Response, Recovery and Resilience Fund FAQs

1. Who can apply to the Fund?
Grants will be awarded to local charities and community organisations with an income of £125,000 or less, that meet our standard criteria for funding. Please read the fund guidelines on the fund page of our website for more information.

2. What types of projects and activities will you support?
This is a rapidly developing situation, and as a result, the focus of the Fund will continue to evolve in line with need and help required. Types of activity the Fund will prioritise:

• providing groceries, household essentials and delivery of medicines to vulnerable people who are self-isolating
• coordination of volunteers and charitable effort to support vulnerable people self-isolating
• direct and immediate practical support for vulnerable groups
• support to enable prompt and safe discharge from hospital
• enabling and encouraging vulnerable people to use and access technology to keep them connected to the outside world
• reaching out to isolated older and vulnerable people by telephone and social media to support positive mental health.
• initiatives to reduce isolation and vulnerability
• advice and guidance and emotional, mental health and bereavement support
• enabling charitable groups to work remotely and adapting services

Funding will also be awarded to organisations providing direct services and support to people with low or insecure incomes e.g. those on universal credit, and to those working with school-age children in disadvantaged communities. We want to support community groups working together, particularly in smaller geographical communities. We therefore encourage a partnership approach.

3. Which people need help in particular?
The idea is to support people who are self-isolating, especially people without nearby family, elderly people, and people with a disability or long-term health condition such as cancer, diabetes and chronic lung disease. We also want to support vulnerable people who are returning home from a stay in hospital and who may need additional support.
4. Can newly established, local aid groups apply?
We are aware many people have joined community efforts to look after the most vulnerable in society by volunteering to pick up shopping, deliver medicine etc. This is something we warmly welcome. The Covid-19 Mutual Aid website provides advice on how to set up a local mutual aid group, including important guidance on safety and security.

Recently formed groups of local volunteers providing mutual aid in your community can also apply. You will need to:

• demonstrate that your work is endorsed by the Local Covid-19 Hub, another charitable or statutory organisation e.g. parish council.
• demonstrate that appropriate safeguarding has been considered, and appropriate policies are in place e.g. volunteer code of conduct.
• seek authorisation from another charitable organisation or statutory organisation, e.g. community council, to hold funds on your behalf if you do not have a bank account. For further advice and guidance, please visit the Covid Mutual Aid website

5. I’m organising a group of volunteers. I understand that there isn’t a legal requirement for me to have my volunteers Disclosure Scotland checks, but should I do so anyway?
Many of the roles that volunteers will carry out in their local communities do not raise safeguarding issues and do not need a to be sent to Disclosure Scotland to be checked. However, they are fast tracking some checks and waiving fees so have a look at their website if you are unsure.

If your group’s activities are captured, under normal circumstances we would advise that having volunteers checked is a prudent safeguarding step.

6. Can groups apply for loss of income?
We recognise that many small, local charities and community groups will be worried about the impact of COVID-19 on their income and fundraising. Our immediate priority is supporting groups who are providing activities to those who are most vulnerable. We cannot currently meet the need arising from loss of income. However, should the Fund receive sufficient donations, we will consider applications for loss of income in a secondary phase of the Fund. Currently for loss of income you can apply to the Third Sector Resilience fund

7. Can groups apply retrospectively?
No, we cannot cover costs you have already incurred.
8. Can individuals and households apply?
We understand COVID-19 pandemic is having, and will continue to have, a big impact on individuals and families in our area. Our Fund has been set up to support charitable organisations that can help people most affected. We are not providing grants directly to individuals or families. If you are worried about money or other issues, you can contact a CAB [https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/) or other local advice centre [www.adviceuk.org.uk/looking-for-advice](http://www.adviceuk.org.uk/looking-for-advice)

9. Can businesses apply?
We understand COVID-19 pandemic is having, and will continue to have, a big impact on individuals and families in our area. Our Fund has been set up to support charitable organisations that can help people most affected. We are not providing grants directly to businesses. We recommend you contact [Scottish Chamber of Commerce](https://www.scottishchamber.org.uk) for advice and guidance

10. How does this Fund relate to the national appeal?
The National Emergencies Trust has launched a UK-wide fundraising appeal in partnership with the British Red Cross to support local charities. We have already received £600,000 from this appeal and hope to receive more funds in the future.

11. How do groups apply?
Application forms are available from our website, [click here](#). We aim to process applications as quickly as possible. There are no deadline dates and the grants panel will meet on a regular basis.