

## **Q&A for the Families and Communities Fund**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

**Q1 The organisation I work with is not a registered charity but does some work in Scotland that fits the criteria. Can we apply?**

- No – you must be registered as a charity in Scotland to apply.

**Q2 We are a Community Interest Company (CIC). Can we apply?**

- No – you must be registered as a charity in Scotland to apply.

**Q3 We are a Social Enterprise. Can we apply?**

- Only if you are registered as a charity in Scotland and your organisation has a legal personality and the work you are applying for meets the criteria.

**Q4 The charity I work with is not registered with OSCR (Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator), but with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. Can we still apply?**

- No – you must be registered as a charity in Scotland to apply.

**Q5 We are applying for registered charitable status with OSCR at the moment – can we apply?**

- If you have your registration completed and approved by OSCR before 24th September 2019 then you can apply - you do need to be able to put your Scottish Charity Number on the application.

**Q6 My organisation did not apply for/was unsuccessful in applying for funding through the CYPFEIF & ALEC Fund – can I apply for funding through the Families and Communities Fund?**

- This is a new fund with an open application process, so if you meet the fund criteria then you can apply.

**Q7 Can a charity apply more than once?**

- No. This fund is for core funding, so each organisation will only have one lot of core costs and can make only one application. If you are applying for funding for different core services, you can explain this to us on your application in the section where you tell us about the work you are applying to have funded.

**Q8 Why have local organisations been excluded from being able to apply?**

- There is a limited amount of funding available, and Scottish Government has decided to prioritise work that has national impact as there are other opportunities for local organisations to be funded through different routes. Therefore, to be eligible for the fund, organisations must be able to demonstrate national impact. You can do this by showing that your organisation delivers face to face work in at least four or more local authority areas **or** provides non-face to face support in at least ten local authority areas **or** explaining why the work of your organisation has national significance.

**Q9 Is there an upper or lower limit on the income of charities that can apply?**

- No.

**CRITERIA**

**Q1 Why is the funding limited to particular parts of the sector?**

- The fund is not limited to particular organisations – it is open to any charitable organisation registered in Scotland that also has a legal personality as long as it can demonstrate that the proposed work delivers on the fund criteria and has national impact.

**Q2 Why is there a requirement for the work to be early intervention or prevention?**

- Early intervention and prevention are key as evidence shows that this is the most effective way to support children, young people, adult learners and families both in terms of improving outcomes and ensuring the best use of resources.

**Q3 Will funding be distributed evenly across geographical areas in Scotland?**

- No. The geographical spread of applications will not be a part of the assessment process, and all eligible applications will be assessed in exactly the same way. All organisations will be expected to demonstrate the national impact of their work regardless of where they are based.

**Q4 Will the funding be evenly distributed across all five national indicators?**

- No. The one or two national outcomes chosen by you in the application will not be a part of the assessment process, and all eligible applications will be assessed in exactly the same way. This information is being asked for on the application form so that when information about the fund is reported in the future it can be directly linked to the national outcomes.

**Additional clarification:** The spread of applications across the five national outcomes will not form part of our assessment. However, the link between the work you are applying to have funded and the national outcome/s you have chosen will be assessed.

**Q5 Will the funding be evenly distributed across all the policy areas set out in the fund criteria?**

The spread of applications across the policy areas will not be a part of the assessment process, and all eligible applications will be assessed in exactly the same way. However, Scottish Government will consider the spread across the policy areas when they make their final recommendations as they need to make sure that all their policy priorities for the fund are going to be addressed.

**Q6 Can we apply in partnership with another organisation?**

- No. As you would be applying for a contribution to the core costs of your own organisation, you need to complete an application for this. If the organisation or organisations you work in partnership with are also eligible to apply for the funding, they also need to develop their own applications. As this is for core funding we wouldn't expect there to be an overlap in the work being funded. While Scottish Government encourages partnership working, and funded organisations may well work in partnership with each other, each organisation applying for funding needs to complete their own application. However, there is space on the application form to tell us about the partnerships you have and we are interested in these.

**Q7 Can applications be made on the basis of full cost recovery?**

- Yes, as these will be applications for core funding we would expect full costs to be factored into applications. Remember that Scottish Government is more likely to make a contribution to core costs rather than fully funding them.

**Q8 Is there a maximum amount you can apply for?**

- No, however we do expect organisations to be sensible about the level of funding they apply for – there is a limited amount of funding available and you are more likely to be successful if it is clear you are applying for funding you really need. While this is core funding there is no expectation that you apply for all your core funding – Scottish Government is much more likely to make a contribution to your core costs rather than funding them completely and this will be an assessment factor. Also, as this is for core funding it should be for core costs or for work that is already well established and being delivered. This funding is not for new or existing projects or for capital costs, including new buildings.
- Scottish Government may decide to recommend that only part of the funding for which you have applied is awarded by the funding board. Again, you are much more likely to get the funding you have applied for if it is clear why you need this level of funding and that you aren't just asking for more than you really need in the hope of getting some of it.

**Q9 Is there a minimum amount you can apply for?**

- No. You may only want to apply for a small amount of funding, either because your core costs are fairly small or because you are only applying for a small contribution to your overall core costs.

**Q10 Why hasn't the amount of funding that is available been agreed yet?**

- The funding available will be agreed as part of the Scottish Government Spending Review that takes place in autumn every year. Up to £16m will be available per annum, but this figure can't be finalised before the relevant spending reviews have been carried out.

**Q11 Does that mean funding will actually be agreed on a year by year basis?**

- No. The funding will be awarded for the full three years, subject to:
  - 1) Scottish Government's Annual Spending Review provides sufficient budget for the funding to continue.
  - 2) The organisation receiving funding has not made a specific request for funding to stop part way through this time period.
  - 3) No concerns have been raised by Corra Foundation or the organisation's Policy Officer about an organisation's ability to deliver the work as planned.
- This means that we will be able to tell successful applicants in December 2019 how much funding we expect them to receive during each year of the fund, and that this will only change if it is affected by one or more of the conditions set out above.

**Q12 How is this funding linked to the Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention and Adult Learning and Empowering Communities Fund (CYPFEIF & ALEC Fund)?**

- This is a new fund that will start when the CYPFEIF & ALEC Fund comes to an end. There is an open application process, and all applications will be assessed in the same way. Therefore, there is no advantage or disadvantage to organisations that either have or haven't been funded through the CYPFEIF & ALEC Fund.

**Q13: Has the focus of the funding changed significantly from the CYPFEIF & ALEC Fund?**

- The Families and Communities Fund is a new fund. While there is some overlap with the criteria that were in place for the CYPFEIF & ALEC Fund, you should make sure you read the documents for the Families and Communities Fund carefully as they are not exactly the same.

**Q13 Are there any other current Scottish Government funding streams being combined into this new fund?**

- No. This is a new fund that will start when the CYPFEIF & ALEC Fund comes to an end. No other existing Scottish Government funding is being combined in the new fund.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

### **Q1 How can I get help with an application?**

- We are happy to speak to people about their application. You can call us on 0131 444 4020, email us at [facfund@corra.scot](mailto:facfund@corra.scot) or come to one of our information sessions which you can find out about from our website. As we are running a webinar-based information session, a recording of this will be available on the website once it has taken place and you will be able to watch this. There is also other supporting information available on our website: [www.corra.scot](http://www.corra.scot)

### **Q2 Do I have to use the online form?**

- Yes. We will only accept applications on the online form that reach us by 2pm on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019. If you send us your application in any other format, we will not accept it. There is a word template on our website that you can use to help you develop your application which might be useful to use. There is also a hints and tips document to help you use the online form. If you have any questions about the online form, please just get in touch with us and we will be happy to help.

### **Q3 How do you decide who gets awards?**

- Applications will be assessed using a consistent process, and this will be done by the Corra Foundation working with relevant Scottish Government policy teams. This will result in recommendations for funding being made to a funding board consisting of Scottish Government and third sector representatives which will make the final decision on which work will be funded.

### **Q4 How long will the funding last?**

- The funding will be available between April 2020 and March 2023, but you can apply for funding of any duration between these dates.

### **Q5 When will I find out if my funding application has been successful?**

- We expect to be able to let everyone who has applied know the funding board's decisions in mid-December 2019. We will contact every organisation individually to let them know whether they have been successful.

**Q6 If I am unsuccessful can I get some feedback on why this was?**

- Yes, personalised feedback on your application will be available.

**Q7 If I receive an award, what sort of follow-up is there?**

- We expect to be able to let everyone who has applied know the funding board's decisions in mid-December 2019, so if your application is successful you will find out then.
- We will make sure you receive a grant offer letter in early 2020.
- You will need to report on what you have done with the funding every six months throughout the funding. We will share the template for the monitoring reports when grant offer letters are sent out in early 2020.
- We will also be delivering a range of support for funded organisations throughout the course of the funding, so if you are successful we will share details of this with you as the fund is delivered.

**Q8 If I receive an award, how and when will the money be paid to me?**

- The funding will be payable quarterly in arrears unless there is a specific reason for quarterly payments to be made in advance – we will explain how to do this once funding decisions have been made. Funding will be paid by BACS payment directly into the organisation's bank account.

**Q9 What do I need to do if I have an award but can't spend the money on what we'd planned?**

- The awards are made for specific work – they become restricted funds when a charity receives them. If you have been given an award and aren't able to do what you originally intended with it, speak to us about this as soon as possible. It may be possible to make minor changes to the outcomes and/or indicators, or, if what you want to do with the money no longer fits with our priorities, you may have to return the award to us. If you are unable to spend the money, for example if your charity closes, you will need to return the award to us.

**Q10 What if I need longer than originally planned to spend the money?**

- This funding is available between April 2020 and March 2023, and no funding can be carried forward between financial years or beyond March 2023. Any funding that isn't used by the end of each of the financial years will need to be paid back. This funding is for core work that should already be underway in your organisation so, unlike for projects, there should be no time-lag in the work starting and limited reasons why the funding can't be spent as planned.

**Q11 Will there be another round of applications for funding through the Families and Communities Fund?**

- No. All the funding will be allocated through this funding round.

**The Corra Foundation**

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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.