



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL



Greater Manchester Hate Crime Awareness Week

1 – 7 February 2027

Grants Programme for City of Manchester projects

GUIDANCE

Summary

Hate crimes and hate incidents are significantly under-reported. Local groups and organisations play a vital role in raising awareness of hate crime, challenging hate in our communities, and helping victims feel confident about reporting — by highlighting how and where to do so.

Ten grants of £1,000 each (total pot: £10,000) are available for **activities delivered in the city of Manchester** during or around **Greater Manchester Hate Crime Awareness Week, 1–7 February 2027**.

Activities must aim to:

- Raise awareness of hate crime and how to report it, and
- Safely promote positive messages in our neighbourhoods and celebrate communities.

The programme is open to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector and public sector organisations.

While we'd like plenty of activities to take place between **Monday 1 and Sunday 7 February**, we'll also consider activities shortly before or after the main week. All activities must be completed by **31 March 2027** — there can be no extensions.

Application deadline: 12pm (midday), Wednesday 11 November 2026.

Note: A separate funding round will open next year for events in summer and the autumn including during National Hate Crime Awareness Week in October 2027.

Background

Manchester Community Safety Partnership has funded local groups and organisations for over ten years. In that time, hundreds of awareness-raising events and activities have taken place, engaging people across the city. This work remains important, as hate crime continues to be significantly under-reported.

We welcome applications from groups new to the programme, as well as those who've applied before.

Aims of the programme

The grants aim to tackle hatred by:

1. Raising awareness of how and where to report hate crimes and hate incidents.
2. Safely promoting positive messages in our neighbourhoods and celebrating communities.

A significant proportion of hate crimes and incidents go unreported, and your project should contribute to trying to change this.

What are hate crimes and hate incidents?

A **hate crime** is any criminal offence which is perceived — by the victim or anyone else — to be motivated by prejudice or hostility based on a person's actual or perceived characteristics.

Authorities in Greater Manchester currently recognise and monitor six main strands of hate crime:

- Disability
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender identity
- Alternative subculture / lifestyle

Examples of hate crimes include:

- Physical attacks — assault, damage to property, offensive graffiti, arson
- Threats — offensive letters, abusive phone calls, groups gathering to intimidate, unfounded malicious complaints
- Verbal abuse or harassment — taunting, offensive leaflets or posters, abusive gestures, dumping rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes, bullying at school or work

A **hate incident** is also motivated by prejudice or hostility, but no crime has been committed.

Examples of hate incidents include:

- Racist or homophobic "jokes", pranks or banter targeting protected characteristics (e.g. age, sex, and the six main aspects of hate crime listed above)
- Malicious complaints to housing providers, police or other authorities
- Refusal of entry to a place open to the public

These lists aren't exhaustive. If your activity addresses other forms of discrimination, please don't let this stop you applying — we'd still like to hear from you.

Reporting a hate crime or incident

- **Police:** call 999 in an emergency, or 101 for non-emergencies. Online live chat is also available via [Contact us | Greater Manchester Police \(gmp.police.uk\)](https://www.gmp.police.uk).
- **Third-party reporting centres:** for anyone who'd rather not report directly to police, a list of centres in Manchester is available via [Help and Support Manchester \(manchesterservicedirectory.co.uk\)](https://manchesterservicedirectory.co.uk).
- **More information:** [Let's End Hate Crime – We Stand Together \(letsendhatecrime.com\)](https://letsendhatecrime.com).

Who can apply

Applicants must be:

- A VCSE sector or public sector organisation

- Based in, and work within, the city of Manchester, for the benefit of people living in the city (no activity outside the city in other areas of Greater Manchester can be supported)
- Able to deliver an activity in the city that raises awareness of hate crime and how to report it, and safely promotes positive messages and celebrates communities
- The holder of a bank account in the organisation's name (or have an arrangement with another VCSE organisation to hold funds on their behalf)
- Able to provide a current public liability insurance certificate covering the dates of the activity
- Willing to complete and return a grant monitoring form after the activity
- The holder of an up-to-date safeguarding policy (you may be asked to provide this if the activity involves children or vulnerable adults)

What we can fund

Primarily, activities should be new and have a clear hate crime awareness-raising element that links to established reporting and support routes, including Third Party Reporting Centres¹. Projects that instead prioritise celebratory activity or seek to continue existing activities are unlikely to be supported.

Projects previously funded include:

- A single event or events series
- In-person activities, indoors or outdoors
- Online podcasts and radio productions
- Signposting projects, social media campaigns and pop-up roadshows
- Creation of other awareness-raising resources
- Activities involving arts and crafts, sport, food, performing arts and more
- Learning-focused and/or celebratory, fun activities

If your project's central aim is to raise awareness of hate crime and how to report it, and it's delivered around 1–7 February, we want to hear from you. We're especially keen to see new and creative approaches to raising awareness.

What we cannot fund

- Organisations outside the VCSE or public sector
- Organisations not based in Manchester, or not working solely for the benefit of Manchester communities
- Activities that don't take place entirely within the city of Manchester

¹ See *Reporting a hate crime or incident* on the previous page

- Projects that don't clearly raise awareness of hate crime and how to report it (the promotion of positive messages and community celebration is welcome as an addition, but not as the sole focus)
- Projects that can't be delivered before 31 March 2027
- Projects that won't use the full £1,000 grant
- Budgets that are not clearly relevant, itemised and that do not show workings out where relevant
- Activities that promote political or religious messages
- Speakers drawn from within your own organisation
- Costs not directly required to deliver the project (e.g. rewards or gifts for volunteers)

As stated in the previous section, activities should be new and have a clear hate crime awareness-raising element that links to established reporting and support routes, including Third Party Reporting Centres.

How to apply

The application form can be downloaded from Manchester Community Central's website:

<https://manchestercommunitycentral.org/hate-crime-awareness-week-2027-grants-programme>.

It asks you to explain:

- When and where the activity will take place
- Who it's for, and how many people are likely to take part or benefit
- What the activity involves, and how it will raise awareness of hate crime and reporting
- How the project will be organised and delivered
- The project's costs which need to be relevant, itemised and show workings out where relevant

Deadline: 12pm (midday), Wednesday 11 November 2026 **Send completed forms to:** grants@macc.org.uk

Outcomes notified: by week commencing Monday 30 November 2026 **Payment:** successful applicants are paid in a single instalment, subject to standard due diligence checks (see further below).

When you apply by email, you should receive an acknowledgement within two working days. If you don't, contact Oliver Cranfield at Manchester Community Central on 0161 834 9823.

Support with your application

To discuss project ideas: contact Ayesa Touré, Manchester City Council's Hate Crime Lead - ayesa.toure@manchester.gov.uk / 0161 234 4612

For general technical questions about applying: email Manchester Community Central's grants team via grants@macc.org.uk

For help reviewing a draft application: Manchester Community Central's capacity building team can support applicants — particularly those new to the programme or unsuccessful previously — through its

usual referral process. Call 0333 321 3021 (Monday–Friday, 10am–4pm) or email info@mcrcommunitycentral.org. Requests are managed subject to the team's capacity.

How decisions are made

An independent panel — with representatives from Manchester City Council, Greater Manchester Police and the VCSE sector — assesses all applications that meet the funding conditions and decides which projects receive grants. Panel decisions are final.

Manchester Community Central will notify all applicants of the outcome by week commencing 30 November 2026. Successful applicants will receive a grant offer letter and acceptance form, including terms and conditions. The acceptance form and requested due diligence information must be returned before any grant is paid.

Due diligence checks

Successful applicants may be asked to promptly provide some of or all the following:

1. The organisation's governing document / constitution (or similar)
2. An unedited bank statement covering at least one month, dated no earlier than 1 September 2026
3. A financial management policy, or the names and home addresses of two trustees or committee members
4. An up-to-date safeguarding policy (if the activity involves children and/or vulnerable adults)
5. A valid public liability insurance certificate covering the planned activity

These checks help us confirm that successful applicants are currently active in Manchester, correctly constituted and financially solvent. They may cause a short delay to payment. Funders may decide not to award payment if due diligence requirements aren't met, or if there's reason to believe funding may be used for purposes other than those stated in the application.

Monitoring

Successful applicants must complete a short grant monitoring form within three weeks of completing their project. We welcome photos, attendee feedback, videos, press clippings and similar materials, which we may use to promote next year's grants and showcase awareness-raising work across Manchester.

Event packs

Whether or not your application is successful, any organisation delivering hate crime awareness activities can order HCA-branded merchandise — posters, bags, wristbands, stickers and pens — via the [Hate Crime Merchandise and Media request form](#)².

² <https://forms.office.com/e/rjHECv7thV>