

# Disabled Peoples Organisations Covid-19 Emergency Fund

## Information for Applicants



Our voices ■ Our choices

The National Emergency Trust has announced £1.5 million of funding to support grassroots Disabled Peoples Organisations (DPOs) across the UK to respond to the Covid-19 needs of disabled people<sup>1</sup>. The funding will be administered and distributed through a partnership of DPOs across the UK<sup>2</sup>

### What work will the DPO Covid-19 Emergency Fund?

The DPO Covid-19 Emergency Fund aims to support DPOs to meet the needs of disabled people. We are looking to fund Covid-19 related work in the following broad three areas:

- **Independent living:** covering any Covid-19 related issues affecting Disabled people's choice and control over their lives for example: Covid-19 changes to the built environment, streetscape and transport, advice and advocacy support to help ensure health and social care needs are met, employment

---

<sup>1</sup> We use the term Disabled people to mean all groups of people with impairments including: people with learning difficulties, people who experience mental distress, people with a visual impairment, Deaf people, people who are neuro diverse, people with long term health conditions and people with physical impairments

<sup>2</sup> DPO partners are: Disability Action Northern Ireland, Inclusion Scotland, Disability Wales and Inclusion London who in turn will be working with 6 regional DPOs across England

advice or advice to individuals about their rights if they feel they need to continue to shield

- **Isolation:** covering work to tackle isolation for example: providing IT equipment and support so people can access on-line support or setting up and running peer support networks
- **Income:** covering work to support Disabled people to access benefits and entitlements and manage debt issues

### **Some examples of work that could be funded:**

- A DPO wanting funding to produce local Covid-19 related information in Easy Read, British Sign Language and community languages
- A DPO wanting to expand its information and advice service to deal with Covid-19 related issues by increasing casework capacity or opening hours
- A DPO wanting to set up a local group of Disabled residents to try and make sure the needs of local Disabled people are understood and addressed in local Covid-19 recovery planning
- A DPO wanting funding to cover the staffing, venue and running costs of setting up a peer support network or befriending service

### **Who can apply for funding?**

Any DPO in the UK can apply if at least 51% of your governing body or management committee are made up of disabled people and you have a constitution/governing document (you do not need to be a registered charity) that shows your organisation is set up to support disabled people and/or advance disabled people's equality and inclusion.

Organisations must be fit for funding. This means having good governance, appropriate financial management policies and processes in place and appropriate standards of safeguarding for staff, volunteers and those using their support or services.

As part of our application checks organisations are required to submit the the following:

- A governing document e.g. a constitution which explains your organisation's aims

- A recent bank statement (within the last 3 months) in the organisation's name. The most recent annual accounts (which have been independently examined or audited if required) or statement of income and expenditure.
- You will also be asked to show that your organisation has relevant Safeguarding & Equality Policies.

## **Funding focus and criteria**

Funding will only be awarded to support DPO projects which fall within the above 3 priority areas, meet a Covid-19 related need of Disabled people and which you need additional funding to deliver.

We are wanting to fund DPOs that can show in their application a track record in working with Disabled people; evidence about the need they want funding to meet and that they can realistically complete all the work and spend all the funding requested within 8 months and by 30 June 2021.

We particularly welcome work supporting those Disabled people and communities that are underrepresented and/or subject to higher levels of marginalisation and exclusion and DPOs that are applying for funding to work to address intersectional issues d

## **Funding Criteria**

All applications will be assessed and scored against the following criteria and weightings:

- Demonstrate evidence of Covid-19 related need – 20%
- Demonstrate a good track record of working with disabled people and promoting disability rights and equality – 20%
- Proposed activities within the 3 themes – independent living, isolation, income – 30%
- Designed to meet and address the needs of Disabled people who experience intersectional exclusion e.g. Disabled women, BAME, LGBT+ communities – 10%
- Provides a credible budget with costs allocated against activities demonstrating value for money and has realistic spending plans to complete projects within 8 months - 20%

## **What we cannot fund**

Whilst we are keen to fund as many DPOs and projects as we can there are several types of organisations, projects and work we cannot fund.

Please ensure that you read the list carefully. If you are unsure if your organisation or proposed work is eligible, please get in touch with your National/Regional support DPO.

### **Exclusions:**

- Any organisation, group or project that is not a DPO and is not specifically set up to support Disabled people
- Work which does not respond directly to needs arising from the Covid-19 pandemic
- Activities that take place outside of the UK
- Organisations which cannot demonstrate that they are working in an inclusive, non-discriminatory way
- Standalone or large capital purchases
- Research
- Political Groups
- Work that promotes religion (i.e. work that evangelises or proselytizes)
- Organisations or projects that will distribute the grant money to others
- Retrospective costs, i.e. costs already incurred prior to receiving a grant
- General appeal
- Grants to individuals

### **How much can I apply for?**

There is a total of £1m funds available for this programme. This is broken down based on the Disability population in each of the four nations of the UK. The following funding is available:

**Scotland:** £120,000

**Wales:** £100,000

**Northern Ireland:** £100,000

**England:**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Amount</b>
North East& Yorkshire & Humber	£125,200 <i>(£41,800) + (£83,400)</i>
North West	£118,000
Midlands	£174,000
East	£83,600
London & South East	£208,400 <i>(£90,600 London) + £117,800 (SE)</i>
South West	£90,800

The minimum you can apply for is £1,000 and the maximum is £25,000.

We anticipate the majority of grants, approximately 50% will be between £1,000 - £5,000. Grants of between £5,000 - £15,000 will make up around 25% and £15,000 - £25,000 will make up the remaining 25% of awards.

Don't be tempted to apply for the maximum amount just because you can. A large number of applications are anticipated, and we are keen to fund as many viable projects as possible. Be realistic about what you can do/achieve in 8 months. Remember that all the money has to be allocated and spent by June 2021.

In your budget you will be asked to break down costs by activities over 3 periods so you achieve the maximum impact but don't end up with unspent funds because activities did not happen.

### **How long is the funding for?**

The funding period is 8 months from 1 November 2020 to 30 June 2021 – all grant income and funding activity will be expected to have been spent and completed by then.

### **When does it go live and how can I apply?**

- There will be a simple on-line application form to fill in. The Fund will open for applications for 4 weeks from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and close on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020
- Grant applications will be assessed, and all grants awarded by 30 October 2020

For Deaf BSL organisations and Learning Disability organisations who require accessible versions of this information, we will grant a 2 week extension for the submission of your application due to a delay in production of these materials. **Easy Read** and **BSL** versions will be available from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Please make contact with our support partners in your region for any additional support required.

### **On-line application form**

When you access the online application form you will be asked to create an account where you will have to provide your contact details, a secondary contact and the organisation's details.

Once your account has been created, you will be able to continue with the application. The application length is 5 pages and is broken down into the following sections:

**Your organisation** – Here we will ask you to tell us about what type of organisation you are and what your organisation does including your main aims, objectives and activities. If your organisation does not identify as a Disabled People's Organisation, you will not be able to submit the form.

**Your project** – Here we will ask you to tell us about the Covid-19 needs of disabled people you are requesting this funding for, which of the 3 themes apply to your project, what you will use the funding for and if your project is going to specifically be working with disabled people from any other groups.

**Finance** – Here we will ask you about your budget for your project. We will ask you to enter into a table the amount you need for each item within 3 periods (November-December, January-March, April-June)

**Supplementary documentation**- Here we will ask you to upload your governing document, your annual accounts and a recent bank statement. We will also ask you to confirm that your organisation has relevant safeguarding and equality policies.

**Declaration** – Here you will be asked to confirm that you have read and agree to the declarations.

Your application will automatically be saved; however you are able to save progress at the end of each page so that you may exit and return to your application at any time.

If you select to return to summary at the end of the page you will be able to view your progress with the application. Any mandatory fields are marked with an Asterix and these mandatory questions must be completed in order to submit your application.

### **Further information and support**

DPOs considering applying will receive support from the national or regional DPO leads detailed below that) your organisation comes under. Each DPO national or regional lead has a named person you can contact to get further information or advice

### **The UK National Partners are:**

#### **Northern Ireland - Disability Action N.I.**

Contact: Wendy Afonso-Cole, Grants Officer

Email: [wendyafonsocole@disabilityaction.org](mailto:wendyafonsocole@disabilityaction.org)

Telephone: 02890 297880

#### **Scotland – Inclusion Scotland**

Contact: Janice Sheridan, Partnership and Events Secretary:

Email: [DPOFund@inclusionScotland.org](mailto:DPOFund@inclusionScotland.org)

Telephone: 0131 370 6725 (TYPE TALK calls welcome)

#### **Wales – Disability Wales**

Jody Mellor, Programme Officer

Email: [jody.mellor@disabilitywales.org](mailto:jody.mellor@disabilitywales.org)

Telephone: 029 2088 7325

England – Inclusion London/ROFA

Mark Harrison

Email: [info@rofa.org.uk](mailto:info@rofa.org.uk)

Tel: 07979400564

## **The regional partners in England are:**

### **North Yorkshire and the North East - Equality Together, Bradford**

Contact: Joyce Anderson

Email: [janderson@equalitytogether.org.uk](mailto:janderson@equalitytogether.org.uk)

Telephone: 01274 594173 (press option 4 for the Carers Holiday Scheme)

### **South Yorkshire and Humberside - Disability Sheffield**

Contact: Kathryn Littlewood

Email: [kathryn.littlewood@disabilitysheffield.org.uk](mailto:kathryn.littlewood@disabilitysheffield.org.uk)

Telephone (O): 0114 2536750

Telephone (M): 07734856006

### **The North West - Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People**

Contact: Nicola McDonagh

Email: [Nicola@gmcdp.com](mailto:Nicola@gmcdp.com)

Telephone: 07782 540 531.

### **The Midlands - Birmingham Disability Resource Centre**

Contact: Steve Moralee or Neha Parmar

Email: [smoralee@disability.co.uk](mailto:smoralee@disability.co.uk), [nparmar@disability.co.uk](mailto:nparmar@disability.co.uk)

Telephone: 07929 203183

### **East Anglia - Equal Lives**

Contact: Kimberly Myhill

Email: [Kimberly.myhill@equallives.org.uk](mailto:Kimberly.myhill@equallives.org.uk)

01508 491222 option 2

### **South East - Spectrum CIL**

Contact: Jennie Musson

Email: [info@spectrumcil.co.uk](mailto:info@spectrumcil.co.uk)

Telephone: 02380 202629

### **London – Inclusion London**

Contact: Alex Hendra

Email: [Consultancy1@inclusionlondon.org.uk](mailto:Consultancy1@inclusionlondon.org.uk)

Telephone: 07946 627 325

## **The West - West of England Centre for Independent Living (WECIL)**

Contact: Lucie Martin-Jones

Email: [Lucie.Martin-Jones@wecil.co.uk](mailto:Lucie.Martin-Jones@wecil.co.uk)

Telephone: 0117 947 9935

Mobile: 07973 685316

Full details and application form will be available from 7th September.

### **Webinars**

Two webinars will also be held covering all you need to know about applying to the fund. These will take place on:

- Tues 22 Sept – 11am – 1pm - Filling out the online application form
- Monday 28 Sept 2pm – 4pm - Surgery/interactive FAQs

There will be BSL interpreters and sessions will be captioned and recorded.

### **Decision Making Processes**

All complete applications from eligible DPOs and projects (as outlined above) will be processed and assessed by our National and Regional DPO partners. Each application is scored against a set of criteria (outlined above) and goes through the same 3 stage process.

Each regional and national assessment panel will include in their final decision making the need to ensure on overall mix of diversity of grant awards within their nation or region.

Assessment recommendations made by English regional partners will be sent to the National DPO Partner for decision.

### **Grant Terms and Conditions**

If your organisation is awarded a grant, we will provide a Grant Agreement that you must agree to in order to receive the money, which will include only being able to use the grant for the work that has been applied for and awarded.

### **Feedback for Unsuccessful Applicants**

We will offer feedback to any organisation that requests it.

## **Data Protection**

We use the personal data you provide, such as contact details for individuals at your organisation, in order to allow you to apply and for us to assess your application. If your grant is successful, we will use this data to check that the grant is being managed appropriately and maintain contact with you.

## **Monitoring & Evaluating**

If your organisation is awarded a grant you will receive the monitoring and evaluation requirements at the start of your grant period. By accepting a grant from the Fund, you are agreeing to report back to us on how the money was spent and the difference it made.