

INSPIRING ELEPHANT COMMUNITY FUND

Programme Guidelines

The Inspiring Elephant Community Fund will support the local community of Elephant and Castle for the next five years through distributing £50,000 per year in grants to charities that support the community in and around Elephant and Castle Town Centre, to deliver both short term projects and ensure local groups can continue to provide longer term support for the community. The Elephant and Castle Community Hub will be opening later this year and local organisations are encouraged to deliver a variety of activities on site. Information on use of the hub will be available to all funded groups.

The aim of the Fund is to deliver greater social value for local residents and for local people to be engaged in the process. Therefore, as well as sharing the fund application details with key stakeholders and partners, a panel of local community leaders which includes members of the Community Hub and representatives from Get Living and Southwark Council will consider all applications

The Inspiring Elephant Community Fund builds on the support the Elephant and Castle Town Centre team has provided to the local community over the last few years, to date this includes £300,000 of donations distributed to local groups, such as Shakespeare's Globe, Evelina London Children's hospital through the National Portrait Gallery's Hospitals Programme and the Prince's Trust.

Get Living recognises the far reaching impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in local communities. Organisations are actively encouraged to develop ideas for projects that respond to the specific needs identified as a result of this and that meet current Government guidelines. We'll also ask you for a contingency plan for activities should any restrictions be in place at the time of delivery.

Available Funding

The total value of the Inspiring Elephant Community Fund is £50,000 per year.

Organisations can apply for a grant of up to £5,000 deliver community activities supporting local residents to engage with their neighbours and build community connections, improve their health and wellbeing or take part in arts and cultural activities.

Priorities

Grants are available to support a variety of projects and activities taking place in and around the Elephant & Castle Town Centre – within the Elephant & Castle Opportunity Area - under one of three priority areas. It's important to read through the guidelines fully to make sure you are selecting the right theme, and there is a clear connection between the outcomes of your project and the theme priorities.

The three priorities are:

- [Communities and People](#)
- [Health and Wellbeing](#)
- [Young People and Training](#)

Applications should focus on **one** of these priority areas, the criteria under each is outlined below.

The Elephant and Castle Town Centre team and Get Living would like to support organisations that can demonstrate appropriate links or networks in the local area to deliver the proposal and we welcome the involvement of volunteers within projects and services. Applications must be able to demonstrate that the activities will be for the benefit of the local communities in and around the Elephant & Castle Opportunity Area. Get Living would like to support a variety of activities that reach a wide community audience including Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) residents, people with disabilities, learning disabled people, Gypsies and Travellers, LGBTQIA+ residents, children and young people, older people and people with mental health issues or long-term health issues.

Communities and People

The Inspiring Elephant Community Fund wants to bring people together to get to know their neighbours and to build a strong sense of community. Good communication helps people understand what is going on in their area and encourages people to feel connected. Projects should work with local residents to provide opportunities to learn new things, meet new people and to feel a common link with their area and neighbours.

Support could be provided through a variety of different ways including, but not limited to:

- Encouraging people from different areas or backgrounds to come together
- Utilising local community and open spaces to increase networks and reduce isolation
- Activities that bring together local residents to build relationships and increase their sense of community involvement
- Projects that demonstrate a lasting impact on reducing the isolation and loneliness of local residents
- Activities engaging local people in improving the local environment e.g. litter picking, promoting recycling etc.

Health and Wellbeing

Wellbeing is vital to enable communities and people to thrive and to build resilience. The Inspiring Elephant Community Fund is keen to support projects working to improve the mental and physical health and wellbeing of participants through engaging and activity based projects.

Support could be provided through a variety of different ways including, but not limited to:

- Keep-fit groups or fitness classes with a clear link to improving health and/or wellbeing
- Activities that empower people to make healthy lifestyle choices and prioritise their wellbeing
- Projects that are supporting people with an identified health or wellbeing issue e.g. mental, physical, emotional or situational
- Interactive approaches to engaging residents in improving their health and wellbeing using the [five ways to wellbeing](#)

Young People and Training

Young People have been disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and we know more needs to be done to ensure equal access to opportunities locally. Research suggests that young people need a mix of soft skills and work experience to successfully gain sustainable employment. Under this theme we're keen to support projects and activities that support young people's integration through education, skills development and employability so that they are better placed to access existing opportunities and to create future opportunities for themselves.

Support could be provided through a variety of different ways including, but not limited to:

- Projects or activities that enable young people to develop key capabilities including teamwork, resilience, communication and self-confidence
- Accredited training opportunities
- Projects or activities that provide opportunities for young people to gain volunteering or work experience placements
- Support for young people not in education, employment or training to gain new skills
- Projects that support young people with key employability skills e.g. time management, communication, CV building, interview techniques etc.

Eligibility

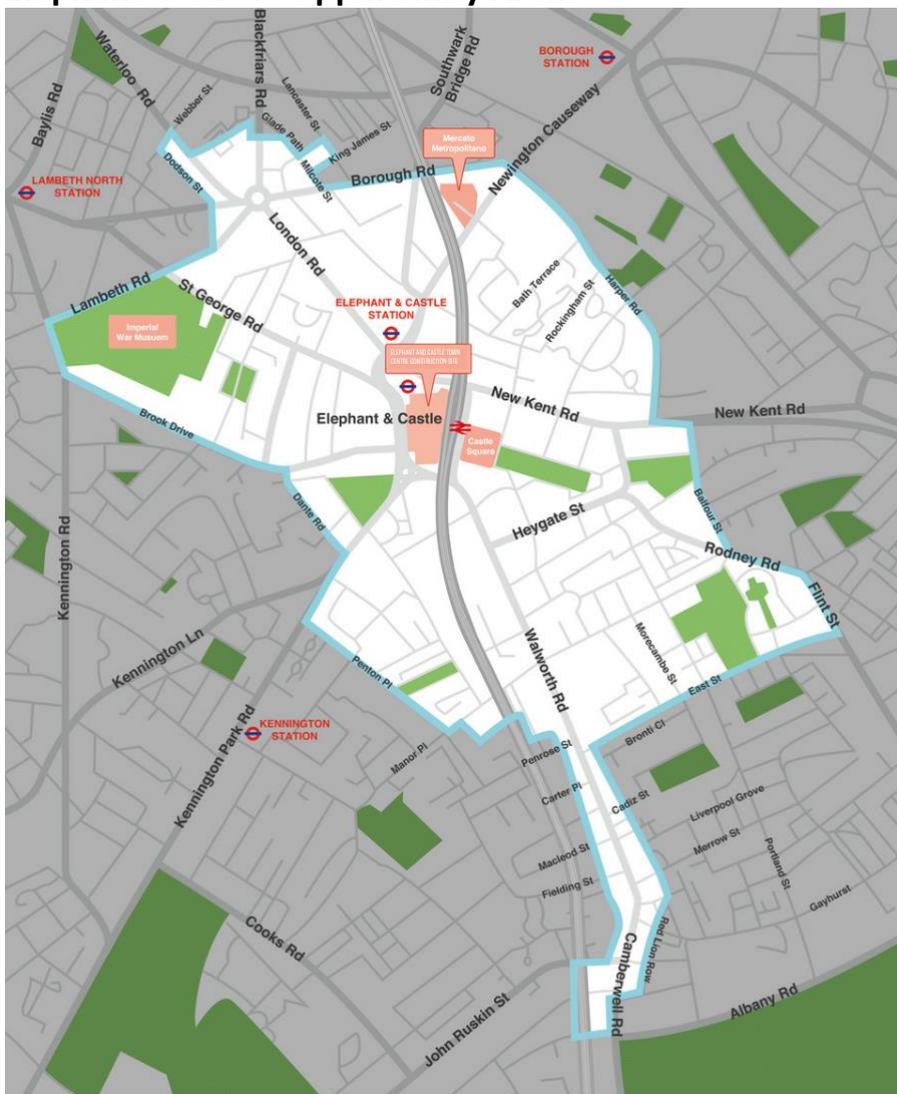
To be eligible to apply to the Community Fund organisations must meet the following points:

- Be a not-for-profit organisation that is formally constituted (have a signed governing document in the organisation's name). This includes unincorporated associations and community groups, registered charities, social enterprises, schools, Community Interest Companies (CIC), Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIO), companies limited by guarantee and faith groups where the project clearly does not promote a particular religious or political view.
- Have good financial management procedures, including a record of income and expenditure. Applications from organisations that have a financial deficit will not be considered.

- Have a bank account set up in the organisation's name, with at least two unrelated cheque signatories
- Be connected with and meeting the needs of the local community in and around Elephant & Castle Town Centre – specifically the Elephant and Castle Opportunity Area
- Delivering activities that either take place within the Elephant & Castle Opportunity Area, or activities that directly benefit people who live, work or study in the area (please see below map)

If you are an un-constituted voluntary group, or a group of local residents, you will need to identify a constituted organisation to act as your accountable body or 'parent organisation'. For example, this could be a local charity, constituted TRA or housing association that is willing to accept any grant money on your behalf. The application form must be completed by the un-constituted group and you must have agreement from the parent organisation confirming they can support you. Please contact Diana on diana.barranco@elephantandcastletowncentre.co.uk if you would like some help in establishing a 'parent' organisation to accept the funds on your behalf.

Elephant & Castle Opportunity Area



What We Will Fund

You can apply for funding to cover project activities and staffing, running costs related to the delivery of the project as well as the purchase of equipment you may need. All budgeted items must relate directly to the delivery of the proposed project.

What We Won't Fund

The Inspiring Elephant Community Fund will not fund:

- Grants to individuals
- Expenditure or activities that have already taken place
- Services which are a statutory responsibility (i.e. are the responsibility of the Council, Government or Health Authorities)
- Religious or political activities (we are able to fund religious organisations if they are providing benefits for the wider community)
- Projects that have no community or charitable element
- Projects that take place outside of the Elephant & Castle Town Centre area
- Activities that benefit individuals, rather than the wider community
- Foreign travel

Supporting Documents

To support your application, you must attach relevant documents to your online application.

Alternatively, you can also send these documents by email to

diana.barranco@elephantandcastletowncentre.co.uk.

Please ensure you have the following documents ready to attach to your online application:

- Constitution or articles of association
- Annual accounts or a record of income and expenditure for the organisation
- One bank statement dated within the last 3 months that shows the account name, sort code and account number
- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy*

* Get Living is committed to equality and diversity for all, and we expect groups and organisations applying for grants to show that they are aware of equality and diversity and can demonstrate commitment to them. Accordingly, organisations applying for grants are required to submit their Equality and Diversity policy with their application.

How to Apply

To apply for a grant of up to £5,000 please [click here for the online application form](#).

If you have any questions on the Community Fund or would like support with your application please contact Diana on diana.barranco@elephantandcastletowncentre.co.uk. Paper application forms are also available and can be provided on request.

Timetable

The Inspiring Elephant Community Fund is open for applications from Monday 31st January 2022.

You can apply at any time, but you must submit your application by the deadline at **5pm on Monday 14th March 2022.**

We will notify you of the outcome of your application after the grants panel has met to consider the requests, this is usually 8 to 10 weeks after the deadline.

Monitoring

If your application is successful, you must be able to spend the money within 12-months of the grant being awarded.

You will need to keep and provide the following;

- Financial records of how the grant is spent, including receipts and invoices
- Records and evidence of the identified outputs e.g. number of people benefiting, number of sessions, records of attendance etc.
- Records of the identified outcomes e.g. the difference the project has made to participants, participant feedback, staff observations, external reports from partners
- Photographs of the project activities (if appropriate)
- A case story from one participant including quotes of how the project has supported them

It is important to gather information throughout the duration of your activities. These pieces of information must be submitted in an end of grant report.

The contribution of the Inspiring Elephant Community Fund must be acknowledged in any promotional literature or annual report issued on your behalf within twelve months of receiving the grant or any instalment of the grant. We reserve the right to use any photographs or details of the project in any future literature and/or promotion.