

## In Our Hands Fund Application Guidelines

### About the fund

We are offering community grants of up to **£1,000** for people living in **West Hendon, Burnt Oak, and Colindale**, as part of our work to support **creative communities in Barnet**.

The funding is for local people with ideas that bring communities together, start something new or make their area a better place to live.

These guidelines explain how to apply to the **In Our Hands Fund**. You do not have to apply on your own — you can ask someone to help you, and this will not affect your application.

If you have any questions or need the information in a different format, please contact [participation@artsdepot.co.uk](mailto:participation@artsdepot.co.uk).

This fund is part of artsdepot's Beyond Our Walls programme funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

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### What can the grant support?

Projects that:

- Bring people together and strengthen relationships between neighbours, groups, and communities
- Create shared cultural or creative experiences in local spaces
- Celebrate local culture, creativity, or heritage
- Support wellbeing, care, and mutual support
- Build people's skills or confidence
- Create joyful, welcoming, and inclusive spaces for people to meet
- Respond to local needs in imaginative and practical ways
- Make positive use of underused or overlooked spaces or improve the local built environment.
- Test out ideas that could grow into longer-term local projects
- Help people feel more positive, connected, and engaged with their local area

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### Who can apply?

You can apply if you:

- Live, work, study, or have a close connection to **West Hendon, Burnt Oak, and Colindale (inclusive of North and South)**
- Are planning a project that will take place in **West Hendon, Burnt Oak, or Colindale (North & South)**
- Have an idea that **benefits local people**
- Can **deliver the project locally** between **March 2026 – end of December 2026**
- You have a UK bank account - we need this so we can pay you your grant.

**What this fund is *not* for:**

- Schools, Colleges or Universities
- Organisations with an annual turnover over 10K
- Projects focused on sports or general activity funding
- Projects primarily for children's activities
- Core costs for organisations

**Funding considerations:**

- This fund prioritises creative activities and marginalised communities.
- All funded projects must be free for participants.
- Applicants should show how they will ensure accessibility for low-income and marginalised communities, including: venue choice, timing, transport considerations, and cultural inclusion.

## More Information

- You don't need previous funding experience – we **welcome first-time applicants**.
- We encourage those who experience mental health conditions, physical health/disability, sensory impairment, learning disabilities, neurodivergence, substance use, identify as survivors, and those from working-class backgrounds, as well as LGBTQIA+, and Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities or traveller communities to apply.
- **Please note:** If you are under 18 years old and interested in applying you will need an adult (18+) to apply on your behalf. They would also be the grant recipient.

## What can I apply for?

- Projects could include workshops, events, creative activities, food or growing projects, walking groups, storytelling, skill-sharing, or something completely new.
- Funding can support **training or personal development** if it clearly helps you deliver a project that benefits local people.
- It can be a one off event or workshop, or could be a series of activities.

## What you cannot apply for:

- **Access to artsdepot spaces:** While your project may take place locally, we cannot guarantee use of artsdepot venues or rooms for project activities. Applicants should plan for alternative spaces in their local area.
- **Theatre productions or large-scale performances:** The grant is designed for small-scale community projects, and funding cannot be assumed to cover full theatre productions, ticketed events, or large-scale performances
- **Retrospective funding** is not permitted — we cannot fund activities that have already taken place.

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## How much can I apply for?

- Grants up to **£1,000** (you don't need to apply for the full amount)
- Funding can be used for: materials, space hire, artist or facilitator fees, food, access costs, training, and other reasonable project expenses

## Support & Accessibility

If you are interested in applying but would like to know more or need some support or guidance you can:

- **Join a drop-in sessions to ask questions or get guidance on your application (please see our website for updates)**
- **Email [participation@artsdepot.co.uk](mailto:participation@artsdepot.co.uk) with questions or support needs**

**Please note:** We have a Community Producer (1 person, working part-time), so we may not be able to respond immediately to every request, but we will do our best to help.

Your application doesn't need to be perfect – the Zoom sessions and emails are there to support you. Using these options with clear questions will help us give you the best support we can.

## How to Submit Your Application

You can submit your application using the **Microsoft Forms link** on our website. If you prefer, you can also **ask a friend to support you** with completing and submitting your application.

We recommend **downloading a copy of the application questions** and looking through them in advance, so you can get a sense of what information you'll need.

If you have **access needs** or require the application form in a **different format**, please get in touch with us — we'll do what we can to support you.

## What happens if I am successful?

Successful applicants will:

- Receive funding to deliver their project
- Be offered light-touch support during the project
- Participate in completing a short **evaluation** report including:
  - Capturing numbers of participants, demographics, and postcode (if possible)
  - Sharing photos
  - Answering short reflective questions on the project

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Supported by The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation