Organisational Development Call for EOIs

Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
How long does my project have to run for?	The project should run from July 2021 to June 2022 – including time for design, delivery, and evaluation.
When does my project activity need to take place?	Project activity will need to take place within the same time period as activity within the Sport Unites Rolling Fund – ideally the first projects will begin in August/September 2021. We appreciate that project delivery could be impacted by changing government guidelines and we will regularly assess and adapt decisions on funding within these guidelines if necessary. We will liaise with grantees about this and will be as flexible as possible.
What types of projects are you looking to fund?	Please see the Call for Expressions of Interest for more details but it will be important that all applicants consider a blended approach to learning and development, with online, face-to- face, and toolkit resources being made available.
Why tackle organisational development?	The understanding that sports organisations need more than just financial resource has become particularly pertinent following the COVID-19 crisis. According to SportEd's March 2020 survey many community sport organisations were already in survival mode before the crisis began, and therefore the crisis is potentially leading to a large number of organisations which are critical to physical activity in London going into administration – 1/4 of those surveyed in March 2020 were concerned that they would not be around in 6 months' time, the situation did improve thanks to emergency funds and volunteer-led groups managing to survive by incurring little to no costs, but the difficulty was of course for those organisations with fixed costs which could not easily be covered. The current concern is that funding is still uncertain throughout the sector as we know that many funders, including the GLA, will not have the same level of resources to support groups as was available prior to the pandemic. Therefore, although Sport Unites is providing grants for projects which support Londoners, the GLA is aware that nonfinancial support to the community sport sector should also be available. It is also recognised that support should not just be for the health and growth of organisations but for the individuals working and volunteering within those organisations as well.
Who can apply?	Applications will be accepted from fully incorporated organisations on a not-for-profit basis. We will accept applications from consortiums of organisations as we recognise that a project such as this could be well-suited to a multi-organisation approach.

	Any applicant must also note the experience required as described in the call for EOIs.
Is this the only fund available to support organisational development work within Sport Unites?	Yes, this is the only funding available for this type of work and is specifically for a project for July 2021-June 2022. We hope to expand this where possible upon success of the project. You can also apply to the Sport Unites Fund for projects specifically delivering sport and physical activity to tackle social issues. The details for this will be released shortly.
Would the successful applicant hold the funding to then provide support to 50 organisations, or, would the successful applicant receive the funding to then distribute out to 50 organisations?	The successful applicant (or consortium of applicants) would receive the grant to deliver an organisational development support package to organisations which are grantees of other Sport Unites work. Therefore if you were to be chosen as the grantee for this you would receive £75k to run a project providing organisational development/capacity building support – this could mean you bring in consultants, other organisations etc. to help to deliver this but does not mean distributing small grants to other organisations to organise their own development. We would expect the applicant to design this organisational development/capacity building support following the outline in the call for EOIs – this can of course be based on work you already do in this area but must be made specific to the community sport sector in London.
Accessibility – can we include a certain amount to provide to organisations which may need accessibility support – e.g. BSL interpreters?	We believe all our projects should be accessible, so please include your proposed support in this area within your application.
Can we partner with member bodies/training providers?	Yes, if all partners in the consortium are not-for-profit organisations. You can also include self-employed consultants if required to deliver specific elements of trainings – this will need to be factored into your budget.
Part of the fund is to develop resources for the 50 organisations and the wider sector, can these be made available outside of the community sport sector as well?	Yes, the resources should be tailored to the community sport sector and to organisations running sport or physical activity to tackle social issues. However, they can be shared beyond the sector upon approval. If you wish to adapt the resources for non-community sport organisations this can be done outside of the project.
How will the Ideas Incubator link with this project?	The Ideas Incubator is a separate pilot and is specifically to support good project ideas which may not be investment-ready. The development is still in process, but we expect that some resources can be shared between the two projects.

Geography – would we be supporting organisations from all over London?	Yes, the organisations will all be grantees of the Sport Unites Fund (to be opened in June/July 2021). If your organisation works in a specific geographical area you can of course partner within a consortium with organisations that work across London or in areas you do not cover. If you work in a specific area but you are happy to support organisations from across London that is also fine as long as they can easily access your support.
Match funding – can we bring in other funding to boost elements of this project?	Yes. The GLA will need to be informed of all plans relating to this prior to funding being accessed from elsewhere to ensure that the project continues to align with the Sport Unites aims.
How do we pick the 50 organisations?	As soon as the first successful applicants of the Sport Unites Fund are chosen we will send the information to the successful organisational development applicant to get in touch with them. As it is a rolling fund it will not be 50 organisations straight away but will be throughout the year.
Can the project budget cover salaries or proportions of salaries?	Yes, if it makes sense for the project to include salaries then these should be within your budget.
What will the ratio be of less well-establish groups and more well-established groups within the 50	We will not know for sure until we start getting applications in for the Sport Unites Fund, however we are aiming to ensure that there will be a reasonable number of each group rather than 2 in one and 48 in the other, in order that we can have an idea of impact.
When will the Sport Unites panels be and how often?	Every 6 weeks from the middle of August
How can we ensure Quality assurance of policies – who should be responsible for that?	We would expect the successful applicant(s) to provide this quality assurance, either through their own expertise or through bringing in external support.
We have some toolkits already development which might be suitable for this project, can we use them and how does it work with intellectual property rights?	We do not want to re-invent the wheel and are very happy for applicants to build upon their current work. As this is a grant the resources developed are owned by the grantee, we would just expect our logo to be featured – this will be explained further in the grant agreement for the successful applicant.
How important is it to run this project as a consortium?	We are happy to consider both single organisation applications and consortium applications as we do not expect organisations to work in consortium if it is not suitable for an effective project. Please do note any organisations you might bring on board to fill gaps (e.g. if you will not be running mental health specific trainings, who will run these for you and why?)

Will the GLA be able to add in-kind value?	We will work very closely with the successful applicant to support in any way we can. As the GLA we know we are in a strong position particularly to convene groups and provide networking opportunities, but there may be other options we can explore.
What are the expansion plans for this project?	Organisational development is a key element to our strategy moving forwards, therefore if funding allows and if the pilot year can demonstrate success we plan to expand this to support our other grantees and potentially organisations not funded by us.
As the MEL Outcomes are in development, could you give us an idea of what has changed?	We have changed a lot of indicators and a few outcomes have either been reworded or removed. Otherwise the outcome pathways are not too dissimilar to Sport Unites Phase 1. The official pathways will be released alongside the release of the Sport Unites Fund and the GLA will work with the successful applicant to ensure alignment with these pathways