

inspire Lambeth Black Communities Health Inequalities Small Grants Fund (Guidance)

Five Grants of £2,000 Available

The inspire Lambeth Black Communities Health Inequalities Small Grants Fund will award five grants of £2,000 to support Black-led voluntary, community and faith sector (VCFS) organisations in Lambeth.

Funding is available for new activities, pilot projects and new ways of working that improve health and wellbeing, help reduce health inequalities and strengthen grassroots community capacity within Black African and Black Caribbean communities in Lambeth.

The fund is delivered through inspire Lambeth, supported by Lambeth Together and funded through South East London NHS health inequalities funding.

This programme builds on previous inspire Lambeth work by supporting community-led, neighbourhood-based approaches that improve health and wellbeing through local knowledge, trusted spaces and strong community connections.

For the purposes of this fund, references to Black communities primarily refer to Black African and Black Caribbean communities in Lambeth.

The fund aims to support a range of projects that collectively provide coverage across Lambeth's five neighbourhoods. Projects may choose to focus on one neighbourhood or multiple neighbourhoods. In making funding decisions, we will prioritise achieving collective coverage across all five neighbourhoods:

- **Brixton and Herne Hill** (covers Myatt's Field, Brixton North, Herne Hill and Loughborough Junction, Brixton Windrush, Brixton Rush Common, St Martin's)
- **Clapham** (covers Clapham Town, Clapham East, Clapham Park, Clapham Common and Abbeville, Brixton Acre Lane)
- **North Lambeth and Stockwell** (covers Waterloo and Southbank, Kennington, Vauxhall, Oval, Stockwell East, Stockwell West & Larkhall)
- **Norwood** (covers West Dulwich, Knights Hill and Gipsy Hill)
- **Streatham** (covers Streatham Hill West and Thornton, Streatham Hill East, Streatham St Leonard's, Streatham Wells, Streatham Common and Vale)

Funded projects should commence by 31 March 2027. Projects may continue beyond this date where this is necessary and agreed to achieve the intended outcomes.

What We're Looking For

We are particularly interested in projects that:

- Improve health and wellbeing
 - Help people access and use health services
 - Bring people together and reduce isolation
 - Build trust and confidence in local health and wellbeing support
 - Use local knowledge, lived experience and community leadership
 - Strengthen community support and resilience
 - Increase understanding of health and help people make informed choices about their wellbeing
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What Do We Mean by Health Inequalities?

Health inequalities are unfair differences in people's health and access to support. They can be caused by factors such as socio-economic status, discrimination, life circumstances and, in some cases, inherited health risks. These factors often overlap and affect people differently.

Examples may include:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Access to health services
- Social connections and isolation
- Health information and support
- Healthy lifestyles and physical activity
- Living well with long-term conditions

These are examples only and not a complete list.

What Do We Mean by Black-Led?

For the purposes of this fund, we consider an organisation to be Black led where Black people play a significant role in leadership, governance and decision-making and where the organisation is rooted in, accountable to, or primarily serves Black communities.

We recognise that organisations may have different structures and governance arrangements.

What Do We Mean by Partnership Applications?

Partnership applications are welcome.

The lead applicant must:

- Be a Black-led VCFS organisation
- Meet all eligibility requirements
- Act as the accountable body for the grant

Partner organisations may include:

- VCFS organisations
- Statutory sector organisations
- Private sector organisations

The lead organisation will remain responsible for grant management, reporting requirements and delivery oversight.

What Do We Mean by a New Project, Activity or Way of Working?

We are looking to fund new projects, activities or approaches rather than existing provision.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Piloting a new wellbeing project
- Testing a new outreach approach
- Delivering a new project for a new audience
- Introducing a new way of working
- Delivering a project in a neighbourhood where it has not previously been delivered

Examples of ineligible projects may include:

- Continuing an existing service without change
- Covering core organisational costs
- Replacing existing funding for established services
- Business-as-usual delivery

Funding cannot be used to fund general day-to-day running costs

Eligibility

To apply, organisations must confirm that:

- They are a Black-led organisation.
 - They are a Voluntary, Community or Faith Sector (VCFS) organisation.
 - They deliver projects within Lambeth.
 - Their proposed project will mainly support Black African and Black Caribbean communities in Lambeth.
 - Their proposal is for a new activity, pilot project or new way of working and is not part of their existing services.
 - They can commence the proposed project by **31 March 2027**.
 - Funding will not be paid into a personal bank account
 - They can provide a short end-of-project update.
 - They understand that successful organisations will receive a grant of £2,000.
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Funding Conditions

Successful applicants will be expected to:

- Commence funded projects by 31 March 2027, unless otherwise agreed with the programme team.
- Deliver the project in line with the timescales outlined in the application and notify the programme team of any significant changes or delivery issues.
- Ensure appropriate insurance, safeguarding and health and safety arrangements are in place.
- Keep records relating to project delivery and expenditure, including receipts and other evidence of spending.
- Participate in any proportionate programme learning, evaluation or feedback activities.
- Submit a short end-of-project update.
- Acknowledge support from Inspire Lambeth and Lambeth Together using approved programme branding where provided.

Funded organisations may be provided with branding guidance and communications materials.

End-of-Project Update

The end-of-project update should include:

- Activities delivered
- Approximate number of people engaged
- Key learning and participant feedback
- Confirmation of expenditure

Successful applicants will be advised of reporting requirements and timescales at the point of award.

How Applications Will Be Assessed

Applications must be complete at the point of submission.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

Assessment Criteria	Weighting
Health Impact and Health Inequalities	35%
Inclusion, Accessibility and Reach	30%
Community Leadership and Community Insight	20%
Deliverability, Learning and Value for Money	15%

We are interested in the strength of your idea, your understanding of the community you serve and your ability to deliver the proposed activity.

Professional bid-writing experience or formal consultation reports are not required.

No additional information will be requested or accepted after the deadline except where clarification is required to verify eligibility.

Clarification requests will not provide an opportunity to amend, strengthen or materially alter an application.

Key Dates

- **Applications Open:** 9 October 2026
- **[Information and Q&A Session](#):** Monday 19 October 2026, 13:00 – 14:00
- **Application Deadline:** 23.45pm on Sunday 1 November 2026



Applications must be submitted using the Inspire Lambeth Black Communities Health Inequalities Small Grants Fund Application Form.

Late applications will not be considered.

Need support?

If you have questions about the fund, require technical support completing the application or require accessibility adjustments, please contact:

Latoya Richardson, inspire Lambeth Black Communities Health Inequalities Small Grants Fund Project Manager

Email: LRichardson@lambeth.gov.uk

We are committed to making the application process as accessible and inclusive as possible. If there are any adjustments or support requirements that would help you participate in the information session or complete an application, please get in touch and we will do our best to support you.