

Frequently Asked Questions

Due to the fast moving pace of this unfolding situation, this document will be reviewed regularly and may be subject to change.

Who can apply for a grant?

Grants are available to small local voluntary and community groups, small charities and other types of not for profit organisations including parish and town councils (for work which is outside of their usual remit). Generally, as we are a 'Grassroots' funder, we consider small organisations to be those with an income under £500k.

We have a project that can help but our income is over £500k can we apply?

In line with our general FAQs, if your income is over £500k please talk to us before applying. We may be able to offer flexibility on this if we consider that that it is in the interest of our communities to do so.

How do I apply?

Our electronic application form and guidance notes can be found on our website: <https://www.ydmt.org/>. Please email your application to michaela.brennan@ydmt.org. We are unable to receive hard copy applications via post.

How much is available?

Currently grants are available of up to £2000.

Why have you asked about our organisational reserves?

Funds are limited and we have to be very careful about how we prioritise our support. When groups make provision for reserves it is intended as 'rainy day' money and this situation is exactly that. Where groups have significant reserves, we would expect them to be using this to help protect the organisation through this period. This does not apply to project costs only contributions to running costs.

Does that mean if we have reserves we won't get funding for running costs?

We will look at each case on its own merit but reserves will be a factor in our decision making.

How much is in the pot and how long will funds be available for?

Currently we have around £40,000 available in Richmondshire and Craven. This has come from Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's existing Roger Stott Community Grants Fund, and from a partner organisation, Two Ridings Community Foundation.

Is my project a priority?

At the current time, priority will be given to those projects that are working to support older and vulnerable people with needs that have arisen as a result of the current crisis. This includes other people that are particularly at risk from coronavirus and people that are vulnerable due to mental health issues, homelessness or other circumstances that may make them more vulnerable at this time. We will also be prioritising projects relating to delivery of food and medicine supplies.

Whilst our first priority currently is concerned with those projects that are aiming to support the most vulnerable with needs that have arisen from the current crisis, we will also consider applications for core running costs. In the first instance, priority for support with running costs will be given to organisations that provide vital community support in areas of disadvantage who have a strong and demonstrable community reach and with limited reserves.

Will there be any larger grants available?

This will be kept under review and will depend on the amount of funding we can raise but it is possible that we may make some larger/ more strategic grants in the coming weeks.

We are a brand new group, we don't have a governing document, can we apply?

We are keen to support the new, emerging groups that are responding to this crisis but we need to make sure this is done in a safe way. Where possible, we will be looking for the endorsement of and possibly to channel funding through a larger established organisation for example a parish council or local church. We cannot make payments to individual bank accounts. Please talk to us if you need help with this.

Can I apply more than once?

Yes. We are working to raise further funds and recognise that there are many unknowns in this situation particularly around the length of time that support will be needed.

We have a number of individuals that need financial support, can we use funds to make individual payments?

No, we cannot support individuals in this way. Individuals in need of financial support should be encouraged to speak to their local Citizens Advice Bureau.

How quickly will a decision on my application be made?

We understand that groups need to move quickly and we aim to turn applications around within two weeks, however we hope that for many this will be quicker.

We have suspended our activities but can I use funds to retain sessional staff?

No, unfortunately we cannot support sessional staff where there is no activity. We can support where staff are redeployed to respond to the current need but if this is not possible staff should be encouraged to seek support through government provision.

We have suffered a loss of income as we are unable to undertake our usual fundraising activities, can we apply for funds to cover this?

We cannot cover the actual loss of income but we will consider applications for general running costs where there has been a loss of income as a result of the crisis. As funds are limited however, at the current time we will prioritise organisations operating in an area of disadvantage and those with a strong and demonstrable community reach and with limited reserves.

We need to train more volunteers and pay for DBS costs to meet the additional demand for our services, is this eligible?

Yes

We need equipment to enable our staff to work effectively from home, can we apply?

Yes

We need to meet the increased cost of the telephone bill as we are providing telephone support now instead of face to face visits, does this fit?

Yes

We have had to cancel our fundraising event as a result of the coronavirus and need support with our rent, can we apply?

Yes, however, at the current time we will prioritise organisations operating in an area of disadvantage and those with a strong and demonstrable community reach and with limited reserves.

Will I have to report back when my project is complete?

We will confirm reporting requirements during the grant offer, but these will be very minimal.

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

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