

Resettling Communities

Principles for Community Grants

1 Introduction

- 1.1 South Gloucestershire Council Service for Resettling Communities are offering small grants to organisations who wish to participate in supporting Refugees and Asylum Seekers in South Gloucestershire.
- 1.2 The Grant Fund is designed to enable local communities to support integration of Refugees and Asylum seekers.
- 1.3 The Grant fund was established and in support of this several basic principles have been agreed to provide a transparent, accountable, consistent, and legal process to be adhered to. These are laid out below.

2 Funding

- 2.1 The budget for Resettling Communities Grant (RCG) is £70,000.
- 2.2 Grant awards will be available until the end of March 2024 or until the fund is exhausted. There is no guarantee that the same (or any) budget provision will be available in subsequent years', and it is subject to central government budget decisions.
- 2.3 It is not permissible to apply for uncommitted RC Grant amounts into the next financial year.

3 General Principles

- 3.1 The minimum level of award should be £200.
- 3.2 The maximum level of award should be £10,000.
- 3.3 Schemes must demonstrate how they adhere to the priorities and aims within the SG Council Plan 2020-24 as well as contribute to the resettlement and integration of one or more cohorts of refugees and/or asylum seekers in South Gloucestershire.
- 3.4 Applications can be received at any point during the year, and it will be determined upon receipt which decision-making meeting each application will be presented to.

3.5 Priority will be given according to the following criteria:

1. Nature and level of support offered by a project – the priority will be given to applications aiming to offer additional support in areas of community development, cultural and local awareness, peer support, befriending and similar types of initiatives.
2. Impact on integration in the local community – the priority will be given to the projects proactively targeting integration through a range of activities or events.
3. Number of people benefitting from the additional support. – The priority will be given to projects supporting a larger number of people.
4. Consideration of specific needs of a particular demographic group within the resettling.
Cohorts – The priority will also be given to projects aimed at meeting the specific needs of women, the elderly, or children.

4 Exclusions and restrictions

- 4.1 The following exclusions and restrictions are to be adhered to in the Resettling Communities Grant process.
 - 4.2 Awards cannot be made to individuals.
 - 4.3 Awards cannot be made for political purposes or gain.
 - 4.4 Awards cannot be made that fuel or support any radicalisation/terrorist activity or to any proscribed organisations.
- 4.1.1 Awards cannot be made retrospectively.
- 4.1.2 The spend of money awarded will be subject to audit.
- 4.1.3 If a scheme does not go ahead, or the money is used for a purpose other than that originally agreed, the funding will need to be repaid by the organisation to the council.
- 4.1.4 Applications will not be considered from schools/academies or associated organisations such as PTAs. However, if organisations can demonstrate and provide evidence of their operational independence from schools, they will be eligible to apply.
- 4.1.5 Staffing costs to be funded in the first year of operation only. If staffing costs are for the development of a NEW project within the existing organisation, this may be considered.
- 4.1.6 There will be no process for appealing against the decision on award of RCG.

5 Decision making

- 5.1 The South Gloucestershire Code of Conduct applies to all decisions made by the Resettling Communities Grant Award Panel.

5.2 The Resettling Communities Grant Award Panel will convene twice a month

6 Payment

6.1 RCG payments will be made in advance of service delivery and within five to ten working days of the award notification but is subject to any conditions being met.

7 Monitoring of delivery

7.1 Monitoring of service delivery will be undertaken by the Resettling Communities Grants panel on a quarterly basis.

7.2 The RCG award process will be reviewed after 3 months and thereafter as appropriate with any changes identified and implemented as required.

8 Public record keeping

8.1 Information on approved or rejected applications will be published on the council's website in order to meet the council's legal obligations under the Local Government Transparency Code.