

## Sovereign Health Care Community Programme Guidelines for applicants

Sovereign Health Care is proud of its long history of charitable giving, which is made possible because we are a not-for-profit business and have no shareholders. Through our grants we aim to deliver on our purpose of 'better health for everyone'.

We have always been based in the Bradford District, rich in history and culture but with areas of serious deprivation and structural health inequalities, as highlighted in national public health reports over many years.

### Key information about grants

- Grant's range from £1,000 - £10,000
- Grant cycles take place 6 times a year with panel meetings taking place in January, March, May, July, September and November
- Grants can cover project costs, capital costs and core costs
- The average grant amount in 2025 was £2,640
- The average grant amount in 2024 was £3,289
- Grants are annual and you must wait 12 months to apply again
- Applications are accepted throughout the year and presented to the next Community Programme panel meeting
- Project and core cost grant requests are capped at £5,000; Capital grant requests are capped at £10,000
- All grants are provided at the discretion of Sovereign Health Care

### Eligibility

- Not-for-profit organisations – (Registered charities, CIO's, Voluntary organisations, Exempt charities, Friendly societies etc).
- Annual income of £10 million or below
- Work must take place in West Yorkshire with a strong preference for the Bradford District
- We are prepared to consider applications from national charities where there is a clear benefit to people in the Bradford/West Yorkshire area, preferably the delivery of services locally.
- Have at least 3 unrelated directors/trustees
- Reserves in line with organisational policy
- Up to date financial accounts
- Bank account held by the organisation with 2 unrelated individuals providing authority for transactions or bank account held by another not- for- profit organisation meeting all financial and governance due diligence requirements of the applicant organisation

### What we do not fund

- Individuals
- Animal charities
- Community fun days

- Art's, culture and sporting activities where these are being delivered to individuals or groups without any specific health challenges
- Work taking place outside West Yorkshire
- Grant making activity – we do not make grants to organisations who will regrant those funds
- Sponsorship for fundraising events, publications or staff events
- Profit making organisations
- Statutory activity in any sector
- Activity which might be considered proselytising (religious/political) or evangelical
- Political activity

### Funding priorities

The area's below are our funding priorities:

- Chronic diseases/health conditions – Diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, arthritis, learning disability etc
- Oral health
- Older adults' health
- Children & young people's health
- Poverty & inequality (as a determinant of health inequalities)

### Making an application

- We are keen not to burden the organisations we support with too much paperwork therefore there is currently no formal application form. However, we do need to know and understand your organisation including your financial information
- If you are a larger charity, we can access your financial information via the Charity Commission website, but for smaller organisations we will need a copy of your most recent accounts or a bank statement
- In order to operate efficiently, we will pay successful grantees by electronic bank transfer; **we therefore require your bank details on a headed document, by email when you submit an application**
- In order to progress an application, we want to know what you do, what you want the money for, how much it is going to cost and how you will know that the money has made a difference
- Facts and figures are important – how many people will be helped, for instance. Please write to us with the appropriate information and we will ask for additional information if we feel it is necessary; in these cases, we'll assume that you don't want to proceed with the application if we haven't heard back from you within 2 weeks

To save paper, we request that applications are emailed to: [community@sovereignhealthcare.co.uk](mailto:community@sovereignhealthcare.co.uk)

Or, in exceptional circumstances, you can post applications to:

Sovereign Health Care Community Programme  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, West Wing  
 The Waterfront  
 Salts Mill Road  
 Shipley  
 Bradford  
 BD17 7EZ

## Frequently asked questions

- Q. **If our application has been turned down, can we apply again?**  
There is nothing to stop you applying again, it may be worthwhile looking at the guidance to ensure you meet our eligibility criteria. Please email ([community@sovereignhealthcare.co.uk](mailto:community@sovereignhealthcare.co.uk)) requesting feedback on your failed application if you need further assistance.
- Q. **Should we send our latest annual report and accounts with our application?**  
We will look at the copy of your latest report and accounts if it is available on the Charity Commission's website. **If it's not available (you're a small charity or not a registered charity at all), then we need a copy of either your latest set of accounts or most recent bank statement. We also require information about the work or activity you want the funding for.**
- Q. **Can we apply to other funders at the same time and use you as a match funder?** Yes.  
We are usually happy to be one of a number of funders supporting a project. If you've asked for funding for something very specific and you end up with too much money, just get in touch and explain. There may be some other way of using the grant from us.