

GVC Fund guidelines 2021-22

Fund guidelines

About the Fund

The GVC Fund offers grants of up to £10,000 to groups and projects delivering sport, healthy activity projects, and projects supporting men's physical and mental health across London. The fund was first available in 2019 but was paused in 2020 due to the pandemic.

About The London Community Foundation

We are The London Community Foundation (LCF), the charity for London's grassroots. We specialise in supporting community-based organisations focused on helping disadvantaged London. We do this by raising funds from institutions and individuals to invest in local charities and social enterprises. We believe that communities often characterised as poor and disadvantaged are rich with ideas and assets. When these ideas and assets are maximised, small community groups can make a big difference.

Our reach

Since 2011, we have invested over £75 million into charitable groups across the capital. Today, we invest around £7 million annually, giving out around 1,000 grants every year across London. We manage a number of high profile funds and work closely with donors and partners to structure, promote and deliver them. We are part of a network of 46 Community Foundations in the UK, and more than 1,800 worldwide, strengthening civil society, and empowering people to address local challenges and opportunities.

Fund details

What can the Fund support?

The fund aims to support projects that use sport and physical activity to:

- raise awareness of and / or tackle mental health stigmas
- support men with mental or physical health problems to become more active

The fund will support a range of activities that can achieve this aim. For example, the GVC Fund could support:

- Men's health projects
- Community sport activities
- Men's sheds
- Mentoring projects

This is not an exhaustive list of examples. Please get in touch to discuss your project if you're unsure.

Organisations can be working anywhere in London. Priority will be given to small, local organisations in areas of disadvantage, run by people directly affected by the issues they are dealing with and that have a clear understanding of the needs they are supporting.

Size of Grant:

Grants are available for up to £10,000 over one year.

Closing date for applications:

The deadline to apply is **midday on Friday 29th October 2021**.

Who can apply?

The fund is open to:

- Constituted community groups and resident groups
- Registered charities
- Companies limited by guarantee
- Community Interest Companies (CICs) Limited by guarantee
- Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs)

Applicants must

- Be based in, or supporting people living within London
- Have a management committee/board of directors/trustees of at least three unrelated people
- Have a signed constitution or other relevant governance document
- Have a bank account under the name of the group with at least two unrelated signatories

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- Have Annual Accounts or an Income and Expenditure Sheet for the post recent financial period
 - Have a Safeguarding Policy

Priority will be given to small, community organisations in areas of disadvantage run by people directly affected by the issues they are dealing with and that have a clear understanding of the needs they are supporting.

Up to 50% of the grant can be used for core costs, but if doing so, the remainder should be project delivery costs.

Additional criteria

For this fund, projects must be working with adults (over 18s). The fund cannot support work with young people below this age. If your organisation works with a mixed age group, any activity you are applying for should only be for adults.

Source of funding

This funding is provided by GVC Holdings (part of Entain Plc) a sports betting and gambling company. By submitting an application you are confirming that you are willing to accept funds generated from gambling.

What cannot be funded through this programme?

The following types of organisation are not eligible:

- Companies limited by Shares (including CIC limited by shares).
- Statutory organisations, such as local authorities.
- NHS bodies.
- Co-operative Societies
- Commercial organisations

The grant funds cannot be used for:

- activities that promote religious or political views
- purely commercial ventures (for profit)
- spending that has already taken place (i.e. retrospective funding)
- individual sponsorship or redistribution of a grant to individuals or other organisations
- activities where people are excluded on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender or ethnicity (unless the issue is group-specific)
- Mainstream activities and statutory requirements of hospitals and medical centres (including NHS Trusts), universities, colleges and schools (unless out of school activities)
- There must be no personal benefit attached to the grant

The following are not eligible to apply:

- Organisations that have had two concurrent years of late submissions to Charity Commission/Companies House within the last two completed financial years
- Organisations that have had two years net current liabilities within the two most recent completed financial years

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- Organisations where Trustees are paid - unless evidence of approval is provided from the Charity Commission and/or this arrangement is referenced in the governing document
 - Organisations with overdue or incomplete monitoring on a previous grant from The London Community Foundation and / or GVC Holdings / Entain

Projects currently in receipt of funding through GVC Fund are able to re-apply if the funding will be fully spent before this grant is awarded)

When can you apply?

The fund opens in September 2021 and the deadline to apply is **midday on Friday 29th October 2021**.

Decisions are due to be made by end of November 2021. Grants must be completed by December 2022.

Grant Making

How do you apply for a grant?

To apply you need to complete an online application form available here:

<https://ukcf.secure.force.com/forms/forms/London/GVC-Application>

You will also need to submit required documentation as set out in the online application guidelines.

We strongly suggest you submit your application at your earliest opportunity. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

What happens after you've applied?

We will assess your application and may need to contact you during this time. Any community groups seeking funding by way of a grant from the Fund will submit a full application to LCF which will be subject to LCF's standard internal assessment procedures. LCF reserves the right to make any necessary further enquiries about the applicant. This assessment will take place prior to any group being submitted to the Fund grants panel for approval.

Monitoring

If you are successful, the grant offer will include any additional conditions set by the panel. The grant **must be spent** within 12 months of the grant payment. You must also complete an end of grant monitoring report telling us how the grant has been spent and what was achieved. The deadline for doing so will be specified in your offer letter. Please note that failure to provide appropriate monitoring information will exclude your organisation from applying to future LCF grant programmes.

To Apply

Click below for access to the online application:

<https://ukcf.secure.force.com/forms/forms/London/GVC-Application>

Please read the instructions carefully, tick to say you agree and have understood, enter your e-mail address and click on the "Send e-mail and continue".

Once you have done this you will be sent an e-mail with a link to your unique online application form. You should receive the email within a couple of minutes (please check your spam or junk folder). If you do not receive an email it may be that you have not entered your email correctly – please check the address before submitting.

To begin your application, please click on the link within the email that you have received from us. There are help notes available as you go through the online application form and you can save your application at any point and come back to it to complete it at any time before the closing date. The help notes are also available as a separate document via the website. You must remember to click the save button before closing down your application.

Once you get to the end of the application form there will be a 'Submit' button. Please note the submit button is after you have verified your budget. Once you press this it will automatically send your application through to the Foundation and this will be accepted as a completed application. Please do make sure you submit everything before the deadline.

Please contact us if you would like help or are unable to complete an application online. If you do not currently have access to the internet, call us on 020 7582 5117 for support.

Need help?

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss your proposal prior to making an application, if you need help with completing the form or providing the supporting documents.

The London Community Foundation: applications@londoncf.org.uk / 020 7582 5117

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Foundation**

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