

Phase 2: Strengthening Voices, Realising Rights

Funding Guidelines



Extended Closing date: **Friday 5th of June, 12:00 noon**

1. About this initiative:

Strengthening Voices, Realising Rights is an initiative that aims to give Deaf and Disabled people's organisations the support they need to stand up for Deaf and Disabled people's rights.



Phase 1 of the Initiative is running at the moment. It is giving funding to Deaf and Disabled People's organisations to give advice so that that Deaf and Disabled Londoners get the benefits and services they need to lead good lives.



Phase 2 will give funds for work carried out by Deaf and Disabled People's organisations that push for the rights of all Deaf and Disabled people in London.



Phase 2 will fund work that:

- Protects Deaf and Disabled people's rights;
- Makes sure Deaf and Disabled people are able to use their rights;
- Pushes for more rights for Deaf and Disabled people.



2. What do we aim to achieve and why?

Welfare reform and cuts are making it very hard to make sure that the UK continues to move forward towards equal rights and community inclusion for Deaf and Disabled people.



The Strengthening Voices Realising Rights initiative aims to support Deaf and Disabled People's organisations to push for Deaf and Disabled people's rights.

The initiative is about:

- Funding Deaf and Disabled People's organisations to help people stand up for their rights, and ensure that their rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.
- Giving Deaf and Disabled people's organisations training, resources and support so that they grow stronger, become more effective and can remain open for many years to come.
- Making sure that Deaf and Disabled people are on the lead. A group of Deaf and Disabled people has been giving advice to the Initiative, deciding what we should fund, the best ways to distribute the money and who should get funds.
- Independently checking how well the initiative is running, what can we learn from what we are doing and how the different parts of the initiative can improve. We plan to share what we are learning with other organisations that give funding to community-based organisations.



Who and what we will fund? (Funding Criteria)

Phase 2 will fund work that makes sure that Deaf and Disabled people get their rights, and in this way help reduce the poverty and inequality they experience.

We will fund policy advocacy, campaigning, and other work that:

- Makes sure that the voices of Deaf and Disabled People are heard;
- Speak up to policy and people who make decisions when laws are being written or changed;
- Makes sure that people who make decisions and policies meet their obligations to:
 - Protect Deaf and Disabled people's rights;
 - Push for more rights;
 - Make sure rights can be used.



Who can apply for a grant?

We will fund organisations that are based in, and doing work in London.

Organisations must:

- Be a **Deaf and Disabled people's organisation** in line with the way this is explained by Inclusion London:



An Organisation is a Deaf and Disabled People's organisation if:

1. Deaf and Disabled people make up at least 75% of their Management Committee or Board



2. At least half of their staff team are Deaf or Disabled people and they work at all levels of the organisation.



3. They run services for, or work for Deaf and Disabled people.



- Work with all Disabled people with all types of impairments, and reach out to the groups of Disabled people that are most pushed out of society.



- Understand disability from a human rights point of view, and in line with the **Social Model of Disability**.

The Social Model of Disability: explains how people with impairments or health conditions are 'disabled' by barriers and attitudes in society. These barriers mean that Disabled people can be treated unfairly. It is the way society is run and organised that is the problem, not the Disabled person.



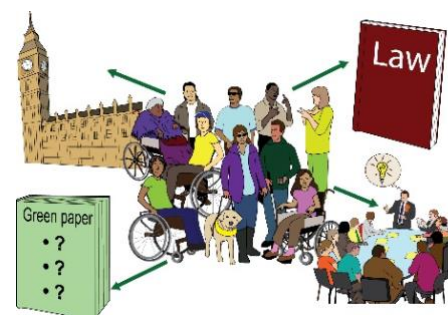
- Include everyone. Disabled people often experience other inequalities. For this reason, it is important that organisations understand and meet the needs of different people. For example, the needs of Deaf women from BAME communities are different from the needs of Deaf people, or the needs of BAME women



- Ensure that people who use services take part in important decisions about how the organisation is run.



- Have experience of organising for change. For example, this could be things like making presentations to people in the council of government to get them to make a decision or change a decision.



3.2. What work will be supported?

Phase 2 will fund different types of work that deal with the reasons behind poverty and inequality and push for changes that will last a long time.

We think that Deaf and Disabled people's organisations are the best people to decide the issues they want to deal with.

However, we expect applications to work towards making the following difference (outcomes)

- More Deaf and Disabled people's organisations work together with others, and in this way their voices and influence is stronger.
- Deaf and Disabled people's organisations become better at speaking up about things that need changing, and other people and organisations understand that their work is important.
- A more diverse and inclusive movement for social change. This means different groups of people participate and they work in ways that make sure everyone's needs are met
- Deaf and Disabled people's organisations have a bigger say in policies that are made or are changed, and make a better case to ensure that the rights of Deaf and Disabled people are respected, protected and promoted.



Some examples of work we can fund

- Work that aims to get the right support for independent living and being part of the community.



- Work that wants to bring in laws or make sure the laws work as they should. This can be about UK laws and also international agreements which the UK has signed and agreed. For example, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is an international agreement.



- Work that stands up to policies, decisions and ways of doing things that hold back Deaf and Disabled people and stop them from having choice and rights.



- Research into a problem to show evidence of the case for change in policy.



- Work that makes Deaf and Disabled people's organisations better at influencing policy and practices and gives more power to Deaf and Disabled people.



3.3 Other support we will give to funded organisations

Organisations that get a grant will also get:

- Expert help to help organisations gain new skills, become better at making change happen, and others recognise their importance and contribution.
- An evaluation that gives feedback to help organisations check how well they are doing. This is to help them to think about how to improve the way they work, where needed.



3.4 What can the money be spent on?

- The salary costs of staff on the project.
- The direct costs of the service. This will cover accessibility. For example, we will fund things like travel, hiring places for events, and interpreters.
- Staff training.
- A fair part of the overheads of the organisation that will support this project work. (Overheads mean core/central costs such as office rental, utility bills, management and finance costs).



3.5. How much can you ask for?

Grants will average between £40,000 and £60,000 each year for 3 years.

We can only take one application from each Deaf and Disabled people's organisation. However, organisations that are receiving funds from either Trust for London or City Bridge Trust, including those funded through Phase 1 of this initiative can also apply for Phase 2.



3.6 Decision-making

A Grants Advisory Panel made up of experienced disability rights activists who are Deaf and Disabled people have decided the guidelines for Phase 1 and also for Phase 2 of this initiative.



The Panel will make suggestions about who to fund to the Trustees of Trust for London. The Trustees of Trust for London will make the final decisions.

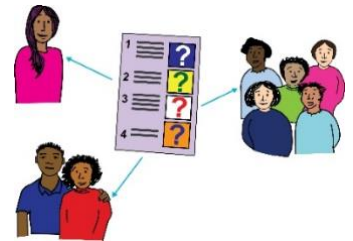
3.7. Selection Criteria. How we will decide?

We will look at the following things when we are choosing which applications to give funding to:

- How well the applications match the outcomes of these guidelines.



- How well organisations include groups that miss out the most? How well they make sure that what these groups want is listened to, and form part of the organisations work.



We will pay a lot of attention to issues that matter to:

- Deaf people;
- People with learning difficulties;
- People with mental health problems.



- How well the organisation has researched and thought about the issue they will be dealing with



- How clear are the **vision**, aims, **objectives** and **outcomes** for the project



Vision: What the organisation wants to change for Deaf and Disabled people and why

Objectives: the results hoped to get from the work

Outcomes: The difference the project will bring about

- Projects make good use of the money to make the biggest difference possible.



- Projects have clear plans to deal with the risks and challenges they might face.



We will make decisions based on money needs of organisations and try to make sure that the funds are spread fairly across different areas in London.

3.8. We will not fund:

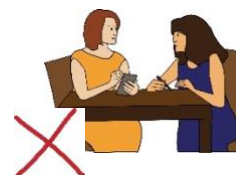
- Applications from individual people.



- Applications from public services. This can be services like schools and hospitals.



- Applications from organisations which have less than three people on their board or management committee.



- Applications which push for a religion.



- Applications for general appeals, this means asking for funding that is not tied to a project.



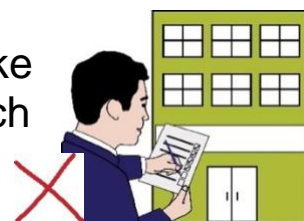
- Applications for work that has already taken place.



- Applications from organisations that have lots of **free reserves**. If the free reserves are the same as nine months or less of **expenditure**, this is alright.



- Applications from organisations that are in serious **financial deficits**
- Applications for capital costs, this means things like building work. Small items of office equipment such as computers can be funded



3.9. How to apply

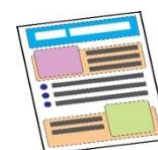
If your Deaf and Disabled people's organisation meets the criteria, please fill out the application form which can be accessed by clicking [here](#).



Once you have registered through the portal please click the application called “***Main Grants Special initiatives 2020***”.

Also: **ensure you attach copies of:**

- Your most recent annual accounts. These should be signed.
- A copy of the job description, if you are applying for salary costs.
- A copy of your Deaf and Disabled people's organisation's budget (money plan) for 2020-21.



The deadline is Friday 5th June -12:00 noon



Very important dates:

- **Monday 9th March:** Phase 2 of the initiative starts.
- **Monday 30th March:** One-to-one online meetings for applicants that want to discuss their plans before sending their applications.
- **Thursday 14th May:** Second set of one-to-one meetings for applicants that want to discuss their plans before sending their applications.
- **Friday 5th of June:** 12 noon. NEW Deadline for completed applications to be sent to us.
- **Wednesday 10th June:** We will tell applicants if their application has been short-listed.
- **Monday 15th June to Friday 10th July:** online assessment meetings with short-listed applicants.
- **Wednesday 7th October:** organisations will learn if their applications have been successful.



Very important notice

The application deadline has been extended to **Friday 5th June**. Trust for London may have to make more changes to the application process and timetable because it is not known how the challenges created by COVID-19 will stop and things can get back to normal. Changes will be published on our website and through Inclusion London