Cooking and eating utensils/equipment
- Training
- Utility costs
- Transport costs
- Room hire
- A proportion of your core costs, clearly related to the scale of activity delivered under this funding

What we will not fund

- Purchase of vehicles or property
- Building renovation/repair costs
- Supermarket vouchers

All costs must be reasonable.



To be eligible for funding your organisation must:

- Have a constitution
- Be based in Manchester and accountable to the community that you are predominantly delivering services to
- Be a not-for-profit organisation – this includes voluntary, community and faith organisations, co-operatives and mutual societies, non-governmental organisations which are value driven and which principally invest their surpluses to further social, environmental or cultural objectives
- Be representative and inclusive of the community you are intending to work with

You cannot apply if you are:

- A private sector, or “for profit” organisation
- A public sector organisation i.e. local authority, education institution, health authority etc.
- A faith organisation where access to food poverty support requires adherence to or active support for that faith

There should be opportunities for the people who you are supporting to be involved in your work, for example by volunteering in your service and/or being part of your management committee or other body.

## **Funding**

There is a maximum of £400,000 available to spend on Food Poverty Grants, bids are invited for between £5,000 and £50,000. Only exceptional projects, able to demonstrate significant impact, will receive funding at this higher level and we expect most awards will be made for closer to the £5,000 minimum. Funding must be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

If your application is successful, half of the funding agreed will be paid as soon as possible, the other half in March 2015.

## **How will decisions be made**

All applications will be scored and ranked by a panel, we will then make sure we have a good mix of activities across the city and covering all of the objectives of the fund. This may mean that applications that score well are not funded – for example if there are already a lot of similar schemes operating in the same area of the city



### What will happen after the decisions have been made

All applicants will be notified by email as to whether their application has been successful or not and we will provide written feedback, on request. There is no appeals process.

We expect to make decisions by week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

Successful applicants will be required to submit the documentation set out in the application form.

We will send you a grant agreement with our terms and conditions for you to sign and return. If we need to ask you to change your approach in order to fill a gap, or reduce overlap with another application we will arrange to meet with you.

Half of the funding agreed will be paid to successful projects as soon as possible, the other half in March 2015. All payments will be made by BACs

### Monitoring and evaluation

- We will expect you to keep records of how many people have used your service
- You must keep financial records demonstrating how you have used the grant funding
- You must collect sufficient information during the life of the funding to enable you to compile a report at the end demonstrating the impact your project has made.

### Getting Help

If you do not understand anything in this guidance, or on the application form you can contact: Lindsay Laidlaw: [l.laidlaw@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:l.laidlaw@manchester.gov.uk) and 0161 234 3540

Please note Lindsay cannot help complete your application form or offer advice on the likelihood of your application being funded.

If you have general queries about applying for funding or developing your group please contact:

Manchester Community Central

Tel: 0333 321 3021

Email: [info@mcrcommunitycentral.org](mailto:info@mcrcommunitycentral.org)

Website: [www.manchestercommunitycentral.org](http://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org)