**Responses to Questions Submitted: Subsidised Fundraising Training for Small, Local Charities & Community Groups**

**Q: Would we be able to apply for funding to provide training for a specific charity/group of charities under the proposed scheme?**

A: We are interested in funding proposals that will have a sustainable long-term benefit for a significant number of small, local charities and community groups. We anticipate funding a project(s) that will therefore have eligibility criteria that enable a significant number of organisations across the civil society sector to take up the training.

**Q: What is the process for selecting the charities to receive the fundraising training?**

A: It is up to you to explain in your application who the target beneficiary groups for the service are and why, including any specific eligibility criteria.

**Q: Are you looking for an organisation to cover the whole of England or are you considering bids that target a particular area?**

A: The programme will support a project(s) which has benefits which focus on England and has the potential to reach all areas of England.

**Q: Does an online training opportunity, e.g. a webinar place, qualify as a training place?**

A: Subject to understanding the exact nature of the offer, an online training opportunity such as a webinar place would qualify as a training place.

**Q: Can we join/contribute to more than one bid, and if so, would that weaken those bids in anyway (from your specific decision-making perspective)?**

A: It is acceptable for you to contribute to more than one bid, as long as you would have the capacity to deliver were all applications successful. Doing so would not weaken those bids.

**Q: How much has been made available in total by DCMS for subsidised fundraising training for small charities?**

A: Through this open competition, the Office for Civil Society is making up to £200,000 in total available to fund training over the two years, set at up to £100,000 per year. Applicants can ask for a grant between £50,000 and £200,000. We anticipate funding between one to three projects. Further details are available in the [application materials](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/application-form-and-guidance-for-open-competition-to-deliver-fundraising-training-for-small-local-charities).

**Q: Would a Local Authority be eligible to apply?**

A: A Local Authority would not be eligible to apply unless it applies in partnership with an organisation that is one of the following:

● 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.

The onus is on you to demonstrate that your organisation or an organisation you are partnering with meets this criteria.

**Q: Do you require the funding that you provide to be 100% matched by other organisations? Can this match funding come from the attendees of workshops or mentoring?**

A: Our aspiration is that the successful applicant(s) secures or offers match funding, in addition to the OCS funding, to grow the size of the fundraising training programme. The amount and nature of that funding is up to the bidder to outline. This match funding should not come from attendees of the training.

**Q: Do you have any clarification on state aid exemptions for organisations who have previously received more than €200,000 of funding?**

A: Information on State Aid is available [here](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/state-aid). In the application you should provide information about your organisation's State Aid position, including whether you think state aid exemptions may be relevant. The Department for Culture, Media & Sport will need to be satisfied that funding your proposal will be state aid compliant before making a grant offer.

**On what timeframes will the impact on the end outcome for different activities be assessed?**

It will be up to you to set out in your proposal how you will measure and evaluate the impact of your project. We are interested in funding proposals that evidence both the immediate and longer-term impact of projects.

**Q: Are you looking for immediate delivery, i.e. £35k committed by end March 2017 and spent by end June?**

A: Any funding that comes from financial year 2016/17 (up to £35k) will need to be committed by March 2017 and spent by the end of June. Applications must indicate how they will be able to meet this mobilisation timeframe.

**Q: As a relatively new company, we don't yet have the track record to show what has worked in the past or our income generated as a result and I was wondering if my application would still be seriously considered?**

A: The eligibility criteria sets out that your project must build on or adapt an existing service. In the application you will need to demonstrate the promising or proven indication of impact of the existing service you plan to grow or adapt through this proposal. You will need to demonstrate how your organisation’s previous relevant experience and its impact puts it in a good position to successfully deliver the proposal outlined.

**Q: If we are unable to attend an interview on 24th February, could we attend on an alternative date?**

A: In exceptional circumstances, we can arrange an interview on the nearest date to 24th February that you can attend.

**Questions relating to the 2016 Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme**

**Q: The 2016 Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme delivered c.1500 training places. Was this face to face training only? Was this filled places or places offered? How many people were involved in the delivery of this programme?**

A: The Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme that ran in 2016 provided training through multiple methods, including face to face and online training, and delivered c.1,500 filled training places. The Foundation for Social Improvement (in partnership with Small Charities Coalition) and Global Giving UK delivered the programme.

**Q: What proportion of the previous programme's training were delivered online, face-to-face seminars, webinars, one-to-one mentoring and group mentoring?**

**What specific elements/areas of focus/methods of delivery that were not delivered within the previous programme would the DCMS/OCS like to see included and delivered in the next round?**

A: The majority of training in the 2016 Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme was delivered through face-to-face training events, with smaller numbers of places for one-to-one advice, skilled volunteering matches and webinars.

Initial findings from the 2016 Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme on topics participants noted further interest in and training methods can be found on p.24 of the application guidance.

We are interested in funding training that is delivered through a range of methods, including face-to-face and online provision. We also want to ensure that the project(s) captures and ensures that training sessions, materials and resources are made freely available, in particular online, wherever possible to maximise the sustainability and reach of the programme.

**Q: Will the tools developed during the previous programme (e.g. diagnostic tool) be available for use during this new programme?**

A: As we transition from the 2016 programme to the next phase, we can explore further the possibility of tools used in the previous programme being drawn upon.

**Q: How many organisations benefitted/accessed training in 2016?**

**Of the organisations that benefitted in 2016, do you have any further breakdown as to their turnover?**

**Which of the various activities were assessed to have the highest impact on both the intermediary and end outcomes?**

**Is there an existing impact assessment for the previous programme?**

A: The final evaluation of the Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme that ran in 2016 is currently being finalised.

**Q: What specific sustainability measures were developed/implemented during the previous programme and how effective have these been?**

A: The whole programme was designed to improve the sustainability of the sector, working to increase the capability of small charities to fundraise effectively and ultimately generate more fundraised income to support their work. The evaluation of the Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme that ran in 2016 is currently being finalised.

**Q: Which regions were included in the previous programme training and which weren't?**

A: The 2016 Small Charities Fundraising Training Programme delivered training across England.