

Wimbledon Foundation Community Fund

Online application form guidance

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CHARITY PARTNER



Wimbledon Foundation Community Fund – Online Application Form Guidance

These are guidance notes for applicants to help you complete some of the key questions in the online form for the Wimbledon Foundation Community Fund at The London Community Foundation.

Tips:

- You can click the ⓘ symbol next to questions on the online form for help on how to respond.
- Each of the large text boxes will have a maximum word limit of 250 words unless stated otherwise.
- As you enter your information on the online form, remember to save your progress periodically by clicking on the 'Save Changes' or 'Next' button at the bottom of the page, to prevent you from losing your work in case of internet issues.
- Text boxes/fields marked with a * need completing – without an answer you will not be able to submit your form.
- Before saving, all required fields (marked with *) within the section **MUST** have characters entered for the section to be saved, even if it is a couple of letters. Upon saving, you will be taken back to the form overview. If the system remains on the section page highlighting the required fields, it may not have saved.
- It is a good practice to draft your responses (particularly in Section 3 About Your Project) using a word processing programme such as Microsoft Word, so that you can check your spelling and word count as you go along.
- **Only check the 'Mark as Complete' box on each page when you are ready to submit the form. Ticking this button will lock your access to this section and you will need to speak to a member of LCF to regain access.**
- **Currently, due to technical issues, the Budget Section (What It Will Cost) cannot be filled in across several stages and must be fully completed in one sitting. As such, we recommend that you use the Multi-Year Budget Template prior to completing this section.**

Registration on the Fundseeker Portal

The London Community Foundation has recently upgraded their Data Management system and all applications will now be submitted via the Fundseeker Portal which will hold all of your ongoing and previous applications, enabling you to refer back to them and their outcomes easily.

First, please go to the website - <https://londoncf.my.site.com/fundseekerportal/s/login/>

Next, you will need to register your FundSeeker Account. Unless you are already registered, please click the 'Register here' option. Otherwise please login using your username and password.

This will take you to a new page, where it will ask you to state whether you are applying as an individual or an organisation and if you have applied to The London Community Foundation in the past. **For this fund, you can only apply as an organisation.** If you have previously applied, your details should be stored on our database, so we will need you to fill in some basic details to help identify you. Alternatively, you'll be asked a couple of questions around eligibility before you can fill in your details. If you are a new applicant, you may be asked to complete further details about your organisation.

The system will then send you an e-mail to verify your address with a link you should use to create your password, before fully logging into the system where you should find three red boxes:



To access the application form please click on 'Funding Programmes' and select the relevant programme. Please read the Fund Description carefully before clicking the 'Apply here' to start your application.

Section 1: Check Contact Details

Please use this section to fill in your personal details, including your Job Title and the organisation's address. (Once these details are submitted on the portal, they should automatically update on all subsequent applications.)

Section 2: About Your Group or Organisation

Organisation start date

Please let us know the month and year that your group was set up or formally established.

Social Media Information

Please provide details of your relevant social media accounts.

What type of organisation are you?

Please use the drop-down menu to select what type of organisation you are and then enter the relevant registration number where applicable.

Are you part of a larger regional or National organisation?

Please use the drop-down options to indicate whether you are applying as a hub or subsidiary of a larger organisation. This will help us when we review your attached documents.

Income over the last accounting year

Please let us know your organisation's income over the last financial year. If you are a new organisation, please tell us your actual income to date from your management accounts.

Expenditure over the last accounting year

Please let us know your organisation's expenditure over the last financial year. If you are a new organisation, please tell us your actual income to date from your management accounts.

How do the people you support, or people with experience of the issues, help shape the work you do?

Please provide a brief outline of how you engage with your community to determine the aims and outcomes of your organisation.

Is your group Led By and For any of the following communities?

As we aim to support grassroots organisations who are run by people from within the community they support, please indicate whether your management committee is made up of more than 50% of said community. If your management committee is less than 50%, please select 'We are not a Led By and For group'. Use the following two boxes to give any further details about how the leadership of your organisation represents your community.

Staffing and volunteers

Please let us know how many full and part time staff your organisation employs. If applicable, let us know how many members and volunteers your organisation has. Your Management Committee may be known as your Trustee Board. (We recommend there is a minimum of 3 members). Please provide the names of all members of your management committee and their roles.

Please provide the bank details where you would like the grant to be paid into should you be successful in your application.

Bank accounts should have at least two unrelated signatories and preferably three. These details will be checked against your bank statements should the grant be released to ensure it is being paid into the correct account.

Press 'Next'

Please describe briefly the overall aims and objectives of your organisation and the activities or services your organisation provides.

Please tell us about your organisation's aims, and what activity/ies you usually deliver, for whom and where. How is your organisation run and who manages it? How are key decisions made? Please explain your organisation's usual activity and management structure. Do staff running activities for children under 16 or vulnerable adults have valid and up-to-date DBS checks?

Mark as Complete

While you will need to check this box to submit your application form, only do this when you are sure the section is complete as you won't be access it easily once you have saved the section.

***Please note that these details within this section will be stored on our database and will appear on future applications automatically.**

Section 3: About Your Project

Project name

Please enter the project name here, such as Thamesmead Drama Club. If the project does not have a name, please enter the name of your organisation instead.

Project funding start / end

Please put the forecasted project start and end date. Please note that successful applicants will have a maximum period of 36 months from the offer letter date to spend the grant.

Funding decisions will be available by:

- 27th May 2026 for applications submitted to the 18th February 2026 @ 12 deadline.
N.B. In this round, you are advised to plan your proposal from mid-June 2026 onwards, and not before.

Is this new work?

Please indicate whether this is a new initiative or a continuation of existing work.

What are the needs or issues that your organisation works to address and how do you know?

What can you tell us about the need for your work/issues you are addressing? Have you done surveys, had feedback? Is there a gap in provision/little else in the area? Is it in response to local demand?

How would you use this funding? What services/activities would it help you deliver and/or how will it support running the organisation?

Please tell us in this section what you need the money for. If you are applying for ongoing activities or new work, what is it that you would like to do i.e. describe the activities, giving project specifics; WHAT, WHEN, HOW OFTEN, WHERE, FORMAT & DELIVERY (detailing the expertise and experience of the workers/volunteers running the project as well the supervision and management to be provided).

Please note that capital costs, and one-off events or activities are NOT a priority for WFCF. You **cannot** apply for sports or dance projects, please see details about 'Get Set, Get Active' on page 5 of the Guidelines.

What would the benefits and outcomes be as a result of this funding?

What are the benefits or outcomes of your project and for the beneficiaries?

(N.B. An outcome describes the benefits or changes that will happen as a result of your work i.e. the impact your work is having. Quite often you are asked to describe your outputs, these are the actual products / services / activities that you will be providing).

What difference will this project make? How is this directly related to the issues you have identified?

List the benefits or changes that will directly result from this project, e.g. the project will improve beneficiaries' mental health and wellbeing and reduce their isolation.

How would you measure and report the benefits and impact this funding is having?

How will you measure this? You might have informal discussions with users, do questionnaires, gather people together in one place. You need to tell us how you will monitor and report on this project through the life of the grant. We suggest, for instance, that you keep a log of users of your services, referrals made, participants on your courses, enquiries you deal with, etc. You should also use this section to tell us how you will know whether you are being successful or not in meeting your objectives.

Have you budgeted all staff costs at the London Living Wage? Please provide any comments on any difficulties or positive impact this will have on your organisation (please type N/A if this does not apply to you i.e. you are not applying for salary costs)

As outlined in the Fund Guidelines we are now a Living Wage Friendly Funder. This scheme, run by the Living Wage Foundation means that The London Community Foundation will actively encourage and support applications from organisations willing to pay staff the Living Wage which is £14.80 per hour in London. We are asking groups to make their applications for any staff costs at the Living Wage rates, so please budget for this in the project's staff costs. We understand that for some groups paying a Living Wage can be difficult for a number of reasons, we would like to work with groups to see how we can support you to enable you to pay a Living Wage.

Which local authority will the activity take place in, Merton, Wandsworth or both?

Use the drop-down list to select where your project will be delivered.

Please select which of the WFCF themes your project will primarily address. (You can only select one)

Use the drop-down list to select one of the three Fund themes:

1. Addressing financial insecurity / cost of living
2. Supporting mental health and wellbeing
3. Promoting and supporting digital inclusion

Please indicate whether you are primarily supporting one of the fund priority groups or not by using this drop-down list. (You can only select one)

Please only select one of the choices if you are prioritising them. Otherwise, select the option 'This project is not designed around any of the WFCF priority groups'. We will support other groups, providing a strong demonstration of need is provided.

Which Merton/Wandsworth areas/estates will the beneficiaries come from?

This question will help us to better understand the communities you are supporting and to help ensure we can reach as many people as possible through the funding programme.

If the funding request is (partly or fully) contributing towards core costs, please explain how a grant would help strengthen your organisation's resilience and efficiency and sustain/develop service delivery over the next 3 years?

This is important to demonstrate your future planning and ability to handle a multi-year grant.

Please tell us about local networks or partnerships your group is involved in, and in particular if you are working in partnership with local Merton or Wandsworth organisations to deliver this particular project (formally or informally).

Section 4: What Geographical Areas

Please use the tick boxes to select the local authority area where the activity will mainly take place. We recognise that you can answer this question in a previous section, but while we are developing our new Application platform, we need to ensure that the area of benefit is clear.

Section 5: Themes And Who Will benefit - This section should be fully completed before saving.

Primary Theme

Please use the drop-down function on the left-hand side of the form to select the theme that best fits your proposal. You can use the options in the right column to select any secondary themes you feel your project addresses, holding down Ctrl if you wish to select more than one.

(This section is based on The London Community Foundation framework and are standard across all programmes, so while you have already highlighted which fund themes you are working on, we also need this data to compare your impact against other projects funded by other programmes.)

Primary Activity

Use the dropdown list to select the option which best describes the nature of your proposed project.

How many people will directly benefit from this funding?

Please estimate the total number of people who will participate in / benefit from the proposed project. We realise that you may not be able to give exact figures but please estimate as accurately as possible. This information is important and will be used to evaluate the project at the end of the grant period.

How many people will indirectly benefit?

Please estimate the total number of people who will indirectly benefit from the proposal, i.e. not take part but whose lives may improve as a result of the project. This might include partners, family members, local businesses or members of the public who see an improvement to local spaces within the next twelve months.

Beneficiaries

From the **drop-down list**, please click on the one group that best reflects **the majority** of the **beneficiaries** of your organisation, this will then be entered in the selection box on the lefthand side of the form. You can then use the right-hand column to select any other relevant groups that will be affected, remembering to use Ctrl & Click to select more than one option. Please don't select them all if they don't apply, just think about who the primary beneficiaries will be. This doesn't have to be 100% accurate, you're just giving an indication.

Ethnicity

From the **drop-down list**, please select one **ethnic** group that best reflects **the majority** of the users of your organisation and enter it in the box provided. Then, using the left-hand column, select any other ethnic groups that will benefit. Please only tick the groups who will benefit.

Age Group

We would be interested in knowing which **age groups** would benefit from this grant. Please enter in the drop-down the age group that represents **most** of the beneficiaries of your organisation. Then, using the Ctrl & click to indicate any other age groups that will benefit.

Please note this funding is only for projects working with adults so there shouldn't be any projects focusing on under 18's.

Gender

It would be useful for us to identify any targeted support going to various genders within the community, so please use this drop to indicate if you are aiming to support a specific gender of the community as a whole, by using the 'All Genders' option.

*If this section is submitted before completion, please contact our support team.

Section 6: What Will it Cost

PLEASE NOTE – Currently, due to technical issues, this section needs to be completed in one session and cannot be completed in stages. We therefore strongly recommend you complete your budget in the template while this issue is being addressed. The template is designed so that cells that calculate running totals are locked and will calculate the sum of the various sections, such as Staff costs, or the amount requested for each year. You can expand and contract the various 'Costs' sections using the '+' and '-' boxes on the left of the spreadsheet.

Project Budget

This section asks you to provide details regarding the amount of money you are applying for and what type of items you will be spending it on.

How much money are you applying to the Wimbledon Foundation Community Fund for?

Please enter the total amount of funding you are requesting from us. The maximum request is £30,000, the equivalent of £10,000 per year.

How much will your project/activity cost in total?

Where a project costs more than the amount you are requesting, please give the total cost here.

How much has been raised so far?

If you are not asking us to fund the full costs, how much have you raised already? If none, please enter 0 in this box.

Alternatively, where you are asking us for the total project cost, please insert 0 here.

Are you seeking other funding towards this project?

Please use the drop-down options to indicate whether you are seeking funding from other organisations.

Budget breakdown

Here you itemise the costs that will be incurred in running your project only. The headings (staff costs, volunteer costs, etc.) are examples of types of costs and the amount – you do not have to put a cost in each heading if it does not apply but there may be others that you need to include.

The costs are broken down into the three years and there are two cost boxes, one for the **total project cost for that type of cost** and one for the **amount you are applying to us under that cost heading**.

The cost breakdown also allows you to enter the details behind the cost summary. These details should only refer to the elements of the project that would be covered by a grant from us. Please give us a full breakdown of the costs as shown in the example below.

Staff Costs - Year 1

Requested amount	3,800
Total amount	38,000

Breakdown

Development Manager – 10% of salary @ £38,000
pro-rata + on-costs = £3,800

Volunteer Expenses – Year 1

Requested amount	3,600
Total amount	3,600

Breakdown

Travel expenses for 4 volunteers @ (average of)
£10/session x 2 sessions/week x 45 weeks =
£3,600/year = £3,600

***Note for Volunteer Expenses** - Only out-of-pocket expenses can be paid to volunteers, who should submit receipts and/or proof of payment such as bus/rail tickets for your records. Volunteers should not be paid a flat rate as they will be classed as employees of your organisation.

Section 7: Supporting Documents

Within this section you will see a list of eight available slots for documents to be attached. The following four must be attached for your application to be considered:

- A copy of your governing document (e.g., constitution, memorandum & articles or set of rules).
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts, or an income and expenditure sheet for your last financial period for smaller groups. For new groups, please provide a forecast for your income and expenditure for your first financial period, and a copy of a recent bank statement.
- A safeguarding policy in place that has been reviewed in the last 12 months, states it is reviewed annually, and meets the requirements as listed in our [safeguarding checklist](#)
- An Income & Expenditure forecast for the current financial year, showing what funding has been secured and what you are planning to apply to, to help us understand your organisations financial planning, and what impact this grant may have on your organisation.

If for any reason you are not able to provide one of the required documents, please upload a document explaining why you do not have it.

Optional: There are three spaces for additional documents and photos that may support your application.

Please clearly label each document with a name of organisation and a short description of what it is: i.e. The Music House – Safeguarding Policies

If for any reason you are not able to provide one of the required documents, please upload a document explaining why you do not have it.

Please clearly label each document with a name and a short description of what it is:
i.e. Name of Organisation – Governing Documents

Submit your Application

Once all of the sections are marked as complete, the 'Submit Application' button in the final section should become available. This will happen before you have attached the documents, so, please check that the required documents are showing as 'Submitted'.

Status: Incomplete, please add documents

Upload Documents	
Documentation Type	Status
Safeguarding Policy	Submitted
Governing Documents	Submitted
Accounts/financial records	Submitted
Names & Address of trustees	Submitted
Risk Assessment Documents	Submitted
Public Liability Insurance	Open

Once clicked, please read the terms and conditions and check the box if you agree with the statement. Please confirm your name and role.

How did you find the application form?

Please let us know how challenging you found the application form to complete.

When you have completed your application

Once you have completed the form, please ensure you click on the 'submit' button at the bottom of the page to send the application through to us. After your form is submitted you will no longer be able to access and edit it.

If you're still not sure about anything when completing the form, please contact The London Community Foundation on 020 7582 5117 or e-mail info@londoncf.org.uk

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