# Guidance



# Resettling Communities Grant – principles

#### Introduction

South Gloucestershire Council service for resettling communities is offering small grants to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations, town and parish councils, and community groups who wish to participate in supporting refugees and asylum seekers in South Gloucestershire.

The grants fund is designed to enable local communities to participate in supporting refugees and asylum seekers in South Gloucestershire.

The grants fund was established on the principles of transparency, accountably, consistency, and adherence to relevant legal requirements.

Grants should be applied for on the following basis:

£200 to £1999 Small local projects £2000 to £4999 Larger projects

£5000 to £7000 South Gloucestershire wide projects

The minimum level of award - £200

The maximum level of award - £7,000

### **Fund allocation**

The budget for Resettling Communities Grant (RCG) is £50,000.

Grant awards will be available until the end of March 2026 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.

It is not permissible to apply for uncommitted RC grants into the next financial year.

### **Exclusions and restrictions**

Awards cannot be made to individuals.

Awards cannot be made for political purposes or gain.

Awards cannot be made that fuel or support any radicalisation/terrorist activity or to any proscribed organisations.

Awards cannot be made retrospectively.

The spend of money awarded will be subject to audit.

If a project 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 recipient to the council.

Applications from schools/academies or associated organisations such as PTAs will not be considered. However, if the applicant can demonstrate and provide evidence of their operational independence from schools, they will be eligible to apply.

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 for the first year only.

Organisations receiving grant funding through resettling communities grant fund should not make any further applications for funding from resettling communities grant fund for at least 12 months.

## How grants can be used

Applicants should demonstrate that their project will support integration activities, social and cultural events, well-being initiatives, training sessions, and group developmental activities or events for all our refugee and asylum seeker communities.

### Applying for funding

Projects must demonstrate how they adhere to the priorities and aims within the <u>Council Plan 2024 to 2028</u> as well as contribute to the resettlement and integration of one or more cohorts of refugees and/or asylum seekers in South Gloucestershire.

#### Priority will be given according to the following criteria:

 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.

- 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.
- Consideration of specific needs of a particular demographic group within the resettling cohorts of children, older people and women.
- Approach to inequalities and any positive climate implications.
- Inclusion of fully costed proposal including breakdown of anticipated spend.

Before making an application for a grant all organisations must <u>register with the grants</u> online system and have their account details approved.

It is the responsibility of the organisation to maintain registration details online.

Applications can be received at any point during the year, and it will be determined upon time of receipt as to which decision-making meeting each application will be presented to.

# **Decision making**

The South Gloucestershire code of conduct applies to all decisions made by the resettling communities grant award panel.

The resettling communities grant award panel will represent the service for resettling communities, other SGC departments, commissioned services, and SG community partners.

The resettling communities grant award panel will convene fortnightly to consider up to 2 applications.

Applications will be considered in order of receipt.

The resettling communities grant panel may request further information to support any grant application.

A minimum of 80% of panel members should be present to vote on any application.

The resettling communities grant panel may award a full or partial grant amount or reject the application.

The resettling communities grant panel may stipulate conditions to the award.

There will be no process for appealing against the decision of the resettling communities grants panel.

# Public record keeping

Information on all allocated grants are published on the <u>open data</u> page to meet the council's legal obligations under the local government transparency code.

## **Payment**

Resettlement communities grant payments will be made in advance of project delivery and within 5 to 10 working days of the award notification.

Award payment is subject to any conditions being met including registration of the organisation with South Gloucestershire Council.

# Monitoring of delivery

Monitoring of service delivery of the award will be undertaken by the Senior Resettlement Officer.

Recipients of resettling communities community grant funding must submit an evaluation proposal as part of their application.

Recipients are required to work in collaboration with resettling communities hub network and attend monthly community's forum meetings online when requested.

The resettling communities grants award process will be subject to regular reviews and updates to ensure fairness, consistency and transparency in decision making.

# Contact information

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