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Community Cohesion and Resilience Programme Funding

**Administered by**

Application Guidance

2025

**Introduction**

This Support Pack has been compiled by Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) who have been appointed by Burnley Borough Council to deliver Community Cohesion and Resilience Programme Funding. The funding is aimed at local organisations with an annual turnover of less than £300,000 within the voluntary, community and faith (VCF) sector. The VCF can deliver programmes within school settings

**General**

* Bring communities together from different backgrounds, faiths and cultures around a shared objective e.g. volunteering, befriending/mentoring
* Improve capability of communities to tackle extremist narratives and ideologies
* Build, improve and strengthen local partnerships which support community resilience
* Improve skills in diffusing tensions, strengthen community connections, promote unity and shared values
* Provide activities that bring different parts of the community together to share and interact e.g. workshops, events where individuals can hear directly from people who are ‘different’ from them
* Deliver an inter-community project aimed at improving community connections e.g. activities that support mental health through gardening, art, singing or sports projects
* Provide ESOL lessons or sessions for improving English language skills
* Help to improve the local environment e.g. address graffiti, etc, by bringing people together to improve their local communities and/or environments.
* Increase personal confidence in interacting with others and build trust.
* Provide capacity/capability training for community organisations to support diffusing community tensions

**Schools/Young People**

* Connect students from different backgrounds in safe spaces
* Provide bespoke workshops for young people to build resilience to extremist ideologies
* Provide social media focused ‘critical thinking’ lessons in school to equip young people to navigate challenges around different points of view
* Facilitate dialogue on emotive subjects e.g. support for schools around how to have challenging conversations and listen to different points of view
* Deliver events, workshops or campaign activities to educate on what constitutes a hate crime
* Provide activities aimed at young people to address tension, unrest, etc linked to intolerance
* Provide guidance/training for teachers on how to de-escalate tensions and respond to concerns
* Provide training for teachers and other school staff on building confidence and skills to address extremist related topics

**Aims**

Projects which are written collaboratively and will be delivered working in partnership with another VCF group/organisation from another area of Burnley will be more favourably considered.

**Project should strongly support specific local needs in the following key areas:**

* Improve cohesion and reduce divisions
* Improve capability to tackle extremist narratives and ideologies
* Improve local partnership approaches to supporting community resilience by funding projects to strengthen social capital
* Improve the capability of communities to respond to tensions through initiatives that strengthen community connections, promote unity and shared values

**Who can apply to the Grant Programme?**

The grants are being made available to constituted community/not for profit organisations in **Burnley only**.

**Turnover for your organisation should be less than £300,000.** Organisations that have a turnover above £300,000 per annum will not be considered.

Free workshops on conflict resolution, tackling extremist narratives and improving the capability of schools to respond to community tensions is also being offered to schools in the target areas.

**How much money can groups apply for?**

From £500 to £5,000: for constituted community groups

**Appeals or deferred applications**

Applications will be either successful or unsuccessful.  Unsuccessful applications will receive limited feedback. If unsuccessful you may apply again with a revised application (subject to available funds). There will be no appeals or deferred applications.

BPRCVS will help support groups through the application process if required. Contact heather.starkie@bprcvs.co.uk for support.

**Closing date for applications: 12 noon on 29th January 2025**

All funds awarded must be committed by the 31st March 2025 and spent by **15th May 2025**

**What can’t be funded?**

* Activities that promote political and religious messages.
* Any costs incurred prior to confirmation of grant funding approval.
* Capital spend is not permitted. Only costs related to delivery of the project (revenue) will be considered.
* Expenditure covered by any other projects.
* You should include on costs in your costings.
* This small grant programme is for direct community delivery.

For further advice and guidance in completing an application contact Heather Starkie at BPRCVS, heather.starkie@bprcvs.co.uk or telephone 01282 433740 extension 1018

**Submitting your application**

You can submit your application via email to Julie.overson@bprcvs.co.uk though you will need to post the signed original of the form to **Heather Starkie at BPRCVS, 62-64 Yorkshire Street, Burnley BB11 3BT**

**Deadlines**

The fund is open for applications from 15th January 2025. Deadline for applications is 12 noon on 29th January 2025. Grant approvals will cease once the allocation from MHCLG has been allocated. Applications will be considered on a ‘first come first served’ basis – **don’t miss out, apply right away!**

**For application forms and guidance please visit:**

[www.bprcvs.co.uk](http://www.bprcvs.co.uk) or email julie.overson@bprcvs.co.uk

**Procedure for successful applications:**

* Written notification of approval is emailed.
* Applicant to read and sign the acceptance of the terms and conditions.
* Applicant to return the original signed acceptance to Heather Starkie at BPRCVS
* On receipt of original signed acceptance, the cheque or BACS transfer is processed and any cheques posted to the applicant.

**Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to contact Heather Starkie for feedback and support:** **heather.starkie@bprcvs.co.uk**