

Black Community Neighbourhood Fund Guidance
[Grant Ref: BCNF0626]

Guidance Document

Black people face persistent disparities in areas such as health, social care, and wellbeing outcomes. This fund is designed to support projects that will positively impact the Black community in Harrow through a hub and in-reach model.

Fund Aims

Charitable purposes for the benefit of Black African and Caribbean communities, with a focus on reducing health inequalities, improving trust in services, and strengthening community-led engagement through an in-reach model.

The fund supports prevention over crisis, trust over fear, access over exclusion, and community over systems.

Activity

This fund is for Black communities, including people of African, Caribbean, and mixed Black heritage backgrounds. The primary aim is to ensure Black individuals are the main beneficiaries of funded activities, addressing structural and systemic inequalities.

Funded activity should:

- Create safe, trusted community spaces free from discrimination and judgement
- Be community-led and culturally responsive
- Support open engagement with health and wellbeing topics
- Identify and encourage participation from those least engaged with statutory services
- Provide accessible and inclusive environments for discussion and support

A minimum of twelve sessions is required each year, one per month, over a two year period. Of these twelve, four must be larger flagship events, held on weekends, one per quarter. We can help connect you with partners to support these. Flagship events should be designed to engage the wider community, and may include stalls, free barbers, live dance, food, and other interactive activities.

All activity must prioritise dignity, cultural safety, and authentic community voice.

Activity must be started by 1st October 2026.

Clinical Partner

Grantees must support the delivery of health and/or clinical checks as part of their activities (larger events). This means organisations must be able to facilitate, co-ordinate, and integrate health checks within their programmes and events.

Organisations must also consider the suitability of their venues and activity spaces, ensuring there is adequate room, privacy, accessibility, and appropriate facilities for checks to take place. This includes creating an environment that supports participants' comfort, dignity, and confidentiality while enabling health professionals to carry out assessments efficiently.

The clinical provider is funded separately and does not come out of your grant.

Eligibility

You need to be applying as:

- a) a constituted not-for-profit organisation (company limited by guarantee, community interest company (non-profit and limited by guarantee), registered charity, co-operative, unincorporated organisation)
- b) with a minimum of 2 unrelated trustees/directors (these trustees / directors should be as listed where relevant on the Charity Commission / Companies House)
- c) with a bank account in the name of the organisation

The activities for which you are applying for funding need to be legally charitable and benefit Harrow residents.

Monitoring - Reporting on the grant

You will need to report back to Harrow Giving monthly. We are committed to light-touch reporting for grants. We can help and support you with completing the monitoring form.

Details of data to be collated, including but not limited to:

1. Attendance numbers
2. % attendees from Black African and Caribbean (BAC) communities
3. Postcodes
4. Referrals / signposting made
5. Participant satisfaction
6. Learning captured
7. Safeguarding incidents
8. Health checks delivered - *provided by clinical provider*

We will also be creating a public list of the grants awarded, detailing the organisations and their respective funded projects.

Amount available

Grants of up to £10,000 are available per year for 12-month projects. Continuation into a second year, with a further grant of up to £10,000, is not guaranteed and will depend on: (i) Harrow Giving securing the required funding, which has been secured in principle; and (ii) satisfactory performance against the monthly monitoring and reporting requirements.

Three organisations will be chosen to deliver this work. We are looking for providers based across Harrow, able to reach and work with different Black communities.

Partnership Working

Organisations will be expected to work and plan in partnership with each other, so flexibility and forward planning will be important, particularly for larger events.

What can the funding be used for?

- People – staffing and volunteer costs
- Communications - marketing and advertising costs
- Equipment – any equipment you need to deliver this work
- Resources – any activity costs needed for your team to do this work.
- Overheads / core costs

We cannot fund:

- activities that make profits for private gain
- religious activities (we can fund religious organisations if their project benefits the wider community and does not include religious content)
- projects where political activities are the main purpose, or that support or oppose a specific political party
- lobbying activities
- things you've spent money on in the past and are looking to claim for now (retrospective costs)
- loan repayments
- the topping up of organisation reserves.

Support available

Voluntary Action Harrow [VAH] (contact@vah.org.uk) can support with:

- Discussing project ideas
- Reading and reviewing applications

Deadline

12pm, 7th September 2026

How to apply

Please send a completed application form to: grants@harrowgiving.org.uk

We will aim to inform you if you have been successful within two weeks of the deadline.

Where the money had come from

West and North London ICB - www.westandnorthlondon.icb.nhs.uk

Other funding available

Voluntary Action Harrow has compiled a list of other funding available. This document will be updated on a regular basis so please keep the document link saved.

www.vah.org.uk/funding

About us

Harrow Giving is a local charity that funds small local projects to make a positive difference in the lives of Harrow residents. Harrow Giving is a trading name of Harrow Together (registered charity no. 1167770) and is managed by Voluntary Action Harrow (VAH).

www.harrowgiving.org.uk