



Greater Manchester Green Spaces Fund

Frequently Asked Questions

Last updated: June 2022

Who can apply?

Organisations

Applications are open to:

- Community Groups, associated or unincorporated community associations
- Registered charities, including Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs)
- Social Enterprises or Community Benefit Societies
- Community Interest Companies (CICs)
- Tenant and or Resident Associations
- Schools and academy trusts

Accountable bodies

The following organisations can act as accountable bodies to support an application from a community group:

- Registered housing providers – *where they contribute match funding towards the project*
- Local authorities – *where they have partnered with any of the above*
- Local parish councils - *may partner with applicants in highly deprived neighbourhoods where there are no other eligible community organisations*

By acting as an accountable body, these organisations will take on the legal responsibility for the project and would be financially accountable for any grant that is distributed to their partner organisation. More details can be found in our terms and conditions.

Can schools apply?

- We will only award funding for school-based activities which are outside the scope of statutory provision

Can faith-based organisations apply?

- The promotion of any religion is not an activity that will receive grant funding through the Green Spaces Fund
- Faith-based organisations may still be funded provided that the grant benefits the wider community and is not intended to influence people's religious choices or to promote a particular belief system

Can national organisations apply?

- The Green Spaces Fund will not fund national organisations



- Consideration will be given to local branches of national organisations that have their own bank account and management committee

What documents are we required to provide?

- **Bank Statement:** As part of our due diligence process, we require your organisation's bank statement from the last 3 months
 - The bank statement must be clear and not redacted. It must show the following:
 - Name and address of the organisation
 - Account balance
 - Our request for a bank statement falls in line with GDPR requirements, in the event that payments have been made to individuals you can redact these in line with GDPR
 - If you do not have financial records that cover a full year then you will need to provide what records you have currently and/or a cash flow forecast
 - This does not preclude newly formed organisations from applying. Newly formed organisations should provide a statement of the organisation current turnover and cashflow position and can be supported by an accountable body and our Green Spaces Fund Advisors to ensure they have the relevant policies and insurances in place.
- **Community Interest Companies (CIC)** must provide:
 - Evidence of an 'asset lock clause' to ensure that funds or assets can only be transferred to a named organisation or cause with charitable objects aligned to the applicant
 - Evidence that the CIC is set up and registered as such with Companies House, including a registration number
 - A copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association must be supplied with the application

Is there a restriction on the size of income or financial reserves of applicant organisations?

- Your organisation's income and level of financial reserves will be taken into consideration although there is no restriction on who can apply
- If your organisation is holding significant financial reserves, you will need to make it clear in the application why the reserves cannot be used to cover the cost of the activity proposed in your application.

Are applicant organisations asked to provide evidence of insurance?

- Organisations do not have to provide evidence of insurances for their activities at the application stage
- However, your organisation must maintain adequate insurance for its activities at all times and must supply copies of relevant insurance if required



Which types of organisations cannot apply?

Grants will not normally be made to the following types of organisation, or to fund the following types of activity:

- Individuals
- Groups that consist of one family
- Statutory bodies
- Profit-making organisations
- Political groups or activities promoting political views
- Projects promoting a political or religious belief
- Animal welfare projects
- Arts projects with no community or charitable element
- General appeals
- Contribution to an endowment fund, payment of deficit funding or repayment of loans
- Overseas travel or expeditions
- Funding for projects taking place overseas
- Retrospective grants
- Sponsored or fundraising events or groups raising funds to distribute to other causes
- Contingency or unspecified expenditure

Can we include management and maintenance costs in the application?

- Where appropriate applicants can include management costs providing these costs are proportionate to the size of the project, and not greater than 10% of the total project cost
- Up to 10% of your total grant request can be for post-project maintenance.

Can the Green Spaces Fund contribute toward a larger project involving multiple funders?

- The Green Spaces Fund can be considered as part of a contribution towards a larger project cost

Can an organisation submit applications to more than one grant programme?

- Applicants can apply to one or more of the grants programmes run by GMEF for which they are eligible
- However, we discourage the submission of two or more applications to the Green Spaces Fund programme by the same organisation or consortium in which the same organisations are members.

How often can an application be submitted to any one grant programme?

- If you have been successful in a grant application, you can not apply to that programme for another 12 months
- If you have been unsuccessful, you may reapply in subsequent rounds



COVID-19

All projects must adhere to the most current Government guidelines in relation to COVID-19.

More information

Have you got a question about the Green Spaces Fund that isn't covered here? [Visit the Green Spaces Fund website for more support and guidance](#). Alternatively, get in touch with our Green Spaces Fund Advisors, who can help you work through the application process: GSFAdvisors@groundwork.org.uk.