



## **#ShiftthePower Scotland Comic Relief Programme**

### **Criteria and Guidelines**

#### **Introduction**

**#ShiftthePower** supports organisations with passionate people to make meaningful change in their communities. It funds grassroots organisations and charities with an income of £250,000 or less whose work fits one of the four strategic themes:

- **Children Survive & Thrive** – early years development for children facing disadvantage.
- **Gender Justice** – contributing to gender equality by reducing violence and discrimination based on gender and sexuality.
- **A Safe Place to Be** – supporting people who have experienced homelessness or have been forced from their homes in order to live safely.
- **Mental Health Matters** – improving mental health provision and tackling stigma around mental health.

The last page tells you more about these themes.

The programme is delivered by Corra Foundation working as an intermediary partner with Comic Relief in Scotland.

#### **Who can apply?**

You can apply if you are a:

- Charity registered in Scotland.
- Constituted voluntary or community organisation with governing documents which clearly state that:
  - The organisation is not for profit, or has a clear clause ensuring that all income is applied to the organisation's purposes and not distributed to members, shareholders or owners.
  - There is a dissolution clause/lock in place requiring assets are distributed to an organisation with similar charitable aims in the instance of closure.

We cannot accept applications from:

- Organisations with an income of more than £250,000 in the last year.
- Individuals.
- Organisations that are not established as not for profit.
- Organisations based outside Scotland.
- One organisation applying on behalf of another.

## Priorities

People with lived experience of the four strategic themes are central to this programme. We are particularly interested in organisations where projects and services are initiated and led by people with lived experience, and strong applications are likely to reflect this way of working. We realise that this is not always possible but as a minimum all applications should be informed by and involve people who are experiencing the issues.

## How much can you apply for?

£1,000 up to a maximum of £8,000. Funding can be used across a period up to 18 months but must be fully spent by June 2021.

## What can you use the money for?

We understand that every organisation has different needs and ideas. We want to receive aspirational applications that demonstrate how the money will empower people with lived experience and make positive change. We encourage you to think about what you need the funding for – this can include running and project costs – but we want to know how this money will increase the reach, capacity, or quality of your work or how it will support you to try new ideas, take risks, or new approaches.

## What we can't fund

The following are outwith criteria:

1. Major capital appeals including building projects, motor vehicles and refurbishment costs.
2. Crisis intervention with no clear evidence of longer term support, e.g. food parcels, toy/gift distribution.
3. Retrospective funding.
4. Promotion of religion.
5. Activities which are party political.
6. Mainstream activities and statutory requirements, for example of hospitals and medical centres, schools, universities and colleges.
7. Work that takes place outwith Scotland
8. Bursaries or scholarships.
9. Animal welfare.
10. Contributions to funds which will be used for grant making to other organisations and/or individuals.
11. One-off events, unless part of a larger project.
12. Sponsorship or marketing appeals.

## Key principles

It is important that charities and organisations working with communities are well run, manage money properly, and treat people fairly. You can show this by:

- Operating with effective safeguarding policies and procedures that protect the safety of vulnerable groups. This includes having a named safeguarding representative, providing regular training for staff and volunteers, operating with clear steps to take in the event of an incident or disclosure, and ensuring that people working with children are subject to relevant checks, i.e. Disclosure Scotland.
- Working with openness and transparency.
- Complying with relevant regulation/inspection.
- Having a strong commitment to equal opportunities and inclusivity.
- Fulfilling your duties as a responsible employer, if applicable.
- Listening to, and actively involving, the people who use your group or service.
- Keeping proper accounting records, including the recording of all money received and spent by your organisation and the production of annual figures/accounts signed and dated by the Chair or Treasurer. Please see our application guidance notes for more information.
- Operating with good governance including:
  - having a governing body which has a minimum of three Committee Members, Trustees or Directors;
  - If there are family members on the board/committee that there is always one independent member;
  - Meeting at least quarterly;
  - Any payments to members of the committee/board being detailed in a formal written agreement.

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(The) Corra Foundation is a charity registered in Scotland (No SC009481) and is also a company limited by guarantee (No SC096068). Fortify Social Enterprise CIC is a community interest company registered in Scotland and is also a company limited by guarantee (No SC507457). (The) Corra Foundation was previously called Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland. Comic Relief spends money raised by its fundraising campaigns, Red Nose Day & Sport Relief. Comic Relief, registered charity 326568 (England and Wales), SC039730 (Scotland).

## **More about the themes**

### **Children Survive and Thrive**

Helping children survive and thrive during the first years of life (0-5 years old). This could include:

Supporting parents, carers, and communities to be active champions and develop understanding of positive early childhood development. Testing new ways of supporting young children to achieve their potential before they go to primary school. Reducing harm by working with children and families who are at a high risk of neglect, abuse, adverse childhood experience, and inequality. Training and development for families, staff, and volunteers in an early-years setting.

### **Gender Justice**

Contributing to gender equality by reducing violence and discrimination based on gender and sexuality alongside increased opportunity, empowerment, and understanding for women, girls, and LGBTQI+ community. This could include:

Supporting women and girls to be safe, healthy, educated, and in control of their lives. Reducing gender-based violence, harmful practices, and persecution based on sexuality. Peer-led research on good practice in women-led activism and movements for social change. Training and development for staff and volunteers on gender and sexuality. Advocacy work that shifts public attitudes and improves understanding on the influence of gender stereotypes.

### **Mental Health Matters**

Empowering people with mental health issues or challenges to share their stories, live free from stigma and discrimination, and build positive relationships and experiences, including increased opportunities and access to support. This could include:

Improving the mental health and support networks of people experiencing, or at risk of, poor mental health, especially those from marginalised groups. Increasing the accessibility and relevance of mental health support services to the people who need them. Peer-led research on good practice in mental health recovery and support. Work that shifts the attitudes that create stigma and discrimination around mental health.

### **A Safe Place to Be**

Enabling people who have faced or are facing homelessness to resolve their situation and get support. Also supporting those who have been forced from their homes to build a new life, free from conflict, persecution, or trafficking. This includes those affected by domestic violence, refugees, and asylum seekers. This could include:

Peer advice networks between people who have experienced homelessness. Opportunities for people to have their voices heard in how services work. Supporting strong local community connections for people who have faced homelessness. Work that challenges stigma and discrimination around homelessness. Activity to create safe and supportive communities for refugees and asylum seekers.