

Welcome!

Welcome to this webinar on the Inclusive Communities Fund.

Please take a moment to settle in and we will get started just after 12pm once everyone has joined.

If you wish, please introduce yourself and your organisation in the chat function.



Providing expertise, capacity, and insight to help grow your social business:

- **Horizon scanning for new opportunities**
- **Bid response, writing and reviewing**
- **Partnership identification and engagement**
- **Identifying your value**
- **Service design and improvement**

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What we will cover today

1. Overview of the Inclusive Communities Fund
2. The available support
3. Eligibility
4. Key dates
5. The all-important guidance
6. The application forms
7. Top tips for your submission
8. Next steps and questions
9. Links to relevant sections

Important Disclaimers!

- Keep a close eye on the Frequently Asked Questions – there may be some changes to guidance
- 4front Partners is not affiliated with Heart of England Community Foundation or United by 2022 Legacy Charity
- Advice and guidance from 4front Partners is based on experience and expertise, but is independent
- These slides are a little ‘functional’ – but hopefully a good reference!
- Will attempt to answer questions but will direct to official channels

Support is available!!

To discuss your project, ask a clarification question, or seek advice, contact the friendly teams at;

- Heart of England Community Foundation on 02476 883297 or email info@heartofenglandcf.co.uk
- United By B2022 Legacy Charity via email at: info@unitedby2022.com
- A webinar is being arranged for December 13th
- A support programme is being designed for launch in January/February

Inclusive Communities Fund

A legacy of the Commonwealth Games



£9 Million of funding across 4 grant categories

Small	£500 - £15,000
Medium	£15,001 - £75,000
Large	£75,001 - £300,000
Small Works, Refurbishment, Renovation	£500 - £100,000

ICF Overview – Fund Objectives

The Inclusive Communities Fund will serve as a catalyst to address inequalities, forging deeper connections between individuals and organisations to continue the legacy of the Games.

This Fund shares the four original core mission principles of the Commonwealth Games:

- Bringing people together
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Helping the region to grow
- Putting the region on the map

ICF Overview – Fund Objectives

Grants will be available for works, activities and services that will contribute to the four core missions, and which fall within one or more of the following three themes:



ICF Overview – Eligible areas

- Birmingham
- Cannock Chase
- Coventry
- Dudley
- Redditch
- Shropshire
- Tamworth
- Telford and Wrekin
- Sandwell
- Solihull
- Walsall
- Warwickshire
- Wolverhampton

ICF Overview – Eligible organisations

- Registered charities
- Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs)
- Charitable companies
- Companies limited by guarantee
- Local Authorities where activity is for community benefit and would not have been able to access the funding through community partners, (for example in small rural parishes).
- Schools and other educational establishments - where a grant would be used for extra-curricular activities and activities which engage the wider community (cannot apply for grants for Small Works, Refurbishment, Renovation)
- Community Interest Companies (CICs) limited by guarantee
- Community Interest Companies (CICs) limited by shares (but see additional eligibility requirements listed in the FAQs section)
- Sports Clubs that address disadvantage
- Co-operatives – registered Community Benefit Societies and registered Industrial and Provident Societies
- Social Enterprises
- Constituted community organisations

ICF Overview – Eligibility continued...

- Your organisation must have three unrelated Directors – United by 2022 can help if you need to find more!
- The ICF cannot be used to purchase land or buildings
- Non-local organisations must be delivering in the region already and demonstrate they understand the communities
- Schools can apply! But needs to be for community activity
- Faith groups must be delivering non-faith based project

Available grants & key dates

- Small Grants - £500 to £15,000
- Medium Grants - £15,001 to £75,000
- Large Grants - £75,001 to £300,000
- Small Works, Refurbishment, Renovation - £500 to £100,000

- Small Grants and Medium Grants varying closing dates throughout 2023 – 2024
- Large Grants & Small Works and Refurbishment Grants **close on 4th January 2024**
- All grants must be spent by December 2024
- Reporting and Evaluation to be completed by March 2025

Some notes on the Small works, refurbishment and renovation scheme

- Closing date of Jan 4th 2024
- Grants up to £100,000 are available for small works such as building refurbishment and renovations, but which do not require planning permission (or where planning permission is already in place)
- The applicant should own the building or facility or have written permission from the owner for the improvements
- No core costs in this grant – just the cost of the works
- Evidence of other funding is required
- Make sure the works still directly link to the programme objectives
- Check supporting document requirements
- [Small works guidance](#)

Some notes on the Large Grants

- Closing date of Jan 4th 2024
- Towards the top end of the financial scale a consortia-based approach would be preferential – make sure you discuss with either Hof England or United by 2022
- Towards the top end of the financial scale match funding would be expected (could be another funder, a donation or even some of your reserves)
- Only project costs, not core costs
- Evidence of other funding is required
- [Large Grants guidance](#)

Some notes on the Medium Grants

- Several closing dates through 2023/2024
- Expected to have deep impact on an identified group
- Can include project and core costs (core costs up to £15K)
- Possibly an 8 week turnaround on decisions
- No income limit for organisations who wish to apply for Medium grants
- Evidence of other funding is required for Medium grant applications over £50,000
- [Medium Grants guidance](#)

Some notes on the Small Grants

- Several closing dates through 2023/2024
- Possibly an 8 week turnaround on decisions
- Expected to have grassroots impact in local community
- Can include project and core costs
- Income limit of £500K for organisations who wish to apply for Small grants
- Newly constituted organisations can apply!
- The small grant scheme can also pay for external support e.g capacity building, getting a website built
- [Small Grants guidance](#)

How many grants can you have???

- If you successfully secure a large grant, that is the only one you can have
- It is possible to be successful in securing more than one small or medium grant but they cannot run at the same time.
- If you are in a consortia or partnership but not the lead, you can apply for a grant in your own right. The projects need to be distinctly different.

Options

- one Small Works and one Small Grant, or
- one Small Works and one Medium Grant, or
- two Small Grants, or
- one Small Grant and one Medium Grant

ICF Overview – Clues from the Guidance

- The guidance is crucial. It can also give you ideas for your project.
- Check page 11 for all the supporting documents you need to upload along with your application
- Questions won't always directly ask something which is stated as important in the guidance
- E.g.
 1. *Projects will need to demonstrate ongoing sustainability beyond the initial funding.*
 2. *New organisations less than two years old will need to demonstrate capacity to manage a grant.*

FAQs – read them!

- Organisations can only hold one grant at any one time
- If you have large grant that's the only one you can have
- Check you are looking at the correct FAQs – there is a specific one for ICF
- Reporting and evaluation is required throughout the grant delivery
- **Optional docs:** staff JDs for project, quotations where needed, mou for consortium, project delivery plan, match funding evidence, quotes for small works, planning permission doc, cv or quals for professional services, surveyor reports or evidence of professional advice, rental lease agreement, letter of permission of works in landlord needs to provide

Application Forms

info@4frontpartners.co.uk



Application Form – functional points

- The application must be submitted online via the Heart of England Community Foundation website
- The online application form counts words differently to a word document (acronyms count as multiple words rather than one)
- If you are drafting your answers in word, the word count may be slightly under what the online form will reflect
- Don't go over the word count, it will probably not be considered
- Questions marked red must be answered
- Full guidance: [here](#)

Application Forms – other notes

- Read through the entire application form to review the questions and the **supplementary documents** you will need to provide
- All questions from small grants replicated elsewhere (additional questions in medium and large)
- If partners are involved you should make it clear why you are in partnership, who will do what, (MOU required)
- Language, terminology, objectives from guidance should be reflected in your answers

Application Forms – the big question!

Please describe the Project, Activity or Service you are applying for.

- **What** do you propose to do/deliver?
 - **How** will it be delivered?
 - **Who** is the project going to service/benefit?
 - **When** will the activity take place?
 - **Why** you need the funding?
-
- Make clear statements – remember it's the first time the assessor will be reading your idea.

Tips for making a strong application

- Take advantage of the support on offer – contact HofE and United by 2022
- Read the guidance and FAQs. Then read them again.
- Explain jargon and acronyms – the reviewer is not an expert in your world
- If applying to a deadline, don't leave it until the last minute
- Limited word count – get to the point!
- Having said that...make your passion come across
- Make sure your answers link back to the programme objectives

Tips for making a strong application

- Draft, review, edit, re-write – applications are rarely good on the first attempt
- Use the word doc to draft your responses – but check the word count discrepancies
- Try to use the language of the question and application form, it's easier for readers to match up like for like language
- Get someone external to read your application – do they understand what you've written?
- 'How..?' questions are answered with 'By...' answers e.g.
 - **Q: How does this project meet one or more of the Inclusive Communities Fund four aims?**
 - **A: 'This project will bring people together by...'**

Notes on budget

- No set budget format/template – many available online
- Tiny details not required, budget categories more appropriate
- Need to understand costs and how you've arrived at costs (evidence)
- Include quotes (one or several, or even a screenshot of amazon)
- Note the different budget requirements based on grant size
- Don't include contingency – budget needs to be accurate

Useful links

- [Introduction to the ICF](#)
- [Webinar recordings and word Application forms](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Support for Applicants](#)
- [Tips for a good application](#)

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Support for your application



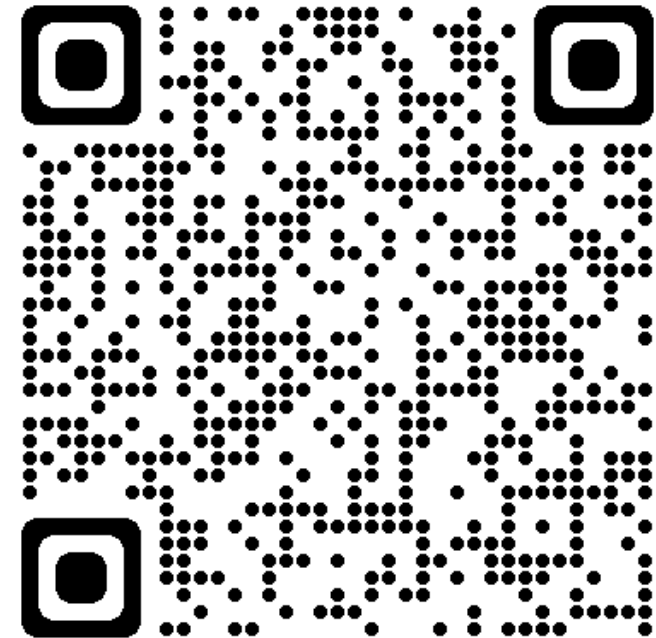
tony carr

ICF 121 with Tony Carr

🕒 15 min

📄 Web conferencing details provided upon confirmation.

Please feel free to contact us via email if you cannot find a suitable time:
info@4frontpartners.co.uk



Questions & Discussion

info@4frontpartners.co.uk

