

Age-friendly and Inclusive Volunteering Fund

Frequently Asked Questions

Please refer to the guidance information on the Age-friendly and inclusive volunteering fund, which can be found at: <https://www.ageing-better.org.uk/age-friendly-and-inclusive-volunteering-fund>

The responses below are designed to help provide more clarity about the fund and to respond to any specific questions not covered in the guidance. They will be periodically updated so please do come back to check before filling in the application form.

If you have any further questions please email: volunteeringreview@ageing-better.org.uk and we will aim to respond to your query within two working days.

What is Ageing Better looking for?

Watch the video [here](#) to find out what we are looking for.

We are looking for applications from organisations experienced in helping people to keep making a contribution throughout life transitions, supporting community-led action or tackling barriers that prevent people from taking part. You will need to show how your project idea relates to one of the three priorities of the fund:

1. Helping people to sustain lifelong contributions
2. Helping people connect to the kinds of activity that suit their life circumstances
3. Helping people who face particular barriers to taking part

The purpose of the funding is to create sustainable and replicable models. We want to fund organisations to establish systems, partnerships or ways of working with volunteers and communities that will last beyond the period of our funding, and that will be of wider interest to others in the sector. You will need to show how you will use the funding to develop and document a model that other people can learn from and apply.

Applicants should be open to learning and committed to sharing their work with us, our evaluators and the wider sector.

What is Ageing Better not looking for?

We are not expecting applicants to develop a new model from scratch, as you will only have a year to establish your model as an ongoing way of working. You will need to show how your project idea will contribute to the existing work of your organisation.

We are also not able to fund continuing work – for example, we can't provide funding simply to keep an existing volunteering programme running for another year, but you could apply for funding to make your current work more systematic and sustainable, or to take a pocket of good practice and extend it across all your work.

Who can apply?

Registered charities and Community Interest Companies (CICs) are eligible to apply.

Can other types of organisation apply for funding?

No, however we anticipate that charities and CICs that apply will work with a range of organisations including local authorities, NHS Trusts, small community groups, faith institutions etc to develop and test their models.

Can we use funding from the Age-friendly and inclusive volunteering fund in addition to money from other sources?

Yes. But it is not a requirement.

Is there any flexibility in the application deadline?

No. Applications must be received by Monday 10 December at 12 noon. However, the Centre for Ageing Better reserves the right to vary the timetable set out in the guidelines.

Is there any flexibility in when we can run the project?

No. You must be ready to start your work at the beginning of April 2019 and the model must have been developed, tested and documented by the end of March 2020.

Can an organisation submit more than one application?

We would prefer a single high-quality bid from each organisation applying, but there is no reason an organisation cannot submit more than one application.

How much money can we apply for?

We anticipate funding applications in the region of approximately £40 - £60,000. The value of the grant requested should not exceed 50% of your annual income.

Can this funding pay for capital costs?

No.

Do we need to have match funding in place?

No. This is not a requirement. You may include funding from other sources in your budget, however this will not be a factor in the assessment of your project.

What does Ageing Better expect from us in evaluating and monitoring our work?

We expect successful applicants to work with Ageing Better and our evaluators / learning support providers throughout the funding period. We will work with you to document the model(s) you develop and what you have learned from the process of development and testing, so that others can understand what's involved and how to apply these models to their own work.

To support this, we expect grantees to participate in around five days of events or activities to share learning with other grantees.

We will also commission an evaluation to help us assess how far each project has generated more flexible / inclusive opportunities for contribution, and what this means for the participants.

What due diligence will Ageing Better do?

For applicants at the first stage, we ask you to provide the information asked for in the application form.

For applicants who are shortlisted, we will ask you to provide more information prior to the workshop being held in week commencing 7 January 2019, so please keep an eye out for our request. These will include (but may not be restricted to):

- Articles of association or other governing documents
- Most recent annual report audited accounts
- Details of contacts and indications of support from organisations you intend to work with

How does Ageing Better expect us to work with older people?

Ageing Better's work starts with the person. What we do is rooted in what matters to people as they prepare for and experience later life. We expect those who receive funding from us to work in the same way.

Will there be a spread of locations and topic areas?

We will be funding projects based on the quality of applications rather than where they are based or what they are focused on.