

SOVEREIGN HEALTH CARE COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

This document answers some common questions about the Sovereign Health Care Community Programme. Please read it alongside the funding criteria before applying.

If you are unsure whether your organisation or project is a good fit, we encourage you to get in touch before applying.

What is this fund for?

The Sovereign Health Care Programme supports not-for-profit organisations to respond to health needs within West Yorkshire, leading to better access services and a reduction in health inequalities. There is a strong preference for work benefiting people in Bradford District.

What kinds of activity are you looking to fund?

We will fund small, community-based projects that support people with a health condition or health needs to improve outcomes and quality of life, and to access services or activities they might otherwise struggle to reach. This could include group activities, peer support, outreach, or work that helps people better understand and manage their health.

How much can we apply for?

You can apply for between £1,000 and £5,000. Requests are up to £2,500 for organisations that are not primarily health-focused, and up to £5,000 for organisations that are health-focused.

What costs can be included?

We can fund project costs, core costs, and small-scale capital items that support your work.

Who can apply?

Not-for-profit organisations with an annual income of £5 million or below can apply. Your work must take place in West Yorkshire, with a strong preference for Bradford District.

How often can we apply?

If you receive a grant, you must wait 12 months before applying again.

Do we need to be a health organisation?

No. You do not need to be a specialist health organisation, but your project must clearly respond to health needs and show how it will improve access to services, outcomes or quality of life. If you are not primarily a health-focused organisation, you can apply for up to £2,500 only.

A health-focused organisation might be one whose **main purpose** is supporting people with long-term health conditions, improving health outcomes, or helping people access health-related support.

An organisation that is not primarily health-focused might be a youth, community or advice organisation whose main work is something else, but which is delivering a specific project that clearly responds to an identified health need.

What do you mean by health needs?

This includes physical health & mental health. This could include support for people managing long-term health conditions such as diabetes or an eating disorder or individuals who have visual impairment.

Can schools apply?

Schools themselves are not eligible to apply or set up projects under their own governance such as independent charities or PTAs. However, we can fund independent charities or organisations delivering health related work within schools, where the work goes beyond what schools are legally required to provide.

What kind of activities do you not fund?

- Food banks or general meal provision
- Baby banks
- Employability schemes
- Community fun days
- Walking groups
- Animal charities
- Homelessness-focused activity
- Faith-based activity that includes proselytising or promoting religious belief
- Education activity that is part of, or supplements, statutory provision
- General sports clubs, fitness or outdoor education
- General wellbeing
- Political activity
- Arts and Cultural activity for the general population

When can we apply and when will we hear back?

Applications are accepted during the year when application rounds are open. Decisions are currently made every two months: September and November.

Still unsure?

If you are not sure whether your request is a good fit, we encourage you to get in touch before applying. We are happy to talk things through and help you decide.