



 Manchester Health & Care Commissioning

A partnership between Manchester City Council and NHS Manchester CCG



# The Manchester Social Prescribing Development Fund



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Social Prescribing Development Fund**

**Contents:**

- 1. AIM OF THE FUND**
- 2. BACKGROUND**
- 3. FUNDING LEVELS**
- 4. ELIGIBILITY**
- 5. WHAT WE WILL FUND**
- 6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**
- 7. DECISION MAKING**
- 8. HOW TO APPLY**
- 9. APPLICATIONS**

## **AIM OF THE FUND**

The Manchester Social Prescribing Development Fund aims to support new and established groups and organisations to build capacity and deliver projects to support the Be Well's social prescribing service to people over the age of 18. The fund will support Be Well clients in improving or managing their health and wellbeing.

**Applications must demonstrate how they meet one or more of the following aims of the fund:**

1. **Enabling** – working with community groups to quickly and easily scale up provision that is overused.
2. **Responding** to opportunities and gaps identified within our communities.
3. **Connecting** – reaching community groups not yet involved in the provision of support to clients of social prescribing services.
4. **Targeting** specific communities or communities of interest.
5. **Building** – adding value and strengthening a local infrastructure.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Be Well social prescribing service aims to build on individual and community strength and ensure that people can access resources in their communities or places of choice that will enable them to feel happier and healthier.

We value and build on the skills, knowledge, connections, and the potential that all people and communities have to offer.

We empower people – instead of doing things for people, we help people and communities to do things for themselves, leading to long-term and sustainable change.

Additional funding has been identified to develop a grant-making process to increase capacity at a community and grassroots level, targeted at needs identified through the Be Well Service.

Funding will be made available primarily to increase the provision of services available for Be Well clients. This will be achieved by;

- Developing new community services which respond to gaps identified within communities.
- Increasing the sustainability of existing grassroots community services.
- Scaling up existing provision to meet demand.

## **FUNDING LEVELS**

There are 3 levels of grant funding available as shown in the table below. Please ensure you apply for the level of funding that is appropriate for your group or organisation.

| <b>Grant name</b>                         |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Micro Grant</b><br>Up to £1,000        | Open to new and existing groups and organisations. | Income must be below £50,000             |
| <b>Medium Grant</b><br>Up to £10,000      | Open to new and existing groups or organisations.  | Income must be below £200,000            |
| <b>Exceptional Grant</b><br>Above £10,000 | Must be established over 2 years.                  | Income must be typically under £500,000. |

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Applications will be welcomed from voluntary groups, community groups, sports clubs, leisure clubs, charities, community interest companies, limited and private companies, and social enterprises. Un-constituted organisations may still apply. You must be aged 18 or over to make an application.

**We encourage applications from new groups; contact us and we will guide you through the application process if required.**

As a minimum:

- Activities must take place in Manchester.
- Activities must be for the benefit of people over the age of 18.
- Your project must support referrals from the Be Well service.
- You must have a bank account in the name of the organisation in order to receive funding or have permission from another organisation to receive the funding on your behalf as a referee. Payment cannot be made to personal bank accounts.
- You must have adult safeguarding policies in place (we can support you if you don't have any).
- You must have valid employers and public liability insurance in place with a minimum cover value of £1 million. If you do not, you can include the cost of the insurance in your application (we can support you with attaining insurance cover).
- Activities must be Covid-19 risk-assessed and be undertaken in line with government guidance.

## **WHAT WE WILL FUND**

The Fund aims to support the activities of local community or voluntary groups and projects that contribute positively to the quality of life, mental wellbeing and improved health of people and communities.

**We will fund:**

- New services or activities that support social prescribing.

- Existing services supporting social prescribing that will create additional capacity.
- Expansion of your service or activities into other areas of Manchester.
- We will fund projects where you evidence a recognised need for the activity or service. We want to hear how you have identified this need, who you have consulted and when this consultation took place.
- We want to ensure that projects will have a lasting impact and will continue once the funding ends. We want to hear how you plan to continue the project once this funding comes to an end.

Please consider what you will need to make your project a success, this could be materials, equipment, room hire costs, publicity or even sessional worker costs.

**We will not fund:**

- Activities that have already taken place.
- Activities supporting political or religious beliefs.
- Leisure or individual holiday schemes.
- Individual campaigns
- One-off events, such as conferences, trips, seminars, master classes, summer schools, single commissions, or productions.

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Organisations and groups whose applications are successful will be required to complete monitoring and evaluation reports to demonstrate the impact of the funding. We will also contact you during the project period to arrange monitoring visits.

We will want details of:

- The number of people who have benefitted from the project.
- Any feedback you have received from beneficiaries.
- Any evaluation forms you have used.
- How many staff and volunteers were involved in the project.
- The impact your service has made as a result of the funding.

We will also request case studies and possibly photographs.

We will require you to provide a breakdown of how you spent the funding, and you must keep hold of receipts and invoices.

## DECISION MAKING

All applications will be reviewed by our funding panel who will make decisions based on factors including:

- Your project aims and objectives.
- Costs of your project.
- How your project meets the social prescribing need in the local area and how you link with Be Well.

We may contact you for further information if we need to.

## HOW TO APPLY

Organisations are requested to submit a written Expression of Interest form by emailing:

- [Naheed.Akhtar@thebiglifegroup.com](mailto:Naheed.Akhtar@thebiglifegroup.com) or
- [socialprescribing@thebiglifegroup.com](mailto:socialprescribing@thebiglifegroup.com)

Your Expression of Interest form should include:

- How did you hear about this funding?
- How did you come up with the idea – who was involved?
- How will your project support referrals from the Be Well service?
- Where your activity will take place?
- How many Be Well clients will you support?

We will arrange to meet with shortlisted organisations to discuss your project proposal and capacity to support the Be Well service. If your project is supported you will be invited to complete and application form.

We will be reviewing applications on a regular basis and awarding funding so that we can see your great ideas in action. We will close the application process when all funds are spent.

We will be available to support you in completing your application, please contact us if you have any questions.

We will not be able to make any decisions about your application unless we have all the supporting documents requested on the application form.

## APPLICATIONS

All applications will be reviewed by a panel with representatives from the Big Life Group, and Manchester Health and Care Commissioning and other health and wellbeing organisations in Manchester. Dates of panel meetings and application deadlines will be published on the Big Life Group website

The panel will meet on a regular basis to review applications, please ensure we receive your application and supporting documents prior to the submission deadline.

The panel will evaluate applications using their knowledge, expertise and insight into local communities to ensure the greatest possible benefit goes to the community.

You will be notified of the panel decision within **2 working days** of the panel meeting.

We may contact you if the panel require clarification or further information.

We expect to receive more requests for grants than we can fund, so unfortunately, some applications will not be funded.

Good luck!