

## **The Provident Social Impact Fund (Scotland) 2019 Guidance Notes**

Foundation Scotland is proud to have a new grants programme, working with Provident Financial Group. As part of Provident's commitment to Scotland, we are delighted to launch the Provident Social Impact Fund (Scotland) which aims to support social inclusion. The programme will invest in activities that seek to alleviate the underlying problems that prevent social inclusion and enjoyment of a full modern life. The Fund will distribute £40,000 in grants, of between £1,000 and £5,000.

### **Fund Details**

#### **Who can apply?**

Organisations applying to the Fund must be based in, or supporting people living within the Glasgow City area or Paisley area of Renfrewshire.

Community groups, charities, social enterprises or other charitable organisations from the voluntary sector that:

- Have a constitution or other relevant governance document
- Have a management committee/board of directors/trustees of at least three unrelated people
- Have a bank account under the name of the group with at least two unrelated signatories
- Provide a copy of recent bank statement
- Provide a signed copy of your organisation's most recent annual accounts.
- Are based in and supporting people living in the City of Glasgow area and the Paisley area of Renfrewshire
- Have an income of £250,000 or under in the most recent financial year.

Priority will be given to small, community organisations in areas of social, financial and welfare disadvantage.

#### **Size of Grant:**

The minimum request is £1,000. The maximum is £5,000. Whilst the grant can be used to part-fund a wide range of activities, we like to see the impact our support is having. Accordingly, we prefer for our grant to equal at least 50% of the total cost of the activity or project within the criteria specified below. Only one application per organisation can be considered.

#### **What can the Fund support?**

Projects should meet one of the following themes:

- Improving people's personal finance capabilities (debt and financial advice/education)
- Improving physical and/or mental health
- Providing support which enhances, creates and sustains positive family relationships
- Addressing issues of low educational attainment and improving learning outcomes

- Providing people with opportunities to reduce inequality, exclusion and disadvantage, including projects which increase access to employment.

### **Types of activities that can be funded**

The grants panel will look to fund projects and activities that are addressing need identified through consultation and/or engagement with potential beneficiaries and have a clear focus on the positive results they plan to achieve. Projects need to be inclusive of people in the locality regardless of their background, offer wider benefit and be cost effective.

### **Exclusions**

Grants will not be awarded to or for:

- Commercial organisations
- Sponsorship (including sports kit) or marketing appeals
- Individuals – including students
- Food banks
- Mainstream activities and statutory requirements of hospitals and medical centres (including NHS Trusts), universities and colleges
- Establishment/preservation of endowment/welfare funds
- Organisations that redistribute funding for subsequent grant-making to other organisations and/or individuals
- Expeditions or overseas travel
- Single religious or ethnic groups – we don't support organisations who are promoting their own values. We would however consider supporting the activities of such organisations if they are aimed at supporting the wider community in accordance with these guidelines
- Political or military groups or activities – although we would consider supporting organisations who support veterans in accordance with these guidelines
- Capital appeals for building projects, e.g. for rebuilding a community centre, heritage centres, visitor centres, museums, theatres or places of worship
- Historic restoration/historic publications
- Overseas organisations – this is about supporting our local communities
- Animal welfare organisations
- Projects currently in receipt of funding through Provident Financial Group
- Organisations that have income over £250k in the most recent financial year

### **When can you apply?**

The fund opens in January 2019 and the deadline to apply is 4pm 28 February 2019.

Funding will be awarded in March/April 2019.

### **Grant Making**

#### **How do you apply for a grant?**

To apply you need to complete an online application form available from <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/provident-social-impact-fund/>

You will also need to submit required documentation as set out in the online application guidelines and Foundation Scotland's Terms & Conditions.

We expect this programme to be highly oversubscribed so we strongly recommend you also seek alternative sources of funding for your project to avoid disappointment.

We strongly suggest you submit your application at your earliest opportunity. **Incomplete applications won't be considered.**

### **What happens after you've applied?**

We will assess your application and may need to contact you and your referee during this time. Any community groups seeking funding by way of a grant from the Fund will submit a full application to Foundation Scotland which will be subject to Foundation Scotland's standard internal assessment procedures. Foundation Scotland 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 letter/email will include any additional conditions set by the panel and/or the grant payment. The grant must be spent within 12 months of the date of our offer confirming the grant. 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 Provident grants schemes.

If your bid is not successful, we will let you know the reasons for declining it. Please note we have limited funding available and we are not able to fund every application we receive, no matter how deserving the project is. The decisions made by the grants panel are final.

### **Publicity**

If your application is successful, you will be required to credit support from the Provident Social Impact Fund (Scotland) and Foundation Scotland on all materials related to the funded work. Successful projects will be required to be available for a potential Monitoring visit from funders.

### **To Apply**

Visit <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/provident-social-impact-fund/> to access to the online application.

If you require more information about this fund please contact Foundation Scotland on 0141 341 4960 or email [grants@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:grants@foundationscotland.org.uk)