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Barnet Community Fund – Support for Sanctuary Seekers in barnet

eligibility criteria

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| **Information Summary** | |
| **Total Available** | £65,000. It should be noted that once this funding is allocated, there will be no further funding forthcoming. |
| **Contributors** | Barnet Council |
| **Grants size** | Organisations are invited to apply for grants of between £200 and £4,000.  Proposals for projects on a longer term basis and which reach hard to reach communities, may be considered on a case-by-case basis by the panel for awards exceeding £4,000. However, this will be an exception, and you must demonstrate significant need. Partnership bids in this context will be particularly welcomed.  If your organisation has identified such a project costing more than £4,000, then please contact us at [grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk](mailto:grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk) , outlining in a brief email the project and the funding required. This will then be passed to the panel who will discuss the project further to determine if they wish to see an application submitted. |
| **Eligibility and Geographical Area of Benefit** | This fund is open to Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Groups (VCFSE) operating within the London Borough Barnet. At the time of application, organisations must either be:   * A member of Young Barnet Foundation (if working with Children, Young People or Families) (details of how to apply are here <https://www.youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk/join-us> ) * An Inclusion Barnet Community Organisational Support Member (if working with adults/other, details of how to apply are here <https://www.inclusionbarnet.org.uk/barnet-together/#tab_become-a-member>)   The grant may not be applied for the benefit of sole individuals.  If you are a person or group of individuals with relevant lived experience who wishes to run a project but is not currently a constituted group or a member of either Young Barnet Foundation or Inclusion Barnet, you will need to partner with an organisation who is, in order for them to be the lead applicant organisation. Please contact either  [info@inclusionbarnet.org.uk](mailto:info@inclusionbarnet.org.uk) or[info@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk) if you wish to run a project and would like to be partnered with an organisation to deliver it.   * Applicants must be a voluntary and community sector organization, as for example defined by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations: [Descriptor here.](https://data.ncvo.org.uk/profile/voluntary-sector-definition/#:~:text=Voluntarism%3A%20They%20involve%20a%20meaningful,work%20to%20benefit%20the%20community) * Applicants must be a CIO (Registered Charity) (Including Churches, Faith Groups & Community Amateur Sports Clubs or a CIC (as a Company Limited by Guarantee with a relevant asset lock) or, if a social enterprise, must be a Company Limited by Guarantee with a relevant asset lock. **We cannot fund organisations set up as a Company Limited by Shares.** * Applications from Voluntary Organisations, Constituted Groups and Un-constituted Groups may be considered where these are existing members of either Young Barnet Foundation or Inclusion Barnet (for example, where such organisation are in the process of applying for Registered Charity status).Applications from such groups will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and will need to demonstrate that they have the relevant systems and processes in place that would enable us to make grant payments to them (as outlined below) * Applicants must not be one of the excluded types of organisations as outlined in the ‘What we won’t fund’ section * Applicants must have a bank account in the name of the organisation or group which requires at least two joint signatories (who are not related), for all transactions. * Applicants must have the necessary systems, policies and procedures in place that fulfil legal requirements e.g. accounts, health and safety, equal opportunities, insurance, safeguarding etc. You may be asked to provide evidence of these as part of the due diligence and acceptance process. * All staff working to deliver the project must be DBS checked and organisations must follow strong safeguarding procedures as detailed in their safeguarding policy. |
| **Background Information** | In July 2024 Barnet Council was officially awarded Borough of Sanctuary status for its efforts in welcoming those seeking a safe place to live.  The Borough of Sanctuary title is awarded by the charity City of Sanctuary UK to organisations and areas that go above and beyond welcoming those looking for a safe haven.  **The Borough of Sanctuary’s four Strategic priorities guide the council’s approach to partnership working as it seeks to support sanctuary seekers in the borough. The priorities are:**   * **Inclusivity – fostering a welcoming environment, helping sanctuary seekers feel they belong** * **Community Spirit – celebrating diversity and voices of sanctuary seekers are amplified** * **Empowerment - encouraging personal growth, wellbeing, and sense of agency among sanctuary seekers** * **Active listening – including sanctuary seekers in the decision process, proactively understanding their needs and challenges**   The full Barnet Borough of Sanctuary strategy 2023 -2026 can be found here (hyperlink [Appendix A Borough of Sanctuary Strategy.pdf](https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s81193/Appendix%20A%20Borough%20of%20Sanctuary%20Strategy.pdf))  This strategy builds on a range of measures and initiatives including, but not limited to:   * Providing funding through a previous round of Young Barnet Foundation’s Space2Grow fund to organisations providing additional support to Asylum Seekers and Refugees * The Publication of a Migrant Health Needs Assessment in September 2022 * The provision of previous funding through the Barnet Community Fund for a grant fund to Support Ukrainian Refugees within the Borough   This fund aims to build upon this previous work, with a wider remit to support all Sanctuary Seekers within the Borough.  Young Barnet Foundation, as part of the Barnet Together Alliance, is leading the funding strand in the community response, supported by colleagues within the Barnet Together partnership and wider Alliance.  In addition, Barnet Council and Inclusion Barnet can signpost successful applicants to assistance with translation services or production of multilingual marketing material as well as other marketing support for their projects. |
| **Aim of the Fund** | **The purpose of this VCFSE Grants programme is for the further integration and cohesion of Sanctuary Seekers (Asylum Seekers and Refugees) arriving and staying in the Borough, in order that they settle in and feel part of the community and have more access to activities that help achieve this.**  **Barnet Council funds a number of existing services to assist Sanctuary Seekers arriving and staying in the Borough; this fund does not seek to duplicate those services.**  **Rather, this fund seeks to work with Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise organisations to see where they can provide additional more inclusive activities that align with the Borough of Sanctuary’s strategic priorities.**  **While we do not currently have survey data from Sanctuary Seekers within the Borough (although this is to be undertaken), anecdotal evidence from organisations which work with Sanctuary Seekers indicates that the following activities or services are of interest to them:**   * **English Language – e.g. conversation cafes supported by the local community (for both Adults and Children)** * **Integrated social Activities for Adults – different age groups** * **Integrated social Activities for Children and Young People** * **Support with Integration, Resilience and Independence** * **Connecting to local community groups or social networks** * **Physical Activities in a social setting** * **Projects which enable the acquisition of new skills – including but not limited to Employability and Volunteering Opportunities**   **However, beyond the activities above, we are interested in receiving applications from organisations who have worked with or are working with Sanctuary Seekers directly. The fund can support projects aimed at the Sanctuary Seeking community which have already commenced, or new projects which organisations wish to commence having identified a new requirement.**  **Applicants should be mindful of not duplicating existing services within the Borough, or as an addendum to existing commissioned services.**  **We have noted that feedback from previous projects has indicated that (particularly, but not exclusively, in respect of Volunteering Opportunities) transportation costs are a significant barrier to Sanctuary Seekers in taking part in such projects. Therefore, some element of transportation costs may be included in your budget for your project, although these will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.**  **Within the application, we will ask you to provide any supporting data regarding the need for your project (for example, where you have identified a specific cohort, can you quantify this? Do you have an existing waiting list for your service if you are already providing this?)**  **Organisations should note that they can re-apply to this fund having completed a successful project, and all associated Monitoring & Evaluation. However, where funds are limited, priority will be given to those organisations who are able to demonstrate they are best able to reach the target communities.** |
| **The purpose of the BCF and Process** | The Barnet Community Fund serves as a vehicle to disseminate funding from strategic partners and fundraising initiatives to the VCFSE within Barnet.  Applicants are reminded that they can seek support from the Barnet Together\* Team when formulating their application. The team are not on the grant panel so it will not be a conflict of interest.    \*Barnet Together is a partnership of Young Barnet Foundation, Volunteering Barnet (Groundwork London) and Inclusion Barnet Infrastructure Support. The fund is administratively managed by Young Barnet Foundation. Inclusion Barnet are co-ordinating the project delivery. Both Young Barnet Foundation (for CYP/Families) and Inclusion Barnet for adults/other, can provide grant application support.  If you have any technical difficulties with your application, or any queries regarding the Eligibility Criteria, then please contact the Young Barnet Foundation Grants Administration team at [grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk](mailto:grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk) |
| **What we won’t fund** | **Barnet Together’s mission is to support the local VCFSE; Therefore, the Grants Panel cannot consider applications for/from the following: -**   * Sole benefit of individuals. * Bursaries for higher education (including postgraduate) * National organisations with no track record of delivery in the Charity’s beneficial area * Programmes that fall under PHSE or Citizenship * Other grant-giving organisations * Housing Associations * Core costs for umbrella bodies or second tier organisations * Hospitals, Hospices or Clinical Commissioning Groups * Political or religious activities (although secular projects by faith groups are welcomed where there is a wider community benefit) * Statutory bodies to fund their normal services or activities (including Schools etc) * Retrospective funding * Overnight school journeys or trips abroad * Continuing or Regular delivery of existing services * General charitable appeals * For statutory obligations * Lobbying and campaigning * Events/activity whose principle aim is to raise funds for other organisations * Endowment funds * Medical care (including rehab) and resources. * Research & Feasibility studies * Telephone helplines * Funding to meet an overspend on a project funded elsewhere. * Projects which duplicate existing provision * Produce or products * Projects with a wider scope, supporting beneficiaries who are not Ukraine Refugees |
| **Application Process** | Application will be via an online form, which will be available online at  **https://www.youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk/bcf-sanctuary-support-fund**  Application form will be available on various partner websites and be accompanied with an Eligibility Criteria and FAQ document.  If your organisation has any technical queries regarding submitting your application, then please contact [grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk](mailto:grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk)  If your organisation wishes to discuss your proposal prior to submitting an application, then please contact [grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk](mailto:grants@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk) **Applications will be assessed against:**  * Evidence of need * Quality of planning of project, showing proposed delivery * Value for money * Ability to demonstrate how it meets one or more of the Borough of Sanctuary’s four strategic priorities * Confirmation that Monitoring and Evaluation requirements will be completed including the agreement to provide data along with case studies and quotes and a social impact report. |
| **Timings** | Applications may be submitted on a continuous basis, with the intention of informing applicants of the outcome within 28 days from submission.  Once the available funds have been exhausted, then the fund will close, and information to this effect will be posted on the website page for the fund. |
| **Grants Panel** | An independent Grants Panel with representatives from London Borough of Barnet and the Barnet Together Partnership will be convened to review applications and agree the award of funding.  Applications will be assessed on a continuous basis, with applicants informed as soon as possible once decisions have been made. |
| **Awards** | Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application as soon as possible once this is determined, and within 4 weeks of submission of applications.  The outcome of the application may be:   * Full Grant * Partial Grant * Decline / Not Eligible |
| **Payments** | All successful groups must confirm that they have a two-signatory authorisation payment process.  Payments will be made 90% up front, with the remaining 10% paid on completion of the final monitoring and evaluation process.  Terms and Conditions will allow for the recovery of funds for cancellation, failure to complete the project or failure to meet Monitoring and Evaluation requirements. |
| **Monitoring & Evaluation** | So that we can show and share the great work that grantees undertake, we require grant recipients to complete a Monitoring & Evaluation return within two weeks of the end of the project.  The Monitoring & Evaluation will request (at a minimum):   * Number of Sessions * Number of People who attended. * Key Outcomes of the Project * Sharing Best Practice and Lessons Learned * A short Case Study * Photos of the project   The final 10% of grant will not be paid until the Monitoring & Evaluation has been completed; organisations who do not complete the Monitoring & Evaluation in a timely manner may be precluded from applying to future rounds of the Barnet Community Fund.  In some cases, on the basis of your submitted Monitoring & Evaluation, you may be approached by the funder for further information, so that they may highlight the outcomes your project has achieved. |
| **Data** | Data for applications will be collected by Young Barnet Foundation in line with their privacy policy (available on their website) and may share information with Barnet Together partners and other partners linked with this project including London Borough of Barnet. |
| **Completion** | Successful applicants will have a maximum of 12 months from award of grant to complete their project. This will also depend on the amount awarded and timescale of the project. In many cases, however, projects will complete sooner than this, and we request that grantees complete Monitoring & Evaluation as soon as possible after project completion. |
| **Terms & Conditions** | A Full Terms and Conditions document is available, and applicants are recommended to read this before applying. |
| **Change in Significant Event** | It is necessary for you to keep Young Barnet Foundation informed of any significant events that will have an impact on the work that we are funding, or on your organisation. Please do not wait until the end of your grant to advise us of these changes.    You should inform immediately if any of the following changes occur:   * A major organisational change or new policy direction * A change to your organisation’s name or constitution * Significant and unexpected changes to your Trustee board * A severe funding crisis or other threat to the viability of the organisation including insolvency * A potential merger * Winding up of the organisation * Any other significant change to your organisation or project. |

**Appendix A – Borough of Sanctuary Strategy and Update**

As indicated above, potential applicants should, as well as this criteria, familiarise themselves with the Borough of Sanctuary Strategy ([Borough of Sanctuary Strategy](https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s81193/Appendix%20A%20Borough%20of%20Sanctuary%20Strategy.pdf)) prior to writing their application.

In addition, the Sanctuary Team have recently published an Update to this strategy, which contains further data which you may find it useful to refer to in your application. The update is available here ([Borough of Sanctuary Update March 2025](https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s88803/Borough%20of%20Sanctuary%20Update.pdf) )