

Expression of Interest (EOI): Good Neighbours Ardwick and Longsight Project

Introduction: We are pleased to announce an opportunity for voluntary, community, and social enterprise (VCSE) groups to apply for funding to deliver culturally appropriate activities for people aged 55 and over in the Ardwick and Longsight areas. This initiative, part of the *Good Neighbours Ardwick and Longsight Project*, aims to support the diverse needs of our older population by fostering well-being, social connections, and cultural engagement. We are seeking applications from VCSE groups that have a strong connection with the local community and a deep understanding of the cultural sensitivities and preferences of their service users.

Funding Overview: Each selected group will receive up to £1,200 to deliver activities that cater to the specific cultural and social needs of over 55-year-olds. We aim to fund 8 groups through this initiative. The activities should be designed to promote physical and mental well-being, social interaction, and cultural enrichment, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all participants.

Who Can Apply: We invite expressions of interest from VCSE groups that:

- Have a proven track record of working with older adults, particularly those from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Are based in or operate within the Ardwick and Longsight areas.
- Have the capacity to design and deliver activities that are culturally sensitive and responsive to the needs of their service users.
- Can demonstrate financial accountability and the ability to deliver the project within the allocated budget and timeframe.

Activities We Are Looking to Support: Examples of activities that might be funded include (but are not limited to):

- Culturally specific arts and crafts sessions.
- Language or storytelling workshops reflecting cultural heritage.
- Health and wellness sessions, including yoga, meditation, or traditional exercise forms.
- Social events such as tea mornings, cultural celebrations, or intergenerational gatherings.
- Any other activities that promote cultural identity, social engagement, and well-being for older adults.

Sustainability/Continuation Plan:

As part of the Good Neighbours Ardwick and Longsight Project, we are committed to ensuring that the funded activities have a lasting impact on the community. We are particularly interested in

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hearing how your organisation plans to sustain these activities beyond the initial funding period. Please include in your EOI a detailed sustainability plan, outlining your strategies for securing additional resources, building community partnerships, or integrating the activities into your organisation's ongoing programming. We encourage innovative ideas on how these activities can continue to thrive and benefit the over 55-year-old population in Ardwick and Longsight in the long term

Application Process: Interested groups are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) that includes the following:

1. **Organisation Overview:** Brief description of your organisation, including your mission, history, and the community you serve.
2. **Proposed Activities:** Detailed outline of the activities you intend to deliver, including how they will meet the cultural needs of over 55-year-olds in Ardwick and Longsight.
3. **Budget:** Breakdown of how the £1,200 funding will be allocated to support the proposed activities.
4. **Impact:** Explanation of how the activities will benefit the targeted community, including expected outcomes and the number of people you aim to reach.
5. **Delivery Plan:** Timeline for the delivery of the activities, including key milestones.

Submission Deadline: Please submit your EOI by 18th September 2024 6pm to goodneighboursAL@inspiredtaskforce.co.uk. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and we encourage early submissions.

Selection Criteria: Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Alignment with the aims of the funding.
- Cultural appropriateness and responsiveness of the proposed activities.
- Demonstrated understanding of the needs of over 55-year-olds in the community.
- Feasibility of the delivery plan within the proposed budget.
- Potential impact on participants.

Contact Information: For any queries or further information, please contact Shamime Jan goodneighbourAL@inspiredtaskforce.co.uk

We look forward to receiving your applications and supporting activities that enrich the lives of our older community members in Ardwick and Longsight.