



# Cabinet Office

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### Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme 2015/16

#### RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED

***Q: Is it acceptable to submit your own lead bid and be a junior partner to other lead bids?***

A: It is acceptable for you to submit one application as lead organisation and at the same time be a junior partner in other applications as long as you would have the capacity to deliver were all applications successful.

***Q: Does this programme rule out small UK based charities working in International Development?***

A: As long as the benefits of your proposal focus on small charities in England your proposal would be eligible independently of the causes these small charities work on.

***Q: Would a university be eligible to apply for this programme?***

A: A university would be eligible to apply.

***Q: Is the programme operational only in England and Wales? Are there any circumstances in which charities based in Northern Ireland and/or operational in Northern Ireland might be able to avail of this programme?***

A: Your project must focus on England because the programme is financed by the Cabinet Office's Office for Civil Society. If your project focuses on other parts of the UK, then your proposal will not be eligible.

***Q: Are there similar initiatives in and for Northern Ireland?***

Charities are a devolved matter in Northern Ireland, so you may wish to contact the Charity Commission NI <https://www.charitycommissionni.org.uk/>.

***Q: Would an organisation from outside England be eligible to apply?***

A: An organisation from outside England would be eligible to apply

1) if it is



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- a legally constituted Civil Society Organisation (this could be a company limited by guarantee, or CIC for example) which may, or may not, also have charitable status.
- a business with a social mission or clear objectives in its corporate social responsibility policy toward increasing social action.

2) if the benefits of the project the organisation applies for focus on England.

***Q: In the guidance notes you have identified within the examples ‘fundraising and investment strategy’. Does this relate to strategies for investing in fundraising resources and capacity, or investing the charity’s assets to generate an income?***

A: The example ‘fundraising and investment strategy’ refers to investing the charity’s assets to generate an income.

***Q: Question 16 requires the applicant to complete the table showing the organisation’s most recent financial information for which they have audited accounts. As a charity with a turnover less than £1 million we have published accounts which have been independently examined rather than audited. This is in line with guidance from the Charity Commission, which states that “broadly speaking, an independent examination is needed if gross income is between £25,000 and £1 million and an audit is needed where the gross income exceeds £1 million”. Can you please confirm that our independently examined accounts will be sufficient to bid for this funding.***

A: Your independently examined accounts will be sufficient to bid for this programme.

***Q: Your guidelines state that businesses with a social mission are eligible to apply. Would an organisation be eligible to apply even though they are a sole trader not a limited company?***

A: We can consider a grant application, if your organisation is a charitable philanthropic or benevolent institution. “Institution” does not imply any particular legal form; so it is not essential that you are incorporated. But to be an “institution” your organisation needs to have a degree of permanence. You would also need to demonstrate that your organisation is being run with a social mission. So the onus is on you to demonstrate that your business meets all these criteria.

***Q: Our organisation wants to put in a bid however we have one year of audited accounts and two previous years of self-employed accounts. Would this suffice?***



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A: If you would like to submit your bid, we can take a view. Our experienced Accountants will be asked to comment on the figures in them.