



Manchester Health & Care
Commissioning

A partnership between
Manchester City Council
and NHS Manchester CCG



The Big Life group

Social Prescribing Development Fund



The Big Life Group
Social Prescribing Development Fund (Micro Grants)

Contents:

- 1. Aim of the fund**
- 2. Background**
- 3. Eligibility**
- 4. What we will fund**
- 5. What we will not fund**
- 6. Monitoring and evaluation**
- 7. Decision making**
- 8. How to apply**

AIM OF THE FUND

The Manchester Social Prescribing Development Fund (Micro) aims to support new and established groups and organisations to build capacity and deliver projects to support social prescribing to people over the age of 18. The fund will support people 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 Manchester's Social Prescribing Services.

Funding will be made available for the following purposes:

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

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.

Organisations must have been in receipt of an average income of below £50,000 in the last 2 years.

We encourage applications from new groups. Please 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 will be responsive to 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 public liability insurance 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

Please consider what you will need to make your project a success. This could be materials, room hire costs, publicity, public liability insurance or even volunteer expenses.

WHAT 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 forms to demonstrate the impact of the funding. 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 also contact you during the project period to arrange monitoring visits.

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

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

We will aim to notify you of the funding panel's decision within 14 days of receipt of your application.

HOW TO APPLY

- 1. Contact us to discuss your idea by emailing**
Naheed.Akhtar@thebiglifegroup.com or mobile 07423 668060 or
socialprescribing@thebiglifegroup.com

We will ask you questions about your idea, such as:

- How did you hear about this funding?
- Who will you be working with?
- Where your activity will take place?
- How did you come up with the idea – who was involved?
- Who will benefit from the activity?

We will also want to know more about your group to identify what support you may require.

- 2. Complete an 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.

- 3. Application Reviews:**

We will review your grant applications within 14 days of receipt and notify you of the decision we have made.

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

Good luck!